



Colin Craig <ccraig@taxpayer.com>

CTF Calgary election survey

Rick Donkers [REDACTED]
To: ccraig@taxpayer.com

Fri, Sep 29, 2017 at 5:24 PM

Mr Craig,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this survey. My name is Rick Donkers. I am the communications director for the Bill Smith for Mayor campaign. Here are Bill's responses to the survey questions. I found the comment section too small for a legible response, so we will provide our answers in a more readable format. Should you require further information or clarification please contact me directly.

Also, I would appreciate confirmation that you have received this email.

Rick Donkers
Bill Smith for Mayor Campaign
[REDACTED]

Canadian Taxpayers Federation Municipal Election Survey – 2017

1. Yes – Transparency and accountability are key to returning public trust to City Hall and its elected officials.
2. No– The past council, under the Mayor's leadership, have allowed expenses to spiral out of control. But this is not the correct method of accomplishing that. Creating two-tiers of employees risks turning city hall into an even more toxic workplace
3. No – I have promised to bring forth a motion will bring freeze Council and senior administration salaries for four year. But I will work within the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement when it comes to civic employee wages.
4. No – Under this mayor and council we have seen property tax bills rise 51% over the past seven years. That has to stop! This council is too concerned with nice-to-haves. I am demanding a full review of city operations and capital projects to prioritize how council spends your tax dollars. I will strive for tax savings – not just a cap.
5. No – The public art program has to be fixed. In principle, I support public art, however, the public should have greater involvement in the decision-making process. It is time to put public back in public art and it should include more local artists.
6. No - I loved being here in Calgary for the 1988 Winter Games. It was a lot of fun and created a great sense of national and local pride. But it has to make economic sense for Calgary taxpayers if we are to entertain another Olympic bid.. I will negotiate with the IOC to make sure it bears the fiscal risks associated with hosting the games. If we get such a deal, a referendum would not be necessary

7. Yes – As stated above, I support a full review of city services and capital projects to seek efficiencies. That should include a review of services that could be contracted out for potential cost savings. There are also opportunities for P3 partnerships that benefit all – the taxpayer, city services and private contractors.
8. This is not a yes/no question in my mind - There is little doubt that the Saddledome does not meet the needs of Calgarians. I believe a new arena can be constructed with minimal direct cost to Calgary taxpayers. A new arena would support local sports, hospitality and entertainment industries. We all want to keep our Flames in Calgary, but the final arrangement must be a win-win relationship.
9. No – I have received no campaign donations from CSEC, their ownership group, or from associated companies.