

## **CORY VANTHUYNE**

## **RESPONSE TO CHAMBER'S QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES**

1. What can Yellowknife do to actively support and pursue the opportunities that the six NWT mining projects that are in, or have cleared, the environmental approvals processes?

**Answer:** In my first term on Council, regrettably, I have to admit that we did not do enough to strengthen and support out Economic Development department. If elected to a second term, I will work collaboratively with the new Council and the new Director of Communications who oversees economic development to enhance and improve our relations with the Chamber of Mines (and other chambers). So that we can gain insight and work toward an effective plan to support the new six mining projects.

An encouraging aspect from this past term is that we are now experiencing positive growth in housing development for the first time in years. This is a positive step forward in allowing Yellowknife to become a good "bedroom" community to support the outlying mines.

2. Since Yellowknife's economy is intertwined with the Kitikmeot's, can Yellowknife partner with the Kitikmeot communities in supporting project success for mutual benefits?

**Answer:** As the Capital of the NWT and the largest centre for commerce as well as being experienced in supporting two previous 60 plus year old gold mines and now being the hub of government for the North, Yellowknife and in particular the City of Yellowknife, have an obligation to be leaders in showing the smaller remote northern communities how to capitalize on economic development opportunities.

3. In the face of these opportunities, we also know our world class diamond mines won't last forever. Should the City take actions to help sustain those operations?

**Answer:** At every given opportunity the City should do exactly that, take action to support the ongoing operations of the existing diamond mines. We as a City have been

very fortunate to have the 3 diamond mines operate their head offices and several of their sub-contract partnership offices out of Yellowknife for many years. Sustainable diamond mine operations equals a sustainable Yellowknife. I will work collaboratively with the Mines and industry to identify ways we can maximize the life of the diamond mines.

4. Should Yellowknife have its own plan Mineral Development Strategy, or will the benefits just naturally flow to Yellowknife? Could Yellowknife leaders proactively support projects for mutual success?

Answer: I don't feel that it would be effective for the City to try and formulate a Mineral Development Strategy. Frankly, that would consist of a lot of technical capacity and wherewithal that would not truly lie within the City's means or mandate to develop and I feel it would ultimately not be effective. The City does need to maintain and grow its support for the Mining and Exploration Industry and needs to take active steps in working with industry to identify ways to capture mutual benefit for both the industry and Yellowknife.