

## **John Janmaat Bio**

I was born in Chilliwack and grew up on the family dairy farm. My parents were Dutch immigrants who came with little and built a successful farm business. I earned a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Agricultural Economics from UBC. At the time I was planning to take over the farm, and entered an MBA program. However, in-law relations are not always amicable, and taking over the farm was impossible. With MBA completed, finished my collection of letters with a Ph.D. in economics from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, concentrating in environmental and natural resource economics. After my Ph.D. I worked at Acadia University in Nova Scotia for seven years, and came to UBCO in 2007.

Economists study how people as consumers and entrepreneurs make decisions. The evidence is that people respond to prices and profit opportunities. However, these individual choices don't always correspond with what is best for our communities. The evidence also shows that harnessing incentives can be much more cost effective at leading to behavior consistent with community interests than direct government control.

I am running for the Green Party because I like their core values - participatory democracy, diversity, social justice, sustainability and ecological wisdom. I particularly like that the Green Party will use evidence to move our province forward in pursuit of these goals. The best solutions don't belong to the left or the right, but are found in the evidence, and updated when new evidence says so. Continuous progress rather than strategic promises.