

thescope's

2013 ST. JOHN'S MUNICIPAL ELECTION CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Cecil Whitten, At-Large Candidate

I appreciate the opportunity to answer your questionnaire.

I was born and raised in St.John's. I graduated from Prince of Wales College as well as The College of Trades and Technology. Later, went on to MUN. I started a career in education by teaching in Carmanville. Eventually, I obtained employment at The College of the North Atlantic (St. John's Campus) as an Instructional Assistant - a position I held for 22 years, until I retired in 2005. Over the years, I have volunteered for many organizations, CPNL, Scouts Canada, EVCC, just to name a few. I am a husband, father and grandfather, these 3 roles being the most important in my life. Today, I volunteer for various City Committees and am a published Author and Poet. My website is: www.cecilwhtten.ca. Please refer to the biography on my website for further information pertaining to my background.

There are several reasons why I am running in this election: overall improvement in the areas of transportation, a fairer tax system and improvements in the area of affordable housing are but a few of the elements in my platform. For additional information pertaining to my reasons for running, please refer to my website.

In reference to the question of blunders and achievements, it is my opinion that their biggest achievement is the improved para transit service. We still have a way to go but with co-operation from all parties, I believe it can be achieved. Perhaps their biggest failure is their lack of advancement in the area of tax compensation for condo owners who do not receive all city services yet still pay the same taxes as those who receive all services available to all other citizens.

If elected, I will be able to work with anyone else who is elected with me. Both in my work life as well as my volunteer life, I have dealt with many different people and I have worked well with others because I respect differing opinions and I take the time to listen.

My scale is based on 1 being most urgent,10 being least urgent. However, they all hold importance but priority must be set where finances are concerned.

Affordable Housing 1

Sidewalk Clearing 2

Public Transit 3

Downtown Parking 4

Support of the Arts 5

Building Height Restriction 6

Heritage Building Regulations 7

Urban Density 8

Full Time Council Positions 9

Amalgamation 10