

1. How will you help support the business community and reduce red tape in your municipality?

The business community is vital to the Town of CBS. As people are aware the Town of CBS needs to do more to generate commercial tax revenue. In order to reduce the amount of red tape the Town Council will need to be more flexible. During these difficult times we need to make it more feasible for a business looking to invest, by offering short term incentives (1 – 5 years) or tax incentives, for businesses to choose CBS as their municipality of choice. Helping a new business in the early stages will only add future value to our community, and once they are up and established they would settle into a more normal tax rate. It is also essential to have a good working relationship with both the provincial and federal governments. If elected I would work with them to find any grants or monies available to support new business ventures and see what can be done on their end to reduce any red tape, that may exist, if any.

2. As we continue to see the impacts of the pandemic, what can the municipality do to help businesses recover and grow?

The pandemic has affected everyone and their daily lives. Businesses have had to make so many adjustments to keep themselves afloat during these difficult times. A good start if I am elected, is to reach out to the business community directly to see what they need from their municipality. Yes, we may not be able to solve all of their concerns, but it would give them an opportunity to voice their concerns in a more structured forum, and we will see if there is a common theme of the challenges they have faced over the past 16-months.

We could also look at doing more private business town events. For example, the Tim Hortons Pirate Day is a very popular event. My family has attended for the past numbers of years and our girls absolutely love it. It brings the community and business community together. Doing more of these events could really make a difference in the business community.

3. What are you, as an elected official going to do to help attract investors and new businesses to the area?

If elected, I would do everything I possibly could to promote the Town of CBS as THE place to start and grow a business. We need to find out what the current barriers are, if any, and see what can be feasibly done to either remove them or minimize them enough so all parties involved benefit.

We could also look at advertisements, cold calling larger businesses to give them all of the reasons why they should invest here, or offer short term incentives and/or tax breaks.

I am hearing it all the time at the doors when I am campaigning - residents want more businesses and options here, and they are tired of going to neighbouring communities and spending their hard earned money, to only benefit that municipality.

4. If elected, what specific infrastructure changes, policies or strategies would you propose implementing to mitigate the impacts of climate change in the next four years?

To mitigate climate change I would first need to understand our Town's current infrastructure, policies and strategies to see what is currently being done, so I can identify the gaps and help develop a plan to execute them. Climate Change is a very serious issue as it affects everyone and we all need to do our part. I certainly would like to see more green energy being utilized (i.e.: green spaces, wind power, solar power, more electric charging stations, LED lighting in all municipal building if not already installed, etc.). As a society we cannot continue down the path we are on. To me it's not just a four year plan it's a generational plan so future generations are here to enjoy it. So as a town we need to be our own environmental Champion on sustainability!

Also, I am not sure if there has already been a study conducted or not, but we should consider developing a pilot program that better addresses household waste, composting and recycling. I know in other Atlantic provinces they are well ahead in waste management.

5. What value do you see in supporting an active Chamber of Commerce for the area?

An active Chamber of Commerce is very important. They are the voice of the business community. If elected, I would like to have more frequent and open conversations on topics that matter to the business community. We all want what is best for the Town of CBS – so working together will only be mutually beneficial. We need to keep up with our neighbouring communities and not be left behind!