

Darcy Zelisko responses

Candidate for Bonnyville Town Council

1. I will support decisions that make fiscal sense for the municipality and that are sustainable over the long term. If the information presented does or does not support privatization, I will look to make a sensible decision based on all the information presented. Each scenario may be different.
2. I believe we are all looking for sustainable wages and job security. Municipal employees deserve these same rights. If changes are required due to service level reductions or funding loss, we will need to address those at that time and live within our means.
3. As a current member contributing to LAPP, I am strongly opposed to the government involvement in the pension plan. The management of the fund has been doing extremely well even through the down turn in the economy. Restrictions on the right to strike would depend on underlying issues of the strike, unfortunately I do not have enough background on union work to give a more informed answer.
4. I think the current funding that the Town of Bonnyville is receiving from ID 349 will assist in leveling out some of the peaks and valleys our oil economy throws at us. We need to manage the funds and the needs of the community at the same time. Tax increases are not my first option when we have a shortfall in the budget. I would look for alternative funding with whatever grant programs that are left and reassess the needs to see if we could spread a project over multiple years or wait till, we are in a better financial situation to proceed.
5. I do support the mask mandates. The vaccine passport and vaccine mandates are a tougher question. As much as I support AHS and have no issue with getting a vaccine it still needs to be a personal choice to do so. Some employers will be implementing a hard line on either vaccinations or testing requirements that will be at the expense of the individual if they choose not to get vaccinated. Not sure there is an easy answer to this.
6. I think that it would be a nice gesture to eliminate service fees, unfortunately that is not always possible. If the cost of collecting the small service fees is outweighed by the collection and administration of the program then I think it should be looked at. Otherwise, if fees are eliminated the dollars still need to come from some other tax revenue to fund the program.