

Full Evaluation and Ranking/Grading  
Document of the Three Candidates for  
2008 Cranbrook Mayor Position

Evaluation and Ranking/Grading Document  
Completed by the Foundation for Democratic  
Advancement (October, 2008)

Purpose: Determine a ranking and grades for three main candidates for the 2008 Cranbrook mayor position, in terms of the better representative of Cranbrook as a whole.

This determination is an outside perspective to give the citizens of Cranbrook an informed different perspective of three candidates running for the 2008 Cranbrook mayor position.

The views in this Evaluation/Ranking/Grading are the views of the FDA. Also, the Determination is an example of a way to assist in the selection of political candidates--through evaluation and ranking/grading.

The three candidates for the 2008 Cranbrook mayor position:

John York

Scott Manjak

Wayne Stetski

The FDA and its members are in no way affiliated with any of the candidates in this study.

The study represents an independent assessment of three Cranbrook mayoral candidates based on objectivity, transparency, and non-partisanship.

Methodology for Evaluation and Ranking of the Cranbrook mayoral candidates:

Evaluate the candidates as representatives of the Cranbrook—backgrounds and visions.

Evaluate the policies of the respective political parties.

Key policy areas to be evaluated:

Development (more responsible growth of the Cranbrook area)

Economy: (sound, fiscal management of public revenue and expenditure)

Environment: (more responsible, sustainable management of the Cranbrook environment)

Housing (more responsible management of housing issues)

Weighting:

Because candidates are extensions of their policies, and policies are what the candidates intend on doing if elected, policies are given triple the weight over the background of the candidates. This weighting should not impact the significance of candidates' visions, because vision should be reflected in policies.

Overall: Establish the basic priority of the Cranbrook as a whole, and use the basic priority to evaluate and rank the candidates in terms of their backgrounds and visions.

The basic priority of the Cranbrook as a whole in terms of presidential representative:

Leadership—identifies issues and act on them, vision, strength to carry through, independent yet team player, and strong communication with public.

The FDA selected leadership because of the pressing development and environmental issues facing Cranbrook. The city is close to being at crossroads between staying a small city or growing into a much larger city.

## Key Definitions:

Mayor: elected chief executive or nominal head of a city.

Power and duties of a Mayor: provide general direction and leadership to the Council, recommend bylaws and policies, communicate to the Council, preside over meetings of the Council, suspend municipal officials and employees, and reflect will of the Council. (Source: BC Community Charter.)

## Methodology for Ranking:

Rank each candidate for the basic priority, and then rank overall based on a combination of the results for each candidate section.

The policy sections to be evaluated correspond to the basic priorities for policy:

1. more responsible growth of the Cranbrook area
2. sound, fiscal management of public revenue and expenditure
3. more responsible, sustainable management of the Cranbrook environment
4. more responsible management of housing issues

Evaluate the policies of the candidates in each policy section based on a comparison of the candidates' policies in light of the basic priorities and comparative soundness.

Chief Evaluator:

Stephen Garvey, President and CEO of the FDA

**Information sources:**

Media articles and analysis of candidates.

Candidates' policy statements, including policy promises. Public statements by the candidates and background information on the candidates.

Five FDA questions answered by the three candidates.

Attendance at the November 5<sup>th</sup> Candidates Forum hosted by JCI.

Met the candidates on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

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## Backgrounds

### John York

Parents from the East Kootenays since the 1960s.

**Professional experience:** full-time fire fighter, TV/Computer Technician, realtor, business owner of Graphic Arts shop and bicycle shop, and author on 'Starting Small Businesses' and 'Vancouver's Leaky Condo Crisis.'

**Political experience:** None that the FDA is aware of.

### Scott Manjak

Resident of Cranbrook for 40 years

Bachelor of Arts Degree with a major in Justice, certificate in Social Service work, Certified mediator.

**Political experience:** nine years on Cranbrook City Counsel (Committee experience from being on Counsel: Chair of Personnel Committee, Chair of the Emergency Services Committee, Chair of the Kootenay Treaty Advisory Committee, Director of the Regional District of the East Kootenay, Director of the Kootenay East Regional Hospital District.)

**Professional experience:** President and Partner of Agito Consulting and Training Systems Ltd.. East Kootenay Contract Negotiator for Skills Development and Employment Benefits. Over 20 years as a Forest Industry Professional. Industrial Adjustment Coordinator for the shut down of Crestbrook Forest Industries Sawmill and IWA 1-405. Nominated for Excellence in Health Promotion Award for British Columbia. Nominated for Newsmaker of the Year - 2001.

### Wayne Stetski

Cranbrook has been our home for 18 years, and we have 3 kids and 1 grandchild. I have been involved as a volunteer with the City's Advisory Planning Commission, the Boy Scouts, Key City Theatre, church, managing and coaching kid's hockey and baseball, and

supporting teens. My wife, Audrey, has been an educator and music teacher for many years. We have been married for 30 years.

My educational background includes a Bachelor of Science in Ecology with a minor in Economics, a Teaching Certificate, and a number of courses towards my Masters in Natural Resource Management at Simon Fraser University. I have extensive training in Leadership, Staff Management, Tourism, Communications, Media Management and working with volunteers.

Professional: I have extensive experience working as a senior provincial government manager in the public service here in the Kootenays, managing multi-million dollar budgets, infrastructure worth \$64,000,000, leading a large number of staff towards achieving goals and objectives, working with all levels of government, being accountable for contracts worth up to \$100,000 per contract, and responding to public concerns and interests. I have chaired many committees and public meetings both for business purposes and as a volunteer. My work has been recognized through the Premiers Awards Program and as an Innovation Champion.

Political experience: None that the FDA is aware of.

### Background Evaluation:

Basis for evaluation: Leadership--identifies issues and act on them, vision, strength to carry through, independent yet team player, and strong communication with public.

Score	York	Manjak	Stetski
	3/10	7/10	7/10

Rational: Stetski has greater professional experience (suited to being Mayor) and more advanced education than Manjak, while Manjak has political experience. York has no political experience and weak professional experience.

# Vision for Cranbrook

## John York

“I want Cranbrook to be a wonderful place to live, with full employment in a large diversity of jobs, and where people can have all manor of fun activities that cost little or nothing (to engage every member of the community to fulfill their social interaction and physical health).

I don't measure progress by new-suburbs or millions spent; but by Quality of Life! To improve our health and friendships I will initiate free-activities for all-ages. Winter: Carnivals (with ski and snow races), and outdoor Night skating. Summer: a Spring Fair, Public boats on Elizabeth Lake, Community picnics with dances.

I believe that if people like the social and community activities, they will want to live here. And with their move, they will bring their business.”

More responsible city hall—more transparent, accountable, people based, sound fiscally, listen to the people

Summary: more responsible city hall, more social/community oriented city.

## Scott Manjak

True regional service center

Growth, planned development

My vision for Cranbrook is a sustainable, vibrant community that embraces its cultural, social and recreational opportunities.

## Wayne Stetski

“Development that is based on putting natural, cultural and citizen values first and implemented using the 10 Smart Growth principles. A Mayor and council that listen to, and welcome, a diversity of opinions as the best way to make good, well informed, decisions. Deal with our infrastructure issues, particularly the sewage system, the roads and an overpass over the railway tracks. A City that is seniors, teen and Kootenay Ice friendly.”

## Vision Evaluation:

Basis for evaluation: ideas relevant to the future of Cranbrook and their soundness.

Score	York	Manjak	Stetksi
	7/10	5/10	7/10

Rational: Stetski's vision is more concrete than Manjak's vision, because Stetski says "natural, cultural, and citizen values" should come first; whereas, Manjak simply says culture, social, recreational opportunities should be embraced. Though Manjak emphasizes "service center."

Both Stetski and York emphasize social and culture values, while Manjak emphasizes as mentioned social and cultural opportunities. Emphasis on values is a stronger recognition of people than emphasis on opportunities.

Both Stetski and York emphasize a people oriented City Hall. Although York goes further by adding accountable and fiscally sound City Hall.

Stetski's vision is stronger than York's vision, because Stetski emphasizes people and their values. Though York has stronger emphasis on an accountable City Hall. Manjak emphasizes "true regional service center."

# Development

## John York

“I am not into growth for growths sake alone. If you don’t like Cranbrook as it is, then live elsewhere. If you want a big city, then feel free to move to a big city. Sure big cities have benefits, but along with the good come the bad (traffic congestion, parking problems, crime, stand offishness). Cranbrook should instead develop it’s own development personalty, and not be a cookie cut out of other cities. I personally love deer wandering in my yard and along the streets. And Cranbrook’s flatness allows easy cycling. And nothing is too far away than it can’t be reached in a few minutes. And Jim Smith Lake, is my personal swimming hole.

I think we should promote eco-tourism (allow others to experience our wildlife, our first nations should play a bigger part in shaping and influencing our community). I am interested in community, and feel that our sense of community must be strengthened. Regardless of how Cranbrook changes, I think the real importance is that we love being here because it’s an interesting community that’s full of interesting, healthy, and fun things to do.

Instead of importing businesses. We need to make our schools more practical so all graduating students are well versed in entrepreneurial skills. So if they can’t find a job, they can start their own.”

Summary: eco-tourism, sense of community, develop internally.

## Scott Manjak

Comprehensive growth keeping all possibilities open  
Very open to expanding the boundary of Cranbrook via the inclusion of private landowners  
Promote/attract small and medium sized businesses  
Economic growth and arts/cultural/recreation growth  
Create a Cranbrook in which people will want to come and see what we have.

New industrial area needed.

Cranbrook's development policy is clearly articulated by the principles contained within Cranbrook's Official Community Plan (OCP) and the prescriptive procedures that are contained within the recently adopted Cranbrook Services and Subdivision Bylaw. Cranbrook is committed to sustainable and environmentally sensitive development practices.

Supports 700 acres plus parcel gated communities.

Summary: sustainable, environmentally sensitive development, economic, arts/culture, recreation growth.

## Wayne Stetski

“Development that is based on putting natural, cultural and citizen values first and implemented using the 10 Smart Growth principles.”

“I support gated villages but only as small developments, not on 700 acre parcels of land with world class resources where the current citizens of Cranbrook are denied access. Whenever possible the 5 % of land that a developer is required to set aside for parks should be established as publicly accessible parks rather than the city taking cash in lieu. All infrastructure development required of developers must meet stringent long life standards so we as taxpayers are not stuck with the bill for fixing roads, water and sewage works a few years later. This has not happened in past which is one of the reasons our roads are in such bad shape.

We need a diversity of housing that accommodates the homeless, those on limited incomes, families, baby boomers and seniors. We need to think about building up rather than out (sprawl). Put parking underground, coffee shops and grocery stores on the main floor, transit links outside the front door and the residences on the floors above. Just because we're a small city doesn't mean we can't learn from the big ones without repeating their mistakes.”

Summary: citizen first development

### Development Evaluation:

Basis for evaluation: more responsible growth of the Cranbrook area

Score	York	Manjak	Stetski
	6/10	6/10	9/10

Rational: Statski has the most people/citizen oriented development policy, which is reflected in all aspects of his policy. York’s development policy is also people/citizen oriented, but it is less comprehensive. Manjak is more pro-development than pro-citizen, which is a concern because citizens’ interests and values should come first. An example of his pro-development at the expense of citizen values and interests is his support of 700 acres gated communities and their restrictions on public access to natural resources.

# Economy

## John York

“I am a careful and prudent manager of other peoples money. I believe we are fiscally vulnerable. Debt means wasting money because interest payments mean we are paying many times the actual value of an item. I believe in strengthening the basics because no one knows what might happen in our future because of the World Financial Crisis and Global Warming. I want Cranbrook-city hall to be run like I run my own finances, very frugally. No debt. Get great value for any money spent. Search for true bargains. Make every cent stretch an amazing distance. Operating costs must keep with population tolerances. And we need an independent to tell the public when it’s money is being squandered. I believe most of the cities money needs to be spent on removing the debt and repairing infrastructure with very little left over for worthy causes. I believe Cranbrook can become much more efficient. For example, buses. I question dealing buses (that sit empty during change of routes), and the size of them (which are empty most of the time). And they belch out unburnt diesel. I would like them replaced with electric vans (that could be summoned more like a group of taxi’s).”

Summary: fiscal responsibility, eliminate debt, repair infrastructure

## Scott Manjak

Through the mandate of Provincial Legislation, all communities within BC must incorporate sound fiscal management policies as no community is permitted to run a deficit. It is my view that all budget processing should keep, at the forefront of decision making, the needs of the tax payer and their ability to pay. It has always been my goal to operate in a balanced and needs based decision making process to ensure that goal is achieved.

Cranbrook has an Economic Development Officer who works closely with the Chamber of Commerce and other stakeholders within the community to ensure that Cranbrook continues to be at the forefront of economic growth in the Kootenay.

Summary: fiscal responsibility—emphasis on needs of taxpayers and their ability to pay.

## Wayne Stetski

“Taxes are a means to an end. The job of the mayor and Council is to understand what people want, i.e. the "end", cost it out, and then find out if they want to pay for it. We need to manage within our means.

We need to encourage new high tech leading edge business to come to Cranbrook. The best way to do this is by protecting our natural and cultural values, our recreational opportunities and our lifestyle and then inviting companies to come and have a look at it - what we have to offer is world class!”

Summary: fiscal responsibility—protect natural and cultural values, recreational opportunities, lifestyle, and promote their development.

### Economy Evaluation:

Basis for evaluation: sound, fiscal management of public revenue and expenditure

Score	York	Manjak	Stetski
	7/10	7/10	8/10

Rational: Statski’s policy more developed, and it puts citizen values/interests first. York’s policy is overly simplified. Manjak’s policy emphasizes citizen needs and ability to pay—more general than Statski’s.

# Environment

## John York

Protect farmland, teach sustainable farming, create more community gardens, farmer's market, encourage use of renewable fuels, and ban dangerous chemicals.

Green, clean, safe, self-sufficient. Limit pesticides. Replace old wood stoves with more efficient stoves. Promote use of bicycles and electric vehicles. Shop local.

## Scott Manjak

Cranbrook's environmental policy is congruent with Provincial and Federal Legislation. Further, Cranbrook is a signatory to the Premier's BC's Climate Action Charter. Cranbrook has partnered with 3 Regional District's and 8 First Nations groups to begin a comprehensive baseline analysis of our greenhouse gas emissions and carbon footprint. Once this process has been completed, Cranbrook will conduct a prescriptive action plan to assist in the move to become carbon neutral by 2012...as per the Premier's Charter.

As well, environmental policy is clearly articulated with the above-mentioned OCP and Servicing Bylaw.

## Wayne Stetski

“We need to make our city green, carbon neutral, pedestrian and cyclist friendly. We have the sunniest city in BC and yet do not have any solar energy projects to showcase. We need anti-idling signs at all the railway crossings until we get an overpass.”

### Environment Evaluation:

Basis for evaluation: more responsible, sustainable management of the Cranbrook environment

Score	York	Manjak	Stetski
	6.5/10	6/10	7/10

Rational: Manjak did not share his own environmental policy, vision, and ideas, but instead stated what the current Cranbrook environmental policy. Statski's environmental policy is more developed and relevant to Cranbrook than York's environmental policy.

# Housing

## John York

Change zoning to allow two properties on large lots, garages converted into accommodation.

Promote ownership of mini-houses.

Creative approach to housing.

## Scott Manjak

Supportive of large gated communities—like the existing one's over 700 hectares.

Continue affordable housing advisory committee, bylaw amendments, work at all levels of government and private sector.

Cranbrook's role in housing is primarily one of facilitation between community groups and the Federal and Provincial Governments. Cranbrook does have policies around secondary suites and zoning that will support finding workable solutions to affordable and accessible house in Cranbrook. Any solution to this issue will require the needs and responsibilities of the tax payer, as well as working in partnership with developers and upper levels of government.

In July of 2008, I put a motion forward to create Cranbrook's first Affordable and Accessible Housing Committee, whose mandate is to find workable solutions to this issue.

## Wayne Stetski

“We need a diversity of housing as close to the city centre as possible. One good way to start is to look at opportunities when Firehall Number 1 closes in downtown Cranbrook in 2 years. It is an incredible site to create new affordable housing right downtown and help revitalize our city centre.”

“We need a diversity of housing that accommodates the homeless, those on limited incomes, families, baby boomers and seniors. We need to think about building up rather than out (sprawl).”

Possible bylaw—keep property taxes at fixed level, and then increase to existing level after owners have sold property.

Both women and men shelters—and zoned.

Larger discussion on housing.

### Housing Evaluation:

Basis for evaluation: more responsible management of housing issues

Score	York	Manjak	Stetski
	5/10	6/10	7/10

Rational: Statski has the most comprehensive housing policy. York's policy is limited to secondary suites. Manjak's policy is limited to Cranbrook's Affordable and Accessible Housing Committee, and working with all levels of government and the private sector. Viz., Manjak's policy needs specific ideas of what are Cranbrook's housing needs.

## Overall Totals

Score	York	Manjak	Statski
Candidates:			
Background	3/10	7/10	7/10
Vision	7/10	5/10	7/10
Totals for Candidates:	10/20 (50%)	12/20 (60%)	14/20 (70%)
Policies:			
Development	6/10	6/10	9/10
Economic	7/10	5/10	8/10
Environment	6.5/10	6/10	7/10
Housing	5/10	6/10	7/10
Totals for Policies:	24.5/40 (61.25%)	23/40 (57.5%)	31/40 (77.5%)
Adjustment of Policies score:	36.75/60	34.5/60	46.5/60
Overall Total			
Scores:	York	Manjak	Statski
Candidates	10/20	12/20	14/20
Policies	36.75/60	34.5/60	46.5/60
Totals:	46.75/80	46.5/80	60.5/80
	58.4%	58.1%	75.6%

## Overall Ranking/Grading:

1. Statski 60.5/80 (75.6%)

2. York 46.75/80 (58.4%)

3. Manjak 46.5/80 (58.1%)

\* Scores for policies of the candidates are given three times more weight over scores for candidates' backgrounds and visions. The rationale is that candidates' policies are what the candidates intend on implementing if elected.

## Analysis

There is an 18.5% gap between Stetski (first ranked) and York (second ranked).

There is an .3% gap between York (second ranked) and Manjak (third ranked). The difference between second and third ranked is insignificant.

Stetski was consistently scored 7/10 or better throughout the evaluation. He scored highest in his development policy which focused on natural, cultural and citizen values first.

York had a similar vision and approach to the Mayor position as Stetski, but York lacked Stetski's background, and his policies were not as developed or relevant as Stetski's.

Manjak scored consistently with two scores at 5/10, three at 6/10, and one at 7/10.

## Conclusion

Cranbrook is at crossroads, facing increased development or maintaining its existing size. Moreover, Cranbrook is facing significant infrastructure and housing issues.

The position of Mayor acts as the chief executive of the city, and provided leadership and general direction to the City Council.

Stetski with a grade of 75.6%, 18.5% points of ahead of York (second ranked), is the clear candidate for that position. Though his vision scored the same as York at 7/10, his other scores were consistently 7/10 or better throughout the evaluation, which demonstrates his stability and leadership potential.

York and Manjak, very different candidates, in that York was full ideas, and Manjak has political experience and an understanding of the levels of government, scored almost the same. (58.4% to 58.1%) To understand this score, they came two extremes, with York edging ahead based on his emphasis on people/citizen values and interests first.