

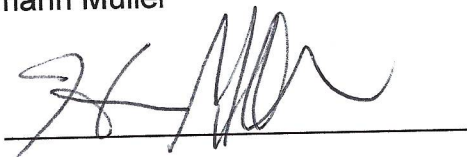
2017 Municipal Election Survey 2017

– Calgary –

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: Hermann Muller

Signature: _____



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.

Comment: Accountability to the Public is central to my belief in restoring integrity to City Council.

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, and council members, in a less costly pension plan? (Defined contribution)

No.

Comment: There is no additional financial risk. The L.A.P.P. is currently 97% funded by the contributors. The government will not allow the fund to claim it is 100% funded and demands a minimum 3% shortfall. That supposed 3% that the City is supposed to pick up. On top of that, the Government of Alberta under both parties have refused to let the unions take control of their investments as well as who they can use as broker. Also, the Government of Alberta under the P.C.'s "barrowed" \$11 000 000.00 over 25 years ago from the fund and never returned it. They then hiked the premiums of the contributors to have them cover this loan. If I took half of the equity from your home as a "loan" and then had your monthly payments hiked by \$500.00 per month until the equity was returned, you might have an issue with that.

3) Will you vote to reduce city employee salaries by 5% (or reduce total salary expenditures by 5%) – just as many employees in Calgary's business sector received during the recession?

No.

Comment: City employees did not take the risks of accepting higher paying jobs that had massive pay hikes and incentives during the boom years. Instead, they chose a more stable career in public service, often settling for 3, 4, or 5 percent wage increased when inflation was consistently being reported at 7 percent or higher.

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 Calgary)

No.

Comment: While I want to see it capped at inflation, the double-edged sword is that right now inflation is low. To top this off, the components in the Inflation Statistics have been manipulated and redefined to make reported inflation differ from real world inflation.

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

Yes.

Comment: There are better ways of dealing with this and it needs to be halted and reviewed.

6) Do you believe a referendum should be held prior to council approving any bids to host the 2026 Winter Olympics?

Yes.

Comment: However, with the deadline coming up fast, the perfect time to do that would have been during this civic election.

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

Yes and No.

Comment: One of the biggest concerns is whether the City is getting good value for contracting out. Currently, some services that have been long since contracted out have contractors being paid while failing to perform said services. City employees are being dispatched to do said work. As I understand it, there is no "claw back" option for the City to recoup on the contractors' failure to perform so the City gets to pay twice for the same service. Also, ZBR's (Zero Based Review's) tend to indicate that management is not properly allocating resources as a key reason to privatize. If a manager is not properly allocating resources, it strikes me that a review and retraining or replacement of a manager should be considered first.

8) Do you support spending public funds on a new arena for the Flames?

Yes

Comment: As long as there is a guaranteed rate of return. If the City is going to play the roll of developer and landlord, the money invested has to come back. If the Flames owners don't like that, I'll help them pack.

9) Have you accepted or will you accept financial or in-kind donations from the Calgary Flames, any of the team's owners or their companies?

No.

Comment: