

**Whitehorse Urban Cycling Coalition:
2018 Candidate Questions - Whitehorse Municipal Election**

Candidate: Eileen Melnychuk	
1. Given that a substantive portion of Whitehorse's population does not have the privilege to operate a private automobile, what are your suggestions to address the transportation inequity of our community's built environment?	<p>A number of initiatives could be taken to expand the public transit service as well as improve the trail system to promote greater cycling options. I would work with community groups, such as WUCC, involved in increasing non-motorized transportation alternatives to examine options to improve the existing transportation inequities in our city.</p> <p>A number of integrated technologies could be used to improve the efficient operation of our public transit system, to make it more accessible for the general public as well as the visually and hearing impaired. I would also advocate making low-cost monthly bus passes available for those residents requiring this option.</p>
2. More Whitehorse residents are choosing cycling as a year-round transportation option. What are your thoughts regarding prioritizing winter maintenance for vulnerable road users?	<p>I would consider making this a priority as long as it could be done in a fiscally responsible manner.</p> <p>My first priority would be to maintain all access points, for instance along and at the bottom of Two-mile Hill. I know that the disconnected trails and the subsequent proximity with cars are rightfully serious safety concerns to cyclists, and would address areas with safety issues first.</p> <p>I would advocate working with community groups like yours to learn more about the concerns of vulnerable road users, research viable solutions to improve transportation options, and implement as many initiatives as possible to improve winter maintenance in a sustainable manner.</p>
3. If elected, what would you do to expedite the implementation of Whitehorse's new Bicycle Network Plan?	<p>The new Bicycle Network Plan is a well-researched plan with a number of constructive solutions.</p> <p>I want to see the strategies laid out in the Plan for improving access to trails and safety for riders on our trail system implemented as soon as possible. Connecting all of the trails, especially from outlying neighbourhoods like Porter Creek and Takhini will promote greater use of the trails and reduce many of the current safety concerns.</p> <p>These initiatives could be a great spring project to welcome riders for next summer. As soon as the snow melts, let's get to work on implementing this new plan!</p>
4. What are your thoughts on using the Parking Reserve Fund to improve Active Transportation considering that almost every bike used to commute to work frees up a parking space for someone else?	<p>Yes, I would consider using the Parking Reserve Fund. Parking is putting so much pressure on businesses downtown, residents, and visitors, and it is only going to increase with our predicted growth. Any relief to the immediate parking problems would be appreciated by everyone.</p> <p>It could be used for expenditures that improve transit services as well as build an improved network of shared-use paths and separated bicycle paths, such as an increased number of safe, bike storage areas.</p>

<p>5. <i>On the lighter side: have you ever...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commuted to work / school / for errands on a bike? 	<p>Yes. I often commute to work by bike during the summer.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ridden a fatbike? 	<p>Not, but I would like to!</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ridden with a young child? 	<p>No, I haven't with a young child.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ridden an electric bike? or 	<p>Yes, once on holidays.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ridden a unicycle? 	<p>I have tried, unsuccessfully, to ride a unicycle.</p>