

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

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

**X 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.)

**x Increase savings through operational efficiencies (e.g. contracting out services to the private sector)**

**x Spend more than current levels on infrastructure by finding efficiencies in other areas**

No further need for increased revenues

Other

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

Narrow the wages/benefits gap between municipal and private sector employees (the gap is 17% in Winnipeg)

**Support**

Reduce the size and cost of the municipal civil service (e.g. through workforce attrition)

**Support**

Limit annual municipal operating spending growth to a maximum of inflation and population growth

**Support**

Develop and implement a plan to reduce the commercial-to- residential property tax gap

**Support**

Develop and implement a plan to eliminate the Winnipeg Business Tax

**Support**

Take concrete steps to reduce red tape

**Support**

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

**x Create a web-portal for residents and business owners to easily share feedback and suggestions to improve services**

**x Improve staff training around serving small businesses**

**x Expand the hours of service**

Creating a separate 311 line to serve business inquiries

**x Reduce wait times for building and occupancy permits**

**x Improve clarity around permits**

No further improvements are needed to reduce the regulatory burden

Other \_\_\_\_\_

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

**We have reached the time that we must seriously consider around the clock construction on roadwork projects in order to minimize the time a business is affected. Having a well maintained street doesn't help if all the businesses along it have gone out of business due to lack of customers.**

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

**The city has been gradually reducing the business taxes on small and medium sized businesses for over a decade now. I would continue to advocate for increased reductions in this tax which will ultimately reduce them to 0%. The concentration of permitting services into a single location would also assist in speeding up the approval of projects both large and small.**

**Candidate's Name: Grant Nordman**

**Ward/Position: Charleswood - Tuxedo (Westwood & The Oaks)**