

2023 Questionnaire

Toronto Mayoral Candidates

The Catholic Church considers that elected democratic office is a position of immense responsibility, to be held in high trust and exercised with great humility, wisdom, and respect, in the interest of the common good. Our leaders are meant to help gather us in a spirit of mutual cooperation and support, setting for us an example of listening and collaboration as together all citizens seek common ground for authentic growth as human beings. This applies fully to municipal offices, including that of Mayor. Cities are homes to the majority of citizens, and are often the first recourse of new citizens for safety, housing, and well-being.

The 10 open-ended questions below are meant to allow you to share, in your own words, your plans for working toward the true welfare of all Torontonians.

Please start by confirming your name and preferred contact information:

Candidate's name: **Dr. Faizul Mohee** (# 73 in the Ballot)

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YOUR VISION FOR SERVICE AS MAYOR

Your Political Vocation

Q. 1. What draws you to the vocation of service as Mayor of Toronto, a city of nearly 3 million people?

I am really tired after seeing the past many years of situation in Toronto. There is NO good engineering job in Toronto, but all the property tax, house rent, TTC fare, etc. everything is crazily increasing rapidly. Police stopped me in name of carding many times, did not find anything, but just harassed me and almost caused me getting a heart attack. There is no job around, but property tax and TTC fare is increasing. Instead of staying in sideline, I wanted to offer my 18 years of leadership, engineering, project management, University Teaching and real world experience to the City of Toronto.

I am NOT any fake candidate. I am trying my best to win in this election. I am running to win in the election. I am running to divide votes in different ethnicity groups to help some other candidates. I am trying my best to win in this election.

I am not in the pocket of any multi-billionaire or any godfather. I am not any drug addict or any drug dealer.

I am genuinely very much tired of the condition at the City of Toronto over the past 5-6 years, and it became an unliveable city. I wanted to present myself as an option. If City of Toronto people will consider me, it will be a big honor for me to try to do my best to bring some positive change and contribute to the City of Toronto in a good and positive way.

I want to ensure equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in every steps of life at the City of Toronto.

I want to build a Welcoming City of Toronto Free of any Racism & Discrimination.

Q. 2. What experience do you have that qualifies you to serve as Mayor? (Please feel free to point to an online or attached CV if desired)

I am a licensed Civil Engineer (P.Eng.), and a certified Project Manager (PMP). With my 18 years of leadership, strategic management, Engineering, Project Management and Asset Management work experience and University Teaching experience, I can significantly contribute to the City of Toronto. I have the perfect skillset to address the critical issues facing the city. The City Infrastructure is falling apart. The roads are falling apart. We need more housing. The city is also unprepared for Climate Change disasters that are predicted.

The city needs more housing. Since there is not enough supply, and the demand is very high, the cost (and rent) of housing is very high. As a Civil Engineer, I can definitely build more housing in the city. With my PMP experience, I will ensure that all the major projects will be completed on time and on budget with the highest quality, minimizing the risks. This will reduce traffic congestions and bring back all the businesses to the affected areas.

I was not in the City government that created the current crises that we are facing in the City of Toronto.

I bring new approaches, leadership skills, and technical background to address these urgent challenges, housing, city infrastructure, affordable living.

I am not in the pocket of any developers or any multi-billionaires. If I am Mayor, no developer, no multi-billionaire, and no godfathers will control the Mayor's office.

Q.3. What are the most important things you hope to accomplish as Mayor?

I want to accomplish these main things:

1. I want to ensure equity, diversity and inclusion in the City, particularly in the city jobs.
2. I want to build a City of Toronto free from any racism and discriminations.
3. I want create 5,000 new City Jobs at Toronto Hydro, TTC, ECS, Police, Waterfront, CreateTO, Library.
4. I want to create total 100,000 public and private sector jobs for Torontonians.
5. I want to reduce Property Tax by 10%
6. I want to reduce the TTC Fare for all adults to \$3.00 per trip per person.
7. I want to take Climate Change Actions and Initiatives (Please see my answers to Question # 8 for details).

Life & Human Dignity

Q.4. Catholics believe that we are all lost children of God, and that the purpose of this life is to find our way home to God – most importantly, by ensuring that our neighbours are enabled and encouraged to search for truth as well. What is your understanding of the purpose of life, and how does that inform your proposed policies?

I also trust in GOD. I also think that family values are very important in the society.

I want to ensure equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in every steps of life at the City of Toronto.

I want to build a Welcoming City of Toronto Free of any Racism & Discrimination.

Lots of crimes are directly related to (1) affordability and lack of jobs, (2) racism and discriminations in the society. If someone has a good, well-paying job, and if someone has a family, he/she will never become a criminal.

I am also against Police Carding. Carding is not the solution to anything, other than harassing visible minority people for no reason here and there.

As a society, young people need good role models. We can invite people like Andre De Grasse (Canadian 100 meter sprinter), and Canadian TV stars such as Andrew Phung and Paul Sun-Hyung Lee, and take them to different schools. If high-school students see them as role models, they will try to become like them, instead of trying to become a criminal. Good role models are very important in society.

Q.5. Many Torontonians are rightly concerned with making diversity, equity, and inclusion a reality within our city. True efforts in such direction will not neglect those challenged by mental or physical disabilities. What is your plan for making Toronto truly accessible to all?

I want to build a city of Toronto free of racism and discrimination.

I want to ensure that all City buildings and all TTC subway stations must have accessible entrances (e.g. Ramps, and Elevators) for people with disabilities.

I want to create “Mental Health Support Network”. I will allocate sufficient amount of budget for this new organization and the support network for free of cost mental health treatment for everyone.

Q.6. Prominent current issues facing Toronto include homelessness and access to affordable housing. What can or should the City of Toronto do about housing? Are there others – other levels of government, charitable agencies, for example – that might be supported, called upon, and encouraged to help in such work? How should any such organizations cooperate?

Construct 300,000 New Units of real Affordable Housing

Solve Homelessness for the 15,000 people

Please note, \$2,500 per month or \$3,000 per month is not any affordable housing, in my opinion, which is very different than many other candidates. First, I want to recognize that affordable housing is not any housing where the rent is \$2,500 per month or \$3,000 per month. That’s why, I want to put emphasis on building 300,000 new units of REAL affordable housing in the city of Toronto.

It is very simple. With Immigration (e.g. Ukraine war, USA army leaving Afghanistan, etc.), people are moving to Toronto. So the demand is increasing for housing. But there is not enough supply. This difference of supply and demand creates all the affordability issues. I am not in the pocket of any Developers, so I have no reason to block the approval of any affordable housing.

Also, there are 15,000 homeless people. I want to build enough number of buildings for these homeless people. I want to create jobs for the homeless people, e.g. planting 10 million new trees. With that job salary, they can rent the City’s new homeless buildings for \$50 per month or \$100 per month. This will solve the homelessness problem.

Q.7. The news suggests that anxiety and mental health are also among the important issues facing Toronto – incidents, including violent attacks, on the TTC, for example. What can or should the City of Toronto do about to address mental health and safety on the sidewalk? Are there others – other levels of government, charitable agencies, for example – that might be supported, called upon, and encouraged to help in such work?

To ensure the TTC safety & to prevent the Car-Theft in the city, I am planning to hire 500 new Police officers and install CCTV cameras in all TTC stations and common car-theft locations. I will also create Mental Health Support Network for people to address and solve this issue.

In addition, I will also create 5,000 City jobs and 100,000 total jobs for all Torontonians. As we all know, if someone has a good job, they will never do crime. Jobs will definitely improve the situation. Hiring more people in TTC will definitely improve it. As we all know, all the crimes happen in empty locations when there is no one around since everything became machine and automated over the past few years. If there are some TTC employees around (e.g. ticket counter, cleaner, police officers), the crime will drop significantly.

As the mayor, I will also travel by TTC. It will also ensure the Torontonians that travelling by TTC is safe and reliable.

Please note that I do not drink, I do not smoke, I do not take Marijuana, and I do not take drug. I am not involved with any drug related business directly or indirectly.

Care for the Environment

Q.8. The City of Toronto has long been engaged with care for the environment. Yet it can do more, particularly as awareness grows of the urgent nature of climate crises. Catholic teaching recognizes that what happens with the environment affects every aspect of our lives, everywhere on the planet. Pope Francis, like many faith leaders before him, has called on us to “work together” to ensure God’s creation is protected for future generations. How do you intend to promote collaborative and effective approaches to municipal climate change commitments, such as the TransformTO Net Zero strategy, to ensure care for the environment is consistently and urgently prioritized?

I have a solid climate change Plan and Policy from the Day #1 (long before this current climate change induced wildfire smoke reached Toronto City).

Please take a look at my Climate Change plans and policies in my Platform (made long before this current Smoke condition), and kindly consider it while casting your vote in the Advanced Voting that is happening right now today/ tomorrow in the middle of this extreme air pollution situation.

I have a solid Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Plan from the Day #1 in the City of Toronto’s Mayor Election.

- ✓ Address Climate Change for Mitigation & Adaptation
- ✓ Install Solar Panels in all TTC Stations & all City owned Buildings
- ✓ Buy 400 new Electric TTC Buses & Electric Police Cars
- ✓ Plant 10 Million New Trees in the City (+ create jobs for people)
- ✓ Install Electric Car Charging Stations
- ✓ Provide Green Bins in Condo & Apartment Buildings
- ✓ Promote District Energy for Heating & Cooling
- ✓ Ban single use plastic products for many applications
- ✓ Establish small scale "Carbon Capture & Storage" facility
- ✓ Recycle tires, glasses, plastics, steels, metals, and papers
- ✓ Looking into the new technologies, e.g. Hydrogen cars, solar cars.

The City of Toronto needs to do more in terms of Climate Change. Forest Fire is NOT just a problem of the remote communities anymore.

An Economy to Serve People

Q.9. Among the greatest challenges faced by Toronto is affordable, accessible, and timely public transportation, particularly as an alternative to the use of personal vehicles. Vehicle congestion aggravates not only health concerns, but difficulties faced by Torontonians in maintaining dignified and fulfilling work. What are your plans for effectively addressing this problem? What approach would you take to expanding public transit, improved access for pedestrians and cyclists, and rejuvenation of infrastructure to make it easier for people in Toronto to access all the opportunities Toronto has to offer?

As particular examples:

- How do you propose to address highway congestion, including for example on the 401, 427, Gardiner, and DVP highways?
- In view of its success, do you support rapid expansion of the King Street Pilot Project to other streetcar lines?
- Do you support expansion of the streetcar system?
- Do you support expansion of the bike lanes system?
- Do you support installation of overhead electrical charging for the electric buses the TTC proposes to buy?

✘ NO Tolls on DVP & Gardiner Highways

✘ Tearing down Gardiner Highway is NOT an option.

As an award winning engineer and a professor with 18+ years of real-world leadership, strategic management, engineering, project management, asset management, research and University teaching experience (at 4 Ontario including 3 Toronto Universities), I come with a lot of ideas.

1. Regaining the confidence of people, and increase the TTC ridership.
2. People do not have jobs in Toronto. Why should people travel in TTC when they do not have jobs to go to? I will creating 5,000 city jobs and 100,000 overall jobs in the city will increase the number of TTC ridership and TTC income.
3. Lots of people are still “working from home”. It is one of the reasons for less TTC ridership. Why should people travel by TTC, if they can “work from home”?
4. Installing solar panels on the TTC stations will reduce the electricity bills of TTC.
5. The new electric buses (to be purchased with the money given by the Federal Government of Canada, as they already publicly declared) will reduce the gas cost/ fuel cost of all the buses. It will save a lot of money for TTC in terms of gas/ fuel cost.

6. Completing all the TTC projects on time and on budget ensuring good quality and minimizing risks will save a lot of money for TTC.

Please note that I am a certified Project management Professional (PMP) since 2013. I will ensure that all the projects that will start during my time, will end on time and on budget with a good quality of work. It will help a lot in terms of traffic jam.

Many of your questions should be answered, NOT by the politicians, but by the Engineering experts in the City after thoroughly investigating pros and cons of all of these. Since the politicians bypassed the engineering experts in past, and took decision, that's why, we are in the current bad situation.

I personally prefer underground subway lines. I will promote new underground subway lines.

Order & Public Safety

Q.10. As noted above, anxiety and mental health issues arising from the pandemic seem to be the cause of an alarming number of violent assaults in Toronto, including on the TTC, with many people - including those suffering mental illness - becoming victims. Street racing remains a hazardous and potentially lethal pastime among young Torontonians. What steps would you take to both reduce the threat of these and other hazards, and to address their underlying causes?

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