

## **Introduce yourself:**

Hello everyone,

My name is Duke Irwin, most people in town know me because I was born and raised here. I have spent 18 Of the last 21 years in Alberta. I have had an oil production job here north of town for the last 3 years so now I am calling Eston home again. I am also a red seal electrician and operate a small fully licensed electrical company in the area as well, which keeps me pretty busy.

I have made the decision to run for council because I believe my experience in construction and infrastructure as well as planning and budgets would be an asset to the decision-making process required by council.

It is good to see so much interest in this years elections. A good mix of good people.

## **Question 1**

In the long run growth and sustainability should be somewhat proportional. As a town or company grows provisions will be necessary to keep up with new demands. I would split this at 60% growth and 40% sustainability also.

In order to attract new business or citizens there needs to be an inviting atmosphere. Clean streets, buildings, yards, etc. As well as incentives.

The town has several vacant fully serviced residential lots that are quite cheap to buy. At this time there is no need for further residential developments. We have a lot of seasonal employment in the community but could definitely benefit from additional new business investments in the area. We appreciate the companies and businesses in that are attracting new employees and increasing our population. This increases school attendance, more people in sports and community functions. I believe we are quite fortunate to have the excellent facilities we have in town to accommodate both winter and summer activities.

## **Question 2**

In house training typically is cost saving over time. Having a diverse background of experience can only benefit all the members of the town staff. Farming out work that could technically done by staff should be viewed in the scenario, is it more cost effective to do it in house considering Time vs Rate.

In the past I recall most equipment maintenance was done by town staff. I do believe staff should be mechanically inclined with a broad understanding of day to day operations in relation to preventative maintenance and efficient operations.

### **Question 3**

A good way to deal with infrastructure spending is to have a proactive approach. Costs should be anticipated weekly, monthly and yearly on things to be replaced or repaired. As per the relining of the existing sewer infrastructure. The process that is being used now may be costly but is the most cost-efficient way. The town is being proactive and getting in front of failing crucial infrastructure that over time undoubtably will cost way more. If streets have to be continually ripped up sporadically throughout town. These repairs are expensive usually not budgeted for. When repairs are made properly, the problems are rectified, not bandaged or painted over.