

Bruce Fitch returned as mayor

Generous voters also return all incumbent councillors

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The people of Riverview must be pleased with the direction in which the town has been moving the past three years.

Mayor Bruce Fitch and every other incumbent that reoffered was successfully re-elected by comfortable margins. Ward 4 Coun. Clarence Sweetland was already returned by acclamation.

"On the whole, the voters decided they wanted to keep the momentum going," a jubilant Fitch said following his landslide victory over three-term Ward 3 Coun. Bob Hyslop. He, his wife Nancy and their four children and his supporters celebrated the election win at the home of his brother.

The mayor said he was not completely surprised by the size of the win. "I was really enthused by the response we were getting. And all our indicators showed we were leading.

"I felt strong about what our re-



Riverview Mayor Bruce Fitch, right, and incumbent councillor Charles Broderick look at poll numbers last night.

search was showing" said Fitch. "But you can never be sure, so I was glad when it became a reality on election night," he said.

He conceded it was a little easier running as the mayor, than run-

ning for the mayor's position for the first time three years ago. "This time, I wasn't an unknown as a mayor and the residents I could do in the position."

However, his wife Nancy laugh-

ed and said "I felt just as nervous this election as I did in the last one. But I knew we had done all the work we had to do to get to this point and prepared myself to sit back and accept whatever came our way (in the election results)," she said.

"It was a win/win situation either way," she said. "If he won, that would be great. If he didn't, it would mean we would have more time to spend together as a family."

She said their three children — 10-year-old twins (a boy and girl) and their eight year-old daughter really got into the election. "They have been marking down the votes, tallying them and everything," she added.

Fitch said the tremendous surge in housing starts the last two years is very encouraging. He will make it an objective of his, he said, to see another 300 new homes constructed in Riverview by the end of his upcoming term.

With the East-West Corridor study completed and the new Gunningsville Bridge coming on stream, the mayor said the

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development of the future of Findlay Park and other developments for the town also look bright.

Hyslop said last night he is not too surprised the election result, noting that a few days before the election, indications were that it would not be going in his favour. It is difficult to beat an incumbent, he said.

But he has no regrets about offering for mayor, said Hyslop. He has served on council for nine years, sat on a lot of committees and served on various boards, and is pleased with what he has been able to accomplish for his community.

"I decided to run and give the people a choice," he said. "But the people decided to stay with the status quo. So, what can I say?

I gave it my best shot."

Hyslop said he walked a few miles during the campaign, going door-to-door and talking to a lot of residents. "The people knew that I stood up for them in council and was not afraid to take difficult stands," he said.

He said he has no ill feelings about his unsuccessful attempt to become mayor. As for his future in Riverview politics, Hyslop said "it is too soon to say at this time."

Also, returned to council in Monday's night's vote were Bill McBeath in Ward 2 Bill McBeath, and councillors-at-large Charles Broderick and Ann Seamans, joined by former councillor David Burrell. Along with Sweetland (Ward 3), newcomers Gerald Forsythe (Ward 3) and Gordon Cowan (Ward 1) also won by acclamation.