

2022 Municipal Election Candidates Survey

Thank you for clarifying your perspective on sustainability topics with Kamloops voters! We look forward to publicly sharing the survey results.

Please note that all text answers have a limit of 250 characters.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 26

Candidate name *

Arjun Singh

1. Council approved funding for a 0.35% annual budget increase for the next ten years to help fund our commitments under the Community Climate Action Plan. Do you feel this funding level is (choose one): *

- Too high
- Appropriate
- Too low

Why?

I'm very proud of council's decision to add the .35% property tax increase to implement the Community Climate Action plan. I do think we will need to seriously consider increasing that to .5% annually to be able to accomplish our goals.

2. What should be Council’s single biggest priority for reducing local greenhouse gas emissions? *

Enabling lower carbon transportation options should be the single biggest priority as transportation within city limits currently accounts for 66% of local ghg emissions.

3. What should be our priorities at the local level to increase our resilience to climate change impacts? *

We have to reduce emissions to the levels set out on our plan. With climate adaptation, our priorities should be to shore up infrastructure, continue FireSmart, have well communicated emergency plans, and help build mental resilience for citizens.

4. Among many competing priorities for the City's resources, how important is improving the City's active transportation infrastructure ? *

1 2 3 4

Low priority High priority

Why?

Active transportation is lower carbon, healthier, and less costly than driving. But people are not going to move away from the vehicle unless we have safe and efficient active transportation network. I feel we should build this out faster.

5. Our population is growing. Do you believe that the City should consider imposing an urban growth boundary as [Kelowna](#) has done, to maximize growth within the existing development footprint? *

1 2 3 4

Low priority High priority

Why?

We should consider it. I have heard mixed things about the effectiveness of urban growth boundaries over the years. I think we have to use the most effective tools possible to stop sprawl and build up or within existing lots rather than out.

6. What do you think are the City’s most effective tools for facilitating the development of more affordable housing in Kamloops? *

I think the most effective tools here are zoning, streamlining regulations and process, and facilitating better public engagement processes. I am proposing council host and facilitate a Citizens' Assembly on Housing Affordability and Supply.

7. How can the City ensure that future development maintains healthy urban ecosystems? *

We need to ensure we have a really healthy tree canopy, allow for edible and/or desert adaptable landscaping, and plan for better wildlife corridors through developed areas of the city. We also should consider ecosystem health in every decision.

8. Do you feel that the City should move toward offering recycling for businesses, not just residences? *

1 2 3 4

Low priority High priority

Why?

My understanding is the city does offer recycling for commercial properties. Perhaps it is just cardboard recycling. I would need to look into this further to rank this higher as a priority.

9. What do you believe is the role of municipalities in strengthening local food systems? *

An important role through community planning, offering some services, and supporting amazing groups such as the Kamloops farmers market and the food policy council (KFPC). I support the city providing a financial service agreement for the (KFPC).

10. What new actions, if any, do you feel the City should undertake to ensure the timely implementation of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission's recommendations? *

The city is well on its way to implement the relevant and appropriate TRC recommendations. We need to continue this work, always taking our lead from Indigenous peoples. We should always be open to new proposals.

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