



My name is Larysa Luciw and I am running for council in Sandy Beach, Alberta. A little about me: I have lived on Lakeshore Drive for seven years. I am an elementary school teacher. I teach grade one at an inner-city school in Edmonton. This makes my life interesting, to say the least. It's a challenging school but very rewarding. On the side, I am a photographer. I do a lot of family, children, fine art, and bird photography. This is something that I hope to continue when I retire from teaching. I sit on the board for the Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts. I have been the secretary for this board for the last 12 years. I am Ukrainian so this is a way to connect with my culture and the Ukrainian Community. It's a monthly meeting commitment and various mini-projects throughout the year. Right now, I am planning a harvest market in September.

I am very new to running on a council of a municipality. I acknowledge that I have a lot to learn and that my first year might be trying to understand how everything works. I am excited to learn. I do however have a few areas that I would like to see worked on:

~ I would love to see a plan for the future of the municipality with resident input. I would love to have an engagement session where residents have a say on what they would like to see out here. From this, we can look at how projects can be accomplished (using grants for example) and if they can be sustained and maintained. From research, we can see if these ideas are realistic for our community. An example could be trail enhancements for the paths in the forest off Lakeshore. What would it take to do this? How? Future costs to maintain?

~ I would like to look into efficiencies within the operating budget. What is being hired out, where costs can be cut etc. Some examples are day-to-day accounting. Is this done in-house or hired out? Tax arrears?

~ Collaboration with the Rec League to plan fun and exciting events that cater to all ages. I would love to see residents get involved with events they are passionate about and volunteer to make these come to fruition.

~ Lastly would be communication to the residents. To make information more easily accessible to all. I find our website not very user-friendly. One example of this would be if you wanted to look at the minutes from a council meeting. To see the agenda, minutes, and reports for one meeting you need to go to numerous links. One to find the agenda, another to go to the minutes, a third to read the Mayor's report, fourth to read the Deputy Mayor's report etc. I would love to see this site more efficient. It's hard to find information on our page. Other ideas include a bulletin board where residents have access to read what is happening in Sandy Beach and a newsletter that is not just electronic. I feel that this is a very important issue that needs to be addressed.

I love living out here. I feel at peace when I wake up and go to bed here. I look forward to speaking to residents and hearing their input. I am excited to learn, and I feel that we all need a voice and a chance to look into how we together can make our community a place where people want to visit and live. I do not want our beautiful community to become stagnant. I have met many residents that are willing to volunteer their time to make our home the best that it can be. Please message me with any questions or ideas you may have.

Thank you,

Larysa Luciw

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*Advanced voting August 7th    Voting Day August 14th*