



WHITE
ROCK BIA

White Rock Municipal Election- Councillor Candidate Questionnaire

Thank you for running for council. Our community only works when people step forward to serve our neighbours, and you and the 21 other candidates are giving your time and energy to serve. We're very grateful for your contribution to our civic democracy.

This questionnaire will be shared unedited with BIA members, Chamber members, the Peace Arch News, and the public at large through websites and social media. Please try to limit your answers to 250 words per question.

Candidate Name: Balbir Thind

Member of a Slate or Independent? White Rock Coalition

1. Please tell us about yourself and why you're running for City Council:

I love this city, and I believe that the timing is perfect for me to take my experience and my passion for our community and contribute at a greater level as a City Councillor. I am a small business owner, a wife, mother and grandmother.



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2. Several candidates are independent, and while others are part of a slate, it is entirely possible that only one from a slate may be elected. Regardless of whether you are part of a slate or an independent, how will you work with what may be a mayor & council with diverse viewpoints to bring forward your ideas and address issues?

If elected, I am committed to working with all on Council to achieve consensus on issues, I believe the people of White Rock deserve respectful dialogue and debate from their elected officials, and I am committed to that principle.

3. Affordability is a major challenge for residents and businesses in White Rock. Sky high property values lead to rising housing costs and expensive leases, making it hard for people to live here and businesses to stay here. How will you address this existential threat to our community?

I believe that we must continue to increase market rentals and seniors care space so that residents have options to stay in our community. One of the ways I would like to tackle this issue is to bring developers and non profits together to explore the opportunity for Provincial and Federal funding.

I also believe that when it comes to business, we must keep taxes as low as possible while at the same time encouraging everyone to shop local and support local business.

4. How will you improve our transportation system- including roads, sidewalks, transit, and bike routes- to ensure that our community is accessible for residents and visitors?

I applaud the work that has occurred over the past four years - things like the much need improvements on Johnston Road and the improvements to accessibility of our waterfront. I am committed to continuing the revitalization of our Uptown to continue increasing mobility and accessibility throughout our beautiful city. Our team is also advocating for a funicular to connect Uptown with the waterfront.



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5. Communication between the City of White Rock and the residents and businesses have been challenging- there have been concerns that people haven't been informed of projects and decisions. How will you revitalize communications and relationships between residents/businesses and the City?

I believe that we need to be transparent and committed to dialogue. I will advocate for the increased town hall meetings, fliers, social media initiatives and other engagement opportunities to help build relationships. I support the livestreaming of council meetings and would continue the meetings with the BIA and the Chamber.