



Canadian Taxpayers Federation

## Canadian Taxpayers Federation Candidates Survey

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To: Colin Craig <ccraig@taxpayer.com>

Hello Mr. Craig,

i hope if it's alright that i just reply to your survey by this email in text form. Unfortunately, i don't have the proper software to convert the Adobe file to allow me to fill it out, and my scanner printer is out of commission for the time.

Please see my answers and any additional comments listed below;

1. Yes, ensuring that we have a level playing field to ensure there is no conflict-of-interest cases is vital to restoring faith in city hall. This should also be expanded to ensure that if person(s) also hold stocks/shares in companies that they are not governing from an invested interest or expect kick-backs later.
2. Yes, but with an asterisks. It should be done on a case by case bases to ensure privacy when privacy is needed, also when it comes to tendering contracts and business negotiations, many businesses want it remained behind the camera to ensure non-partial dealings, so not one person(s) can use it to gain advantage. But with most things in the administration, to bring accountability back, there should be a system in place to allow citizens to proceed with due process.
3. No, if we want to tackle our infrastructure debt, our city financial debt, pension obligations, while providing efficient and proper services, we need to have a plan that will allow council to tackle these issues in a timely manner before borrowing costs increases or the debt grows so much it calls for even more drastic and severe changes that will impact Winnipeggers negatively. We should also at least debate the idea of moving away from a property taxation system possibly to an income tax based system that has been highlighted in the BOLD Winnipeg plan.
4. No, many say 'we can't have our cake and eat it too', in this circumstance, with the right planning we can. Calgary has increased it's arts funding to over \$30/person in recent budgets while still tackling infrastructure, expanding LRT, and building highways, and BRTs. BOLD Winnipeg again proposes increasing arts funding to \$20/per person per year. As the economic spin-offs and activities will bring in more tax revenue and economic growth. Proper investments in Transit and Rapid Transit as well will ease Infrastructure worries as allowing Winnipeggers to have more choices and options then their cars, taking ease off our roads. I also am committed to raising the regional road budget from the current \$85M/yr to \$140M/yr.
5. No, as this does not solve a problem and only shuffles it around. The last thing we need to be doing is letting more people slipping into poverty because they retired from their job. In the days where income inequality has become such a massive issue, taking more money from middle-class workers to please investment bankers is not ideal. Is there a legitimate argument of perhaps requiring staff in the future by raising retiring age from 55 to 60, yes. Honest pay, for an honest day.
6. No to Managed competition, Yes to gain-sharing. We should also be using money saved in gain-sharing as well in financing other essential services to ensure adequate services for all Winnipeggers.

September 15th, 2014.

-All the best,

-Andrew Podolecki