

RELIGIOUS SOCIAL ACTION COALITION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

POST OFFICE BOX 21094, ST. JOHN'S NL A1A 5B2

Jews, Christians, Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs and others committed to ending the injustice of poverty
www.rsacnl.com

October 2021

Dear Mayor Danny Breen:

We, the Religious Social Action Coalition (RSAC) of Newfoundland and Labrador, congratulate you on your re-election as Mayor (Acclaimed) for the City of St. John's.

In a previous letter to all candidates seeking election and to those Acclaimed, you took the time to respond to our letter of September 2021, naming your support of **St. John's – "where everyone has a place to call home"** and of the City of St. John's being a Living Wage employer and, inasmuch as possible, advocating with the provincial and federal governments for a guaranteed basic income in our province and country.

During the past seven years, the City of St. John's has provided financial and human resources to the effective work of End Homelessness St. John's, together with the work of the City's Non-Profit Housing Division, where Judy Tobin is presently Manager. We are confident that you will continue to provide effective leadership to this life-giving work and we thank you in advance for this continuous commitment to **safe, affordable housing** for all who live in this fine city.

It has been noted that the City of St. John's is already a **living wage employer** with all of its salaries being \$18.85 (the estimate living wage for St. John's) or over. If this is so, it would be one easy step for the City of St. John's to declare itself as a Living Wage Employer (see City of Cambridge, ON, City of Kingston, ON as examples). We look forward to hearing more about this from you in the near future.

There is a growing number (large numbers) of people in governments and in our communities, advocating for a **guaranteed basic income** for our province and country. Aware that this is outside your jurisdiction as a city in relation to implementation, your support, wherever possible, would be invaluable in this area. Please see: www.basicincomenow.ca; www.basicincomecanada.org; www.basicincomenl.ca.

We know that being in public office can involve considerable sacrifice. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Marion Pardy (Very Rev. Dr.)

Coordinator

Religious Social Action Coalition of Newfoundland and Labrador

Directors: Dr. Mohammed Nazir-Muslim Association of NL; Dr. Steven Wolinetz-President, Jewish Community Havura; Dr. Veeresh Gadag-Hindu Temple of NL; George H Powell-Baptist; Rami Wadhwa-NL Sikh Society; The Rev. Father Paul Lundrigan-Roman Catholic Church; Haseen Khan-Muslim Association of NL; Captain Steven Barrett-Salvation Army; The Rev. Dale Careen-Anglican Diocese of Eastern NL