



September 7, 2018

Mayor Ann Seamans  
30 Honour Court  
Riverview, NB E1B 3Y9

Dear Mayor Seamans

Thank you for your letter on behalf of council to inquire how I will support the Town of Riverview as the local MLA.

I have been fortunate to serve the Town of Riverview in several capacities over the past 28 years - ward councillor, councillor at large, Mayor for 5 years and as your MLA for the past 15 years. I will briefly review the success as a starting point to your questions and that will assist to set the stage as to what Council and the residents of Riverview can expect from me if re-elected. As this will be a public document, I want to first thank the residents who have supported me over the years.

The first specific priority you ask about is the Bridgedale Boulevard. When I was Mayor there was a traffic study completed which included a new Gunningsville Bridge and Gunningsville Boulevard. After significant lobbying as Mayor which included 2 bus loads of residents traveling to Fredericton to meet with the Premier of the day Bernard Lord it was exciting to eventually cut the ribbon on the new Gunningsville Bridge as Minister of Energy with Premier Lord and Mayor Sweetland. I was also pleased progress on the plan and priority continued up the hill in the form of the Bridgedale Boulevard.

These assets have allowed the town to grow and thrive as evident in the growth in housing and population in the town in the last 15 years especially the eastern part of Riverview. As the re-elected MLA I would work with the Town on their priorities, as it seemed the original traffic plan for the Bridgedale Boulevard has been replaced with the effort and funding going towards the Causeway replacement.

The next specific item you mention was the Lions Ken Gabbey Community Pool. Again, I believe the success in obtaining funds for other projects in the Town such as the Pat Crossman Memorial Aquatic Pool, the renovations to the Byron Dobson Arena and the tri-government projects such as the water tower on the Trites Road extension show a

proven track record which can be applied to the Lions Ken Gabbey Pool which would include lobbying all levels of Government.

The future wellness centre would receive the same treatment and attention to the priorities of the Town and the residents. I recall my time as the Minister of Local Government where after extensive consultations I brought about real equalization in the unconditional grant formula which allowed Riverview to obtain a larger, fairer share of the available funding to Municipalities. This had been a request of the Town and that effort in trying to work for the priorities of the town would continue.

The next area of concern for Council, as well as myself, is the planned closing of the access via the Causeway or Petitcodiac Bridge link to Riverview for up to 6 months in 2020. I have been in the media and social media in the past to make my point clear that the closure of the causeway not only provides an inconvenience to the residents of Riverview but a risk. In case of an emergency if the Bridge is cut off for some unforeseen reason people would be at risk. I met with the consultants, DTI staff and the Minister but I could not sway their position. Perhaps after the election if I were fortunate enough to return to Government and Cabinet I would receive a better hearing.

In terms of education and health care, I could discuss at length on either of these topics but you should include senior care and mental health in these topics as they are very much related.

Regarding education services in the Town, I recall working with the MLA from Albert Wayne Steeves in advocating for the new Riverview East School that was built for the Residents on the border of our ridings. There is a process in place in petitioning for a new school. The District Education Council is involved, and I would be happy to arrange a meeting with Town Council and the DEC to discuss the process.

When it comes to healthcare, our party is coming out with some much needed reforms to healthcare and senior care. In the past few days the PC Leader has announced a women's health advisory council and a \$5 million research trust. We announced the goal to reduce wait times by adding more anesthesiologists so surgeries will not be cancelled. A PC

Government will diagnose and treat learning disabilities and improve mental health services by hiring more psychologists. For more details on these and future commitments please refer to our news releases.

For the senior care we have announced that we will protect the senior's assets and work at getting the right care at the right time in the right facility. I was pleased to assist John and Lyn Grass turn the sod of their new special care facility on Coverdale road with the Mayor and Councillor Cassista just the other week. A plan for home care and bringing the services to the seniors to allow them to stay in their homes longer is something that needs to be embraced as the population ages.

I, as well as our party, recognize that municipalities are the engines that drive our economy. As Minister of Local Government it was evident that we needed to empower our municipalities. I am pleased our party has committed to doing this. A PC Government would work to give municipalities greater control over their own affairs by overhauling the Local Governance Act, which would include greater powers over taxation and property assessment.

I bring fifteen years of experience as an MLA to the table and a proven track record of success for the people of Riverview. If re-elected I would continue to use that expertise in advocating for the Town and the residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "R. Bruce Fitch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

R. Bruce Fitch  
Riverview Candidate for the PC Party of New Brunswick

Cc: Members of Riverview Town Council  
Colin Smith, CAO