



Colin Craig &lt;ccraig@taxpayer.com&gt;

---

## Survey Responses

---

marek@votemarek.ca <marek@votemarek.ca>  
To: ccraig@taxpayer.com

Wed, Sep 27, 2017 at 10:58 PM

Dear Mr.Craig,

The responses to your survey as requested:

1. Yes

Comment: This should have been done years ago to hold council accountable.

2. Yes

Comment: I'm a more cautious yes here, council is notoriously opaque as you might well know. I would need to see evidence, true costs, measure and cut accordingly.

3. No

Comment: I'm not committing to reducing salaries just on the say so without any evidence supporting why cuts or raises need to be made. Private sector employees do take a risk being in the private sector, however public sector employees are paid less. Salaries can be touched based on evidence and corporate necessity based on the current recession. I do recognize City of Calgary workers as being equally paid or over paid compared to private sector employees, but that bears investigation that may yield a higher or lower number than 5%.

4. No

Comment: Property taxes need to be frozen and potentially lowered based on the current interest rate hikes, recessionary conditions in the economy and community input based on potential cuts to some services. I would rather cut salaries in city hall first before committing to lowering or raising taxes pegged to anything. Secondly the government keeps re-defining inflation so in the past 30 or so years we have only been inflating, if we were caught unaware of inflation like Black Monday in the 80's pegging property taxes to inflation would be disastrous to the average Calgarian.

5. No

Public art is a necessary part of city growth and vibrant community including inspiration. The City unemployment rate is far higher than publicly stated (contractors who make up 40% of the downtown workforce don't collect EI and don't count as unemployed) and I still believe that punishing the arts community for the follies of the private sector is wrong. Art is an investment in not only public beauty but public inspiration. I also believe that art funding should be exclusively local, to support local artists. For example, I support only Albertan and a few other Canadian Micro Breweries in my store. I've grown a vibrant and committed beer drinking and brewing group at the store. Art is the same, keep it local first.

6. Yes

Comment: A bylaw granting a legally binding plebiscite prior to a public vote is necessary. I am personally against the Olympic Bid in it's current form because from a business perspective it's a bad deal for Calgary and a great deal for the IOC and private interest groups. I am a civil servant and willing to abide in this case to public demand.

7. No

Comment: In almost every case of privatizing government work it's turned out to be a raw deal to the taxpayers. Governments can use their power to hold inflationary forces in control and use public money to keep costs low; for example how Quebec siphons off Albertan tax money for equalization payments because public corporations keep the costs artificially low through subsidy. Privatizing any aspect of the public trust at this point would create two problems; higher costs to the average taxpayer via private corporations that work for profit and reduced service as inefficiencies that

are in the system are corrected. Government has a moral as well legal obligation to it's citizens and sometimes it means keeping costs artificially low.

8. No

Comment: No one in the city is talking about bailing out my store with taxpayer money for "public good". Public money should never be used to better private enterprise. In this case more so I would never use tax money for private enterprise.

9. No

Comment: City hall is crawling with private interest worms with bags of money. It's time to clear those out, developers included.