

Downtown Surrey BIA
Questions for Council Candidates 2018

1. What makes you think you are qualified to run as councillor?

I've called Surrey my home for the past 20 years. I've held several senior leadership roles in marketing and communications in the corporate and not for profit sector.

Currently as Executive Director of Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers, I understand the complexity of the public safety issues that face Surrey and the Lower Mainland. I have been an active volunteer in my community serving as a Director of Semiahmoo House, Chair of the Board of the Zajac Ranch for Children and Vice-Chair of Osteoporosis Canada. I have also volunteered for the Peace Arch Hospital and the Nature Trust of British Columbia.

2. What skills do you bring to Council if you are elected?

I understand the complex issues around public safety and believe that I can facilitate change to reduce gang violence and other criminal activity.

I will use my communications background improve Surrey's image to a safe community where young family can proudly call home and where businesses would like to invest.

3. In your opinion, what do you think is the most positive thing that has happened in Surrey recently that makes you proud to live in here?

The development of City Centre that is making Surrey a vibrant City.

The Surrey Outreach Team that led a respectful transition of people to housing which allowed for the cleanup of 135A Street.

4. Are you committed to a strong City Centre and the creation of a vibrant Downtown core? What is your strategy and commitment to business - arts – culture – technology and community in Downtown Surrey?

The Downtown Core must include a performing arts center, a convention centre and an area that will attract business development.

5. 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?

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We must have an area for the vulnerable population to call home. I believe a purpose built shelter would assist in providing a solution.

6. What do you see as the top five issues facing Surrey?

Public Safety including gang violence

Road Conditions

Infrastructure to support the rapidly growth of the City

Transportation

Housing

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?

We need to develop a comprehensive strategy to fight crime and build an engaged community where everyone is safe. We need to focus on the root causes of gang violence, prevention and reviewing our current policing model.

8. Do you support child care space in private developments?

There is not enough child care space in Surrey. We need to provide young families with easy access to child care so providing it in private developments would be beneficial.

9. How should requests for decreased amenity space in new residential or mixed-use developments (both indoor and outdoor) be addressed by the City?

We're building a city centre from the ground up and that has to include vibrant and accessible public spaces. Living in a tower means your backyard is the neighbourhood around you. We need to make sure that public spaces are close by and attractive to families. People living in a downtown urban centre are looking for that sort of lifestyle and much of it has to do with how we activate neighbourhoods at street level. City council must make sure community amenities meet the needs of the people living in the neighbourhoods.

10. 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

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current temporary housing into supportive housing throughout the City? If not, what is your solution?

Yes.

11. How would you make Council decisions more transparent?

The public should be encourage to attend council meetings or to reach out to elected officials regarding issues that concern them. All council proceeding are recorded and available to the public.

12. What do you think is the priority for public transit South of the Fraser? What do you support?

I support LRT to help build connections between communities in Surrey and move people throughout the City of Surrey. It will provide the opportunity for people within Surrey to travel to shopping, work, school or recreational activities easily and will connect them to our town centres. . A more frequent bus system should be put in place to serve communities that will not be served by LRT to connect to with LRT and Sky train. Transit within Surrey should connect to Sky train for travel outside of Surrey to other communities within the GVRD.