

On Wednesday, October 21, 2020 I posted on my Facebook Page, Briane Simpson Town of Coaldale Councillor, a question that states,

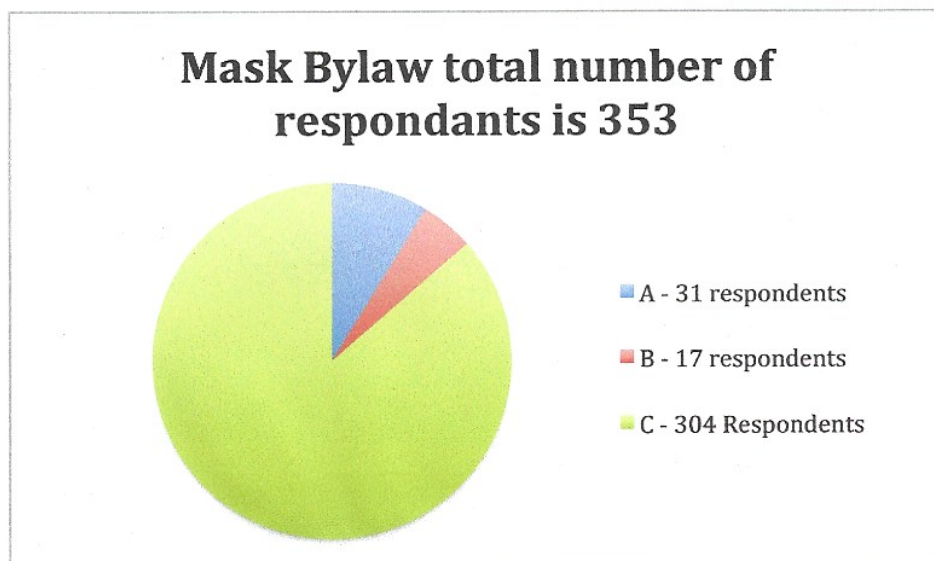
"As a Coaldale resident and/or business owner in Coaldale what do you fell the Town should do about a mask bylaw?"

- A) Create a mask bylaw similar to the City of Lethbridge. This is a hard bylaw to enforce.
- B) Create an Awareness Campaign. Have posters available for businesses and public places to be able to post. As well as share information through social media, website and maybe a mail out.
- C) Remain how it is right now."

Also on Wednesday October 14, 2020 I had an open dialogue meeting with the Chamber members that were present regarding a mask bylaw. This is where option B, an awareness campaign, came from. Also some businesses were considering implementing that everyone had to wear a mask in their workplace, so employees and customers. Chamber agreed to have a survey regarding this and results have been forwarded to Council and therefore not included in this report.

I received responses from comments, direct messages and through email that was received to all of Council. Any email or message that was generated because of the Chamber survey or my Facebook post is included in this report. I have recorded all comments beyond just stating what they are voting for on the comment section.

Please remember this is only a poll for information. I cannot guarantee that all people that voted are residents of Coaldale, in fact a couple stated otherwise. This is just a poll for general information. As of when I closed the poll this morning there was 7,307 people reached through my post. A total 787 comments, but I responded to each answer and there were some conversations that occurred. There was 21 shares of this post to and I couldn't see all of them and do not know if people responded to some of the shares. Here are the results



A) Create a mask bylaw similar to the City of Lethbridge. This is a hard bylaw to enforce.

- Not a town resident but I support town businesses IF they enforce COVID recommended protocols. I vote A.
- A. I think people should be masked when indoors and social distancing can not be maintained.
- A. I think people should be masked when indoors and social distancing can not be maintained.
- A should be the only option. This should not be decided by people based on preference and opinion. Listen to the scientists and doctors.. Anywhere there are breakouts are not being caused by people wearing masks.. Look at super spreader events like weddings, Trump (bad example) events and groups that avoid masks. The two largest breakouts in Lethbridge County have been in two of the churches. Close proximity and lack of masks spreads the disease.
- A. Regardless of how you may personally feel about Masks, a mandatory bylaw is the only way to ensure that ALL people feel safe entering local business in the winter as cases continue to rise.
- Would like by-law esp. with cases now in our town
- C isn't an option. Trusting members of the public to do what's right doesn't work, if it did we wouldn't need to regulate corporations or have a police presence. Anyone who complains about wearing a mask is complaining that their personal comfort isn't as important as other people's health. Public good outweighs personal preference, and your job as a politician isn't to cater to people's feelings, it's to use the facts to make rational decisions to protect your citizens. If cases rise above 3% in your community, masks are an absolute necessity due to the infectivity of covid. That's just science.
- I believe it would be beneficial if the Town was provided information from AHS on how many Active COVID 19 cases we have in this community vice being a part of the statistic of the County of Lethbridge. If our citizens were aware there are Active cases here they might be more inclined to follow the AHS guidelines. A stronger worded media campaign might work to encourage more citizens to take precautions and follow the guidelines. IT is my opinion Council should give A) the proposed By-Law First and Second Readings, then engage in B. IF B does not work, then give the Bylaw Third Reading. I agree, A will be hard to enforce! Thanks for asking for opinions!
- A. I was in our grocery store yesterday afternoon and I was the only person wearing a mask. No one was attempting to social distance. If our citizens can't get behind the covid safety protocols after 8 months, I'll be shopping in Lethbridge where I feel safer.
- Strong A , but it needs to be enforced, not wearing masks puts everyone at risk.that is why we are in a second wave.
- A for sure!
- Bylaw, because clearly people won't take the proper measures to keep others safe on their own
- The problem with C is everyone that thinks that they are healthy and don't care if they get it. What about the people that are health compromised or

higher risk and don't feel safe shopping in their own town. We have been shopping less here in town and more where it's regulated. My mask protects you, not me. You not wearing a mask could end up with me in the hospital. We need to keep our family safe, our vote is A.

- A. I have to wear them in my workplace and I would feel better if everyone wore a mask.
- A - with fall / winter coming and not only Covid to worry about I believe is a simple thing we can all do to protect each other
- I'm unsure what to choose. As a health care professional where masks are mandatory I'm leaning to A or B but I see validity with all sides. No matter what is decided I would encourage everyone to please respect the businesses that may have chosen to require masks (dentist, optometrists, dr office etc) We are all trying to navigate this pandemic in a manner that each of us feels best and we will never all agree
- A. People have proven they are not willing to do the right thing unless it is required. Too many opinions are drowning out science and public good.
- The decision should be personal IF NOT WEARING A MASK ONLY AFFECTED YOU! Its blatantly obvious that unless enforced, people are out to look after only themselves! Here's to hoping that there comes a day when all the heal diggers regret their attitude!
- A. As a healthcare professional in coaldale and a member of this town. I want to ensure me, my children and the people I care for are safe

B) Create an Awareness Campaign. Have posters available for businesses and public places to be able to post. As well as share information through social media, website and maybe a mail out.

- Option B from our house. Awareness is a good idea as time goes on and complacency can start happening! It would be nice to have timely information given by the Town when we have outbreaks though.
- B education is the key. People can make a choice. But supporting small business with the tools is always helpful
- People need to be allowed to make their own decision about masks! If you feel an awareness campaign is necessary, I guess that may be helpful. But it's kind nice not being bombarded by it in town. there is already so much being pushed by the media and Alberta Health
- Option B definitely. Awareness will help people make the best decision.
- Our house is voting Choice B. People are masking up quite a lot already, thankfully. It would be nice to know exactly how many people in our town are positive. if any. Then everyone could adjust their activities without being mandated to do so. Second choice would be Choice C.
- Option B would be my personal preference
- I would cerate an Awareness Campaign. There are so many people who still believe this is a HOAX that anyway to help educate the public would be most likely the best route.

C) Remain how it is right now.

- wear one if you feel safer. But remember your paranoia doesn't make my reality
- Definitely C. The bylaw in Lethbridge is highly ineffective as many people refuse to wear masks and say that they are excused from the bylaw. The same thing most likely would happen in Coaldale. Give people the freedom to make their own decisions!
- My vote is c. Let people choose
- This shouldn't even be a question this is the town of coaldale we're talking about. No one will listen even if it is made mandatory
- C leave it how it is!
- C. I see so many people with disposable masks around their rear view mirrors which to me suggests ppl are reusing potentially contaminated masks. Seems more harmful than helpful to me. My kids and even myself touch our faces much less when not wearing a mask as they are consistently needing to be adjusted.
- your welcome. I personally think that there is plenty of awareness already out there and there seems to be a lot of mixed messages within our own governments on what works or does not work.
- Let people decide for themselves.
- I say c, and I feel if the town makes a mask mandate it could hurt businesses in town, if people want to wear a mask they can, but don't force it. I personally can not and have refused service at places in Lethbridge and because of it unfortunately those places lost my business and amazon gained it.
- Option C. Masks are giving people a false sense of security. One of the main problems is the mask wearers constantly touch them and adjust them while wearing them. This is contaminating their masks. How about using common sense first and foremost.
- LEAVE IT ALONE!
- There's no need for a mask bylaw, if people want to wear one, let them, if not, they don't have to.
- This town has already had enough money wasted on things they didn't want or need, so there's no need to waste even more on something that we are all very well aware of
- There's no need for a mask bylaw, if people want to wear one, let them, if not, they don't have to.
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- C- remain as we are. Masks are BS
- C definitely. Just look at the COVID numbers in the city's that have mask bylaws compared to the ones without. The numbers speak loud and clear
- C! If masks were the answer then the '2nd wave' wouldn't be here right?
- C all day long
- C. I feel I have a choice to wear one or not.

- C. or people know and if they don't they've been living in a bubble. Neither the federal government nor the provincial government mandated it, so why would a municipal govt mandate it. Your not going to get extra fed or prov \$ to enforce any bylaw - because they didn't even mandate it themselves.
- C. Let the individual decide whether or not to wear a mask. I'm quite sure the masks don't work anyway.
- C - Keep masks voluntary
- 100% C
- No masks..... Not having a bylaw has encouraged a lot of business in Coaldale! I vote C.
- No no and no
- Remain the same c !!!
- Each person needs to be responsible for their own health and lives. If you feel more comfortable wear a mask, personally I do not wear one and do not shop where it is mandatory. I will drive to another place that I can shop in without being told what to do. Since Lethbridge mandated masks, I do not shop there any more.
- C- each their own
- C. ALL THE WAY
- Absolutely C
- C leave our rights alone! We have the right to choose to wear a mask or not!!
- C. If society is so concerned about mental health as they say they are, do not enforce mandatory masks, especially with children. The media & certain health officials are scaring the hell out of these poor kids and I can't imagine the outcome. Suicide and mental health issues will be on the rise. The way we have isolated the elderly is inhumane and disgusting. We are putting them in solitary confinement in the last years of their life. Not allowing their family to visit them is killing them, not covid. This is not a pandemic but another type of flu. We were created to have fellowship with one another and not to wear masks and be isolated.
- C- let people choose for them selves. The bylaws is hard enough to enforce in lethbridge. There's probably a reason why AHS hasn't made it mandatory provincewide. Were eight months into this thing. And with the cities already having the mask bylaws they still have tons of case increases daily. Frankly I don't see a point in masks. It's a false sense of security
- "C" I don't mind wearing a face mask to protect the vulnerable, but cloth masks I don't believe provide this protection.
- Enough rules are already in place. If someone feels they should protect themselves by all means wear one. But I really don't want to be told that I have too
- C There is no other answer, if you feel the need to wear one do so.
- C. Let people make their own decision
- Should be up to the individual or the business. Flu still kills more people. Let them decide not government
- C! I think they're just for looks
- C. I think we are already well aware so a costly campaign is wasting money. The mask bylaw only creates more fear and division and it's impossible to fully enforce. It creates other issues for people who have

medical exemptions. If people choose to wear a mask that's their choice. For others wearing a mask puts their health at risk. These people are being banned from shopping in some stores in Lethbridge and are being bullied by people who don't understand their health journey. Let's not bring that to our wonderful town and put that burden on our business owners.

- C - masks only work if people wear them right and since nobody can wear them right and touch the front of the mask multiple times they are ineffective. When was the last time you washed your mask? Masks give a false sense of safety. Stick to washing your hands and distancing. If your sick with anything Stay Home.
- C. In hopes that those that are feeling unwell, stay home.
- C. We all know the rules. Those who don't mind wearing a mask will wear one anyway. Those who don't want to will not, no matter the bylaw.
- Masks are useless
- My vote is for C. I think there is good reason that AHS has not mandated the wearing of masks in public. I think it is quite presumptuous of municipal governments like those in Lethbridge to presume they know better than the experts at AHS. For the most part, I think people in town are conscientious of other's health and are doing their best to respect AHS guidelines. I'm not sure there is a need for an information campaign.
- C. I appreciate that I still have a choice to wear/not wear a mask in Coaldale.
- C x 1,000 votes
- C. Leave it as it is. Let people govern themselves.
- C. Brian Simpson, thanks for at least asking our opinions on the matter... But in my opinion I don't think there is any solid science to back up the claims that masks stop the spread. So I would say that the town suggests the use but it won't make it mandatory to wear them.
- C. If people are vulnerable, they need to protect themselves and not rely on others for that protection.
- C, don't waste money on signs or campaigns. Everyone knows what's going on and masks don't help stop the spread
- C!! Let people make their own choices. Please leave it alone.
- Don't need a bylaw
- C. It's so refreshing to do our grocery shopping locally without it having to wear a mask.
- It should be everyone's choice to wear a mask or not to wear one
- Lethbridge has zero cases when they mandated masks. Now cases have exploded
- C, there is already lots of signage & information posted
- C. Let it be for now
- No masks. Everytime we go to Lethbridge people think it means they're immune and don't have to sanitize or keep their distance anymore. Coaldale has been successful at keeping numbers down by keeping distance and keeping clean. Don't fix something that isn't broken.
- Definitely C
- C. Just leave it alone. Please. Coaldale needs the local shop support. We are getting much more support now that Lethbridge implemented their bylaw

because people don't want deal with the nasty people in Lethbridge that blow this mask bylaw and pandemic way out of proportion.

- C if you want to wear a mask there is nothing stopping you but dont force it on others
- C I think everyone should have the option
- C Why is this even a question, outbreaks have happened despite these masks that everyone has put their faith in
- C. If you are more comfortable wearing one thats totally ok!! But a mask is not going to stop the spread of Covid.
- C. Remain how it is right now.....And forsure do NOT waste money on a campaign. People are already over aware through every media outlet and signs posted at every business about staying home when sick, getting tested if they have symptoms, keeping distance, disinfect etc. Anything more would be a complete and utter waste of taxpayers money.
- Can we please just leave things as is. It's hard enough to get away from all this covid stuff in your face all the time.
- C. But please keep us informed of local (Coaldale) cases as they arise
- C: The government has already taken away to much of our rights.
- Let people make there own choice. If you want to wear it. Go for it. If you are too scared. Stay home
- C for our household ! We believe in having the choice. I feel people wanting "A" have all of Lethbridge to access .And the cost of "B" is absolutely unnecessary will all the signs everywhere after 8 months
- Please go with Option C!
- C -100%
- C. There is enough information available, please allow residents to make their own decision!
- Please go with option C
- C. Let people decide for themselves. After 8 months, people should already be aware of all of the risks and necessary precautions.
- C.....I personally don't go into Lethbridge to shop anymore because of their mask bylaws.
- C. I think if people feel they are high risk or uncomfortable in public they will wear a mask while others who are healthy can go about in a relative normal. I think leaving it up to personal businesses is best.
- C , people should have the right to make their own decisions
- Absolutely C, mask bylaws haven't helped Lethbridge any, and reports are coming out that over 75% of people who got covid followed all guidelines including masks, so I feel it's best to just have each business decide for themselves!
- C. 98% of my Lethbridge shopping is now given to Amazon due to their mask bylaw. I would hate to do the same to Coaldale. Let them decide for themselves.
- Definitely C
- Option C. Let people have the freedom to make their own informed decisions
- C! I come to Coaldale and support the businesses here just to avoid wearing a mask.
- Anything but A!

- Option C. Let people make the decision.
- We should create an anti mask bylaw since it is scientifically proven that mask increase the spread of COVID 19, cannot stop particles as small as a virus. And some children have even died wearing masks during PE.
- C. At this point there's been so much info out there for both sides. Let people have the freedom to make their own informed decision.
- Leave it how it is. Let people make their own decisions.
- C leave it as is, there is enough info around that people have already made their informed decision. Local businesses are getting business because it's not stuffed in our faces like in Lethbridge.
- C! Masks don't protect people as much as everyone is told! Legally you can't force people to wear masks either!
- We are a small uncrowded town with very few cases. We don't need this.
- C) We do not want or need our municipal town council to implement a measure that was deemed not necessary by our federal and provincial governments. If people want to wear a mask, they can wear a mask, and they should wear the best mask they can get for their own protection, N95 vented or better. I do not want anyone to be forced to wear a mask, especially a non-vented mask, for my (presumed) benefit!

Miscellaneous

- Who would enforce is anyways?
- Not everyone will answer as honestly as they could due to this being in such an open forum. Since others can be so aggressive in their responses, those not wanting conflict or to be mistreated over their answer will avoid putting it publicly here thereby the results of this "poll" will not be a true representation of the feelings of citizens of this town. But huge kudos to those who are being honest and giving their opinion even if it is different than others and NOT attacking those with a different view.
- And while we are at it can we PLEASE for the love SCRAP the Clock going BACK thing...
- Intelligent people will wear masks and take precautions. Idiots and fools never will. You can't legislate that.
- I was just in Costco and I was disgusted at the number of people not wearing a mask, where previously everyone did. I asked the store employee why and she said that the city had made mask wearing voluntary not mandatory. How can people be so ignorant.
- If they enforce a law to wear a mask they need to enforce a law about what to do with them when they are contaminated. I see them just thrown on the ground in parking lots and that is unacceptable. Why should mother nature suffer because we are fighting a virus?
- I don't know but when I go in stores here no one stays away from me or my daughter they just excuse me and walk right past. You wouldn't even know there was a virus here which is nice lol I think it should be people's choice but that they should social distance and here that's impossible as people don't do either. Lol