

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 24th.

Please complete the following brief survey and **send it back to us by email at msman@cfib.ca or by fax at 204-982-0811 by Monday, October 15th, 2018**. Note: If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact us at 1-888-234-2232 or 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
Improve efficiency of planning & design of major capital projects by utilizing Qualifications Based Selections (QBS) process - buy better, improved construction quality, prevent re-work and costly litigation e.g. IGF, Police Headquarters

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)	X	
Reduce the size and cost of the municipal civil service (e.g. through workforce attrition)	X	
Limit annual municipal operating spending growth to a maximum of inflation and population growth	X	
Develop and implement a plan to reduce the commercial-to-residential property tax gap	X	
Develop and implement a plan to eliminate the Winnipeg Business Tax	X	
Take concrete steps to reduce red tape	X	

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 Strike a Business Red Tape Working Group to make recommendations about streamlining City administrative processes.

See questions 5 & 6 on page 2.

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



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

The City must adopt a consultative approach when considering, planning and performing roadwork in Winnipeg in areas with businesses in the vicinity. All affected businesses should have the opportunity to provide advance comment and feedback to city planning and public works before work is committed to.

For example several businesses in the downtown Exchange District have been adversely affected by the installation of bike lanes in front of their shops and received no advance consultation from the City of Winnipeg. These bike lanes have significantly reduced the amount of customer traffic and made parking very difficult for their customers.

As well, repetitive construction and re-work of cosmetic infrastructure appears to be occurring with no rhyme or reason - at least to the business owners. As Mayor, I would require advance consultation with affected businesses to ensure they have a say in whether the proposed construction is either necessary or would adversely impact their business and if some mutually acceptable compromise can be determined.

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

1. Do whatever it takes to make our streets and commercial areas safe and secure for Winnipeggers to conduct and patronize business.
2. Further lower the business tax as appropriate
3. Improve traffic efficiency by completing our inner ring road - Chief Peguis West extension from Main St. to Route 90
4. Bring sewer & water service to the city owned land at Centreport.
5. Re-visit the outrageous city-wide parking rate increases and licensing fees for food trucks.
6. Improve our relationship with our provincial and federal government partners to obtain greater support for major infrastructure projects.
7. Stop chasing away small businesses from our downtown by ensuring they are consulted in advance before planning any major construction in their area.
8. Establish a Business Red Tape Working Group to make recommendations on how to streamline city administrative processes. eg. permits
9. Get out of the way of small business and let them do what they do best...grow into big business!

Candidate's Name: Jenny Motkaluk

Ward/Position: Mayoral candidate

Canadian Federation of Independent Business

640-175 Hargrave St, Winnipeg, MB R3C 3R8
Tel: 1-888-234-2232 Website: www.cfib.ca
Follow us on Twitter: @cfibMB

**Please email responses to
msman@cfib.ca or fax to
1-204-982-0811.**