

September 3, 2018

Dear Mayor Seamans and Councillors,

Your questions about the infrastructure needs of Riverview are very specific. I am unfamiliar with many of the facts regarding higher school enrollment, the need for a wellness centre and an outdoor pool. My intention, if elected, is to do what David Coon has done for the last four years in his riding of Fredericton South: to hold Town Hall meetings in schools, nursing homes, church halls, with Council, in public spaces, where I can listen to the needs of the people of the riding and discuss the remedies. I would be wary of promising funding to any project without knowing more about it.

Children should go to schools in their own communities, and as the enrollment increases, they can't just be stuck in portables in the parking lot, nor should they be bussed to larger centralized schools. Schools must be integrated into and responsive to local communities. We also support placing Early Childhood Learning Centres within the elementary school, as part of a universally accessible childcare system. Teachers should also have a prominent role in the development and implementation of public education policy and curriculum. They know the problems best. Another part of our platform is that underutilized school buildings should be transformed into community hubs for learning, training and wellness, where there is community support. I was impressed to see, where my daughter lives in Vancouver, a school **attached** to a community wellness centre, so children could easily use the facilities through the winter.

The question of what to do with traffic while the new bridge is being built and the Causeway closed is indeed a thorny one. If that is the only solution, there are ways to mitigate the flows of traffic, so that, during the morning three lanes of traffic could be routed to Moncton, and in the afternoon, three lanes could be routed to Riverview. This would be done with lights above the lanes and should be begun soon, so that people would become used to the different traffic flows.

There is indeed a role for the Provincial government in helping our cities improve services for their citizens. The Green Party believes that more resources should be put into public transportation. A public transportation system needs to be easy to use, and fit the needs of the population. I would hope to be very active in bringing the three cities together to improve the services of Codiac Transpo so that some of the concerns you raise in your questions could be addressed.

Thank you for taking the time to do this questionnaire, and making it a part of your Council meeting.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Coburn, Green Party Candidate