

**Lawrence Lee responses**  
**Candidate for Red Deer City Council**

1. I believe in retaining municipal expertise and technical skills within the organization. Many municipal projects and jobs are more efficient and economic with in-house knowledge.
2. Providing employment locally is very important to me. With respect to compensation to our workforce, I believe in a fair and equitable balance of both wages and benefits. I also support collective bargaining in the spirit of building community for the better.
3. As part of being a locally elected leader I believe in ensuring that municipalities are provided with the appropriate funding. One of the largest components of our budget is human resources, therefore, we need to ensure and advocate that the Province provides funding to meet the agreements made in good faith. The right to strike has to be used very judiciously and not in areas where citizens' health and safety is compromised. Maintaining respectful relationships within the negotiations process is the key to never having to discuss holding a strike.
4. The way forward for our City is to grow both in the business sector and overall population. Failing that municipalities have very few options but to reduce services or raise taxes. I for one do not want to pay more for less. The reality is probably both finding a balance in spending and balancing what we ask our residents to pay in taxes.
5. I support any measures that protect residents and their families. Even though the Province is responsible for Public Health, municipalities have a moral and ethical imperative to ensure our hospitals and ICUs (staff and services) are not compromised.
6. Essential public service has to be shared between our Federal and Provincial counterparts. Services like transit are not meant to be a fee for the service system. I support proper budgeting that allows for the provision of recreation amenities, parks and transit at the lowest possible cost to users of those services.