

ALDERGROVE STAR

Your hometown community newspaper for more than 60 years

Congratulations!

I want to congratulate you on your decision to run in the upcoming provincial election, and wish you the best of luck in your campaign.

We don't have a lot of time, as you're well aware, and this is an election campaign like no other, because of COVID. So, it's more important than ever that Langley's community media outlet lead the charge.

To help get word out about those who are running, including details about their backgrounds, their views, and the ways in which potential voters can reach them, we have a series of initiatives planned in the coming days that will cross over between our print and online publications – and we invite you to be part of that.

To make this successful, and to get as much information out about you as possible, naturally, we need your help.

FIRST, let me explain that we're including in this package a series of 10 questions that will be incorporated into our coverage and allow you to weigh in on some key topics in this community. In past, this has proven a very effective and popular tool for informing our readers, and we've chosen to continue it again during the 2020 B.C. election. Please **READ** the instructions in this package **VERY CAREFULLY**, and if you have any questions, please contact me immediately at 604-856-8303 ext. 4.

SECOND, we need a current horizontal colour head-and-shoulders picture of you (it needs to be high resolution, not pulled from a website or Facebook page), and jpeg format is preferred.

THIRD, we need a brief (125 word) biography about you. A questionnaire has been attached to help facilitate the compilation of that information.

FOURTH, and this is completely optional, if you have a campaign video that you've created (or possibly even a series addressing local issues), we may be able to make those available to our readers through a link with your online biography. Simply provide an MOV version, a link (URL) to a YouTube post, or preferably the YouTube embed code for your video.

LAST, but definitely not least, I need to make you aware of the deadlines associated. We need **THE PIC and BIO, as well as the Y/N/D ANSWERS TO THE TOP 10 QUESTIONS EMAILED** to us no later than 10 a.m., on **Friday, OCT. 9** to newsroom@aldergrovestar.com. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Those wishing to send expanded answers to any or all of the questions are welcome and encouraged. Due to space limitations, we will only be able to run one of the expanded (maximum 250 word) answers in print in our Oct. 15 edition. But all expanded answers will be published online at aldergrovestar.com. Deadline for all the expanded answers you wish to provide is Wednesday, Oct. 14. Sooner is better.

Again, congratulations on entering into this exciting democratic process, and good luck at the polls.

Ryan Uytdewilligen, Editor

Email all material to: newsroom@aldergrovestar.com

Election Questions:

INSTRUCTIONS:

Aldergrove Star readers have told us that it is important to them to have a straight-forward reference to help orient themselves with the range of choices on the ballots come Oct. 24.

To the end, we have attempted to make accessible this package (along with the following detailed instructions) to each of the candidates in the local riding in a timely fashion ahead of the impending provincial election.

Please read them carefully before you start to fill this out.

To help voters make their choices on election day, the **Aldergrove Star** is asking Abbotsford South and Abbotsford West candidates a series of questions on issues of importance.

We would ask that you provide a 'yes', a 'no', or a 'don't know' (Y,N,D) response to **EACH** of the numbered questions.

Each question **MUST** be answered: yes (Y), no (N), or Don't Know (D). This will be published in a grid format (see attached) , along with a small personal profile, in our Oct. 15 print edition.

Questions not answered will be **LEFT BLANK** when we publish the results of this survey. The Y/N/D answers **MUST** be emailed in no later than 10 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 9 (Deadline #1).

Candidates may also expand on **ANY OR ALL** of the questions (to a maximum of 200 words each). Please note, any responses longer than that will be cut off exactly at the 200-word mark.

Due to space limitations, only one of the answers will be included in the **Aldergrove Star** print edition on Oct. 22. All expanded answers provided will be published online at www.AldergroveStar.com.

You must indicate **CLEARLY** which expanded answer you want to see published in print. If you do not specify, we will choose.

Given such a tight window of time leading up to this election, we wanted to give you a little extra time to provide your extended answers to these questions, so we have extended the deadline for **THIS PORTION ONLY**. Submissions **MUST** be received for all expanded answers no later than 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 14 (Deadline #2)

Thank you for your participation.

NOTE: These instructions will be published with our survey results, so that our readers understand the limits we have placed upon you.

Again, congratulations on entering into this exciting democratic race, and good luck in your campaign.

Provincial candidate questions:

Please make sure to read the instructions carefully, first:

THESE ARE ALL 'YES/NO/DON'T KNOW' QUESTIONS:

1. Should the province provide B.C. residents with a universal basic income?
2. Should the B.C. government allow more retail cannabis outlets?
3. In the era of Black Lives Matter, should B.C. increase the penalties for hate speech?
4. Should the B.C. government speed up the widening of Highway One into the Eastern Fraser Valley?
5. Should the planned SkyTrain extension through Langley be extended to Abbotsford in the near future?
6. Should the provincial government put the fight against climate change above the economy?
7. Is lowering taxes the best route to economic recovery from the COVID-19 recession?
8. Should the B.C. government restrict large, industrial cannabis greenhouses from operating in the ALR?
9. Should the province divert funding away from policing and towards social and mental health services?
10. Would you support more public schools moving to a year-round education model?

Candidate biography:

Remember this and the picture must be emailed to us no later than 10 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 9.

1. Candidate's first and last name:
2. Candidate's age:
3. What neighbourhood do you live in? (ie. Brookwood, Aldergrove, Otter, etc.)
4. How many years have you lived in the Fraser Valley?
5. Have you held office in past? If so, please specify:
6. Riding you're running in:
7. Profession:
8. Candidate bio: You are invited to submit a 125-word maximum bio (Note: if it goes beyond that, it will be cut exactly where the 151st word begins).
9. Facebook profile page (URL):
10. Twitter handle:
11. Website URL:
12. Telephone number voters can reach you at:
13. If a movie was made of your life what genre would it be, who would play you?

*NOTE: Submissions may be edited by the **Aldergrove Star** for reasons of brevity, legality, taste, and clarity.*