

2026 Municipal Candidate Questionnaire

1. What are your three main reasons for running for Mayor or Council?

I am running for Council because I love Kelowna, the city I have called home for 34 years. I want to help build a safer community that supports a strong year-round economy. I know I have the skills to take on the challenges of being a councillor because I believe being a journalist for 30 years helped hone my research and problem solving skills while being a REALTOR has given me important information about housing, planning and land use.

2. Are you in favour of limiting the number of years an individual can sit as Mayor or as a city Councillor?

Yes. I do not think an individual should sit on council for more than 8 years.

3. Should major city projects be done using a public/private contracting?

I do believe in public/ private partnerships to build infrastructure. The public can save money when a private company can benefit from long term contracts operating public infrastructure that they built.

4. Are there too many staff at City Hall? Are there too many upper level managers and directors at City Hall which taxpayers have to fund?

I just saw the quarterly financial report and saw that salaries were \$75 million for the quarter. The City is a significant employer in Kelowna and that does generate local economic benefits when workers spend their money locally. There does need to be more scrutiny to determine if all the jobs are needed, including upper level managers.

5. Should Taxpayers have more say in the development of their neighbourhoods? Has the current development process gone to far in eliminating resident's voices and concerns about developments in their neighbourhoods?

I do think the City has forgotten that those who pay property taxes fund them. If you aren't listening to property tax payers, who is driving the "bus"?

6. Many people are disillusioned and have lost pride in our community with the current state of street dysfunction and open drug use seen in many areas of our city. What are mayoral and council candidates prepared to do about visible drug use, comatose substance users, increased crime rates, feelings of lack of personal safety especially around low-barrier and transitional housing as well as in our public parks? How do you, the candidate, propose to mitigate the negative affects in neighbourhoods where there is daily dysfunction? This is not *just* a Downtown problem or a business person's problem. How will you restore our resident's feelings of personal safety, enjoyment of life in their homes and neighbourhoods, and renew resident's pride in our city?

I am in favour of increased policing, for a time, to ensure individuals who commit crimes are charged with crimes. There needs to be more pressure on provincial and federal authorities to enforce the criminal code, which does make trespass, drug possession and loitering a punishable offence. Once convicted offenders identify as addicts, rehab must be mandatory.

All neighbourhoods must be actively patrolled - residents concerns actively investigated - and criminal charges mandatory. Parks must once again become safe for residents.

The source of illicit drugs must be actively pursued and curtailed.

The Crime Stoppers program can further become a source of community education for residents, not just a tips line.

7. Are you in favour of the increasing elimination of single family dwellings in previously single detached housing neighbourhoods?

The approval of multiple dwellings on a single-family lot was changed by the Provincial Government. And while single-family dwellings are increasingly out of reach for many people, we have to closely examine the style of homes that is replacing them to ensure they fit the form, character and appropriate parking availability in the neighbourhood.

8. Do developers get too many breaks at the expense of tax payers?

Breaks to developers often come as a knee-jerk response to perceived housing crisis. The evidence is the exponential build-out of rental-purpose housing all over Kelowna. The aim is to drive rents down, but it will have the opposite effect and drive families away because they can no longer rent out their suites in their homes.

9. Should infrastructure be a priority pre-development instead constantly tearing up streets and playing catch up, which seems the current protocol, considering the amount of growth that is expected in the future?

Infrastructure upgrade scheduling is the issue, in my opinion. I believe connection to municipal water and sewer infrastructure should be done ahead of development. But either timeline, it is going to be disruptive.

10. **The 15 minute walkable urban planning concept** works well in communities which have enough employment within that community. There are many neighbourhoods in Kelowna which do not have an abundance of employment opportunities in the 15 minute bubble so workers have to travel a distance to be gainfully employed. These same workers require vehicles to travel to work with equipment and/or supplies.

- Would you prioritize making our neighbourhoods livable and enjoyable rather than building to an ideal that *forces* a 15 minute walkable bubble on communities?

If the City went toward the Calgary model of allowing more home-based businesses in certain neighbourhoods, we would help create the 15 minute walkable urban bubble. But Canada as a whole has fallen behind in making our own goods to sell in our own country. We need access to more raw-resources to manufacture more goods that supply our own country. Kelowna doesn't have any

immediate resources, but the Provincial and Federal governments need to work harder to help companies invest in creating our own supply of goods.

- Would you increase the amount of vehicle parking required per development back to what it was several years ago?

Yes. Busy people need cars. A strong economy is based on movement in the community. Forcing everyone onto busses is not a solution for a strong economy. I would like to see more residential/commercial mix that people could buy for work and live on the second floor.

- Should green space be essential within a development's foot print rather than a 15 minute walk?

I don't think you have to walk 15 minutes anywhere in Kelowna, these days, to find a green space. But there are many parks still planned in Kelowna - more green space still reserved for the future in the OCP. It only means that the City is planning more apartment/ condo allowance.

11. Should the city prioritize the purchase of new park land available to all citizens, and in so doing protect vulnerable green space from being paved over and developed? Should land which is *currently* city owned be prioritized for green space instead of being sold to developers?

Green space must be well planned to serve it's neighbourhood. Land swaps are popular ways for the City to save money. Two different subjects, in my opinion. If the Mission Springs Golf Course re-zoning is your suggested evidence of this, I do think that land for industrial is not well-suited to wetlands or flood-plain.

12. Do you believe that all Cultural infrastructure should only be in the downtown core instead of shared throughout the city. Are you prepared to change the bylaws that restrict Cultural development to ONLY downtown?

Reserving culture to one district is only encouraging traffic problems, in my opinion. Kelowna has several centres where people should be able to stay and enjoy cultural activities.

13. As things are developing more in the Pandosy-Lakeshore area, parking lots are being turned into housing developments and parking is harder to find. Residents who do not live within a few blocks of Okanagan Lake can not easily enjoy their own beaches because of lack of parking. Yet these beaches are readily available to tourists and those who can afford to live within walking distance of the lake. Should more parking be made available so *all* residents of Kelowna are able enjoy the Okanagan Lake shoreline and beaches?

I take my kids to the beach and don't seem to have a problem finding parking.

14. What are your thoughts regarding Resident Associations and Affiliate Agreements? Do you think Resident Associations should be restricted from speaking against City decisions / plans which may adversely affect a Neighbourhood?

If the Resident Association has taken a fair poll of it's residents before taking an issue to council, it should be a valid group presenting to the City.

15. What efforts will you make to include all Resident Associations in any consultation process where it relates to matters affecting the health, safety and well-being of residents within their boundaries?

I personally would take the time to listen to residents, Resident Associations and their like in making decisions for our City. Council should have regular consultation with these groups to keep up with concerns.