

Candidate Response:  
Pervaiz Iqbal, Sept. 27, 2010, 7:36 PM

Questions:

Do you support limiting the total civic election expenditures by individual candidates? If so, what limits would you suggest?

What other election financing policies would you champion to provide limits, checks and balances against actual or perceived preferential treatment?

Do you believe there should be new rules in regard to people and organizations lobbying Council members?

I strongly support limiting the total civic election expenditure by individual candidates as I feel that there is too much competition and opportunity for advertisement for those individuals who are financially more secure or have the capacity to spend more. The unfortunate reality is that all candidates do not have that same financial backing and may be perceived as being left behind or not trying hard enough as they don't have large fancy signs up or thousands of flyers going out. The reality is there should be a cap to level the playing field. This allows the voters the opportunity to see the candidate as a candidate and not as a competitor with a big shiny board on their drive home.

I feel that candidates emphasize on lawn signs and large posters of themselves rather than focus on spreading the message about their views and changes they would like to implement.

I would limit the number of signs that may be put up and restrict the sizes that they may be.

I feel that the personal or business interest in the council members by business owners or individuals should be clearly acknowledged and public information.

Questions:

How would you, as an elected alderman or mayor of Calgary manage to direct these various entities to the benefit of all the citizens and the future of Calgary?

How would you assure the citizens that they are being treated fairly, efficiently, and honestly by these various organizations and their processes?

First and foremost it is important to understand which programs directly impact the residents of Calgary and how the funding can be provided and invested back into the individuals.

It is important to have an open door policy to city hall and that is one of the first things that I would implement if elected.

I want every person, even in their native language to be heard at city hall and to be a part of the changes that are implemented.

Questions:

Do you support increasing the number of aldermen in The City of Calgary?

What number of aldermen do you think there should be in Calgary to adequately govern and represent ward residents and on what basis do you base your position?

Yes, I strongly support increasing the number of alderman in the City of Calgary.

I feel that we should increase the number of aldermen from 14 to 16. I feel that the number of communities under certain aldermen is too large to be properly taken care of or represented. We live in a city with a population of 1.2 million individuals and only 14 people to address their concerns is not sufficient. By adding two more aldermen within the city we can have an equal amount approximately 80,000 residents per alderman.

Questions:

Do you support exploring the concept of a city charter for Calgary?

Would you please expand on the rationale for you answer to the above question?

Do you believe that Calgary would be better served by having increased jurisdiction on matters facing a large city?

Yes, I support creating a city charter for Calgary. I feel that the larger cities with the charter system in place seem to be managing a lot better on the world level than cities without the charter allowing them to make decision for the city with their own allotted powers.

Questions:

Do you support expanding recycling to multi-family developments?

Would you support encouraging use of transit by City employees?

Would you be willing to work with the private sector towards increasing use of transit by their employees?

What other measures would you support towards reducing our ecological footprint?

I feel that multi-family developments should have the blue bin program as well but on a much larger scale. Meaning they have one of their large garbage bins replaced with a large recycling bin picked up by the city once a week for the entire complex.

Yes, of course all city employees should be encouraged to take city transit, in fact if the individuals that represent the city set an example others are surely to follow.

An incentive program should be offered, even something as minor as allowing a discounted fare for the larger corporations on transit fees to their employees or offering to pay a portion of the monthly pass amount.

I would encourage that a brown bin program be introduced, meaning that the biodegradable waste such as food or grass clippings be collected and composted.

Questions:

What do you believe The City could do to increase the supply of more affordable housing in Calgary?

What is your position on secondary suites?

I strongly feel that legalizing secondary suites will solve the problem. By legalizing suites, we are allowing the home owners to generate revenue as well as offering more affordable housing options for the home seekers.

I also feel that more affordable housing projects should be allowed by the city and funding be made more readily available for such projects.