1. What are your top three priorities that you will make happen during your term if elected?

1. Second Wave Preparation

The Premier has made the decision to call a general election in the midst of a pandemic. I have spoken to many people who are worried about their health and safety and voting during a Pandemic. It is essential that our return to school is done safely and I believe that all MLA's should be focussed on this as opposed to participating in an election at this time. Having said this, I want to thank all our Frontline workers and Dr. Russel who have kept us safe during the First wave of Covid 19 but we should be focussed on the second wave so as to protect our most Vulnerable, such as Seniors and Children, and not participating in a election that was not wanted or needed at this time.

2. Post Pandemic Economy

As the MLA for the past 6 years I have made it my priority to work with others for the economic well being of the Greater Fredericton area with projects such as the renovation of the Airport (YFC). Un fortunately, this government decided to cancel many projects in the Fredericton area that were already budgeted for construction such as a new Fredericton Courthouse and a new round-about in Fredericton North. These projects, while needed for obvious reasons, would have provided crucial economic activity for our region.

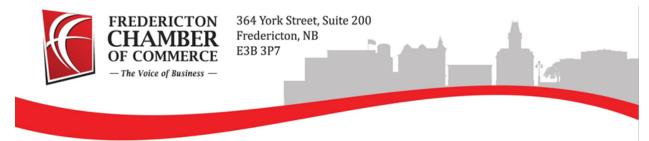
Many businesses have been able to reopen after Covid 19 but many have not. During this time, it is necessary to access all Federal infrastructure dollars so as to restart our economy and aid those businesses that have yet to reopen and to grow new businesses. The Higgs government has not done this but a Liberal Government will.

3. Collaboration

It is of the utmost importance to work with our federal, municipal and community and business leaders in these challenging times. In addition, our provincial politicians must collaborate on issues and stop partisan politics. This is how I have acted in the last 6 years and how I will continue into the future.

2. What opportunities do you see arising for the Fredericton Region as a result of the pandemic?

I don't like to refer to opportunities resulting from a Pandemic. Rather, I believe we have to face the realities that we live in. Our party wants to develop Fredericton as the technology and cyber security center of the World. Mr. Vickers has been clear on this point. Since in our new reality, may people are still working from home, and will continue to do so, this is an appropriate time to expand on this unique opportunity for Fredericton.



We need population growth in New Brunswick and I believe Fredericton should be a leader in attracting newcomers to our province. We have committed to attracting 10,000 newcomers to our province per year for 10 years. I believe based on our quality of life in this region, and in working with our economic partners, such as the Chamber of Commerce and Business Fredericton North, we can attract many of these newcomers.

3. The private sector, especially small business which is the engine of the economy was severely impacted by the pandemic, how will your government support the recovery of our economy?

We must do everything possible to ensure our small businesses can succeed during this Pandemic economy. As stated earlier we must work with all partners to ensure our tax dollars are invested wisely. The provincial government must be more proactive in working with the federal government to create programs that are unique to the challenges we face in NB. In fact, I just read that all provinces, except Alberta and NB, have added jobs to their economies this month. This is unacceptable and we need to all act now to ensure this trend does not continue. We must not increase taxes as small businesses have enough challenges and burdens to deal with.

4. Prior to the pandemic, an aging and declining labour force was a top concern of businesses in our region. Immigration will be more challenging in the short-term – how can government help labour force participation in the province?

Government must work with all interested partners to identify those sectors where newcomers can contribute.

5. What natural resource development opportunities are most important to growing the New Brunswick economy? How can government help move these industries forward?

The Liberal Party recognizes the benefits of our traditional resource industries like forestry and mining. We must continue to support these industries that contribute significantly to our economy but do so in a way that protects our environment and includes the full participation of our Indigenous population.

6. The Fredericton Region has been building expertise and capacity in cyber security over the

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course of several decades. What role can government play in ensuring we remain a global leader in this sector?

As referenced earlier this is a crucial sector for our region which has been ignored by the present government. With the proper partnerships the Fredericton area can be a world leader in this sector.

7. How should New Brunswick handle a second wave of COVID-19 in New Brunswick? What are the appropriate metrics to trigger another public health shutdown?

Please refer to my first answer. Any governmental action must be guided by science in coordination with Dr. Russel and her team. The Covid Cabinet Committee should continue even if a majority government is formed thereby reducing partisan political disputes which are not helpful in an emergency.

8. What are your views on the New Brunswick's 10-year education plan and Green Paper? How do you intend to ensure consistency in the province's education plans?

A Liberal government will ensure the health and safety of students and ensure that regardless where they reside in New Brunswick, children have equal access to education but we must include the Education profession and our health professionals in operational plans.

A Liberal government will commit to the 10 year education plan brought in by the previous Liberal government. With respect to the Green Plan, many have commented to me that there has not been adequate consultation on this plan . A Liberal government would only proceed with any educational reforms after proper consultation with all stakeholders.