

Good afternoon Kevin,

Thank you for taking the time to reach out and send such a thought provoking e-mail and bringing this issue to my attention. I will do my best to answer your questions.

a) I know that for me to make good decisions I must have adequate information. In the context of Town Council that means: listening to community members, town officials, experts and conducting my own research. When I was the Student Union President I always made a concerted effort to not just listen to people, but actively seek out informed people with differing opinions on the issue of the day. I find too often, decision makers stop seeking new information once they have found something that supports their view/conclusion, which is not healthy for democracy at any level. I will aim to do the same thing if elected to town council. Specific to this issue that means having a fuller engagement with yourself and the town's public works department to start. Off the top of my head, I know that the City of Ottawa has implemented various forms of a Tree Conservation By-Law over the past 10 years; I will look into that as well.

b) Tonight there is a town budget meeting that I am attending; if there is a period where members of the public are allowed to ask questions I will ask what is being done and if the town is willing to support any initiatives. I will get back to you with an answer later tonight.

c) I support this idea in principal and would be very interested in bringing something like this forward if elected. Off the top of my head, it would seem reasonable to enact a "one-down, one-up" policy, where if a tree on town land needed to be cut down, the town would automatically plan to plant a replacement in the general area.

I think one of the things that makes Sackville such a special town is the remarkable natural beauty that surrounds it and exists within it; I believe that the town has a responsibility to protect and conserve it. This is why I have been critical of town council's decisions to allow development to creep towards the waterfowl park.

Thank you again for reaching out and bringing this issue to my attention.

Best,  
Dylan