

Question One: What would you do to ensure the permit department is adequately resourced in the future?

The permit department is one that badly needs a technological upgrade, like many of the city's current departments. I will be pledging to do a critical review of all departments to make sure they are talking effectively, and to make sure every department has the resources to do their job quickly, efficiently and with customer service as the No. 1 goal. The second issue I will address as Mayor is ensuring communication between various departments - no one department should be working in a silo. It leads to delays, is not cost effective and it decreases the level of service we are providing to our citizens.

Question Two: Would you support changes to the Permit Reserve Fund to increase the total fund and ensure it is replenished prior to any funds leaving the permit department for consolidated revenue?

I support making sure the department is adequately staffed and has the technological resources to do their job and make it easier for customers to access. As noted in my answer to the question above, there first needs to be a review to make sure this is happening across all departments. My ultimate goal is to make sure the permitting process is as easy and quick as possible, and that may include making these changes.

Question Three: Would you support the use of the widely-accepted standardized documents (CCDC) for City of Winnipeg construction tendering?

Absolutely! There is no reason not to do so. As a lawyer who has been working with various First Nations through their housing, lagoons, and other critical builds, I have found CCDC standardized documents have value.

Question Four: How do you plan to balance the responsible use of taxpayer dollars and funding important infrastructure projects?

Public consultation here is key. There needs to be very open, broad and public consultation on all major infrastructure projects and all the key stakeholders need to be consulted, listened to and their concerns and ideas taken seriously. Further to that, to be responsible to taxpayers requires transparency. We have already seen

what can happen when backroom deals occur - the Police HQ deal is a sad example. When I am Mayor, Winnipeggers will know their hard-earned dollars matter.

Question Five: What will you do to improve collaboration in the Winnipeg Metro Region to attract outside investment?

We will work with the province and current municipalities to decide once and for all if surrounding municipalities wish to form an official metro region to partner in projects. I believe there are numerous opportunities to work together, save taxpayer dollars and help each other. In the interim, taxpayers in Winnipeg should not be carrying the brunt of costs for services used by citizens outside of the city.

Question Six: As the City embarks on more significant infrastructure projects, what will you do to ensure Winnipeg construction projects can be executed more smoothly and efficiently?

This goes back to question one - if the departments running the city don't have the resources and personnel and communication between departments they need, projects cannot be run well or efficiently, which leads, of course, to cost overruns and delays. There must also be a full and thorough evaluation of city contractors, with the goal of eliminating any conflicts of interest when tendering contracts. Under a Rana Mayor administration, transparency is key. Strengthening conflict of interest policies as well as whistleblower protection are some ways to ensure we do that.