

Municipal Election 2017

High River Times Questions & Suzanne Oel Answers – 2017.09

Current Occupation: [MD of Foothills Div.4 Councillor & Business Owner](#)

Years Lived in the MD of Foothills: [21 years](#)

1. Why should the MD of Foothills vote for you?:

Over the past 7 years, I have enjoyed getting to know many of you as we have worked together to find solutions to challenges and worked on opportunities to make our community a great place to live. In partnership with you, it would be my privilege to continue working hard for you on the many projects currently underway and the new ones that will emerge. As a person of action, I will work with passion to:

- Continue fighting for our rural perspective to be heard and included by all levels of government.
- Make wise planning decisions on developing our area, in knowledge of resources and mindful of the cumulative effects of all our activities on the landscape, respecting resident input and direction given through our local and regional plans.
- Build regional relationships and solutions, spend tax dollars efficiently and represent the interests of Foothills residents.
- Collaborate on crime prevention, road safety, emergency services, ag issues, hunting and wildlife conflict management, etc.
- Support business, agriculture, alternative energy and invite industrial development to our Hwy 2A Industrial corridor to enhance services, create jobs and trade opportunities.
- Develop a Source Water Protection Plan, support our residents to receive flood protection as recommended by our studies, promote flood intelligent development from lessons learned, and strategize regional water and wastewater developments.
- Future plan, find ways to improve rural internet and build our community vision for recreation.

It would be my pleasure to serve you 2017-2021. Please visit: www.suzanneoel.com

2. What went into your decision to run for council this year?:

As we face a changing world, I hope to continue working together with you to find creative solutions to support our community and enhance and protect our beautiful home in the Foothills. I would like to see us move forward with future-minded projects and improvements, which requires a champion, someone with background knowledge who is resourceful and willing to do the hard work. While we gain ground in the areas of interest to residents, we need to be careful of the burden on taxpayers. I welcome continued interaction with you on the topics which matter to you.

3. How will your background or past experience contribute to your success as a councillor?:

Throughout my seven years of public service and 30+ years of business experience, I have learned to evaluate situations, find out where to take action, fix a problem, manage a challenge and communicate in a productive manner to create relationships and bring people together. Using technology, being energetic and organized, future-thinking, environmentally concerned, analytically-minded, a team-player and respectful of other council, staff, businesses and residents, has helped me to effectively represent people and advocate for them. As a long-time rural land owner, I can identify with issues that residents face.

4. What do you see as the most important issues facing the MD of Foothills in the coming four years?:

Important Issues: Watershed management and protection, Water and wastewater servicing, Representing Foothills in Calgary Growth Management Board, Flood mitigation, Evaluating feasibility of piped water, Regional collaboration, Hwy 2 corridor growth strategy, Planning decisions, NW Foothills Recreation projects, Improved rural internet, Best 911 call answer - EMS & Fire dispatch coordination, Protecting agriculture - rural values - scenic corridors - dark skies, Fight against crime, Emergency strategies, Road safety, Cycling issues, Improve Priddis Bridge, Hwy 762 issues, Secondary suites, Hwy 2A Industrial Corridor development, Horse industry strategy, Energy and business, Hunting and wildlife conflict management, Agriculture and rural landowner issues, Communication...