



Dave Oldham

7. How do you plan on making Spruce Grove a vibrant place for locals to work?

We must provide supports for local businesses to thrive. This includes:

Taking care of derelict buildings- it is an eyesore and a detriment to our community. It sends the message to potential business that our land is not worth anything.

Streamlining the development and permit process to enable businesses to be more successful. I have spoken with people who have used very colorful language in their description of working with the city and getting development permits. It should not be so difficult to start or move a business within Spruce Grove.

Improve our fibre optic broadband service- there is an initial cost to this, however the town of Olds boosted broadband 3 years ago and has since run out of serviced commercial land. It is a key infrastructure piece that we need to put in. Furthermore, as we develop new land, it is far cheaper to put it in during the development stage as part of the services like sewer and water instead of after and costs could potentially be offset through the developer. The new MGA allows us to charge our developers more- could we include fibre optic broadband service?

Roads and accessibility, water drainage in our industrial area- there is some maintenance work that is long overdue and must be looked at for both business growth and retention.

Supporting small business is good for everyone in Spruce Grove. Small business provides jobs, contributes to our community, and allows us to provide a high level of service while keeping taxes reasonable.

8. How do you plan on improving public participation and real engagement in what the city will look like in the future?

There are several ways the city can improve upon public participation.

Promote and participate in more meaningful engagement. The Arts and Culture Forum hosted by the Library should happen every year, and different areas of focus can be introduced.

Keep an ongoing website and social media profile. Historically, this has not been done and I will commit to maintaining this effective two way communication.

We need to make our council meeting pod casts more accessible and consider live streaming council meetings. Not everyone can get to City Hall, so we need to provide accessibility and get into people's homes through this.