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**Name:** Ray Dhaliwal

**Position Running For:** Mayor

**Campaign Website Provided:** [ray4kamloopsmayor](http://ray4kamloopsmayor)

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

Tourism is a vital part of our Community and City, Tourism supports our local business's our economy and creates employment for a vast number of our workforce, from Hotels to Restaurants to Tour Operators to Shops to transportation providers and many more business's. To Support this sector of our Economy i would meet with Tourism Kamloops on a regular basis to monitor the health of this sector of our economy and take direction back to council to address any concerns that Tourism Kamloops brings forward. The Mayor only has one vote, council makes the decisions and the Mayor Speaks for council's decisions.

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

As the Mayor of Kamloops I would support Events by attending as many events as i could to watch the events and meet with the organizers and Teams to thank them for choosing Kamloops for their destination by speaking to the crowd and get feed back to what is working and what is not and report to council. Having the Mayors office take notice goes a long way. I would support promotion for our city by showcasing what Kamloops Has to offer with Video Ads and billboards and make sure we Promote things that others overlook if our budget for communication has room. I have heard from our Bike Ranch proponents that we are not promoting the Juniper Bike Ranch. Bikes are a Huge part of our Society, we have the weather and the infrastructure Pickle ball is also up and

coming, all of our assets need to be promoted continuously to make Kamloops a Destination. Lastly i would meet with Tourism Kamloops for Advice, as to which direction Kamloops is going.

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

Important Infrastructure for our City would include a Convention Centre that would be a multi use facility for when it is not used for conventions...Kamloops is the Hub of the Interior and well positioned for a convention center. North South East West. All roads lead to Kamloops, convenient factor is huge and we are NOT taking advantage of our location in the Province. Also Senior Tourism is huge. We need to cater to this demographic group that is ready to spend Money.

**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?**

A convention Center at the airport along with a Hotel would be vital for expanding Air service at YKA. With Shopping and Business's in that area serviced by YKA. When Visitors Fly into and out of Kamloops the Hotel would be a welcome addition for them to stay an extra day or two and spend in our local economy. Our Residence's would also support the Business's as a lot of People like to watch the Planes fly in and out of YKA...and might peak their interest to learn to Fly at one of our Flight Schools. We have so much opportunity in our region that is not being promoted and we do not have enough facilities to service the Tourists when they arrive here. Long Term we need to start building for the future!

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

We would meet with Tourism Kamloops Regularly to gauge the health of our tourism Sector. I would take Direction from Tourism Kamloops to Inform me as to the Needs of our Area. I would then take the Concerns and recommendation's to Council for discussion. The Mayor only has one Vote and should listen to those that work the industry and form a respectful relationship with the Operators of Tourism Kamloops

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

I Would like to see the Convention Centre and Hotel Planned and construction started to the Area. Promotion as to our Climate, Lakes Fishing Camping sports Facilities and a Destination for all to enjoy a safe experience in Kamloops