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Ward Ipiihkoohkanipiahtsi

1. A key component of my platform is to oppose the privatization of public services. I would also make it a priority to bring services that have been privatized back in house. All credible research into P3s shows that they result in lower quality products and less cost efficient in time. Additionally, an important component of a healthy city is to have good public services and good jobs for people who are providing them.
2. In order to provide quality public services, the people doing the work must be adequately compensated. I believe that public services should be provided by unionized workers with good salaries and benefits. Good jobs employ local people who give back to their communities and the local economy.
3. I would aggressively oppose any attempt two negatively impact public sector pensions or the weakening of collective bargaining units through tactics such as preventing job action.
4. I believe that municipalities should fight for larger percentages of tax revenue that are more proportionate to the amount of services we are responsible for providing relative to the provincial and federal governments. Providing quality public services is essential for a healthy, functioning city. I do believe that people are willing to pay taxes if they feel that they are getting good services and benefits in return. I would oppose giving tax breaks to corporations or the most wealthy residents. I would not cut services to avoid tax increases.
5. It is unfortunate that the meddling of the provincial government has prevented healthcare professionals from giving clear, accurate direction and advice throughout this pandemic. Since that has not happened and the public has lost their faith in our provincial government and key healthcare representatives, unfortunately this has become a political wedge issue. As troublesome as that is, it is now falling on municipalities to make decisions in order to keep their community safe. I do support mask mandates, requirements to declare vaccination status, vaccine passports , and the limitation on numbers of people in enclosed areas.
6. Public transit is vital to a thriving city and will be absolutely imperative to our social and economic recovery from the pandemic. It is also key to slowing climate change. I support expanding our public transit system and reducing fees. I would like to see - at minimum - fair free transit for youth, seniors and low income people. I would like our ultimate goal to be fair free transit for everyone. Regarding other fees and fines, I would like to see more progressive applications such as sliding scale based on income.