

Additional Question & Answers from Candidates

1. Will you support the Council having a referendum on coal mining? It appears to many who have serious concerns over the negative impact coal mining will have to our Eastern Slopes, that those opposed have been silenced and bullied. Everyone should have a voice here and I and others believe it has not been heard. Claims that the majority support coal mining in the Pass are not substantiated.

Doreen Glavin- I would support a referendum on any issue if the majority of residents so wanted. I am also entitled to my opinion and after having public meetings with Riversdale for 7 years, and providing ample opportunity for input from the community, at most 10 people attended. Councils concern and the public concerns were addressed and I voted to be in support of mine and I stand by that decision today.

Dave Filipuzzi- I would have no problem with a referendum on coal mining, keeping in mind that the future of Riverdale is of our hands

Dean Ward- There are several issues with holding a referendum. On what issues? who decides the issue? would we do it just on coal mining? why not water meters? multimillion dollar infrastructure projects? etc. Don't we hold elections every four years where anybody can put forth their name and fight for all the issues they believe in and represent the public's concerns? Keep in mind if a referendum did take place, we would have to give all residents an opportunity to vote (advance, institutional and regular polls manned by paid employee's) the cost of doing that process \$30-40,000. If a group came forth with a legal petition that conformed with the standards set forth by the Municipal Government Act containing a substantial number of our electors requesting a referendum, I would believe strongly that council would have a duty to consider that option.

Tara-Lynn Fletcher- I absolutely would support a referendum. I am happy to hear both sides of concern regardless of my views. I also believe people should be educated on both the pros and cons to having the coal mine. We should bring in experienced coal mining experts and perhaps even local people who have worked in the mines for years to shed light in what it has done for them and their family.

Lisa Sygutek- When the Municipality updated our Municipal Development Plan, 15% of our population replied to the survey. The survey asked the question can industry and coal mining co-exist, 70% of respondents said YES. This tells me there is public endorsement in favour of coal mining. Should there be a desire to revisit this public endorsement, there is a formal mechanism that allows for a petition to Council for a referendum. With a referendum costing the taxpayer around \$30,000, the Municipal Government Act requires that a petition be signed by at least 10% of the municipality's electorate. If a duly supported petition comes before Council then I would set aside my personal views and consider the petition on its own merits.

Glen Girhiny- Only after an informal poll question asking for this actually shows the majority of residents would like this. Poll could be done through the utility bills. Would be interesting to actually see what percentage would actually respond.

Vicki Kubik- I believe that having a referendum on coal mining is really the only way to truly know what direction the majority of residents want the municipality to take on this issue. Those people who are really invested in the outcome will come out to vote. Council will then be tasked with respecting the outcome and moving forward with a strong mandate one way or the other. Once the people have spoken, it will be up to all of us as a community to respect the outcome.

2. Do you have plans to help our youth stay in the Crowsnest Pass area?

Doreen Glavin- I would like to work on bringing Lethbridge College back to our community, a trades school, and work on bringing industry to the Crowsnest Pass.

Dave Filipuzzi- The only way to keep the youth in the Pass is to provide them with jobs, industry would be nice to help this problem. I have noticed that a lot of young adults want to come back home, but jobs are the problem. If anyone has got answers to this problem please help us, we have been working hard to figure this out.

Dean Ward- We will not keep youth in the community without good paying jobs. What would our community look like without those 450 jobs at Teck? Economic Development is the answer.

Tara-Lynn Fletcher- This is one of the main focusses and goals for me as a municipal representative. Currently I am founding a new sport club in the CNP, I volunteer coach for several teen team sports and sit on the board for a few. I personally am also currently working on a business idea that would serve our youth and families in the area. I would love to support any initiatives and ideas our community has to bring more facilities and opportunities to our children and families of the CNP. I am very passionate about providing experiences and opportunities for the youth of our community. I am born and raised in the CNP, I am raising my children here now and want nothing more than for my children to raise theirs here as well.

Lisa Sygutek- In order help our youth stay in the community, we need to offer gainful opportunities for employment and attainable housing. That means we need to actively entice industry and new businesses to the area. We also need to provide attainable housing so they have somewhere to live that they can afford. The rental market has a vacancy of below 3% and high rental prices with few options for entry-level housing.

Glen Girhiny- The only way I see to achieve this is through gainfull employment. As most people realize that seems to exclude all forms of resource extraction, unless we have a huge gain in population to allow for multiple service industry jobs competing for the same tourist dollar, then this will be extremely hard to achieve.

Vicki Kubik- Promoting economic diversity will help to encourage young people to stay in the area. Often, young people leave home to get their secondary education. Having a vibrant and attractive job market along with affordable housing will hopefully bring them home where they can raise their own families. It'll be important for the upcoming council to plan for the changes that will make this a reality.

3. The COVID pandemic has brought a lot of challenges. But it has also created opportunities. People now know how to work remotely, and many have expressed interest in moving out of the major centres into areas like Crowsnest Pass. What are we doing to take advantage of that, particularly as it relates to attracting entrepreneurs and small businesses that no longer need to be located in the city? What will you do personally on this question as part of a new council?

Doreen Glavin- In order to take advantage of attracting entrepreneurs and small business to our community, broadband, housing and rental accommodation have already been identified as issues, and I will continue to work on these issues while remaining fiscal.

Dave Filipuzzi- We have been working to bring Broadband to the area, and I will continue to work on that.

Dean Ward- It has created opportunities; A great example I personally know of two families that relocated to the Pass. Because the present council successfully lobbied the provincial government to **place a francophone school** in our community. We also know of other entrepreneurs that looked at moving here but choice not to because our lack of housing, big part of why we are encouraging new development. There would be a lot more opportunities if the Federal and Provincial governments came through on broadband commitments.

Tara-Lynn Fletcher- I would love to promote and support new small businesses to fill the main streets of Blairmore and Coleman again. As a kid I remember the Main Street being more busy and full store fronts, it was really awesome growing up in the Crowsnest Pass and I welcome new families to be able to experience it.

Lisa Sygutek- The key to supporting remote workers to the Crowsnest Pass is stable broadband with fast internet and unlimited data. The Crowsnest Pass must lobby the provincial government to ensure that we are the first community at the table as upgrades throughout the province take place. The natural beauty and affordability to live here, when compared to Banff and Canmore, is also a marketing draw we need to explore. Again, though we need to make sure we have adequate and reasonable housing at different price points to meet their needs.

Glen Girhiny- The covid pandemic has already helped or hurt our local economy depending on which side of the fence your on. The housing market here now is a direct result of this, and it is creating some problems that we need to address if we want to keep our community feel we have now.

Vicki Kubik- COVID has brought and will continue to bring a multitude of challenges. Crowsnest Pass has always been a resilient community and there are some amazing success stories of how business owners have demonstrated creativity in overcoming the restrictions imposed by public health and provincial officials. Council plays a critical role in leading by example, and by facilitating the changes that are required to assist business to continue to be successful. Council needs to work together as a team to advocate for and to bring utilities and infrastructure up to the standard that new business will require. It is the role of council to promote our municipality as an attractive place to work, live and play. Adequate housing, office and retail space and the ability to accommodate industrial and manufacturing business should all be taken into account as we look to attract both small and mid-sized business. Council needs to be responsive by being quick to approve business licenses, and adapting bylaws to facilitate start ups.

4. What are their thoughts are on Home and commercial water meters, being we are one of if not the last communities in Alberta that does not have meter watered? By installing water meters do you think utility charges will then be based on what is actually used in comparison to a set rate which is often far from accurate?

Doreen Glavin- I feel that residents are good stewards of the land and water, but the province has identified that too much water is being used per capita. I would be in agreement of water meters if the province pays for the meters, like they have done for other communities. The cost 4 years ago was 1.2 million dollars and that cost will be higher today. If the province mandates water meters and does not pay for them, residents and businesses will pay a flat rate and user rate for this utility.

Dave Filipuzzi- We have had water meters in our Capital Budget for a number of years but have not moved ahead with them, they have pros and cons; there are a number of ways to charge the consumer if installed that will be part of the discussion it the next Council moves ahead with them.

Dean Ward- You are correct we are one of the last communities in Alberta to not have water meters, in the not-too-distant future we will be forced to put them in place I believe by the provincial government. Two concerns I have, meters cost \$5-600 per household they are not cheap. At some point they become a cash cow for governments. There must be a reasonable approach to paying for them and the rates should be comparable to what the average user pays today. No different than any other utility (power, gas) the people that use less than the average will pay less and the people that use more than the average should pay more.

Tara-Lynn Fletcher- I would be interested in discussing this and researching the costs to install. We as citizens need to keep in mind there is budgets and several items considered every year. In order to keep our tax increases to a minimum we need to trust that our elected representatives make decisions that best support our community whilst staying within the budget.

Lisa Sygutek- I believe that water is a valuable commodity. I agree that water meters encourage water conservation by measuring and monitoring actual usage. As we are looking to grow our community, water is an essential commodity to support that growth. Furthermore, any savings in water consumption by existing homes can be reallocated to new homes without requiring expensive upgrades to our water treatment facilities.

Glen Girhiny- Personally I am against water meters. The idea of these is to make or force people to conserve their use of water through yet another form of tax. Responsible government would have to first make sure that they themselves don't waste any water before they add yet another money grabbing tax to further burden the taxpaying public.

Vicki Kubik- I don't have enough experience to comment on what previous councils may have discussed or researched on the topic of water meters what that would mean in terms of cost and workload for the public works department. I have lived in Pincher Creek, a community with water meters and my personal experience says that water meters do cut down on indiscriminate watering. Larger families do end up paying more, as do people with large yards and gardens and businesses like car washes. Some families choose to do xeriscaping to cut down on summer water use. I think this is an issue that would require much discussion amongst all stake holders in order to mete out all the pros and cons.

5. Can you confirm that you are ensuring that adequate security is being put in place by the developers for all the projects? We all know that the Pass has been burned before in the millions of dollars as adequate security was not secured beforehand.

Doreen Glavin- Developers are required to put up a 100% security when applying for a development permit.

Dave Filipuzzi- If anyone would have kept up with what we have done with that policies they would know we require 100% security on projects now. This was a major concern to council, so we redrafted the policy.

Dean Ward- We require security on all developments, the amount is determined during the development agreement process.

Tara-Lynn Fletcher- I cannot comment on this as I have not researched the situation but happy to listen and discuss.

Lisa Sygutek- The Development Agreements with developers require the posting of adequate securities such that the Municipality can finish the project if the developer cannot. Please contact Mr. Patrick Thomas, our Chief Administrative Officer, if you have any additional questions.

Glen Girhiny- This is an operational question and a presumptuous one at that.

6. The Chamber seems to be mentioned by Doreen Glavin in regards to New Business and Tourism.....but I'm not hearing her plan forward. Also, I would love to hear Lisa's plan on tourism moving forward.

Doreen Glavin- The Municipality and Chamber should have good communication as to not duplicate what we are doing, but to enhance what we are doing. My plan for not just tourism, but trying to support local business, would first have a welcome basket for new residents that would include a resource booklet that lists all businesses in the Crowsnest Pass. This resource booklet would also be available to all residents who do not have internet. The Municipality and Chamber would work together on this and would update information as it changes. In order for this to happen the Municipality needs to hire a person for this position. The position would include working with all businesses to have their information added to ATIS for the gocrowsnest website. The content for Crowsnest Pass culture, heritage and recreation would also be added to the website. This person would be the liaison between businesses and the Municipality, and be the contact for any person wanting to invest in the Crowsnest Pass. They would also work with the new marketing committee that is being formed and would attend trade shows to distribute tourist guides and market the Crowsnest Pass.

The Municipality will staff the tourist hut and partner with tourist operators, and would organize tours using the Ride Crowsnest Bus. The tours would include our culture, heritage, recreation and would promote Crowsnest Pass businesses. The Municipality would have an ambassador program where ambassadors would upload information to the gocrowsnest website and be well versed in what the Crowsnest Pass has to offer. The Municipality would enhance marketing. The Municipality and community would work on attracting tourists to extend their stay. The new council will be discussing dog parks, skateboard parks, and other initiatives. One thing I have learned being a councillor for eight years is that you cannot have 20 irons in the fire. The new council should focus on completing projects and that would include the ball diamond complex in Hillcrest. This completed project will enhance recreation and provide a venue for special events such as concerts, movies, or in the future a fireworks event. That would be my plan for supporting business and tourism in the Crowsnest Pass, but this plan would need to be supported by the rest of council.

Lisa Sygutek- Councillor Filipuzzi has been lobbying Council to hire an Economic/Marketing Development Officer for the Crowsnest Pass. As a result of COVID I do believe this area is quickly becoming and destination attraction. With fees now being applied to Kananaskis Country and mass groups in the area, outdoor enthusiasts are quickly realizing it's relatively quiet here in comparison. We have seen an increase in hiking groups, mountain biking enthusiasts, a huge bouldering community and substantial increase in usage at the Pass Powderkeg Ski Hill and the Pass Community Pool. I believe that the ski hill has now become a multi-season venue and an anchor draw to our community. The GoCrowsnest website has been a massive success to the community for tourism marketing, I think we can piggyback off the site with a "live and work section" and a link to "why you should move to the Crowsnest Pass". I would like to see expansion of trails, both walking and hiking and niche sport activities at the site. I think with a professional marketing the area the potential is limitless. Now is the time to move forward with this position.

7. Could you have discussions with CPR about having train silence through Blairmore – it is unbearably noisy in the daytime for businesses on main street and is really noisy at night. Other communities in Alberta have been successful in at least having nighttime train silence (ie Lacombe).

Doreen Glavin- Council has already explored a previous request in May 2020 and the decision made was that it was cost prohibitive, but a new council can revisit this.

Dave Filipuzzi- We had discussion with CPR on this issue and were told if you want the way they go throw our community changed, we would have to assume the liability. This could be a problem for the community.

Dean Ward- I know previously 10-12 years ago council did have discussions about cessation of train whistles at that time there were several issues. Residents were spilt on the issue; in addition, all railway crossings would have to be engineered and costs borne by the municipal to upgrade any required changes. Plus, the municipality would have to bear additional liability insurance costs. Having said all of that I would have no problem exploring the issue with CPR and Transport Canada again to see what would be possible.

Tara-Lynn Fletcher- I am open to discussions regarding this. I personally live across the street from the train tracks in Coleman and understand the noise complaint. However, my main concern would be the safety aspect of silencing the trains. Is the safety of our people comprised by silencing the trains is the main question we need to consider.

Lisa Sygutek- I understand that Penhold and Lacombe have been in discussion with the railway to stop train whistles within their town limits at uncontrolled railway crossings. This may require improvements to the railway crossing in Blairmore with the addition of new signs, lights, and potentially crossing bars. Please contact Mr. Patrick Thomas, our Chief Administrative Officer, if you have any additional questions.

Glen Girhiny- This is a question regarding safety at all railway crossings within our community. I agree that some engineers on these trains enjoy listening to their horns.

Vicki Kubik- I think it is completely reasonable to have a conversation with CPR to see what changes can be made to mitigate this issue.

8. Do you think our main streets are healthy? If not, what would you do to change that?

Doreen Glavin- I feel our main streets are improving. There are patios and businesses starting to dress up windows. Buildings are being bought, and new buildings are being built. The Municipality has revitalized downtown Coleman and will continue to revitalize Bellevue and Hillcrest main streets when infrastructure in the ground needs to be replaced to be cost effective. The Municipality has a new policy on targeted new development -re-development incentive policy and continues to work on streamlining processes for businesses. The Municipality does support the Chamber and will continue to work on engaging businesses.

Dave Filipuzzi- I hope Colemans is good now, and we have talked about doing Bellevue and are hope money will be available to do it in the future, keeping in mind that the infrastructure will need upgrading. Also we are hoping to acquire the Gazebo land in Blairmore.

Dean Ward- Our main streets are heading in the right direction, look at downtown Coleman the new businesses that have located there and the potential for the Roxy Theatre to be reborn. In this year's budget initiatives, we have directed administration to bring back the costs of upgrading main street Bellevue and Blairmore for consideration. We have increased the service level in our development department and changed our land use bylaw to make both more business friendly, we also put in place a New development and Re-development Incentive policy.

Tara-Lynn Fletcher- Seeing what our Main Street looked like when I was younger compared to what it is now I would say it could use some more life. I want to promote small businesses to fill our store fronts. I love seeing the restoration to some of the buildings on main street and would love to see more done to restore the history but also the integrity of the buildings. I would love to discuss ways to see we our historical theatre, Main Street Blairmore be restored as one initiative.

Lisa Sygutek- I believe Council can enhance the look of our main streets. Downtown Coleman is an example of main street beautification. I think Council should invest in a similar program in downtown Bellevue. With the revitalization is incentive to open shop. With an attainable housing project in Bellevue we would also see an increase of population which will in turn support more business retention and opening of new businesses in the area. Council presently has a program in place to encourage businesses to renovate with tax incentives to promote the initiative. These types of tax incentive program help us land business and should be expanded.

Glen Girhiny- Our mainstreet and every other small towns mainstreet are a direct result of the global economy we all live in now. Maybe we could get the post office to ban all parcel delivery? Don't forget that all the small businesses that everyone wants on main Street needs the support of the whole community to survive or else we will just have seasonal businesses that would struggle.

Vicki Kubik- The upgrades made in Coleman, along with business revitalization have really made a difference, and I would like to see those sorts of upgrades be offered in Blairmore, Bellevue and Hillcrest as well. I think these are the sort of upgrades that attract people to come to our community and want to stay here. It is along these lines that I would like to see more enforcement of the unsightly property bylaw to highlight pride in our community.

9. If you received a \$1 Million grant for the municipality to use in any way, what would you do with it and why?

Doreen Glavin- I would spend a million dollars on finding a more permanent solution to fixing the 1033 potholes in our community until the infrastructure in the ground needs to be replaced. The money saved from current practices would be diverted to a different area of the Municipality.

Dave Filipuzzi- Boy that is hard question to answer, no matter what I say some will disagree with it, if it was 10,000,000 that question would be easy to answer. But with a 1,000,000 I would but in a reserve to replace the Albert Stella, something we talk about often.

Dean Ward- Perfect timing, we just approved at our Oct 5 council meeting a motion to approve a conditional \$220,000 capital expenditure to apply for a \$1.3 million grant to upgrade our ski lodge. If we don't get the grant, we don't spend a dollar. Recreation opportunities are a big part of the future for this community, the present council as invested significant dollars in those recreational opportunities over the last four years. (Sportsplex, Swimming pool, Ski hill, Gymnastics Centre, walking trails)

Tara-Lynn Fletcher- The one thing I would love more than anything for this community is an indoor recreation facility. My dream is to have one with an indoor pool, running track, ice rink, climbing walls, fitness rooms, yoga studio, lacrosse/soccer turf, racquet courts, volleyball/basketball courts and more. I know my dreams would be far more than 1 million but that sure would be a great start to something beautiful!

Lisa Sygutek- I think we are missing a conference centre in the community. I would use the grant money to help build a state of the art conference centre that caters to small, medium and large venues. It would have state of the art technological capabilities that could include remote and advanced learning opportunities and would house a new library facility. A facility that could be used by every demographic in the community.

Glen Girhiny- If we got a million dollar grant to be used anywhere we wanted (oh don't we all wish), I would say that would have to be put to the residents. There are countless areas in the community that this could benefit and they are the ones that should decide.

Vicki Kubik- It would be wonderful to see gymnastics, lacrosse, skateboarding and rock climbing all under one roof again; a multi-purpose building dedicated to youth activities where we could also host family day activities and birthday parties. I would advocate for the purchase of a second street sweeper because it feels like it takes until summer before all the streets get cleaned. I would push for the demolition of the Albert Stella Arena partly because the rent on the barrier fence is costing taxpayers a few thousand dollars a month and we've been paying on that for a couple of years already and partly because I think that land could be used for other projects. Finally, I would look at hiring a well-qualified economic development officer whose job it would be to promote the business potential of Crowsnest Pass.