

CANDIDATE

Zehr, Carl

<i>What are the benefits of a post-secondary institution in your municipality?</i>	<i>What are the key challenges of being the host community of a post-secondary institution?</i>	<i>How do you plan to address these challenges?</i>
<p>Post-secondary institutions add to the vibrancy and vitality of a community through student activities, events and projects. They add to the economy through the paying of their tuition and fees which in turn are used to pay for faculty and staff in the community as well as goods and services. They are directly and indirectly a source of income for the local economy. Depending on the discipline, they provide interaction with residents and businesses that add to the culture of our community.</p>	<p>Some neighbourhoods are challenged by having too many students living in one area rather than having a mix of residents. This is not necessarily the fault of students but rather the lack of attention to maintenance by property owners. Large gatherings of students sometimes create security issues whereby the municipality incurs additional cost. The "heads and beds" payments to municipalities in lieu of property taxes are inadequate at the present time.</p>	<p>We will continue to have an active dialogue with the administrations and student bodies of the college and universities. We need to have more regular town and gown discussions to avoid small irritants becoming more serious issues.</p>