

1. What place should the Francophone community have in your town?

I believe the Francophone community is an important part of Shuniah and should feel welcomed, included, and represented. Both of my children are in French Immersion, so I personally value bilingualism and the opportunities that come with learning and using both official languages.

I think it's important that Francophone residents have opportunities to participate in community discussions, access municipal information, and feel that their language and culture are recognized and valued. Everyone should feel they have a voice in their community, and I believe that includes making an effort to understand and support the needs of our Francophone residents.

2. What sort of policies would you put forward to make available or improve French access to municipal information?

Initially I would look at ways to make municipal information more accessible in French. I think a good starting point would be understanding what services are currently available and where we could make improvements.

A lot of the feedback I've been hearing from residents has been around improving municipal services, communication, and accessibility overall. I think French-language accessibility could naturally be part of those discussions. For example, we could explore making key municipal notices, election information, and commonly used forms available in both English and French through the municipal website.

I recognize that Shuniah is a smaller municipality with limited resources, so we'd need to consider the costs and what's practical. That said, with the technology available today, I think there are opportunities to make gradual improvements without necessarily creating significant additional costs.

I'd also really like to hear directly from Francophone residents about what would be most helpful to them before implementing policies. I think that's an important part of making sure any changes we consider actually meet the needs of our community.

Thank you,

Kylee Maunula Candidate for Shuniah Municipal Council McTavish Ward