

Fillios sets ambitious goals for Kootenai County.

Coeur d'Alene, ID – Feb. 19, 2010 – Chris Fillios, a former corporate executive and now Realtor, announced his candidacy this week, challenging the incumbent, Rick Currie for the District 2 seat.

Fillios is originally from New York City, and holds the Bachelor of Science degree from The City College of New York, and the Master of Arts from New York University.

Having lived in Idaho for 13 years (10 in Kootenai County), Fillios worked his entire career in the private sector. His work in sales and marketing management with such corporations as AT&T, Rockwell-Collins, Digital Equipment Corp. has taught him the business skills he offers to bring desperately needed improved efficiency to Kootenai County.

Fillios has set as his top priority the expansion of economic opportunity via job expansion, while maintaining the rural character of the region. Fillios believes that Kootenai County can have it both ways. “There’s no arguing that the citizens of Kootenai County have spoken strongly about their desire to maintain our rural lands,” he said. He believes that working with state legislators to reduce Idaho’s high corporate tax rate, coupled with initiatives to promote the higher education opportunities between Coeur d’Alene and Moscow, can be a lure to prospective employers.

Fillios believes that public safety must be a higher priority in the budgeting process, as the County’s law enforcement resources are below national and state recommended levels.

In his commonsense approach to growth, Fillios feels the battle lines between development and citizens groups need to be eliminated. “There must be dialogue,” he says, “in advance of any public hearing, and efforts intensified to reach mutually agreeable solutions to growth.” Fillios describes himself as, “a uniter, not a divider.”

While Fillios is open to the idea of a county administrator and/or raising the number of commissioners to five, he acknowledges the potential challenges confronting this individual in the current county organization. “We must first examine the possibility of reorganizing within our current structure.”

Fillios is married for 38 years, and has two grown children, and one grandchild.

In his available time, Fillios volunteers for several organizations including the Kootenai Humane Society, Elder Help of North Idaho, and the Coeur d'Alene Chamber of Commerce. Fillios also mentors a young adult for the Juvenile Probation system.

Fillios believes that with his experience in managing organizations, projects, and budgets, he is uniquely positioned to bring needed efficiency to Kootenai County.

‘It’s time for change,’ he says. “Positive, meaningful change.”