Young at heart, old in body but fit as a fiddle

Executive Director of the HUB and an author with Flanker Press

I have been encouraged by numerous people to run in this election because of the stands I have taken on a number of issues facing not only the citizens of St. John's but also all citizens in the province. I believe that my education and experience in dealing with municipal matters as well as my accessbility will give voters a strong voice at council

Low income housing, policing and traffic

All in all, I think that the present council did a reasonably good job but their decison to even consider requiring new home builders to plant a tree and then charge for it, was ridiculous.

I can think of no great achievements but again I reiterate, I think that this was a good council

I could work with anyone.

Heritage: Each case needs to be reviewed as presented. It is next to impossible to have a blanket policy

Support for the arts: In reality, we can't give enough to  the arts. Our tourists come here to see the sights but the arts community entertains them as well as our citizens.

Downtown parking:  Clearly we need to make some of the streets one way to increase parking

My knowledge of public transit other that the go busses is very limited.

I support the Board of Trade's position that we have to reduce urban sprawl.

It may be difficult to attract persons to council if the jobs become full time. We are always trying to attract younger people but unless we dramtically increase the compensation, we will continue to attract older more financially secure persons.

I support amalgamation

I support height restrictions in certain areas.

I fully support sidewalk clearing in high density areas.

I have proposed that instead of giving contractors huge amounts of money to build low rental housing that we develop a program that provides the downpayments for mortgages to families. Currently, we have families paying rents that are equivalent to mortgage payments but they just can't come up with the downpayments to qualify them for mortgages. If the city and the province were to develop a program that provided these downpayments to qualfied persons by attaching liens and recovering the money when the property is sold, this would be a boom to families. In addition, it would create a boom in the construction industry, reduce the number of slum landlords, reduce demand for rental properties and decrease rental costs.

Tom Badcock