RYAN KNIGHT

Although I may not have grown up in Channel-Port aux Basques, I chose to make this town my home, and I bring with me an outside perspective, fresh ideas, and a strong commitment to listening and learning from the people who live here.

My priorities are rooted in open communication, transparency, and accountability. I believe that good decision-making starts with listening to residents and working together to find solutions. I am committed to ensuring that council decisions reflect the needs and concerns of our community.

What I offer is a practical and fiscally responsible approach, paired with a genuine willingness to hear all voices. My focus is not on making big promises without understanding the full picture, but on building trust, strengthening community connections, and working hard for the people of Channel-Port aux Basques.

Together, I believe we can create a stronger, more connected community where everyone feels heard and represented.

RICHARD SPENCER

I'm excited to announce that I will be running for Town Council in Channel–Port aux Basques.

This town has always been home to me. I grew up here, went away for a while, and like many others, made the choice to come back. I wanted my family to grow up here, in the same community that shaped who I am.

Over the years, I've worn a lot of hats—student council treasurer back in junior high (my only "political" experience until now), husband, father, outdoorsman, educator, and mentor. You'll often find me fishing, hunting, cutting wood, or riding the UTV, and I'm happiest when I'm with family or out at the cabin.

Professionally, I work as a Faculty Researcher in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning with the College of the North Atlantic. I've also been deeply involved with Skills Canada and WorldSkills, helping young people compete on the national and international stage. I've had the honour of representing Canada in Russia, Korea, and France, and I am now training competitors for the upcoming WorldSkills competition in Shanghai. These experiences have given me a global perspective on how communities thrive when they invest in people, skills, and opportunity.

Those experiences have shaped how I see leadership: it's about listening, building trust, and working together.

RICHARD SPENCER

For our town, my priorities are clear:

- Revitalizing our downtown — supporting small businesses and creating reasons for people to spend time here.
- Tourism growth — making Channel–Port aux Basques a true gateway destination, just as places like Bonavista, Port Rexton, and Brigus have done.
- Affordable housing & cost of living — supporting families and addressing real challenges.
- Recreational spaces — ensuring families, youth, and seniors have safe, welcoming places to connect and stay active.
- Removing barriers for children to be more active — so every child has access to sports, recreation, and opportunities to thrive.

We also need to think bigger. Every year, thousands of visitors pass through our town on their way into Newfoundland. Too often, they simply drive through. I believe we can do more to encourage them to stop, explore, and invest in our local economy. With the right planning and promotion, we can showcase what makes Channel–Port aux Basques unique, turning pass-through traffic into opportunity for local businesses and our community as a whole.

At the same time, we need to focus on young families. Too often, people leave small towns in search of opportunities elsewhere. I want to help create the conditions that make people want to stay, return, and raise their families here—by supporting housing, services, recreation, and economic growth. It's refreshing when new, young families move here, and we need more of that. Building a community where young families can thrive is one of the best ways to secure a strong future for Channel–Port aux Basques.

Change is never easy in any municipality, and all I can do it try, but I can promise you this—I will give it my all. I'm running because I believe in this town, in the people who live here, and in the opportunities that lie ahead.

I watched a couple videos the other night from 1995. That was during my teen years and even though we probably didn't have a lot, it sure felt like we did. Movie theaters, multiple places to eat, arcades and places to hang out. I realized times have changed but I think we can make this town a lot more attractive and satisfying for all ages.

ROSS COOPER

My name is Ross, I'm 39 years old, I was born in St. John's, but grew up in Port aux Basques. I lived here until 2001 moved to the Ottawa area, and lived there until 2015. In 2015, I moved back to Newfoundland.

What I would like to offer the community is a person who is willing to listen to members of the community, someone who will work with residents and business.

What I would like to see changed is have more activities for younger people. I would like to see more affordable housing for people who live on low income. I would like to see more business open up in Port aux Basques, to help grow the economy.

JOHN SPENCER

Lifetime resident. Graduate of St. James High School. Career educator. Blessed to have served residents for 16 years in capacity of mayor, deputy mayor and councillor. Commitment to listen. Commitment to return calls. Commitment to action. Commitment to fiscal accountability. Commitment to being a voice for the community. "Having travelled and worked from both ends of this great nation, now retired, I can proudly say there is no place I would rather be than in Port aux Basques. It is my home. It is my family's home. It is your home. It is for this reason I want to see the best for our community. As your Mayor my passion will be to lead a council that will be 'Ready for Tomorrow'."

JOSEPH ROBERTS

My name is Joseph Roberts, i am 40 years old, I am born and bred here in Port aux basques like many others here .. i came back home after 23 years living away and working in the oil fields of West Canada. I decided to move back home and bring my beautiful daughter here. Myself, i got lucky and landed a very good job with Marine Atlantic which has been a beautiful company to work for, i got to meet so many beautiful and great people from town.

Home is where the heart is..

My reason for running for town council to give the people a voice and listen to their concern and actually get stuff done that the people need and the people want. I would love to see Port aux basques be like a small Stephenville, have all the shopping amenities and more variety of restaurants and grocery stores and just have a booming economy. There is so much opportunity in this community.l, We should never have to leave our community to go shopping etc, everything should be here in this town so lets build build build and let boom this community.

JOSEPH ROBERTS

A great idea is to bring back the movie theatre, invest back into the fishery and natural resources that surround our community , and bring back more companies to port aux basques so that people can have better wages and a better future. Let's build more housing for low income families. Lets make sure that our seniors are well took care of and are youth have a future so they don't need to go away for work and live.

We should have a new shopping industrial area so we can have the big trucks stop and a McDonald's a Dominion grocery store and many more companies like a small walmart, this town is the gate way to all Newfoundland it's time for change and the change is now. There's a lot of construction and a lot of upgrades that need to be done too so that's another major issue a lot of infrastructure needs to be updated or tore down and rebuilt, a new Fire Station would be a great addition, we can get the government of Newfoundland to update our hospital for the people so we don't have to go to Cornerbrook for everything…at the end of the day it's time to fix everything and give the people what they need. Would love to see lower taxes too, and more community events. Would like to invest into a new power station for the town to have cheaper power, a backup system better than what we have now.

Many thanks,

Joseph Roberts

GRAHAM MCDONALD

My name is Graham McDonald and I am 51 years old. I have proudly called Channel – Port aux Basques my home for the past 40 years. My daughter, Jessica, is currently in her second year at Memorial University and I share my life with my wonderful fiancée, Jody Spencer and her two children who also call Port aux Basques their home.

I am currently employed with Doyles Transport Ltd., as a courier driver, where many in our community know me well. In addition, I have been an active member of the Fire Department for the past 15 years.

I have a deep love for our community and see this as a wonderful opportunity to give back to the place that has given my family and I so much. If elected, I will bring a strong committed voice to our Town Council. I will listen to the needs and concerns of our residents and work hard to address important issues such as municipal services, tourism, seniors and youth.

These are some of the priorities I will advocate for at the council table if given the privilege to serve.

Thank you for your support. On October 2, 2025, I encourage everyone to get out and exercise your right to vote and let your voice be heard!

PERRY LOMOND

My Name is Perry Lomond and I proud to announce my candidacy to serve the residents of our community as Town Counselor. As a resident of our beautiful community for most of my life, I am excited to take on this new challenge and work towards making Port aux Basques a better place for the people who live here.

By day, I am a Machinist with Marine Atlantic where I have been active in improving the work environment for our employees. I have been very active in our union where I advocate for workers' rights and help resolve disputes. I have also been a member of our safety and safety policy committees which ensures a safe work environment.

Although this is my first time running for Council, I am no stranger to the volunteer sector. I am a very proud and active member of our volunteer fire department where I have served for the last 14 years. Most recently as Lieutenant. As a member, I have taken the lead in planning numerous community events that many of you have enjoyed.

If elected for council, I have several ideas on how our wonderful little community can improve. As Gateway to the province, I feel that more emphasis should be placed on beautifying our town, advertising what we have and adding more attractions to our growing tourism sector. I would also like to invest more in our young families and provide different recreational activities for our youth. As we are still feeling devastation from Fiona, I would ensure clean up and infrastructure repairs continue.

These are just some of the ideas I have, I am open to any questions and suggestions from our residents. Feel free to reach out, no question is too small.

ADAM ANDERSON

Good day ladies and gentlemen, I wanted to take a bit of time to tell you who I am, where I came from and why I am seeking a position on the town council.

My name is Adam Anderson, and I am currently living in town with my fiancé Tracy Organ. I am the proud father of two young adults (Cameron, Grace) who live in NS, as well as the stepdad to three wonderful young women (Jennifer, Jessica and Julia) from Port aux Basques. In my free time you can find me on the golf course, riding my Harley or at the current time attending classes at CAN with the carpentry program.

I am originally from Rose Blanche and lived there until I completed high school at which time I left shortly thereafter to begin my career in the Canadian Armed forces. After spending 27 years in the Navy I retired, starting a career in NS as a real estate agent. I decided to move back to NL settling in Port aux Basques in 2019 and after a couple of adventurous years took a job with Armour Transportation as a tractor trailer driver. I decided to move back because I loved the peace and quiet of the town ad to offer along with the welcoming atmosphere throughout town.

My time in the military took me all across Canada and all over the world affording me the chance to gain a vast outlook on the world as it stands today. I have held many positions within the military as well as within the Nova Scotia Association of Realtors. I have been part of Disciplinary Committees, Education Committees, Community Outreach, Budget Committees, Community Hockey Programs as well as coach various youth and adult sports teams throughout the years. As a supervisor in the military, I have had the chance to manage great people in a number of different organizations with amazing results.

If elected to the town council I want to be a part of the future of the town in which we have more businesses, playgrounds, parks, walking trails and a wide variety of other activities for all people young and old to enjoy. I would like to see the town prosper with new business and promote the ones we have to make our town successful. My biggest priority would be to make sure the people of the town have a person that will listen to their questions, seek out the answers, and get that info back to you. Be it good or bad, a response is important and required. Channel Port Aux Basques is the gateway to NL and needs to be somewhere people come and want to stay, boosting tourism and our towns economy.

I can't wait to see you out around town, if you have any questions prior to the election please feel free to ask.

JEROME BATTISTE

Hello friends and neighbours,

My name is Jerome Battiste, and I'm asking for your support as I run for Town Council in our beautiful town of Port aux Basques.

I feel I can represent the best interests of the community as a life-long resident who knows and loves this town, and has raised my family here. Many of you will know me from my experience as a dedicated customer service worker with 30 years of experience serving our community, allowing me to get to know my fellow residents and their needs.

I am also a former council member with 16 years of proven leadership on council, as well as an avid volunteer and a proud member of the Hospital Foundation and St. James' Church Vestry.

My goal for council is to help boost tourism and showcase the charm of Port aux Basques, making sure our local economy stays strong. I plan to ensure housing is accessible and affordable for all, and that important projects started by previous councils are completed.

I believe in listening, collaborating, and building a stronger future, one that reflects the values and needs of every resident. Let's work together to make our beautiful town of Port aux Basques even better!

MARK ANDREWS

For those who don't know me, my name is Mark Andrews. I am the son of Abraham Andrews and the late Judith Andrews. I am a devoted father to five beautiful children, and partner to the love of my life, Jodi McNeil.

I was born and raised in Port aux Basques, with now having spent most of my adult life here as well. For a while, like many other people in Newfoundland and Labradorians, I made the move to Alberta and worked for 12 years in the oil patch. But one thing I found, no matter where life took me, my heart was here in Port aux Basques. I decided to come back home and raise my children in this place we all call home, and shortly after arriving was fortunate enough to find myself working at one of the biggest economic engines in this town, Marine Atlantic. I have worked many roles within this company since I first began, most recently being given the opportunity to be the President of our local union, Unifor 4285; a role which I devote great pride and dedication to.

My work ethic and commitment to volunteerism are deeply rooted in generations of my own family's values. Both my father, Abraham, and late brother, Peter, spent many years on the Port aux Basques Volunteer Fire Department; a tradition I continued to carry on for the past 15 years, currently serving in the role of Lieutenant. My mother, Judith, also served as the President of the PAB Firettes, as well as many other community-based committees she was a part of. And of course, my biggest mentor and idol when it comes to being a good role model and being actively involved in my community, my grandmother, Joyce Samms. A lady of great prowess and dignity who was the first female member of Branch 11, and to serve in a variety of roles within The Royal Canadian Legion. In that role she became the first woman in Canada to be elected as Provincial President.

MARK ANDREWS PG 2

Since moving back to Port aux Basques 16 years ago, I have also tried my hardest to give back to my community however I can. I first got involved in the Junior and then Senior Mariners Hockey Club, where many may remember me as the voice and DJ for all the home games. I've also lent my voice to many Minor Hockey and Bruce 2 events that are promoted here in town, coached both boys' and girls' basketball at our local high school, is currently the Executive Director of our local YBC program, and have also volunteered my time in countless other committees and organizations in various capacities. As you can tell, volunteerism is a huge part of who I am as a person, and something I enjoy immensely and devote myself too fully.

Which brings me to my most recent role, serving as our town's Deputy Mayor. This opportunity has been one of my favourite roles yet, one I cherish and commit to wholeheartedly. As a member of council, I have been apart of many committees, Disaster Plan Committee, Southwest Coast Joint Council and Recreation Committee. These past four years on council have been challenging, with the main concerns being the washout of the TCH in 2021, and then Hurricane Fiona in 2022; something we are still seeing and feeling the effects of to this day. Despite these challenges, our current town council has made great strides to bring our community together and grow in a positive direction, with multiple projects in different stages of progress throughout our town.

If elected as Mayor, my goal is to continue the progress our current council has made by bringing energy, vision, and commitment that will benefit everyone. I will work to strengthen local opportunities, enhance the local character of our community, and will remain dedicated to listening, serving, and working hard so every voice is heard, and every family feels proud to call this town home. Together, we can build a community where families thrive, businesses grow, and our town prospers. With your support I will lead with dedication, transparency, and collaboration. Let's move forward with pride in our past and hope for our future.

SHANNON BATTISTE

I'm pleased to announce my candidacy for councillor for Channel-Port aux Basques. Born and bread, I'm proud to call this community my home. Prior to returning to PAB in 2002, I spent time living in Nova Scotia and Alberta, which provided a bigger picture of the opportunities our community has to grow and prosper.

For the past 23 years with raising a family and working at our Towns largest employer and the key cog in our economy. While I may be new to politics, I'm no stranger to volunteering throughout the community. From 2016, through 2018, I was the President of the Port aux Basques Mariners hockey team. Helping to revive senior hockey in our community has always been a huge source of community pride for me. Anyone that knows me know I wear my heart on me sleeve and I vow to bring that same passion to the Council Chambers.

My priorities for the next term would centre on additional tourism development opportunities to attract and retain visitors to our community. Our natural assets, along with our proximity to a large volumes of travellers should produce opportunities for growth.

One of my main concerns looking at our community, and our residents, is the aging of our community/region. The average of our area is about 57. That should be a large concern for everyone… we're an aging community. How to we attract and RETAIN professionals to maintain the vital services we need, while providing services and support seniors needs ? That is the biggest challenge facing our community in my opinion.

I've always been outspoken, to the point, and passionate about my community and everything I've been involved with. These are the qualities that will allow me to be an effective Councillor for Channel-Port aux Basques.

On October 2, I kindly ask for your support in electing me as your representative in guiding our community into the next chapter.