



Erin Waite, Calgary City Council Candidate for Ward 7

What are your priorities for public services in our communities?

Having led a non profit in the disabilities sector, I advocate for appropriate pay and benefits for quality services and supports throughout our social services. When economic sectors experience downturns, we have to be careful not to have a race to the bottom. We need healthy economies, including appropriate pay and recognition for public services, including in the non profit sector.

What is your position on private-public partnerships?

The business case for private-public partnerships is weak and flawed. They always lead to a compromise and the project suffers for it, often without any cost savings.

What are your priorities for transportation?

Along with major network additions such as the Green Line, we need to improve frequency and connectedness throughout our communities. We need more flexible passes and costs for post-secondary students. We need to experiment with ideas like a hop-on/hop-off bus that encircles downtown connecting our inner city neighbourhoods.

Do you support the change in campaign financing laws?

At the municipal level, we need to have a spend cap that is a relatively low level so that entering public life is not a barrier to anyone. The current restrictions add challenges for the wrong reasons. For instance, in-kind donations would be available to any candidate and could make a difference for a candidate with little access to financial donations. If financing restrictions were linked to changes that reduced waste in paper and signs, then we'd have much healthier campaigns!

What is your plan to address housing and homelessness in our communities?

I am a proponent of adding mixed market housing so that we limit the need for an entire low-income building that is stigmatized in the community. I recognize that we can't fulfill the need only through mixed market models, but those should be emphasized. I am also a proponent of ensuring a broad mix of ownership models to offer choice and access points for all kinds of people at all stages. I believe the inner



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city is especially suited to laneway and other creative housing variations that contribute to multi-generational and aging-in-place options. We need more and varied solutions to meet housing needs. City planning and permitting needs to offer faster and less expensive approvals of varied and creative responses to housing needs.affordable housing projects need to be placed in areas that are close to amenities such as schools, grocery stores, doctor's offices, and transit. I also believe that when it comes to building affordable housing projects that members of the community should be consulted with. By bringing affordable housing into the foreground of city planning, as well as consulting with members of the community I believe Calgary can become a more inclusive city for all.

What are your priorities to address the fiscal relationship between the provincial government and municipalities?

For too long we have seen a downloading of costs and services onto municipalities and no willingness to revise the fiscal relationship between municipalities and the provincial government. This needs to be a coordinated movement where all municipalities work together to detail agreed-upon, needed changes, and then take a single demand to the provincial government. This issue can't be addressed by Calgary alone and needs the strength of consistent messages and strategic approach to the provincial government. A City of Calgary task force that works with similar representatives from each Alberta municipality is the starting point to get organized to lead to effective advocacy.