

Yukon Climate Action Network
Questions for Whitehorse Mayor and Council Candidates
October 2024

Answers from Michelle

Question 0: What is your name and what position are you running for in this municipal election?

Michelle-city council

Question 1: Please provide your level of agreement with the following statement:

"Municipalities should consider costs to the climate for all budget items being considered. This would mean inclusion of the following considerations for each budget item: Will it help reduce greenhouse gas emissions? Will it increase greenhouse gas emissions? If yes, efforts must be made to minimize GHG impacts."

Strongly agree

Question 2: The Council of Canadians Yukon Chapter has released a Climate Emergency Declaration, which has been endorsed by a number of businesses, organizations and individual residents. It can be found here: <https://www.cofcyukon.org/declaration> Would you commit to acting in alignment with the Declaration if you are elected?

Apologize I could not get in this web site to make an accurate opinion

Question 3: Is there a role for regional or municipal food policy to play in addressing the climate crisis and if so, what does it look like?

As a number of Yukoners know we transport most of our goods and food - will there be an increase in electric transportation trucks? Growing food locally is definitely a step towards a healthy life and planet- Some spaces in the city for urban farming - And orchard and berry bushes - I would like to see the parking lot across from shelter And the old blue building on fourth avenue- become sites to start. All condos have ability to have green space as part of building plan and top decks for raised beds (clothes lines) different but I see some energy saved by this. And our planet!

Question 4: Please provide your level of agreement with the following statement: "As Whitehorse, "The Wilderness City", faces more wildfires, landslides, erosion and flooding, due

to climate change, subsequently forcing hungry bears into urban areas, we must act. By becoming a Bear Smart Community, as in 18 other Bear Smart communities in BC and Alberta, which includes adopting better waste management practices and educating residents in affected communities, we can reduce human-bear conflicts, keep residents safe, and prevent the killing of bears drawn to our city center neighborhoods and the city's wilderness edges."

Strongly agree

Question 5: The City of Whitehorse is in the process of developing its Climate Action Plan. What work would you do as part of Whitehorse City Council to ensure its success? What actions related to climate mitigation or adaptation do you think deserve the highest priority?

Transportation- discussions of electric buses, taxis or city sponsored Uber. Safe bus hubs with outlets and increase public use. Reality check on bike routes / safety and a snow team that works on sections of the city - Safe access walking may need cameras in some locations and maintenance from snow team. The work to be education and innovation- as a city council member- creating access to open house discussions and debates are important to me- these meetings will be mini markets - because it makes it more fun. Yes - fun makes a healthier community- we could use incentives to be so, in my opinion.

Question 6: The City's draft climate action plan (see <https://www.engagewhitehorse.ca/climate-action-plan>, page 7) shows that Whitehorse emissions have only kept rising since the City declared a Climate Emergency in 2019. Furthermore, the science behind climate change indicates that change is happening faster than previously predicted. Do you believe that the Whitehorse Climate Action plan should commit to aggressive greenhouse gas reduction goals with clear timelines that reflect the increasing urgency of the climate crisis?

It is a struggle with these green house emissions- I do believe this commitment and goals and timelines - does that include a revision of the action plan- perhaps Worth a meeting at open house community gathering- always need access to discussions and a safe place to hold them.