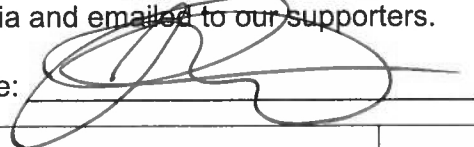


2017 Municipal Election Survey 2017 – Edmonton –

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: JAMES PRENTICE

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></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">YES/NO</p>
<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>	<p style="text-align: center;">YES/NO</p>
<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>	<p style="text-align: center;">YES/NO</p>
<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>	<p style="text-align: center;">YES/NO</p>
<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>	<p style="text-align: center;">YES/NO</p>
<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>	<p style="text-align: center;">YES/NO</p>
<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>	<p style="text-align: center;">YES/NO</p>

CTF Edmonton Election Survey

Candidate: James Prentice

1) Yes, this is a basic transparency and control measure which should have been introduced long ago.

2) Yes, defined contribution is a much better option for the employer (the people of Edmonton). Costs are easier to predict and manage. However we must also do our best to care for and minimize risks to employees. We would want to promote benefit security through mechanisms such as professional investment portfolio management, mandatory annuitization and employer contributions based on investment performance. Employees may still end up giving up a bit of control, but these steps would help to protect their retirement investments for when they're needed most.

3) It would be unwise to answer yes to this question with the way it's worded. When times are tough, some areas may need wage freezes, but others may not. No matter what, taxpayers expect the city to function and deliver essential services to the level they need. In addition, there may in fact be some areas that require increases in order to see net costs reduced, for example when it comes to lead employees assigned to project management, resource optimization and budgetary controls the wise and prudent choice may actually be to hire the best and pay them accordingly.

4) The year over year property tax increases over the last term have been unreasonable for many Edmontonians. However, I don't believe the CPI is the best index to use for the purpose you have intended. Again, we need to be wise, prudent, honest and transparent with the public. Determining property tax levels using an unclear, unreliable and contested measure such as the Consumer Price Index would not serve taxpayers well. I can't answer yes to this question.

5) There are competing priorities and limited dollars with which to address them. In tough times there are many other basic essentials a city should take care of before public art. But a complete halt on public art altogether based on something like the national unemployment rate seems misguided. Art can be beautiful, it can inspire awe, it can convey and communicate an understanding of ideals and values and meaning. It can spur creativity, and it can motivate people to think and be and do good. This question is more fitting for Calgary where they have not yet introduced the public control and transparency measures that are in place for public art projects here in Edmonton.

6) Yes. Along with optimization and efficiency measures through the use of technology. I will propose the introduction of a small New Technology and Optimization team dedicated specifically to the task of leveraging new technologies to optimize municipal services and systems, helping the city to run better, cheaper. In doing so, I believe we will discover many opportunities to save taxpayers money.

7) Yes, and I'll disclose everything under \$250 too.