

Tell us about yourself

How long have you lived in this area?

I have lived in Nelson since 1999

Do you live within Nelson City Limits or in Nelson's service area?

I live in Nelson city limits, Rosemont area

Present and previous employment

I have worked for two local businesses Gerick Cycle and Ski and NRG Enterprises and am now self employed distributing product in the West Kootenays and instruct mountain biking

City Committees

Not a part of any City Committees

other boards and committees

I am on the board for the annual Fat Tire mountain bike festival

What's unique about you that you feel you can offer to the City?

I feel that I am at the perfect age to bring fresh ideas and energy to the City if I were to be elected. I am outgoing, dedicated and passionate with whatever it is I am involved in. I work hard and get the job done, when faced with a problem I handle the situation professionally and responsibly.

There is lots of talk about Fire protection, water shortages, Baker St. panhandling affordable housing and I am very concerned with these issues but I want to be the voice that reminds people about events and tourism. A healthy community is a happy community, so bringing back the Triathlon and the Summits to Summit race are a great way to bring people together, train together volunteer or cheer. We have a world class venue here and don't capitalize on it. Water, mountains, roads, trails endless opportunity to play and bring money into our community utilizing it.

Previous Nelson City Councillors: NO

Tell us about some of the successes that you have championed in your tenure that you are happy about.

New to council: Yes

What decisions did the last council make that you would not have supported? What decisions did the last council make that you would support?

I was disappointed in the seniors parking pass increase, the raise in the Glacier Gymnastic rent and the Hall Street construction.

As far as I know dealing with the cannabis stores was a big deal.

Committees

Nelson has a system of committees. How important are these committees to our city?

The committees are a very important. Having a councillor involved and bring proper information to the council saves time and sometimes money.

Anything you would do to increase the efficiency and use of the committees?

I'm not sure at this point as I am not a part of any of the committees as of yet but I do know that education people on topics and issues will be a way to be most efficient.

What are the Council's and the Mayor's responsibility to its committees?

With the council and mayor attending meetings for committees I gives the city a better understanding of what's going on and what need to be addressed.

What are the committees responsibilities to council?

The committee needs to be clear and organized to communicate with council.

Street culture

Some people have been concerned about Nelson's street culture, pan handlers and people without homes. Does our City Government have any role to play in addressing these concerns?

I think as a community we can find ways to move the people around, find something or somewhere for them to go and get out of the rut they are stuck in.

Business community

Some of our Nelson business owners have felt they have not been consulted appropriately about issues that affect them. What would you do to mitigate that feeling?

I have heard the same comment from businesses and since I have worked on Baker St for over than 15 years I can guarantee I will be downtown walking the streets.

The downtown business community suffers from such issues as limited parking, increased parking rates, competition from online shopping and the mall. What actions would you take to let the downtown business community know you are pro local business?

With my retail experience I will help promote the heart of Nelson. The most amazing downtown in BC by far. Christmas lights and all I have lots of ideas to grow a downtown community amongst business owners.

Housing

Some businesses in the service industry are concerned about the lack of affordable housing for their workers. Can the City do anything to help provide worker's housing?

I'm not sure how the city can help business out with this issues but the city has to help itself out and come up some more affordable housing.

Selkirk College has many students who need accommodation. This has put further demand on our already scarce available housing. Can the City do anything to help provide student housing?

Is the college the city's responsibility or the province? If it's a city issue we should look at land near 10th street campus and add more accommodations for students.

## Services

Does Nelson feel old and dated? Are you interested in improving the look and feel of our community?

I like the way the city looks although I didn't notice that there are only 2 buildings on Baker St with wood siding on the front and the paint is getting worn off.

Money no object, what recreational and/or cultural facilities would you like to see here?

I'd like to see an indoor track and field stadium

How would you like to see Lakeside Rotary Park and Nelson's other parks improved?

I feel like the parks are pretty good and we have bigger issues to deal with.

Would you do anything to help make Nelson more bicycle friendly and what would you do? Bike lanes?

I would love to see more awareness towards cyclists on roads and I would like to see cyclists be more aware of vehicles. Most of the streets in Nelson are narrow it would be a lot of work making bike lanes. '

Bike lights and hand signals make a huge difference for drivers.

Can our public transportation system be improved? How?

I think we are doing a good job public transit-wise, except for the seniors not being able to use the bus on Sundays or holidays.

The Regional District of Central Kootenay  
and the City of Nelson

Over the years the RDCK and City have had conflict over jurisdiction and services such as the Nelson Municipal Library, and Nelson & District Community Complex. These conflicts caused many tough decisions over the years. Is there anything that can be done to encourage better cooperation between the RDCK and the City?

We need to realize that we all live in an amazing place and if we want to keep our community healthy we need to come to some compromise.

Should we be one Regional District?

I think we should work together.

## Cannabis

Do you think the current regulations of quantity and location of cannabis retail stores are appropriate?

I believe we are doing the right thing. If we had less there would still be the same demand and the one or two stores operating would be overwhelmed. With the stores, we have nowhere is more city income through taxes and business license.

## Climate change

What role does our municipal government have in helping to reduce the risks of local forest fires, floods and other environmental emergencies?

I'm not 100% sure what the role of the city is but I do know 100% that if we don't take care of the fuel above our city one of these summers we could all lose our city.

What can be done to improve the City of Nelson's recycling system?

I think that we have a decent system but need to educate people about the procedures.

## Youth

Youth, while not yet able to vote, will be an important part of future elections. How will you involve youth in understanding and participating in our civic government?

I would like to invite youth to some council meetings and put out a call for youth to bring ideas to the table. Get them engaged in city planning.

How can the Nelson & District Youth Centre be improved?

I'm not sure what improvements are needed, but some affordable housing built on top of the building would be a rear idea.

## Final thoughts

Do you have a pet project you would you like to see happen in the next two years?

I would like to see the triathlon back and possibly a Tough Mudder/Spartan event at Lakeside Park

How will you communicate with citizens of Nelson?

I will be involved in so many activities I will talk to people wherever I go. I will also leave my facebook page active to message and chat with the community.

What makes for a happy community?

I believe the community is happy when they feel like they are being heard and if they feel safe in their City.

Is there anything you would do to help the City government be more transparent and responsive to its citizens?

Just showing the people that as a leader I am approachable and easy to talk to. I will take on that responsibility as a councillor.

Do you see yourself as a leader, or a servant to the community?

I feel I am a leader and have great ideas and good energy to bring to our community but will be a servant and participate in jobs that need to get done in order to bring the community together.