

Brenda Campbell responses
Candidate for Red Deer City Council

1. I totally oppose privatization of municipal services and infrastructure, including P3's. Whenever/however possible, I support bringing previously privatized services in-house.
2. I will support employees and the community by ensuring living wages, full-time hours/contract when desired, job security and collective bargaining rights.
3. I will very much oppose attempts from the provincial government to legislate against municipal staff like cuts to the Local Authorities Pension Plan and restrictions on their right to strike. I work in the education sector so the provincial government's meddling and peddling, with healthcare even moreso, is nothing new to me and a thorn in my side already.
4. I propose we deal with fundraising shortfalls, cuts, and downloading of responsibilities from federal and provincial governments by turning these issues back on them. I strive to solicit every dime possible from higher levels of government and access funds (equalization payments should be coming our way/east to west now) we're entitled to . I would access every grant possible and seek their monies, not the other way around. I favour higher levels of government supporting us when deemed appropriate. Education/schooling is primarily provincial yet it's often municipal services picking up garbage and other issues resultant of middle and high school populations.
5. I support the use of mask mandates and for the most part vaccine 'passports'. That being said, the negligent provincial response has indeed put municipalities in an awkward position. I can't comprehend how proof of vaccine (which is often forged as no QR codes/app established...yet?) is necessary to enter the Collicutt Centre yet not required for either high school adjacent to it. Like it's noted, the provincial government has so missed the boat on this time and time again. I don't think vaccine mandates just for staff is enough to protect the entire municipality. I would hope we can somehow reach people, throughout our city, to understand how to limit and reduce the spread of COVID-19 via vaccines.
6. I'm not sure I can support the elimination of all transit fares as there again the provincial government is responsible for funding bus passes for students, as they should. I agree with supporting measures to reduce reliance on services fees and fares but feel if someone is able to pay municipal fees, they should. Of course subsidizing or having a sliding scale/elimination for some is essential and work is being done in this regard.