

Un grand merci à Monsieur Robbin Harper pour avoir pris du temps pour nous avoir répondu. *A big thank you to Mr. Robbin Harper for taking the time to answer us.*

Thank you for reaching out to me. While the francophone community in Atikokan is relatively small (3.1% according to Statistics Canada 2016). It is important to me that all demographics feel represented in our municipality. Also my mother being francophone would never forgive me if I didn't give proper attention to francophone issues. Unfortunately I am not French speaking and even learning one language was a challenge for me.

1. If elected as mayor I would like to create an open dialog for all groups and communities in Atikokan, and be known for my willingness to listen. I do not intend to speak for any community but have the communities speak through me.

2. French is one of our two languages written into Canadian laws that must be available for citizens. Resources in town that are government funded should be available for the francophone community. Atikokan does have an interest in tourism, and improving our French services can only help. If there is anything that is not francophone friendly, I hope I can build a relationship with the francophone community where they feel confident in bringing forward these challenges so that the council can address them.

3. A display of flags to show support for our communities can be a wonderful thing. While I'm not against having a flag representing the francophone community, it is not in my list of high priority items. Atikokan has an infrastructure problem that requires immediate attention. When the big problems affecting everyone are corrected, it would be a welcome pleasure to look to the decor of the town.

Sincerely,

Robbin Harper

