



Falaise Community Association

Growing a stronger community together

Provincial Election - Saanich South Candidates and the Highway Noise Barrier

We asked each of the Saanich South Candidates in the Provincial election the following question:

If you are elected and the District of Saanich requests the province to prioritize the noise wall as part of a Saanich project to upgrade the safety of Falaise Drive, what new or additional efforts do you suggest you can do to ensure that MoTI takes on that Saanich project in your constituency?

Kate O'Connor (BC Greens)

no response by press time

Lana Popham (BC NDP)

I appreciate the perspective put forward by the FCA regarding the importance of addressing the serious noise issue in this area. If re-elected I will continue to work on this and do my best to see that improvements are made. I do have a proven track record of getting results for Saanich South, and I'm not done yet.

Examples of results in Saanich South:

- Urgent & Primary Care Centre in Saanich
- Oxygenator to restore Elk & Beaver Lakes
- 200 new child care spaces
- New medical training building and programme at Camosun Interurban
- Highway improvements: Pat Bay & Sayward, Pat Bay & Haliburton, and Hwy 1
- New investments in public schools
- New housing for seniors, people with disabilities and families
- Funding for the Commonwealth Pool

I'm running for re-election to help our provincial government continue its work to make life better for all British Columbians.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, John Horgan and the BC NDP government took swift action to address the crisis. BC's response is recognized as one of the best in North America.

In the first six months of the pandemic, our government responded by investing in services and supports that are truly helping people, communities and local businesses. We have kept the economy moving, and are taking care of those who have become sick.

A re-elected BC NDP government will continue to invest in people and build a sustainable and resilient economic recovery that works for everyone.

It's about looking after each other, and building back better.

Rishi Sharma (BC Liberals)

Thank you for your note. First, let me offer my sincere appreciation for your organization's continued efforts on this. I can only imagine how frustrating this may have made many of the residents. I also offer an apology - I should have been more aware of this issue when I ran in the past 2013 provincial election and the recent municipal election.

Please know that I would like to have the opportunity to try and use my 20 years of ministerial and government experience to help move this file forward. If elected, I would request an internal strategy session with your organization. Following a renewed look at the current updates, I would strongly request a meeting with the respective Minister, his Deputy Minister and ADM of the Infrastructure and Planning Division to discuss again available options for funding.

Good to see the local planning department has been able to put a cost on the project. With continued pressure at all levels, a cost share model could be realized.

Are the health and safety benefits from the additional requested structure (wall)?

Through my intergovernmental relations work in my current role, I have made some good contacts in the Federal government and have learned to navigate well through their systems. I suggest we start those talks immediately to check on options for any funding. With a federal election looming this is an advantageous time to look for support (unfortunately that is the world we live in).

These are some of my initial thoughts and would be willing to discuss further if you like. Good luck on your continued efforts and hopefully I can count on your support in this election. I will also share this with our Vancouver Leader's Office so they are aware of my commitment.

Broadmead Area Residents' Association (BARA) hosted a virtual South Saanich Candidates Meeting On Oct. 14. During the meeting, candidates were asked questions submitted by BARA and Falaise Community Association members. You can view the recording of the meeting at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FwLiKYEP5-Ln8qMLyhtVJmRZ5jbX9-G/view>.

