

Please note: Lynne Christiansen did respond to our questions quickly but unfortunately her email program didn't cooperate and the answers were lost. These responses were obtained by telephone interview but unfortunately I only had time for the first two questions. Saša Loggin.

1. **COMMITMENT TO EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

- Municipalities are important partners in planning for and supporting Early Childhood Development services for families.
- Childcare is being listed as a number one condition for successful recruitment and retention of employees locally and from outside of Terrace.
- Municipalities are responsible for many administrative tasks, such as development zoning and registering new businesses, and can:
 - Require that child care spaces be included in new buildings;
 - Reduce administrative fees for new businesses that benefit young children and families;
 - Require and protect green spaces and child friendly spaces.

If you are elected to City Council, how will you:

- a. *Ensure that our community is child-friendly? Influence the city to make decisions using an early childhood development lens. In other words ask in all of city plans and decisions "Will this be good for our children?"*
- b. *How do you plan to provide attractive conditions for increasing the number of available quality childcare spaces to encourage full employment of parental workers and decrease stress for families?*
- c. *Encourage residential and commercial developers to investigate the inclusion of childcare and/or other ECD services in their plans?*
- d. *Support non-profit agencies providing ECD services to keep their services affordable.*
- e. *Develop protocols for subsidized use of recreational facilities by ECD services?*
- f. *Support low-income families to allow them to attend ECD programs? Transportation is often the number one barrier stopping families from accessing services.*
- g. *Be actively involved in working with other partners on collaborative community planning for ECD: health, education, social sector and business in coordinating efforts.*

Your response:

My philosophy is that children come first, everything else follows.
Children should be our first priority. I will continue to do whatever I can to support that.

2. SUPPORT IN TRANSITIONS FROM CHILDHOOD TO YOUTH AND ADULTHOOD

- Civic leaders can emphasize youth-friendly spaces in areas such as parks, community centres, schools and libraries, and cities and towns can create more safe spaces for youth to congregate.
- Municipalities can create events that children and youth can help plan and be involved in, such as art shows, festivals, or performances.
- Cities can subsidize and increase accessibility to after-school programs offering sports and arts activities, homework clubs, and safe places to meet friends.

If you are elected to City Council, how will you:

- Support for universal access to affordable recreational facilities and activities throughout the city with well scheduled public transit?*
- Create a welcoming and inclusive environment for youth in our community where they will be actively involved in the affairs of their own community.*
- Create more public youth-friendly spaces?*

Your response:

My answer builds on the previous one of focusing on children: I believe in youth activities. I will push for that as long as the budget allows us to do.

We need a civic/community centre. We used to have one - it was a great place open to everyone, place where everyone was included. It wasn't just supporting activities that are out of reach of most families.

I would like to establish a youth committee to advise the City Council. We have seniors and other special groups committees, it's time we have one for youth.