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Green Party's politics are innovative, progressive

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Byline: BY ERIK MILLETT GREEN PARTY CANDIDATE, ST. CROIX-BELLEISLE

I was born in Truro, N.S., raised in Saint John, and for the past two years have resided in the area known to the Passamaquoddy First Nation as Scoodic (St. Croix Island Area).

I feel that the policies, principles and values that make up the Green Party's national platform are ones needed for a forward thinking, innovative, progressive and visionary government for Canadians in the 21st century.

I am a graduate of Carleton University (Bachelor of Arts), St. Thomas University (Bachelor of Education) and the University of New Brunswick (Master's Degree in Critical Studies in Education). I am currently employed as a teacher and administrator for School District 10.

I lived, studied and worked in the Ottawa area for about 15 years (1986-2000). While in Ottawa, I worked as a community-based economic and social development consultant, a project officer with the United Nations Association in Canada and as a staff member of the national youth programme Katimavik. Also during this time I was a lobbyist and social activist on a number of important national and international issues. I had the privilege of working with 1996 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Jose Ramos-Horta on the issue of East Timor independence.

I am: an ally for gay, lesbian, bisexual and trans-gendered persons; anti-racist; pro-feminist and a pacifist at heart. My political influences and inspiration are drawn from: Ernesto (Che) Guevara, Noam Chomsky, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King Jr., Audrey Lorde, Malcolm X (El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz), Aung San Suu Kyi and Dr. David Suzuki among others.

I am a member of the St. Andrews Film Society and the St. Andrews Players Theatre Group. I serve in the capacity of secretary of the Charlotte County Alternative Education Foundation and for the John Howard Society Charlotte County. And I am a member of the St. Andrews Kiwanis Club.

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