

## **Burnaby Civic Election 2014 Candidate Questionnaire**

**Name:** Linda Hancott

**Running for:** Councillor

**Biography:**

Linda Hancott has vast experiences in international trade, sales and logistics. She has also worked in a local accounting firm and volunteered with numerous non-profit groups.

Linda's candidacy for Councillor is driven by her desire to help others. She has a passion for attention to detail and ongoing interest in financial issues. With others, having found \$1 billion in cash and near-cash financial assets on Burnaby's 2013 balance sheet, and an operating surplus of almost \$100 million in Burnaby's 2013 income statement, Linda finds it difficult to understand why Burnaby Council decided on any further increase in the civic property tax levy for 2014.

Today, Linda continues to volunteer with various groups, plays the piano at one of the many senior's residences in Burnaby and is a strata council member while living with her husband Daren and their two children. She speaks English, Indonesian, and some Spanish.

**What skills would you bring to the office if you are elected and how would those be of use in your role?**

- Management and leadership Skills
- International trading skills
- Money management skills
- Immigrant success story and strong work ethic
- Ability to work with diverse groups to bring more benefits for all Burnaby residents

**If elected, what will be your top goals for your coming term in office?**

Engage the citizens in Burnaby to find ways to do things better, to reduce taxes, do more with less, represent a much larger constituent group, and try to find solutions to affordable housing and homelessness while creating more sustainable jobs.

**What strategies do you think the City of Burnaby should adopt to foster the growth and success of our local businesses?**

- Our platform to develop a small business incubation hub makes a lot of sense. Our group and our Mayoral candidate in particular have a lot of experience in this area across Canada.
- Holding taxes, engaging youth, and changing the culture at city hall to be more open to businesses are crucial to success and obviously growth which we need.

**If elected, what will you do to ensure the City of Burnaby is seen as being "open for business?"**

See above.

**How would you propose the City of Burnaby manage its continued densification and the development of its 4 town centres?**

Consult more, reach out to residents affects and ensure this is what they want/need for the future. My concerns are the pace of development, the lack of consultation and what happens if/when interest rates rise and we have no plan B.

**The efficient movement of goods and services is important to local businesses. What do you see as the major transportation issues facing Burnaby and what do you think are some solutions?**

Engage and encourage everyone to use more public transit if it is made more convenient and user friendly. Improve major intersections and work with experts to develop a long term plan that takes into account our growth projections and changing demographics.

**The Inter-Municipal Business License (IMBL) Pilot Project is currently underway with an end date of December 2015. Do you support making Inter-Municipal Business Licenses permanently available for the construction industry? Do you support expanding the Inter-Municipal Business License program to include other sectors?**

Yes, this is a good thing for many other sectors and should be used to streamline and eliminate paper, approvals, and general red tape.

**What do you see as the role of the City of Burnaby in supporting the development of Burnaby's key sectors and industries?**

A strong partner, an advocate, and perhaps creating a Business Development role at City Hall to spearhead interest to attract key sectors to our Incubator Hub that is being proposed by BFC.