Dave Quest responses
Candidate for Mayor of Strathcona County

Will you oppose privatization of municipal services and infrastructure, including Public-Private-Partnership's aka P3s? Will you support bringing previously privatized services inhouse?

I see no need to outsource the type of services provided by a municipality the size of Strathcona County. To my knowledge there are no major projects which are P3s at the municipal level.

Will you support your employees and your community by ensuring the municipality employs staff with living wages, full-time hours where desired, job security, and collective bargaining rights?

Absolutely. I believe the current salary for a Strathcona County employee is at the 75th percentile and I see no reason to change or alter that fact. I believe that employees should be rewarded for their time and effort and I have employed many people through my various business ventures.

Will you oppose attempt from the provincial government to legislate against municipal staff including cuts to the Local Authorities Pension Plan, or restrictions on their right to strike?

Definitely. I believe that a promise made is a promise that should be kept.

How do you propose your municipality deal with funding shortfalls, cuts, and downloading of responsibilities from federal and provincial governments? Do you favour spending cuts or tax increases?

I believe that if we utilize the priority-based budgeting model which was set up, that neither of these two options should be necessary. Strathcona County collects enough in industrial taxes and current property taxes (at their current level) that we can make decisions which help our residents without putting a burden on employees or the property and industrial tax base.

Do you support measures such as mask mandates, vaccine passports, and vaccine mandates for staff to limit and reduce the spread of COVID-19 in your municipality?

I fully support the existing mask and vaccine mandates implemented by the province.

Do you support measures to reduce municipal reliance on service fees and fares, such as eliminating transit fares?

Yes, I do. Part of my platform is to advocate for free transit for both youth and seniors within Sherwood Park.