

The **Imagine Lethbridge** initiative has grown out of grassroots discussions and concerns among community members about the future direction of health and well-being in our community. Imagine Lethbridge is encouraging Council to take a more comprehensive approach with the City of Lethbridge's *Municipal Development Plan* - to incorporate the "Doughnut Economy" framework and principles into the MDP.

Economist Kate Raworth states that: "we must be building a society with a future that can provide for every person's needs while safeguarding the living world on which we all depend" (Doughnut Economics, 2017).

To focus on our future, over the past year Imagine Lethbridge has hosted several "community consultation forums" with over 120 residents and leaders participating, all with varied backgrounds, occupations, interests, etc.

The top concerns participants identified were:

Water (access, cleanliness, usage), Food Security (access, availability, affordability) and Renewable Energy (increasing the usage, residential participation).

With these concerns in mind:

If elected to Council, how will you contribute to a positive and *sustainable social and ecological* future for Lethbridge and all its citizens?

In your response, please focus on the community concerns.

If re-elected, I'll continue working toward a Lethbridge that is socially strong, environmentally responsible, and economically resilient – a city where every resident thrives, while we also take care of the systems we depend on.

Over the past term, I've supported real, measurable actions that align with these principles. I've been a vocal advocate for prioritizing Lethbridge's water and wastewater infrastructure, while also understanding the need to expand this infrastructure to ensure we are meeting the needs of our residents as well as ensuring our city's growth remains sustainable and secure. I've supported water conservation initiatives, urban forest preservation, and sustainable planning around natural assets, all of which reinforce ecological limits while supporting social foundations, such as connectivity, food, health, and social cohesion. I've supported solar integration in housing and commercial projects and supported expanding the Clean Energy Improvement Program, which helps homeowners finance energy-efficient retrofits and lower their long-term costs. These are tangible examples of environmental sustainability creating economic and social benefit.

I have also heard from residents that food security and access to grocery stores and food is a fundamental concern in our city. A healthy community depends on reliable access to affordable, nutritious food, and that means ensuring that we are supporting our local food banks, encouraging community gardens, attracting grocery store investment to our city, and zoning for those spaces, as well as working on our transit system so that people can access those businesses and services – it's about eliminating food deserts. It also means supporting the systems that produce and

distribute locally. I've consistently supported Lethbridge's role as a regional leader in agriculture, food innovation, and agri-food processing, and will continue to back initiatives that strengthen those sectors. Through partnerships with Economic Development Lethbridge and regional producers, we're advancing our position as Canada's agricultural and agri-food corridor. This approach not only drives local jobs and investment but also improves access, affordability, and resilience in our food supply. It's all interconnected.

At the same time, I've worked to strengthen our city's social foundation. I supported affordable and supportive housing projects, from the Lethbridge Housing Authority's Nokoowaayi and Cottages at Southgate developments, to the YWCA Hope transitional housing program, and projects by the Aboriginal Housing Society and Blackfoot Family Lodge Society. I brought forward the motion for a childcare needs assessment that identified a shortage of 600 spaces and continue to advocate for expanded childcare access so families can fully participate in work, access to education, and community life. I've advanced accessible transit planning, supported creation of a transit advisory committee, support fee assistance to transit and city recreational facilities, and called for universal design and barrier-free standards in city infrastructure.

Economic sustainability is equally critical. I've supported Economic Development Lethbridge and Tourism Lethbridge in their work to diversify our economy – from agrifood and logistics to food and sport tourism, creative industries, technology, and renewable energy. I co-sponsored the Long-Term Financial Sustainability Framework to protect our fiscal health while maintaining service levels, ensuring Lethbridge can afford the infrastructure and social supports that a thriving, sustainable city requires. I'm also interested in the development of a concierge-style service model to connect new residents, workers, and investors with housing, education, childcare, and business opportunities – helping people and businesses succeed here without waste or redundancy.

My platform also reflects the Municipal Development Plan's focus on compact, connected, and complete communities. I've supported infill development, gentle densification, transit-oriented planning, and downtown revitalization, including Festival Square and the downtown playground – investments that activate public space and support multi-modal transportation. I've also championed walkable, connected neighbourhoods, that see bike path and trail accessibility, and year-round park use that promotes community health, reduces environmental impact, and also supports our economic development in the tourism sector.

The Municipal Development Plan envisions a city that grows within its means – socially, economically, and environmentally – and my record shows that's how I lead. I'll continue to integrate social wellbeing, fiscal responsibility, economic development, and environmental stewardship into every decision, ensuring we protect what makes Lethbridge livable and vibrant for generations to come.

This is my vision: a city where residents thrive, businesses grow, and people feel proud to call home.