

Susan Bell

I have been a seasonal resident of the Summer Village of Birchcliff since 2005. My husband Grant and I have two children currently 11 and 13 years old and when not at the lake, we live in northwest Calgary.

I grew up near Edmonton and have worked in the petroleum industry for over 25 years. I am a Professional Engineer with a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Alberta. My career has focused on strategic planning, policy analysis, contract development, and understanding short, medium, and long term trends on energy use.

My primary goal for the Summer Village is to improve community engagement and communication. Council's work needs to be transparent and council members need to be accessible. As an elected representative, I firmly believe it is my role to ensure every resident in the SV is engaged on policy decisions and to gather their views to better understand consequences of policy decisions. Engagement is not posting information on the SV website, nor is it sending out emails. Engagement is ensuring every potentially impacted party has been contacted, informed and given the opportunity to provide feedback. It is documenting and distributing the community's feedback. It is creating policy that meets the needs of all community members and brings the community together as a cohesive group with a common goal.

I value our quality of life within the Summer Village and want to preserve the small country lane feel. I value the clean and clear lake that provides recreational opportunities as well as habitat for wildlife. I believe in environmental conservation but that some level of development, if carefully managed, is environmentally sustainable. Finally, I value my family and my neighbours and want to ensure we all continue to benefit socially, physically, and emotionally in our daily lives at the lake.

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