



Candidate Name:	Brian Pincott
Ward:	11
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1. What are the top three issues facing your Ward?

- **Urban Growth/Development**
- **Affordable Housing**
- **Transportation**

2. What are the top three issues facing the city as a whole, if different from above?

**I think they are very similar to the issues of ward 11.**

**3. Urban Sprawl and Housing**

- a. Do you support the concept of extending Transit-Oriented Development throughout the city, including in established neighbourhoods generally and in your ward? What is your stance on the proposed development at Dalhousie Station (in Varsity)?

**I believe that we need to look at TOD throughout the city. Clearly this is a strategy that is not just reserved for Greenfield development, but must be applied to inner city redevelopment as well.**

- b. Are we facing a housing crisis in Calgary? If so, what should be done about it? If you are an incumbent, what have you specifically done about this?

**We are indeed facing an affordable housing crisis in Calgary. We need to look at increasing our stock of affordable housing throughout the city. We need to look at a couple of things right away:**

- 1) secondary suites throughout the city and**
- 2) relaxing parking requirements for multi-unit buildings.**

**As we look for ways to densify our inner city, we should focus around existing LRT and transit nodes in order to keep housing affordable by giving people the option to own a car.**

- c. Do you support legalization of secondary suites in all existing neighbourhoods, subject only to reasonable safety concerns? Why or why not?

**Yes I do. I believe that we need to look at all areas for this type of means of increasing density as well as meeting the need for affordable housing. I would do this in phases though, first looking at those areas surrounding secondary institutions and those areas near transit hubs.**

**This must be done in conjunction with increasing transit funding and service.**

- d. Do you believe that urban sprawl is a problem for the city? If you believe it is a problem, what will you do to address it? (If you are an incumbent, what have you already specifically done?) If you don't see it as a problem, please explain why.

**I certainly do believe that we have a suburban sprawl problem. We need to start challenging developers to build denser, smart growth communities on our periphery and not just in inner city redevelopments. We must set minimum density levels for new developments and include transit from the outset that are more ambitious than the current 7 UPA. As well, we must look at getting transit into a community as it is built and not later. Essentially we must insist upon walkable, denser, and non car dependent urban design.**

#### 4. Transportation

- a. Has the City been doing a good job of addressing transportation needs? What, if anything, would you do differently?

**No, the focus has been primarily on roads and interchanges. Everyone knows that you can't build your way out of traffic congestion, and yet, we keep doing it. I would diversify our approach to transportation and make it about moving people rather than cars. I would look at how we are building our communities to address transportation concerns from the beginning rather than later.**

- b. How often do you use public transit? Bus, C-train, or both?

- **I currently use it approximately 5 times a month.**
- **I bike commute to work every day (Every Day!!)**
- **When I lived further out, I took transit every day.**

- c. Does our current transit system meet the needs of the city? If not, how specifically would you improve it?

**It meets the needs variably. If you happen to live along a major route or along the LRT line, it works well, other than that it does not work well. I would begin with increasing the funding so that at minimum it was a 50% split of transportation dollars.**

- d. Are you in favour of the current strategic plan for transit? Why or why not? If not, what changes would you make?

**The plan is too focused on the CTrain and not on the communities. It needs to be a complete service.**

- e. The City's current plan does not envision direct C-Train service to either the airport or Mount Royal College. Would you favour amending the plan to reach these two destinations (both within close distance of planned lines)? Why or why not?

**We must use the extension of the CTrain to capture higher density neighbourhoods. I think the priority should be that as well as MRC. I don't believe that the airport should specifically be a priority.**

- f. Are there other areas of the city that are underserved by transit? How would you address this?

**The suburbs in particular are underserved, with the routes dropping down to community routes at about 6:00 PM. I would increase the frequency of buses in the evenings and off-peak hours in order for transit to be a viable, effective and efficient option all day long.**

## **5. Vibrant and sustainable communities**

- a. What will you do to address homelessness and urban poverty in the city? (If you are an incumbent, what have you already specifically done?) If you don't see this as a problem, please explain why.

**I believe the city should adopt a living wage policy to go along with its ethical procurement policy. As well, I have great concern around warehousing the economically challenged. Social models show that the best approach is integration, at every step of the way.**

- b. What is your stance on arts funding? Do you support the recent recommendations of the Calgary Arts Development Authority?
- **Arts funding has not substantially increased in this city, or province, for a long time. Our last major public facility was the Epcor Centre for Performing Arts (the Calgary Centre for Performing Arts when built) in 1985. We have a dearth of performance venues in this city, particularly in the mid size range.**
  - **Not only do we have a venue crunch, but even more dire in our booming city is the crunch for space for our artists to actually make their art. In the performing arts there is an extreme lack of rehearsal space, in the creative arts, studio space is at a premium.**
  - **CAD has my full support and I presented at council in support of their recommendations.**
- c. What is your stance on the city's curbside recycling plan? Would you extend the plan to include recycling of organics and plastics? Why or why not?
- **I think the plan is not adequate. While it is better than the current set up, a curbside plan should include everything. The current plan does currently include plastics (I was working for 4 years to get this program instituted) and should include organics.**

- **As well, the “user fee” should be on the behaviour you wish to discourage, such as waste, rather than on the recycling component.**
- **I would also like to see a bag tag system implemented with specific limits.**
- **Also, a way to ensure that people are not throwing recyclable into the waste stream, such as insisting on clear plastic bags for trash, would help to ensure that we capture all recyclables.**
- **Recycling, though, is just the first step. We should aim for a zero waste city. To do that we must work to not only recycle, but to change our buying habits so that we promote materials that are reusable, with less packaging. I subscribe to Bill McDonough’s view of waste.. Waste equals Food.**

d. **What other environmental initiatives, if any, would you favour?**

**Here are a few... I am sure there are more...**

- **Ban cosmetic pesticide use**
- **Limits on vehicle idling**
- **Complete the streetlight retrofit, and look at eliminating some streetlights**
- **Bag Tags**
- **Invasive Species plan**
- **Speed up the water metering program**
- **Work to substantially reduce unnecessary irrigation**
- **District heating in more areas, particularly the downtown**
- **Distributed MRF’s during new development buildouts**
- **Expanding Transit**
- **Add commuter bike lanes**
- **Community gardens throughout the city**
- **Naturalize street boulevards and right-of-ways**
- **Establish connected greenspaces throughout the city**

- **Increase permeable surfaces throughout the city**
- **Develop wetlands for storm water filtration**

- e. What will you do to address crime and safety issues in Calgary? (If you are an incumbent, what have you already specifically done?) If you don't see this as a problem, please explain why.

**In order to address this issue we need to look at the sources. Addressing the poverty issue, dealing with the “warehousing” of our homeless population, looking at how we design our communities are all steps at preventing the problem. In essence, we must be proactive with this issue rather than reactive. In the downtown, I would like to increase the number of people living there in order to make the area safer. Essentially, the Jane Jacobs model of more eyes on the street.**

## **6. Taxes and Revenues**

- a. Does the current system of funding municipal government largely through property taxes work well? If not, what changes would you recommend?

**I think for the most part it can. I believe that we should look at allocating spending in a smarter way before we look at additional tax revenues.**

- b. Is there enough money in the system currently to fund your priorities? If not, how will you fund them?

**I believe so. I think it is a matter of looking at the issues differently. Often times, we will find the more sustainable choices, the more human scaled choices, are cheaper and more cost effective.**

## 7. Political reform.

- a. Does the current system of campaign financing work well? If not, what changes would you favour?

**I don't believe it does. I think that the lack of campaign finance rules favours incumbents and those who can raise the most money. As such I have put forward a series of campaign finance reforms as part of my platform:**

- no donation above \$1,500
- campaign expenditures of no more than 0.50 per resident
- left over campaign funds held in trust until retirement and then donated to charity
- fundraising to only be allowed in the same calendar year of an election
- reveal all donors when the donation is made rather than following the election

- b. In the absence of rules around disbursement of campaign surpluses, what will you do with any leftover funds?

**I have committed to donate leftover campaign funds to charity when I am no longer running.**

- c. Are there any other structural reforms you would favour?

**I would like to see municipal campaign donations receive tax receipts.**