

**Tony Caterina for Mayor  
Edmonton, Oct. 20, 2025**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Reinstating the City of Edmonton's Interfaith Chaplain, Senior Mental Health Consultant position.**

As Edmonton's Next Mayor, I will reinstate the City's Interfaith Chaplain, Senior Mental Health Consultant position for its over 13,000 Employees.

In 2023, the highly respected longtime Interfaith Chaplain and Senior Mental Health Consultant, John Dowds, retired. Without the general public's knowledge, the City of Edmonton eliminated this important position. Replacing him with a webpage link and a phone number for support.

John Dowds offered support and guidance during and after any traumatic event, including mental health concerns, suicide intervention, domestic violence, workplace issues, and more.

This multi-faith chaplain was vital to the over 13,000 city employees and their families. Highlighting just one recognition of his great work, after retiring, Chaplain Dowds was so highly regarded by Edmonton's Fire Rescue Services personnel that he was made a lifetime Honourary Chaplain with the Edmonton Firefighters Pipe and Drums Society. Sadly, this great honour also received no media coverage.

Across Alberta, including Edmonton, interfaith chaplain positions are integral to the spiritual and emotional well-being of tens of thousands of employees. These roles provide crisis intervention, regular spiritual guidance, and support across civic services, corporate, and non-profit sectors.

Just some of the other locations in Alberta with similar in-person services include: the University of Alberta, NAIT, Concordia University of Edmonton, throughout Alberta Health Services (AHS), the Edmonton Police Service (EPS), across Alberta with numerous positions within the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), and various prisons and remand centres. Also, the Edmonton Community Chaplaincy Association offers chaplaincy resources regardless of background, religion, or culture to different neighbourhoods in Edmonton.

Together we can make this happen. Please vote Tony Caterina for Mayor on Oct. 20, 2025.

Thank you:  
Tony Caterina

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**I'm NOT the Other Guys!**  
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