

Mayor Douglas Nicholls Biography
Thursday, May 21, 2026

Mayor Douglas Nicholls is the 27th Mayor of the City of Yuma, Arizona. Mayor Nicholls leads a city that is home to Marine Corps Air Station Yuma and U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, and one that continues integrating military considerations into development and infrastructure planning, aligning local growth with national defense priorities.

Mayor Nicholls is currently serving his third term as Mayor, and is a business owner, civil engineer, Catholic deacon, father and grandfather.

Mayor Nicholls founded and spearheaded 4FrontED, a binational economic development effort in the megaregion, as well as Elevate Southwest, an effort to bring higher education and industry-collaborative opportunities to Yuma. Key partnerships are in place with local industries through Elevate Southwest—including Yuma’s \$4 billion agriculture industry and military installations—to provide academic, research and workforce opportunities. During his most recent term as Mayor, Yuma was named a Great American Defense Community for its support of the military personnel, veterans and their families.

Mayor Nicholls completed a Civil Engineering baccalaureate and post-graduate studies in Transportation Engineering from Arizona State University. He founded Core Engineering Group, PLLC, in Yuma—a company through which he provides civil engineering and land surveying services.

He is a past State President of the Arizona Society of Professional Engineers, part of the Institute of Traffic Engineers, and in the American Society of Civil Engineers’ Yuma Chapter.

In addition to serving as Mayor and running his engineering firm, Mayor Nicholls is active in Yuma. He serves on the Board of Directors for Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation, the Governor’s Arizona Space Commission, and the Executive Committee of the League of Arizona Cities and Towns where he previously served as League President.