



Pancakes For The Common Good

Stampede is a one-of-a-kind opportunity to connect with decision makers and get issues on the map. Most political leaders show up at Stampede breakfasts and events. Political parties and organizations host events, and decision makers also show up at local events. In addition, lots of our members host their own stampede breakfasts and events, which also create an opportunity for us to build relationships between our member organizations. We are creating a Pancakes for Good - talking points. - We may make them into a pancake card. . .

If you meet a municipal decision maker ...

Housing

Ask if they will support affordable housing in our city, especially by providing funding and land for non-market housing, and share a story of why this is important.

Mental Health

Share a story of either the need for mental health supports or of how communities are responding. Ask them if they will be supporting the Community Wellbeing Strategy - especially how to support Community Led, Culturally Responsive and Family wellness-focused initiatives.

If you meet a provincial decision maker ...

Good Jobs - Recognition of Foreign Credentials

Speak with them about the value of immigrants, or share your immigration story. Ask them how they will be implementing the recommendations of the Recognition of Foreign Credentials Advisory Committee or how they will reduce inter-provincial employment barriers.

Referendum - Immigrations

Talk with them about your concerns about kids getting pulled out of school or families being denied health care. Talk with them about how this can impact our communities or people you know or how removing universal access to health care and education goes against your values.

Mental Health

Talk with them about the mental health challenges of our communities. Ask them how they plan to support early childhood development and community-led initiatives aimed at mental health prevention.

If you meet a federal decision maker ...

Affordable Housing

Talk with them about the need to address affordable housing. Ask them about continuing and expanding support for low-income renters. Ask them why Build Canada Homes hasn't started a project in Calgary.

Immigration

Talk with them about your immigration story or about the value and needs of immigrants. Ask them how they plan to expand support for learning English or support people in having their foreign credentials recognized.

How can you respond if they Push Back?

Housing - Emphasise the need for affordable housing, the impact on people when they don't have secure housing, and that it is more expensive to have people unhoused or on the streets than securely housed. If you are speaking with a provincial representative, emphasize that when people are unhoused, it is more expensive (over \$100,000 per year vs. \$20,000-\$40,000), and expensive housing draws money away from investing in education, families, or developing businesses.

Mental Health - Municipal politicians may say it is a provincial responsibility. Emphasise to them that working with local communities is something only the city can do, and preventative approaches are a responsibility of the city.

Referendum (Immigration) - Ask them what they think the impact on our communities will be if 2000-4000 youth are not in school. Who might take advantage of these youth? What impact will this have on public safety? Ask them why immigrants who are already paying taxes, and thus paying for public services, are being asked to pay a double tax. Also, ask them what they think the impact will be on our emergency rooms if people can't access the regular health system.

Immigration Recognition of Foreign Credentials - Ask them what it will take to shift our perspective from seeing immigrants as an expense to seeing immigrants as a gift to our province? Ask them what the economic impact on families and our province is of having people unable to work in their fields, but instead work at minimum wage jobs. Emphasize that nowhere in the recommendations is there a suggestion that people should work in a professional field without demonstrating that they have the qualifications and skills to work in that field.