

Why I Should Be Edmonton's Next Mayor

By Tony Caterina

Edmonton stands at a crossroads. As your next mayor, I will end endless overspending and excessive annual property tax hikes while keeping business taxes low and fixing our city's broken systems.

With 14 years as a city councillor and a deep commitment to Edmonton's future, I'm running to deliver practical, fiscally responsible solutions, protect our communities, and restore pride.

Here's why I'm the right choice to lead.

- Fiscal responsibility is my core vision. Edmonton's growing \$4.7 billion capital debt and \$3.8 billion operating budget demand stronger leadership. Too often, taxpayer dollars fund projects that balloon in cost or fail to deliver value. Our long-term debt, projected to exceed \$5 billion by late 2025, carries interest payments consuming approximately 11% of your annual tax bill—this is unacceptable. I'll champion cost-effective infrastructure, like Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), to improve mobility without breaking the bank. My plan to review departments' ineffective and wasteful spending will ensure transparency. Every dollar must work for Edmontonians, not special interests.
- Public safety and homelessness are top voter concerns. Open drug use and crime require my zero-tolerance approach and a unified strategy to address root causes. As mayor, I'll rebuild trust between City Council and the Edmonton Police Commission, creating a committee to integrate existing assets—Edmonton Police Service, Transit Peace Officers, Corporate Security, and Alberta Community Peace Officers—within current budgets. This smarter approach will make Edmonton a place where families and businesses will build, thrive, and live in safety.
- I'm the only mayoral candidate to promise a motion to repeal the disastrous Zoning Bylaw 20001. Its "wild-west" rules, with no clearance or parking requirements for large and multiple mid-block structures, strip homeowners of recourse against incompatible developments. I'll restore sensible zoning by reverting to Bylaw 12800, which supports strong infill development while respecting Edmonton's heritage and meeting our housing needs.
- Edmonton's economy must diversify to secure our future. By keeping business taxes low, removing red tape and roadblocks, I'll advance the

Horse Hill Energy Park to attract value-added industries, creating jobs and competing with hubs like Nisku and Acheson.

- I'll also address the Blatchford development. This 13-year vanity project has already cost the city hundreds of millions of taxpayers' dollars with pitifully low results and expensive homes for sale. With hundreds of millions more in spending planned and a newly announced final build-out of 2042, 29 years after the last plane left the city centre airport, this is simply unacceptable. I will work with builders to develop a thriving new neighbourhood on the Exhibition grounds and other practical locations.
- I'll freeze hundreds of millions in bike lane spending, removing those that impede traffic or goods and services by reducing roadways.
- To reduce confusion and help all Edmontonians know which ward they live in, I'll add ward numbers in blackets alongside their names, like Ipiihkoohkanipiahtsi (10).
- I will motion to repeal Edmonton's single-use plastics bylaw, which costs Edmontonians money and jobs.
- I will reinstate the City's Interfaith Chaplain and Senior Mental Health Consultant position for its over 13,000 employees. The city should have never eliminated this important position.
- I want to reignite Edmonton's spirit through a Mayor's "City of Champions" initiative. This is about honouring our innovators, everyday Edmontonians, and builders who made and make our city exceptional. It will be a Virtual Hall of Fame, to inspire the next generation to be equally great, while not costing taxpayers any money.

On October 20, 2025, Edmontonians will choose a mayor who listens, acts with principle, and delivers fiscally responsible results. My 14 years of experience and clear plan to restore fiscal discipline, enhance safety, protect neighbourhoods, and celebrate our spirit make me the best choice to lead the next four years. I humbly ask for your vote to build a stronger, prouder Edmonton.

Visit www.TonyForMayor.com to learn more and join me in this fight for our city's future.