



**CANADIAN FEDERATION
OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS**

In business for your business™



A small business perspective of municipal issues

Meeting with Sonya Sharp,
City of Calgary Ward 1 Councillor

Annie Dormuth, Provincial Affairs Director
Andrew Sennyah, Alberta Senior Policy Analyst
Taylor Brown, Junior Policy Analyst – West and agri-business

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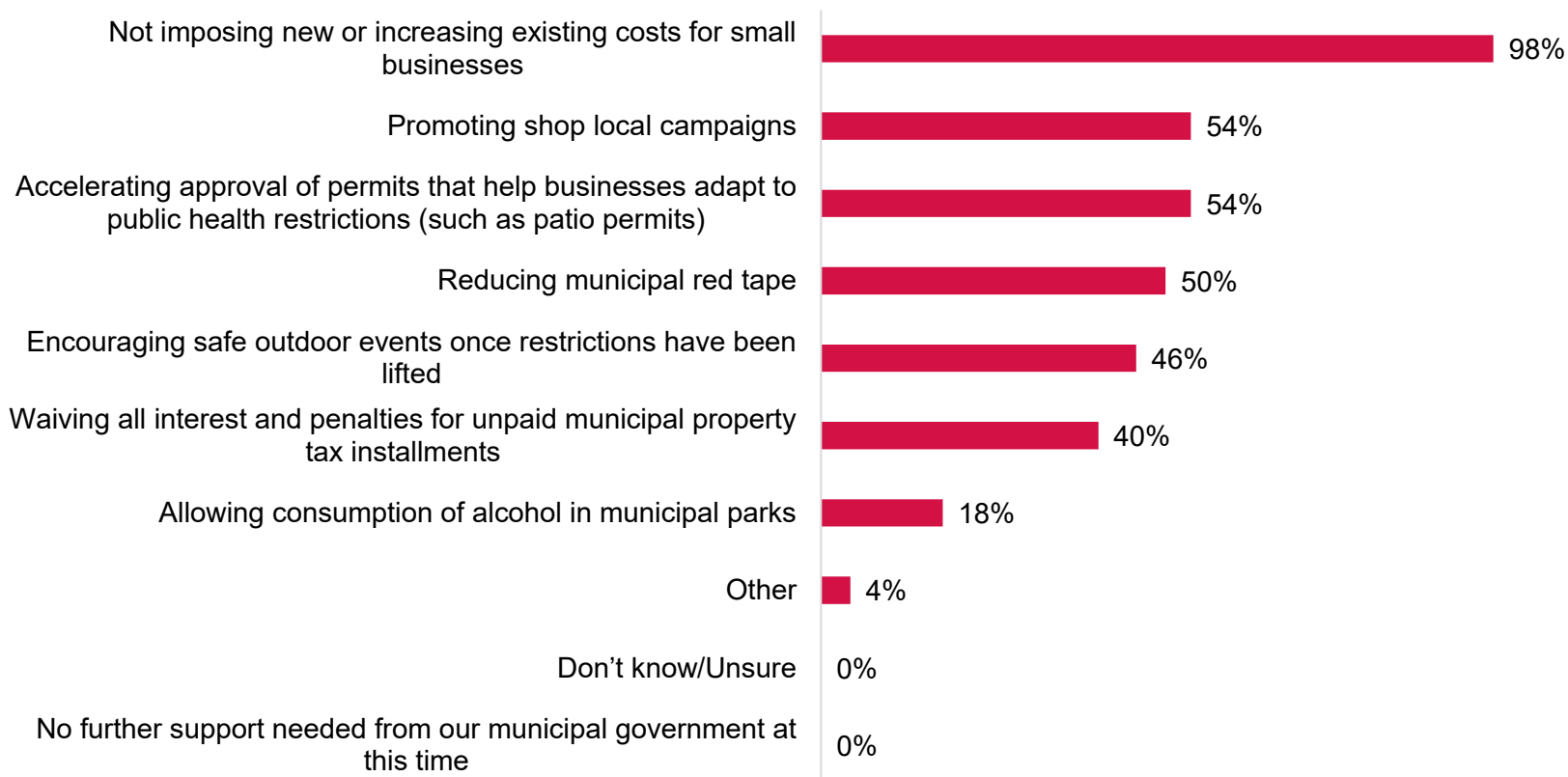
About CFIB

- Since 1971: 50 Years!
- Non-partisan, not-for-profit political advocacy organization
- 95,000 independently owned & operated businesses across Canada, including 9,300 in Alberta and approx. 2,000 in Calgary
- Leaders in grassroots understanding of small business owners
- Members set policy
- Deals with federal, provincial, and municipal issues



Keeping municipal costs down key for economic recovery

As your municipal government turns its focus to economic recovery, what are the key priorities for your business? (Select all that apply)

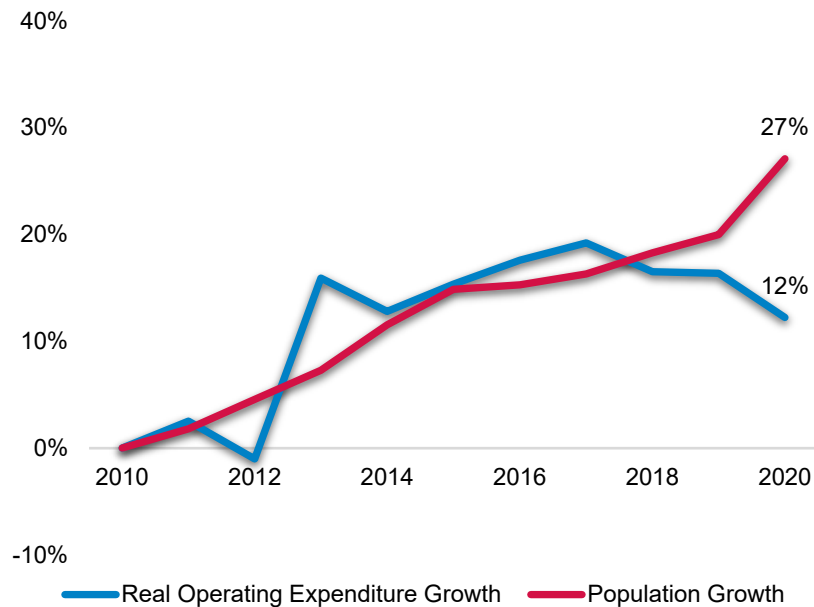


Source: CFIB, Alberta Municipal Survey, May 27-June 28, 2021, CGY n=163.

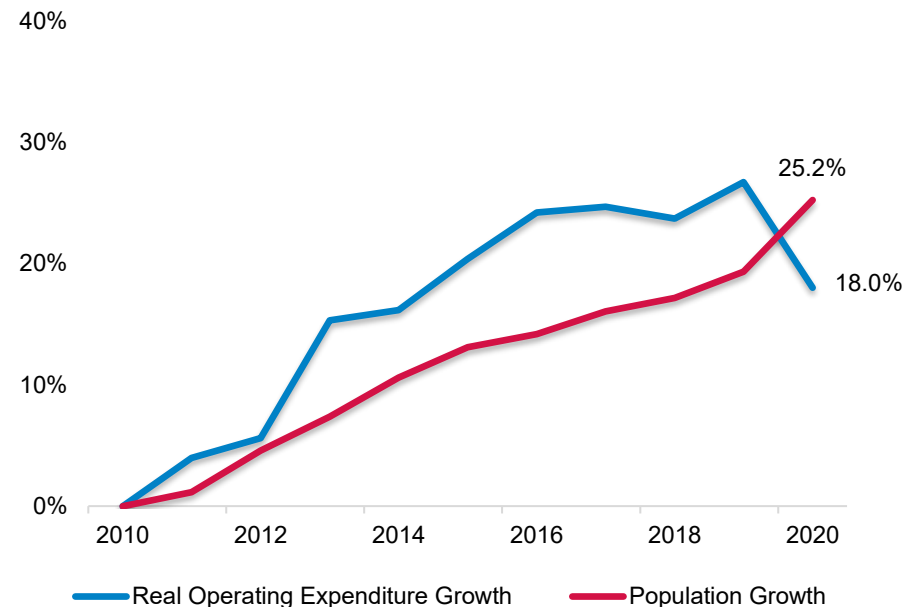
Real operating spending and population growth

From 2010 to 2018, real operating spending has consistently outpaced population growth in nearly every municipality across Alberta

Calgary Real Operating Spending and Population Growth, 2010-2020



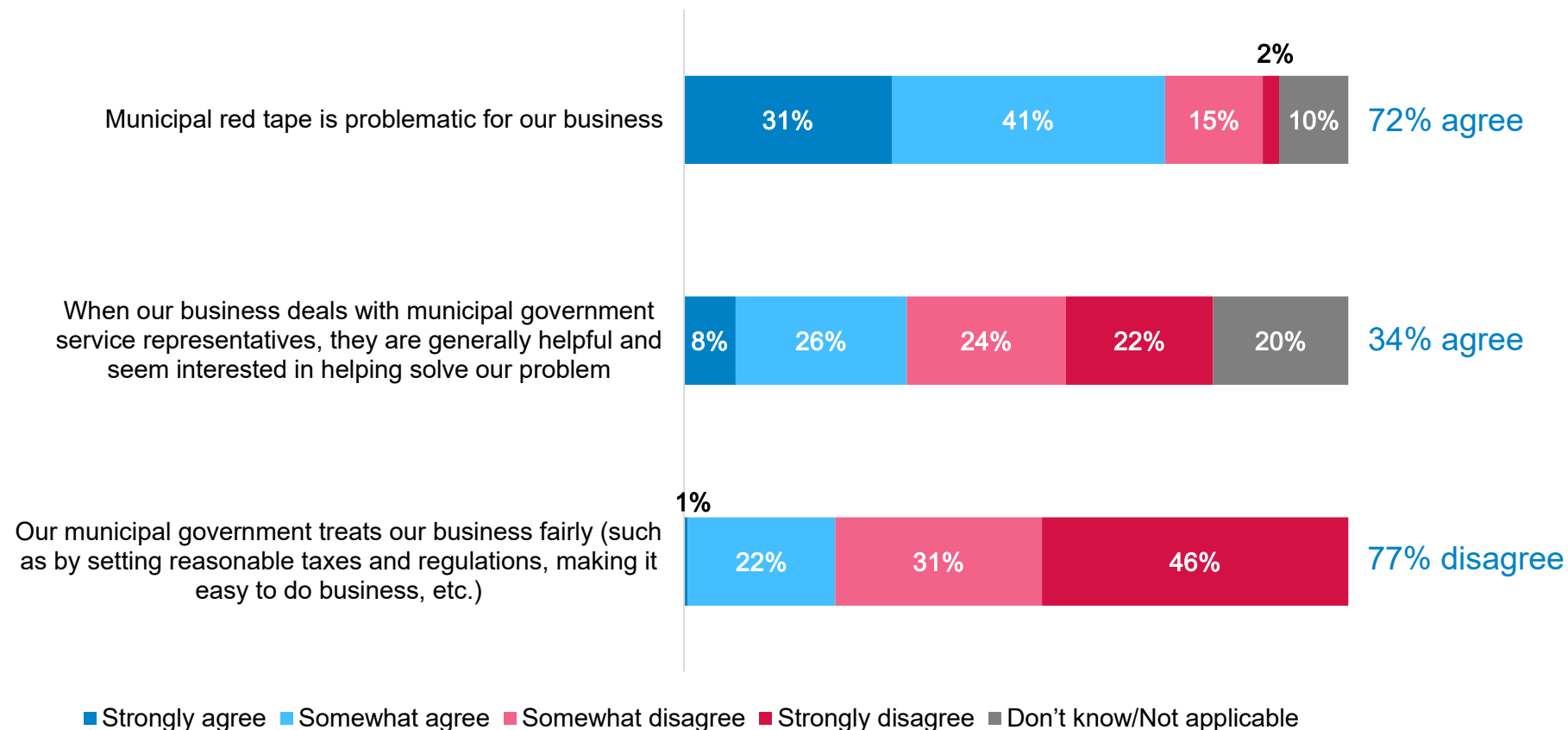
Alberta Real Operating Spending and Population Growth, 2010-2020



Source: CFIB calculations, Municipal Affairs, Alberta Government, 2010-2020.

Municipal red tape a continued problem for small business

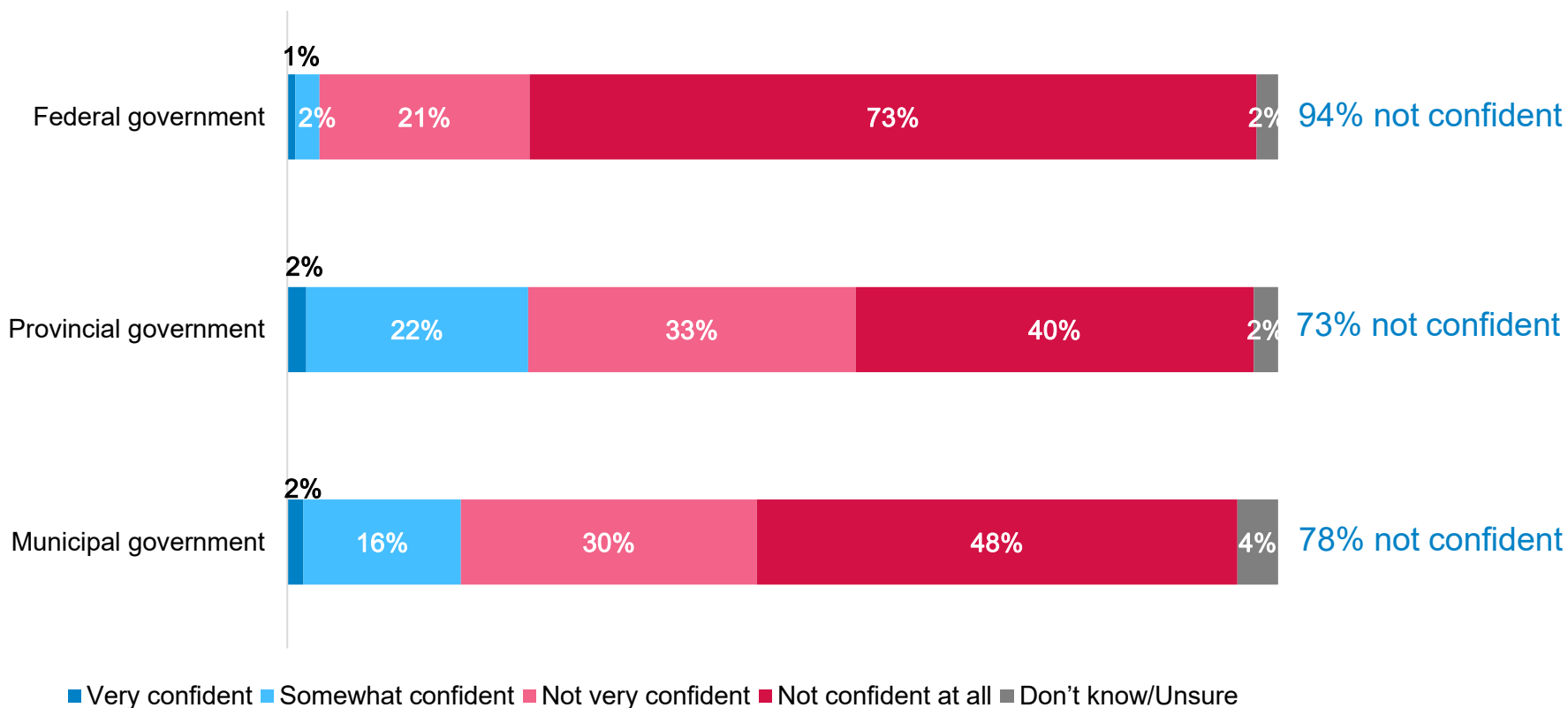
72% of business owners agree municipal red tape is problematic for their business



Source: CFIB, Alberta Municipal Survey, May 27-June 28, 2021, CGY n=166.

78% of small businesses do not have confidence municipal governments are committed to red tape reduction

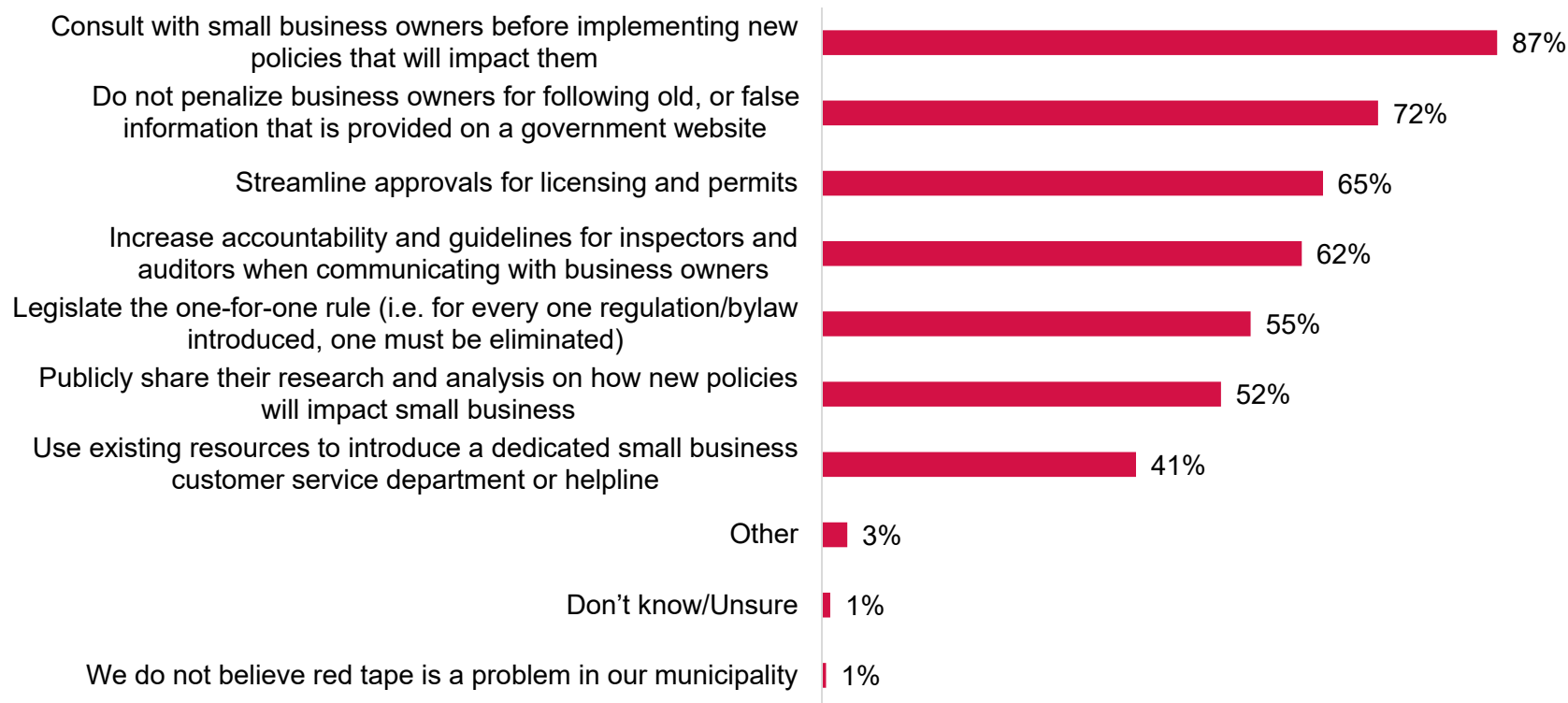
How confident are you that the following levels of government are committed to reducing red tape, including unnecessary rules and regulations on your business? (Select one for each line)



Source: CFIB, Your Voice Survey – November 2021, November 4-9, 2021, Preliminary Results, AB n=366. Note: Does not include 'Not Applicable.'

Consultation with small business owners key to reducing municipal red tape

Which of the following actions should your municipal government take to help reduce red tape for small businesses? (Select as many as apply)



Source: CFIB, Alberta Municipal Survey, May 27-June 28, 2021, CGY n=182.

Recommendations

- Prioritize economic recovery by not imposing new costs or increasing existing taxes
- Reduce non-residential property taxes and set a long-term goal for property tax fairness
- Engage in sustainable spending practices by reducing overall local government costs and find internal efficiencies
- Create or promote existing shop local campaigns to encourage everyone to support the small businesses in their communities
- Make a commitment to reduce red tape at the municipal level and keep the best of COVID-19 changes such as accelerated patio permitting
- Implement a construction mitigation plan that compensates businesses for disruptions caused by municipal construction projects and ensure businesses have fair warning so they can properly prepare

Questions?

403-700-1945

Annie.Dormuth@cfib.ca

 @cfibAB

 fb.me/CFIB

CFIB

Suite, 900, 441 – 5th Ave SW
Calgary, AB | T2P 2V1