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BC Greens

Kamloops-North Thompson

Tourism Industry

What is your knowledge of Tourism Kamloops and its role in the city?

My knowledge of its importance is superficial but I like many others have depended on it as an economic engine.

I am ready to learn more about how the provincial government and Tourism Kamloops can collaborate to ensure we can support and grow.

How does your party view tourism as an industry and government priority relative to other sectors of British Columbia's economy?

The Green Party sees tourism a key component of our economy. Tourism can be a stable long term employer of British Columbians in all regions of the province.

If elected, how would you advocate for tourism in our region?

If elected I would hope to work closely with Tourism Kamloops, Tourism Wells Grey, TOTA, Shuswap Tourism, and Tourism Sun Peaks. Additionally I would hope to liaise with The TNRD (specifically around film) and any other municipalities in the riding. It would be my goal to be a part of the development of tourism concepts that would have benefits across as many communities as possible.

Tourism Recovery and Promotion

How will your party help BC's tourism and hospitality industry rebuild a skilled workforce in the ongoing recovery of the industry?

The Green Party has post secondary funding opportunities and loan forgiveness programs planned to encourage training and employment in under-served sectors.

What will your party do to encourage more investment in the tourism and hospitality sector to help build the visitor economy and bolster local communities?

The Green Party has specific goals around collaborating with sport organizations province wide. With the outcome being to expand recreational opportunities province wide. Specifically around Kamloops to enhance cycling opportunities even more around Mountain biking, Bikepacking, and gravel rides.

How will your party help build Indigenous tourism to develop and promote market-ready Indigenous experiences?

The Green Party's first priority is Indigenous Relations. We would ensure that bands have stable funding like municipalities, so they can engage in long lasting partnerships with tourism organizations province wide.

What will your party do to help struggling tourism businesses that have been directly impacted by one or more emergency situations like wildfires, drought, floods, or other crises to remain solvent?

The Green Party is committed to building resilience into our economy. That doesn't help businesses that have already been impacted, if elected Green Party MLA's would work to help any business

owners access any assistance available. Green MLA's would also be ready to collaborate on new policies going forward to ensure that businesses have the support to withstand emergency situations.

Understanding MRDT Priorities

How would you describe your current understanding of the MRDT (Municipal and Regional District Tax) in Kamloops?

I understand that it is a significant contributor to the core funding of Tourism Kamloops and Arts and Culture. Since the changes made to short term rental last May, this income stream will most likely stabilize.

Will your party retain the Municipal & Regional District Tax (MRDT) for its original intended purposes – tourism marketing, projects, programs?

Yes, as a tax derived from visits to an area it's important to reinvest.