

Dax Williams responses

Candidate for

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 see great merit in P3 collaborations under certain conditions so I cannot in good conscience ask for your support if this is a condition of it. That said, I don't believe that privatization in the healthcare sector is a beneficial move, as there is far too much involvement of politics in the medical sector currently and I would like to see management of hospitals and healthcare centers be an in-house matter to maximize productivity and efficacy. To extend this thought to newer industries without a standing record of SOP would potentially be too firm of a stance to take as government can push policy for change but having private investment in doing so can expedite the rate of progress.

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 will ensure that the City of Red Deer and all project partners do as such.

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 absolutely will stand in solidarity against actions of this kind

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 propose a diversification of income strategies beyond tax increases to allow for greater employment opportunities and direct revenue from sectors that fall within a municipal jurisdiction including sanitation, green energy, and land reclamation projects.

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

Absolutely

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

I think this strategy needs to be looked at beyond a flat statement of yes or no. I think that provision of passes determined by level of income or bargaining agreements with union organizations could be considered, but fees, penalties, and fares are the largest single source of income for the City of Red Deer which must be considered, but as previously stated I am keen on

development of alternative sources to alleviate the burden of fees on workers and those living in low income situations.