Ecology Action Centre – Candidate Survey 2024

Candidate for Councillor, District 6 – Dartmouth East - Burnside

Name of Candidate: Lori Ogden

1. The <u>Halifax Green Network Plan</u> (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, we need to protect our green space and wildlife.

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 <u>Rapid Transit Strategy</u>? Explain why or why not (optional).

Yes. Transit improvements are desperately needed to get people moving better throughout the city. More people on transit means less traffic, which is better for everyone, as well as the environment.

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

Yes, to a point. As a full time professional driver, I spent a year driving a cabover truck, and due to speed humps, even when going as slow as 5km/hr over them, it led to back pain, to the point where I could no longer drive that vehicle. I'd prefer to not see any more of those installed anywhere, for the sake of professional drivers. Speed cushions are ok. Also not a fan of curb extensions, both because they make getting around in traffic in a large vehicle more difficult, but as a cyclist, if you are required to ride on the road in that area (no designated bike lane there) I have found drivers tend to cut you off, or force you over the curb onto the extension because they don't know how it's supposed to work there.

4. Are you committed to ensuring the continued implementation and full funding of the <u>JustFOOD Action Plan</u> 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, absolutely. There are so many people struggling right now, and this is a great step in the right direction.

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. As someone who has been that tenant, I know how hard it can be to keep up with the energy bills in an inefficient unit. If we can help them work to make their units more energy efficient, it's a win for them and the environment!

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. We need to keep our water clean, and protect the ecosystem in our bodies of water so they are able to be enjoyed in the future.

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. Sea levels are rising, and there is more and more erosion along the shorelines. Development in these areas is not likely to be safe long term, and may even speed up the process of erosion.