

2017 Municipal Election Survey 2017 – Edmonton –

Thank you for participating in the Canadian Taxpayers Federation's election survey. Please provide your responses to Colin Craig (ccraig@taxpayer.com) by **September 29** (end of day). Results will be posted at Taxpayer.com, sent to the media and emailed to our supporters.

Name: Rob Agostinis

Signature: 

<p>1) Will you introduce a motion (or support one tabled by a colleague) to scan and post council expense receipts online? (Just as the province does for MLA expenses)</p> <p><i>Comment:</i> SEE ATTACHED SHEET WITH THE ANSWERS AND COMMENTS</p>	YES/NO
<p>2) Will you protect taxpayers from additional financial risk and excessive costs by introducing a motion (or support one tabled by a colleague) to place new city employees in a less costly pension plan? (Defined contribution)</p> <p><i>Comment:</i></p>	YES/NO
<p>3) Will you vote to freeze or reduce city employee salaries – just as many employees in Edmonton's business sector received during the recession?</p> <p><i>Comment:</i></p>	YES/NO
<p>4) Will you introduce a motion (or support one tabled by a colleague) to cap property tax increases at inflation? (Statistics Canada's CPI for Edmonton)</p> <p><i>Comment:</i></p>	YES/NO
<p>5) Will you support a motion to halt spending on public art until the city's unemployment rate is below the national average?</p> <p><i>Comment:</i></p>	YES/NO
<p>6) Do you support reviewing city services and exploring activities that could be contracted out to save taxpayers money?</p> <p><i>Comment:</i></p>	YES/NO
<p>7) Will you proactively disclose a list of those who contributed over \$250 to your campaign (and the amount) prior to the October 16 vote?</p> <p><i>Comment:</i></p>	YES/NO

1) Will you introduce a motion (or support one tabled by a colleague) to scan and post council expense receipts online? (Just as the province does for MLA expenses)

Yes. I think it's a good idea.

2) Will you protect taxpayers from additional financial risk and excessive costs by introducing a motion (or support one tabled by a colleague) to place new city employees in a less costly pension plan? (Defined contribution)

Qualified yes. I support a sustainable pension plan for all city employees. Many entities - both private and public - have struggled to meet the liabilities related to defined benefit plans. With only about 38% of all Canadians having an employer pension plan, we should support retirement benefits without unfairly increasing the tax burden for those who don't have a pension. As councillors, we have a responsibility to ensure the pension plan is sustainable for both retiring employees today and for new employees who look forward to retirement many years from now.

3) Will you vote to freeze or reduce city employee salaries – just as many employees in Edmonton's business sector received during the recession?

No. A freeze is not a solution. Instead, ensuring high value for tax dollars is. Like any great employer, the City of Edmonton needs to ensure it hires and retains the best and the brightest while delivering exceptional value to the taxpayer.

4) Will you introduce a motion (or support one tabled by a colleague) to cap property tax increases at inflation? (Statistics Canada's CPI for Edmonton)

Qualified yes. Property tax increases do need to have some correlation with inflation and population growth and council has a responsibility for ensuring the City operates within its means. There may be unique needed projects that garner support for additional temporary levies, but I do not support runaway tax increases.

5) Will you support a motion to halt spending on public art until the city's unemployment rate is below the national average?

No. Where the budget allows for public art, I would rather see a requirement for art to be procured locally to help drive down our unemployment rate.

6) Do you support reviewing city services and exploring activities that could be contracted out to save taxpayers money?

Yes. Options for achieving good value should always be explored. But there should never be a one size fits all approach to good fiscal management. The private and public sector need to work together to ensure the best use of tax dollars. And city projects need to live up to value

expectations, regardless if the work is done in house or contracted out.

7) Will you proactively disclose a list of those who contributed over \$250 to your campaign (and the amount) prior to the October 16 vote?

Qualified Yes. I would be willing to disclose all donors prior to the election if the other candidates are willing to do the same.