



IDRIS ADELAKUN'S PLAN AS NEXT MAYOR

A VOICE FOR EVERYONE

2022 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

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Election Day: October 26, 2022

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MEET IDRIS



Idris Adelakun, Ph.D., P.Eng., PMP, CPEM, SFC, obtained his diploma from the Polytechnic Ibadan and B.Sc. from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He completed his M.Sc. in biosystems engineering and a letter of accomplishment in supervisory management at the University of Manitoba. He received a Ph.D. in Leadership - Organizational Management from Carolina University, USA. He is a professional engineer, project manager and transformational leader. He has over nine years of experience in a Canadian business organization.

Our great City, Winnipeg, needs a voice that can speak for everyone. This is what I stand for. Will we continue to run the same cycle and expect a different result, or will we focus on solving the evolving, complex issues and making everyone feel at home?

We have the resources, but we need to use the resources for the benefit of all. It is imperative to address homelessness, addictions, mental health, poverty, provide affordable housing, boost safety, and create opportunities while sustaining our City. All my promises are deemed achievable and can be completed on scope, time, and budget.

My focus is on four key areas: Addressing social issues (homelessness, addictions, mental health) and boost safety, Business, Infrastructure/Creating Opportunities and Environment.

When I assume office, I promise accountability, transparency, fairness, equity, and honesty. My word is my bond!



WHY SHOULD YOU VOTE FOR IDRIS?

- Collaborate with non-profit organizations to address and prevent homelessness, addictions and mental health by providing multi-faceted 800 housing units. The plan includes converting unused older housing units, lower value spaces and building low-barrier housing units on city land.
- Provide funding for the expansion of 24-hour Safe Spaces.
- Support builders to provide at least 200 affordable housing units yearly.
- Home sharing strategy: Students pair with elderly residents at a low cost.
- Review regulations, permit and use inclusionary zoning.
- Implement priority-based budgeting for the City Hall.
- Transit safety: Encourage more police patrol in areas prone to violence.
- Eliminate business taxes and merge them with commercial property taxes with support from the province.
- Collaborate with credit unions to give loans to innovative projects to improve and sustain the community.
- Collaborate with province and federal to complete CentrePort South infrastructure to generate approximately \$80 million.
- Reduce municipal property taxes by five percent for seniors 65 and older with time.
- Waive land transfer fee for first-time owners.
- Add more active transportation systems such as bike lanes and cyclists.
- Ramp up sidewalk snow-clearing and accessible wheelchair paths.
- Fast track the implementation of sewage construction site to ensure we stop dumping sewage into the rivers, protect our forests, rebuilding tree canopies and promote green technology.
- Partner with social enterprise to provide training and employment opportunities for our Indigenous communities.
- Strengthen relationships with urban indigenous people.
- Gradually change the work culture in the City Hall to promote growth and serve the interest of Winnipeggers.
- Implement key activities identified in the Newcomer Welcome and Inclusion Policy & Strategic Framework and support refugees.
- Support arts and culture and include them as part of city planning.

ADDRESS SOCIAL ISSUES AND BOOST SAFETY

Homelessness Plan

The 2021 Winnipeg Interim Street Census indicated that 1127 individuals experienced homelessness (Endhomelessness, 2022). We need to act right now to resolve homelessness. I will collaborate with the council, province, federal, non-profit organizations, and Winnipeggers to address homelessness in our great city. Here is the plan:

- Collaborate with non-profit organizations and provide adequate funding for 24-hour Safe Spaces for homeless individuals.
- Provide 800 multi-faceted housing units within four years. It will consist of low-barrier housing units, conversion of older buildings of lower value, and abandoned houses into housing. Additionally, I will seek permission from the council to build on city land.
- Evaluate abandoned houses and negotiate with the owners for better usage.
- Fundings from the Federal Rapid Housing, province, city, fundraising and other organizations will be used in building 800 units.
- The City will partner with non-profit organizations to manage the building and staffing.
- Older people experiencing homelessness will be given priority for the first building.
- Reduce red tape not only for this project but also for other projects in the future without compromising safety.
- The ongoing housing projects from the indigenous community and non-profit organizations will add up to address the homelessness issues in our great city.
- Measure our performance monthly and celebrate success.

Preventing Homelessness

We need to support people before it results in homelessness. Here is the plan:

- Implement policies that will result in affordable housing and poverty reduction.
- Work with agencies and support individuals that are experiencing discrimination.
- Collaborate with non-profit organizations to support families, and help people experiencing addictions, mental health and domestic violence.
- Review landlord and tenant legislation.
- The city will collaborate with social enterprises and empower people that need training to ensure they can easily get a job and earn a living.

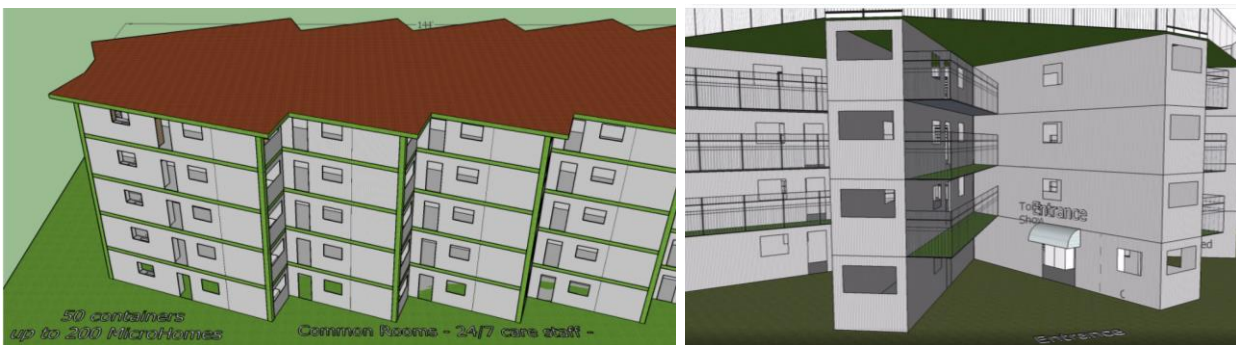


Figure 1. A typical low-barrier housing unit (Source: Dueck, 2022).

Support for Mental Health and Addictions

- Dialogue with non-profit organizations and work together in addressing mental health and addictions. We have non-profit organizations running addiction recovery centers, Detox units and mental health programs in Winnipeg.

Crime Prevention

At present, demand surpasses resources for the police service. We need to support our police officers to do their job effectively. The police received 26% more life-threatening calls in 2022 compared to 2021 (Winnipeg Police Board, 2022).

- The plan is to collaborate with the Winnipeg Police Service and Winnipeg Police Board to push Winnipeg police to add more foot patrols and seek federal funding for youth crime prevention programs, such as free sports programs.
- Address social issues such as homelessness, addictions, and mental health simultaneously and measure performance.
- Work with the stakeholders to support families, provide affordable housing, and create more opportunities.

Transit Safety Plan

It is necessary to boost safety in our transportation system. Here is the plan to boost transit safety:

Short Term Plan

- Work with the Winnipeg Police Board/Service to selectively allocate eight (8) police officers to monitor neighbourhoods prone to violence and assault. Bus operators can press a panic button to alert transit supervisors and police officers if there is assault or violence on the bus, or passengers can text 123 or dial 456. In case of emergency, call 911. Although they can assist with other city operations, these police officers' primary responsibility is to handle transit-related issues.
- Provide an extended shield around the bus operator's seat.
- Increase the number of transit supervisors and auxiliary force cadets in areas prone to assault and violence.
- Offer an upgraded radio network.
- Continue to train operators, transit supervisors, and police officers.
- Ensure that the police officers, transit supervisors, and operators work closely together.
- Follow up with the offenders and turn them to organizations that will assist.
- The city will make performance data available to the public every month.
- Address mental health, addictions, and homelessness at the same time.

Long Term Plan

- Create a Winnipeg Transit Police force.

BUSINESS

Business owners want to invest where they see the value. Creating an enabling environment for any business investor to grow is essential. I will gradually change the work culture in the City Hall to promote growth and serve the interest of Winnipeggers. Part of my vision aligns with the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce's recommendations.

We will create more employment opportunities, bring in investors, support existing businesses to thrive, boost safety, provide good quality services, and make the city affordable. Additionally, we will communicate with Winnipeggers regularly to know their concerns and address them. Here is the plan:

Support for Potential Business Owners and Growth

- Collaborate with credit unions to give loans to creative projects that will improve and sustain the community. A committee will review the projects and work with credit unions to fast-track the projects.
- Reduce red tape and update zoning bylaws to ensure potential business owners can start a business on time without compromising safety.
- We will change our budgeting structure to benefit growth and priority. With the council's support, I will implement priority-based budgeting and stop using the "traditional increment approach." This approach will ensure we support programs that will yield more benefits to Winnipeggers.
- Collaborate with the province to ensure business owners can register and get a license on time.
- Review city bylaws and permit with the support of the Economic Development unit.
- We will establish a red tape review committee and modify by-laws.
- Collaborate with province and federal to complete CentrePort South infrastructure. It will not only create approximately 16,000 jobs, but it will also result in \$80 million in revenue for the city, according to the public service report in [Winnipeg Sun](#) publication on February 16, 2022.
- We will collaborate with the council and province to review and eliminate business taxes and merge them with commercial property taxes. This approach will not only attract more investors to our great city, but it will

also eliminate the administrative cost for both business owners and the city.

- Encourage tax increment financing (TIF) to support downtown projects such as affordable and infill housing.

Revive Downtown

- Boost safety, cleanup and beautify Downtown and Main Street. We will introduce more green spaces along Main Street.
- Encourage more infill housing in downtown.
- We will collaborate with the stakeholders to continue with the Downtown Recovery Strategy.
- Review regulations and permit to allow conversion of lower value spaces to be more beneficial in value.
- We will always report excess inventory for other activities, lowering our operating costs.
- Review street parking regulations and evaluate if we can allow one-hour complimentary on-street parking from Monday to Friday. This approach will encourage more people coming to downtown to do business.
- Attract and support business investors that will create employment opportunities.
- We will support arts and culture and include them in city planning.

Creating Opportunities

- Encourage investors and provide enabling environment to bring tourist attractions.
- Encourage more entertaining events.
- Bring in more investors to create more opportunities. We need more professional jobs in our great city to keep our youths in the city. So, we will make a committee to identify potential professional job owners and encourage them to invest here.
- Investors can submit a proposal on ZephyrBus GRT/StratoCar for a new overhead transportation system that is environmentally friendly. This technology generates its power from a solar panel, and it will attract visitors to our city. Also, it will reduce traffic congestion and pollution.

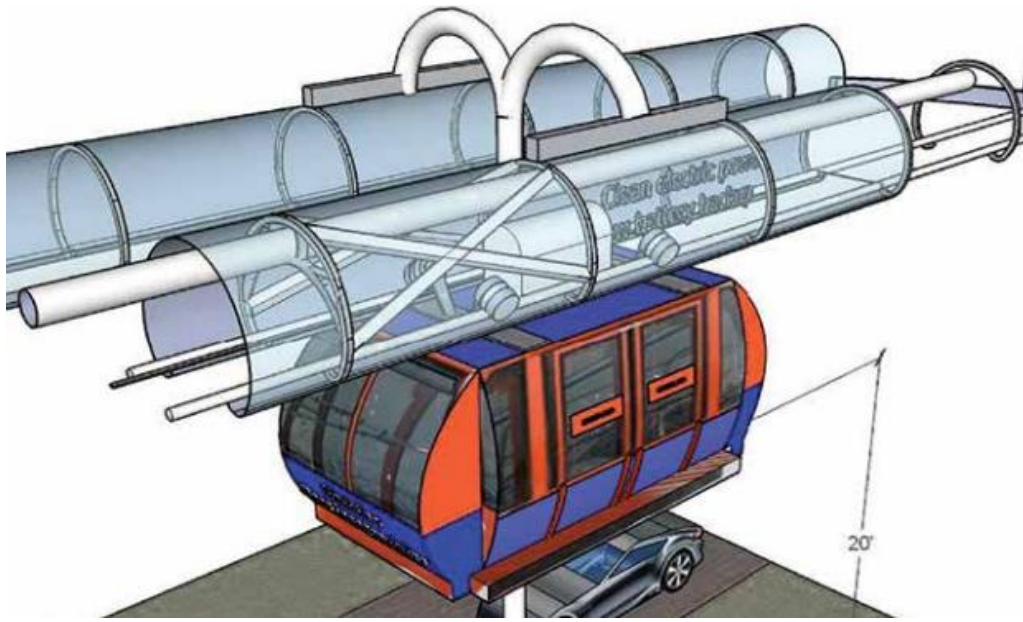


Figure 2. A Typical Strato Car Mass Transportation. Source (Dueck, 2022)

Plan for Seniors

Seniors are significant stakeholders in our city; therefore, my plan for the seniors will help improve their quality of life. Here is the plan I have for seniors:

Short Term Plan

- Home sharing strategy with a community agency would pair elderly residents with college/university students. The students could rent a room at a reduced price of \$200 to \$400 per month in exchange for about six hours per week of chores to support the elderly homeowners.
- The agency manages people willing to volunteer to support seniors in care homes.
- Ramp up sidewalk snow-clearing and make wheelchair paths more accessible.
- Shorten the call wait times for Winnipeg Transit Plus and Handi-Transit.
- Dialogue with the seniors quarterly and look into their concerns.

Long Term Goal

- Reduce municipal property taxes by five percent for seniors 65 and older with time while generating revenue from other sectors to cover the cost.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND CREATING OPPORTUNITIES

Affordable/Infill Housing and Zoning Reform

First Time Homeowners

- Waive land transfer fee for first-time owners.

Property Development, Infill Housing and Zoning Reform

- Encourage infill housing for commercial and residential areas and modify zoning rules to encourage high-rise buildings. Currently, some areas are limited to four stories, but we need to change the zoning rules.
- Encourage home builders to build affordable housing on the sites allotted for infill housing.
- Approve proposals for affordable housing on time.
- Use inclusionary zoning policies.
- The city will place priority on land for affordable housing.
- Reduce red tape, review, and improve on permit approval period.
- Support builders that are ready to build affordable housing in Winnipeg.
- Determine property and vacant homes for affordable housing.
- Allow building on smaller lots.
- Lease city's properties to affordable housing providers.
- Collaborate with the council to allocate more to Rehabilitation Investment Reserve.

Boost Transportation

- Review and ensure buses are accessible on weekends in all areas.
- Examine areas that require rapid transit and source for funding for implementation.

- Effectively use the \$478 million government in government funds for improving our transit system.
- Continue to collaborate with the Federal and Provincial governments in implementing electric vehicles.
- Add more bike lanes that connect.
- Add more active transportation during new construction. This includes cyclist and pedestrian paths.
- Provide more accessibility for wheelchair users and cyclists.
- Review and implement low-income bus passes.
- Evaluate the feasibility of 3-line Winnipeg rapid-transit network.
- Manage traffic efficiently during road construction.

Road Maintenance and Safety

- Clearing of snow and sidewalks on time
- Fix and maintain existing roads before embarking on building new roads.
- Evaluate and review the impact of overweight on the bus. Overweight of buses could contribute to wear and tear on our roads.
- Proper inspection of road construction.
- Ensure roads are constructed on time, scope, and budget.
- Manage road construction judiciously and save money for the city.

Engaging Families with Public Library

- Provide new books relevant to the school curriculum to libraries to support families.

Support for Teenagers and Students

- We will maintain "offer fare-free travel for children age 11 and under who are accompanied by a fare-paying customer".
- Home sharing strategy with a community agency would pair elderly residents with college/university students. The students could rent a room at a reduced price of \$200 to \$400 per month in exchange for about six hours per week of chores to support the elderly homeowners.

- Work with the council and allocate funding for Winnipeg Scholarship programs.

Innovative Programs for Winnipeggers

- Collaborate with credit unions to give loans for innovative projects to improve and sustain the community.

Paramedic and Ambulance

- Review the delay in response time for paramedics and manage resources effectively.

City Hall

- Address the city on the current state of events every two months.
- Transparency and fairness in all projects and bidding.
- Change the work culture in the City Hall to promote growth and serve the interest of Winnipeggers.

Immigration

- Implement the remaining key activities identified in the Newcomer Welcome and Inclusion Policy & Strategic Framework. The strategic priorities are: A Welcoming City, A City Without Racism, Equitable & Accessible Services, A Representative Workforce and Active Implementation
- International students are eligible for Home Sharing program. They can live in senior homes and rent as low as \$200 - \$400 per month while supporting seniors with household chores for 6 hours per week.
- Immigrants can apply for the city's innovative program. They can devise an idea to solve the city's issues.
- International students can apply for Winnipeg Scholarship programs.
- Work with agencies to support refugees to settle down in Winnipeg. We will address the language barrier, jobs, and housing and make them feel at home.

Indigenous Community

- Partner with social enterprise to provide training and employment opportunities for Indigenous communities.

- Ensure fairness and equity in our community.
- Support existing recreational services for the Indigenous community.
- Provide stipends to support programs that will build the community.
- Strengthen relationships with urban indigenous people.

ENVIRONMENT

- Fast track the implementation of sewage construction sites to ensure we stop dumping sewage into the rivers.
- Investigate into incessant power supply failure of sewage plant.
- Collaborate with the province and federal to fast-track the building of large underground storage tanks for sewage.
- Promote green infrastructure initiatives that will prevent rainwater into the sewer systems.
- We will encourage rain barrels for every home to collect rainwater. This will significantly reduce runoff water into our sewage.
- Protect and revive our urban forests, including Assiniboine Forest, by establishing it as a National Urban Park, and rebuilding tree canopies.
- We will plant two new trees to replace one tree lost, provide funding for a seven-year pruning cycle and apply tree protection practices during road construction.
- Promote green technology.
- Evaluate the risk of electric vehicle charging points for homeowners.
- Solicit funding to provide more electric vehicle charging stations.
- Implement the use of electric buses with time.
- Encourage businesses through education and training to embrace green technology and waste management.
- Encourage investors to start recycling facilities that will employ people with employment barrier.
- Investigate conversion of landfills to biomass for electricity generation.
- Encourage composting in organizations and households.

I am confident that these plans will create more opportunities and address the basic needs of Winnipeggers. As mayor, I will work with the council and other stakeholders to deliver these activities. We will get there together.

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