

## **Ali Haymour responses**

### **Candidate for Edmonton City Council Ward Anirniq**

1. Will you oppose privatization of municipal services and infrastructure, including Public-Private Partnerships aka P3s? Will you support bringing previously privatized services in-house?

I strongly oppose privatization of government services and jobs, services and infrastructure, I believe most measures to privatize are done in the name of “cost savings” but they only result in higher costs, less accountability and less service to the public. I would support bringing back privatized services if feasible.

2. Will you support your employees and your community by ensuring the municipality employs staff with living wages, full-time hours where desired, job security, and collective bargaining rights?

I support unionized jobs over “gig labor” or casual jobs with no benefits, security or representation. I will demand that the city cooperate with civic unions instead of being adversarial. I will work with the mayor and councilors to make them recognize (if they already do not) that unionized wage earners are not the bogeyman when it comes to out of control spending. I will meet with union leaders and representatives to achieve the best outcomes possible regarding jobs, security and rights.

3. Will you oppose attempts from the provincial government to legislate against municipal staff including cuts to the Local Authorities Pension Plan, or restrictions on their right to strike?

I will oppose attempts by the provincial government to influence civic jobs, pensions and bargaining.

4. How do you propose your municipality deal with funding shortfalls, cuts, and downloading of responsibilities from federal and provincial governments? Do you favour spending cuts over tax increases?

Spending on programs and services is not the only way a city can get into financial trouble! Edmonton has a terrible track record of running shamefully overbudget on capital projects, and that waste has to stop. I will insist on adherence to realistic budgets and true accountability when those budgets go overboard. I will always choose spending cuts over tax increases and fee increases, and by spending cuts I do not mean cutting staff or services, I mean cutting waste, unnecessary projects and consulting services (currently running at \$140 million per year)

5. Do you support measures such as mask mandates, vaccine “passports”, and vaccine mandates for staff to limit and reduce the spread of COVID-19 in your municipality?

I believe the city should not set its own health mandates in absence of AHS guidance. We need to trust that AHS has the medical expertise to set policy. I will support the city following whatever pandemic measures the province puts into place. I believe the city should in most work areas require employees to show proof of vaccination, and to offer non-vaccinated employees alternative work arrangements until they can become vaccinated. In cases where an employee's job brings them into close contact with people and alternate arrangements cannot be made, that employee should be placed on unpaid leave until they can become protected by vaccine.

6. Do you support measures to reduce municipal reliance on services fees and fares, such as eliminating transit fares?

I believe that fees and fares can be an unreasonable burden on users. I feel that certain services such as transit could be provided with minimal or no fares to take the economic burden off lower income users and to reduce vehicle use. Again, such fare reductions can be achieved by careful stewardship of the tax money we already raise as a city. We waste far too much money that should instead be going toward programs.