

Norm Rafuse Response to South Cumberland News Questionnaire

Why did you decide to run for District 13, Parrsboro?

I decided to run because many, many people asked me. I think that I am the best and most qualified candidate for the job, having been elected last year by the residents of Parrsboro in a majority vote. My heart is in this area and I want to be a strong voice representing issues that Parrsboro residents feel are important.

What is the most serious / pressing problem facing Parrsboro residents?

Our most serious problem is employment, or a lack of it.

What needs to be accomplished to improve the economy of Parrsboro and area?

We need more industry in our area to keep our residents employed so they don't move on and resettle in other places. Industries like tourism, farming, forestry, fishing, retail, etc. need a boost... they need a strong voice to back them up in council and that is what I intend upon doing. We have so much to offer in Parrsboro!

How will the new \$-multi-million sewer project help the town?

This sewer project will bring Parrsboro into the 21st century, it is long overdue. On an environmental stand point we will no longer be polluting our harbor or the Bay of Fundy; residents and visitors will be able to swim at First Beach knowing that the water they are swimming in is clean and safe. The plant itself will no doubt be staffed by our public works crew. With the plant in place building lots that owners were not able to build upon due to restrictions on septic installation, will now (for the most part) have the option of being serviced by our new water treatment facility.

What talents / experience will you bring to council to help the area?

I have lived here for 23 years. I built a successful construction business from the ground up which has been operational for 40 years. I know the value of a dollar and I am no stranger to hard work. I am a strong believer in supporting local businesses and I do so by sourcing material locally. I am involved in my community through several boards which I sit on and those who work with me on these would attest that I am a strong contributor. Last year I won the majority vote because the people of Parrsboro believed in and voted for me. I hope to be able to do that again during this election.

Why should Parrsboro residents vote for you?

a: Anyone who knows me would realize I get straight to the point. Being in business for 40 years I am most certainly reliable having attended every council meeting since being elected in 2015 I am very involved in the politics here in Parrsboro. The issues that are facing our community need to have a strong, meaningful voice behind them. I am that voice.

Sandy Graham's Response to South Cumberland News Questionnaire

Why did you decide to run for District 13, Parrsboro?

I am running because, like the other candidates, I believe that I can make a difference. I also believe that my particular background, perspectives and personality make me a good "fit" for such a role. We have to put economic development at the top of the agenda in the coming years, an agenda that embraces the special attributes of our community, including its beauty, and unique heritage, arts and culture.

What is the most serious / pressing problem facing Parrsboro residents?

A lack of long term integrated or "strategic" planning is, in my view, the most serious and pressing problem for Parrsboro residents. This is central to the question of the infrastructure needed to maintain services and programs in the present, and to attract tourists, and new residents and businesses to the area. We need a cohesive plan - a blueprint - that will embrace all the challenges and opportunities ahead for the next twenty years. The seeds for that growth can be planted now.

What needs to be accomplished to improve the economy of Parrsboro and area?

Like all Nova Scotia, and especially rural areas, Parrsboro & area is seeing an outmigration of youth. And like most of Cumberland County (excepting Amherst), the population is declining by about 10% per decade. We have to decide collectively, and strategically, that we will be more than a "retirement community". We have to act quickly to attract families and businesses, and support those businesses to the extent that we can.

How will the new \$-multi-million sewer project help the town?

A major (and overdue) upgrade to our infrastructure like this will enhance our ability to attract new residents and businesses, as well as tourists. If planned properly, it could be part of a package development that would include a waterfront development of the aboiteau, the benefits including various kinds of recreation, increased biodiversity and health of the ecosystem, tourism, and a much improved visual appearance.

What talents / experience will you bring to council to help the area?

- Worked in various museums as a curator/manager or educator. • Environmental education and recreation with the Toronto District School Board. • Worked in heritage, arts and culture at various sites, and with many non-profits. • Experience in management, administration, supervision, development of budgets, marketing, planning and policy. • Diploma in Museum & Park Studies, Seneca College, 1983. • Museum Organization & Management course, Ontario Museum Association, 1996. Pass with Distinction. • Fundraising, webinar course with The Hilborn Group, in association with the Foundation for Rural Living, 2009. • Former businessman

Why should Parrsboro residents vote for you?

I am probably known as much for speaking my mind, as for my diplomacy, as well as my passion for the welfare and future of Parrsboro. I've been active with a number of nonprofits here over the years, and as someone who has run a business and raised two sons here, am keenly aware of some of the challenges and pressures that we face together. But I believe also that we have significant opportunities before us, and that I have the personality and skills necessary to work with various stakeholders to help realize those opportunities.

Kursten Kelly

By Kursten Kelly

People ask me why I want to run to be a councillor? Well the answer is simple. I've been on the other side. I know what it's like as a resident to feel you're not being heard or that your concerns, aren't being taken seriously. So when asked, what's my agenda? My agenda is to simply make sure that each and every resident becomes a priority. I'm not afraid to fight for things that matter and will work hard to achieve them for anyone.

I have 10 years experience in corporate negotiations, working for a large telecommunications firm. As well as 5 years in finance and insurance. I think this foundation will give me a lot of guidance in dealing with the things required by someone in a councillor position.

I'm really passionate about this town, the people and the amazing surroundings we have been given. I'm also sad to think, that after 127

years of calling ourselves a town, that it's all coming to an end soon. Not putting blame on any one person or situation but confused that people who currently represent our community, are once again asking for another opportunity to be trusted with it. So yes - I've made it a point to say I feel a change is due and necessary and that change is a good thing in my eyes and can only hope others agree.



Kursten Kelly is a candidate in Parrsboro District 13 in the Cumberland Municipal Election.

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Lisa Ward Response to South Cumberland News Questionnaire

Why did you decide to run for District 13, Parrsboro?

I am running for District 13 for I have a proven track record over the past seven years that I have a strong voice to speak up for the residents to bring concerns to the table and work with all parties involved to come to a solution. As we transition into the Municipality of the County of Cumberland I would be able to provide the knowledge gained over the past seven years as well as being a member of the community for over 30 years. I am willing to dedicate the time needed to take on the role of representing Parrsboro citizens. I am very passionate about our community and the people within it. It would be a privilege and honor that I would be proud to take on to represent the residents of Parrsboro and to be a part of the municipality in the growth of our community. As most know I am very approachable for anyone to seek out information and or updates. I am a very positive person and feel being positive is a much healthier atmosphere for all to share.

What is the most serious / pressing problem facing Parrsboro residents?

Raw sewage flowing into the Bay of Fundy polluting the environment. Fortunately a sewer treatment plant should be completed or near completion in 2018. I have heard many times from people that times are hard it's not easy for people paying their tax bills, buying groceries, paying utility bills and heating their homes. It's a challenge many residents face not only in our community but other communities as well.

What needs to be accomplished to improve the economy of Parrsboro and area?

We need to continue to provide and improve services for the residents of our area. We need to continue to market ourselves as the place to live, work and play. We have so much to offer and need to promote what we have. We all need to work together to accomplish improving the economics of our area.

How will the new \$-multi-million sewer project help the town?

Once the sewer treatment plant is completed (approximately 2018) it will provide waste treatment instead of raw sewage flowing into the Bay of Fundy. Not only will we have a sewer treatment plant, but we will also incorporate many expansions to areas within Parrsboro. This treatment plant will provide comfort to our local residents and to the potential new residents that their waste would not be polluting the environment.

What talents / experience will you bring to council to help the area?

I have lived in Parrsboro over 30 years, have been the Parrsboro & Area Community Development Coordinator, was the administrator for Ship's Company Theatre for 10 years and have been involved with many organizations over those years. I have also owned my own business "Lisa's Emporium" and understand the difficulties a small business faces as well as issues that face organizations'. I have served seven years on council and feel I have the experience needed to address concerns of residents. You need to be respectful, have a strong voice, but also willing to listen and be compassionate which I possess all these talents.

Why should Parrsboro residents vote for you?

If residents are looking for someone to represent them and is willing to give the time and dedication to the residents of Parrsboro then I am the woman for the job. As mentioned I am respectful of others, a positive person and very passionate about our community and the people within it. I have a proven track record that I have a strong voice to bring the residents concerns to the table. I have always been available, approachable and willing to take the time to listen to concerns, provide residents with information and updates as per their requests.



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Cumberland South

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