

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

There is more work to be done, and I would like to continue work we have started and see important projects through, including the \$20M Rutland Activity Centre, along with other Millions of \$'s being spent in Rutland.

Experience matters. I bring four terms of council experience, deep local knowledge and decades of business experience.

I care deeply about Kelowna, having been here for 55 years. My husband and his family were born and raised in Kelowna. My first home was at 1075 Hollywood Road in Rutland where I lived for several years before I married. Bringing new ideas to the table is welcoming, but continuity also matters, and I believe we are best served with building-on the progress that we have made while continuing to address the challenges of a fast-growing city.

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

No

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

Yes

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 believe taxpayers deserve to know that city Hall is operating as efficiently as possible. We should regularly review staffing levels, particularly management positions to ensure we have the right people in the right roles and that every tax dollar is being used responsibly.

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 feel that we should bring back public hearings. The NDP Provincial Government took away and structured development that there would only be public hearings if there were variances brought forward. I felt that this was wrong. I would lobby to bring back public hearings, to hear the public.

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 will CONTINUE to lobby our higher levels of government to keep prolific offenders off streets increase prosecutorial resources and establish mandatory care faculties for individuals who are unable to care for themselves and are a high risk in our community. CONTINUE to Work with RCMP and Bylaws for safer streets with stronger enforcement. Continue to work with RCMP and bylaws to reduce break-ins, theft and property crime. Last term council added 33 new RCMP, 17 Bylaws Officers and 18 Firefighters along with the restart of the Auxiliary program. Our RCMP are now solely responsible for Kelowna, excluding West Kelowna & Lake Country, which will help immensely. I feel businesses pain, as I am in business, running a major hotel. We are going through the same problems as other businesses, being break-ins, drug use on our premises, tents being erected on our premises and garbage and needles all over our hotel lot. We need to continue the government to press the higher levels of government to close the drug center in Rutland also in downtown Kelowna and get people the help they need.

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

I support a balanced approach. Kelowna was provincially mandated with objectives in rental housing, and we met those imposed targets. Four years ago, Kelowna's rental vacancy rate was below 1% and today it is closer to 7% giving residents real choice, although affordability still remains a challenge for our citizens. In saying that, change to established neighbourhoods should consider neighbourhood character, infrastructure, parking, traffic and the needs of existing residents, that I have always tried to follow in public hearings.

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

Developers pay for DCC's (Development costs) that in turn pay for our roads, sidewalks and parks. Without the DCC's we would not have those immunities. Every year, the city council reviews what developers pay, and in my last four terms, we have increased the DCC amount.

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?

Yes

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

Absolutely. I feel that parking is very essential in a development and that the patrons on a street should not suffer with a lack of parking. We need to again, review the parking of developments. Absolutely, green space and green space amenities should be essential within a development footprint rather than a 15-minute walk. I spoke out very loudly about that very thing in a huge development proposal on Harvey Avenue with several large buildings.

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?

I believe the city has done a good job of protecting and adding to our parkland and green space, and I support continuing that work as opportunities arise. I believe that city-owned land should generally be considered for public green space, while recognizing that in some circumstances, a partnership with a developer on a project that provides much-needed rental or affordable housing can serve an important public benefit. In Rutland Council is breaking ground on a \$20M Rutland Activity Centre, Investing 1.2M in Lions Park upgrades, Rebuilding Ben Lee Spray Park with a \$250,000 upgrade, investing more than \$7.5M in Rutland Recreation Park improvements.

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?

Cultural infrastructure should be built throughout the City. In saying that, large land blocks are needed to build Cultural infrastructure and should be definitely by transit.

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?

Absolutely, we need to make parking available to all residents to enjoy the Okanagan Lake. The city last year built a large parking lot right beside Rotary Beach Park for all to enjoy.

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?

Absolutely not. Residents' Associations should be welcomed at all public hearings. As I said previously, I did not agree with the Provincial government about minimizing the number of public hearings.

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 have spoken to thousands of residents, business owners, community leaders, and stakeholders, listening to their ideas, concerns, and future hopes for our city. I have a proven track record of showing up, being extremely accessible, listening to residents and working hard on their behalf. I also bring experience, past perspective, and knowledge. I bring energy and determination to keep Kelowna moving forward.

Maxine DeHart

www.maxinedehart.ca