

Elect Rob Seeley for Canmore Town Council 2025

Leadership Focused on Community, Transparency, and Sustainable Growth

A Community-First Approach

As your Canmore Town Council representative, I am committed to addressing the real concerns facing our community today, including the impact of policies like the livability tax, legal challenges faced by The Town of Canmore, and the need for improved community consultation.

Key Policy Priorities

1. Fix the Livability Tax: A Vision for Healing the Community

The Livability Tax is divisive and has eroded our sense of community. It has created conflict and left the Town fighting costly legal battles. Tripling property taxes on non-primary residences is not the way forward.

Residents want solutions that make housing more attainable — not Town policies that create resentment.

Instead, I propose:

Reworking the Livability Tax into a fairer, more reasonable tool that is part of a longer-term housing solution.

Exploring other fair funding tools with the Province of Alberta that directly benefit housing and infrastructure.

Pursue Resort Municipality Status so visitors contribute their fair share to the services they use.

2. Protecting Our Community Against Legal and Development Challenges

Canmore is currently facing legal challenges with the livability tax, off-site levy bylaw, and more. We need a proactive and community-minded approach to avoid costly disputes and keep the Town out of court.

I advocate for transparent decision-making, stronger consultation, and collaboration with legal experts to ensure sustainable and compliant policies.

We must review what led to these challenges, learn from them, and take reasonable steps to avoid repeating past mistakes.

3. Enhancing Community Consultation and Transparency

I support improved dialogue with residents, businesses, and stakeholders on key development and policy decisions. Increased transparency ensures that community voices are heard and respected, guiding responsible growth that reflects our shared values.

4. Protecting Our Environment and Enhancing Livability

We must continue promoting environmental stewardship and regenerative tourism initiatives, strengthening Canmore's reputation as a vibrant, eco-friendly community.

5. Supporting Local Leadership and Community Initiatives

As President of the Rotary Club of Canmore (2024/2025) and founding Chair of the Canmore–Sedona Sister City Association, I have worked to foster community partnerships, global connections, and local service projects.

Downtown Development & Connect Canmore ARP

The Connect Downtown Plan will guide the next decade of downtown and commercial growth. My vision is a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly downtown that celebrates our natural setting and supports local businesses.

I participated in the 1998 downtown enhancement plan and more recently studied economic development at the University of Calgary. My project focused on activating Main Street as a true pedestrian zone—streetscaping, public washrooms, programming, and retail vitality.

I've proposed a celebration plaza between artsPlace and the Civic Centre, improved transit staging on 10th Street, and maintaining building heights and sightlines on Main Street while allowing modest increases elsewhere, such as 9th Street.

I also support exploring structured parking solutions such as a 10th Street parkade and an intercept lot at the Legacy Trailhead.

Supporting Details & Background

Sewage Treatment Plant

Our sewage treatment system is struggling. We must determine what upgrades or new infrastructure is required and allocate funds accordingly.

FireSmart & Forest Health

Wildfire risk is real. I interviewed forestry expert Rick Doman and learned about fire breaks and forest health measures. We must expand these efforts to better protect our community.

Railway & Transportation Challenges

The railway continues to divide our community. As far back as 1998, I called for grade separation. We must explore options, including working with passenger rail as a partner in solutions.

Emergency Medical Services & Rail Blockages

Trains blocking emergency response routes are a life-and-death issue. I propose a study to explore stationing an ambulance in the old firehall to serve downtown during train delays, in collaboration with Alberta Health.

Vote Rob Seeley for a balanced, transparent, and community-driven Canmore!