

Candidate Questionnaire – Dwight Kilpatrick

1. What inspired you to put your name forward for consideration in this election?

I have been on council for 28 years and feel I have the leadership skills and the expertise to fulfill the role of mayor. I understand the roles and responsibilities and can be the voice of council. I am committed to serve the citizens of Redcliff and believe that I am best able to tackle the challenges the future will bring.

2. What qualifications and/or experiences will assist you in being an effective mayor?

I have sat on many boards through the years and understand the roles and duties of a governance body and have a desire to see Redcliff thrive and grow as a safe community. I have a broad knowledge of municipal operations which allows me to understand and lead council in decision making. I can extrapolate results that can or may happen depending how we decide on an issue which has helped in decision making through the years. I am as frugal with ratepayers money as my own because I feel we all work hard for our income and it should be spent prudently.

3. Please list your top 5 strategic priorities that you will commit to during your four year term.

Maintaining our levels of service with the least amount of tax rate change.

Formulating a plan to expand our sanitary and sewer capacity

Regional collaboration agreements

Economic Development

Land Development

4. What opportunities for growth do you see in the future for Redcliff? What strategies will you seek to implement in order to achieve this?

Redcliff has land available for development and growth. We have easy highway access for transportation of goods and services. I believe we have a willing and diverse labor pool available in the area. Competitive tax rates, good services and a reasonably straight forward development process need to be maintained to assist interested parties.

5. In the past Intermunicipal Collaboration has been entered into on a voluntary basis. The Municipal Government Act review will make the adoption of an Intermunicipal Intermunicipal Development Plan would you like to see expanded, eliminated or amended?

While the Tri-Area Intermunicipal Development Plan is due for a review, I believe the collaboration agreements should be separated and specific to Cypress County and Medicine Hat. The agreements may reference each other but maintain their independence for ease of future amendments.

6. In many municipalities across Alberta the non-residential tax rate can be significantly higher than the residential tax rate. In your opinion what is a reasonable residential to

non-residential ratio? What factors should be considered when calculating the nonresidential tax rates?

Our non-residential millrate is 12 compared to 5 residential, without school requisitions. It has always been around double. The reasons for this is government grants are based on population and this offsets the residential rate. Business tax is also tax deductible to a company so some offsets are gained. Businesses may not think so. Industrial areas have higher road standards than residential streets which are costlier. Storm water coefficients are higher usually resulting in larger infrastructure build and maintenance. These are all factors in arriving at a nonresidential millrate.

7. How do you feel that the Town can provide a more efficient business-to-government process to streamline government services for business?

I believe Redcliff has strived to ease access for everyone, not just business-to-government services. We have tried to keep our planning by-laws and policies clear and concise to avoid confusion and expedite development. Conforming developments should be handled easily with a minimum of frustration.

8. As costs for services increase and costs to businesses increase at all levels of Government, how will you evaluate the increases in fees and charges to ensure fees structures are reasonable and that any increases are implemented over a reasonable period of time?

We have always tried to keep our fees and rates as economical as possible while maintaining fiscal responsibility. We are all aware there is only so much money to go around and to keep increases, if necessary, reasonable.

9. Currently Redcliff is known as the Greenhouse Capital of the Prairies. There has been question about re-branding and changing the slogan of the Town of Redcliff. If you support re-branding what would your proposed direction or concept be?

I am satisfied with the current branding as I feel a brand is something that becomes more recognizable over time. It reflects the largest industry in Redcliff and I don't see a benefit to our community to change it.

10. What are your plans and/or strategies for achieving financial sustainability while balancing service delivery, capital requirements, cost containment and fair taxation levels.

I believe you must prioritize your capital projects and levels of service with an attainable budget and timeframe. Taxes must remain steady with only small increases as necessary. This has always been my belief and I plan to continue with that process if elected.

