Gibson falls in byelection

Local politician and Green Party leader Janine Gibson has lost the Tuxedo byelection.

She grabbed 118 votes while finishing last, garnering 1.5 percent of valid votes.

Gibson said she's not surprised she lost.

"I felt that we did the best that we could," said Gibson. "I would've liked a higher percentage of the vote, I would've liked more votes, but it was a modest campaign."

Gibson said that running for a seat in the legislature wasn't the only reason her name was on voting slips. Having more options than just NDP and Conservatives is important for democratic reform in Canada.

"I really think it's important to have diversity on the ballot, and we accomplished that. We got a modest level of support from the area that wouldn't have been demonstrated had I not been on the ballot."

Gibson said she's thankful for the people who did vote for her, and what the Green party represents.

"The people who voted for me made a statement about our four pillars, we need to update our democracy, and we need to address the social justice concerns in order to address the high crime rate."

"I'm going to challenge the (NDP government) to have more action to concretely address the environmental crisis we're in," Gibson said. "Our farmers need more support for dealing with climate change, and for making the change to a zero-carbon economy."

NDP Carla Compton won the election with 3,777 votes, being the first-ever NDP to win the 42-year-old constituency. Conservative Lawrence Pinsky finished in second with 3,175 votes and the Liberal's Jamie Pfau finished in third with 569 votes.

Before Wednesday's election, only Gary Filmon and Heather Stefanson had ever represented Tuxedo, both of whom have served as premier.

The byelection came after former Premier Heather Stefanson stepped down following her premiership loss to Wab Kinew.