

1.What is your connection to your riding? What have you contributed to the community?

I have lived in Surrey-Green Timbers for my whole life.

My contributions to my community include:

- Community-based Research Projects with CIR:CLE where we worked with Vibrant Surrey to encourage and facilitate collaborative efforts to reduce poverty in Surrey and increase the quality of life for Surrey's most vulnerable residents.
- Participating with several working groups including student body, administration, and community collaborations to enhance sustainability initiatives from KPU to the community.

2.What is your vision of how Whalley look in four years? What is the provincial government's role in this vision and how are you prepared to make it happen?

Transportation Initiatives:

I support clean, affordable and efficient transportation for Whalley. I encourage walking, cycling, transit use and car sharing. I want to see walkable neighbourhoods, an increase in cycling paths, and affordable transit systems. I would introduce the potential of a community rail on existing lines, as there is sufficient capacity to allow passenger and freight use of the line and ought to be considered along with other options. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), Light Rail Transit (LRT), or Skytrain transportation should be implemented to connect communities in Surrey and South of the Fraser.

Small Business Initiatives:

To aid the success of small business, BC Greens would like to see the production and consumption of goods moved closer together. This will result in a smaller ecological foot-print. It will also increase diversity and help decentralize the economy. A diverse and decentralized economy is a stronger economy.

The Green Party of BC would create a business climate in which more locally owned businesses, across a range of industries, can be started and prosper. We will introduce a Buy Green BC campaign that provides consumer incentives to purchase made-in-BC green products and services.

We will provide Small Power Producer (SPPs) Loan Guarantees: interest-free loans for small and mid-sized businesses to install green energy solutions.

Greens plan to reduce taxes on businesses that are responsible and sustainable. We would reduce taxes on advanced technology businesses to the same level afforded the film industry.

Food Security Initiatives:

I believe food and agriculture policy should be developed at the community level. I would advocate for local food self-reliance in Surrey by establishing partnerships among ministries and all levels of government, farmers and the food processing industry and community groups. We would work with the local government level to ensure there are local bylaws to support 'backyard' food production, community and shared food gardens, and urban agriculture.

Social Services Initiatives:

I support Surrey's Poverty Reduction Plan Initiative. In Addition, BC Greens would create local social trusts as the governance structure for the provision of integrated and comprehensive social services for children and families who are living in poverty or experiencing mental health

issues, domestic violence, or substance abuse. The trusts will implement programs throughout the province to foster healthier family functioning and to develop prevention and remediation strategies. Local authorities will be responsible and accountable for planning and coordinating complete support service plans in coordination with health trusts and education. Also introduce a provincial childcare program with a focus on providing childcare in or near the work place and educational institutions.

3. Notwithstanding your Party's position, are you prepared to strongly advocate for this area so our concerns are brought forward? What are your plans to accomplish this?

70% per cent of the region's growth is taking place South of the Fraser in which Surrey's population is projected to increase by a further 250,000 people in the next 3 decades. I chose to work with the Green Party because it gives me the freedom to represent my constituents first. The BCNDP and the BC Liberals are unable to properly represent their constituents because of their strict party discipline. As a Green candidate I can be more accountable to my constituents and the general public. I would take a more pragmatic approach rather than an ultra-partisan one, and I aim to make it a priority to represent my community and all of my constituents in their best interests. I will work with local government and community advocacy groups to make change and history for making Surrey a vibrant and sustainable City.

4. How is your party going to deal with education (k-12), particularly an inequitable funding model and concerns with capital and operating funding?

The long-term goal of the Green Party of British Columbia is that public education be universal and free at every level: primary, secondary and post-secondary.

Capital funding programs should be encouraged, assisted, and coordinated between civic governments, provincial and federal ministries, and school boards to develop community schools which physically integrate community centres, recreation facilities, libraries and schools.

Phasing private independent and alternative schools and programs into the public school system, without affecting the autonomy and objectives of these schools, should increase the diversity of the school system.

Per-user rather than per-capita or per-district funding of special needs programs should be provided, so that districts with disproportionately large numbers of students requiring these services receive the necessary funding.

5. Sticking with education, the number of post secondary seats South of the Fraser is lagging compared to the rest of the province. How will you address this?

I would advocate for the Surrey Board of Trade's recommendation of tripling the number of student spaces per resident in the South of the Fraser region from 2014 thru 2025.

To achieve this, the number of full-time equivalent student spaces (FTEs) per resident in this region must be increased from the current level of 12.6 FTEs per 1,000 residents to 37.8 FTEs per 1,000 region residents.

Since the region's population will also increase over this time period, this means that the actual number of post secondary student spaces offered in our region must be increased from the current number of 12,210 FTEs to 46,060 FTEs by 2025 – an increase of about 3,000 FTEs per year.

To ensure students graduating from post secondary studies do not start their adult lives indebted because of their education, the Green Party of British Columbia will increase core funding to colleges and universities by at least \$200 million annually. We will immediately reduce tuition fees by 20%.

We will introduce a needs-based grants program to assist low-income students with tuition. A student's financial need will be determined by a means test, based upon the students' finances not that of his or her family. BC Greens will implement a program designed to eliminate the interest on student loans, to be phased in over a five- year period.

6.Transportation is a big problem in Surrey. The funding and governance model is not working. What are you prepared to do differently?

The Green Party of British Columbia supports clean, affordable and efficient transportation. We encourage walking, cycling, transit use and car sharing. We want to see walkable neighbourhoods, an increase in cycling paths, and affordable transit systems. We believe we must limit urban sprawl and institute regional land-use and transportation planning that supports densification in urban areas, that maintains urban boundaries and that preserves farmland, wilderness and forested areas.

As a way to reduce GHG emissions, we would investigate commuter and light rail in the South of the Fraser. I would personally advocate for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), Light Rail Transportation (LRT), and/or expansion of the Skytrain into dense urban areas of Surrey and into Langley. To make major progress on public transit, we need a provincial government that puts funding transit ahead of road expansion.

I would advocate for the governance model of Translink to move back into an elected Board rather than the, current , appointed board.

Funding to our public transit systems should be increased to allow improvements in the extent, frequency, and comfort of service in Surrey and other areas in British Columbia. To pay for the needed investment in public transportation options and pedestrian and biking infrastructure, BC Greens would implement Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies like road pricing, congestion pricing and parking pricing. Greens would increase the carbon tax and apply some of this increased tax revenue to funding transportation alternatives.

7.Creating jobs close to home is key to Surrey's success. What will you do to encourage innovative businesses to locate to Surrey?

BC Greens believe the jobs of the future – a future that includes a transition to a low-carbon economy – will be ones that pay well enough to support a family, provide a long-term career path and are ones that with benefit our environment by reducing waste and pollution. Jobs will be created locally by local businesses (cooperatives, social enterprises and traditional companies) that take advantage of the new economy that will need renewable energy, green

building and retrofits, manufactured goods, food and food processing and the restoration of damage to ecological systems. Jobs will also be created in the non-profit and government sector. These are what we call green-collar jobs.

The Green Party of British Columbia will promote a strong economy that will create thousands of new green-collar jobs. We will encourage local governments to favour small, local businesses in diverse regional economies.

BC Greens will support sustainable agriculture, renewable energy projects and value-added manufacturing.

We will encourage restaurants, markets, and grocers to use local produce and livestock to support small and family farms and reduce our dependence on imported food. We will finance research to increase local organic food production.

BC Greens will facilitate First Nations participation as partners in projects that create long-term employment for their people and economic benefits in their communities.

These initiatives can be created and supported, locally, through Surrey's mandate outlined in Surrey's Sustainability Charter.

8. Surrey is a diverse community in age and ethnic make-up. If elected, what do you plan to do to engage and remain connected to your constituency?

I acknowledge that I have a special duty to my constituents and I will fulfill these duties to the best of my abilities. It would be my responsibility to be engaged and connected to my constituency. Part of my efforts would include regular town hall meetings, continue to use social media, attend public events, and work in partnerships with community advocacy groups. In representing my constituents, I will demonstrate the values underlying the following principles of the Green Party of BC:

1. Sustainability
2. Social Justice
3. Grass-roots democracy
4. Non-violence
5. Community based economy
6. Gender equality
7. Diversity
8. Decentralization
9. Personal and global responsibility
10. Ecological wisdom

I will make decisions that I believe are congruent with the 10 Green Principles and that are in the best interest of my constituents and the greater good.