

Mayor Ange Qualizza
City of Fernie
Running for Third VP

Ange holds two degrees in economics and has discovered that local government and the field of economics align nicely together, working in a value-based organization that focuses on policy, good governance, sustainable asset management and collaboration. It's a perfect fit for a policy nerd!

Ange was elected to the Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Government Association six years ago and in her tenure has served as Policy Committee Chair, AGM Committee member, and is currently Resolutions Chair and Virtual AGM Chair.

Working with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Sustainable and Inclusive Communities Latin America program as a technical expert to help build more sustainable and inclusive communities was a career highlight and showed Ange how impactful it can be for local governments to support one another.

Ange currently serves on the UBCM Local Government Contract Committee which is working to ensure local governments are represented under the provincial agreement under which RCMP provide local police services.

Fernie is part of the Resort Community Collaborative, and Ange enthusiastically jumped at the opportunity to join the working group to help support local government champions that are working on minimizing business closures, and advocating for investment to our communities to build a stronger more resilient BC. Our group just presented a Rural BC Covid-19 Tourism Rebuilding Strategy in the hopes of doing just that.

Ange is running for third vice chair because we are in an unprecedented times, the arrival of COVID- 19 will see a disruption to our economy unlike anything we have ever seen.

The challenges facing Fernie are challenges facing all of our communities; lack of workforce housing, aging infrastructure, extreme weather patterns, public safety, rising police costs and this new disruption to our local economies will only amplify the challenges we all face daily. I look forward continuing the excellent work UBCM has done on all of these portfolios.

I have found a great deal of support by connecting with many of you across the province as we navigate these uncertain times and enormous challenges, and as Third Vice Chair I look forward to working to making sure we continue to find ways to support one another in leadership.

When Ange isn't at work she is hiking mountains and convincing her husband and teen age daughters how cool local government can be!

Don't hesitate to connect, and thank you for your consideration.

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Photo: As a former GoByBike BC Board member, I loved supporting Go By Bike week with Tourism Week.