



Ecology Action Centre – Candidate Survey 2024

Candidate for Councillor, District 9 – Halifax West - Armdale

Name of Candidate: Shawn Cleary

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. Halifax Green Network Plan provides a great guide to help us maintain areas that are ecologically and culturally important. Ensuring our land use plans are aligned with the goals of the Green Network Plan will help us plan for important corridors, parks, and green 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. Growing and greening our transit system is key. Implementing the Rapid Transit plan will help us meet our transportation, climate, and equity 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. Implementing and continuously updating and improving the Road Safety Strategy will help us achieve vision zero. Improving road safety, especially for vulnerable road users is a key reason I became a Councillor in the first place and a commitment I intend to fulfill.

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. A more healthy, just, and resilient food system can help tackle food insecurity and affordability challenges for an increasing number of residents. It also adds helps with our climate action goals and can build more vibrant and healthy communities.

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. Halifax has already expanded programs for solar and home retrofits for energy efficiency. It would be interesting to test municipal powers in provincial legislation to see if HRM can do more for tenants’ energy support.

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, and the regional plan review, green network plan, climate action plan, and Halifax Water’s own plans are already starting to work towards better watershed management. Working with the provincial government is also key in this.

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. Council is already working to update plans and policies in this regard. Working with municipal and provincial resources, we can ensure protection of our coast and help vulnerable coastal properties.

