

**Downtown Surrey BIA
Questions for Mayoral Candidates 2018**

1. Why are you running for Mayor?

I'm running because I feel that money is replacing community in Surrey and to address the social and economic effect of this

2. Citizens of Surrey have a sense of pride in place and in community – what is your platform to help keep this momentum going?

I've said it before "we all bleed red" No matter who we are, background, ethnicity, or otherwise, we desire a safe, prosperous community to live in.

3. The City of Surrey Tax rate per capita is the lowest in Metro Vancouver. What are your views on this? What are your priorities?

My priority is to keep a reasonable lid on the tax impact, although a slight increase could be in order to ensure we have a incremental addition to the police force.

4. The Downtown Surrey Business Improvement Association had advocated for the past five years for a professionally managed purpose-built shelter in Surrey. What is your commitment to have this project move forward?

We need transitional housing, but it cannot impact the general community at large. Businesses cannot operate at capacity unless this is done with common sense in mind

5. It is necessary for municipal leadership to insure there is affordable housing dispersed throughout the City. What strategies would you consider implementing?

Surrey city Development Corporation has mostly industrial lands, but some could be purposed for this. I am totally against non consultation of residents impacted before a vote is undertaken.

6. The temporary modular housing is scheduled to be removed from the locations in Downtown Surrey in two years. Do you support the City's housing strategy that moves people from the current temporary housing into supportive housing throughout the City? If not, what is your solution?

Lobby Senior governments to fulfill their obligations and under the NDP Governments bill have rental only zones in various parts of the city for seniors, families, working with affordability built in.

2nd.

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7. We know there is always a debate between perception and reality. Everyone wants a safe place to live and do business. What is your strategy to deal with the root causes of crime?

Moral Decay. That's the root cause of crime. If there is no pride of ownership there is no buy in. We have to enforce the rule of law and make people understand that.

8. In response to the current City budget, what changes in staff at City Hall would you make to enhance your ability to meet your priorities?

I'd have to analyze the current contract status. You have to respect existing contracts and realize that's the ones you're saddled with. You have to understand who you're impacting.

9. How would you describe your leadership style?

Collaborative, Open, Democratic Style. Tend to see both sides of an issue. Everyone has their own point of view, it's not necessarily wrong, it's just different.

10. Voter turnout in municipal elections is historically low – do you think that a change to the ward system would heighten awareness in local issues ultimately increase voter turnout?

In all probability yes. Those who argue against it say that someone who's elected would try to get something for their community. That's their job. For a different take on this see John Wolanski's Local Democracy Project.

11. Economic Development in the 21st Century requires leaders to position the City globally – learning and recruiting from the best. How do you plan to position Surrey to take care of business globally?

Promote Surrey as a attractive market for diverse possibilities. Our ethnic mix guarantees we already have connections worldwide, we just have to capitalize on them.

12. Innovation in the medical and technology sector is attracting the best and the brightest to our area. What are your thoughts to further job growth and attract businesses in these sectors to the Downtown Surrey?

There is a huge market in medical treatment in our world. Life altering advances in the medical field should be promoted.

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13. We know we can expect over 1 million new residents to arrive in Metro Vancouver over the next 30 years, so we need to take the necessary action now by investing in our transportation system. As Mayor, what would you do on the Mayor's Council for Regional Transportation to ensure Surrey's requirements are highlighted?

Try to maximize provincial and federal contributions on this front. Prioritize Skytrain for Fraser Highway to Willowbrook. The Fraser Highway Corridor has already the population density for this.

14. How do you plan to address the overcrowding of schools in Surrey?

My policy is build the schools first, then residential after not the other way around. No student should be second class in a portable. Increase funding Education doesn't cost it pays.

15. The creation of a City Centre and a vibrant Downtown core is vital to the growth of Surrey. What is your strategy and commitment to business - arts - culture - technology and community in Downtown Surrey?

Try to fill in the gaps. Block by Block It cuts down on crime and doesn't look like a Willy Willy approach. When you put something, there make it look like it belongs.

16. How would a municipal police department be different than the RCMP to residents and businesses? Have you studied the studies and what are the financial implications?

My first inclination is to install a metro wide Police Force. The reality is that Delta, West Vancouver have high approval ratings by residents. Therefore it's probably the RCMP as we have now.

17. Do you support child care space in developments? How would you implement this within the City Development process?

I fully support on site (AFFORDABLE) spaces. They could be along the line of a Co-op

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18. A number of developers have requested shorter waiting time on their projects to commence. What would you implement to ensure this happens?

Time is money. Depending on financing arrangements it could affect viability of any project. Come up with timely solutions

19. What would you do to address "the silos that operate in isolation at City Hall" – meaning many of the departments don't communicate what is happening. What would you do to address this huge issue?

Have meetings to discuss what their objectives are and what progress has been made achieving them. Everyone participates (Mandatory)

20. How should requests for decreased amenity space in City Centre developments be accommodated?

A developer has to understand we live here, it has to be liveable, and not just a concrete solution. A little bells and whistles

21. How would you bring transparency into Surrey City Hall?

Publish a voting record of councillors and Mayor on all issues presented before them for perusal. Also under my proposal johnwolanski.ca / Democracy Project the number of independents would translate in more transparency by thinking for themselves, and also the people of Surrey,