

north shore news

UPDATED: Two newcomers join District of North Vancouver council

Jeremy Shepherd and Brent Richter / North Shore News

November 15, 2014 10:17 PM



Soon to be sworn-in District of North Vancouver council members Mathew Bond and Jim Hanson. Photo supplied, North Shore News

District of North Vancouver council is welcoming two new faces following Saturday's municipal election.

Mathew Bond and Jim Hanson are joining re-elected incumbents Lisa Muri, Doug MacKay-Dunn, Robin Hicks, and Roger Bassam. District Mayor Richard Walton ran unopposed and was acclaimed.

Bond has the distinction of being the first member of Generation Y elected to council on the North Shore. Bond is a 30-year-old engineer with expertise in transportation who campaigned on improved mobility and accessibility, opportunity for young adults and families, and accountability.

"I'm really honoured that people saw what I was offering — a fresh and professional perspective on council and a perspective from a younger generation as well," he said.

Bond said his highest priority will be making sure that transportation investments from council are spread equally across all types all modes of transportation — "that our investments in walking or cycling keep up or catch up with our investments in road capacity," he said

Bond said he'll also have an eye for mitigating the negative impacts of development while maximizing the public benefits — not saying no to development altogether.

Hanson previously ran as a provincial New Democrat in North Vancouver-Seymour. He campaigned on protecting green spaces and wilderness and dealing with traffic congestion. "My priority is to make sure our infrastructure, especially our transportation infrastructure, catches up to our population growth," he said. "I also believe it's very important we take every effort possible to pursue amalgamation on behalf of North Van district voters."

Specifically, Hanson said he'd like to see a new east-west route to the Seymour area that doesn't involve the TransCanada Highway.

Walton said he is eager to meet with the new council members as they are all sworn in on Dec. 1. "I'm very pleased with the council elected. I think it shows a lot of balance," he said, adding he was particularly enthused to see a young person on council.

Among the first things the new council will have to deal with is the fallout from the damages done during the flood on Nov. 3 and doing a "major mid-term check-in on the OCP."

"We certainly heard during the campaign that there's significant concerns about the rate of growth and about how broad the OCP growths rates could be and should be interpreted. We heard from a number of candidates saying our public engagement process is not as good as it could be," he said. "I think certainly listening closely to what we heard in the all-candidates meetings and trying to make sure we go forward, reflecting on those concerns, solving the problems and shifting our perspective if we need to."

Voter turnout inched upward to 23 per cent from 21 per cent in 2011, still the lowest on the North Shore.

Here are unofficial results for District of North Vancouver council:

Lisa Muri — 7,682

Doug MacKay-Dunn — 7,470

Robin Hicks — 6,817

Jim Hanson — 6,309

Mathew Bond — 5,750

Roger Bassam — 5,714

Non-elected council candidates:

Linda Findlay — 5,405

Wayne Hunter — 4,432

Glenn MacKenzie — 4,254

Kevin Macauley — 3,954

Len Laycock — 3,420

Connie De Boer — 2,815

Amelia Hill — 2,719

Hazen Colbert — 2,665

Elected to represent the district at the North Vancouver school board are:

Jessica Stanley — 5,980

Barry Forward — 5,354

Cyndi Gerlach — 5,253

Franci Stratton — 4,450

Non-elected school board candidates:

Yael Drinkle — 4,149

Heather Skuse — 3,732

Susan Lockhart — 3,026

Kelly Muirhead — 2,795

Dave Jackson — 1,967

Shane Nelson — 1,797

Edward Desaulniers — 1,218

Bobbi-Lynn Nestor — 646

[Click here for full and updated results. \(http://www.dnv.org/election/results.asp?ElectionID=8\)](http://www.dnv.org/election/results.asp?ElectionID=8)

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