

## **SDLC Questionnaire for City Council Candidates**

1. The City of Saskatoon provides many vital services to its citizens, such as wastewater treatment, garbage and recycling disposal, maintenance of infrastructure, snow clearing and public transportation. Many of the roads, sidewalks, green spaces, pipes and playgrounds need to be upgraded as they are nearing the end of their lifecycle. This is a constant challenge, and continual maintenance is critical. It is also important to support a transit system in Saskatoon that allows for frequency, reliability and accessibility. An example of this is the renewal of the fleet of buses and the development of a Bus Rapid Transit system.  
There are various ways to pay for the development of new public services and resources, such as opportunities to partner with higher levels of government. It is important to have long-term, multi-year funding for cities and not let important social, environmental or city programs be cut due to the increasing costs on municipalities to maintain infrastructure.
2. It is my view that public services and infrastructure remain public. However, I understand the difficulty municipalities faced when the main option for cost sharing came in the form of public-private partnerships (P3). While the current P3s in development are legally binding and are difficult to reverse, I am not in favour of introducing future P3s without a public consultation and City review.
3. The City of Saskatoon is one of Saskatoon's largest employers, and employees at the city operate under various unions. It is important for the City of Saskatoon to keep a positive relationship with its staff by reinforcing a safe workspace, bargaining in good faith during contract negotiations and supporting staff through fair and equitable wages and benefits. An open-door policy to encourage staff discussion with management and council would be an important step to fostering a positive workspace.
4. It is imperative to ensure access to affordable housing for those who experience homelessness or are at risk of homelessness in our city. If not for ethical reasons, it has also been shown to be economically cheaper to invest in housing for the homeless rather than continually use our jails or hospitals as housing alternatives. By partnering up with provincial governments and offering tax or financial incentives to nonprofits groups or private developers, the City can help build safe and affordable housing.  
It is logistically challenging to reach marginalized residents, but even so, it does not mean we should not try. There is a great saying from a group in Saskatoon that applies to City Council when making decisions about the residents they are elected to serve: "Nothing about us without us."
5. The City of Saskatoon can improve economic opportunities by promoting the many great local businesses and industries that currently reside here. The city can also collaborate with nonprofit groups encouraging local economic growth through a livable wage and promote local employers who pay a livable wage of over \$15 to its employees. Opportunities for future growth in areas such as the green economy should not be discounted as well. Saskatchewan has one of the highest solar and wind potentials internationally. Partnerships such as the one between the City of Saskatoon and the SES Solar Coop at the Landfill Gas Generation Plant is a great first step to encouraging alternative energy solutions. Furthermore, we should explore ways to incentivize homeowners to install solar panels from local installers and suppliers. In addition, programs to maintain existing infrastructure are also important.
6. Saskatchewan is one of the largest greenhouse gas emitters per capita in the world. There is an obligation for municipalities to step in and work on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Since Saskatoon is the largest city in the province, it has an opportunity to set precedence in Saskatchewan by reducing emissions rather than continually increasing them.

Through my work as a board member with the Saskatchewan Environmental Society, I have presented to city council and its committees multiple times on greenhouse gas emission strategies for the City of Saskatoon. I have presented 21 recommendations for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, which include an anti-idling bylaw, setting community emission reduction targets, creating an energy efficiency code, LED street lighting, low-emissions transport options, incentives for ultra-low emission vehicles and working with the industrial sector to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Several of these recommendations have been taken to city administration for review and feasibility.

7. Reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians is tremendously important. A good first step could include supporting work around decolonization and anti-oppression training in the community and in the workplace, as well as accepting recommendations from the report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. In addition, there are many Aboriginal leaders in our community who should be given the opportunity to be heard and provide leadership where needed.
8. N/A as I am not an incumbent.