

This questionnaire was designed for candidates running for Saskatoon City Council. It provides an opportunity for candidates to communicate their positions on issues that are important to workers in Saskatoon. Once the questionnaire is filled out, the responses will be graded by the Political Action Committee of the Saskatoon & District Labour Council (SDLC). Each question will be weighed equally and candidates will be given a mark out of 100 to indicate the extent to which the candidate's positions align with the positions of the SDLC. Your responses will be posted on the SDLC website and your overall score will be communicated to union members across the city. Your completed questionnaire should be sent to David McGrane and Charles Smith at david.mcgrane@usask.ca and csmith@stmcollege.ca no later than Labour Day (September 5th, 2016).

1) The City of Saskatoon provides vital public services to its citizens. What public services need to be strengthened through the injection of new financial resources? How would you propose to pay for better public services in Saskatoon?

Transit needs an injection of cash to ensure we have an effective rapid transit plan throughout our entire City. Saskatoon will continue to grow, and so will the need for an effective transportation plan. Everyone in the city should have the opportunity to get to work in under an hour's time and you shouldn't be penalized because you can't afford a vehicle. Without reviewing the upcoming city budget, commenting on we grow and improve our Transit services is not possible.

2) What is your view of privatization of public services? Would you reverse the services that have been privatized by previous city governments?

As of right now I believe Saskatoon is one of the top cities in Canada to live in and that has a lot to do with the people who work for the City. I'm not privy to all of the services that have been privatized in the past and I believe it would be irresponsible for me to comment on which one's I would switch back without having all of the pertinent information as to why these were privatized.

3) What could the City of Saskatoon do to improve its relationship with its employees? How can the collective bargaining rights of City of Saskatoon employees be better protected?

Communication with front line workers would be by top priority. Too many times we see employees who are out on a daily basis filling pot holes, reading meters, driving transit buses who don't have the ability to share their thoughts as to what's working and what's not. We need to provide a work atmosphere for the frontline workers to feel safe sharing their concerns as they would know best on how to fix current issues due to their experience alone.

4) What can the City of Saskatoon do to provide safe and affordable housing? How can we ensure that marginalized residents have a say in community and social planning?

One of the key points in my campaign is communication. All residents of Saskatoon have a right to have their concerns and opinions heard. Drawing from examples I have heard of, I plan to host monthly "open houses" where residents from Ward 6 will be able to attend, and voice any thoughts they have regarding occurrences within the Ward and/or the City.

5) What role do you see for the City of Saskatoon to improve around economic development?

Over the past 20 years, I have worked with local small businesses to help them build and achieve their goals. As we continue to grow, Saskatoon will become a more desirable destination to both national and international companies. Through this period, we need to make sure that there are policies and incentives in place to promote development and growth for locally owned start-ups, as well as expansion options for current Saskatoon business owners.

6) What specific initiatives would you propose to move Saskatoon to a low-carbon economy and reduce our greenhouse gas emissions?

I believe that from a fuel consumption perspective, improvements to our public transportation is vital to reducing daily automobile use, specifically for residents that use their vehicle just to get to and from work. Also, making sure that initiatives put forth by the provincial government, regarding wind, solar, and water are being executed.

7) What can the City of Saskatoon do to promote reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians?

We as a City need to ensure we continue to work in partnership with our First Nations leaders to try and find solutions to their social economic problems, and provide stable and safe home atmospheres for first nations children. The majority of people in Saskatoon are still unaware of trials and tribulations that First Nations elders went through as children which has resulted in many issues we are seeing today.

8) If you are an existing councilor, what is one decision you have made over the past 4 years which best demonstrates your leadership and commitment to Saskatoon residents?

Please keep your responses to 200 words or less per question..