

# Responses: Warm Welcome Coalition Municipal Candidate Questions 2024

The **Warm Welcome Coalition** is a group of committed Churches, Agencies and Community activists coming together to support our houseless community, address food insecurity and collaboratively strive towards a more equitable world for everyone. We are committed to encouraging governments to develop a real strategy to end houselessness and have collaboratively created this questionnaire.

As we approach the Municipal Election on **November 13<sup>th</sup>**, **2024**, we invite voters to use this as a resource. These responses are posted on <a href="https://thehawkprinciple.com/resources/">https://thehawkprinciple.com/resources/</a> and can also be found @TheHawkPrinciple on Instagram and Facebook.

# **Candidate Questions:**

- 1. Will you make ending houselessness in Regina one of your primary goals as a councillor? Will you support a Housing First model (housing with wrap around supports for the needs of the resident(s)?
- 2. When the 2025 City of Regina budget is being debated, will you call for an amount equivalent to 15% of the Regina Police Service operating budget to be allocated to ending houselessness? (This does not mean taking the money out of the RPS operating budget, but rather using the budget as a base on which to make a calculation. It also doesn't mean using the money to support CBOs such as Carmichael. That money should come out of a different fund. Rather, it means using the money to actually provide housing, with wraparound supports, if necessary, for unhoused people.)
- 3. If Regina's houselessness crisis has not been satisfactorily resolved by August 1, 2025, will you push for a plan that will ensure that all residents have barrier-free access to safe temporary shelter/warming space by October 1 and through to May 30?
- 4. Where do you stand on encampments? If, in the absence of permanent housing, tent-encampments are established, will you work to ensure that the City of Regina, rather than orchestrating their destruction, provides support, including toilets, water and electricity, garbage collection, and fire and health services, to keep people safe and secure? Will you follow the recommendations of the Federal Housing Advocate's Final Report On Encampments (<a href="https://www.housingchrc.ca/en/federal-housing-advocates-final-report-calls-for-national-response-to-the-crisis-of-encampments">https://www.housingchrc.ca/en/federal-housing-advocates-final-report-calls-for-national-response-to-the-crisis-of-encampments</a>,) including:
  - Act immediately to save lives, including by ensuring that people living in encampments have access to the basic necessities they need to survive and live in dignity.
  - End forced evictions of encampments and put in place alternatives that are designed following meaningful engagement with encampment residents.
    - Work with all governments [that] provide support to municipalities.
    - Respect the inherent rights of Indigenous Peoples.
    - Respect and uphold human rights, including the right to adequate housing.
    - Offer people permanent housing options as rapidly as possible.
    - And address the root causes of encampments.
- 5. The current City Council orchestrated the destruction of every tent encampment that appeared in the City. What plan would you have for where unhoused people should go? (In 2004, Regina City Council passed a bylaw that includes the following: "No person shall remain in a park between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.")



- 6. Will you speak up if city officials or citizens, when talking about encampments, use discriminatory language against unhoused people? Here are 2 all-too common examples:
  - a) Making reference to "public safety" concerns about an encampment, and thus positioning unhoused people as dangerous: It is unhoused people who are in danger, with each day being a matter of life and death. (The life expectancy of an unhoused person in Canada is 39 years.)
  - b) Claiming that all unhoused people are drug addicts: US data shows that there is no statistical relationship between substance use disorder and houselessness. One can assume that the same holds true in Canada.

    <a href="https://datasmart.hks.harvard.edu/exclusive-gregg-colburn-explains-why-homelessness-housing-problem">https://datasmart.hks.harvard.edu/exclusive-gregg-colburn-explains-why-homelessness-housing-problem</a>

Many people with substance use disorder live in houses. The determining factor of houselessness is not substance use disorder, but rather race and class. If you are born with both white privilege and middle class privilege, you are very unlikely to experience houselessness. 80% of unhoused people in Regina are Indigenous.

- 7. Will you advocate for the construction of affordable rental housing in every Regina neighbourhood and be prepared to support excluding any NIMBYISM against any such developments (discriminatory language against groups coming into a neighbourhood)? NIMBYISM is a form of discrimination according to the Ontario Human Rights Commission.
- 8. Will you advocate for the City of Regina to put pressure on the provincial government to make available for occupation the 700 empty Sask Housing units in the city asap?

# **Mayor**

### **Bevann Fox**

- 1. This in my plan as Mayor to find a way to end houselessness. Housing with wrap around supports is greatly needed. However, we do need more wrap-around resources added to support a Housing First Model.
- 2. This is most important! I would look into that budget of 15% to provide for the housing model with wrap around supports. We need a fund specifically for housing. The well-being of our residents, seniors, youth and families are without homes. Especially now too with winter almost here. It is already cold season.
- 3. It is already getting cold out this end of October 29, 2024 and I see houselessness with nowhere to go. That is my priority to have an immediate plan and free access and no applications or wait list to get in. There are empty buildings in Regina, why can't we use them and collaborate with our non-profit group organizations and business sectors. We can together help support our people who have nowhere to go. We will develop an emergency plan together. This is a crisis!
- 4. We need to support our people more efficiently and ensure their safety and shelters. There are going to be encampments if no housing is available. I notice in downtown Regina where people gathered outside the buildings are now fenced to keep them out. Our houselessness people continue to find places to gather to stay. And now they are



forced to move elsewhere. We need an emergency plan to do more. Together we can do this and support all people who have no home. Their health is at high risk. I agree if encampments we do need to "provide support, including toilets, water and electricity, garbage collection, and fire and health services, to keep people safe and secure." I would look for providing more resources for our existing organizations to meet with each person and make a plan with the person on what their needs are and advocate for them immediately. This is possible and can happen. Yes, there are many root causes and we need to address them. Yes. This report is what we need to follow. I will advocate for collaboration with all governments to support our City of Regina houselessness crisis.

- 5. There should be a plan with immediate alternatives provided and meet with each person/family about their need for shelter. The groups supporting the tent encampment could have been helped more with food and water and given more support to help find housing for people during that time.
- 6. Yes. I will be that voice to speak on that. This is not respecting our people. We don't want people dying on the streets. We don't want people sleeping in tent cities, instead they need safe warm housing. We don't want empty housing units while people figure out the politics and logistics of providing affordable housing. I hear the public safety concerns in the encampment, the same as any gathering of people. Using that big Craven event as an example. If you put a lot of people in one place, some of them did make bad decisions. When having a temporary gathering we need to provide important needs for hygiene, hydration and security, The festival organizers apply for permits and follow guidelines on washrooms and private security. But then also they have the financial resources to do this. So, a solution together we can collaborate to find these solutions for our people who have no alternatives but tents. We need help them now and provide the hygiene, hydration and safety but more the one-on-one support for each on their immediate needs which is a home.
- 7. NIMBYISM, yes as we collaborate together, we can stop this and I will advocate for the construction of affordable housing.
- 8. This is a crisis right now and it is my priority to advocate for our city. I will advocate and collaborate with the governments --for housing units because this is in a state of emergency. This is an ongoing crisis in Regina.

# Chad Bachynski

1. I have reviewed the report and understand the housing first approach, it is clear that providing a safe home for someone creates and environment where other supporting services like addiction or mental health services become much more effective. The tangible financial savings and reduction in emergency service usage was the most surprising showing a 58% cost avoidance between several public systems. As I have been speaking with residents, homelessness has been a primary concern for many. So I will be supporting the Housing First model. I feel that the city does bear a responsibility in addressing this issue.



- 2. I cannot promise that I will call for \$14 million to be added into the City of Regina Budget, but I can promise homelessness will be a line item. As I have spoken to those who work with this vulnerable sector it is apparent that there are many services available, but it is difficult for people to access them as they tend to operate in silos. There are many initiatives at a municipal level that can help, including increasing the funding for Street Team as they have indicated that they would benefit from an additional two members in order to act as a service liaison. Although funding primarily comes from provincial and federal programs, the city plays a critical role securing locations for shelters and services, streamlining access to services and implementing data driven approaches. I have also become aware of federal dollars that have recently become available, so I will be speaking to the government to access those dollars for our city.
- 3. I am delighted that Carmichael Outreach announced on Nov 2, 2024 that they will be keeping their doors open overnight until April to act as a shelter/warming space. I will support them in advocating for additional federal and provincial funding in order to keep their doors open for following winters.
- 4. I completely understand why homeless encampments have become the norm in our city, the people have nowhere else. I followed the situation on the front steps of city hall with much concern. I thought the entire situation was very shameful, and I do think that if I had been mayor at the time it would have been handled differently. There's so much to this story, and it goes back really to the homelessness line item in the budget. That was really the incident that spurned the entire situation overall. I don't really want to rehash all the he said/she said that occurred between the mayor/councilors/city manager, but we can agree that it was handled very unprofessionally. Then the city council was having an open session and members of the homeless community came to speak. They were promptly removed. I can only imagine how disenfranchised and invisible those people felt at that time. It's no wonder that the encampment stayed for as long as it did; it was the only measure of control that they had. It's difficult to know how the decision to have the police clear the area was reached, as the documents that were released were heavily redacted. Again, this gives an impression of lack of accountability and transparency. I do believe that ultimately the encampment had to be removed from that particular location, but the events leading up to and during were embarrassing to us as a city. If I had been in the same situation, I would have gone down and engaged with the group. I would have found a way to support their safe movement to a different area. I think if they had been given some measure of respect and the ability to feel heard, we likely would not have had the situation we faced. Ultimately, I do not want any resident of Regina living in an encampment, so I will be lobbying the federal and provincial governments for additional funds. Whether that is additional support services to make encampments more humane (Garbage pickup, toilets ect), shelter beds, low cost/ subsidized housing to reduce the need for encampments.
- 5. I don't think there is a simple answer to this, as it speaks to our society as a whole. However, the reality is that we are city that is growing and we are beginning to



- experience bigger city issues and we need to face those issues head on. I am encouraged that the Eagles Club shelter location was ultimately approved despite sharp division within the council. That was a good first step, but really that approval doesn't net us any additional beds it just keeps us neutral as the agreement with The Nest will come to an end this spring.
- 6. Absolutely, there is no question I will not allow discriminatory language or rhetoric from any member of city council. I am aware of the language that was used by one of the past city councilors, and she was not sanctioned by the current Mayor. This sent a clear message that if you speak this way you will just get a slap on the wrist. As mayor it is my job to act as a champion for the residents of the city, especially those who cannot advocate for themselves.
- 7. Yes, I support the construction of affordable rental units. I am aware that there are numerous empty units that the province owns throughout the city as they have deemed that there are not suitable for residents. As mayor, I will petition the province to use the units that they current have sitting empty. Another initiative I am looking to put forward is a change to taxation in regards to underutilized or derelict buildings. Other cities have increased taxation on these types of buildings in order to promote them either being rebuilt or improved so that they can be used as intended. The current reduction of parking minimums for new builds will pave the way for more affordable units to be built faster, which should alleviate increase our vacancy rate making it easier for people to find rental units.
- 8. Absolutely, see my answer above. I feel that if they are going to leave them empty they should be taxed at a higher rate and then that money can go towards the people that actually need those units.

### No response:

- Bill Pratt
- Shawn Sparvier
- Rod Williams
- Nathaniel Hewton (working on response)
- Lori Bresciani
- Sandra Masters

## Missing Contact Information:

• Melina Bushenlonga, Bob Pearce & Kevin Kardash

# **Councillors**

# Ward 1

#### Jessie Morris

- 1. Yes. 100%.
- 2. That budget line already exists and I would support increasing it in order to prioritize ending housing insecurity. That being said, the best way that the city can support an



end to housing insecurity is by supporting the amazing organizations that already work to provide wrap-around services for people in crisis, and by increasing the availability of accessible housing. There are thousands of city-owned vacant houses in Regina that could be updated and turned into an affordable housing coop for those who can live independently. There are also organizations that would be better able to provide support to individuals that need a little help. With more funding we could create a coalition that would ensure that the work is done better, as well as more efficiently and effectively.

- 3. Yes. I am pondering the impact of treating this crisis the way that we would treat individuals and families that have been displaced by climate events like wildfires. We don't leave those people to struggle in the cold. Why do we treat our homeless and vulnerable that way? I would propose that the city looks at the angle of emergency preparedness to address this issue while it is being more permanently resolved.
- 4. YES. All of this. Again, I think we are approaching encampments wrong. When climate events displace people, we jump into action to support them. I propose treating housing insecurity resulting in encampments the same way.
- 5. If these people were displaced by anything other than poverty, mental health and addictions crisis we would immediately summon all of the supports necessary to build them back up and stabilize them. So, that is my proposal. Where? We have old military barracks that we could use, hotels/ motels we could use. The key component will be providing the wrap-around services people need in order to keep them safe. Community activators will be CRUCIAL to this effort, and I genuinely believe it will make a difference.
- 6. Always. This subject has LONG been of great interest to me, and when you know better, you do better. So, I will speak up, every time.
- 7. Yes, I will. Everyone deserves a home.
- 8. 100%. I looked into this already—they are in shambles and need to be fixed up. But we can do that, and then we can use them to support people in need. I'm in. I will always support this.

## **Dan Rashovich**

1. I share your concern about homelessness in our city, province and country. However, the resolution to homelessness in large part rests with senior governments that have the legislative and financial capacity to deal with this issue. Homelessness cannot solely be on the backs of the taxpayers of Regina Council would have to work with senior governments to help address this issue. A good start would be for the provincial government to pay rent to landlords directly for people with mental illnesses or brain injury. Many people do not have the capacity to manage their finances properly. I was child of a single mother who worked full time but did not have enough money for rent. Lived in government subsidized housing. This is a complex issue which needs collaboration from all levels of government and the money needs to come from provincial and federal governments

Responses: Warm Welcome Coalition Municipal Candidate Questions 2024



## No response:

Joanna Crofford

Missing Contact Information:

• Talha Khan

## Ward 2

## André Magnon

- 1. Ending homelessness in Regina is a priority of mine. You can find my platform material on ending homelessness here: <a href="https://www.andre4ward2.ca/priorities">https://www.andre4ward2.ca/priorities</a> As a social sciences researcher I am a strong supporter of a Housing First approach for lifting folks out of poverty and improving their quality of life this approach is not only rooted in compassion and human dignity, but economic models prove it's more cost effective in the long run. It may interest you that I've recently modified my platform to include municipal rent controls for rental units in Regina, stopping predatory rent hikes by tying any rent increases to the annual rate of inflation.
- 2. In 2024, the City of Regina's police budget was \$116 million. Fifteen percent of the police budget amounts to approximately \$25 million. This is double the estimated annual investment needed to properly address chronic and episodic homelessness laid out in *Everyone is Home*, the City's 5-year plan adopted in 2019. Given that the number of people needing shelter and the costs of providing it have increased since then, the \$25 million figure is about right. Much depends on the willingness of other orders of government to fund the solution, but I can commit to advocating for an investment that matches the need.
- 3. Yes, it's crucial that a strategy for housing people temporarily, if necessary, be in place before the beginning of the cold-weather months.
- 4. The best solution is to have permanent and stable housing for everyone who needs it. Encampments are a symptom of a broken system and a failure to address the root causes of homelessness. Some jurisdictions in Canada are experimenting with building temporary villages to serve as basic shelter with essential services. I'm in favour of exploring this option for Regina, should an adequate number of permanent housing spaces not be available. Whichever policy the City adopts, it must balance human rights with the health and safety concerns of those living in encampments.
- 5. The goal for the city should be to establish permanent, stable housing for those who need it. I would advocate against the city dismantling tent encampment in the absence of a suitable housing solution be it permanent or emergency shelter.
- 6. I believe that all people deserve to be treated with respect and dignity. City Hall does not tolerate violent or discriminatory language in Council Chambers, and I would expect the Chair of any council meeting to address discriminatory or offensive comments made towards those experiencing homelessness. If I were to find myself in a position where discriminatory language was being used against a constituent or a class of people and it was going unchecked, I would speak up.
- 7. I support the zoning changes required by the Housing Accelerator Fund, which were recently adopted by Council. These changes will make it possible to build housing of



- all types in every neighbourhood in the city, including those dominated by single family homes. I recognize that some people strongly oppose zoning reform, even though I may disagree with them. I'm willing to speak up against NIMBYism, but I don't believe it's the role of City Councillors to police the opinions or words of those who don't share our views.
- 8. Absolutely. I say this while acknowledging that the provincial management of these residences has left many unfit for immediate occupation and repairing them may require significant resources. I believe the province should fund the rehabilitation of these residences and either turn them over to the City or enter into shared management. As a City Councillor, I will work towards the effective use of these properties.

## No response from:

- Anamul Akanda
- Bob Hawkins
- Chidi Igwe
- George Tsiklis
- Sanket Patel

## Missing Contact Information:

• Zaid Hameed

## Ward 3

### **David Froh**

1. We have the data, and evidence-based inputs to inform our assessment or progress or lack thereof to address homelessness. What appears to be lacking is the leadership and implementation vision associated with the plan, in a formal sense at least. In the "Everyone is Home" plan to eliminate homeless, a plan I endorse, I support the housing and supports recommendation related to long-term supportive housing beds targeting chronic and episodic homeless people; the need for intensive case management supports, and community treatment spaces. I further support the need for treatment beds, with a particular focus on young people. Overall, I believe in the first mode housing mode, that would see us move people experiencing homelessness, particularly people experiencing chronic homelessness-rapidly from the street or emergency shelters into stable and long-term housing, with supports. This is a more affordable, and certainly humane way to address the issue. Your report cited data for every \$1 invested into a housing first approach, .54 is saved. The light we shine on the issue, and the more we learn from other communities, celebrate our progress, and acknowledge our gaps, the better. A key principle for me is the intersectionality of this crisis, and the intersectoral approach to solving it. By that I mean including the nonprofits, multi-levels of government, the private sector, health and education leaders. We can't leave it solely to well meaning grass roots advocates to solve on their own. In our effort to address this issue we absolutely must collaborate with the Provincial



- & Federal Government. We cannot let them off the look, both from a precedence and capacity perspective.
- 2. The police, along with those who support addressing institutionalized racism and poverty agree that policing is not the tool to address the aforementioned issues. I support implementing the "Everyone is Home" recommendation, in concert with work to address rental and home ownership affordability, and advocacy on the provincial level to ensure that we have:
  - a. A living wage for all
  - b. Adequate treatment beds
  - c. Rapid advancement of homeless shelters with wraparound services
  - d. Progressive supports, as opposed to regressive barriers for those living in poverty or unhoused.
- 3. Yes
- 4. The Federal Government has most recently outlined their intention to work with municipalities directly, as the Provincial Government has been absent from negotiations. I agree with the Federal Housing Advocates' recommendations, however the City alone cannot adequately fund these recommendations. We must do what we can locally, but advocate collaboratively and forcefully for provincial and federal resources, as well as policy to address the root causes of poverty, racism, addictions and trauma. Encampments reflect a failure of society to care for our neighbors. We cannot let people freeze, starve, overdose, or sleep rough. Tent encampments reflect on the kindness of advocates and well-meaning citizens, but in my mind also reflects a failure of policy and investment. I commit to work in good faith with the Warm Welcome Coalition, and all advocates to push for a city that treats the unhoused with dignity, and provides beds, warming shelters, and space for everyone in this city. Tent encampments are undoubtedly harm reduction, but they are not the solution.
- 5. The City of Regnia in concert with the provincial and federal government must implement a housing first strategy that aims for functional zero homelessness. In the interim, particularly given the federal governments commitment, we must ensure that everyone requiring shelter has access to a warm and safe place to sleep. Enforcing bylaws, like the one mentioned, does nothing to address the root causes of poverty, racism and systemic barriers.
- 6. Yes, and I commit to spend time with those with lived experience, as well as advocates to inform my perspective.
- 7. In February 2023, following extensive community engagement Mayor & Department of the Council passed a resolution to materially and rapidly advance revitalization within North Central (NC). The motion coincided with community momentum to reimagine housing within NC, Heritage and the broader Regina community. With nearly 1000 vacant dwellings in NC, and nearly 20% of housing being rented, a new paradigm of home ownership and housing is required. By providing a pathway to ownership and supporting private-public partnerships that employ and house local residents, the city has a generational opportunity to revitalize the community. We can take inspiration from examples implemented in the United States during the Civil Rights movement



that created Community Land Trusts, Municipal and nonprofit housing and land corporations, and land banks. Through cooperative, nonprofit, and responsible private sector investment, we can provide an affordable pathway to home ownership, and affordable rental units for thousands. We must build an inclusive political coalition to ensure that the strategy is implemented both by elected officials and administration, but also built for and by the residents of NC and underservices communities. By partnering with young leaders, engaged community advocates and leveraging expertise of those with lived experience in NC, we can build support for the housing strategy and can help reduce long-term costs and avoid delays, political opposition, and litigation. A malfunctioning, depressed and unequal housing market within Regina enhances inequality and impedes inclusive economic growth and accentuates inequality. A housing first approach, which includes both affordable and marketbased solutions, provides the first pillar to community renewal. By leveraging city resources and zoning; bylaw tools, we can create an affordable pathway to home ownership, resulting in newfound international economic opportunities. Several principles critical to this work, and several actionable next steps. Advancing these will:

- i. -Prioritize the stabilization, preservation, and rehab of affordable housing
- ii. -Blend private and public capital by utilizing city funding & policy to leverage private investment.
- iii. -Revitalize physical infrastructure.
- iv. -Generate greater individual purchasing power by training, employing and housing residents.
- v. -Develop the local economy by attracting entrepreneurs & supporting social enterprise
- b. Key policy priorities for me will include
  - i. Support the Creation of a Community Land Trust
- c. Establish a supportive policy framework that guides how the city will work with non-profits, developers and cooperatives, to renovate, build and maintain affordable housing, and provide a pathway to home ownership for current renters
- d. Build a holistic plan for North Central which addresses reconciliation, economic development, urban planning, public safety, and infrastructure renewal.
- 8. 100%.

## No response:

• Faaiq Tanveer

### Missing:

• Barry Wilkie



# Ward 4

# Deb Nyczai

I am one person with no full-time staff. Unfortunately, I have been swamped with many questionnaires and surveys---many of which require extensive research and policy development. Honestly, I can't meet all of the requests for the extensive and detailed information that is being requested. However, I think you and other voters deserve some honest information about where I stand. I am a progressive candidate and have received support from labour unions. But most importantly, I think the current council is utterly dysfunctional. There is too much bickering, too much waste and too many misplaced priorities. The real needs of the poor and the vulnerable in our city are being ignored. I think it's time for a change.

My platform is centered on:

- 1. Strengthening public services to ensure they are equitable, accessible, and truly serve the needs of all residents.
- 2. Fiscal responsibility and budget management that balances short-term needs with long-term investments in our community's future.
- 3. Modernizing aging infrastructure to create safer, more sustainable neighborhoods and ensure the well-being of current and future generations.

I am deeply committed to finding progressive solutions that put people first—prioritizing housing, health, and safety, while ensuring we spend responsibly to achieve those goals.

### Kofo Oni

- 1. Yes, I am committed to addressing houselessness in Regina and will support a Housing First model to ensure residents receive housing with the necessary wraparound supports to meet their needs.
- 2. Ending houselessness is a priority for me, and I believe we need to invest in real solutions like housing with wraparound supports. However, rather than committing to a specific percentage right away, I would push for a careful review of the budget to ensure we're making the right investments in housing while still supporting other critical services like policing.
- 3. Yes, if houselessness hasn't been adequately addressed by August 2025, I will advocate for a plan that guarantees all residents have barrier-free access to safe temporary shelters or warming spaces. It's essential that everyone has a safe place, especially during the colder months.
- 4. I believe encampments are not a long-term solution, but if they arise due to a lack of permanent housing, I would prioritize safety and dignity for those involved. I would advocate for the City to provide essential supports like toilets, water, garbage collection, and health services to ensure people well-being while we work toward permanent housing solutions.
  - a. Will you follow the recommendations of the Federal Housing Advocate's Final Report On Encampments



## i. Answer: yes

- 5. I believe in finding compassionate solutions for unhoused people. Instead of dismantling encampments, my focus would be on ensuring access to safe, temporary shelters and developing long-term housing options. We need to work with community partners to create spaces where people can go, especially at night, while also addressing the root causes of houselessness.
- 6. And 7. NIMBYISM is a form of discrimination according to the Ontario Human Rights Commission. es, I will advocate for affordable rental housing in every Regina neighborhood and stand against NIMBYism. Everyone deserves access to housing, and I'll work to ensure that developments are inclusive and free from discrimination.
- 8. Yes, I will advocate for the City of Regina to push the provincial government to make the 700 empty Sask Housing units available as soon as possible. These units could provide much-needed housing for those in need.

## **Charles Umeh**

- 1. Yes- as a city, it is our responsibility to take care of our most vulnerable.
- 2. While I believe homelessness should be tackled squarely, I wouldn't commit to such a budget issue until I have the whole picture, cost implication on taxpayers and a detailed plan of how this budget will be utilized.
- 3. It is our responsibility as a city to take care of our most vulnerable ones.
- 4. In the absence of permanent housing, yes, I will support establishment of tent encampments in a designated location which the city shall provide alongside other supports like toilets, water and electricity, garbage collection, and fire and health services, policing to keep people safe and secure. Camp dwellers would also have a part to play by ensuring they don't put up tents outside these designated areas. Hopefully with the city already making progress with acquiring the eagles club as a location for permanent shelter, we can work with the provincial government to speed up the development of the space into a permanent shelter.
- 5. I will advocate for city to provide safe designated location for encampments in the absence of permanent shelter.
- 6. Yes.
- 7. Yes.
- 8. Yes.

# No response:

- Balvir Bhathal
- Danish Hasan
- Glen Geiger
- Mark Burton



## <u>Ward 5</u>

### Grant Jakubowski

Grant appreciates Reginans like you, who care about their city and bring concerns forward. Grant would love an opportunity to speak with you in person and earn your support. Please join Grant at any or all of the following events: Saturday, November 2nd from 4:00 - 6:00 pm @ Arcola East Community Centre - 3860 Buckingham Dr, Regina, SK S4V 3A1, Sunday, November 3rd from 1:00 - 3:30 pm at @ Glencairn Neighbourhood Centre - 2626 Dewdney Ave E, Regina, SK S4N 4V5, Sunday, November 9th from 10:00 - 6:00 pm at Victoria Square Mall (kiosk near the Food Court)

#### Marianna Mucz

Thank you, these are very good questions. Fair treatment of the unhoused is very important. When it comes to housing, there is not an easy solution. It will require all levels of government to resolve. I have been involved with handing out free groceries at Mamaweyatitan Centre over the lunch hour, and dealing with the houseless and Mobile Crisis in that area near the Friendship Center. Every case I have encountered is always a little different as to what level of help people want, and that has to be respected. Food availability is a great way to reach and engage with those experiencing houselessness, and I do think having a permanent shelter ready this winter is a step in the right direction. We need to continue to offer the supports needed to ensure that when people are ready to get the help that they need that it is available to them. I will also take a moment to share a bit about myself should you choose me come Nov 13th.I have four key points in my campaign.

- 1. I will Vote NO to any salary increase council may choose to give themselves. It is just a small part, but we need to start somewhere.
- 2. I want to be the Voice for Ward 5. It's full of HARDWORKING residents that deserve to have a SAFE Regina to call home. Unlike some other candidates I have no one funding my campaign, which means I truly can be the voice for Ward 5. I have no hidden favors owed to any outside group.
- 3. RESPECT. I believe in a cooperative work effort. I promise to respectfully work with all parties to maintain/and improve our infrastructure, and at the most responsible cost to our TAXPAYERS.
- 4. Always to be the best for the City of Regina. I will address signs here. I do not have any signs. I will not buy a sign that is only good for a 3-week period to sit in our landfill for many decades. Our landfill is another COST CONCERN of this city, and as it is nearing its lifespan. Anything I can do to avoid making the problem worse, I will do.

### No response:

- Dharmesh Dave
- Leticia Oystrick



- Sarah Turnbull
- Shifaan Shafi

# Ward 6

### **Victoria Flores**

- 1. Yes.
- 2. I support allocating city funds to address homelessness in Regina, as I believe in providing meaningful and sustainable support to our most vulnerable residents. However, at this time, I can't commit to a specific amount without a clearer picture of the city's overall budget, priorities, and resources. Making sure this funding approach has buy-in from all stakeholders is crucial for it to be effective and sustainable. While I may not be able to specify a percentage right now, I do believe that investing in housing and wraparound supports is essential to reducing homelessness in Regina, and I am committed to exploring all ways to make that happen within the budget.
- 3. Yes, if this crisis is still unresolved by that time, I would absolutely advocate for a plan to make sure no one in Regina has to face unsafe conditions, especially during our harsh winters.
- 4. Encampments are a symptom of a system that has not provided adequate support for our most vulnerable. Ideally, especially in a climate like ours, everyone would have access to safe, stable shelter, but I understand that encampments often become a last-resort solution for those without options. I believe that individuals in encampments deserve to be treated with dignity, and that if we cannot provide housing, we should at least support safe, livable conditions rather than adding barriers or stigma. I am committed to advocating for resources that allow those who are unhoused to have safer spaces while we continue to work toward sustainable housing solutions. Although I may need more information on the logistics—such as what support levels are needed based on encampment size—I am committed to finding ways to ensure that people have access to at least the basic services that help keep them safe.
- 5. I think it's really important that we approach this issue with compassion and practicality. If people are living in encampments because they have nowhere else to go, we need to make sure they're safe rather than dismantling the little shelter they have. As mentioned in the previous question, I'd support creating designated safe spaces where people can stay temporarily, with access to essentials like bathrooms, clean water, and garbage collection. This would help keep things safe and sanitary while we work on more long-term housing solutions. In the colder months, expanding our warming centers or temporary shelters with as few barriers as possible is crucial. Everyone should have a safe place to go when the weather is extreme. For the long term, I believe in Housing First programs that provide stable housing along with support services to help people become housed independently. In the meantime, mobile support units that bring healthcare, mental health help, and other services directly to people in encampments can make a big difference. Lastly, working with



existing local initiatives, community groups (like you!) volunteers, and faith groups would allow us to build a community of support around those who need it. By taking these steps, we can make sure people have a safe space without adding more barriers or stigma and work toward solutions that truly make a difference.

- 6. Yes.
- 7. Yes, I support the construction of affordable housing across Regina and will work to address NIMBYism where it arises. However, I believe that planning should take into account the needs of the people who will live in these developments. Some neighborhoods have better access to essential amenities, transit, and services, which can make a big difference for those who may not have access to transportation. I also believe it's important to work with long-term residents and communities to foster understanding and support for affordable housing. Often, opposition is based on a lack of understanding, and if we can create meaningful conversations and involve communities in the process, I think we'll see better long-term outcomes. With the right supports, we can help individuals in supportive housing become active, valued members of their neighborhoods, which benefits everyone.
- 8. Yes.

## **Corey Liebrecht**

- 1. I'm supportive of Rapid Housing and the support it provides. That is why it's a key part of my platform on houselessness.
- 2. I believe the city provides adequate funding of just over 15% for each Rapid Housing project that has been built so far through the city's Supportive Housing Grant and the Housing Incentive Program. I would be in support of continuing these programs at a 15% allocation per cost from the city for each new project.
- 3. As a council and councilor of Ward 6. We should work closely with all organizations to find creative solutions to shelter and warming spaces during our winter months. These have to be accessible 24/7 because the cold doesn't go away during daylight hours. Until the Federal, Provincial and Aboriginal governance provide the adequate funding, support services and the reinstatement of the SAID program. Municipalities will continue to struggle to provide the actual services that are needed in the community.
- 4. & 5. I'd propose that encampments be erected on church properties or near properties of the supporters of your group that can accommodate the necessary safe spaces. These encampments, with the funded amenities by the city for toilets, water, electricity, garbage collection, fire services could be safe spaces in our community.
- 6. We can't ignore the fact that residents facing chronic homelessness sometimes use behavior that can evolve into criminal acts. The reasons why this occurs depends on each individual case. There are many factors that lead to chronic homelessness and houselessness. I think it's unfair to bring class or privilege into the equation as many people in the middle class are struggling to either pay rent, mortgages or put food on the table. That's why our food banks are experiencing record numbers. It's a social issue not a class issue.



- 7. I believe the recent building of the two Rapid housing units in the city are a positive example of how the city and community can work together. But it involves every stakeholder including the community. Ensuring they will see a reflection and benefit for our less fortunate residence and as a city in supporting these programs.
- 8. I fully support this initiative. I would like to see the city also work with Indigenous Chiefs and councils to facilitate the purchasing of vacant houses that can be refurbished into safe and affordable housing for members of their bands that are experiencing homelessness.

## No response:

- David Whitrow
- Fawaz Adegoke
- Glenn Douglas

## Missing Contant Information:

Julian Levy

## Ward 7

### **Shobna Radons**

- 1. Definitely that is a large part of my focus; there are models in countries such as Finland with a .008% homelessness, and Japan with a .003% homelessness and they achieved that with a "Housing First Policy." I have done the research on this already and would like to use their model and then tweak it to what Regina's resident's needs are. I also believe that this is not just a municipal government issue but all three levels of governments concern. Thereby work with them to ensure that we can make sure no one is left behind. The Federal Government is proposing to work with municipal governments to deal with the homelessness crisis in all of our communities.
- 2. This is important and I would have to look at all aspects and do the research to ensure the right process, focusing on the how's, where's, the who's and the what's can all be addressed, I will look at the funding and find the best approach and model to help in facilitating the end to homelessness. Understanding that the wraparound supports are necessary for many suffering from mental health and addictions, not to mention women fleeing from domestic violence.
- 3. Yes, too important, cannot have people freezing, this needs to happen sooner than August 2025.
- 4. Yes
- 5. Work towards providing proper shelters for people, including working with Mobile Crisis, YWCA, Carmichael Outreach and any other organizations on the ground to address this so people are warm and safe.
- 6. Yes, as my track record speaks for itself. Speaking up against discriminatory behaviors is necessary if we care about TRC and more.



- 7. Yes, I plan to push to work with the Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments to ensure we have a "Housing First Policy."
- 8. Yes, I plan to push to work with the Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments to ensure we have a "Housing First Policy."

#### **Abdi Gure**

1. Thank you very much for sharing with me your concerns about homelessness in our city. As someone with a social work background I care deeply about this issue. It is a shame for all of us that in 2024 we still have people freezing outside every winter. Even though housing is a provincial responsibility, I still believe the city council has a moral responsibility to work with other levels of government to end homelessness in our city. I believe that having access to dignified housing should be a basic human rights issue. I also support long term plans that address the root causes that contribute to being homeless.

## No response:

Terina Nelson

Missing Contant Information:

• John Gross

# Ward 8

# **Cory Terry**

- 1. Yes finding a productive approach to homelessness is top priority.. I live in Washington park (north central) I see it first hand.
- 2. There is money in the budget we just have to trim out wasteful spending that don't align with our priorities like the net zero 2050 program that is already falling short and they are already taking 9 million away from facilities upgrading.! Plus there is partnerships we can work on. Did the city talk to the Métis nation of Saskatchewan they have a proposal out to construction company's that will build homes to for homelessness I'll send a picture below so you know what I am talking about.
- 3. There is plenty of vacant lots that could house a temporary solution be it a work camp like style but no work of course that will cost money but with the right people in place we can find partnerships
- 4. Back to answer 3 on this topic there is options for the city to explore other then letting the most vulnerable individuals try and figure out how to survive.. let's give them hope and inspire other communities around Regina to help us because we need help I am getting emails and messages basically saying it's not in their back yard so they aren't concerned there is a real lack of empathy in the city towards downtown and North central.



5. As a Metis person I will always respect the rights of the First Nations and the rights of everyone else inbetween. The need for empathy has never been greater this campaign has really opened my eyes to other areas of the city sending me messages saying homelessness addiction and mental health issues shouldn't be in the top three items on the priority list... to them I ask for some empathy maybe take a drive down 5th ave and tell that to those people down on their luck .. more education needs to be



done to the "haves" in this city so maybe the "have nots" will have a chance we need to stop funding net zero programs that don't directly benefit the community... they say in 2050 it'll be great it's 2024 we don't have the luxury in my neighborhood to wait till 2050 for returns on investments. We need to start taking responsibility for this ask for help. And get the supports in place we desperately need. I meant to send this with my answers but like I said there is partnerships to explore and from what I understand no one from the City level has reached out I would love to be that bridge for the city.

- Cory Terry

### Shanon Zachidniak

- 1. Yes, ending houselessness in Regina is one of my primary goals. I believe in a Housing First model, which prioritizes providing permanent housing along with necessary wraparound supports. I have already taken action in this area, such as leading efforts to declare homelessness an emergency in Regina and advocating for a comprehensive response to this crisis. While the motion was not successful, it highlighted the urgent need for coordinated action, which I remain committed to.
- 2. The first thing that needs to be addressed is that the city's current plan to end homelessness officially expires at the end of 2024. We need to resolve this issue by extending the life of the current plan while we initiate a community engagement process to inform the creation of a new plan. This process must include input from community members, Indigenous leaders, and local organizations and requires a budgetary commitment from all three levels of government. I suggest that this proposal is brought forward as part of the engagement process. Please let me know if you'd like to discuss further.
- 3. Yes, if the crisis has not been adequately resolved by then, I will push for a plan that ensures every resident has barrier-free access to safe temporary shelter, especially during our harsh winter months. Last summer, I put forward a motion to address the



- emergency nature of our houselessness crisis, and I remain committed to ensuring that no one is left without shelter when they need it most.
- 4. I believe that encampments should be treated with dignity and respect. If temporary shelters become necessary due to a lack of housing, I will support providing essential services, such as access to toilets, water, electricity, garbage collection, and health and safety supports. I also support the recommendations from the Federal Housing Advocate's Final Report on Encampments, which emphasize treating encampment residents with dignity, providing safe alternatives, and prioritizing access to permanent housing. My goal is to focus on solutions that prioritize people's safety and well-being while working toward long-term housing options.
- 5. My plan focuses on providing safe, barrier-free temporary shelters while working on long-term housing solutions. I support the creation of temporary shelters that operate year-round until permanent housing is available. As part of my previous efforts, I advocated for a coordinated response to houselessness that includes input from community members, Indigenous leaders, and local organizations. I believe that no one should be left without shelter, especially during the harsh winter months, and I am committed to advocating for policies that reflect that.
- 6. Yes, I will speak up against discriminatory language directed at unhoused people. If there have been instances where discriminatory language was directed towards unhoused people by city officials or at City Hall and that language was unchallenged, please let me know. I welcome the opportunity to learn more about this issue. It is essential to recognize that those experiencing houselessness are vulnerable and in need of support. I believe in fostering empathy and understanding while addressing the real issues that contribute to houselessness, such as lack of affordable housing, mental health challenges, and systemic inequities. Throughout my time on Council, I have been consistent in advocating for a respectful, human-centered approach to addressing houselessness and will continue to do so.
- 7. Yes, I have supported and will continue to support the construction of affordable rental housing in every neighbourhood in Regina. The evidence clearly demonstrates the most successful model for a vibrant and thriving community is to have a variety of housing types in every neighbourhood. Housing is a human right, and I believe that every community should contribute to making our city inclusive and accessible. I am committed to ensuring that decisions about affordable housing are made with equity and inclusion in mind. This is critical to building a city where everyone has a safe place to live.
- 8. Yes, I believe that the vacant Sask Housing units represent a missed opportunity to address our city's houselessness crisis. I will advocate for the City of Regina to pressure the provincial government to make these units available as quickly as possible. By making these units habitable, we can provide stable housing to those who need it most, while continuing to work toward long-term housing solutions.



#### **Shannon Orell-Bast**

I have an unwavering commitment to addressing the issue of houselessness in our city, particularly in my dual roles as both a social worker and city councilor. My advocacy is rooted in a firm belief in the housing-first model, which I believe should be complemented with wraparound support services for individuals in need. While I cannot commit to a specific percentage of the city budget for this cause without the necessary discussions in a city council meeting, I want to assure you that I will actively advocate for funding to be allocated to address housing needs. As a frontline social worker, I have firsthand experience in seeking shelter for individuals and understand the urgency of the homelessness crisis in our community. It is crucial that all residents have barrier-free access to safe and warm temporary shelter immediately. I recognize the challenges faced by those living in encampments and believe it is vital to provide basic necessities for individuals without stable housing. As a registered social worker, my commitment to meeting the needs of our most vulnerable populations, particularly within Ward Eight, is strong. The values of social work align closely with the findings of the federal housing advocate's final report on encampments, and I am dedicated to upholding these principles. It is essential that we cultivate a deeper understanding of the historical context of colonization and the impact of capitalism to effectively address the issue of houselessness. I will advocate for the provincial government to make the 700 empty Saskatchewan Housing units available for occupation as soon as possible, especially with winter approaching. One of the driving reasons behind my decision to run for city council was the frustration I have felt as a frontline social worker, where I often encounter systemic barriers in advocating for those I serve. Every individual deserves to be treated with dignity and respect and to have access to the basic necessities of life-housing first. I stand firmly against discriminatory language and stereotypes directed at unhoused individuals. It is crucial to challenge narratives that unjustly label them as criminals or dangerous and I will continue to speak up against such biases. I am committed to advocating for the rights and needs of unhoused individuals and supporting the Indigenous populations within our community. I want to ensure that our city becomes a place where everyone can find safety, shelter, and support. Addressing homelessness often requires a multifaceted approach that includes policy changes, affordable housing initiatives, and supportive services.

#### Alex Tkach

1. I do think this is an important issue but it isn't my top priority directly. My goals are to focus on getting the City back on track through supporting both our physical and social infrastructure. Part of the social side is making sure that grassroots organizations are properly supported so that foundational support initiatives can be put in place over larger City run projects that in my experience are full of red tape, inflated cost, and don't typically address underlying issues.



- This would be extended out to the organizations helping to support folks that are houseless their pathway to a more stable way of living.
- 2. I can't commit to this without knowing what the budget is this time around or where that money would be going directly. I don't believe that the City itself has the best resources internally to end houselessness, nor would they be very efficient at spending the money on City lead efforts. Properly funding organizations that are at the front lines of this battle would do more for the cause and would make sure that any money that's earmarked for this would be used properly. The City's role to me, falls more in the realm of purchasing if needed or otherwise freeing up space for initiatives being lead by these grassroots supports and organizations that know these issues best and can address them properly and in an impactful, meaningful way.
- 3. It would really depend on what that plan looks like in practice, I don't like making blind promises without knowing the details for what I'm promising. What I can say is that I would support efforts to have places for folks to get out of the cold and have a warm roof over their heads. People can't be forced to use these resources but they need to be available if needed, especially with how harsh our winter climate can be. It's dangerous and has and will continue to cause deaths related to exposure during these months.
- 4. Encampments are a tricky subject because they can't be deemed permanent solutions to our houseless crisis so when they do come about as a necessary way to keep folks safe or as a centralized location to deliver some services, there needs to be a goal to get these folks into more stable, safer places to live as an immediate next step. I also think that some locations make more sense then others, especially when they exist in locations that are essentially abandoned and not being used, as was the case with the old Taylor field site that was dismantled. I do think the City's role should be one to help rather than hinder because dismantling without a plan just pushes the same issues to other areas of the city. Those seem like reasonable recommendations that should be considered when working through situations like encampments.
- 5. I don't know what mechanisms I would have available to solve this issue but displacing folks that are already displaced isn't a solution and only pushes folks that are houseless to seek shelter in other places that don't have the supports they may need. What I can say is I would rather see alternatives put in place over simply destroying encampments and scattering folks throughout the city.
- 6. I believe in fighting disinformation by speaking plainly and honestly about the truth of the matter and I would continue with that approach. I agree and recognize that the underlying causes for folks that are experiencing houselessness are multiple and it isn't possible to boil it down to one specific social issue such as addictions.
- 7. I'm not against pushing for the creation of spaces where possible and where we can afford it. We do need to be cognisant of our mill rate increases though because a lot of families are hanging on by a thread and living paycheck to paycheck. I recognize that the efforts of your organization is to support folks living houseless,



but we can't solve that issue by pushing more folks that are already below the poverty line, even lower. I'm not saying there isn't room from a budget perspective for these initiatives, we just need to be cautious with how we allocate our resources because they are finite. I also think it is worth mentioning that there is more to be done than just building spaces, the City of Regina needs to stop it's hostile tax policies towards the existing ones. The Transcona Housing Authority that looks after several low income housing spaces in the Rosemont area has been faced with huge tax hikes which has had a detrimental impact on their ability to maintain the spaces and support folks in need.

8. I'm not entirely sure what barriers are preventing the province from making them available already. I'm not against pushing for this but I also feel there is more I need to know about the current situation that prevents empty spaces from being made available before I can make promises in this regard. Regardless, having spaces sit empty while people live on the streets doesn't make a lot of sense to me and should be addressed.

### No response:

Mohammah Zafar

# Ward 9

#### Jeff Soroka

I don't think I'm in a position at this time to answer your questions as I've not been on council and lack full disclosure on what efforts are being made by the city's governance. What I can offer is my personal views at this time. No one should be left out in the elements especially during a Saskatchewan winter. Homelessness is a complex issue. This should not be a City issue only, it should encompass the Provincial and Federal governments to cover health costs and shelters along with input from the City. I hope that helps.

## No response:

- Jason Mancinelli
- Reid Hill
- Saad Siddiqui
- Tanis Wilder

## **Ward 10**

#### **Chris Simmie**

1. Ending houselessness in Regina is a top priority for me, though I recognize the need to balance it with other urgent issues and the realities of our market-based system. Additionally, the division of responsibilities and funding between different levels of government presents challenges that require strategic



- collaboration. However, I am a strong advocate for the Housing First model, both with and without wraparound supports. This approach has consistently shown its effectiveness in improving outcomes for those experiencing houselessness, while also being financially beneficial. With the very recent announcement of the Federal government bypassing provincial governments to provide funding, I believe this should be the top priority for a new council to establish a plan and secure funding as soon as possible.
- 2. I truly wish this were a feasible option, as I strongly support the Housing First approach to ending houselessness. However, allocating this amount would likely result in a mill rate increase of approximately 5%, which I don't believe Regina residents would support or accept. That said, I am committed to advocating for this model with both the provincial and federal governments, as a shared funding approach is essential to making this vision a reality in the most cost-effective way. I will actively push for developing and lobbying for a mutual funding arrangement that could achieve similar or greater levels of funding as you've suggested. Given that the Housing First model can generate significant cost savings—particularly in healthcare, where savings can be as high as 86%—it's crucial for the provincial government to provide matching funds to cover the shortfall. Again, though, with the recent announcement of Federal bypass funding, this may be a feasible option, depending on the amount of funding available from the federal government, this may be an achievable funding level, and exploring the options and amount of support available will be my first priority.
- 3. I will happily make this commitment. I recognize the shortcomings of the existing shelter models, but it may be necessary to expand that model for the moment while seeking cooperative funding pathways from other levels of government.
- 4. Encampments are an unfortunate reality that we must address with compassion and safety in mind. From my experience working near encampments and shelters, I understand that while they may make some uneasy, my primary concern is for the safety of the residents themselves, particularly regarding the fire hazards posed by makeshift heating as the weather turns colder. I support the recommendations outlined in the Federal Housing Advocate's Final Report on Encampments. This includes ensuring that encampment residents have access to basic necessities, engaging meaningfully with them to find alternatives, and working with all levels of government to provide permanent housing options as rapidly as possible. Forced evictions are not a humane solution, and I believe the root causes of houselessness must be addressed at the city level through policies that encourage affordable housing, support essential services like libraries, and promote economic growth and diversification to attract better job opportunities.
- 5. Options for where to go need to be established with the Ministry of Social Services which can finance stays in hotels, motels, etc. in the short term, but this must be executed in a more respectful and dignified manner than was performed when the city hall encampment was cleared. The goal is for encampment residents to wish to go to the proposed location willingly, packing up and bringing their



- supplies and belongings rather than losing much of the little that they already have. We should establish a standing understanding with the ministry for unhoused individuals which provides several standing options and agreements which allow for ready options (local locations which can provide temporary shelter, such as motels) swiftly for those who are willing to use that option.
- 6. I will absolutely speak up if city officials are speaking in this manner, when it comes to citizens using this language context and the individual's mindset are important to consider. Some individuals are unwilling or incapable of seeing things differently and the underlying issue is not one of misunderstanding but rather intentional discrimination. It is not beneficial to engage with these individuals directly or confront them, but rather to divert the conversation towards the facts that speak to the underpinning of their fundamental worldview. The fact that housing-first is a cost saving measure, relative to the existing paradigm, the benefits to them and the economy of tackling the issue with a holistic mindset, and the benefits directly to them in having "other people" deal with the issue rather than them having to contend with it in any way. To date I have several confirmed voters with this mindset which I have confronted with the facts regarding the solutions and the cost-effectiveness of housing first VS the alternatives who have afterwards agreed to vote for me.
- 7. Yes
- 8. Yes

## Anita Adefuye

- 1. Yes, I will. This is one of the areas of priority I have in my plans to work with other councillors in making a priority as it affects us all.
- 2. I would like to have all the facts of numbers before committing to this proposal. I do get the idea however; the goal is not to defund the RPS but to frame the proposed spending targeted solely on homelessness. This makes sense in the context of public safety, acknowledging that providing stable housing and support services is a proactive way to reduce crime and increase overall community safety.
- 3. Yes! Everyone deserves the right to dignity and shelter from the cold, no matter the circumstances surrounding their homelessness issues. Public spaces are an option to consider for making this effective. Where needed, consultations and education need to be held to help people see the need for this and how they can come alongside our houseless neighbours. Cities like Edmonton, Vancouver have all taken similar approach, I see no reason why Regina cannot as well.
- 4. This is something that I believe our city can explore, especially in the face of limited temporary and permanent shelters. Again, cities like Toronto, Vancouver, and Halifax, are working towards supportive, rather than punitive approaches toward encampments, and providing wrap-around services.
- 5. YES.



- 6. YES, and I am a lived experience example that someone can experience houselessness for many reasons that has nothing to do with drugs or substance use.
- 7. I agree that supporting policies that prevent discriminatory practices and language (such as NIMBYISM in housing development is essential. I believe that the Housing Accelerator Fund which the city has entered into agreement with CMHC is one that already helps address this need.
- 8. This is a conversation that for sure needs to be held with the Provincial government. If there are empty units available, then they should have streamlined processes that allow access to those units. We need to take a collaborative and collective approach to tackling homelessness. So yes, I'd be willing to advocate on behalf of Regina residents for the federal government to release the empty housing units.

### Clark Bezo

Let me know where you live in Ward 10 and I can stop by in person to discuss this.

No response:

• Umer Syed

Missing Contact Information:

• Jerry Flegel