



## Ecology Action Centre – Candidate Survey 2024

### Candidate for Councillor, District 13 – Prospect Road - St. Margarets

**Name of Candidate: Nancy Hartling**

1. The [Halifax Green Network Plan](#) (HGNP) 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 HGNP to protect the Green Network? Explain why or why not (optional).

**Yes. The HGNP is a pivotal document, highlighting principles for sustainable growth while preserving and protecting green spaces, culturally significant areas, and maintaining ecologically important land and aquatic systems.**

**For District 13, there are several places where the guidelines within the HGNP require immediate application and enforcement.**

**The HEC development proposal:**

<https://www.shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/exhibition-park>

**Ensure green spaces and natural corridors are considered and that wetlands and riparian areas are preserved within the Western Common Wilderness Area.**

**Hacketts Cove Park:**

<https://www.friendsofhackettscovepark.org/>

**Promote outdoor recreation, healthy living and active transportation, while maintaining the natural features and landscape of both forests and coastline.**

**Commercial campground at Big Lake:**

<https://www.halifax.ca/business/planning-development/applications/planapp-2023-01201-41-big-lake-drive-big-lake>

**Ensure public engagement, sustainable development, protection of wetlands, lakes and forests, and preserving culturally significant areas and ecological open spaces.**

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 wholeheartedly support transit workers and believe that improved transit is essential for our communities to thrive. I back the Rapid Transit Strategy, but I am disappointed by the lack of transit options in District 13, where the need is great. There is no transit along the 333, and our district is not included in the Rapid Transit Strategy. For our residents, Lacewood or Larry Uteck would be the nearest access points for rapid transit, which is a considerable distance away.**

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. Safety should be the top priority of any mobility plan. Effective engineering, education, engagement, and enforcement are essential to ensure all modes of transportation are safe.**

**In District 13, there is strong support for traffic calming measures, reduced speed limits in neighborhoods, improved signage, more crosswalks, and enhanced active transportation options. Coordination is crucial, as many roads in our district are provincial.**

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. Food security and access to high-quality food are essential components of healthcare. I strongly support the plan and advocate for more equitable access to food sources across District 13. Many communities along the 333 have very few options for healthy food, which poses a significant challenge for residents with limited mobility. Additionally, local farmers in our district would benefit from support for food production and distribution.**

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).

**Yes. I absolutely support this initiative; anything we can do to keep housing affordable is crucial, and the right to efficiency by-law should be one of many tools we use to keep rental prices low, as well as environmentally friendly.**



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. This is a major consideration for District 13, where there are several major growth centres, including Upper Tantallon and Tantallon Crossroads, Hubbards, and HEC. We cannot build responsibly without watershed level management.**

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 look forward to collaborating with the EAC to apply the principles from the HGNP for sustainable coastal protection solutions. District 13 has a shoreline that stretches from Terence Bay to Hubbards, and there is a pressing need for the municipality to create meaningful by-laws in light of the provincial government's failure to implement the Coastal Protection Act. This is a significant concern for our district that needs to be addressed and resolved.**

