

Burnaby Civic Election 2014 Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Matthew V. Hartney

Running for: Councillor

Biography:

Matthew is a government finance professional. He became an accountant at Ernst & Young and has worked across Canada with all three levels of government. Matthew earned an MBA from the Royal Military College of Canada where he led projects for DND and the Canadian Forces. In recent years, Matthew has served as an executive leader in City government improving fiscal management and accountability. He works cooperatively with other government officials and senior executives to deliver community projects and budgets that limit the burden on the local tax payer. As a councillor, he will bring this important expertise to City Hall. Matthew grew up in Burnaby playing hockey. After playing at Junior and University levels, and brief attempts at semi-professional hockey, Matthew met his wife Caley volunteering at the Boys and Girls Club of Canada. Matthew and Caley live in Burnaby raising their daughter and two beloved dogs.

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

Professional accountant; specialize in government and public sector (GPS); worked with all three levels of government while at Ernst & Young Ottawa; served City as Director of Finance; served communities boards as Finance Chair; professional expertise of modern PSAB, financial statements, budgets, fiscal sustainability plans and Long term financial plans.

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

Improve local economy, \$9-10 M more cash influx/yr with 0% tax levy increase; S/M business retention, i.e. less vacancies; Business Hub; Adopt a long term financial plan.

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

Business hub to retain local educated talent, and encourage 'Made in Canada' businesses to locate in Burnaby. More businesses = less total tax per business, i.e. tax rate may decrease.

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

Immediately: more competitive tax rate with Vancouver and Surrey.

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

Immediately: Long term infrastructure and transportation plan, per inclusion of engineer and transportation planning experts.

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?

Issue: reliance on other levels of government to build key infrastructure. Solution: propose solutions and ask seek partnership funding from other levels of gov't to construct.

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, and Yes.

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

The City is to support business sectors and industries as required for job creation, local economic benefit and larger social benefit for the Country. City may encourage/discourage certain industries based on tax policy and infrastructure decision making. City's role is to be the most direct level of gov't to deal with the industry as related to economic, environmental and social matters.