



# **TOWN OF KENTVILLE COUNCIL**

## **May 27, 2024**

### **AGENDA**

6:00 p.m.

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
- 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
  - (a) Council meeting minutes, April 29, 2024
- 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / OLD BUSINESS**
  - (a) Capital Borrowing
  - (b) Utility and Review Board Decision – Next Steps
  - (c) Deed Transfer Tax Policies
- 5. RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS**
  - (a) Council Advisory Committee – Councillor Andrew Zebian
    - (1) Recreation Summer Camps
  - (b) Councillors' and Mayor Reports
    - (1) Councillor Gerrard
      - a. Kentville Water Commission
      - b. Board of Police Commissioners
      - c. Joint Fire Services
      - d. Kings Point to Point Transit (alternate)
      - e. Kings Regional Sewer Advisory Committee (alternate)
    - (2) Councillor Huntley
      - a. Kentville Water Commission
      - b. Source Water Protection Plan Advisory Group
      - c. Annapolis Valley Regional Libraries Board (alternate)
      - d. Kings Regional Emergency Management Organization
      - e. Valley Regional Enterprise Network, Liaison and Oversight Committee
      - f. Kentville Business Community (alternate)
    - (3) Councillor Maxwell
      - a. Annapolis Valley Trails Coalition
      - b. Kentville Inclusion and Accessibility Advisory Committee
      - c. Student Bursary Selection Committee
      - d. Kentville Heritage Committee

- e. Kentville Names List Committee
- (4) Deputy Mayor Savage
  - a. Audit Committee
  - b. Investment Advisory Committee
  - c. Kings Regional Sewer Advisory Committee
  - d. Kings Regional Emergency Management Organization
  - e. Diversity Kings (alternate)
  - f. Kentville Business Community Board
- (5) Councillor Yorke
  - a. Board of Police Commissioners
  - b. Annapolis Valley Regional Library
  - c. Annapolis Valley Trails Coalition (alternate)
  - d. Kings Point to Point Board
  - e. Diversity Kings
  - f. Kentville Inclusion and Accessibility Advisory Committee
  - g. Kentville Names List Committee
  - h. Multi Purpose Facility Feasibility Study Committee
- (6) Councillor Zebian
  - a. Audit Committee
  - b. Kentville Water Commission
  - c. Joint Fire Services
  - d. Kentville Heritage Committee
- (c) Chief Administrative Officer, follow up from Council Advisory Committee
- (d) Mayor Sandra Snow
  - a. Intermunicipal Services Agreement Interim Board
  - b. Audit Committee
  - c. Kentville Water Commission
  - d. Source Water Protection Plan Advisory Group (alternate)
  - e. Kentville Investment Advisory Committee
  - f. Valley Regional Enterprise Network (alternate)

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

- (a) Funding for Stormwater Management Master Plan – Provincial Flood Risk Investment Infrastructure Program

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) Bunny Bennett – Land Expropriation
- (b) John Lohr – Financial Measures Act

## **8. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

## **9. IN CAMERA**

- (a) Land
- (b) Legal

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

# DRAFT



## TOWN OF KENTVILLE COUNCIL MEETING

### Meeting Minutes: April 29, 2024

Town Hall, 354 Main Street, Kentville Nova Scotia

This meeting was held in Town Hall and was livestreamed on YouTube.

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Sandra Snow called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and noted that all members of Council were present: Mayor Sandra Snow, Councillor Craig Gerrard, Councillor Paula Huntley, Councillor Cathy Maxwell, Deputy Mayor Cate Savage and Councillor Gillian Yorke and Councillor Andrew Zebian.

Staff in attendance included Chief Administrative Officer Jeff Lawrence, Solicitor Geoff Muttart, and Recording Secretary Jennifer West.

#### REGRETS

None.

#### DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Councillor Andrew Zebian and Councillor Gillian Yorke

**That the agenda of April 29, 2024 be approved as amended.**

#### MOTION CARRIED

*Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:*

*Gerrard, Huntley, Maxwell, Savage, Snow, Yorke and Zebian*

#### 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

(a) Council meeting held on March 25, 2024

**It was moved that the minutes of the Council meeting on March 25, 2024 be approved as distributed.**

*Council Meeting Minutes, April 29, 2024*

*Pending Approval*

*Page 1*

# DRAFT

## MOTION CARRIED

(b) Special Council meeting held on March 25, 2024

**It was moved that the minutes of the Special Council meeting on March 25, 2024 be approved as distributed.**

## MOTION CARRIED

### 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

#### (a) Deed Transfer Tax, Second Reading

At the March 25 2024 meeting of Council, the motion to give first reading to the Deed Transfer Tax Bylaw was passed. This bylaw would apply a tax to property transactions in the town, and would provide significant revenue to the town. Kentville is the only town in the province not using this revenue tool.

Correspondence from the public was reviewed on this matter.

*Report available for more information.*

#### Discussion

- Question about the different challenges faced by Counties and Towns for the implementation of this tax.
- Question about annual deposit of funds into the capital reserve.
- Support for using the tax to upgrade aging infrastructure.
- Clarification that persons moving into Kentville or within Kentville would all be subject to the tax equally.
- Clarification that there are capital reserves dedicated for infrastructure and that this is connected to the town's asset management plan.
- Suggestion that Council review the operating budget before reviewing and approving the deed transfer tax.
- Clarification that the deed transfer rate must be set by bylaw and not by policy.
- Suggestion that the town should have been increasing taxes during many years of inflation and cost of living increases.
  
- Concern about the tax influencing home purchases between the town and the county and about overspending in both operating and capital budgets.
- Concern about additional tax burden on residents and new residents.
- Concern about planning for the future of the town, to stay vibrant and viable.
- Concern about a town-wide tax increase, compared to a dedicated deed transfer tax.
- Concern about sustainability of services and assets and reserves not keeping pace with asset management.

# DRAFT

It was moved by Councillor Paula Huntley and Councillor Cathy Maxwell

**That Council give second reading to the Deed Transfer Tax Bylaw.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:*

*Huntley, Maxwell, Savage, Snow and Yorke*

*Councillors who voted against this motion:*

*Gerrard and Zebian*

Policies supporting this bylaw will be brought to Council in May.

**(b) Spring Debenture Issuance**

CAO Jeff Lawrence reviewed the finance report that outlined the need for approval of debentures.

*Report available for more information.*

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Cate Savage and Councillor Andrew Zebian

**That Council approve the 2024 Spring Debenture Issuance as follows**

**TBR-08-23-0055-01 Various for \$868,700**

**And TBR 08-23-0056-01 Sanitary Sewer for \$180,000**

**For a total debenture of \$1,048,700**

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:*

*Gerrard, Huntley, Maxwell, Savage, Snow, Yorke and Zebian*

## 5. RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

**(a) Council Advisory Committee Reports**

**(1) None.**

**(b) Councillors' and Mayor's Reports**

Reports were received and are part of the meeting record.

**(1) Councillor Craig Gerrard**

Highlights included a meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners.

*No report available.*

**(2) Councillor Paula Huntley**

Highlights included the apprenticeship program through the Valley Regional Enterprise Network, Kentville Home Show, Day of Mourning, Michelin Cities

# DRAFT

conference in Anderson South Carolina. She gave a report on the cost and impact of the conference.

*Report available for more information.*

## Discussion

- Clarification questions about the apprenticeship program, the climate caucus hiring process and activities with Divert Nova Scotia.
- Clarification of cost and participants of the Michelin conference.
- Clarification of the local participants from the Valley REN bringing back value from these conferences.

### **(3) Councillor Cathy Maxwell**

Highlights included meetings the Heritage Committee, support for seniors through a meeting with Minister John Lohr, and attending of the Kentville Home Show.

### **(4) Deputy Mayor Cate Savage**

Highlights included meetings of the Kentville Regional Fire Department area rate, Regional Sewer Committee, Investment Advisory Committee, Intermunicipal Services Agreement, Regional Emergency Management Organization, and the Kentville Business Community.

*Report available for more information.*

There was a break in the meeting to give the sign language interpreter a rest, as she was signing for 90 minutes.

### **(5) Councillor Gillian Yorke**

Highlights included the Board of Police Commissioners with a focus on Chrysalis House and domestic violence, a budget meeting will be held in May for the Police Commission, and Shrek Junior the Musical.

*Report available for more information.*

## Discussion

- Clarification on the regional recreation facility proceedings, with update information and decision points being released to council in the coming weeks.

### **(6) Councillor Andrew Zebian**

Highlights included the Heritage Committee Heritage Bylaw being sent to the CAO and solicitor. He also reported concerns about the travel expenses of Kentville Council for conferences and workshops.

*Report available for more information.*

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CAO Jeff Lawrence reported that he has been spending time working on the Deed Transfer Tax bylaw and policies. He also completed the Emergency Management Organization Incident Command System level 200 training. Staff have been working on the Apple Blossom Festival to ensure it is a smooth event. He attended his first labour management meeting with staff and managers.

## Discussion

- Question about the timeframe for the completion of the operating budget- aiming for the end of May.

### **(c) Mayor Sandra Snow**

Mayor Snow reported on her activities this month with highlights including the Intermunicipal Services Agreement Audit Committee, Kentville fire ratepayers meeting, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities discussions on office space, emergency management by Mayors and Wardens on the Nova Scotia Guard, and a presentation by Holly Carr.

*Report available for more information.*

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **(a) Kentville Inclusion and Access Advisory Committee Member Appointment**

Mayor Snow outlined the process for appointing new members to committees of Council, and introduced Saheed Akande as a candidate for the Inclusion and Access Advisory Committee.

*Reports available*

It was moved by Councillor Paula Huntley and Councillor Andrew Zebian

**That Council appoint Saheed Akande to be a voting member on the Inclusion and Access Advisory Committee for a 2-year term.**

### **MOTION CARRIED**

*Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:*

*Gerrard, Huntley, Maxwell, Savage, Snow, Yorke and Zebian*

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **(a) None.**

## **8. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

### **(a) Ron Cousins**

Concern about the new deed transfer tax and increased taxes.

### **(b) Dennis Kehoe**

*Council Meeting Minutes, April 29, 2024*

*Pending Approval*

*Page 5*

# DRAFT

Opposition to the deed transfer tax, the ten-year debenture process, renewing and upgrading assets and exploring other revenue streams.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councillor Andrew Zebian

**That the April 29, 2024 meeting of Council adjourn at 6:30 p.m.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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Approved by CAO Jeff Lawrence





# Memo

To: Jeff Lawrence, CAO

From: Wanda Matthews, Director of Finance

Date: May 8, 2024

Re: **Resolution- 2023/24 Request for Additional Capital Funding**

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The Town of Kentville 2023-2024 preliminary unaudited capital expenditures have been reviewed and analyzed. All 2023-2024 budgeted funding sources have been applied and a shortfall in funding remains. During the capital review, three 2022-2023 WIP items carried forward to the current year without the original source of funding were identified. Two items were identified as unexpected replacements.

Capital items requiring additional 2023-2024 approved funding with recommended funding sources are below:

Capital Item	Shortfall (\$)	Funding Source Recommendation
Streets – Various (23/24)	34,990	General Capital Reserve
MacDonald/ Henry/ Braeside (23/24)	570	General Capital Reserve
Pump Rebuild (NEW)	15,446	General Capital Reserve
HUB Building (22/23)	14,779	General Capital Reserve
Trail bridge replacement (22/23)	51,380	General Capital Reserve
Culvert Install Chester Ave (NEW)	21,714	General Capital Reserve
Police Vehicles (23/24)	2,611	Capital from Revenue
Police Technology (22/23)	39,279	Capital from Revenue

These amounts are subject to year-end review and accounting that once complete may have a minimal impact.

The Town has \$1,024,721 unrestricted capital reserves that can be utilized to offset the \$138,879 shortfall. Of note, Arena capital items were underbudget by \$49,068 thus not requiring the level of reserve usage set out in the 2023-2024 CIP. This negates 35% of the shortfall.

Kentville Police Service vehicles are funded through capital from revenue. Current surpluses within the operating budget are sufficient to fund the vehicle shortfall and the technology totaling \$41,890.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Council Advisory Committee approve a withdrawal from the Town of Kentville general capital reserves to address shortfalls as noted in the chart above as well as approve an allocation of operating revenue to fund police capital expenditures.

ORDER

M11258


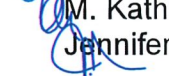

**NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY CHARTER**

**- and -**

**IN THE MATTER OF AN APPEAL** by **BRISON DEVELOPMENTS LTD.** from a decision of the Town of Kentville Council refusing to approve a Rezoning Amendment for property identified as PID: 55247761 and located in Kentville, Nova Scotia

**BEFORE:**

 Richard J. Melanson, LL.B., Panel Chair  
 M. Kathleen McManus, K.C., Ph.D., Member  
 Jennifer L. Nicholson, CPA, CA, Member

**ORDER**

The Board issued its decision on May 13, 2024.

The Board directs that Council approve the appellant's rezoning application relating to lands identified as PID 55247761 (the "Site") by amending the Land Use By-law Map and rezoning the Site from Large Lot Residential (R5) to Single Unit Dwelling (R1), One and Two-Unit Dwelling (R2), and High Density Residential (R4).

**DATED** at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024.

  
Clerk of the Board

**TO:** Mayor Snow and Members of Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** Jeffrey Lawrence, CAO

**DATE:** May 27, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Deed Transfer Tax, Supporting Policies

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**ORIGIN**

During the March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting of Town Council, Council approved first reading of a deed transfer tax bylaw, and second reading was held and passed for this bylaw on April 29, 2024.

**BACKGROUND**

Implementation of the Deed Transfer Tax is underway, however administration is recommending that Council adopt the attached supporting policies (Attachments A and B) setting the interest rate for late payment and requiring the proceeds to be deposited into the General Capital Reserve for use on capital. These policies were brought to Council on April 29, 2024 for review.

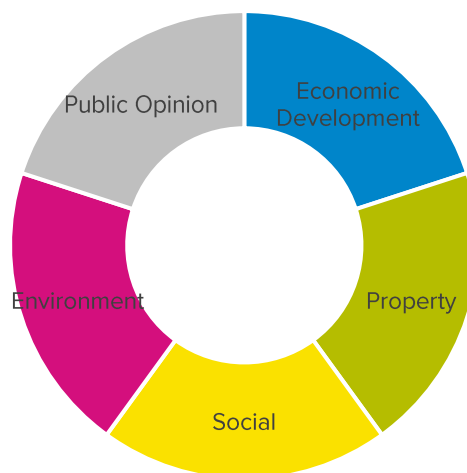
**ATTACHMENTS**

Appendix A Policy G79 - Deed Transfer Interest Policy  
Appendix B Policy G80 - Deed Transfer Allocation Policy

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council approve the Deed Transfer Tax Policies for Interest (Policy Statement G79) and Allocation (Policy Statement G80) to support the implementation of the Deed Transfer Tax Bylaw.

Town of Kentville Balanced Decision Making



## **APPENDIX A**

# **TOWN OF KENTVILLE POLICY STATEMENT G79 DEED TRANSFER INTEREST POLICY**



### **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 Whereas the Town of Kentville has a deed transfer tax on the transfer of properties, as established in Bylaw 109 Deed Transfer Tax, section 108 of the Municipal Government Act states that “Where the grantee does not pay the deed transfer tax when due, the grantee shall pay interest at the rate determined by the council, by policy, until paid, beginning ten days after the transfer and shall pay an additional penalty of ten per cent on any deed transfer tax that remains unpaid after thirty days from the transfer”
- 1.2 This policy establishes the interest rate for outstanding payments of the deed transfer tax.

### **2.0 PROCEDURES**

- 2.1 Interest shall be charged to the grantee at a rate of 2% per month or any part of, beginning ten days after the transfer, and the grantee shall pay an additional penalty of 10% on any deed transfer tax that remains unpaid after 30 days from the transfer.

### **3.0 POLICY REVISION HISTORY**

Date Created:

Revisions:

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Chief Administrative Officer, Jeff Lawrence

## APPENDIX B

# TOWN OF KENTVILLE POLICY STATEMENT G80 DEED TRANSFER ALLOCATION POLICY



### 4.0 PURPOSE

4.1 Whereas the Town of Kentville has a deed transfer tax on the transfer of properties, as established in Bylaw 109 Deed Transfer Tax, this policy establishes the allocation of funds from this tax.

### 5.0 PROCEDURES

5.1 Revenues and interest collected under the Deed Transfer Tax Bylaw and Deed Transfer Interest Policy shall be allocated to a specified Deed Transfer Tax Capital Reserve for future use.

### 6.0 POLICY REVISION HISTORY

Date Created:

Revisions:

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Chief Administrative Officer, Jeff Lawrence



## **COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **Recommendation to Council**

#### **Summer Camps**

At the May 13, 2024 meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Director of Recreation Craig Langille and recreation staff Bekah Craik and Laura Jacobs gave a presentation about the next few months of summer programs for Kentville residents and introduced some recreation staff. They provided detailed information on the end of the summer camp model and the many programs that staff will be offering the community. June and July calendars showed the extensive programs being offered to residents.

#### **Council Advisory Committee recommends**

**That Council to make past practice day camps a priority of Council.**

March 25, 2024

This recommendation is based on discussion and or reports which are attached.

<b>Name:</b>	Councilor Andrew Zebian		
<b>Date:</b>	May 7 <sup>th</sup> / 2024	<b>Date Submitted to CAO:</b>	May 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2024

**Request for Decision – Initial – to be completed by Council Member**

<b>Detail</b>	<b>Synopsis</b>				
<b>Decision Requested:</b>	I would like the Recreation Department to reconsider their decision to discontinue the Summer Camp Program				
<b>Background: What? Who? How? When?</b>	<b>Property</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Public Opinion</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Environment</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Social</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Economic</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Strategic Implication: with Dashboard</b>	<b>Current</b> <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Short Term</b> <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Long Term</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Budget:</b>	<b>Yes</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<b>Policy:</b>		<b>Yes</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Desired Outcome:</b>	For the Town of Kentville to reinstate the Summer Day Camp Programs for the Summer of 2024 (July/August).				
<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>For Council to Direct the CAO to work with the Recreation Department with the goal for the Town of Kentville to continue with the Summer Camp Program in July/August 2024.</b>				

**Request for Decision – CAO Initial Review**

<b>Detail</b>	<b>Synopsis</b>
<b>Department:</b> select all that apply	Governance/Legislative <input type="checkbox"/> Protective Services <input type="checkbox"/> Administration <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering Public Works <input type="checkbox"/> Parks and Recreation <input type="checkbox"/> Finance <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Decision Requested:</b>	Operational Matter <input type="checkbox"/> Decision of Council Required <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Change <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Background:</b>	<p>The Town of Kentville has hosted Summer Day Camps for decades. This program was a great opportunity for children to experience camps and at the same time, gave many students summer jobs. Kentville has always been praised for their recreation department. On May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, Council was informed via a memo that the Recreation Department had made the decision to cancel Summer Camps. The reasons for this decision were as follows;</p> <p>1) Hiring Trained Summer Staff</p>

- 2) Staff Burnout
- 3) Location & Infrastructure
- 4) Training & Management Staff
- 5) Program registration and Payment Management

Historically the Town has always applied for grant funding which went towards to the cost of the summer staff. Many students are looking for summer jobs and often times, the same students returned the following year to work again.

What is most concerning to me is that we have a much lager compliment of Staff in the Recreation Department this year, compared to other years.

The 2023/2024 budget for recreation saw an increase of \$348,800 with \$220,400 of that being for Recreation administration i.e., staff increases, an increase of 40%. This item increased from 546,000 to 766,000, an increase of \$220,000. How is staff burnout a problem when a much smaller staff compliment, at Town Hall, had been planning, managing, hiring, collecting payment for these camps for decades?

As for the location of the Camps, there was a comment made that the Recreation Hub does not have cooling in place. If this is the reason, then I would recommend that Council approve the purchase of an AC unit so that this facility can be used. It is close to the parks and pool. I also question why we can't use the arena. We have invested in an active transportation trail that can be used to access the parks and the beautiful trail to the park. What about the REC Centre in Town Hall? Heat Pumps were recently installed so there is cooling there. There was another comment made about the distance from the Rec Centre to the Parks. However, I question this because these same camps used to take the children from the Rec Hub to Miner's Marsh every Summer as



	<p>well and there didn't seem to be a problem with that and that is a farther distance.</p> <p>My last comment is on the cost to run these camps. The Town of Kentville has always subsidized these programs because it was in the best interests of the community. Summer kid camps have been a long tradition offered to family's in the Town of Kentville. Important to note: We do not have a decrease in desire for this. In fact year over year we have had waiting lists. This is a valued service we provide young working families knowing their children will have a very active summer versus them hunting for babysitters and these same kids spending their summer bored and even worse playing video games. This was not a free service, families paid for it. These programs also offered many summer jobs for some of our high schoolers. A win/win for all. Almost every other community offers this.</p> <p>When our neighboring Towns, Villages and Counties are hosting them, I cannot understand why Kentville, a Town, who has prided itself on Recreation, would not want to offer the same.</p>
<b>Budget:</b>	
<b>Staff Workload:</b>	
<b>Policy:</b>	
<b>Response Options:</b>	
<b>Preferred Strategy:</b>	
<b>CAO Comments:</b>	

# COUNCILOR REPORT

## KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

**Name:** Councillor Paula Huntley

**Date:** May 27/24

**Date of Last Council Meeting Attended:** April 29/24

**Date of Last Council Advisory Meeting Attended:** May 13/24

### COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDANCE AND SYNOPSIS

Date	Committee	Synopsis
May 6/24	Planning Education Workshop	Meeting held by C&D Community Design
May 21/24	Arena Assessment & Feasibility study	Engineers report presented

### TOWN OF KENTVILLE EVENT ATTENDANCE AND SYNOPSIS

Date	Event/Conference	Synopsis
May 18/24	Holi Color Festival	Center square event

### MISC EVENTS

Date	Synopsis
May 1/24	Meeting with Kings Transit re: new buses and discussion of bus routes
May 2/24	Partners Climate Protection zoom call -sharing
May 2/24	Climate Caucus Meeting hiring committee -ED hire interview discussions



# COUNCILOR REPORT

## KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

May 3/24	Met with Acadia Professor re: Smile Program
May 6/24	Tourism Corridor Strategy Program-Atlantic Canada's UNESCO Tourism Corridor Webinar
May 7/24	AMANS Accessibility Steering Committee-Review with the Accessibility Directorate Rep.
May 8/24 & May 9/24	NSFM Spring Conference
May 13/24	Climate Caucus Board Meeting
May 13/24	2 Meetings with Residents
May /24	Meeting with MLA 's office
May 14/24	CC-ED election committee meeting
May 15/24	FCM User Training for Board Portal
May 17/24	Met with resident re: child -care program initiative
May 21/24	Divert NS-follow up on Municipal Provincial Funding
May 22/24	Attended John Lohr's social gathering

### EXPENSES

This month	Year to Date



**COUNCILOR REPORT**  
**KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**

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Date : May 8-May 10/24

## TRIP REPORT – NSFM Spring Conference 2024

1. I attended the conference at The Inverary Resort Baddeck, NS. The conference was held May 8-10/24. / One Councillor & Mayor attended from the Town of Kentville & a total of 109 NS Municipality leaders attended. (info attached).

### Administration and Finances

2. The travel administration, Accommodations and meals was supported by the Town of Kentville. The total cost of the trip was borne by the Town of Kentville under legislative expense account# at a total cost of \$1615.00

### 3. Conference Content

Day 1 – Training workshop for the NSFM Board- Guiding Principals & Board Meeting (9-hour day).

Day 2-

The attached schedule provides a brief overview of general assemblies and sub-committee working groups. The briefings provided during the general assemblies were informative and provided a good overview of common problem areas & of future thoughts and they also provided insight into the direction planned by municipal units. A total of 16 Speakers educated us on topics of Tourism, Renewable Energy, Environment & climate change, Joint Regional Transportation Agency, Build NS, with the start of Olympic Curler Brad Gushue who spoke of how to mentor teams, overcome obstacles in high pressure environments, shares stories of Leadership and how to embrace vulnerability in a way that builds great strength, MLA John Lohr, Minister Timothy Halman Minister of Environment.

5. Interesting ideas discussed-

Atlantic Best Practice Mission Program, best practices & impact. -From this session a discussion has been had with the NS Tourism Human Resources Council- Extension of the Tourism season for a brain- storming meeting.

JRTA-Background & Alignment discussions

Amherst's Youth Engagement Strategy: Youth Town Council, Conduct Presentations for Students, Youth Summit.

Glance Bay High Changemakers Group-Youth Active Transportation.

6. Ideas for consideration.

Enhancing Telecommunications in NS-

\* Build NS Internet for NS Initiative

\*Cellular for NS Program-Phase 1 &2.

### Recommendations

6. It is recommended that the Town of Kentville continue to attend the NSFM Spring Conferences as cross section attendance is extremely important as contacting other councilors and staff facilitates the most ongoing processes. The information gathered at

the conference will be of interest to staff & future Councils. All PDF presentations will be sent to Councilors & CAO.

Name Position: Councillor Paula Huntley

Expenses

Name of Conference 2024 – NSFM Spring Conference		
Date	Detail	amount
	Conference Registration Fee including HST	663.95
	Transportation – car (KM), rental, airfare	\$0
	Hotel Room x # nights	\$746.25
	meal	\$204.60
	Lunch	\$0
	Total Expense	\$1614.80

# COUNCILOR REPORT

## KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

**Name:** Cathy Maxwell

**Date:** May 21, 2024

**Date of Last Council Meeting Attended:** April 29/24

**Date of Last Council Advisory Meeting Attended:** May 13/24

**Date of Last Governance Session Attended:**

### Committee Meeting Attendance and Synopsis

Date	Committee	Synopsis
April 25/24	Trails Meeting	See attached report
May 6/24	Planning Education Workshop	We reviewed the many terms used in the planning processes such as Development Agreements, Variances, Site Plan Approvals, Public Hearings etc. A great review!
May 10/24	Inclusion and Accessibility Committee	A bus shelter is being worked on by the Bell Building so some parking spaces will be removed. The Welcoming and Diversity Task Team had their first meeting on May 15 <sup>th</sup> . It is a very diverse group and they will be looking at various tasks and giving their opinions on them and how to move forward. The Oakdene Community Garden Group is underway. They will receive help from The Edge weekly to maintain the Gardens. New members are welcome. Looking at the new accessibility plan and reviewing the evaluation section. Also looked at ideas for task teams in the coming months.
May 17/24	Arena Condition Assessment and Feasibility Study Workshop	A thorough look at the report by the group who did the assessment and feasibility study on our arena. I was very encouraged





## COUNCILOR REPORT KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

		by the information presented and look forward to further discussions in the future.
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### Town of Kentville Event Attendance and Synopsis

Date	Event	Synopsis
May 11/24	Opening of Kentville Heritage Center	Great crowd for opening day and I encourage citizens to drop in over the summer to look at some of the artifacts and information on display.
May 18/24	Oakdene Community Garden Group	Dropped over to Oakdene Park to take in the fantastic work being done by the Garden Club. They raised the planting boxes and installed rain barrels. As well Public Works installed a footbridge that was donated by Kings Tec and will provide easy passage for residents in the housing project next door to the garden. Many thanks to all Community Garden Volunteers as well as Project coordinator staff member Roxy
May 18/24	Holi Festival Of Colours	Holi – is a popular and significant Hindu festival celebrated as The Festival Colours, Love and Spring Our festival featured colourful chalk dust as the Colour, lots of traditional music and food to complete the Love and it is Spring! It was great to witness our newcomers sharing their culture with us and lots of fun was had by everyone!

# COUNCILOR REPORT

## KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

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# COUNCILOR REPORT

## KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

**Name:** Deputy Mayor Cate Savage

**Date:** May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024

**Date of Last Council Meeting Attended:** April 29<sup>th</sup>

**Date of Last Council Advisory Meeting Attended:** May 13<sup>th</sup>

### COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDANCE AND SYNOPSIS

	Committee	Synopsis
April 25 <sup>th</sup>	RSC	Operations and compliance updates – quorum was not available and therefore no motions made
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Council session planning	Planning workshop with C&D Great session Overall suggestions Amendments to LUB and MPS
May 7 <sup>th</sup>	Housing beyond the market	Special evening put on by the Kings North NDP with special panel guests to talk housing and the many aspects of same  Hosted by Gillian Yorke Panelists Matt Jennings Claudia Chender John MacKay Alicia Christie  Topics – rent control versus rent cap
May 14 <sup>th</sup>	AV Tourism Event	Valley Ren and Tourism Working Committee – announcement from MP Kody B on funding the position for 2 years



# COUNCILOR REPORT

## KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

May 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>KBC</b>	<p>Presentation of f/s March 31, 2024</p> <p>Welcome new ED Jordan Banyan</p> <p>June 18<sup>th</sup> KBC AGM</p> <p>New board member Brent Bashaw – sugar house</p> <p>See attached minutes</p>
May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>IAC</b>	<p>Report from IA – TD Wealth</p> <p>Portfolio just under \$13MM</p> <p>YTD .705% money weighted against the balanced income CAD @ -.87%</p> <p>\$400,000 coming due next month and the approach will likely be to ladder the funds as rates are not expected to lower until mid to late Summer</p>

TOWN OF KENTVILLE EVENT ATTENDANCE AND SYNOPSIS



# COUNCILOR REPORT

## KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

	Event/Conference	Synopsis
April 30 <sup>th</sup>	KBC	Farewell dinner for Genevieve
May 4 <sup>th</sup>	Rotary Gala	100 year Gala

### MISC EVENTS

Date	Synopsis

# COUNCILOR REPORT

## KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL


### EXPENSES

This month	Year to Date
NIL	See website

**TO:** Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** Dan Stovel, Kings REMO REMC

**DATE:** May 13, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Kings REMO Regional EM Advisory Committee Meeting, 2024-04-15

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**ORIGIN** Kings REMO Regional EM Advisory Committee Meeting, April 15, 2024

**BACKGROUND**

The Kings REMO Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee met on Monday, April 15, 2024.

Key issues of discussion included:

- **Presentation: NSDNRR - FireSmart**
  - The Season should be more aptly names Wildfire “Risk” Season
  - It is not just the ‘big wall of fire’ that will burn down homes.
  - Overview of fire impacts on structures
  - Home Ignition Zones:
    - 0 to 1.5m: Non-Combustible
    - 1.5m to 10m: Reduced Combustibles (pruning, thinning, moving and raking, moving wood etc)
    - 10m to 30m: Increasing the barrier with same techniques, promoting hardwood, moving if possible, removing dead/dying and softwood
  - FireSmart Communities – Assess/Plan and Action:
    - Looks at neighbourhoods or subdivisions as a whole and gives percentages to evaluate
    - Looks at water supply, forest stand and management, home construction, past fire occurrences, recreational use, critical infrastructure, access
    - Pull together a report and plan and action items, present to community
  - Where you can find resources:
    - FireSmart Canada or Nova Scotia Facebook Pages
    - NS Wildfire Viewer
    - <https://novascotia.ca/burnsafe/>
    - [www.smokeybear.com](http://www.smokeybear.com)
    - <https://firesmartbc.ca/ember/>
- **NS Department of Emergency Management & Nova Scotia Guard**

**2024-03-28** Premier Houston introduced legislation that will lead, direct and support a coordinated response and manage the immediate and ongoing needs of Nova Scotians when a crisis or disaster occurs

**Nova Scotia Department of Emergency Management**

- Department of Emergency Management will oversee the Nova Scotia Guard.
- It will also include existing emergency response teams from across government, with expanded responsibilities such as:
  - leading Nova Scotia’s coordinated emergency and disaster preparedness, response and recovery initiatives
  - leading the coordination of all organizations, internal and external, that respond to emergencies and disasters
  - working closely with communities, as well as Indigenous, federal, municipal and private-sector partners.

- The Department will be led by John Lohr, Minister responsible for the current Emergency Management Office, and Deputy Minister Paul LaFleche, whose expanded roles take effect immediately.
- It will include all divisions of the Emergency Management Office, as well as Service Nova Scotia's Public Safety Field Communications and business continuity teams.
- The Department of Emergency Management is expected to be established in the fall

#### **Nova Scotia Guard**

- A group of volunteers from across the province who will help communities during and after emergencies
- Will include volunteers with specialty skills and members of the public to fill a variety of roles depending on emergency needs
- Nova Scotians can express their interest in volunteering for the Nova Scotia Guard at <https://ns.211.ca/early-registration-for-the-nv-volunteer-portal/> or by phoning 211.

#### **2024-03-28 Premier's CBC Interview**

- **Public Health Update:**

#### **COVID-19 Update**

#### **Health Canada, 2024-04-09**

- Nationally, COVID-19 indicators continue to slowly decrease or remain at low levels.
- In the latest reporting week, seven reporting provinces and territories reported no Activity to low COVID-19 Activity Levels, while one reported moderate Activity Levels. Activity Level trajectories varied by jurisdiction, with most reporting decreasing or stable trends.
- National SARS-CoV-2 percent positivity has been decreasing since mid-December 2023.
- Following an increase in mid-November, overall outbreak incidence has been decreasing since early January, with more recent weeks showing a slower decline.

#### **NS Respiratory Watch Report – Week 14 March 31 to April 6, 2024:**

- Influenza PCR positives remained stable this week
- COVID-19 PCR positives remained stable this week
- RSV positives has remained stable this week

Outbreaks: 0 new long-term care facility outbreaks

- 0 influenza
- 0 COVID-19
- 0 RSV

Subject to changes impacting Kings County, the Kings REMO REMC will no longer provide updates on Public Health issues at future Kings REMO REMAC meetings.

- **Kings County EM Guide for Elected Officials**

REMC highlighted updates to the EM Guide for Elected Officials:

- Cover Page – dated April 2024
- Kings County Hazard Risk Vulnerability Assessment – Page 7. Updated based on latest HRVA approved by REMAC January 2024
- Familiarization with County Plans – Page 12. Kings REMO Regional Emergency Management Plan (REMP), Change 3 dated March 2024
- Back-cover Page. Social Media account amended from Twitter to 'X'

**MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE KINGS REMO REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE THE APRIL 2024 KINGS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GUIDE FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS**



**ACTION:** Kings REMO REMC will have Guide printed and available for elected officials post-election October 2024.

- **Kings REMO Regional EM Plan (REMP), Change 3**

REMC presented summary of Changes highlighted for Change 3:

- 5.1.3 Wildland Fires – updated with details from 2023 Wildland Fire Season in Nova Scotia
- 5.2 Risk Analysis Matrix – updated from the recent Hazard Risk Vulnerability Assessment conducted in December 2023 and approved by Kings REMO REMAC January 2024
- 9.2 Plan Maintenance & Responsibility – annual review updates and Plan Revisions amended to March 21, 2024 with approval on April 15, 2024
- Annex L – Province of NS – Important Numbers – NSEMO Region 3 Preparedness Officer – cell number updated

**MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE KINGS REMO REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE CHANGE 3 TO THE KINGS REMO REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN, DATED MARCH 2024.**

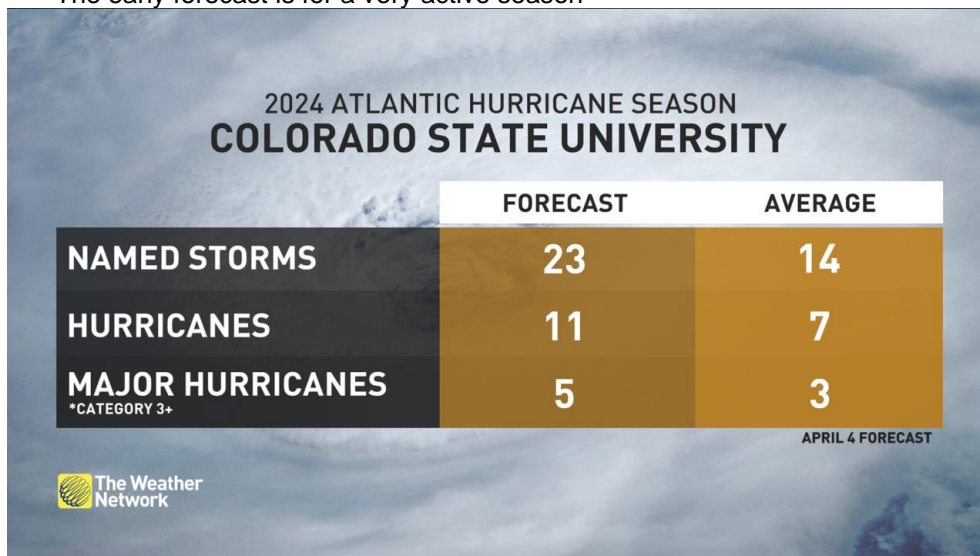
**ACTION:** Kings REMO REMC will post the amended Plan to Kings REMO Website and upload to WebEOC File Library

- **2024 Wildfire Season**

- Nova Scotia Wildfire Season: March 15 to October 15
- 18-year average of Wildfires in Kings County: 20 wildfires per year
- 2024-03-01: Kings REMO Wildfire Season Awareness News Release
- 2024-03-14: Kings REMO REMC CBC Mainstreet interview
  - Community Outreach presentations
  - Emergency Email Notification System
  - Vulnerable Persons Registry
  - FireSmart Canada

- **2024 Hurricane Season**

- The early forecast is for a very active season



- **Emergency Management – Volunteer Registration Form**

Management of Spontaneous Volunteers:

- Volunteers are a critical part of a well-coordinated and well-resourced humanitarian response, but potential volunteers should confirm that they are needed before travelling to impacted areas – do not self-deploy.

REMC presented Committee with proposed Volunteer Registration Form:

- Position Responsibilities
- Tasks may include
- Qualifications
- Time commitment
- Dress code
- Identification

**MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE KINGS REMO REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE THE EMERGENCY VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FORM, DATED MARCH 21, 2024.**

**Kings REMO Programs:**

- **Kings County Comfort Centres**

[www.KingsREMO.ca/comfort.aspx](http://www.KingsREMO.ca/comfort.aspx)

25 Comfort Centres (as of 2024-04-15)

Woodville Community Centre removed from list of active Comfort Centres – replacement generator has been approved

Pending Additions (Provincial & Municipality of the County of Kings Generator Program Funding):

- Salvation Army Church (Kentville)
- Morden Community Centre (Morden)
- Bethany Memorial Baptist Church (Aldershot)
- Valley Community Learning Association (Kentville)

REMC is in the process of delivering Comfort Centre Signs to all facilities (19 of 25 signs delivered across Kings County):



- **Community Outreach Program**

Total number of 2024 presentations      10 (as of 2024-04-15)

2024-01-25	Kings RCMP
2024-02-05	White Rock Community Centre (Filmed by Eastlink)
2024-02-10	Kings Presbyterian Church
2024-02-12	Wolfville Farmer's Market & WBDC
2024-02-17	Burlington Community Centre
2024-02-21	Kings Central High School (Grade 12 class)

2024-03-05	Valley REN/Immigration & Settlement Navigation
2024-03-13	East Dalhousie Community Centre
2024-03-25	Lake Paul/Lake George Community Centre
2024-04-15	Nicholsville Garden Club & Community

Scheduled presentations:

2024-04-28	Black River Community Club
2024-04-30	Centreville Community Hall
2024-05-07	Greenwich Fire Dept & Community

- **Kings REMO Social Media**

Social media offer the opportunity to connect and cooperate with the networked public, take advantage of the capabilities and innovations of virtual volunteers, and to reach people quickly with alerts, warnings, and preparedness messages

Kings REMO actively uses Social Media to increase community awareness:

- Facebook followers:
  - 4,927                      2023-04-17
  - 9,636                      2024-04-15 (+ 4,709)
- X followers:
  - 834                          2023-04-17
  - 984                          2024-04-15 (+ 150)
- Instagram followers:
  - 257                          2023-04-17
  - 301                          2024-04-15 (+ 44)

- **Vulnerable Persons Registry (VPR)**

Kings REMO working to develop a 'Community of Champions' to increase awareness of the VPR Program

- 2023-09-21              38 registrations
- 2023-10-16              40 registrations
- 2024-01-15              47 registrations
- 2024-04-15              50 registrations

Kings REMO REMC is focused on building a "Community of Champions" to increase awareness of the Kings VPR program

- **Training & Exercises**

ICS Training Schedule

2024 Planned Training – hosted by Kings REMO:

- Apr 24-25:              ICS-200
- Jun 27:                    BEM Course
- Sep 11-13:              ICS-300

**2024 Planned Exercises**

- 2024-04-18              Wildfire-Evacuation Workshop    Kings REMO
- 2024-05-29/30          NS EMO Exercise Nova Bravo    NS EMO
- 2024-07-11              Hurricane-ECC Activation Exercise    Kings REMO
- 2024-11-21              Winterstorm-Shelter Exercise    Kings REMO

**Next Meeting:** Monday, July 15, 2024

No Meeting will be scheduled for October 2024 due to Municipal Elections

## Town of Kentville Decision Wheel:



# COUNCILOR REPORT

## KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

**Name:** Councilor Andrew Zebian

**Date:** May 18/24

**Date of Last Council Meeting Attended:** April 29/24

**Date of Last Council Advisory Meeting Attended:** May 13/24

### COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDANCE AND SYNOPSIS

Date	Committee	Synopsis

### TOWN OF KENTVILLE EVENT ATTENDANCE AND SYNOPSIS

Date	Event/Conference	Synopsis
May 6/24	<b>Planning Workshop With C+D Community Design</b>	A great workshop about planning processes. I enjoyed the discussion around Development Agreements and I think Council should be reviewing our Land Use Bylaws, perhaps with a Planning Committee in place. Things are always changing and we should keep up with these changes.
May 17/24	<b>Draft Building Assessment Report for the Centennial Arena</b>	This session was in regards to the Rink and the state of it in terms of repairs and/or upgrades. Lots of information was provided and it will give Council and opportunity to discuss in detail options regarding the rink. The report detailed that the rink is in need of 8+ million dollars in repairs and it is suggested these repairs are completed within 5 years. Options were provided to add a mezzanine to the rink with a social room as well. While it certainly appears to be an attractive upgrade, I worry that we have too many other pressing matters that will require a lot of funding. I would also like to see the matter of the regional recreational centre settled first before we are tied



# COUNCILOR REPORT

## KENTVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

		to too many projects with serious financial implications.
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### MISC EVENTS

Date	Synopsis
May 2024	Several emails/phone calls regarding the decision by recreation to cancel the regular summer day camp programming.
May 2024	Discussion with many residents over the footbridge off of the Harvest Moon Trail that leads into our facilities. After discussion with CAO Lawrence, there appears to be a temporary fix in place some time soon.
May 2024	Residents have reached out about various issues Downtown, including sidewalks and areas that they do not feel are accessible for folks. One of the biggest concerns this season is again... the large planters that surround the Town Clock. While I do agree that they are beautiful- I do feel that they are a hazard too. I understand the purpose of them is to be street calming...however that doesn't slow everyone down and with them being so high, people that have mobility issues and/or people who find the planters higher than them, can easily be unseen as they begin crossing here.

### EXPENSES

This month	Year to Date
36.51	Cell Phone



# Councilor Report

## Kentville Town Council

**Name:** Sandra Snow

**Date:** 22 May 2024

**Date of Last Council Meeting Attended:** 25 April 2024

**Date of Last Council Advisory Meeting Attended:** 13 May 2024

### Committee Meeting Attendance and Synopsis

Date	Committee	Synopsis
29 Apr 24	NSFM Executive Committee	Update on NSFM Spring Conference, Strategic session and presentation to CBRM council
1 May 24	NSFM Executive Committee	NSFM AMANS joint meeting – office space.
1 May 24	NSFM Finance and Audit Committee	Review of the audit plan and changes to the procedure
3 May 24	NSFM Executive Committee	Office space
6 May 24	Council Workshop	Training session for council on Planning presented by C&D Planning Services
8 May 24	NSFM Board Guiding Principles Workshop	Consultant lead session on developing guiding principles as follow-on to work completed in Nov 21
8 May 24	NSFM Board Meeting	Quarterly Board meeting
13 May 24	NSFM Executive Committee	NSFM AMANS joint meeting – office space.
15 May 24	NSFM Infrastructure Advisory Committee	Discussion on new items before the committee and recruitment of expertise in the fishing and wind energy fields
15 May 24	IMSA Board	Monthly meeting to discuss on-going business with Valley Waste and Kings Transit
16 May 24	NSFM Fall Conference Planning Committee	Planning for NSFM Fall Conference November 2024
17 May 24	Council Workshop	Presentation of the consultants report on the condition of the Centennial Arena

### Conference Attendance and Synopsis



# Councilor Report

## Kentville Town Council

Date	Conference	Synopsis
30 Apr 24	Research Over Coffee - Webinar	Informing prevention of mental health problems in the population: The role of big data analytics.
2 May 24	Engage NS	Update on SDG and plans for the next Quality of Life survey in 2025
7-10 May 24	NSFM Spring Conference	See attached report

### Misc Events

Date	Synopsis
28 Apr 24	National Day of Mourning
29 Apr 24	Provincial Announcement for Regional Sewer Funding, \$3.2M
29 Apr 24	Meeting with NSCC Kingstec Principal Jason Clark – convocation and 2024 new school year
3 May 24	415 Sqn hosting wing TGIF
4 May 24	Greeting and mass for the Catholic Women's League Provincial Conference
11 May 24	Cutting the Red Tape – Conversation with business owners and Conservative MPs and Joel Hirtle
13 May 24	<p>Invitation to Aldershot to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Kosovo Refugees. Our family is so grateful to yourself, the army, the staff, the wonderful volunteers and the journalists. Again, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for everything.</p> <p>The town of Kentville has a rare and special feel to it— as we explored a bit of the Valley on our way back to Halifax we were moved by the kindness and smiles we saw all around. Kentville will always have a piece of our hearts for all the warmth, generosity, safety, and solace it offered us. We look forward to returning someday soon to experience its magic again.</p>
14 May 24	VREN – Final details for tourism planning in the Annapolis Valley
18 May 24	SANSKAR Centre Square Event – Holi the Colour Festival



21 May 24

## TRIP REPORT –NS FEDERATION OF MUNICIPALITIES SPRING CONFERENCE

### Introduction

1. Councillor Huntley and I attended the NFSM Spring Conference in Baddeck. The NSFM Spring Conference was held 8-10 May 2024 at the Inverary Inn co-hosted by the County of Victoria and the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities. The conference was attended by over 130 municipal officials from across NS.

### Administration and Finances

2. The travel administration was supported by the Town of Kentville. Accommodations were secured at the Inverary using the special NSFM rate. The total cost of my trip charged to mayor's legislative expense account is \$2,250.38.

### Conference Facilities

3. The conference facility is very suitable for this type of event. There was an unexpected power outage on Friday which cancelled the morning events and the availability of breakfast and coffee.

### Conference Content

4. The NSFM Board held its quarterly board meeting and consultant led Guiding Principles Workshop all day on Tuesday 7 May. There was a Meet and Greet for delegates that evening.

5. Thursday morning was ushered in with a briefing by the executive and staff of the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities. The Keynote presentation featured a discussion on Team Building and Leadership by Olympian and Canadian Curling Champion Brad Gushue. This was followed up by a presentation by Minister John Lohr. The morning was rounded out by concurrent presentation. I attended the Untangling Government Relations, which was a discussion with Kristan Hines from National. Many of the attendees spoke of the changing tone of politics at the municipal level, specifically with the harassment and unpleasant discourse on social media.

6. Lunch was sponsored by Cox and Palmer. The afternoon session started with a presentation from Build NS and the Joint Transportation Committee chairs, David Benoit and Mark Peck. The discussions centred around the growth and the changes we are seeing in transportation in NS. Followed by a presentation on Empowering Tomorrow by Engaging Youth. Success stories were shared with regards to youth being engaged to build a trail from a rough property cut through.

7. The Minister of Environment and Climate Change Timothy Halman presented the winning 12 communities with their Community Climate Capacity Program grants. Kentville received two years funding for a contract staff member to operationalize our climate change initiatives. Meghan McMorris then presented on the Coastal Protection Plan.

8. The evening was rounded out with a Victoria County Social Night, with food and music supplied by Lookout Tower fresh off their nomination at the East Coast Music Awards.

9. Friday morning, we woke up to a power outage, which caused the sessions to be cancelled, as there were no details on cause or restoration times. The Municipal Climate Change frontrunners will be provided with an opportunity to present on-line at a future time.

10. Overall it was an excellent and informative conference and the Victoria County did an excellent job of hosting. The conference theme was Pioneering Solutions.

11. The presentations will be available electronically and will be placed on the Council network drive when available. This was a paper-free conference the schedule of events was circulated through Feedloop.

#### Recommendations

12. It is recommended that Town of Kentville continue to attend the NSFM Spring conference, it was an excellent networking and learning environment. The meet and greet receptions held on Wednesday and Thursday evenings were excellent opportunities to network with municipal colleagues and were very well attended. The information gathered at the conference will be of on-going interest to council and staff.

13. Questions regarding this conference or the recommendations may be referred to the undersigned.



Sandra Snow  
Mayor



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CAO Jeff Lawrence  
354 Main Street  
Kentville, NS  
B4N 1K6

902-599-2501 (C)  
jlawrence@kentville.ca

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May 27, 2024

RE: Funding for Stormwater Management Master Plan –  
Provincial Flood Risk Investment Infrastructure Program

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At the April 8<sup>th</sup> 2024 Council Advisory Committee meeting, staff presented the Stormwater Master Plan Recommendation for the Town of Kentville. The recommendation to include \$100,000.00 of the 2024-2025 operational budget to complete the comprehensive Stormwater Master Plan was approved on April 26<sup>th</sup> 2024.

To offset the cost of this plan, staff are working with provincial staff to submit an application to the Provincial Flood Risk Investment Infrastructure Program (FRIIP). The application requires a resolution from Council to direct staff to support the project submission under the FRIIP funding stream.

In order to apply for this grant, to support the creation of a Stormwater Master plan for the Town of Kentville, Staff recommend

That Council approve the submission of an application to the Provincial Flood Risk Investment Infrastructure Program for the 2024-2025 fiscal year to offset the costs associated with a comprehensive Stormwater Master Plan for the Town of Kentville.

CAO Jeff Lawrence  
Town of Kentville

From: Bunny Bennett <charob@eastlink.ca>  
Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 8:34 AM  
To: CouncilandMayor <CouncilandMayor@kentville.ca>  
Cc: Jennifer West <jwest@kentville.ca>; Jeff Lawrence <jlawrence@kentville.ca>  
Subject: ACADIAN OLD GROWTH FOREST owned by Mr. Ron Cousins

The e-mail below is from an external source. Please do not open attachments or click links from an unknown or suspicious origin.

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I am writing to say that I support Mr. Cousins' request that the town bypass his forest land as part of a route for the Hiltz Connector Road.

I live on Condon Avenue and, as you are aware, we have endured several floods. I am fearful that, if Mr. Cousins' forest is altered by cutting and land bulldozed, it could possibly impact my street and my home. His trees drink excess ground rainwater, keep our air cleaner and hold the surrounding soil in place.

Please find another bypass route in that area to avoid a potential problem for my street.

Please do not be responsible for cutting down beautiful, old trees.

Please do not expropriate any part of Mr. Cousins' land.

Please add this to an upcoming agenda under Correspondence.

Thank you in advance,

Bunny Bennett  
12 Condon Avenue  
(902) 678-3558



**Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Office of the Minister**

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PO Box 216, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2M4 • Telephone 902-424-5550 Fax 902-424-0581 • [novascotia.ca](http://novascotia.ca)

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May 10, 2024

Dear Mayors and Wardens:

On April 5, 2024, the *Financial Measures Act* received Royal Assent in the Nova Scotia Legislature. The Act includes several amendments to the *Municipal Government Act*, *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*, and the Housing in the *Halifax Regional Municipality Act*.

These changes aim to support housing development all over the province, update and simplify existing rules, reinforce the Code of Conduct for municipalities, fill a legal gap allowing villages to change names, and make other administrative updates to the laws.

Due to the number of amendments included in the *Financial Measures Act*, I have included a summary document that provides amendment descriptions, amendment clause numbers within the *Financial Measures Act*, and clarification about whether the amendments have been proclaimed or still require regulations.

I want to thank you all for your guidance and feedback throughout the *Municipal Government Act* and *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* review process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Lohr'.

Honourable John A. Lohr  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Appendix A: Summary of Amendments to the *Municipal Government Act*, *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*, & *Housing in the HRM Act* through the *Financial Measures Act*

Appendix A: Summary of Amendments made to *Municipal Government Act, Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, & Housing in the HRM Act* through the *Financial Measures Act*

<b><i>Amendments related to development approval process and supporting housing development</i></b>			
<b><i>Act</i></b>	<b><i>Amendment Description</i></b>	<b><i>Clause # in FMA</i></b>	<b><i>Regulations Required for Proclamation?</i></b>
MGA	Remove the requirement for certified copies of planning documents to enable electronic submission of planning documents to the provincial Director of Planning and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Add regulation-making authority for Minister for submission/filing, review, and approval of documents.	86 (1), 86(7), 87(4), 92 (3)	<u>Yes</u>
MGA/HRMC	Require an electronic statement from the Clerk to verify that planning documents/amendment to by-law/development agreement are a true and original copy where no certified copy is required, and remove requirement for the Province to return two copies (written notice as per the Act will be returned).	37-39, 86 (2) -(4), 87 (2), 92 (2)	<u>Yes</u>
MGA	Require that appeals for site plan and variances must A) state grounds for appeal, and B) limit an appeal to substantive matters. This includes regulation-making authority for the Minister to prescribe non-substantive matters to which appeals may not be made.	94	This amendment has received Royal Assent; <u>however</u> , regulation is required to prescribe what is a non-substantive matter.
MGA	Allow non-substantive development agreement amendments to be approved by the Development Officer rather than Council (authority exists for council to define substantive and non-substantive amendments within a development agreement).	92 (1)	This amendment has received Royal Assent.

MGA	Allow the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to discharge a completed development agreement in part or in whole rather than Council.	91	This amendment has received Royal Assent.
MGA	Clarify council's role regarding substantive matters and "approval in principle" of a development agreement where the final administrative contractual details will be dealt with by the CAO without triggering a need to return to Council.	92	This amendment has received Royal Assent.
MGA	Enable the requirement of off-site improvements necessary to support the development or the payment of money-in-lieu for the contribution of off-site improvements through a development agreement.	90	This amendment has received Royal Assent.
MGA	<p>Allow councils to provisionally approve a development agreement or an amendment to a development agreement during the same public meeting when the Council passes a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting amendment to the municipal planning strategy;</li> <li>• Supporting amendment to the land-use by-law; and</li> <li>• Supporting amendment to the municipal planning strategy and the supporting amendment to the land-use by-law.</li> </ul> <p>This provisional development agreement or amendment to a development is approved once the supporting amendment to the municipal planning strategy and/or land use by-law takes effect. Appeal period runs from the provisional approval.</p>	89, 97(d)	This amendment has received Royal Assent.

MGA	Authority for Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to designate healthcare facilities as a planning area (e.g., long-term care facility) to which municipal development rules related to planning, development, and subdivision do not apply.	88	This amendment has received Royal Assent.
Housing in HRM Act	Extension of the Executive Panel on Housing in the HRM for 2 additional years (until 2026).	54	This amendment has received Royal Assent.
<b><i>Amendments to support modernization and efficiencies</i></b>			
<b><i>Act</i></b>	<b><i>Amendment Description</i></b>	<b><i>Clause # in FMA</i></b>	<b><i>Regulations Required for Proclamation?</i></b>
MGA/HRMC	Require accommodation marketing platforms to collect and remit marketing levy fees to the municipality directly.	28, 76	This amendment has received Royal Assent.
MGA/HRMC	<p>Authorize posting on a municipal website as an alternative method of notice. This applies to the following notices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public Hearing for Sale or Lease of Municipal Property</li> <li>- Special purpose tax accounts</li> <li>- Sale of Distressed Goods</li> <li>- Tax Sale Advertisement</li> <li>- Adoption of By-laws</li> <li>- Planning documents (MGA only, changes already made to HRMC)</li> <li>- Notice of sale land no longer required for parks, playgrounds, or public purposes</li> <li>- Notice of Public Hearing for Street Closures</li> </ul>	29 (2), 30 (2), 32(2), 33, 34(2) 35, 36, 42, 44, 75(2), 77(2), 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86(5), 86 (6) 87(1), 95, 96, 97, 98, 100, 105(2)	This amendment has received Royal Assent.



MGA/HRMC	Allow municipalities to serve property tax bills by electronic means if agreed to by persons in writing. If electronic means is agreed to, preliminary notices of tax sale will also be sent electronically to the person (in addition to mail).	32, 34, 79, 81	This amendment has received Royal Assent.
MGA/HRMC	Allow municipalities and villages to sell and lease property below market value for any purpose which is deemed beneficial to the municipality or village by council or the commission.	29 (1), 75 (1), 105 (1)	This amendment has received Royal Assent.
MGA/HRMC	Allow performance bonding for site plans.	40, 93	This amendment has received Royal Assent.
MGA	Provide village commissions a mechanism to request to change the name of a village as chosen by the village commission. The name change could be granted by Governor-in-Council.	101	This amendment has received Royal Assent.

### ***Topics to support Code of Conduct***

<b><i>Act</i></b>	<b><i>Amendment Description</i></b>	<b><i>Clause # in FMA</i></b>	<b><i>Regulations Required for Proclamation?</i></b>
MGA/HRMC	Allow councils and commissions to be notified in-camera of a Code of Conduct complaint making it to the investigation stage.	26, 73, 103	<u><b>Yes</b></u>
MGA/HRMC	Require that in addition to the investigator's recommendation, the section under which the Code of Conduct complaint was lodged be made public.	26, 73, 103	<u><b>Yes</b></u>

MGA/HRMC	Allow municipalities and villages to collect Code of Conduct fines in the same manner as taxes, and fines will be considered general revenue.	27, 74, 102	<u>Yes</u>
MGA/HRMC	Mayor, councillors, or commissioners who are absent from three or more consecutive regular meetings as a result of being sanctioned will not lose their seat.	25, 72, 104	<u>Yes</u>

***Topics relating to administrative items***

<b>Act</b>	<b>Amendment Description</b>	<b>Clause # in FMA</b>	<b>Regulations Required for Proclamation?</b>
MGA/HRMC	Clarify deemed easement on a plan of subdivision is retroactive to the date of the survey or approval of the plan of subdivision, even if that pre-dates the Act.	43, 99	This amendment has received Royal Assent.
MGA/HRMC	Changes to requirements for capital reserve funds to reflect changes in public sector accounting standards.	31, 78	This amendment has received Royal Assent.
HRMC	Correct the term “setback” in section 250A (1) to “step back”.	41	This amendment has received Royal Assent.