

## **Gareth Norris responses**

### **Candidate for Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Council Ward 1**

1. Municipal services should be conducted by the municipality. Privatization is not an answer to essential services one expects and the support these services require. For those services already privatized we need to know why and by whom (issues in the past of dealing happening to benefit individuals not the RMWB)

2. The employees are our front line in representing the RMWB. They should be proud and supported in what they do including being able to afford to live here and feel safe in their jobs (in every aspect). I was a municipal employee for 17 years, I was very proud to be but left because of issues with upper management and my supporting a fellow employee who was being blatantly bullied.

3. Absolutely

4. We need to ensure the money we have is being properly allocated and spent before we make rash decisions. Can it be better used and are there other options beside tax increases or cutting funds. This isn't a new problem and we don't need to reinvent the wheel when it comes to solutions.

5. This is the catalyst question. Masks are a quick solution to assist in the spread and while they can be annoying they are not invasive. As for passports and mandates I prefer to support the right of the individual. Vaccines work, that's been proven throughout the years but there are mixed messages on the current vaccines for covid. If an employee wants to be vaccinated I would support that decision, if an employee chooses not to then it needs to be discussed with that employee as to why. Vaccine passports have segregated society and are not conducive to an inclusive society. It's an issue that needs to be addressed at a critical thinking level and not an emotional one.

6. This is another avenue that needs to be explored in more detail. Our citizens should not be hindered from moving within their community and if free transportation assists in that I'm in support.