

Dear _____,

It is with pleasure that I invite the candidates for Cumberland South to attend an all-candidates debate hosted by the Parrsboro and District Board of Trade on Friday, May 26, 2017 from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm at The Hall, 44 King Street, Parrsboro, NS. The debate will be open to Board of Trade members, the public and the press.

The debate format will be moderated and will provide each candidate the opportunity to address 3 prepared questions from the moderator, with a time limit of 3 minutes per question and a 1-minute rebuttal. Finally, each candidate will have a 2-minute summary at the end of the debate. Prepared questions from the Board of Trade will be provided shortly to allow candidates time to prepare.

An informal meet-and-greet with attendees will follow the debate. Refreshments and snacks will be served. Please note that this event will be advertised throughout Parrsboro and the surrounding area, and that Press may attend. I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible to confirm your attendance. I can be reached at 902-489-4367 should you have any questions.

Questions:

1. The economy in rural Nova Scotia faces unique economic challenges not shared by larger centres. What specific economic development initiatives in your platform will have the greatest positive effect on the Parrsboro Shore area?
2. Nova Scotians have said they are not happy with their educational system, and the difficulties in delivering a complete curriculum to rural Nova Scotians has not kept pace with that in larger centres. This is evidenced by the absence of music programs, French immersion, physical education resources, and the rise of distance education to replace classroom instruction for important high school courses like physics and chemistry. What will you do to ensure that rural Nova Scotian students receive the same quality of education and equal access to more specialized programs like music and French immersion that those in larger centres enjoy?
3. Nova Scotia's population is aging, and the aging population in rural Nova Scotia is growing faster than the Provincial average. This has set the stage for a disproportionately higher demand in health care services in rural areas, where access is already challenging. Given the existing shortage of healthcare services in Rural Nova Scotia that exists today, how will you solve the problem of reasonable access to family physicians, specialists and long term care now and as the population ages.

Treasurer Report

Parrsboro & District Board of Trade

Regular Meeting: May 16, 2017

- Account signing authorities are in place at CIBC. Call came in Monday may 15. Carrie and I must stop in at CIBC and sign off
- Completing the annual summary for CRA today
- Account will be accessed this week for confirmation of balance and such
- Executive will be meeting very soon for clarity of roles