



Downtown Lethbridge Candidate Questions

1. It can be easy to get wrapped up in short-term plans/issues. Think long term; ten years from now, what do you hope Downtown Lethbridge will look like? What specific actions would you take, or try to take, as a Councilor to make that vision a reality?

Ten years from now, I want our downtown to be the heart of Lethbridge – a place where people feel safe, connected, and proud to gather. That means a downtown that balances housing, business, culture, and green space. It's vibrant, with thriving local shops and restaurants, families at play in safe and well-designed public spaces, and a strong arts and cultural presence that reflects our city's diversity.

To make that vision real, I'll continue to support:

- Activation: building on successes such as Festival Square and the downtown playground by supporting year-round events, cultural programming, and public space improvements.
 - Housing options: supporting infill and mixed-use developments that add affordable and market housing, while revitalizing underused parcels.
 - Safety and wellness: ensuring Lethbridge Police Service, social service providers, and businesses are working together on coordinated responses.
 - Accessibility: ensure downtown is welcoming for residents of all ages and abilities.
 - Business growth, retention, and attraction: streamline permitting, and removing barriers to business, while advocating for city policies that make it easier to open, grow, and sustain businesses in our downtown core.
2. What are your top three priorities for Downtown Lethbridge if elected, and why? Keep it short and simple!
 - A vibrant, healthy, and safe downtown – balance safety with positive activation, health, and safety so people feel welcome downtown day and night, and we are getting people the supports they need.
 - Housing and infill development – expand residential options downtown to bring more people living, working, and investing in the core.
 - Support for local business – reduce barriers, improve permitting, and continue targeted investment in events and infrastructure that drive foot traffic.

3. How would you balance the need for public safety with compassion for vulnerable populations? We often hear the public talk about how “unsafe” downtown is. Whether that’s true or not, how would you address these people's concerns?

Public safety is real, and so are perceptions – and both matter. We need to address concerns while also responding with compassion to those most vulnerable in our city.

My approach has been and will continue to be two-fold:

- Visible public safety initiatives: I will continue to support Lethbridge Police Service and the Downtown Policing Unit with the resources they need to do the job we’re asking them to do, and support accountability measures such as body-worn cameras, while encouraging officers and bylaw officers to be visible, approachable, and connected with residents. I will also continue to support and encourage programs such as Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design.
- Coordinated supports: I will continue to work towards advancing housing projects across the housing continuum including transitional programs such as the YWCA Hope Program and Lethbridge Housing Authority’s new transitional housing project. I will also continue to support integrated strategies such as the Encampment Strategy and Community Wellbeing & Safety Strategy. Ensuring that we are supporting and connecting vulnerable residents to housing, healthcare, and services.