

## Winnipeg Election Candidates Survey 2014

Below are six survey questions the Canadian Taxpayers Federation is issuing to all candidates participating in the 2014 municipal election in Winnipeg. Please provide your responses by **September 26**. Results will be posted at Taxpayer.com and distributed to our supporters.

CANDIDATE NAME: Harvey Smith

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

1) Council members are currently required to disclose their ownership in businesses and property within Winnipeg. Would you support expanding disclosure for council members to include ownership of all businesses or property worldwide? (Circle one answer, space is available if you have any additional comments)

YES/NO      Comment: I want all Councillors as full time Councillors. I do not want them to divide their time looking after their businesses.

2) Would you support the creation of an informal freedom of information council committee to hear appeals from the public when the administration has refused to release city records?

YES/NO      Comment: Yes, this is a glaring problem which interferes with Councillors making decisions. Councillors cannot operate in the dark. They need information.

3) Property taxes have been increasing faster than inflation and wage growth. Would you table or support a bylaw capping property tax increases at inflation?

YES/NO      Comment: Yes, we must keep home ownership affordable.

4) Roads have been neglected as millions have been spent on nice to have projects (eg. stadium, new museum, etc.) Would you support a four-year freeze on new spending for non-essential projects (eg. art gallery expansion) so that road repair becomes a priority?

YES/NO      Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

5) The city has been raising taxes while putting more money into its pension plans; which allow for city staff to retire in their early 50s. Meanwhile most taxpayers don't have a workplace pension. To be fair to taxpayers, would you start putting new employees in a less costly plan?

YES/NO      Comment: I would favour that direction but it must be negotiated.

6) Do you support using managed competition (having both public and private sector employees bid for existing services) and gainsharing (sharing savings with employees that bring forward cost saving ideas) to reduce costs?

Managed competition                      YES/NO              Comment:    I believe the union's role is to negotiate.

Gainsharing                                      YES/NO              Comment:    Definitely, we should reward employees who come forward with ideas that aid the departments.

Thank you for completing the Canadian Taxpayers Federation's 2014 candidate survey. Please email responses to [ccraig@taxpayer.com](mailto:ccraig@taxpayer.com) by **September 26, 2014**.