

Re: Ward 6 Metis Questionnaire

Cori Longo <campaign@coriforcouncil.com>

Wed 2021-09-29 11:19 AM

To: Tammy Tangedal <t.tangedal@aupe.org>

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Hi Tammy,

Thanks for the survey! Here are my responses:

Privatization, including P3s:

AUPE members know very well that privatization regularly fails to find “efficiencies” and any cost savings are often off the backs of workers who become de-unionized, with lower pay and benefits.

They also work on the front lines of service delivery and see the problems caused by high-turnover low wage private providers, and the bureaucratic burden caused by having to deal with a third party instead of an in-house provider.

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? **Yes, I will oppose privatization, including P3s. I have already been very vocal about this issue through our platform, messaging and social media content. I will evaluate how best to address previously privatized services in-house, and will advocate for that where possible.**

Municipalities as employers:

As our economies recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, good jobs are an important factor. Public sector workers spend in their communities, and many households impacted by private sector recessions have been able to keep the bills paid thanks to a stable public sector job.

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? **Yes, absolutely. In my role as the Alberta Representative for the Canadian Labour Congress, I advocate for workers. Good jobs and living wages are an important part of my Good Jobs Policy.**

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? **Yes I will, regardless of if I am elected or not.**

Funding:

For decades the trend on public services has been cuts and defunding, with fees downloaded onto workers, and the tax burden shifted away from the wealthy and corporations to the working class. At the same time, workers in the public sector know that tax freezes and cuts mean cuts to services and jobs. Any promise political candidates make can only be realized through proper revenues.

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? **I will always put people and public services first. I think our City Councillors have been in the pockets of big developers and big business for too long, and that has had a negative impact on regular Edmontonians. There are areas where the City is spending too much, such as consultants, and I will fight to ensure that those dollars are spent to benefit regular families instead.**

COVID-19 Safety:

With the negligent provincial response to now three preventable waves of COVID-19, municipalities have been put in an awkward position of needing to take measures to protect their citizens throughout the pandemic. Many are introducing measures of their own, but not all have.

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? **As a former registered nurse, I absolutely, unequivocally support these public health measures.**

Affordability:

With workers squeezed by increasing costs, municipal fees add to the burden. Service fees are a form of flat tax that require the same payment from a CEO as a low income worker.

Transit affordability is an important piece of working class equity. Fees add an extra burden for many people who can not afford the costs of private transportation in the first place. The reduced emissions on increasing transit ridership can also be a part of how cities take positive action on climate change.

6. Do you support measures to reduce municipal reliance on services fees and fares, such as eliminating transit fares? **Yes I do support reducing transit fares and working towards fare-free transit. It's clear that years of cuts and fare increases have done nothing to build the transit system we need, and it's time for a different approach.**

Take care,
Cori

On Mon, 20 Sept 2021 at 15:53, Tammy Tangedal <t.tangedal@aupe.org> wrote:

Hello,

I am writing on behalf of the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees (AUPE) Committee on Political Action (COPA) and their Chair Mike Dempsey.

The Committee has written a survey for candidates seeking municipal office that they are hoping you will **complete by Tuesday, September 28th.**

The Committee intends to review the responses and publish them on the week of October 4 to help the 90,000 AUPE members across Alberta make an informed choice in the election.

Please send your responses to this email, as well as any questions you might have about this survey.

Kind regards,
Tammy Tangedal
Administrative Professional, Labour Relations | Committee On Political Action