

THE CITY OF CALGARY

POPULATION 1,509,811 (2024)

MAYORAL CALGARY election GUIDE



YOUR 9 MAYORAL CANDIDATES

Candidate bios by Kelsa Arnett, Asad Chishti, and Jeremy Klaszus. Illustrations by Sam Hester.

Every four years Calgarians elect a new city council. On October 20, 2025, voters choose a mayor, city councillors and school board trustees. Calgary's next mayor will be the 38th person to hold that position since the first mayor was elected in 1884!

Sarah Elder (Independent)
vote4sarahcalgary.ca
Elder owns Madame Premier, a shop in Inglewood. An advocate for more women in politics, Elder says she's running because she was dissatisfied with the existing roster of mayoral candidates. Her top priority is repealing blanket rezoning.

Jeff Davison (Independent)
jeffdavisonyc.com
Davison was Ward 6 councillor from 2017 to 2021. Since then, he's been CEO of the Prostate Cancer Centre. On October 10, 2024, Davison announced his run by promising to freeze property taxes for four years. He also wants to freeze new bike lanes.



Grant Prior (Independent)
grantprior.ca
Prior is a directional driller with nearly 20 years of experience in the oilpatch. Prior is campaigning on supporting and giving voice to working-class Calgarians, noting that "the working class built Calgary, we should be able to afford to live here."



Larry Heather (Independent)
democracysocialism.org
Heather ran for mayor in 2017, garnering 848 votes. He ran again in 2021, with 429 votes. Heather is calling for a mayoral task force to investigate "previous Calgary elections anomalies." He is also campaigning on revoking all DEI measures at city hall.



Jaeger Gustafson (Independent)
mayorgus.ca
Gustafson is co-founder of Vitae Integrals, a massage and acupuncture clinic. Gustafson says as mayor he will ensure the city continues to attract skilled workers in the private and public sectors, while pursuing productive partnerships.



Jyoti Gondek (Independent)
jyotigondek.ca
Gondek was first elected in 2017 as Ward 3 councillor before becoming mayor in 2021. Gondek announced her candidacy November 29, 2024, citing her record on the Green Line, public safety and the water main break as examples of her leadership.



Jeromy Farkas (Independent)
jeromy.ca
Farkas was Ward 11 councillor from 2017 to 2021, when he ran for mayor but lost. In 2023, he became CEO of the Glenbow Ranch Park Foundation. Farkas launched his campaign February 26, 2025, saying his priorities are housing, jobs and public safety.



Sonya Sharp (Communities First party)
sharpformayor.ca
Sharp has been Ward 1 councillor since 2021. Before that, she worked in city administration. Sharp announced her candidacy March 31, 2025, pledging to cut red tape, reprioritize public safety and rebuild relationships with the province.



Brian Thiessen (The Calgary Party)
vote4brian.ca
Thiessen is an employment lawyer with Osler. From 2016 to 2019, he chaired the Calgary Police Commission. He launched his campaign October 23, 2024, pitching himself as a consensus-builder who can find common ground.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

Get out and vote! On Election Day (October 20, 2025), voting stations are open between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. Advance voting is from October 6 – 11.

The Sprawl publishes slow news for curious Calgarians. Find more of our independent local journalism on our website! Read more election coverage, watch candidate debates and check our up-to-date candidate tracker—including councillor and school trustee candidates.

