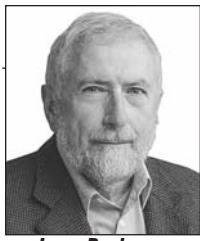


Larry Duchense
NDP Candidate Cumberland South

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place to start.

What steps should be taken and how will you assist in making for Cumberland South among the "least racist" and "most welcoming" constituency in Nova Scotia?

More special cultural events should be held to encourage the mixing of locals and newcomers. Participation by new residents should be encouraged in all community events and activities.



Larry Duchense

In which sectors in for Cumberland South should government prioritize its efforts of leadership and funding assistance to achieve a high rate of economic and population growth? Should detailed planning be undertaken to provide a network of scheduled public transportation services or financial assistance formula be developed to assist formation of commuter groups be developed for the remotest of rural areas?

Slow and steady growth is best. Since the pandemic, many new residents have come from Ontario and other provinces. Transportation is a super problem for any county resident who doesn't own a car. It would be useful to have public transportation or commuter assistance available for those working at Oxford Frozen Foods but living in Springhill. Likewise for those who commute to Amherst from all over the county.

Nearly 40 years ago there were several federal & provincial government announcements of the priority to develop Geothermal Energy services in Springhill. Development would include domestic district heating, plus attract smaller manufacturing / assembly facilities. There was some speculation Springhill would become the "greenhouse" capital of Atlantic Canada with maybe 100's of acres greenhouses to supply the floral and many sectors of the lettuce, herb market of Eastern Canada. How hard will you work to ensure Springhill becomes the iconic "geothermal energy" capital in North America? With 100's/1000's job at stake how important would development be to the entire constituency?

I share your optimism that geothermal energy has the potential to spur economic development in our county. I will spend the time necessary to understand what is required to kick-start it, what the problems may be that appear to be delaying it, and to insure the investment is available to make it grow.

How can you assist all three levels of government to ensure the best decisions will be made regarding expanding the "green energy" footprint and possible production of hydrogen from "wind and emptying landfills sites"?

Wind turbines provide electricity ready to use. And we need more of it to green our provincial power grid. Using wind power to produce hydrogen might not be wise at this point. Let's use wind and solar and geothermal and tidal power to put Nova Scotia in a position to stop using fossil fuel to generate electricity. We're not making enough progress in this direction.

What existing provincial government program or planned policy is least beneficial to businesses and general population in Cumberland South?

This governments elimination of regional health and school boards has reduced our right to have meaningful input in health care and education.

Many people are of the opinion the provincial government is directing too much attention to HRM and larger urban areas. What would you do to change the pendulum to place more emphasis on rural Nova Scotia?

I have worked within my party to achieve a higher priority for rural issues. For a period of time I chaired the NDP's Rural Issues Committee. I will continue to work to ensure rural priorities are high on the agenda of my party and the government.

Normally MLAs are expected to "toe" the party line. If you are elected on November 26th do you promise to place a higher priority on "constituents wishes / needs" ahead of "party policy" except in "non-confidence" situations?

I will try for a balance approach. The electors who chose me need to have their wishes heard. Normally their wishes and mine will be in harmony. There will be times when I will need to stand by my constituents to the displeasure of my party. This I am prepared to.

If you are elected on November 26th what actions will you immediately undertake to achieve economic growth and lifestyle enhancements for the constituency of Cumberland South as result of increased emphasis on green energy; tourism development as result of tidal energy and GeoPark assets?

I will get involved and do what I can to promote economic growth based on the local ownership, local input and the greening of our economy.

2024 Liam MacDonald
Liberal Candidate Cumberland South

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Of course it would be naive to say on an individual basis that racism is non-existent, however to purport there is 'racism and bigotry' because 'immigrants are taking peoples jobs' is wholeheartedly unfathomable and counterintuitive to the multicultural fabric of our society. In truth, there is a shortage in people willing to work for a variety of reasons, lack of living wages being top of mind. The only thing that need be changed is increasing the individualistic incentives to be motivated to do such jobs, it's a simple issue that has nothing to do with race or racism.



Liam MacDonald

What steps should be taken and how will you assist in making for Cumberland South among the "least racist" and "most welcoming" constituency in Nova Scotia?

The very premise of this question is something I fundamentally disagree with. To go into this with the assertion that 'all constituencies are racist and unwelcoming to some degree in Nova Scotia' is a notion myself and many other people would find quite disturbing. We are a nation of immigrants, a multicultural society that is a melting pot, and Canadians everywhere especially in New Scotland welcome renewal of this age old tradition that is immigration.

In which sectors in for Cumberland South should government prioritize its efforts of leadership and funding assistance to achieve a high rate of economic and population growth? Should detailed planning be undertaken to provide a network of scheduled public transportation services or financial assistance formula be developed to assist formation of commuter groups be developed for the remotest of rural areas?

The Nova Scotia Liberals recognize the importance of transportation in our communities. We're planning to invest significantly in rural community transportation, like the Cumberland County Transportation Service. This will help expand this service and make it more affordable. We also need to invest in increasing links between communities, and supporting our transportation infrastructure.

Nearly 40 years ago there were several federal & provincial government announcements of the priority to develop Geothermal Energy services in Springhill. Development would include domestic district heating, plus attract smaller manufacturing / assembly facilities. There was some speculation Springhill would become the "greenhouse" capital of Atlantic Canada with maybe 100's of acres greenhouses to supply the floral and many sectors of the lettuce, herb market of Eastern Canada. How hard will you work to ensure Springhill becomes the iconic "geothermal energy" capital in North America? With 100's/1000's job at stake how important would development be to the entire constituency?

This is a very important question for our region. I support developing our geothermal resources, and developing local industry around this renewable resource.

How can you assist all three levels of government to ensure the best decisions will be made regarding expanding the "green energy" footprint and possible production of hydrogen from "wind and emptying landfills sites"?

Green Hydrogen poses a opportunity for our province, but I believe that before using wind power to ship energy overseas we must get off of coal ourselves. That's why I support ensuring that new wind energy projects are being used to lower power rates and reduce our reliance on coal, before we look to export our energy.

What existing provincial government program or planned policy is least beneficial to businesses and general population in Cumberland South?

I worry that planned wind energy projects in Cumberland County are going to lead to hydrogen being shipped overseas, while we still burn expensive coal here in Nova Scotia. I think we have to get off coal before investing in exporting energy.

Many people are of the opinion the provincial government is directing too much attention to HRM and larger urban areas. What would you do to change the pendulum to place more emphasis on rural Nova Scotia?

Rural Nova Scotia has enormous potential. And we have some specific advantages over places like Halifax. I plan to help secure funding to take advantage of our local renewable potential, including our geothermal resources and some of the strongest, most consistent winds in Canada. We must invest in our agricultural sector, to support our farmers, the backbone of our province. And we have some incredible tourism potential in our region, that just needs some investment to get it off the ground.

Normally MLAs are expected to "toe" the party line. If you are elected on November 26th do you promise to place a higher priority on "constituents wishes / needs" ahead of "party policy" except in "non-confidence" situations?

Yes.

If you are elected on November 26th what actions will you immediately undertake to achieve economic growth and lifestyle enhancements for the constituency of Cumberland South as result of increased emphasis on green energy; tourism development as result of tidal energy and GeoPark assets?

We have so much potential in Cumberland South, including natural wonders along the Bay of Fundy. I plan to immediately advocate for Cumberland-specific funding from the department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage so we can invest in developing infrastructure around our tourism sites. And I plan to immediately look at how we can use Cumberland south's wind energy to lower power bills, and get our province off coal.

16 at 7 pm The Hall will present their Annual Christmas Concert. Cost is \$10.00 and there will be Festive Treats. The musical groups that rehearse at the hall as well as others will.

Other events during December include: Wed Dec. 4. Movie Night 7:30 pm Daddio (2024); Wed. Dec. 18. Movie Night 7:30 pm Holdovers (2023) and Open Mics at 7 pm on Fri. Dec. 6

and 20.

What a great way to kick the Christmas Season into high gear. All groups will now take a much deserved break and will be back early in January 2025. This ends all fundraisers at The Hall for 2024. On behalf of the Parrsboro Band Association and everyone at The Hall want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Tory Rushton
PC Candidate Cumberland South

Continued from page 1

4. What is the most promising asset / resource to achieve economic growth or population growth for Cumberland South?

In Cumberland South, our most promising asset for economic and population growth lies in the natural resources that are part of our region's backbone. As a MLA for the region and Minister of Natural Resources and Renewables, I know firsthand the potential of our area, particularly with the Bay of Fundy right at our doorstep. The Bay of Fundy, known for having the highest tides in the world, sees 160 billion tonnes of water moving in and out twice a day — four times the combined flow of every freshwater river in the world. If we harness this natural power, we could generate up to 7 gigawatts of energy daily, which is the equivalent of almost 3,000 utility-scale wind turbines and enough to power two million homes. This could position Cumberland as a leader in clean energy and innovation, bringing more families and businesses into our region.



Tory Rushton

5. With changes in the labour supply market, there is a visible increase in service sector employees from other countries. How extensive is "racism and bigotry" a basic and systemic problem for Cumberland South? How will you help change it?

In Cumberland South, we pride ourselves on being a supportive and welcoming community. While most of us are eager to see newcomers join our workforce and schools, we must acknowledge that racism and bigotry still exist. Our government's Dismantling Racism and Hate Act, the first of its kind in Canada, is a major step toward real change. This act empowers the government to require public bodies to create and implement anti-racism strategies, ensuring these efforts lead to tangible results. I am committed to working closely with local partners and community groups to make sure these strategies are put into action effectively, creating lasting change and promoting inclusivity throughout our communities.

6. What steps should be taken and how will you assist in making for Cumberland South among the "least racist" and "most welcoming" constituency in Nova Scotia?

To make Cumberland South one of the "least racist" and "most welcoming" areas in Nova Scotia, we need to build on the strong foundation set by the Dismantling Racism and Hate Act. While this legislation provides an important starting point, meaningful change begins at the grassroots level. We need to engage directly with our community, understand how racism and bigotry show up locally, and work hand-in-hand with local businesses, schools, and organizations to develop practical, community-focused solutions. This means meeting with students, teachers, parents, and community leaders to hear their stories and learn from their experiences. By doing so, we can implement sensible programs that educate and promote understanding. It's also important that we strengthen the fabric of our community by creating more opportunities for folks to connect—attending local events, supporting each other's efforts, and ensuring our children grow up together, sharing classrooms and playgrounds. When we focus on what brings us together as neighbors, we foster a sense of belonging and respect.

7. In which sectors in for Cumberland South should government prioritize its efforts of leadership and funding assistance to achieve a high rate of economic and population growth? Should detailed planning be undertaken to provide a network of scheduled public transportation services or financial assistance formula be developed to assist formation of commuter groups be developed for the remotest of rural areas?

I believe the government should prioritize education and energy production as key drivers of growth. Investing in education equips our workforce with the skills needed for sustainable development. By strengthening our educational institutions and training programs, we can retain local talent and attract young people seeking opportunities to grow. In addition, renewable energy production, including wind, solar, and tidal power, presents a significant opportunity for economic development. It will create jobs and position Cumberland South as a leader in energy innovation, further enhancing our region's potential. While public transportation is primarily a municipal responsibility, I am committed to supporting local governments if they identify a need for transportation solutions. Whether it's providing financial assistance or helping municipalities access the necessary resources, I will work to ensure that remote rural areas have the connectivity they require.

8. Nearly 40 years ago there were several federal & provincial government announcements of the priority to develop Geothermal Energy services in Springhill. Development would include domestic district heating, plus attract smaller manufacturing / assembly facilities. There was some speculation Springhill would become the "greenhouse" capital of Atlantic Canada with maybe 100's of acres greenhouses to supply the floral and many sectors of the lettuce, herb market of Eastern Canada. How hard will you work to ensure Springhill becomes the iconic "geothermal energy" capital in North America? With 100's/1000's job at stake how important would development be to the entire constituency?

Geothermal energy holds a real opportunity for Springhill and Cumberland County, thanks to the abandoned mines and geothermal hotspots we have in the area. I'm eager to see where our research into geothermal energy takes us. Other parts of Canada are already using geothermal to generate electricity, and it's worth exploring whether we can do the same here in Nova Scotia. This could be a game-changer, not just for Springhill but for the entire province. To make this a reality, we need to keep investing in NSCC to ensure we have the research capacity and skilled workforce needed for geothermal development. Last year, I secured \$80,000 for NSCC to begin research in this area, and I'll continue pushing to make sure that funding is available in the future, so we can gather the data needed for large-scale investments. While the province's 2030 climate goals are already set, I'll keep advocating for geothermal energy beyond 2030 to make sure we fully seize this opportunity for economic growth and community revitalization.

9. How can you assist all three levels of government to ensure the best decisions will be made regarding expanding the "green energy" footprint and possible production of hydrogen from "wind and emptying landfills sites"?

We've made significant strides in advancing green energy in Nova Scotia, especially with our Clean Power Plan 2030. This plan focuses on increasing wind and solar energy and improving battery storage. By 2030, we aim to generate 50% of our electricity from onshore wind and add 1,000 MW of new wind power. Additionally, we are working to boost solar energy production and explore the potential for green hydrogen,

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The Hall in Parrsboro Heading into Busy November and December

The Hall on King Street in Parrsboro is rounding off their year with some exciting fundraisers with the family in mind. On Friday, November 29 the hall will sponsor a Free Movie **Christmas Chronicles 2** at 7:15 pm following the Annual Tree Lighting at 6:15 pm. This movie is free to everyone. The canteen will be open to purchase snacks.

Following the Annual Lions Club sponsored Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 7 Santa will stop by the hall and greet children and find out what their wishes are. There will be hot chocolate and cookies for everyone. If you want pictures we suggest you

bring your own camera.

Sunday, December 8 at 2 pm the hall will show the family movie **Miracle on 34th Street (The Original)**. Cost is \$2. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. The canteen will be open to purchase snacks.

On Sunday December 15, Lennie Gallant will perform his Annual Christmas Concert. Tickets are \$45.00 and can be purchased on line at www.thehall.ca or call 902-728- 2013 and leave a message and a volunteer will return your call. Don't wait, tickets are going fast so get your tickets soon. What a nice Christmas present for the hard to buy person.

On Monday, December