

Want to be heard on the budget at city hall?

Here is what you need to do:

- Watch the city's website for meeting agendas. These must be posted **96 hours** before the meeting begins. The link is <http://clkapps.winnipeg.ca/dmis/>
- If you want to speak to an agenda item, you must register by 4:30pm the business day before the meeting (So on Friday for a Monday meeting)
- For committee meetings, you just need to say you want to speak to an agenda item.
- For council meetings, you have to say if you are in support or against the proposal
 - This is important because for council, they limit delegations to two in support and two opposed. **BUT:** A member of council can choose to make a motion to suspend that rule if more want to speak. You would have to get a council member to agree to do this.
- To register to speak, call the city clerk's office at 204-798-0111

Budget Discussions at Council from 22-28 November, 2019

- **November 22**
 - Winnipeg Police Board-Budget Delegations
 - 1:30-5:30pm
- **November 25**
 - Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment - Budget Delegations
 - 4:30 – 8:30pm
- **November 26**
 - Innovation and Economic Development - Budget Delegations
 - 4:30 – 8:30pm
- **November 27**
 - Protection, Community Services and Parks - Budget Delegations
 - 8:30am – 12:30pm
 - Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development - Budget Delegations
 - 4:30 – 8:30pm
- **November 28**
 - Rescheduled from November 22 - Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works - Budget Delegations 1:00pm -5:00pm
 - Executive Policy Committee-Budget Delegations
 - 4:30-8:30pm

- **City Issues to Note**

The news is full of threatened cuts as the City rolls out the new four year budget process and proposals. There is always public posturing and positioning while negotiations go on in private. Usually this leads to cuts not being as bad as signalled. This does not mean we should not be very concerned. A four year budget lends itself to the argument that it must be conservative. This will allow the City to set relatively low targets for fulfilling its social responsibilities. These may or may not be improved in successive years as there will be surplus and deficits to be dealt with. To date, there has been no information on what happens if the picture is different in year 2, 3 and/or 4.

For now, the City committed to implementing a poverty reduction strategy, but only within existing budgets. What we are hearing to date, such as drastic cuts to transit and only a .5% increase to community services, needs community to step up and push back.

Community groups have put forward solutions. [Make Poverty History Manitoba's Winnipeg Without Poverty](#) has developed a visionary anti-poverty strategy with 50 recommendations of how the City can lead. These should be front and centre in the budgeting process. Moreover, the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives released an [Alternative Municipal Budget](#) that provides a detailed fiscally prudent template for to implement a progressive budget.

This new process has the presentation of the departmental proposals earlier than in previous years. This means more opportunity to speak out. There will be delegate presentations from November 22 to November 28. Community groups are coming together to have their voices heard. Please come out to our meeting to hear what others are saying and learn the basics on how to advocate for what you want. If you can't make the meeting, please check out the [City Clerk's Department official website](#) if you want to organize on your own.

If speaking at City Hall is not possible for you, you can always write the Mayor and Council [here](#).
Tips:

- Know your points before you call
- If emailing try to keep it short
- If doing either or both, make sure you request a response
- Follow up on that response
- Try to be solution focused ie. Where they can find the money. Our property taxes have been kept unsustainably low for decades. We have allowed urban sprawl to deplete our tax base (check out CCPA report on [The High Cost of Free-Riding and How We Fix It](#) and Brent Bellamy's [Free Press article - City's expanding footprint has high cost](#)). The Save Our Canopy campaign is a great example. It identified that taking less than 5% from the capital roads budget will increase our ability to save our tree canopy by 200%. In short, give the decision makers your permission to spend less on what can wait and more on what cannot!

Info on Winnipeg's Multi-Year 2020 to 2023 Budget process at:

<https://winnipeg.ca/interhom/Budget/2020Budget/default.stm>



And/Or Contact your Councillors and MLAs

You can also contact your city councillor or one of the key cabinet ministers at the email and phone numbers listed below.

Councillors

Mayor Brian Bowman	<i>City of Winnipeg</i>		mayor@winnipeg.ca
Ms. Janice Lukes	<i>Waverly West</i>	204-986-6824	jlukes@winnipeg.ca
Mr. Brian Mayes	<i>St. Vital</i>	204-986.5088	bmayes@winnipeg.ca
Ms. Cindy Gilroy	<i>Daniel McIntyre</i>	204-986-5951	cgilroy@winnipeg.ca
Ms. Devi Sharma	<i>Old Kildonan</i>	204-986-5264	dsharma@winnipeg.ca
Mr. Jason Schreyer	<i>Elmwood/East Kildonan</i>	204-986-5195	jschreyer@winnipeg.ca
Mr. Jeff Browaty	<i>North Kildonan</i>	204-986-5196	jbrowaty@winnipeg.ca
Ms. Sherri Rollins	<i>Fort Rouge/ East Fort Garry</i>	204-986-5878	srollins@winnipeg.ca
Mr. John Orlikow	<i>River Heights/ Fort Garry</i>	204-986-5236	jorlikow@winnipeg.ca
Mr. Kevin Klein	<i>Charleswood/Tuxedo/W. Ridge</i>	204-986-5232	kklein@winnipeg.ca
Mr. Matt Allard	<i>St. Boniface</i>	204-290-9976	mallard@winnipeg.ca
Ms. Vivian Santos	<i>Point Douglas</i>	204-986-8401	vsantos@winnipeg.ca
Mr. Ross Eadie	<i>Mynarski</i>	204-986-5188	readie@winnipeg.ca
Mr. Shwan Nason	<i>Transcona</i>	204-986-8087	snason@winnipeg.ca
Mr. Scott Gillingham	<i>St. James/Brooklands/Weston</i>	204-986-5848	sgillingham@winnipeg.ca
Mr. Markus Chambers	<i>St. Norbert - Seine River Ward</i>	204-986-5920	mchambers@winnipeg.ca

Key Departments

Honourable Brian Pallister	<i>Premier</i>	204-945-3726	premier@leg.gov.mb.ca
Honourable Heather Stefanson	<i>Justice</i>	204-945-3728	minjus@leg.gov.mb.ca
Honourable Cameron Friesen	<i>Finance</i>	204-945-3952	minfin@leg.gov.mb.ca
Honourable Ron Schuler	<i>Infrastructure</i>	204-945-8020	mincrown@leg.gov.mb.ca
Honourable Kelvin Goertzen	<i>Health</i>	204-945-3731	minhsal@leg.gov.mb.ca
Honourable Blaine Pederson	<i>Growth/Trade</i>	204-945-0067	minget@leg.gov.mb.ca
Honourable Kelvin Goertzen	<i>Education</i>	204-945-3720	minedu@leg.gov.mb.ca
Honourable Scott Fielding	<i>Families</i>	204-945-4173	minfs@leg.gov.mb.ca
Honourable Rochelle Squires	<i>Sustainable Dev.</i>	204-945-3730	minsdev@leg.gov.mb.ca
Honourable Jeff Wharton	<i>Municipal Relations</i>	204-945-5854	minmr@leg.gov.mb.ca

There are 32 provincial ridings in the City of Winnipeg. Contact them to let them know how you can contribute to decision making.

To find the rest: <http://www.gov.mb.ca> → Government → Legislative Assembly

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Make sure they know you vote!