



ARLA - Alberta Residential Landlords Association

Are you aware of the issues the Multi-family industry faces with respect to the constant increases in Property Taxes to the “Other” category and if so, what are your thoughts on this?

Property taxes are the main source of revenue which funds our city’s operations, and nearly the only revenue stream that is fully controlled by the city. As Edmonton grows both in population and in size, so do the costs to provide services to the entire city. Edmonton deserves high-quality public services and cities will always be challenged to weigh the benefits of municipal services, such as roadways and transportation, utilities, and emergency services, against the costs.

As councillor for Ward Karhiio I will be committed to seeking efficiencies which allow the city to deliver municipal services to all, for less. I am also committed to priority-based budgeting and participatory decision making which places Edmontonians’ needs at the centre of decision making, budgets, and tax rates.

Are you aware of the issues facing the Multi-family industry with respect to the Waste Management Services they are currently receiving and if so, what are your thoughts on this?

Like many city operations and services, I support municipal waste services for residential homes, whether single family or multi-family units. This service is one piece of the much bigger rate-payer supported waste system that also includes Eco Stations, Community Recycling Depots, waste education programs, management of the City’s closed former landfills, and the operations of the Edmonton Waste Management Centre.

The utility model operates at scale, saves money, and enables long-term investments in assets to support responsible waste management. A utility model also ensures everyone receives the same high standard of service regardless of



dwelling type. Other Canadian Municipalities have implemented private or mixed models for waste and in each case public delivery was found to be cost competitive with private delivery, and demonstrated much higher rate-payer satisfaction.

When it comes to specific challenges that the multi-family industry is facing, I am committed to connecting community groups and the City's waste team to take a person-centered approach by working closely with end users to develop a solution that benefits everyone.

Do you have a plan for Edmonton's Economic Recovery? Does this include a plan to address the Rental Industry? Downtown Core? Businesses?

As a city, we need to find ways to support economic development projects that have the ability to evolve quickly, make real impact, and mobilize our community. That's why Economy is one of the three major pillars of my platform. My focus is primarily centred on revitalizing local businesses and community hubs in Edmonton's southeast where I am running. I believe that strong local businesses will have a positive impact on the city as a whole, including driving demand for rental housing options.

One thing I aim to do if elected is to remove barriers to starting and keeping a business in Edmonton, and I have experience doing this. I recognized early in the COVID-19 pandemic that our local economy was being devastated, affecting thousands of business owners and employees' livelihoods. Determined to have a positive impact, I helped to broker a partnership between a Canadian philanthropic organization and a local Alberta bank, to provide immediate relief for small businesses and help transition many of them online. I am committed to taking similarly innovative approaches to stimulate local economic growth and diversification in Edmonton from the council table.



I would welcome a conversation with ARLA members to fully understand the issues at stake for the landlord community. In the meantime, please visit my blog to learn more about my vision and ideas for economic revitalization.

Are you aware of the Crime-Free Housing that exists for the multi-family industry and if so, what are your thoughts on the police forces' role in supporting this initiative?

The goal of the Crime Free Multi-Housing program is to introduce crime prevention techniques to multi-family housing properties to reduce the likelihood of criminal activity occurring on the premises. I understand that the police service supports this initiative through information, awareness raising, and CPTED methods (i.e., environmental safety audit). I think this is a good example of a police-community partnership that takes a preventative approach towards wellbeing and safety rather than a reactive or enforcement approach.

Nevertheless, policing, community wellbeing, and public safety are each incredibly complex and all interconnected. It takes effective and positive collaboration between all sectors and the public to achieve truly safe communities. As a community organizer and the former project manager for the urban wellness initiative at the City of Edmonton, I had the opportunity to facilitate collaborations between the police and communities, working together to make our communities safer. As a city councillor, I would continue to seek out these opportunities and pursue people-focused strategies for wellness and community safety, because we all have a role to play.