

Chris Czember - Chamber questionnaire

1. I've wanted to be involved with council for many years now. As someone who has lived in Redcliff almost my whole life, as someone who owns two businesses here and some properties I am clearly invested into our community and would like to see it prosper. I felt it just made sense that I'd be interested in the decision making process of our future and would like to take part in it.

2. I have been running a business and been a home owner here in Redcliff for over 20 years now (since I was 19). I feel I have shown my support for the community as a tax payer over the years and also as a supporter and organizer of many charitable organizations. I will use these leadership and entrepreneurial skills on council to hopefully grow our local economy.

3. I believe government should be as business friendly as possible in the current economy to attract industry and new jobs. Cut through "red tape" where possible.

2. Upgrade certain public use areas around town. Specifically off leash dog park. Possibly camp grounds.

3. Maintain a good standing relationship with neighbouring communities.

4. A bus route to and from the brier park area for consumers and employees to the area.

5. Attract bigger events to the area and make Redcliff days grow to what it once was and even beyond.

4. The new helium discovery by the city sure is appealing if it comes to fruition like they hope it will. So attracting any commercial business to Redcliff from that or any other exploration would be high on my agenda. There is also be possible hope for some more oil and gas exploration in the area with a new company investing on the base. But ofcourse these two are merely speculative right now.

5. Intermunicipal collaboration is important to all involved. Collaboration is a must to ensure future growth becomes easier for all involved. An agreement to blanket everyone however may not be advantageous for all involved. (What's good for two may not be good for the third for example). This is a complicated document to say the least and needs to be fairly drawn up and possibly amended.

6. Approximately 2-1 seems to be the standard across Alberta and seems to be working well. As a home owner and a multiple commercial building owner I can see the fairness with this rate. For example Non residential can provide many times more the traffic and thus wear and tear on our roadways. This is ofcourse just one example of the extra demand and stress that can be put on the infrastructure by a non residential property, but a 2-1 is fair. I don't believe in high taxes especially for a job creating property but there should be a standard, I'm more concerned with keeping the mill rate as low as possible to help all.

7. Government needs to help business and not impede it! For example on a municipal level we need to be as welcoming as possible for business opportunities, within reason. Creating a welcoming environment for industry will hopefully attract them and more jobs to our town.

8. I feel as time goes on that fees in almost every aspect in every business tend to increase. Each business should be well aware of that and plan for this and inflation in its future. If by chance there was an unexpected massive increase in services we would need to evaluate each individual situation as it arises and come to a mutually beneficial solution to insure the business can survive the increase.

9. I believe our current brand is perfectly fine. If it comes to a point that we as a community decide that our town is more well known for another reason then so be it. Our name itself already reflects our topography. But if a rebrand makes sense then I'd be for it or even a dual branding perhaps.

10. Basically "cutting the fat" would be an ideal situation. The water infrastructure is (and has been for a long time now) been a huge concern. At a recent town council meeting a plan is being put forward for incentives for the residents to "untie" their weeping tile to the sewer system. This would be a great step forward in cutting some costs for the town and our residents.