



## Ecology Action Centre – Candidate Survey 2024

### Candidate for Councillor, District 7 – Halifax South Downtown

**Name of Candidate: Cathy Cervin**

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. My initial motivation for running for Council was to address the Climate Emergency at a municipal level as part of creating a city that is as healthy as possible for its citizens and the environment. The resourcing and full implementation of the Green Network Plan is one strategy to support climate resilience and lessen out impact on the climate**

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. Speaking to people on the doorstep - transit improvements, safer streets, and fewer cars on the peninsula are top issues. Implementing the Bus Rapid Transit Network (with electric buses soon I hope) will be significantly better for people and for the environment.**

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 people of District 7 are very concerned about pedestrian and cyclist injuries and the vision of zero injuries is personally important to me.**

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. The JustFOOD Action Plan is good for people, good for our local economy and good for the environment. As well as supporting the JustFOOD action plan I work as a volunteer every week at New Caledonia Farm - a local, no till, organic farm.**

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. Affordable housing is the most important election issue, mentioned by virtually everyone I speak to. The cost of energy disproportionately affects those who are precariously housed. Energy efficiency upgrades require upfront investment but the operating costs become permanently lowered and we also will lessen the climate impact of home heating**

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 support including climate and environmental costs and impacts as part of every initiative, plan or decision that Council undertakes.**

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. Our coastline is one of the most valuable, irreplaceable resources of our city and province. I am appalled at the shortsighted lack of action at the provincial level so would advocate strongly for by-laws at the municipal level to protect our coast from inappropriate development.**

