

RESPONSE PROVIDED - TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

Dear PSAC Members,

I have been asked to write down a few words to help you get to know me better.

I am familiar with PSAC and with the crucial services that public sector employees provide Canadian families, including right here in Winnipeg. That's why I have worked to protect services throughout my career. I fought to save Canada Post and protect mail pickup, and I have vocally opposed the Harper administration's ruthless cutbacks.

Winnipeg families count on the services that city employees provide, and as mayor my top priorities will be to protect and enhance those frontline services. I will dedicate one third of dedicated property taxes to funding core services like police, fire, paramedic, garbage collection, and snow removal, and I will also review potential ways to save money and build capacity by bringing contracts back to the city. The remaining two thirds being devoted to local and regional roads, as it is my second priority to ensure that we don't leave a legacy of crumbling infrastructure to our children.

My third priority as mayor would be to restore public trust in our municipal government and in the valuable work that our local public employees do. Lately, it seems that high level municipal officials have not been held to the same ethical standards that the rest of the public service meets and exceeds every day. I have a plan to bring in an independent watchdog to ensure that we go back to hiring senior city officials based on what they know, rather than on who they know. This office will also provide whistleblower protection for city employees who suspect wrongdoing, so that they can speak out without being afraid of being harassed or losing their jobs.

Thank you very much for providing me the opportunity to reach out to your membership. Public sector workers at all levels of government are an important part of what makes Winnipeg such a great city to live in, and I am committed to working with you to make it even better.

Sincerely,

Judy