

**Andrew Black:** I graduated from TRHS and Mount Allison University and I've worked and live in Sackville most of my life. My parents are John and Deb and I'm married to Kathy Trish, all three who are here tonight and we have three kids aged 14, 11 and 4. I was elected to council in 2016 and was elected again in 2021 where I was voted in as deputy mayor for the Town of Sackville. I also hold the seat of the President of the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick, which is a powerful advocated for change in the province and the voice of elected officials province-wide. I live on Marshview Drive in Sackville and when I look out from my windows I get a front-row seat to the majesty of the Tantramar marsh. It is powerful, historic, protective, life-giving, sustaining, serene, yet sometimes stormy and always vast and mysterious. Our community will be called the Town of Tantramar after January 1st and we will all come together to work towards our common goals and overcome our challenges. We will need to be powerful with our voice and make ourselves heard. We will need to protect our identity and history so that it is not lost or shrouded. We will need to support our population and give light to their ideas and desires for a sustainable and vibrant community. There will be times where we can all feel serene and calm in our efforts, but never forget there may be stormy times ahead and our dreams and hopes for our community need to start out as vast, yet through deliberation, become attainable and warranted. This new community will be a force to be reckoned with just as its namesake, the Tantramar marsh. My name is Andrew Black and I'm running for mayor.

**Shawn Mesheau:** For those of you who do not know me, I was born and raised here in Sackville, living here 55 of my 60 years. I am married to Angela Johnson who was born in Sackville, raised in British Settlement and is a 30-year business owner in our community. We are both alumni of TRHS as is my 33-year-old son Luke. I have 14 years experience in municipal government. We have been provided a blank page to begin writing a new story for the soon-to-be Town of Tantramar. We are setting the foundation for the generations to come. How exciting is that! To say you were part of history. Like the founders of our communities, we will be the people to start the tale of Tantramar. Our new town is vast in size and diverse in people. Our population will be 9,100 and our tax base \$1 billion. Mayor and council must create the mechanism that brings our communities together with one vision which is to be sustainable, see positive growth and embrace opportunity. By creating citizens' advisory committees, we will ensure that what we are focused on as a council is what our residents have jointly determined to be in our community's best interest. The following areas will be key to the community: public safety, business growth, tourism, recreation and we must continue the important work on health care and climate change. In order for this transition to be successful, we will need to be collaborative. We will need to be understanding. We will need to compromise. We will need to ensure our energy is put behind the many positive attributes our new community has to offer. Will it be easy? No. Will we find a way through? Yes. Let's be big and bold and embrace these challenges.

**Bonnie Swift:** I'm a small town girl who grew up in Dorchester, Block C, Cell 41 --- actually, I didn't. I grew up in a family of six kids right next door to the wonderful Fort Folly First Nation. I hold a degree in civil and environmental engineering. I have an MBA from Royal Roads University and I'm also a chartered professional accountant. When I was a kid, my Dad used to say none of his girls were going to grow up to be dependent on any man starting with him. So at 14, he sent us all out of work in the blueberry fields and plant trees. When I was 18 with \$300 in my back pocket, I decided to move to Alberta to start my life and that's where I ended up for

some time. Against all odds in 1999, I started my own engineering company and when I was told I wouldn't make it, it actually grew to a \$25 million company in eight years. My campaign is on government transparency and I really believe this is a very important thing because governments that have nothing to hide will hide nothing and one of the biggest complaints I've heard recently is the citizens are feeling closed off. They're paying for information that they never have access to. I want open government, that's part of my campaign. I also have a platform where I talk about climate change. I talk about firefighters, our hospital and citizen engagement and you will find that in my details on my platform, in my flyer at the back of the room. I also have a 10-page platform that you can go to on my Facebook page which is on this flyer. To the rural wards, you now have a candidate that understands your concerns. You know why? Because I grew up in one and I know a lot of you are struggling and worried about having proper representation. If I am your mayor, you will not have to worry about that. I will be there for you.