

LOCAL NEWS

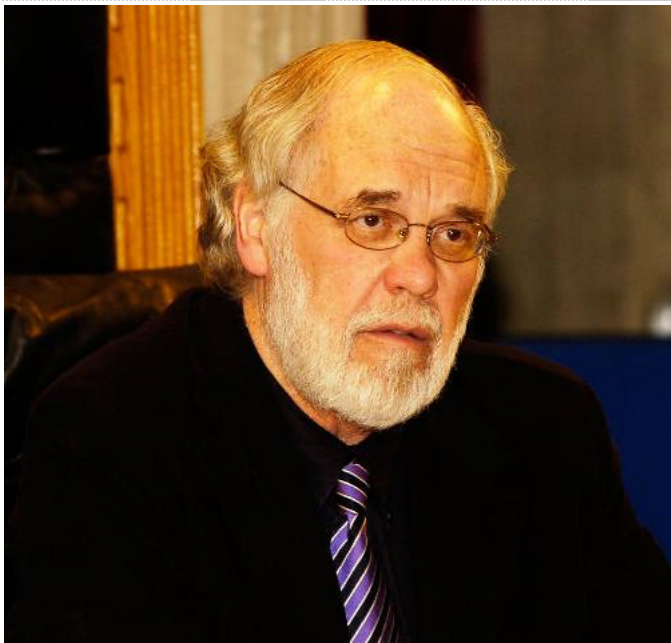
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Conditions good, choice still bad, Jones says of PUB chair

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The Telegram



The Liberal opposition is pleased Andy Wells will step down as mayor of St. John's to take on his new role with the Public Utilities Board. — Telegram file photo

It may be the job of the Official Opposition to argue with whatever government says, but when it comes to the premier's most recent announcement, Liberal Leader Yvonne Jones is applauding his plan.

The Liberals lashed out about Premier Danny Williams appointing St. John's Mayor Andy Wells to the Public Utilities Board, but today, following an announcement from Williams that Wells will have to resign as mayor to take over the at utilities board, the Liberals are "pleased," with the premier.

Jones says the decision was the right one and that while she doesn't support the choice of Wells for the position, she's happy with the terms and conditions for the mayor to take the job.

"There was certainly the view that Mayor Wells would be in a conflict of interest serving in the capacity of both mayor and chair of the PUB. There will still be a significant number of people dissatisfied with Andy Wells being the chair of the PUB and I am not sure that today's announcement will address those concerns," Jones said in a statement today.

"However, I am pleased that our voice was heard and action was taken to remove the obvious conflict of interest in which the PUB would have been placed."