



## Ecology Action Centre – Candidate Survey 2024

### Candidate for Councillor, District 10 – Halifax - Bedford Basin West

**Name of Candidate: Kathryn Morse**

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. I support the implementation of the Green Network Plan and led a budget initiative to get the resources to hire the first full-time staff person. Prior to this, the project had stalled. I'm hopeful there will be more progress now that someone with a conservation background is working at HRM and leading the GNP.**

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. Staffing is critical to the success of a reliable and effective transit service and transit staff need to be paid appropriately We need need to improve transit so more residents choose the bus or ferry to alleviate traffic congestion, make commuting more efficient, and meet our climate goals.**

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. I agree with the Road Safety Strategy and the focus on improving high risk intersections, protecting vulnerable users such as pedestrians and cyclists, prioritizing school zones, and using better data. Along with the IMP, it's the best way to keep HRM moving safely.**

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 certainly support it but feel the changes proposed aren't scaled large enough to make a real impact on HRM's growing food insecurity challenges.**

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. This measure could make life more affordable and comfortable for tenants and also incentivize landlords to make energy efficiency investments in their buildings.**

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 led an initiative to have more watershed level planning at HRM. Watershed planning is the best way to protect lakes and rivers because we’re looking at the whole interconnected system of lakes, wetlands, and rivers, and trying to prevent problems before they happen.**

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. If the Province won't step up then HRM should identify coastal areas at risk of climate impacts and advise residents where they can build and where they should avoid building through the permitting process.**

