

Questions for Candidates from the WTA and the S2SPC

Gabriel Pliska's Responses

1. There is an extensive public consultation process underway for the rezoning for the Northlands site. Despite public feedback indicating strong support for a recreational amenity as part of the community amenity contribution (CAC), the initial public presentation proposed the elimination of the racket club from the site without a commitment to replace it. Will you commit to preserving the WRC - an important recreational/social amenity that has served this community for 30 years - either in its current location or offsite?

Yes, recreation sports are vital to a thriving community.

2. The WTA and the S2SPC envision a new racket centre constructed by the developer as part of the CAC contribution, on land contributed by the municipality, and run through a facility lease agreement with an experienced racket sports operator. Several sites owned by the municipality have been considered, including Spruce Grove and Meadow Park. What is your position on the contribution of municipally owned land for this project?

I love the idea of municipal owned land for the project.

3. If a suitable offsite location cannot be found or agreed upon for the existing Whistler Racket Club, do you agree that the facility should remain on the 4500 Northlands Blvd. site and the plans for the development must include a replacement for the existing recreational amenity?

What if there was a period of 1 year between the time it was not accepted in the Northland project and built somewhere else? The timing overlap. I think it does take time to build a racket club elsewhere and I wouldn't want the populace or racket club membership to be upset if that was the negotiation...What do you think?

4. There are many competing interests in the allocation of the CAC expected through the Northlands rezoning, but the two most widely supported are affordable employee housing and the replacement of the existing racket club. Do you agree that affordable employee housing and a replacement for the racket

facility are the top two priorities for the allocation of the CAC, or are there other community "needs" that should take precedence?

I cannot give you my top 2 but those are both very important to the whole vibrant new community of Northlands (it could have a first nations name for respect of the land stewards) I Strongly think this is the most important project in the village in decades. There is opportunity for a diverse and complex housing and amenity and recreation mix! With proper design, futuristic complexities (there are some incredible worldwide designers) with seniors, workers, employee social housing, health care, racket club could all be there as they are all interconnected. I've lived in Tokyo and the use of space and basketball courts on rooftops as example, the space utilization is maximized with each social element respecting others are part of the whole and greater good.

5. While we believe that recreation is a priority in Whistler, if it is determined that other community needs should take precedence over recreation, then would you support a process to determine the most appropriate recreational assets that should remain in Whistler.

YES. It would be easy to conduct an online referendum of the money allocated to each recreational assets. With all the modern access to technology, it could be done cheaply and effectively. For anyone that could not do it themselves, I personally dedicate my time to help them do it online. That way anyone can decide in a referendum. Democracy is nice.