



# All Candidates Forum

September, 27 2017

Extra Question Responses

## Questions for ALL Candidates

**Q:** In the past year, there have been four council meetings and 21 in-camera items on agenda. This relates to the topic of transparency. How would you work to increase transparency so that more citizens can have input (i.e. new sport fields, curling rink etc.) into what is happening in Pincher Creek?

Answers:

**Dianne Gray:** Transparency must be balanced with legislative requirements & safe guards such as those found in the Municipal Government Act, FOIPP & the like. Regular community consultations & postings from the Committee Meeting Minutes could address some of the concerns on specific matters. Each Committee would host a regular information session on new projects.

**Don Anderberg:** In-camera is a legal term meaning “in private”. Land, labour and legal issues are the normal items discussed. It is a requirement to make a motion for direction which is recorded in the minutes. Recreation and facilities committees made up of council and volunteers, plan and make recommendations to council. Attend meetings, read minutes and reports.

**Lorne Jackson:** The M.G.A. and F.O.I.P. have very defined and strict rules that apply to discussions pertaining to personnel, legal, and land development, especially if it pertains to a third party. One way Council could assist in informing the public would be to hold incamera sessions at the beginning of meetings, and any decisions would be known sooner.

**Doug Thornton:** The Municipal Government Act requires that all matters of Land, Labor, or Legal MUST be dealt with in camera. Councillors are bound to confidentiality by MGA 153(e). Motions for all decisions MUST be made in open session. Council/Committee minutes available at [pinchercreek.ca](http://pinchercreek.ca) Citizens encouraged to ask questions, offer input, ideas.

**Wayne Elliott:** Not sure what you mean by four council meetings in camera. Every council in this country has space allotted in their agenda for any in camera issues if there are any. Every meeting, council and committee are open to the public! Perhaps they could be posted a little bit better on the website and in the town office a bit better. Most already are.

**Tim Blake:** I hope to have more transparency with the media as the present council kept most media in the dark on most items. Since Aug 2nd committee meetings, 52 new items 23 went to the public. What transparency? The Waterton fire is another example of our mayor showing no communication with the people of Pincher creek.

**Scott Korbett:** I believe council should do their best to have as little time in-camera as possible. There is a need for in-camera sessions to protect the privacy of its citizens and must be respected. Communication with our citizens is very important to me for input on all the issues our town faces.

**Mark Barber:** I have provided that, "You shouldn't have to be retired to sit on town council." You shouldn't have to be retired to attend our meetings. I have continued to advocate for evening meetings. Your concern regarding in-camera items is very valid. I understand that Calgary has 25 % of its meetings in camera. We are much higher at around 45%.

**Brian McGillivray:** I believe this is a real concern. Several citizens related their concern regarding the excessive amount of Council time spent in-camera. I went to the Town Website and reviewed the minutes of the posted Council Meetings from May through early July (no others were listed). I discovered the time spent in-camera to the time spent in an open meeting format was roughly one-third open to two-thirds in-camera. I am addressing this from a citizen's perspective as I am not a member of Council - but as a citizen I would give a rating of unacceptable.

I further found a paper created from the Alberta Government MGA pertaining to the use of in-camera meeting segments. Two areas appeared significant to me (as a novice):

The paper stated:

1. In-camera discussions should be a minimal component of Council Meetings and topics restricted to personnel discussions, legal issues and item of a highly controversial or confidential nature.
2. If in-camera items are to be included on Council Meeting Agendas, no record of minutes should be recorded BUT a topic reference to the

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### **Q: What role do you believe the Town can play in early childhood education?**

Answers:

**Dianne Gray:** I believe the Town has a vital role in early childhood education. They are a catalyst in acquiring several provincial funding agreements, research funding, land & a dedicated comparable facility to support our growing community's early childhood educational needs. Investing in our children's potential and our Future.

**Don Anderberg:** We are not the professionals. There are a number of groups in town that do this very well. We have always been open to ideas and suggestions to support various groups. Facilities can be an issues such as daycare space. Partnering with our community schools could be beneficial.

**Lorne Jackson:** Council has been actively seeking expanded daycare options for Pincher, and with that more programming for E.C.E. would be a natural accompaniment. A partnership with both elementary schools is currently looking very promising. My daughter works in this very field, so it is near and dear to me personally as well.

**Doug Thornton:** Council is expanding the number of day care spaces by collaborating with LRSD and Holy Spirit School Divisions to locate new facilities on school property, creating integration with pre- kindergarten and kindergarten, which are part of the regular school programming. Council anticipates this will also support after-school programming.

**Wayne Elliott:** We have done a comprehensive study on this serious issue. We are working hard with Children's World to see what a new Day care facility would look like. I am totally in favor of making sure everyone's children have the best!

**Tim Blake:** I believe that is the responsibility of the board of education and the Alberta gov. Please ask questions relevant to the election issues

**Scott Korbett:** I'm not sure where the Town should be involved in early childhood education other than assistance with grant writing or facilities. I know daycare is on the agenda for the town. Personally, I believe early childhood education is very important so I'm willing to guide council in that direction.

**Mark Barber:** The town council continues to take an active role as it works with various groups to determine how the town can provide better child care options to our children. We understand that the early formative years are exceedingly important to the future of our youth. We are willing to participate as our community identifies weaknesses.

**Brian McGillivray:** If this question relates to pre-K and kindergarten education, I believe this is handled through the schools. If, however the question pertains to daycare facilities, then I would suggest the Town should play a role in assisting to create the space required to satisfy the daycare needs of our community. While daycare and afterschool programs are traditionally provided on a user pay basis, these programs need physical space to operate from; this is the area I think the Town could play a key role.

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**Q: What opportunities do you see for Pincher Creek in the next 15 years with respect to the development of the Castle Parks?**

**Answers:**

**Dianne Gray:** As the 'Jewel' of the Southwest, I envision in the next 15 years, a large Tourist Centre with a theatre, where information about not only Castle Parks, but Waterton Park are provided. Where the numerous events, museums & tourist attractions in our local area are featured. There will be joint decisions. Employment & prosperity.

**Don Anderberg:** Investment in infrastructure will create jobs. Operation of upgraded parks will create jobs. Operating as a provincial park will change visitation patterns and add opportunities such as eco-tourism. Alberta Tourism is working with our region to develop a long term tourism strategy. An array of new opportunities will enhance tourism and business.

**Lorne Jackson:** Castle Resort is excited for the park, and are aggressively toward doubling the ski options for entire families (beginner to expert). They are also planning more trails and activities for year round fun. We should see an uptick for business and lodging in town. Hopefully people will see the potential to capture other needs of outdoor enthusiasts.

**Doug Thornton:** New Castle Provincial Park opportunities: comprehensive destination development plan for the region; increased provincial staff locating in our community; new infrastructure/construction projects; paved road to Castle Mtn; new importance as the service/ access center for the new development; new jobs and opportunities for investment.

**Wayne Elliott:** Hopefully there will be some more services in town to look after the extra campers in the area for sure. Boat and RV sales and repair facilities. Enhanced road and maintenance to get to all the campgrounds. More awareness on Emergency services, the extra traffic and people mean extra call outs. More policing. It all comes with a cost though!

**Tim Blake:** Not part of the election issues.

**Scott Korbett:** I believe we will see an increase in traffic due to Castle Park. I would like to see Pincher Creek step up to service the needs of our guests and meet their needs. Entrepreneurs should be able to capitalize on the needs of our park guests and the town should be working to meet the needs of the entrepreneurs

**Mark Barber:** We are already witnessing the construction of a new 40 unit motel and the expansion of the Stardust motel. We remain hopeful that more restaurants and specialty shops will soon follow. Town council must ensure that any road-blocks to this type of development are expediently mitigated.

**Brian McGillivray:** The opportunity to satisfy the needs of visitors to be sure. As the tourism activity grows with people wishing to explore the Castle Parks so should business opportunities expand in Pincher Creek. We are located in the perfect spot to facilitate these needs.

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**Q: With the new Crestview Lodge built, what plans are there for the old lodge?**

**Answers:**

**Dianne Gray:** As I am a new candidate, I do not know of any previous agreements or plans for the Old Crestview Lodge at this time. Council as a collective with the Pincher Creek Foundation & community can have a conversation & open house on this matter.

**Don Anderberg:** The old lodge will be torn down.

**Lorne Jackson:** I'm sorry to say that it will be demolished. The costs associated with bringing it up to today's codes for a public building are prohibitive. Originally, the plan was to renovate the lodge, and when the numbers, were revealed, the cost of constructing a completely new building was only slightly more for a much nicer facility.

**Doug Thornton:** Crestview Lodge, built in 1962, has completed its life cycle and will be demolished. Some reasons include: Energy efficiency very outdated; healthy living accommodations require new standard for space, light and ergonomic design/indoor/outdoor experiences. Telecommunications are essential and a new, larger parking lot can be included.

**Wayne Elliott:** The old lodge will be torn down. I believe what could be salvaged and sold will be. Like windows, doors kitchen equipment etc. What can be recycled and reused will be. This was done at the start of the project when some of the structure had to be removed.

**Tim Blake:** Present council has not informed the public, so I have no idea what the plans are!

**Scott Korbett:** I do not know what the plans for the old lodge are, but I'm sure there was thought put into the plans.

**Mark Barber:** It is my understanding that the current Crestview Lodge building will be decommissioned and removed. The old building footprint will be landscaped or used for parking. I recognize that it is often difficult to witness the removal of a building that was home for many of our loved ones.

**Brian McGillivray:** I am not on Council so I don't know if there are plans for the old Crestview Lodge. As a personal suggestion: if the facility is structurally solid, with remodelling, could it become a wonderful daycare facility?

**Question for Mark Barber:**

**Q: With your emphasis on the incinerator proposal at Town Municipal waste landfill- how engaged are you with the MD of Pincher Creek's proposal to construct the Beaver Mines wastewater lagoon at the confluence of Mill Creek and Castle River. This has the probability to negatively impact the water quality of Pincher Creek residents drinking water - downstream from the sewage lagoon.**

**A: As you provide in your question, anything that happens upstream from our water intakes is of significant concern to us. My understanding of this project is that it won't likely be happening in the near future. To my relief, the MD has looked at alternative treatment systems such as the systems found at [www.orengo.com](http://www.orengo.com). Thanks, Mark Barber**

**Question for Mayoralty Candidate Don Anderberg:**

**Q: Can you explain why you decided to cast an affirmative vote with regards to rezoning the North Hill community?**

**A: Area structure plan allows for multi family. Concept plan was to the same standard as single family in the area. Cost would be more affordable because of denser land use. It is an opportunity for a wider variety of housing choices in Pincher Creek. Development application and regulatory process would have to be followed by the developer.**

## Questions for Mayoralty Candidate Dianne Gray

**Q: What organizations have you had a leadership role in within Pincher Creek?**

**A: My leadership roles in Pincher Creek and area range from acting in consultative capacities and positions to sitting on private and public boards. Some of these include, without limitation; Napi Friendship Association, Allied Arts Society and the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #43.**

**Q: What community groups are you currently involved with?**

**A: I am involved with:**

- Community Hall Board**
- Habitat for Humanity**
- Member of The Pincher Creek Legion#43**
- North Hill community**

**Q: Could you verify where and when you were an incident commander and firefighter?**

**A: I was an Incident Commander and Fire Fighter in the Yukon:2010-2012.I have taken several ICS training courses in Alberta 2013,2017.**

**Q: What was the nature of your relationship to Napi, The Legion and the Allied Arts Council?**

**A: My Relationship with:**

**Napi= Consultant/Executive Director**

**The Legion= Member, consultant, friend & colleague**

**Allied Arts Council= Consultant, Board member, friend & colleague.**