



Ecology Action Centre – Candidate Survey 2024

Candidate for Councillor, District 4 – Cole Harbour - Preston - Westphal - Cherry Brook

Name of Candidate: Joe Colley

1. The [Halifax Green Network Plan](#) (HGPN) should be used to guide the region's growth, but full implementation of the plan requires resources and enforceable rules to protect important greenspace and wildlife corridors. Will you support the full implementation of the HGPN to protect the Green Network? Explain why or why not (optional).

Yes. I would support the implementation of the HGPN to protect the Green Network. When facts and data is collected from the public by way of public consultation and action is taken, it shows that you as a public figure is willing to listen to what the public believes is good for all and not just making a decision whereby could taint your relationship in the future. The plan shows reasons why we should continue to protect greenspace, coastline, gas emissions and ensuring the water quality program is researched regularly.

2. Will you commit to ensuring Halifax Transit attracts and retains enough staff to implement the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) network and ferry routes in the [Rapid Transit Strategy](#)? Explain why or why not (optional).

Yes. I would most definitely push to have Halifax Transit find better ways to attracts and retains enough staff to support the Rapid Transit Strategy. In any organization, when you treat staff with respect and show then how much you appreciate their services, they are willing to stay longer. In saying that, Halifax Transit upper management must be willing to get out there to attract good staff and also prove to the successful candidates it's a great place to work.

3. Will you commit to implementing the [Road Safety Strategy](#) and achieving its vision of zero injuries and fatalities across all modes of transportation? Explain why or why not (optional).

Yes. The Road Safety Strategy is a program badly needed due to the number of incidents in our Municipality. Anyone who's a roller, walker, cyclist or driver should feel safe when they are commuting back and forth on our city streets. It's everyone responsibility to use extreme caution when moving about the city.

4. Are you committed to ensuring the continued implementation and full funding of the [JustFOOD Action Plan](#) as the municipality's first comprehensive, long-range food strategy,

which will increase collaboration across levels of government and among community partners, strengthening our collective capacity to build a just, healthy, and sustainable food system. Explain why or why not (optional).

Yes. I'm a firm believer in collaboration with the different levels of government and community partners on many different issues. The long-range food action plan would be one of the top priorities. In today's society, we must come up with ways to ensure food safety stays on top as a number one priority. This will prove to those who worked on Plan A and B of the JustFOOD Action Plan that HRM is in this for the long haul. I love when community members are included in the gathering of information to reach long term strategies. Collaboration with community members will always be a win win.

5. With climate change wreaking heat waves even in temperate climate zones, and the price of home-heating fuel spiking due to global conflict, access to affordable home energy efficiency has become a human right crucial to comfort and standard of living. Cities across Canada are seeing tenants mobilize for these rights. As an elected official, would you support a "right to efficiency" by-law supporting tenants' rights to affordable energy efficiency support? Explain why or why not (optional).

No. Because of the current state all of us are currently facing when it comes to the issues stated above, I really don't think we need a by-law to assist tenants. We need to do everything possible to ensure we take care of one another. A by-law will not solve the problem. Government at all levels must step in, find programs to assist those in need.

6. There are multiple stressors on local freshwater quality and quantity such as increased development and an increase in water-related climate events (e.g., floods, droughts, storms). Do you commit to advocating for and supporting watershed level management in municipal planning? Explain why or why not (optional).

Yes. I would advocate and support watershed level management in the municipality as long as it not infringing upon properties owned by the constituents of any district. The watershed management must ensure all our current facilities are kept up-to-date whenever there's any new developments and to immediately check the freshwater quality and quantity following any type of climate event which might take place.

7. Will you, in the absence of a provincial Coastal Protection Act, advocate for and work towards passing municipal by-laws designed to address development on vulnerable coastal properties and infrastructure? Explain why or why not (optional).

Yes. I would most definitely want to be involved in the discussions around addressing development on vulnerable coastal properties and infrastructure. We need to protect what we still have left. With climate change all around us, we must consider what the future holds for the younger generation.

