



NORTH SHORE HERITAGE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER

ELECTION QUESTIONNAIRE 2005: COUNCIL

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?
2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?
3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?
4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver?

RESPONSES

1. MAYOR

Jim Cuthbert

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I assign great value to our heritage buildings since they add so much to the fabric of our community. I have demonstrated this interest throughout 2005 as Council's representative on the Community Heritage Commission for the District of North Vancouver. My interest in and support for North Vancouver heritage building conservation has strengthened through my involvement with the Commission and its activities. Much of my parks management career involved developing and managing interpretive programs which often emphasized cultural history.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

- Encourage owners with buildings listed on the City and District of North Vancouver's primary and secondary inventory lists to seriously consider registering their properties under the Heritage Act for formal designation and stronger heritage preservation;
- Expand the scope of the annual heritage week celebrations with increased public awareness, more events, and enhanced coordination with the District of West Vancouver;
- Expand the scope and media coverage of the municipal Heritage Awards for the restoration, preservation and conservation of heritage homes;
- Investigate municipal financial and other incentives to encourage home owners to list and possibly register their properties as heritage buildings;

- Increase the public awareness of organizations such as the North Shore Heritage Preservation Society and the Community Heritage Commission and their willingness to offer assistance and advice in the field of heritage building preservation.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

Yes.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver?

Preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver is a personal priority. When serving as North Vancouver Councillor from 1990 to 1996 and during 2005, I fully supported the restoration of the old Lynn Valley Elementary School to perform another function as the new North Vancouver Archives. I support preservation of other North Vancouver school buildings worthy of heritage conservation.

David Dixon

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

All heritage is valuable, but not all can be saved. Heritage is also relative, some properties are Heritage for their structures, some for gardens and property or significant events, and some relatively new for distinctive period construction.

All communities must have a portion of their budget allocated to culture of which heritage is a part.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

A master list of all Heritage properties should be actively maintained as they do in England. The owners or occupiers of these properties should be notified to insure they know the significance of their property.

My sister (and husband) moved a Heritage House in Victoria, from downtown Oak Bay, where it was slated for demolition, to 366 Sunset, very close to the ocean. If you drive by you can hardly see the surgery where the two halves were reunited. Therefore all attempts should be made to relocate them, sometimes temporarily if necessary. Nickel House Moving has a storage facility and also an inventory of structures. I am currently looking for a used house to put on my property, 1646 Dempsey, should there be one moveable to this location, please let me know.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

One of the original benefactors of the numerous lotteries present today was for the benefit of sport and culture, we have to pressure both levels of government to reinstate these core principals/values.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary and Queen Mary Elementary?

One unique structures from each time period should be saved, all attempts should be made to find an alternate use for the structure, for example a community day care, the Federal Government just announced a 40 M incentive for their creation. Unfortunately with the declining youth population of the North Shore this trend will continue.

Maureen McKeon Holmes

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I value heritage buildings. I was born and raised in London, Ontario, where nearly everyone I knew grew up with lived in a heritage building. Looking back on that time, the homes were very old with creaky stairs and window ledges painted with too many layers of paint but most homes had character and many had unique features of the original design or some modifications made over time.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

There are many fewer heritage buildings on the North Shore so it is important that we not knock down our heritage buildings for densification. I would encourage homeowners to move buildings to other lots and continue to provide financial incentives to those who wish to restore their homes to their former glory.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

Yes, I support encouraging homeowners to maintain the heritage character. I would also look to other levels of government for assistance as these heritage homes as they are part of our collective heritage.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary and Queen Mary Elementary?

I have supported the Lynn Valley School which is now being refurbished for the Museum and Archives. This is an asset to the District and it can be appreciated in the years to come. I would like to look at ways the community can use the school properties for other uses especially if we can access federal infrastructure funding to assist us. If a municipal function is not possible, then there is the option of refurbishing for retail. The London Ontario Armory Building left vacant for many years was refurbished into a shopping and restaurant site. It is very attractive and has been very successful.

Dave Sadler

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

It's important to preserve our history and living heritage buildings provide a great link to the past.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I support tax shifting, as heritage buildings are a benefit to the entire community.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

The concept of tax shifting is to reduce taxes on buildings seen as a benefit to the community (eg. heritage, energy efficient) and increase taxes for those that are not (eg. polluting).

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary and Queen Mary Elementary?

I would certainly support if that is the opinion of the Society.

Richard Walton

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

Having graduated from Classical Studies at UBC, having spent seven years as a tour guide in Europe and having taught history for nine years, I have an ongoing keen interest in history and its value in appreciating the culture and landscape we live in. North Vancouver is not an old community but has a fascinating early history and metamorphosis from sawmills, farms and isolated homes into a cohesive suburban community. I place a very high value on heritage buildings and would like to see us work closely with private owners to encourage these properties to be preserved and where possible improved.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

People take pride in their heritage home if they are tied into a network of other home owners and if there is recognition of the value of their work and its importance. Receiving advice from District staff and public acknowledgement for their labours of love is small price to pay for the level of public enjoyment and pride that Heritage properties provide. I would think a tax credit of some sort might be possible against value put into Heritage properties. I think it is likely done in some areas in North America and I would be open to reviewing practices elsewhere.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

I am interested in all ideas for how increases in funding might be obtained. There are various government grants and charitable organizations that might be potential sources of funding and a larger role might be played by the District in the sourcing and writing of grant applications.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver?

The core of old schools left, Ridgeway, Queen Mary, Lonsdale and Capilano are treasures, but public safety should not be compromised. Hopefully these structures' risk of collapse from earthquakes can be minimized so their lives can be indefinitely extended. These buildings have tremendous presence and the few remaining links from before the Great War. There are so few stone and brick buildings left on the North Shore and these buildings are majestic in size and rich in our history.

2. COUNCILLOR

Roger Bassam

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I believe the history and heritage of our community is priceless. It is the foundation of our being and helps us understand who we are and how we arrived at this point in time.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

Keeping elements of our heritage (buildings and parks for example) active and functioning is essential to preserving these assets and drawing the threads of the past into our present and future lives.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

Yes, and I have outlined a plan that could provide up to a 50% increase to funding of all our current arts, cultural and social programs.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary and Queen Mary Elementary?

I support the preservation of these grand old buildings and recognize their future will only be guaranteed if they remain functioning assets. Lynn Valley Elementary is a fine example of how a heritage building can be given new life by playing a different role in the community. Once a school for children it will now be the archives for North Vancouver, a place of education for all ages.

Bruce Crowe

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

Heritage buildings are important reminders of accomplishments of past residents of the community. They serve as a link to our past. They deserve serious consideration.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

Listen to the needs of the community just as I have done while on the school board for the last 3 years. If the community feels it is important then I will advocate on their behalf.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

Incentive programs are appealing. We need to investigate if federal/provincial matching funds are available. Our District of N. Van is struggling right now to meet its current obligations. Many existing buildings are poorly maintained and overdue for repair. Heritage preservation is extremely expensive in many cases especially during this time of construction cost inflation.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary and Queen Mary Elementary?

Both of these are in the City and beyond my control. As I recall, Queen Mary is the only one designated as an official heritage buildings. I'd appreciate your input on how to fund preservation of these buildings, though, as first and foremost they are school buildings. If they are unfit for holding students then conversion to another use such as an archive, as done at Lynn Valley might be viable.

Janice Harris

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I have always placed a high value on heritage buildings in North Vancouver and have consistently supported preservation strategies over the last 15 years as a District councillor (one year of which I served as District mayor.)

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

One of the most effective ways of maintaining the District's built heritage is through heritage infill redevelopment (allowing companion home(s) to be built beside the heritage home on the same lot, in order to finance the rehabilitation of the heritage home).

I am also a strong supporter of the adaptive reuse of heritage buildings including: the soon-to-be completed 1920's Lynn Valley School as the new North Vancouver archives, as well as the Mollie Nye House (Lynn Valley) and the Christie House (North Lonsdale), two distinctive heritage homes adapted for community uses. (The Christie House was purchased by the District and the Mollie Nye House was renovated and given to the District by the developer of the Sunrise seniors housing complex.) The District, through its Heritage Commission also recognizes individual heritage homeowners through a well-received awards program, and publicizes community heritage walks during Heritage Week.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

I prefer heritage infill, developer contributions to heritage preservation and leveraging federal heritage grants over tax breaks at this time because of the District's current fiscal constraints.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary and Queen Mary Elementary??

Although I am running for reelection in the District of North Vancouver, I favour the preservation and full seismic upgrading of both the Ridgeway and Queen Mary elementary schools. Both schools are significant heritage buildings and we would lose a great deal of North Vancouver's architectural history, and public viewing pleasure, if these two schools were to be torn down.

Wayne Hunter

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

Heritage Buildings are an important aspect of community history. They provide an artistic, architectural and social context for earlier periods of development.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

Promote and support all volunteer and staff initiatives aimed at identifying, cataloguing and researching potential heritage buildings.

Encourage an updated information data base regarding all aspects of available grants and monies available from senior levels of government, and private sector sponsors.

Would encourage the use of modern technologies to record all aspects of heritage structures, including AV, sound, and broadband availability and access to this information.

Would support and encourage greater coordination with District Museums and Archival services.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

Unfortunately, District taxpayer funds will, in all probability, not be available for additional funding, but on a case by case basis, I would review any application for a tax grant.

Subject to a detailed proposal, I would support an application for “seed money” to help develop other possible avenues for raising funds. (ie. Setting up a non profit business and “selling” heritage items ... artistic prints ... limited series lithographs ... architectural history books and videos ... walkway/room sponsorships.)

I would encourage all interested members to acquaint themselves with the “Parkgate” model for community governance. The key to this model is volunteers and more community engagement. Further, I would support and encourage any and all efforts at creating a sustainable plan for self financing.

I would also encourage community action planning and skills development to aid the preparation of project proposals; specifically I would encourage everyone to borrow from the extensive resources available in other “knowledge silos.” For example:

(a) The non-profit Centre: <http://www.fundsnetsservices.com/nonproct.htm> ... under grant writing resources has a whole list of tip sheets on the topic;

(b) The Canadian Centre for Philanthropy: <http://www.ccp.ca/> has a chapter from many of this books on-line including their book on grant proposal writing on line at <http://www.imaginecanada.ca/languagePreference.asp>.

As a municipality, I would also support innovative use of our zoning/planning/density authorities to extract as much heritage preservation possible.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary and Queen Mary Elementary?

I would encourage as much as possible the integration of the architectural character of these types of public facilities in any upgrade or renovation consideration.

Any such redevelopment or upgrade would, of course, be subject to Local Community Plans.

The major issue that must be debated is what is the acceptable “preservation premium” that can be paid (or tolerated by the taxpayer) for these type of facilities. A juried review of any existing cost/benefit analysis methodology may be timely.

Sabine Jessen

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

The preservation of historic buildings is extremely important in acknowledging our heritage. These structures are a substantial physical presence in our community and they serve to remind us of where our culture originated, how our current neighbourhoods evolved, and how we are connected to our roots. These structures help us keep our current values in perspective.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

We have much "heritage & historic" expertise in our community. With this substantial resource of local knowledge we can develop programs uniquely suited to our setting and our history. We have strong advisory and advocacy initiatives to encourage through the district's Community Heritage Commission and the newly formed North Shore Heritage Preservation Society. We can also work closely with the provincial historic preservation branch in accessing and advancing current programs when they meet our objectives.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

Heritage preservation requires a community commitment. It is appropriate to encourage preservation through inducement and incentive programs involving outright grants and tax relief, particularly where a hardship is created by the cost of restoration. Preservation is in the public interest and deserves reasonable support from public funds.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary and Queen Mary Elementary?

Schools are extremely important as heritage structures. Everyone attends a school at some time and these buildings anchor us to our past and remind us of our roots -- probably more than any other building type. The young and the elderly can relate to school experiences -- the school setting is a significant part of our social fabric and cultural development. Retention and restoration of school structures represent an important opportunity for adaptive reuse -- they are generally substantial facilities which can be upgraded to serve important current functions for the community. An excellent example of a recycled school building is the old Lynn Valley Elementary School now in the process of being restored for continued use as the North Vancouver Archives.

Salim Kaderali

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

North Vancouver District's values, education and livability are an outcome of the sweat and toil of the District's grandfathers and their fathers. The institutions and buildings are a reflection of that heritage. Unfortunately with time the pressure of development and accessibility of land location is such that heritage suffers. We have reached a stage where this heritage is now at premium level and must be preserved.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

The function of a councillor is to ask the critical questions and be a catalyst in providing an avenue for ideas and then implementation. The best solution is to have appointees of committees such as the NS Heritage Preservation Society, who are the best in the field and are able to articulate the needs. I am certainly willing to heed the advice and participate in pragmatic solution

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

Over the last five years the increase in inflation has been about 5%, but our taxes have increased by over 20%. There is no appetite for increase taxation. A month ago, our District's finance officer informed us that we should be prepared for a budget deficit of 11.2%. Now, the federal government is in a surplus situation, and with election looming we are in a good position to be lucky. Luck is defined as that which is mitigated by preparedness and opportunity.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver?

I can list at least three schools that could be reconditions and serve as useful functional space.

Karen Klasen

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I love heritage buildings and would work diligently to preserve them in the District. (Unfortunately, there aren't too many of them in the District)

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

The Mollie Nye house in North Vancouver is a good example of preserving both a heritage building and incorporating it in a multi-use facility. Further opportunities to restore these sites while at the same time developing new properties is a good mix.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

I would certainly consider all opportunities.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver?

I am in favour of preserving all heritage buildings in the District.

Mike Little

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

Heritage Homes are an integral part of the retelling of our communities past. As such they are very valuable to me and hopefully to the communities that host them. I also see their restoration and preservation as a fantastic investment for home owners. Studies in Oak Bay, Victoria, New Westminster and the older portions of Vancouver indicate that restored heritage districts rise in value at a faster rate than neighbouring areas.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I would bring my experience from five years as the Historian of the Heritage Commission and three years as the Chair into my council work. I have been a major part of bringing our heritage register in line with the Federal guidelines so that our homeowners can take advantage of federal resources in future programs. I have also already been keenly involved in the establishment of a Heritage Foundation to serve as an arms-length non-profit

organization that would administer granting programs relating to Heritage projects, and I hope that your organization can play a role in that body.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

I have actively worked to increase heritage preservation funding including all three forms of incentives mentioned. I have increased the Heritage Commission's budget throughout my term in order to better promote Heritage awareness in the community and increase opportunities for Heritage homeowners. One program that will be in place shortly includes private sponsorship for renovation projects on designated homes.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary and Queen Mary Elementary?

As I look back on my time on the Heritage Commission the project that I am most proud of would have to be our suitable reuse plan for the Lynn Valley Elementary School. In order to save that school we had to work through the planning department to find a new resident that would enhance and be enhanced by this impressive building. Ridgeway and Queen Mary were built to be showcases of public architecture at their time, and they are still very impressive today. As a councillor I would work diligently to always ensure their maintenance and importance to our community.

Lisa Muri

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I think they are invaluable, too often we in the GVRD, get rid of old, to build new, I am not one for great change, so maintaining our heritage is important

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

We need to look at incentives to property owners and ways of incorporating old with new

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

I would look at it.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary and Queen Mary Elementary?

This council has already said the rezoning of institutional land is not an option, I feel once the land is gone, it is forever, I would not support redevelopment on these lands, for any reason.

Alan Nixon

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I value them highly and will do all in my power as a Councillor to ensure their protection, preservation and hopeful restoration.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

My initiative to create the District of North Vancouver Heritage Foundation that will be brought before Council on November 7th should go a long way to preserving our Heritage Buildings in the District.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

Along with the enabling legislation, my initiative provides for up to \$40,000 in seed funding for the foundation. I would hope the charitable status of the foundation will see a lot of private sector and public donations flow to the effort.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary and Queen Mary Elementary?

My unequivocal support for the preservation and restoration of the old Lynn Valley Elementary school to become our Archives Building is one example of how we can find adaptive re-uses of these historic and irreplaceable school buildings.

Wendy Qureshi

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

They are a precious asset that must be preserved. They foster community pride.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

Provide needed funds.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

Yes.

4. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver?

I am totally in favour.

John Sharpe

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I feel quite strongly that the value of heritage buildings is important for community identity especially as we see more new development. Heritage buildings speak volumes about where our communities came from and are a strong source of pride.

2. What might you do to help better preserve heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I think that a percentage of new development monies should be directed to preservation of Heritage buildings.

3. Would you support increased funding for heritage preservation, for example through grant, tax or other incentive programs?

I would support increased funding for heritage preservation through grant, tax incentives, or other incentives.

What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver?

My position is the same for historic school heritage buildings.

Note: The following candidates did not respond: Robin Hicks, Doug Mackay-Dunn, Mike Molson, Max Zahedi

ELECTION QUESTIONNAIRE 2005: SCHOOL BOARD

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?
2. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary, Queen Mary Elementary and Lonsdale Elementary?
3. Specifically, would you support efforts to preserve Ridgeway Elementary, a "primary" building on the City of North Vancouver's Heritage Register, over replacement in the provincial seismic upgrading program?

RESPONSES

3. SCHOOL TRUSTEE

Ginny Diebolt

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I believe that the respect shown and value given by a community to its heritage sites relates directly to the strength and good character of that community.

2. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary, Queen Mary Elementary and Lonsdale Elementary?

It would be my personal wish to preserve historic school buildings such as Ridgeway Elementary, Queen Mary Elementary and Lonsdale Elementary.

As a trustee, it is my responsibility to ensure that school facilities are kept safe for students and that any upgrades or changes to our facilities does not jeopardize their safety. I know also that the Ministry of Education will not fund additional costs to preserve heritage buildings and that the school district cannot fund extra costs.

You may recall that the Ministry of Education would not fund the restoration of Lynn Valley Elementary. The 1920 building was sold to the DNV for \$1, to become the DNV Archives, and a new school was built adjacent to it.

Before making any decisions about our historic school buildings I believe it is important to explore all options by communicating and consulting with our community.

3. Specifically, would you support efforts to preserve Ridgeway Elementary, a "primary" building on the City of North Vancouver's Heritage Register, over replacement in the provincial seismic upgrading program?

I support full and open dialogue with our community. Good decisions are made when there is a shared understanding of the issues and challenges, and when together we have explored all options.

Joy Fai

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I absolutely love heritage buildings. I love the history, the beauty of the craftsmanship in its creation, the stories they have to tell, the past gone by. They have a feeling – a warmth, a life to them – that I do not find in modern buildings today.

2. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary, Queen Mary Elementary and Lonsdale Elementary?

I would love to respond to this question with a whole hearted “yes” but I know that there are other considerations that must be taken into account when preserving historic buildings. I would need to know and understand what the safety status is of these buildings, especially when thinking about earthquakes. I would need to know what the plumbing and electrical wiring is like and if it is up to current day standards. I would need to know if dangerous elements lie within these older buildings such as asbestos. I would need to know how the brick is facing the years passing. I would need to hear from experts in this field about the true state of the building in question. I would also need to understand the costs involved in bringing any of these buildings up to safety code. Then I would need to hear from the community about what the buildings mean to them, what they hope can happen to these buildings in the future, and try to find avenues for potential funding. Adequate funding is crucial. This is a BIG question that requires a lot more information than I have right now to base my position upon today.

3. Specifically, would you support efforts to preserve Ridgeway Elementary, a "primary" building on the City of North Vancouver's Heritage Register, over replacement in the provincial seismic upgrading program?

I do not know enough about the pros and cons of preservation over replacement with regards to Ridgeway Elementary. I would clearly choose preservation over replacement if at all possible. In the end though, I would want to ensure the school – whether preserved or replaced – is a safe space for our children to learn.

Sandy Fleming

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

I believe heritage buildings reflect positively on the sense of community. They provide a linkage with previous generations and should generate interest in students and the public at large in the background history of North Vancouver. To achieve this, requires that various agencies (School Board, City/District, etc.) also acknowledge their value and promote them.

2. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary, Queen Mary Elementary and Lonsdale Elementary?

I am a structural engineer and understand the complications regarding keeping historical buildings in use given current seismic, fire and other building codes. It has been suggested to me that the cost of seismic upgrading to Ridgeway may be quite reasonable based on Lynn Valley since it was built by the same contractor at roughly the same time. However Lonsdale is a much more challenging (expensive) case because it is wood frame construction (I have been told) and I do not know about Queen Mary. I would like to see these buildings preserved but, as schools, the Ministry capital funding formula does not take into account any extraordinary costs associated with seismic upgrading and other historical preservation compared to a new building. That is a major challenge for the School Board -- trading off extraordinary preservation costs against space or other amenity benefits available in a new structure.

3. Specifically, would you support efforts to preserve Ridgeway Elementary, a "primary" building on the City of North Vancouver's Heritage Register, over replacement in the provincial seismic upgrading program?

Since this building has broader community value than simply a school building, this discussion should include the City and possible "top-up funding" from the municipality. Also, there may be federal or other funding available to other non-governmental agencies (not-for-profit societies) that could be accessed to help pay for any additional costs to maintain these historic buildings. I would favour looking into these options.

Pat Heal

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

Heritage buildings add a real historical value to our communities. It is important to keep sites of historical value so they can be seen and shared by our community. Heritage buildings are part of who we are and who we were.

2. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary, Queen Mary Elementary and Lonsdale Elementary?

School buildings are also of historical value but because they are public school facilities the upgrade and capital funding comes from Victoria in capital spending envelope. Most times there is not a recognition by the provincial government of a need to incorporate the history within this envelope. We can only hope to work with the municipalities and communities to incorporate what heritage value we can from the sites. In my mind Queen Mary and Ridgeway are better examples of something worth trying to save. The school board cannot commit to this on its own though.

3. Specifically, would you support efforts to preserve Ridgeway Elementary, a "primary" building on the City of North Vancouver's Heritage Register, over replacement in the provincial seismic upgrading program?

When one becomes a trustee one pledges an oath to uphold the school act and legislation. Our first priority has to be the safety of our students, that is our mandate. As a trustee I would be remiss if I did not hold the children and their safety first. If a way could be found to do both I would be willing to explore it keeping in mind the very real fiscal restraints.

Franci Stratton

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

Heritage buildings are most definitely valued in any community as a visual reminder of the history of the community both culturally and architecturally. The preservation of these buildings whether as a complete building or the façade makes for an aesthetically pleasing and uniqueness to today's architecture when blended.

2. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary, Queen Mary Elementary and Lonsdale Elementary?

When considering heritage preservation, we need to address the issue of safety. In these cases student safety and providing them with a safe school would be a high priority. These buildings are nearly 100 years old and seem to need seismic/structural upgrading. I would want to review a financial cost analysis and a structural assessment to decide whether the school district, through its

capital funding for any one of these buildings, could financially support preserving the entire building or at least the façade.

3. Specifically, would you support efforts to preserve Ridgeway Elementary, a "primary" building on the City of North Vancouver's Heritage Register, over replacement in the provincial seismic upgrading program?

As with Lynn Valley, once the feasibility study was reviewed by the Ministry, they would not fund the restoration as it was far too costly. In this case, through consultation with the community, the District of North Vancouver stepped in and the heritage building will be converted into the District's archives.

The outcome of Ridgeway Elementary School to preserve or replace will depend on cost comparison and what funds the Ministry will approve. I would like to know what all the options would be and would hope that the School district and the City of North Vancouver work together to discuss possible options and include the Ministry of education in those discussions. If not the entire building, I would like to see some of the building reused for its historical value and blended with new architecture. With any decision we need to be fiscally responsible and keeping in mind the safety needs of our students as the ultimate goal.

Jane Thornthwaite

1. What is your position on the value of heritage buildings in North Vancouver?

Heritage buildings are our culture, our past and our identity. One of the things I value most about travelling abroad is visiting so many cities who pride themselves on the upkeep of their many heritage buildings. These cities spend the time and the resources on maintenance of these buildings because they are viewed as part of their identity and are therefore worth preserving.

2. What is your position on preserving historic school buildings in North Vancouver, such as Ridgeway Elementary, Queen Mary Elementary and Lonsdale Elementary?

I am fully in support of preserving these magnificent buildings rather than replacing them. These buildings are historical treasures.

Although I have driven by, and played soccer on some of their fields, I have not been directly involved in any of the discussions of preserving these specific buildings. If elected, I would be pleased to research this topic fully. I recognize that the issue likely comes down to the cost of the maintenance and upgrading of the building vs demolishing it, building a new one, or selling the property. Obviously I am not in support of housing students in a school that is unsafe for any reason, but I am interested in evaluating the costs of maintaining and preserving these buildings - keeping in mind their heritage value. I would also like to solicit input from the community at large.

3. Specifically, would you support efforts to preserve Ridgeway Elementary, a "primary" building on the City of North Vancouver's Heritage Register, over replacement in the provincial seismic upgrading program?

I am definitely in support of preserving Ridgeway Elementary over replacement, but it must be properly maintained and it must be deemed safe for our students. I feel that there should be open dialogue between the School Board and the City of North Vancouver, and since it is a "primary" building on the Heritage Register, it deserves several levels of government funding in addition to the support from the School Board. If elected, I will work towards this open communication and take a leadership role in obtaining other sources of funding to support these architectural treasures.