

Question #1

The Francophone community should have a strong and recognized place in the identity and future of Fort Frances. Our Francophone residents are an important part of our community's history, culture and diversity, and I believe we should continue finding meaningful ways to recognize and support that contribution. I would be interested in exploring whether Fort Frances could pursue a more formal Francophone designation or recognition, and in strengthening our relationships with Francophone residents, schools and organizations. This is personal for me as well—both of my children attended the French program at St. Mary School, and my step-daughter is currently studying in Rennes, France. I have seen firsthand the value that French language and culture bring to families and communities, and I believe Fort Frances should continue to embrace and celebrate that.

Question #2

I believe the first step is to listen directly to the Francophone community about where the greatest gaps in municipal information and services currently exist. I would not want to propose policies without first understanding the needs of the people they are intended to serve. If elected, I would make a point of engaging with Francophone residents and organizations, listening to their concerns, and working with municipal staff and Council to identify practical and sustainable ways to improve access to municipal information in French. I believe the Town has already demonstrated recognition of our Francophone community, and I would be committed to building on that foundation where there is a demonstrated need.

Thank you
Anthony