

**“WORKING TOGETHER FOR A PROSPEROUS AND SUSTAINABLE FERNIE”
FERNIE CHAMBER 2022 MUNICIPAL ELECTION PLATFORM SUMMARY**

Meaningfully engage local businesses, community partners, and citizens

1. Provide regular communication and a variety of engagement opportunities to all Fernie businesses on issues that directly impact them.
2. Facilitate regular council to board engagement opportunities for key community groups.
3. Prioritize a new Official Community Plan (starting in 2023) with unprecedented public engagement and consultation throughout the process.
4. Implement other forms of communication and engagement with businesses and citizens, that are not just project-based but ongoing.

Urgently address housing attainability

5. Change policy, processes, and staffing levels to optimize and meet the increased building and development activity we are seeing in Fernie.
6. Approve multifamily developments and secondary suites as a means of increasing density and housing supply, even in the face of NIMBY-ism.
7. Clearly define and publish a suite of building and development incentives to attract partners for projects that address community needs.
8. Prioritize making strategically selected parcels of City-owned land available for public-private partnerships to develop projects that address community needs.
9. Consistent and active enforcement of (and reporting on) the Short Term Rental Bylaw to protect Fernie’s housing stock for long-term renters.
10. Create short-term emergency accommodation opportunities as a landing pad for newly arrived workers, while they navigate the local housing market.

Make Fernie more livable, sustainable, and inclusive

11. Make addressing Fernie’s aging infrastructure needs a cornerstone of the City of Fernie’s plans for the next four years, and beyond.
12. Make it easy for citizens and workers to move around the community and region with a renewed focus on Fernie’s transportation needs.
13. Review City of Fernie policy, operations, and facilities through the lens of accessibility, inclusivity, and universal design.
14. Prioritize the planning and development of a new firehall and emergency services facility that is located along the Highway 3 corridor – not 2nd Avenue.

Make it easy to do business in Fernie

15. Create an economic or business development officer role to act as an informed and resourced first point of contact for businesses and developers trying to work with the City of Fernie.
16. Leverage membership in the Elk Valley Economic Initiative by using and sharing the data and tools it generates, and implementing its recommendations.
17. Define for Fernie businesses what the return on investment is on their business license fees.
18. Address the lack of commercial lands available in Fernie by allowing flexibility for sensible and creative uses and variances to existing commercial zones.