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Position Running For: Council

Campaign Website Provided: <https://gregungerforkamloops.carrd.co/>

1) What role do you see tourism playing in Kamloops' economic growth, and how would you support the sector?

Tourism is an economic driver in our town. I see it all the time with the farmers' market. It brings visitors to our city, and dollars to our economy. We need to build upon our arts & culture scene - encouraging more small and medium sized venues to open up would add incentive for visitors to come to Kamloops. We also need to maintain support for our world-class mountain biking, skiing, and tournament facilities.

2) How would you support events, sports tournaments, and other initiatives that attract visitors to Kamloops?

Arts & culture is part of my platform. We have a diverse range of cultural groups and activities, and championing them is my goal. I would look at ways to reduce red tape at city hall for new venues to open up. I would push for more street festivals and cultural events. I also support our status as the Tournament Capital of Canada, and would seek out new and diverse sporting events that we could host. We should look at advertising our city in other locales, in partnership with Tourism Kamloops and Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association.

3) What infrastructure or municipal investments do you think are most important for supporting both residents and the Kamloops visitor economy?

We need more support for e-bikes and e-scooters, and rental services like Bird. Better bike and bus infrastructure would help tourists and locals navigate our city. We should also put forward zoning bylaws that are favourable to carshares like PropelUs. We need more small and mid-sized venues, and more hotels in the downtown and north shore urban cores. I would push for zoning policies that would encourage such developments.

4) What role do you believe the City of Kamloops should play in supporting the attraction, expansion, and long-term sustainability of air service at YKA to strengthen tourism, events and regional economic growth?

Kamloops should ensure that adequate public transit connects the airport with the rest of the city - bus routes to and from the airport, connecting the airport with existing bike lanes, and a shuttle service that works for visitors. The airport is important for tourism, but also for residents who commute by plane to other cities, and for BC Wildfire Service (which uses Kamloops as a regional hub). Because it brings outside revenue to our city, Kamloops needs to make sure the airport has the necessary infrastructure support to continue growing.

5) How would you work with Tourism Kamloops and local tourism businesses to strengthen Kamloops as a destination?

I would support an initiative to raise awareness among local businesses about the value of tourism in our economy. The farmers market participated in some workshops over the years aimed at making it more tourist-friendly, and those classes have proven valuable. A partnership between the city and Tourism Kamloops to get more local businesses targeting tourists would benefit our city as a whole. I would also support local advertising initiatives to help visitors to our city learn of its many fun

activities.

6) What do you see as the biggest opportunity for Kamloops' tourism sector over the next four years?

The Performing Arts Centre is going to be a wonderful opportunity to bring visitors to Kamloops. If we can get top-level performers in the facility, it will be good for the local arts & culture scene and for tourism. There will be opportunities to build on that momentum by getting more small venues to open up. I look forward to building a vibrant Kamloops over the next four years.