

2026 Municipal Candidate Questionnaire

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

Public safety is a major concern. People want to feel safe in their neighbourhoods, downtown and in their businesses.

Affordability and the cost of living are also very important. People are working hard, but they're feeling the pressure from housing costs, taxes and everyday expenses.

We also need to deal with **aging infrastructure** and make sure we're planning properly for the growth we're experiencing.

And I think we need to continue supporting local businesses and good local jobs. A strong local economy benefits everyone.

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

YES

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

It depends; I believe the City should focus on getting the best value, quality and long-term outcome for taxpayers. Where the City has the qualified staff, equipment and expertise to complete a project efficiently, public delivery can make sense. However, when specialized skills or additional capacity are needed, private contractors should be considered through a fair and competitive process.

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 don't think it would be responsible for me to say there are too many City employees without first looking at the numbers and understanding what services those employees provide. I would want to review staffing levels, workloads, productivity and whether services can be delivered more efficiently before recommending reductions. That said, I do believe we need to take a very close look at the number and cost of senior management positions at City Hall. As a taxpayer-funded organization, City Hall should be continually asking whether every management position is necessary, whether responsibilities can be consolidated, and whether compensation is competitive and reasonable compared with similar municipalities.

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?

Yes, I believe residents should have a meaningful voice in decisions that affect their neighbourhoods. Transparency and genuine public consultation are important, and residents should have the opportunity to understand proposed developments and have their concerns heard and considered. I also believe the City and Council should be willing to listen to local residents and recognize that our community brings a wide range of experience, knowledge and professional expertise to the table.

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?

This is about restoring safety and pride in our community. We need to address the visible effects of homelessness, addiction, mental health and crime while recognizing that the City cannot solve all of these issues on its own.

I would push for more visible enforcement in areas experiencing ongoing disorder, stronger partnerships with RCMP and service providers while placing more pressure on the Province for better access to mental-health and addiction services. We also need to make sure our parks, sidewalks, businesses and neighbourhoods remain safe and accessible to everyone.

We need measurable results, not just more spending. Residents should be able to see that their concerns are being heard and that the City is taking action. My goal would be to restore a sense of safety, community pride and enjoyment of the city we all call home.

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

NO.

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

I think it depends on the circumstances. Any incentives or concessions given to developers should be transparent, justified, and provide a clear benefit to the community. I don't believe taxpayers should be left carrying costs that should reasonably be borne by a developer. The rules should be fair and consistently applied, regardless of who the developer is or who they may know at City Hall.

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?

Absolutely. This is an issue I feel very strongly about. We need to be proactive about infrastructure instead of constantly playing catch-up and tearing up streets after development has already occurred. We need to plan and invest today for the growth we know is coming. Delaying necessary infrastructure can mean paying several times more in the future—and leaving the next generation to deal with problems we could have addressed today.

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?

Yes. I believe neighbourhoods should be livable, enjoyable and designed around the needs of the people who live and work there. The 15-minute concept can work well in some areas, but it isn't realistic to expect every neighbourhood to provide all employment, services and amenities within a 15-minute walk. Kelowna needs a balanced approach that recognizes our different neighbourhoods, zoning, employment locations and the reality that many residents need vehicles for work, equipment and supplies. We should plan for walkability where practical without forcing one model on every community.

- Would you increase the amount of vehicle parking required per development back to what it was several years ago?
YES
- Should green space be essential within a development's foot print rather than a 15 minute walk?
YES

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?

Yes, protecting green space and acquiring parkland should be a consideration as Kelowna grows. However, I don't believe all City-owned land should automatically be designated as green space. City-owned land is a valuable long-term asset that could be used for parks, community centres, arts and entertainment, or other projects that benefit residents. We should look at the long-term needs of the community before selling City land and not simply sell it to developers for short-term revenue.

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?

I think having a cultural district downtown is valuable, but arts and entertainment should also be accessible throughout Kelowna. Safety also needs to be part of that conversation. Residents should feel comfortable attending cultural events and enjoying public spaces without concerns about theft, disorder or other safety issues.

Different neighbourhoods have different needs, and providing cultural opportunities in more areas can make them accessible to more residents, including those who may not have the ability or desire to travel downtown. Creating more active community spaces throughout the city can also help build stronger, more connected and safer neighbourhoods. I would support looking at the bylaws to allow appropriate cultural development in neighbourhoods throughout the city.

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?

Yes, I think we should look at ways to improve public access to the lake for all Kelowna residents. The challenge is finding additional parking without sacrificing valuable green space or simply adding more concrete. I would support looking at creative solutions, such as better use of existing parking, shared parking arrangements and improved transit options, so we can increase access to the waterfront while protecting our green spaces.

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?

No. I don't believe Resident Associations should be restricted from speaking against City decisions or plans that may adversely affect their neighbourhood.

I believe Council and City staff, need to listen more closely to residents and Resident Associations and better understand the practical realities and concerns they are experiencing in their communities. Resident Associations provide an important local perspective that should be part of the decision-making process.

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?

Listen, learn and keep an open mind. I believe Resident Associations should be included early in discussions about issues that affect the health, safety and well-being of their neighbourhoods. Resident Associations local knowledge and experience can help Council and the city better understand the impact of decisions on residents.