



Adults Community Conversation Notes: January 4th, 2023

TRENDS:

- Global recession is forecasted to be on its way in 2023.
- Businesses need to pay Federal COVID relief money back.
The top three issues cited by business owners as challenges:
 1. Housing
 2. Building permit process
 3. Municipal taxes
- Affordability and accessibility of commercial space is also a concern.
- There is a higher demand for skilled labour and an increased need for post-secondary education that aligns with business needs.
- Business owners are feeling a sense of dissatisfaction in Jasper compared to other parts of the region. All of the West Yellowhead Region is short-staffed.
- Health: acute care referrals to addictions and mental health have increased since Christmas. They are seeing long wait times to get into a mental health facility.
- There is increased comfort in attending things (including therapy) virtually.
- Newcomers are interested in starting businesses.
- Employers are more willing to sponsor staff. Lots of requests for job postings.

COMMUNITY UPDATES:

- Commercial insurance is required to be a contractor for the municipality. The Municipality of Jasper's required liability went from 2 million to 5 million.
- A full time Mental Health Therapist position is currently posted.
- Sprinkler line broke in the Fitness and Aquatic Centre. They are using a side entrance while it gets repaired.
- Report to council on the renovation is happening soon.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS OR EVENTS:

- February 8th - *How to start a business session* Jasper Employment and Ed. Centre.
- AHS Mental Health First Aid
- Women Leaders in Jasper
- March: International Women's Day event

ACTION:

- **Lisa:** Look at increasing business visibility on website. Add comparison of other mountain towns taxes. Add the building permit process link.
- **Lisa:** *Start a Business* (on website): Change #1 to research and develop your business idea. Recruit business owners to Adult Community Conversation



What do you think?

- ✓ [Municipal public engagement opportunities](#)
- ✓ [Give feedback, contact council or report an issue.](#)
- ✓ [You can also contact council by emailing them.](#)

Promote your program or event:

- ✓ [Check the Community Calendar to find out what's going on in Jasper.](#)
- ✓ [Add your program or event to the calendar.](#)

Share your passion:

- ✓ [Fill out this form](#) and we will contact you to discuss your idea!

All things Community Conversations:

- ✓ [Community Conversations schedule and information](#)
- ✓ Community Conversations most recent notes
- ✓ Application to join Community Conversations
- ✓ Municipal Community Conversations policy

Do you have neighbours or colleagues who are new to Jasper?

- ✓ The [New to Jasper page of the website](#) has helpful information for them.

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