



Ecology Action Centre – Candidate Survey 2024

Candidate for Councillor, District 15 – Lower Sackville - Beaver Bank

Name of Candidate: Paul Russell

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'm already doing much of this. Our green spaces are incredibly important, and we need to protect them as much as possible, while still allowing for massive population growth.

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).

No. Express routes to Sackville make more sense for those in District 15. The Rapid Transit Strategy does not come here.

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. This is a worthy goal, and we will do our best to get there.

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'll help with this. We already have a number of food programs in Sackville and Beaver Bank, and I will focus more on those.

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. We have a number of programs, provincial and municipal, that already support making home heating more efficient.

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. That has already started. I've been advocating to have it extended to include both the Sackville and Shubenacadie watersheds.

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. That work, within the context of the MPS and LUB updates related to the Sackville River and Little Sackville River, has already started.

