

# 2018 Winnipeg Municipal Election: Candidates' views on small business issues



**Dear Candidate:** Local government policies are important to business owners and they would like to know where you stand on their priority issues.

CFIB has developed a *Small Business Platform for City of Winnipeg Municipal Candidates*, which highlights key small business priorities for municipal candidates to adopt (see attached).

We also invite you to respond to our survey. Please feel free to provide additional written comments on a separate page. Responses will be posted, unedited, on [CFIB's website](#) in an effort to better inform our members of each candidate's views. We will also share responses with our members prior to the elections on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

Please complete the following brief survey and **send it back to us by email at [msman@cfib.ca](mailto:msman@cfib.ca) or by fax at 204-982-0811 by Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. Note: If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact us at 1-888-234-2232 or [msman@cfib.ca](mailto:msman@cfib.ca).

**Thank you for your participation.**

Jonathan Alward,  
Director, Provincial Affairs, Manitoba

## 1. How important is the small business sector to Winnipeg's economy? (Select one)

- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not important

## 2. Which of the following options do you support for financing the City of Winnipeg? (Select all that apply)

- Increase existing property taxes, business taxes, levies and/or user fees
- Expand taxing authority (e.g. new user fees, development levies etc.)
- Increase savings through operational efficiencies (e.g. contracting out services to the private sector)
- Spend more than current levels on infrastructure by finding efficiencies in other areas
- No further need for increased revenues
- Other

I would support the QBS process in order to find more efficient ways to get jobs done. Creating clearer lines between the planning and design committees would remove extra spending.

## 3. Do you support or oppose the following actions? (Check one for each row)

	Support	Oppose
Narrow the wages/benefits gap between municipal and private sector employees (the gap is 17% in Winnipeg)	✓	
Reduce the size and cost of the municipal civil service (e.g. through workforce attrition)		✓
Limit annual municipal operating spending growth to a maximum of inflation and population growth	✓	
Develop and implement a plan to reduce the commercial-to-residential property tax gap	✓	
Develop and implement a plan to eliminate the Winnipeg Business Tax		✓
Take concrete steps to reduce red tape	✓	

## 4. Which of the following options do you support for reducing red tape in Winnipeg? (Select all that apply)

- Create a web-portal for residents and business owners to easily share feedback and suggestions to improve services
- Improve staff training around serving small businesses
- Expand the hours of service
- Creating a separate 311 line to serve business inquiries
- Reduce wait times for building and occupancy permits
- Improve clarity around permits
- No further improvements are needed to reduce the regulatory burden
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**See questions 5 & 6 on page 2.**

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**5. What plans do you have to reduce the negative impacts of roadwork on businesses?**

I think there are many ways we can make sure business are minimally affected. Having work crews in non residential areas work around the clock would get work job done faster. Depending on the job itself and the hours the business is open, work crews could be kept away during business hours all together.

Having a clear line of communication between departments would also help in this situation. If a crew sets up pylons on Monday but work crews are not scheduled till Friday that becomes a full week of barricades that did not need to be there. Having work zones with no one working is not effective for anyone.

The 311 web page should also have a calendar listing when and where work will take place. Having it visible for people to see would make planning for everyone easier.

**6. What plans do you have to make the City of Winnipeg more business-friendly?**

First - I would want to talk with several different small businesses to see what the city could of done for them when they started out. This way we don't make the same mistakes for busineeess that are trying to come to Winnipeg.

Secondly - I would talk stot eh same business to see what we can do currently to help them.

Thirdly - We need to make acquiring permits more streamlined.

Candidate's Name: Chris Davis

Ward/Position: St.Norbert - Seine River

**Canadian Federation of Independent Business**

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msman@cfib.ca or fax to  
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