

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

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

As the Executive Director of the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce, I understand the needs of the business community. I am a strong believer in empowering our youth and building a Surrey that continues to be a place where families can thrive.

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

I have a degree in Political Science, I have volunteered with various organizations and boards, and I have a strong commitment to the community.

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?

Surrey needs to be proud of the amazing growth in civic amenities and investments made to our new Museum of Surrey.

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?

I believe we need to build a strong entertainment district that will allow City of Surrey to get world class performances and entertainment here instead of always having to go to Vancouver.

I have a strong commitment to the arts and culture. In the past I have been involved with the Royal Canadian Theatre Company involved in productions and on the board and I understand the positive impact having a strong arts culture can be to youth and building a strong community.

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?

I believe it is important to provide temporary housing for the vulnerable that will allow them to become productive members of society. In addition, we need to ensure aid in substance abuse and other supports are available to the vulnerable.

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

The top 5 issues are: 1. Gang related crimes including youth recruitment 2. Road congestion 3. Better transit 4. More schools 5. Obtaining more high paying jobs in Surrey

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 engage with our youth through prevention and intervention programs to ensure they don't head down a road that results in contributing to the feeling of being unsafe. In addition, we

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need more police members and we need our police members to be more engaged in the community and schools.

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

We are in desperate need of more child care spaces and I am open to seeing what solutions are available in doing so.

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

Amenity space should be based upon how much the population will increase in the area and affect other amenities. Amenities should be there to alleviate any potential stresses on the current amenities in the neighbourhood.

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

I support supportive housing throughout the City as long as the areas meet the needs of the individuals and it receives community support.

11. How would you make Council decisions more transparent?

I am open to hearing what the public would like to ensure council is more transparent in decision making, as it is important to me that city council is accessible and available with ideas being presented to the community with enough time and discussion.

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

I think it is clear we need more transit for Surrey. With a population of over 500,000, our transit is definitely not close to adequate for the population and the growing need and hasn't been or a long time. I will work to push having more transit that connects our communities and allows us to move easily within the city and out of the city, as I know there are long commute times to work and school.