

Tuenis Kruger
Candidate for Strathcona County Council Ward 3

1. Will you oppose privatization of municipal services and infrastructure, including Public-Private-Partnerships aka P3s? Will you support bringing previously privatized services in-house?

I will oppose privatization of municipal services and infrastructure and will support previously privatized services in house. This can help control inflation cost and protect key services offered in Strathcona County. I would also support a campaign for increased services offered to residents when paying property taxes (i.e. your annual taxes would cover your dog license fee).

2. Will you support your employees and your community by ensuring the municipality employs staff with living wages, full-time hours where desired, job security, and collective bargaining rights?

Great point: It is important that employees receive a living wage, full time hours and job security. I have worked with several unions, and I have been involved with collective bargaining rights. Any good governance will ensure that ALL stakeholder (this includes employees) benefit thus creating sustainability.

3. Will you oppose attempts from the provincial government to legislate against municipal staff including cuts to the Local Authorities Pension Plan, or restrictions on their right to strike?

I would oppose the provincial government attempt to cut municipal staff and the Local Authorities Pension Plan. Unions within a collective agreement should have the right to strike.

4. How do you propose your municipality deal with funding shortfalls, cuts, and downloading of responsibilities from federal and provincial governments? Do you favour spending cuts over tax increases?

In a post Covid-19 world we can expect federal and provincial shortfalls and cuts, we can also expect a moderate increase in inflation. As a Councillor for Ward 3 in Strathcona County I would propose communication with the residents is where I would start. I know for the past ten years the residents have been ignored and there has been little to no communication. I will fix this gap and ensure the voices of the residents will be heard. As for spending cuts vs tax increases, I am confident that the residents will make their wishes known and I will support the residents' choices.

5. Do you support measures such as mask mandates, vaccine "passports", and vaccine mandates for staff to limit and reduce the spread of COVID-19 in your municipality?

This is an answer I sent to one of the residents in Ward 3. I thought that it answered where I stand.

1. Mandatory masks in schools and businesses

I wish that this pandemic could just be eradicated but, in the meantime, we must rely on the medical professionals and government guidelines to keep us safe. I have been double vaccinated, and I try to wear a mask when I am in close contact with others, and I carry my Alberta Vaccination Passport. I do support the mandated mask in schools and businesses as a last line of defense (Personal Protective Equipment); although I do not like wearing a mask because it is harder to breathe.

2. Vaccine Passports:

I do not like the idea of showing papers but if the Vaccine Passport will allow our businesses to remain open and viable then I will do my part and support this program.

6. Do you support measures to reduce municipal reliance on services fees and fares, such as eliminating transit fares?

Pay for use for services helps keep certain programs viable and sustainable. I do support using tax dollars wisely and in the best interest for Strathcona County and its residents. If we are fiscally responsible this will allow the county to reduce fees for services and offer a better value for tax dollars spent. To achieve this objective better fiscal controls need to be introduced within the County.