



# **TOWN OF KENTVILLE COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE June 10, 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 Advisory Committee, May 13, 2024
- 4. PRESENTATIONS**
  - (a) Racquet Centre – Paul Morgan
  - (b) Annapolis Valley Frugal Moms – Lisa Rose
  - (c) Chain Lakes Wilderness Area – Alan Warner
- 5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**
  - (a) Finance
    1. Department Report
  - (b) Planning and Development
  - (c) Parks and Recreation
    1. Director's Report
    2. Rotary Club of Kentville – Gazebo Request
    3. Recreation Hub Climate Control – Report and Recommendation
  - (d) Police
    1. Chief's Report
  - (e) Engineering and Public Works
    1. Director's Report
    2. Recommendation – Capital, Transportation Equipment

**(f) Administration**

**1. Chief Administrative Officer's Report**

**6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/OLD BUSINESS**

**(a) Racquet Centre – Land Offer**

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**(a) Offer to Purchase Land, Kentville Bird Sanctuary**

**(b) Environment Planning Task Team**

**9. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**10. IN-CAMERA**

**(a) None**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**



DRAFT



TOWN OF KENTVILLE

COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes: May 13, 2024

**Town Hall, 354 Main Street, Kentville Nova Scotia**

This meeting was held in Town Hall and was livestreamed to YouTube with closed captioning.

Mayor Sandra Snow called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Jeff Lawrence reported the following members of Council and staff were present:

**1. PRESENT**

**Council:**

- Mayor Sandra Snow
- Deputy Mayor Cate Savage
- Councillor Craig Gerrard
- Councillor Paula Huntley
- Councillor Cathy Maxwell
- Councillor Gillian Yorke
- Councillor Andrew Zebian

**Staff:**

- Craig Langille, Director of Parks and Recreation
- Wanda Matthews, Director of Finance
- Dave Bell, Director of Planning, Engineering and Public Works
- Geoff Muttart, Solicitor
- Alisha Christie, Housing and Community Partnerships
- Jeff Lawrence, Chief Administrative Officer
- Jennifer West, Recording Secretary

**GUESTS**

Julia Merritt, Annapolis Valley Regional Libraries

Nicole Edgson and Kirstene Reyes, Intentional Tiny Homes

**REGRETS**

Marty Smith, Chief of Police

**DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None.

*Council Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2024*

*Pending Approval*

*Page 1*

# DRAFT

## 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Addition: In camera session, 2 items pertaining to a legal issue and a land issue  
Move item 8.a to follow the summer camp presentation.

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

**That the agenda for the Council Advisory Committee meeting of May 13, 2024 be approved as amended.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

## 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

(a) Council Advisory Committee, Meeting Minutes, April 8, 2024.

It was moved

**That the minutes from the Council Advisory Committee meeting held on April 8, 2024 be approved.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

## 4. PRESENTATIONS

### (a) Annapolis Valley Regional Library

Julia Merritt from Annapolis Valley Regional Library gave a presentation on the library activities and their work to improve funding calculations from the province and municipal partners. In 2024, usage of the libraries has increased with the highest increase in use of computers and internet. The Library sent a letter to the province regarding funding challenges and described them to Council.

Presentation available

### (b) Intentionally Tiny Homes

Nicole Edgson and Kirstene Reyes from Intentional Tiny Homes gave a presentation on their women-owned and -run organization's work in Nova Scotia and in the valley, and how it is impacting housing and homelessness.

Presentation available

## 5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### (a) Finance

#### (1) Directors Report

Director Wanda Matthews presented the report for the period ending April 30, 2024. Staff are working on the annual audit, which is scheduled for June 4.

Staff are also working on implementation of the deed transfer tax, operations relating to the fire department, and reporting to the province on HST. Tax

# DRAFT

collection practices have evolved over the past decade and the policy will be brought to Council for review in June.

The report included a quarterly report on legal spending by the Town.

The report has a memo which was not included in the package. This has been tabled to the May meeting of Council.

*See report for more information.*

## **(b) Planning and Development**

### **(1) Department Report**

Director Dave Bell gave a verbal report for the Planning and Development department for April 2024, with highlights including interviews for the position of Director of Planning, and meetings with the planning consultant. Lindsay Young and Cyenna Link have been helping with administration of permit applications.

## **(c) Parks and Recreation**

### **(1) Director's Report**

Director of Recreation Craig Langille presented the recreation report for April 2024. Some of the highlights included grants for summer programs, slope and risk assessment in the Gorge Park, opening of baseball fields and Memorial Park bleachers and safe disposal practices for collection and disposal of sharps.

*See report for more information.*

#### Discussion

- Clarification on how the sharps safe disposal units work in other municipalities.
- Request for staff to post the process for the public to deal with sharps in the community.

### **(2) Racquet Facility Staff Report**

Director of Recreation Craig Langille presented the report outlining the town-owned sites and their potential for use as sites for a racquet facility. Staff recommend that the racquet centre explore a site in the Kentville Business Park for this facility.

*See report for more information.*

#### Discussion

- Inquiry about the request for a financial commitment from the town of at least \$500,000.

# DRAFT

- Concerns that Oakdene Park should be more seriously considered for this facility.

### **(3) Recreation Staff Report**

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.

*See report for more information.*

#### Discussion

- Concerns about kids who are not able to participate in a half day program due to parent or guardian pick ups.
- Question about the cap for programs- These are based on leadership and space limits.
- Concerns about supporting families with camp services and how it impacts municipal partners. Other municipalities have been notified on this change.
- Concerns about the difference in cost between proposed programs compared to summer camps. Staff plan to break even for cost on these programs. There are some costs for some programs (e.g. gardening supplies) however most programs will be free.
- Concerns about communication of challenges to Council happening earlier that could have ensured that the camp could have been supported.
- Concerns about sufficient public consultation that occurred for this decision.
- Questions about the child-care model of camps vs. the recreation model of camps, and the number of kids who participated in 2023.
- Shifting to a camp model would result in the loss of several programs, and would require hiring and training Early Childhood Educators, in addition to several Accessibility Leaders.
- Concerns about the loss of these camps from a community which has had them for 40 years.

### **(4) Request for Decision – Kentville Summer Camps**

Councillor Andrew Zebian presented his concerns about the lack of a summer camp program in the town. Councillor Zebian expressed concern about an increase in the budget of the Recreation Department with a decrease in services delivered.

*See report for more information.*

#### Discussion

# DRAFT

- CAO Lawrence supports the recommendation of the Recreation Department on this matter.
- Concerns about the timing of the change in camps and programming.
- Concerns about the reality of staff burnout from lack of breaks and long hours.
- Concern about council's responsibility to provide high level support to recreation staff, and not programming.

It was moved by Councillor Andrew Zebian and Councillor Gillian Yorke

That Council Advisory Committee recommend  
to the May 27 meeting of Council

**That Council to make past practice day camps a priority of Council at the May 27 meeting of Council.**

## **MOTION CARRIED**

*Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:*

*Gerrard, Savage, Yorke and Zebian*

*Councillors who voted against this motion:*

*Huntley, Maxwell and Snow*

## **(d) Police Report**

### **(1) Chief's Report**

Board of Police Commission Chair Gillian Yorke presented the police commission report, which included a review of the chief's report.

*See report for more information.*

## **(e) Engineering and Public Works**

### **(1) Director's Report**

Director Dave Bell presented the Public Works report for April 2024 with highlights including updates on the water commission, sewer committee and the downtown sidewalk replacement project.

*See report for more information.*

## **Discussion**

- The Webster Street bike lane will be used in conjunction with planters in that laneway.
- Some trees in the downtown will be assessed for trimming.
- Concerns that any interruptions on the Harvest Moon Trail is closed that it be on the trail website.
- Request that staff explore using the bollards from Webster Street along Belcher Street.

# DRAFT

## **(f) Administration**

### **(1) Chief Administrative Officer's Report**

CAO Jeff Lawrence presented his report for April 2024. Highlights included interviews for the position of Director of Planning, meetings around the fire services contract, meetings regarding the provincial Emergency Guard program, and meeting with community groups. The Town was successful in an application to the Community Climate Capacity program which will see staff support on sustainability and resiliency programs over the next three years.

CAO Lawrence gave an update on the Property Assessed Clean Energy program (PACE) and reported on a number of conditions which have changed.

*See report for more information.*

*Break for 10 minutes*

## **6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / OLD BUSINESS**

### **(a) Council Conference Travel**

Mayor Sandra Snow gave her report on the value and importance of events, conferences and professional development for elected officials. She read a statement about the value of conference participation at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities, Nova Scotia Police Commissions, Michelin Cities, asset management and other organizations. Learning from other municipalities is a valuable way to support the town of Kentville.

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **(a) Mayor Snow Regrets**

Mayor Sandra Snow and Councillor Huntley gave their regrets about the June Council Advisory Committee meeting due to their attendance at the national Federation of Canadian Municipalities conference.

*See report for more information.*

## **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

### **(a) Sharon Kehoe**

Concerns about the legal expenses being broken down into further detail. CAO Lawrence gave some detail of each section based on the report in the Director of Finance report.

### **(b) Marcia McNeil**

# DRAFT

Concerns about the day camp decision, including staff burnout, notice to families and parents, using the school and the arena for camp. Support for camps and student job opportunities to stay within Kentville.

**(c) Gary Randall**

Concerns about the expropriation of land of his neighbours property and the possibility of diverting the Donald E. Hiltz road around his land. Request that Council consider this alternative route.

**(d) Ron Cousins**

Concerns about the expropriation of his land. He does not want to sell and does not want the town to take it from him.

**(e) Bunny Bennett**

Concerns about the poor condition of Kentville sidewalks. Request that the sidewalks be ground down or marked in the worst sites. Along the trail behind the parks and recreation building, there is a lot of debris and garbage that is an eye sore that should be moved.

## **10. IN CAMERA – LEGAL**

It was moved by Councillor Andrew Zebian and Councillor Gillian Yorke

**That Council move into a closed session at 9:09 p.m. to discuss legal matters.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:*

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

It was moved by Councillor Gillian Yorke and Councillor Andrew Zebian

**That Council move back into open session at 10:41 p.m.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Councillors who voted in favour of this motion:*

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss,

**Council Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:41 p.m.**

## **MOTION CARRIED**

---

Minutes Approved by CAO and Town Clerk Jeff Lawrence

*Council Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2024*

*Pending Approval*

*Page 7*

# Proposed Valley Racquet Center

Presentation to Kentville Town  
Council

June 2024



# Overview

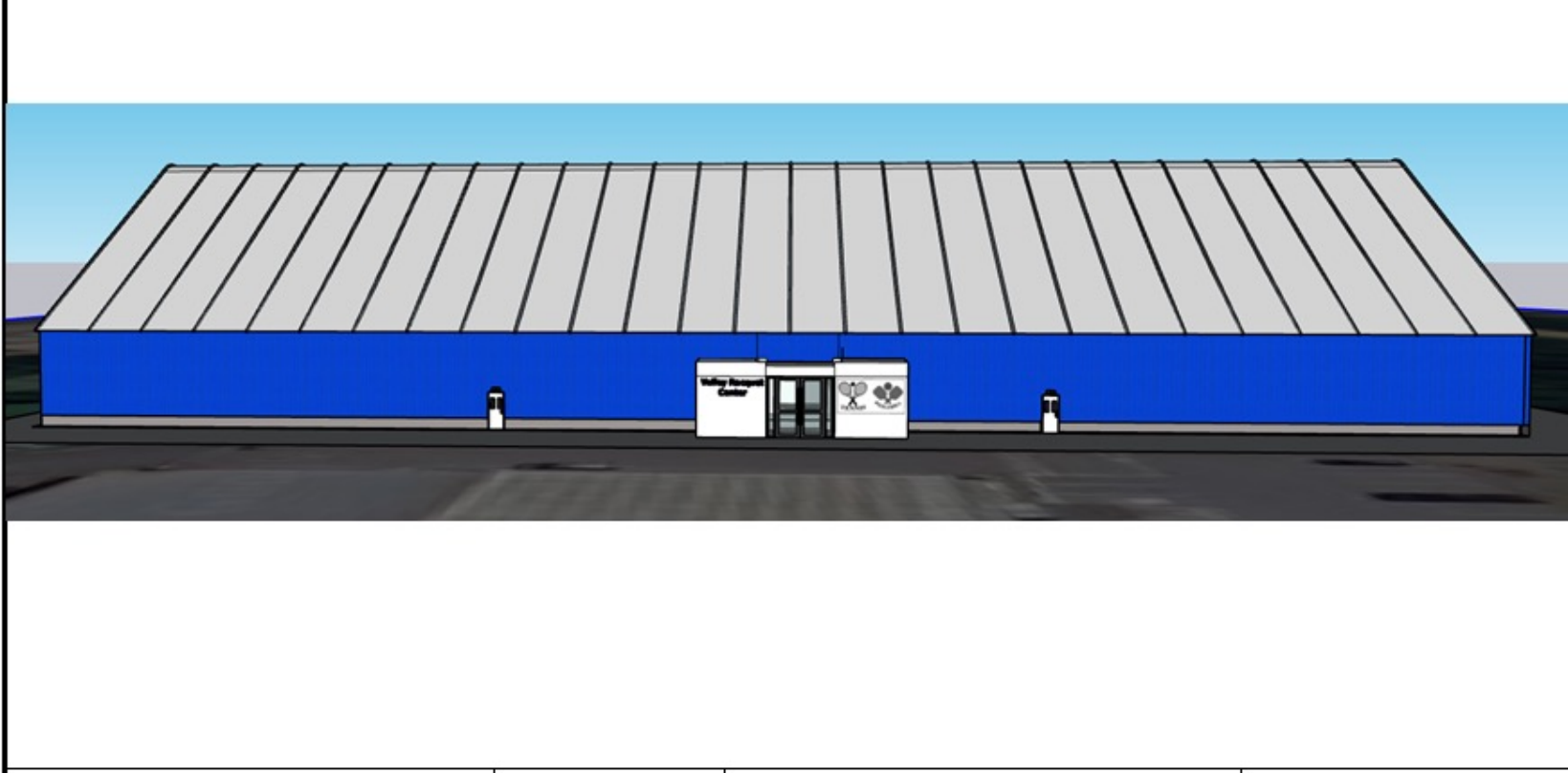
- ▶ Thank you for supporting our efforts to bring a racquet facility to Kentville.
- ▶ There is strong support at all levels for the proposed facility:
  - ▶ the surrounding villages and towns, and the county
  - ▶ Tennis Nova Scotia, Tennis Canada/Rogers
  - ▶ MLA, John Lohr and MP, Kody Blois
  - ▶ the Pickleball community and the local and surrounding tennis clubs.
- ▶ We have design plans, construction bids, and funding waiting in the wings.
- ▶ What we need to make it happen is #1 - a site and #2 - seed money.

# Request to the Town of Kentville

- ▶ After a thorough research initiative, The Racquet Facility Report by Craig Langille recommends the Town of Kentville provide the Kings County Tennis Association (KCTA), with 10.5 acres in the business park located near Donald E Hiltz and Chipman Drive, for the site of the proposed Racquet Facility. (PID#:55263776)
- ▶ KCTA gratefully accept this recommendation and request a 50-year lease (2024 to 2074) with the option to renew for another 50 years for one dollar per year.
- ▶ We request water and services provided by the Town of Kentville to the street. KCTA will pay from the street to the facility.
- ▶ We also request a \$500,000 grant payable over 5 years.

# Request to the Town of Kentville

- ▶ The cost of the entire project is \$7.2 million. \$500,000 seed money in Municipal support leverages Provincial support which in turn leverages Federal support. It is a critical factor in allowing the rest of the funding to be secured.
- ▶ With a confirmed site and seed money from the Town of Kentville the project will be off to a successful start.
- ▶ Before we answer questions a series of photos of the proposed facility follow.



## Front Door View

Layout #5

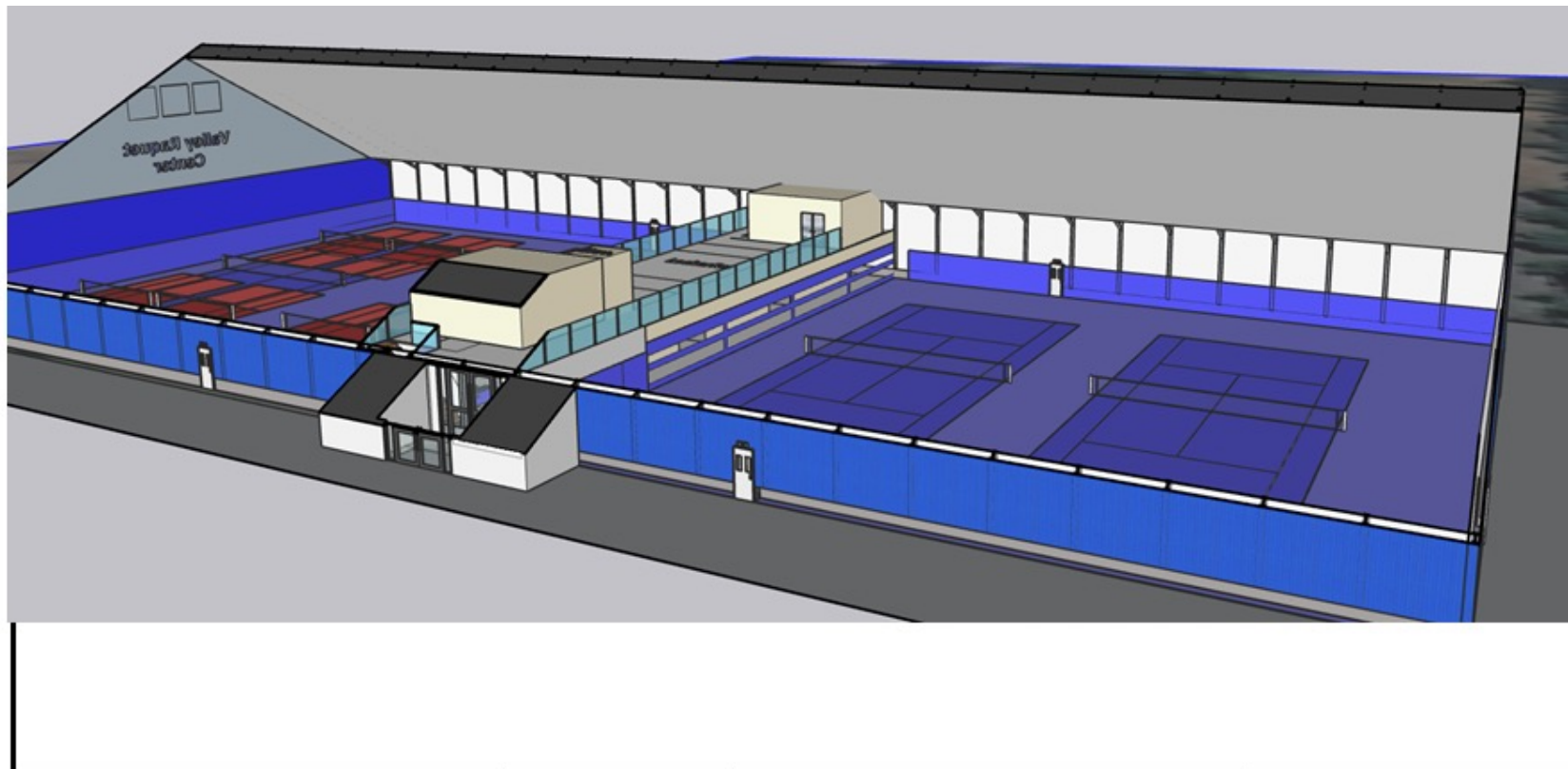
Britespan Slide12



## Inside Front Entrance

Layout #7

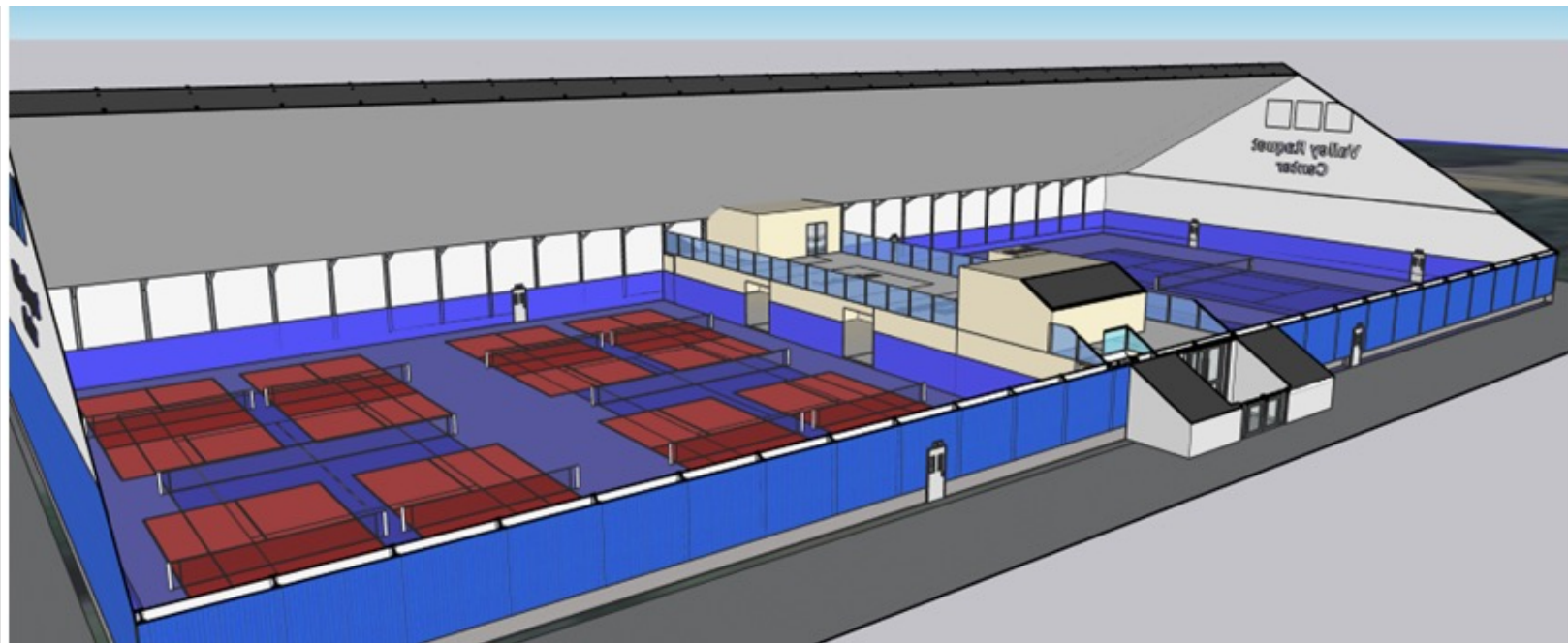
Britespan Slide22



## Mezzanine Cut Away

Layout #3

Britespan Slide13



## Pickleball Courts

Layout #4

Britepan Slide14

# THANK YOU!

- ▶ Paul Morgan, Director 902.691.3878
- ▶ Richard Galpin, Co-Lead 902.670.5959
- ▶ David Lang, Co-Lead 902.690.7595
- ▶ Don Forgeron, Co-Lead 647.328.5579
- ▶ Brad Lawlor, Co-Lead Tennis Nova Scotia
- ▶ Janet Hawley, Co-Lead
- ▶ Stephen LeDrew, Co-Lead
- ▶ Jim Rose, Pickleball Representative



# ANNAPOLIS VALLEY FRUGAL MOMS SOCIETY



## PORTFOLIO 2024

## BIT OF BACKGROUND

I've done many things, but one that I am most proud of is the group I run on Facebook called Annapolis Valley Frugal Moms (Society). The Society part is new as of 2020.

I started this group with my best friend 13 years ago. It all started when I was first diagnosed with cervical cancer. The diagnosis alone brought upon worries, medical, and of course financial. I knew I would have to go off work; something I dreaded to be a victim of food insecurities with a young family. As a previous recipient of Income Assistance, while raising my family, I was worried how we were going to survive on so little again, especially with young children who had needs as well as my ongoing medical issues.



## Continued...

Tasha and I were sitting at her kitchen table when we started a conversation about the price of toilet paper and how the people on extreme couponing a show on TLC were able to stockpile items for pennies. We of course don't have the avenues they do in the USA for stacking coupons, overages and free and double coupon days, but I made it my goal to see what we could do here to at least lessen the burden and provide some food security once again. And so it began..... I started doing tons of research on how we could accomplish extreme couponing in Canada and if it was even possible. Tasha and I started following other moms and quickly mastered the skills needed to build stock piles of items for less. We then started to share this information on a Group we called Annapolis Valley Frugal Moms. It was a knack, it was something we had to try out for ourselves to see if it was indeed attainable. We began posting on the group and hosting in person classes to trade coupons, etc and we began to raise a cult following.

We started showing people where to get coupons, match up with sales and showed pictures of where the lowest prices were available. I would even drive around the valley taking pictures of where farm stands, what their prices were and where to find them.



# Pics

**Christmas Hampers - We do anywhere between 150 and 250 Family Hampers and 75 Senior. And that number has grown yearly.**



# COLLABORATION

Over the years we have collaborated with a few other organizations.



**Annapolis Valley Frugal Moms Society**



Natasha Vaughan · Aug. 28, 2021 · 🌐

A huge thank you to the New Minas Rotary for there gracious donation to the Back to School Drive this will go towards helping out many local children this back to school season thank you so much from thr bottom of our hearts.





# Clothing Giveaways

We have collaborated with other organizations to do free clothing giveaways for the community. So far we have done them in North Alton, Middleton, Torbrook and Port Williams.



## A Bit about what we currently do.

We are a registered non-profit, as well as a Registered Charity with CRA, in the Annapolis Valley, stationed in Kentville, NS. We offer outreach and support to individuals and families by way of food rescue. We have noticed a great need in Annapolis Valley and want to support the area. We have access to the food, we just lack the funds for transport to move the food across the Valley.

We are bridging the gap between other organizations. We are not a food bank, but we offer support in addition to what the food bank offers. We gather food from organizations, grocery stores, farms, etc in the valley and get it out to people for free. No other organization does what we do.

We support food access to the vulnerable persons who might not otherwise get access to food, produce, dairy and proteins.







continued...

The amount of food we collect varies from week to week, day to day. We have some things set up weekly for the same days and others that call when they have a surplus. It also varies depending on the time of year. Harvest season is way more plentiful than the winter months.

We rescue produce, bread, etc and utilize the perfectly imperfect food to get food out to people who might not usually get access.

We collect from grocery stores in the Valley area, greenhouses, farms, businesses and organizations. Most locations we collect from are between the Canning/ Wolfville area to Lawrencetown, in the Valley, but we have recently branched out to Annapolis as well as Bear River and beyond.



# Finally...

When we deliver food, it goes to our locations in Torbrook, Middleton and Digby where it then gets distributed within the community and beyond. We also have locations in Kentville, and a few locations in New Minas. A video and a post is made across social media letting people know there is stuff there so that it gets out to people in a timely manner. Same goes for Kings, it goes to our New Minas, Kentville, and Greenwood Locations and a video is made, same with Digby.

We try to get food out a few times a week, but our funds ran out and we are having issues securing more grants, not from lack of applying. We were fundraising but like everything else, surplus money just isn't there.

We are a small non-profit that operates on donations and grants (when we can secure them.)

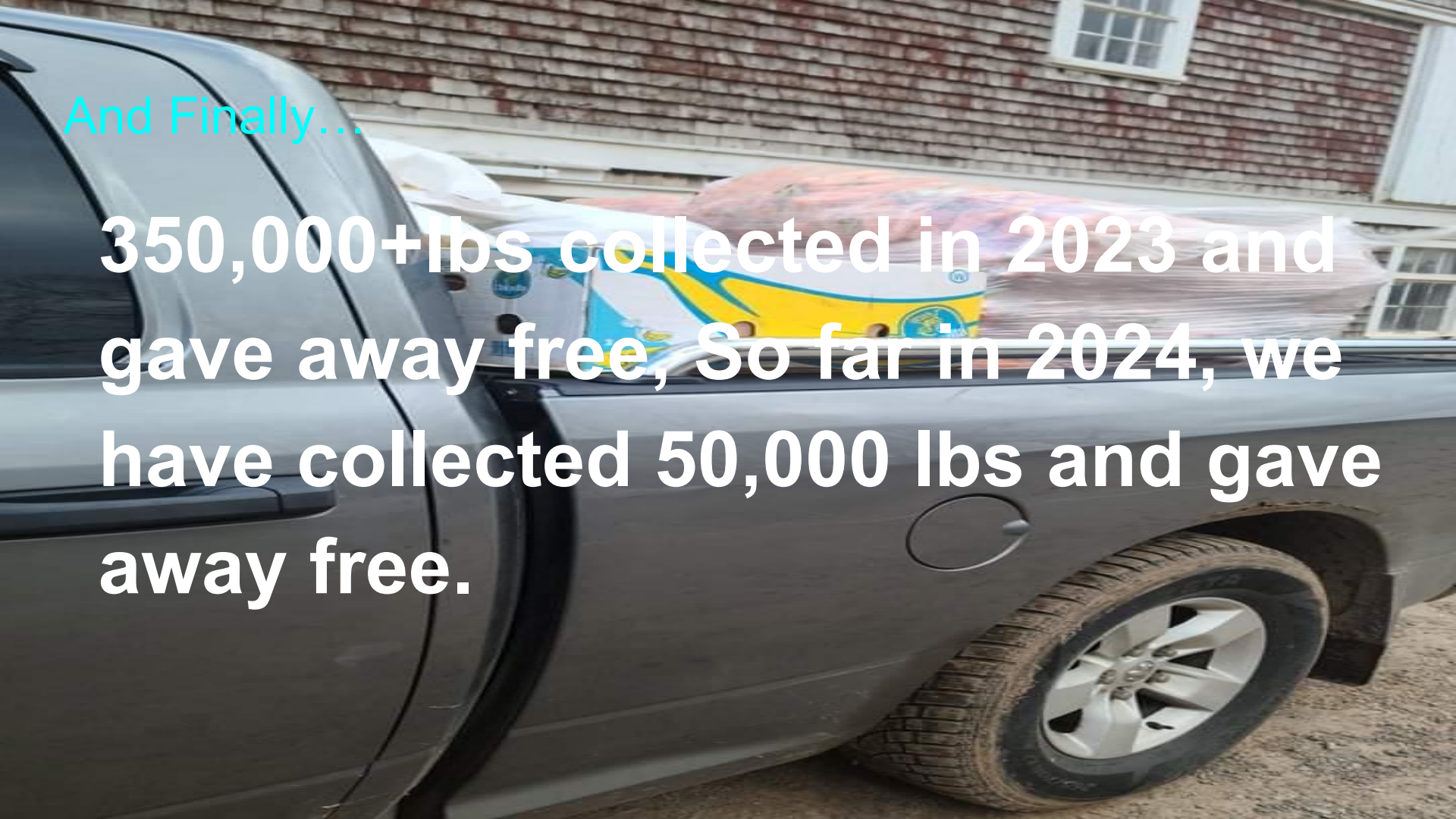
Some Pictures of the crazy things we have done.





## More Pictures



A silver pickup truck is shown from the side, parked on a gravel surface. The truck's bed is filled with numerous cardboard boxes, some of which are stacked high. A prominent box with a yellow and blue design is visible in the middle of the load. In the background, a brick house with a white window frame is partially visible.

And Finally...

**350,000+lbs collected in 2023 and gave away free, So far in 2024, we have collected 50,000 lbs and gave away free.**

# FUEL COSTS

During our busy seasons we go through a lot of gas.

## WEEKLY TRIPS

3x Weekly to Wolfville	\$60	3x Weekly Kentville	\$30
2x Weekly to Berwick	\$80	4x Weekly Trucking Company	\$80
3x Weekly Trips Denhaans	\$180	4x Weekly Trips Trucking	\$80
4x weekly Trips Farms			

Potential Weekly Gas Needed: \$590

SERVICE  
ENGINE  
SOON



We Drive many KMs to collect food



# LISA ROSE - DIRECTOR 25 MILL RUN LOCATION



NATASHA VAUGHN - CO- DIRECTOR - New Minas Location





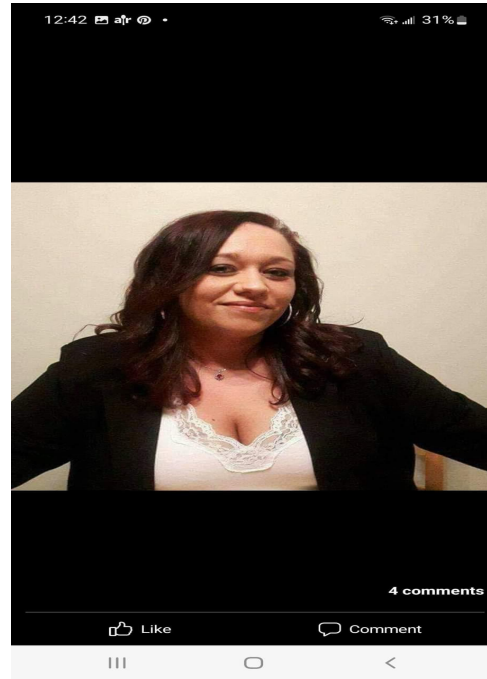
# MONICA WILLIAMS - SECRETARY 144 East Torbrook Rd Location



# ROSE MARY SALSMAN - Helping Hands New Minas - 112 Highbury Rd Location



# IRENE ORGAN - HELPING HANDS

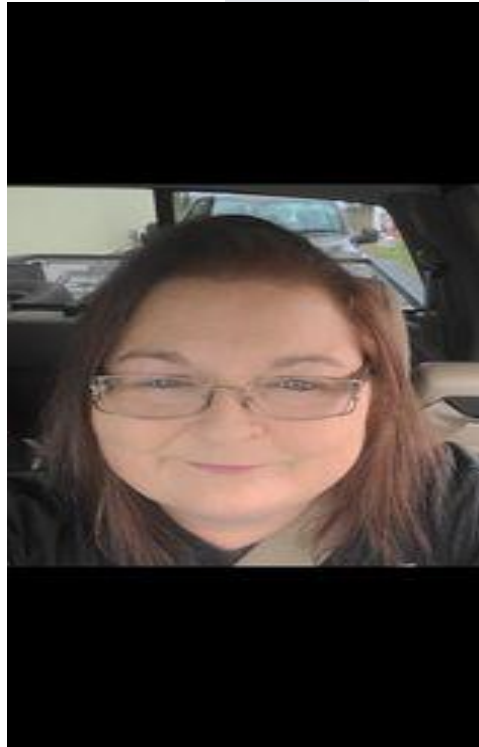


# KATE BAIRD - CANNING AND PRESERVING



WENDY MORRELL-PYNE - DIGBY LOCATION - 8702 hwy 101

Digby



# MELINDA COTE - FUNDRAISING





# PICTURES OF WHAT WE DO - FOOD RESCUE



# Other Team Members

ALSO A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR FAMILIES, CHILDREN HUSBANDS AND FRUGAL NANNIES

AMANDA COVE

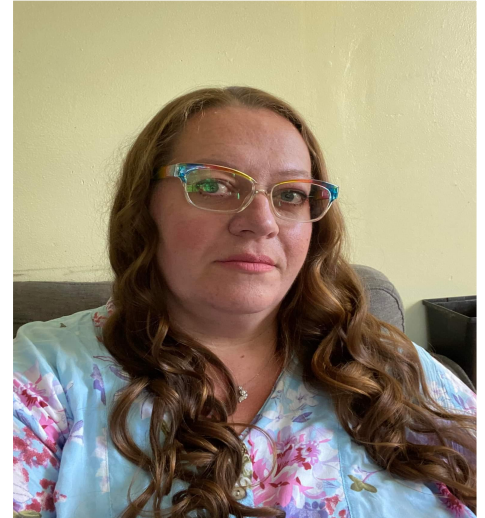
Gardening Team



JESSIE BOUTLIER  
ADMIN



ELIZABETH FAIRES  
Gardening Team





# FRUGAL NANNIES

SHEILA



SHERRY



CILLA



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## Winners 2022

### Results by Category

← View All  
Categories

Random Category ↔

← View 'Services' Categories

## Services

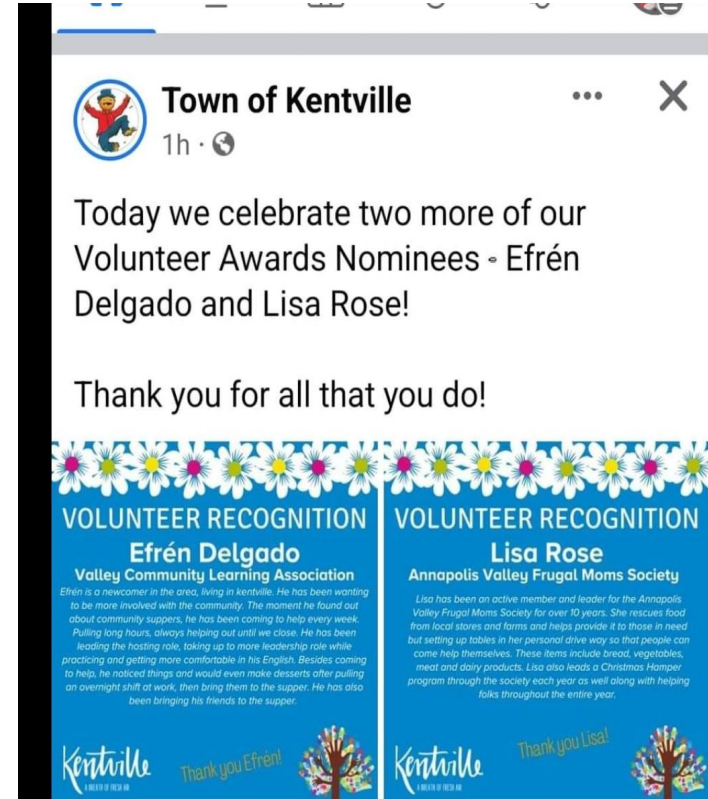
## Non-Profit

Share This Category



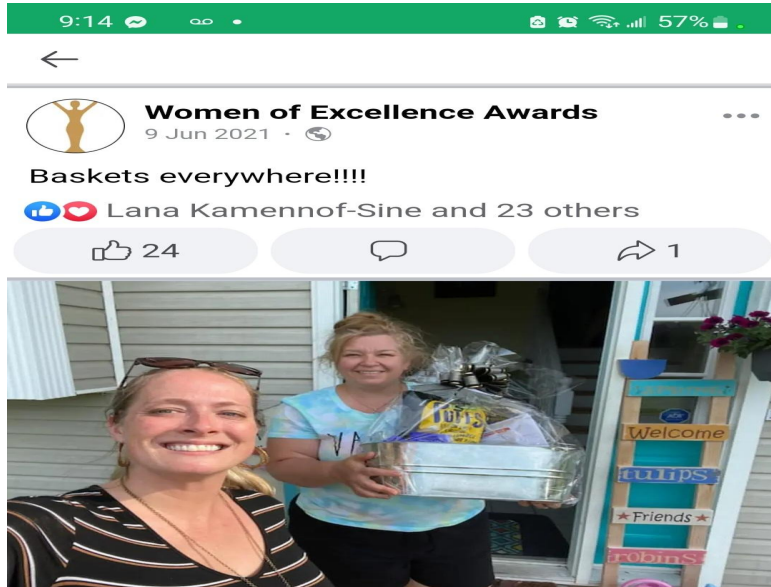
Platinum

**Annapolis  
Valley Frugal  
Mom's Society**



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE NOMINEE 2021



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR - KINGS COUNTY**

**RECIPIENT OF QUEENS JUBILEE MEDAL FOR 2022**

**VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR - KENTVILLE**





## IN CLOSING...

We are a small group of like minded individuals trying to make a big impact. Everything that comes into Annapolis Valley Frugal Moms Society goes out free to the community. We do not charge people for our services.

You can appreciate the cost of fuel is certainly affecting us, we use every dollar we have and receive to achieve our mandate.

Thank you for your time.

14 comments



Like



Comment

**ANY QUESTIONS????**





A Protected Area for Kings County:

# Proposal for the Chain Lakes Wilderness Area

Blomidon Naturalists Society





# Blomidon Naturalists Society

---

- Established 1974
- Over 225 members in area
- Almost 1600 Facebook followers
- Public talks, field trips, field courses, publications, scholarships, conservation efforts





An aerial photograph of a large, calm lake surrounded by a dense, lush green forest. The lake is in the upper middle of the frame, reflecting the sky. The forest covers the majority of the landscape, extending to the horizon. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

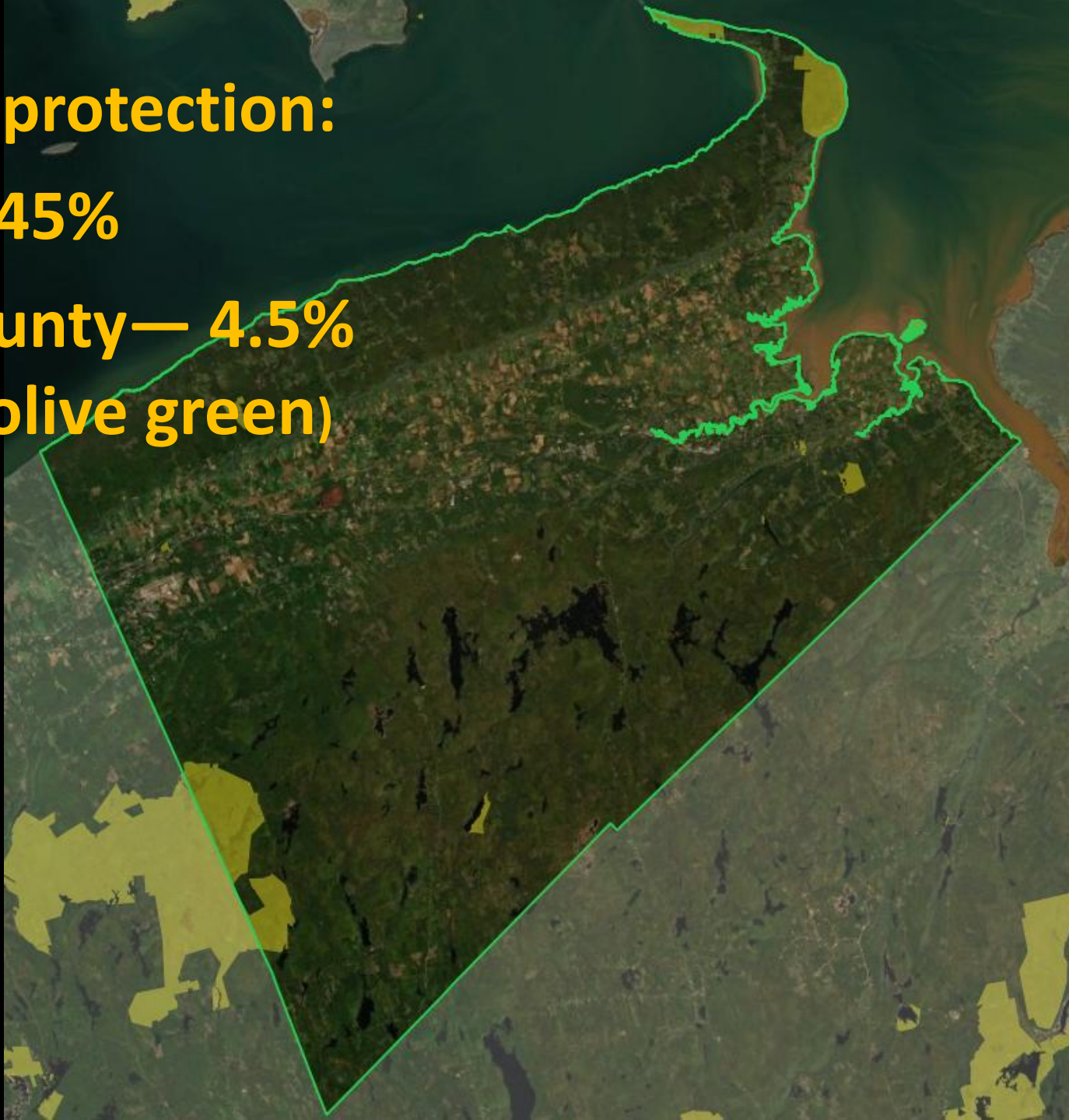
# NS Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act

- To protect 20% of Provincial Lands by 2030, 15% by 2026
- Strategy released to achieve this, Dec. 2023



## Current land protection:

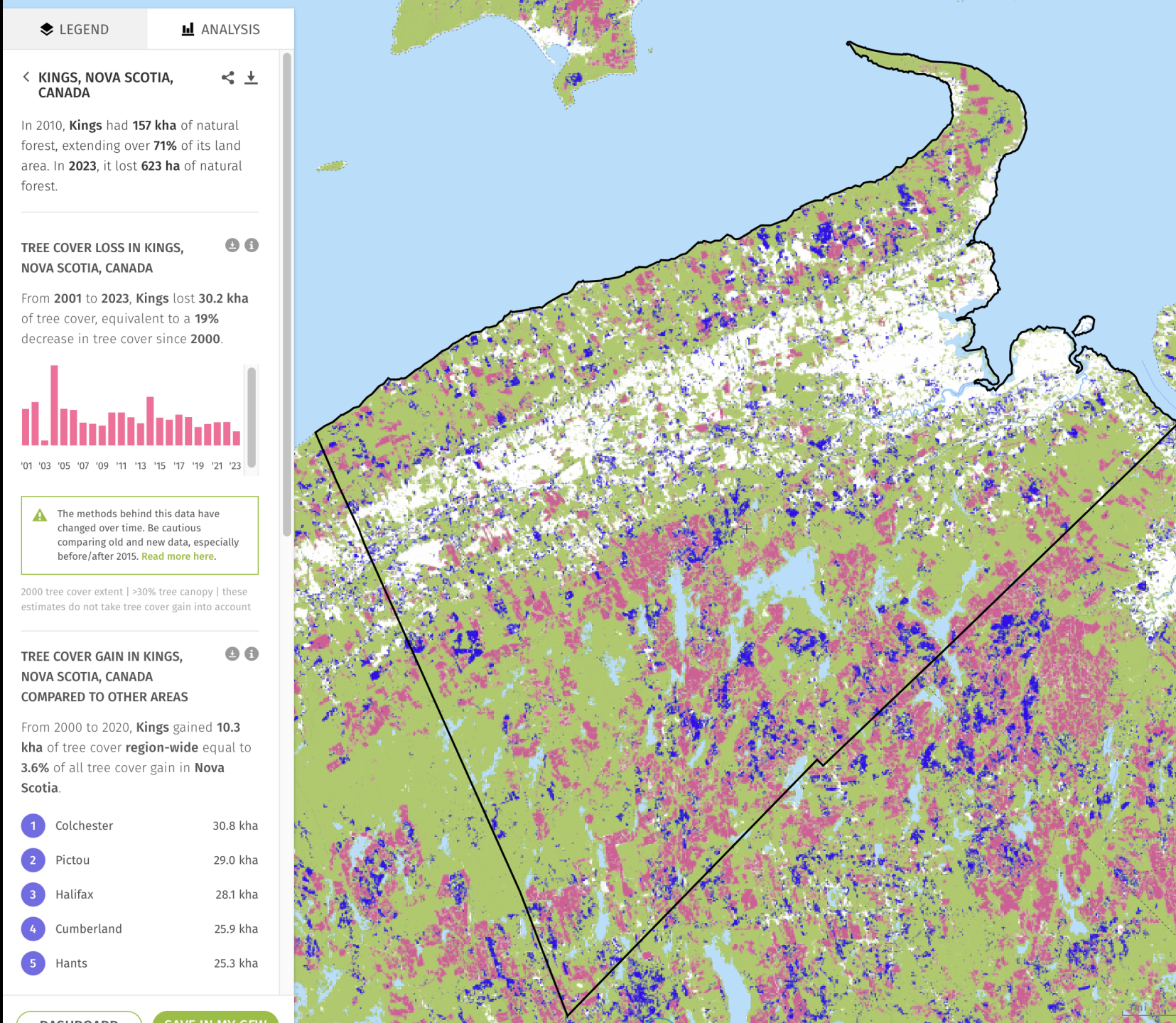
- In NS— 13.45%
- In Kings County— 4.5%  
(shaded in olive green)



# Kings County has lost 19% of its tree cover since 2000.

- Pink represents places cut.
- Blue represents tree cover gained.

From globalforestwatch.org





# Why Protect Public Lands in Kings County?

For

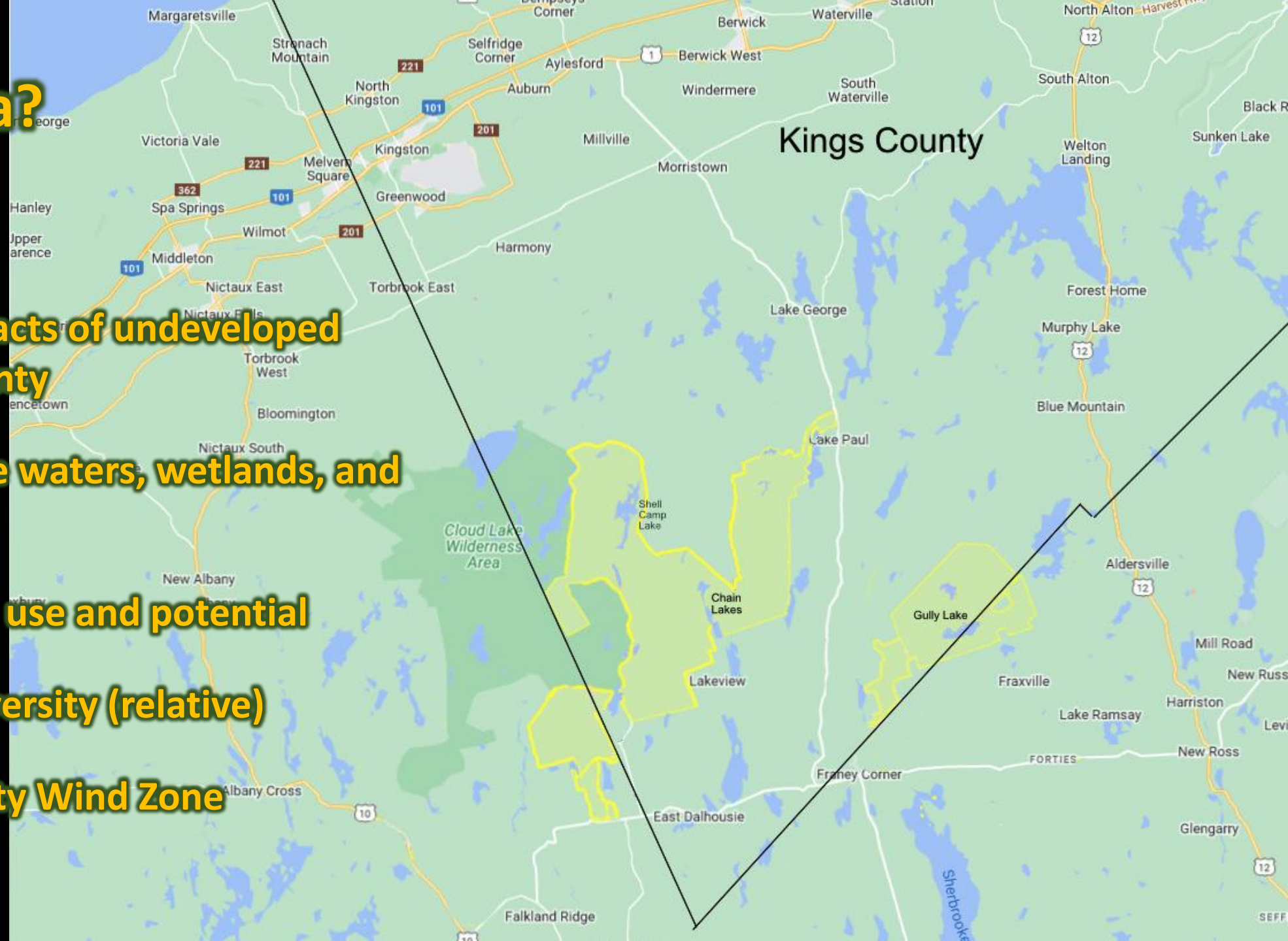
- biodiversity
- recreation, tourism & economic benefits
- protection of endangered species
- health and wellness, now & in future
- reduction in human impact on climate





# Why This Area?

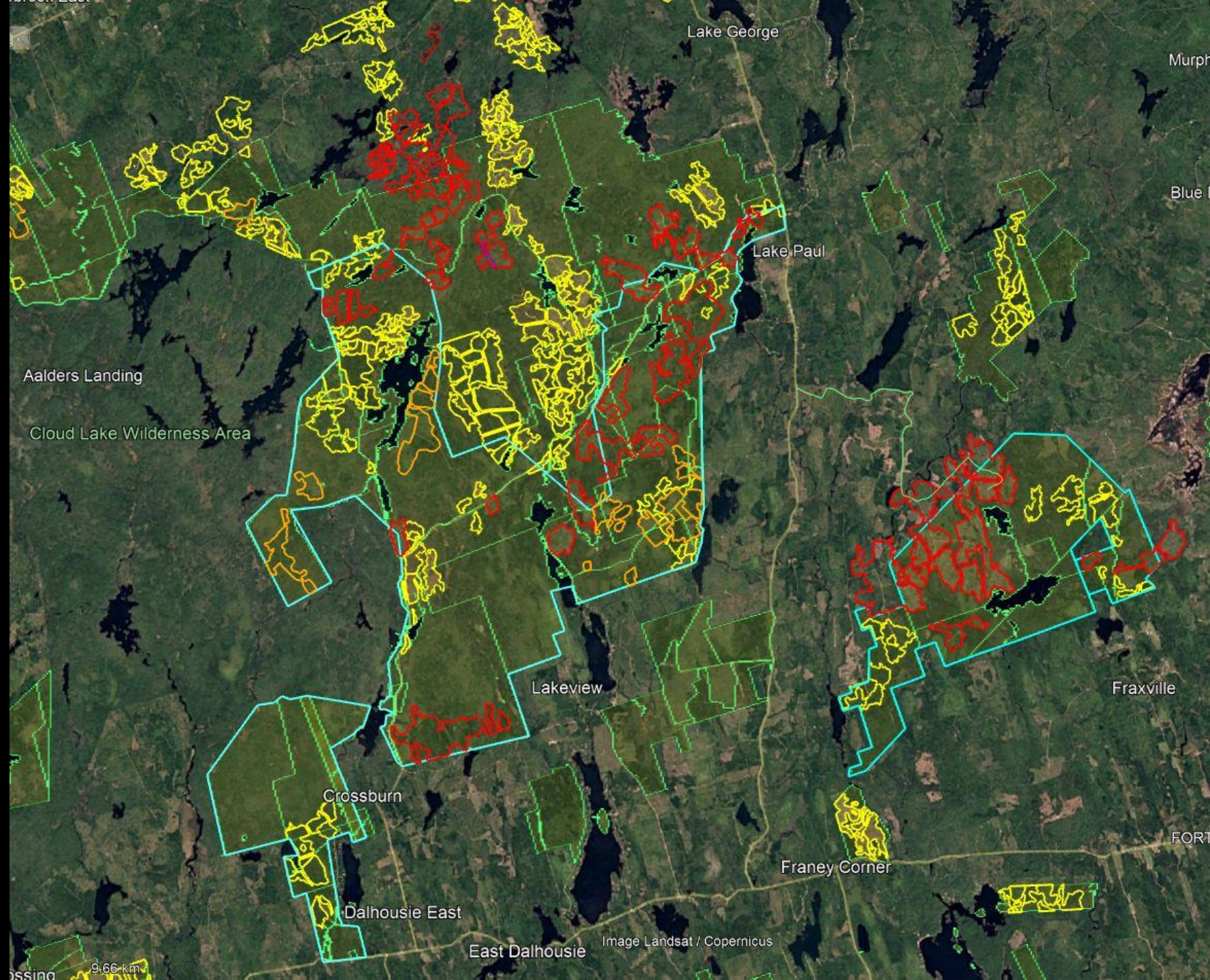
- Only significant tracts of undeveloped public land in County
- Presence of unique waters, wetlands, and old forest
- Current recreation use and potential
- High Area of biodiversity (relative)
- Avoids Kings County Wind Zone





# Cutting in Area Since 2004

- **Green Outline** - Proposed Protected Area
- **Yellow Outlines** – Cut after 2016
- **Red Outlines** – Cut before 2016
- **Orange Outlines** - Partial Cut Areas before 2016.





# At-Risk Species Identified in the Wilderness Protected Area

Yellow highlighted species are on the endangered list.

Gully Lake Area surveyed by James Churchill

Conservation Status Rank	Scientific Name	Common Name
S3B	Cardellina canadensis	Canada Warbler
S3	Perisoreus canadensis	Canada Jay
S3S4	Loxia curvirostra	Red Crossbill
S3S4	Arctoparmelia incurva	Finger Ring Lichen
S3B	Contopus cooperi	Olive-sided Flycatcher
S2S3	Pannaria lurida	Wrinkled Shingle Lichen
S3S4	Anaptychia palmulata	Shaggy Fringed Lichen
S2S3B, S1M	Chaetura pelagica	Chimney Swift
S3	Collema nigrescens	Blistered Tarpaper Lichen
S3S4	Leptogium acadiense	Acadian Jellyskin Lichen
S3S4	Heterodermia speciosa	Powdered Fringe Lichen
S2S3	Collema leptaleum	Crumpled Bat's Wing Lichen
S3B	Charadrius vociferus	Killdeer

Gully Lake Area surveyed by Alain Beliveau

Conservation status	Scientific Name	Common Name
S3	Neottia bifolia	Southern Twayblade
S3	Perisoreus canadensis	Canada Jay
S3B	Chordeiles minor	Common Nighthawk
S3B	Cardellina canadensis	Canada Warbler
S3B	Contopus cooperi	Olive-sided Flycatcher
S3S4	Leptogium corticola	Blistered Jellyskin Lichen
S3S4	Heterodermia speciosa	Powdered Fringe Lichen
S1S2	Fraxinus nigra	Black Ash
S2S3B, S1M	Chaetura pelagica	Chimney Swift
S3	Spinus pinus	Pine Siskin
S3	Fuscopannaria ahlneri	Corrugated Shingles Lichen
S3	Leptogium milligranum	Stretched Jellyskin Lichen
S3S4	Fagus grandifolia	American Beech
S3S4	Amelanchier spicata	Running Serviceberry
S3S4	Anaptychia palmulata	Shaggy Fringed Lichen
S3S4	Heterodermia neglecta	Fringe Lichen
S3S4	Evernia prunastri	Valley Oakmoss Lichen
S3S4	Coccocarpia palmicola	Salted Shell Lichen

Chain Lake Area surveyed by James Churchill

Conservation Status Rank	Scientific Name	Common Name
		Olive-sided Flycatcher
S3B	Contopus cooperi	Flycatcher
S3B	Cardellina canadensis	Canada Warbler
S3	Chelydra serpentina	Snapping Turtle
S2S3	Collema leptaleum	Crumpled Bat's Wing Lichen
S3S4B	Contopus virens	Eastern Wood-Pewee
S3	Spinus pinus	Pine Siskin
S1S2	Fraxinus nigra	Black Ash
S3S4	Leptogium acadiense	Acadian Jellyskin Lichen
S3S4	Anaptychia palmulata	Shaggy Fringed Lichen
S3S4	Fagus grandifolia	American Beech
S3S4	Loxia curvirostra	Red Crossbill
S3B	Chordeiles minor	Common Nighthawk
S3S4	Heterodermia speciosa	Powdered Fringe Lichen
	Sclerophora peronella (Atlantic pop.)	Frosted Glass-whiskers (Atlantic population)
S3S4		
		Blistered Tarpaper Lichen
S3	Collema nigrescens	Lichen
S3	Perisoreus canadensis	Canada Jay
S2B	Euphagus carolinus	Rusty Blackbird
S2S3	Parmelia fertilis	Fertile Shield Lichen
		Blistered Jellyskin Lichen
S3S4	Leptogium corticola	Lichen



# What Does Protection Mean?

- Commercial resource development is prohibited, except existing commitments.
- Recreation activities are permitted.
- Existing snowmobile and ATV trails and usage are guaranteed at the outset. New trails or usage areas for motorized vehicles are prohibited.
- Access to private lands across area assured. Existing land leases honoured.





# Education and Support Efforts to Date

- Letters of Support received from Kings County, Port Williams, the Kings and Mid-Valley ATV Clubs, and the Valley Ridge Runners Snowmobile Club.
- Public Petition campaign to be presented in the NS Legislature is in progress (approximately 500 signatures to date)
- Meetings held with NS DOE & DNRR, MLAs— Chris Palmer & Keith Irving
- Facebook and Instagram social media campaign in progress







# What is Needed Now?

- Assessment through NS Environment Protected Areas consultation and designation process
- Public, organizational and municipal support for the proposal.
- Pause/Moratorium on development/resource extraction in forests and wetlands in area until boundaries are defined.

**We are asking for Kentville Council to provide a letter of support for the proposed Chain Lakes Wilderness Area.**



# Proposal: The Chain Lakes Wilderness Protected Area for Southwest Kings County

Blomidon Naturalists Society  
January 2, 2024



## Executive Summary

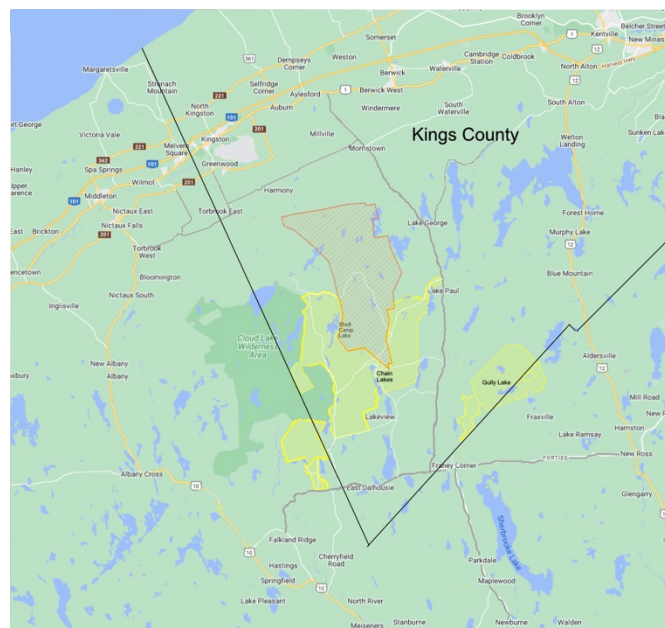
The Blomidon Naturalists Society requests that the Government of Nova Scotia designate a new wilderness protected area, to be called the *Chain Lakes Wilderness Area*, on crown lands in Southwest Kings County. It will protect biodiversity and numerous endangered and at-risk species and their habitats, and provide many opportunities for nature appreciation that support physical and mental health. It will support wilderness recreation, hunting, sport fishing and associated uses, and generate economic benefits as an attraction for the recreation and tourism sectors. The Nova Scotia government has legislated a target of protecting 20% of Nova Scotia by the year 2030, with 14% of the lands currently protected. In Kings County, less than 5% of the land is protected, hence the particular need for protection in this region.

The proposed area is the only major section of crown lands in the County that remains largely forested without human habitation. It is important that ATV and snowmobile use on existing roads and trails be assured by the Province in the designation of the area. A good deal of these lands has been and continue to be cut. Yet there are forests older than 80 years here, small pockets of old growth, beautiful lakes, and pristine still waters and wetlands. Numerous endangered species have been identified in the area. There is much to celebrate and protect, the pockets need to be linked as a wildlife corridor, and the cut areas can be restored given protection and time.

Defining specific boundaries and protocols for a new protected area is a time-consuming process that involves consultation with a range of stakeholders and interests. It will likely take a number of years. Given this process, it is essential to place a moratorium on forestry and development in this area until a specific boundary is designated, because if an area is clear cut, particularly the areas with the highest ecological significance and biodiversity, the value of the land for biodiversity is lost.

We are supportive of the Kings County Wind Zone (see map below) where it is hoped that wind mills will be installed in the future, and have set the protected area boundaries to account for this zone. We support adjusting this boundary in the future pending precise wind zone mapping by the Municipality of Kings County.

*We request the Nova Scotia government begin the process to designate this yellow area noted on the map below, and that in the meantime the Government place a moratorium on new forestry harvesting plans or those under consideration, and roadbuilding, and mining development in the proposed area.*



*Proposed Wilderness Protected Area* – The yellow areas identify the crown lands proposed for protection. The orange mesh section refers to the area zoned for windmills by the Municipality of Kings County. Small white routes in and around the proposed area are dirt roads and off-road vehicle trails. Gray routes near area are paved roads.

## Introduction

In this time of climate crisis and biodiversity decline, the strong and dedicated protection of our natural ecosystems is imperative. We welcome the collaborative nature of this process in Nova Scotia initiated with the passage of Bill-57, the *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act*, which designates 20% of Nova Scotia to be protected areas by 2030. Here we propose a protected area within Kings County, which we have entitled the Chain Lakes Wilderness Area. Currently Kings County only has 4.5% of its area protected. We recognize the challenge in finding enough areas to protect given that only about 25% of the land base is crown and that there are many existing uses including forestry, hunting and trapping, ATV trails, buildings infrastructure and population centres. We also recognize that Nova Scotia is the traditional and unceded territory of the MI'Kmaq and must be respected.

The Blomidon Naturalists Society (BNS) is a fifty-year-old naturalist group based in the eastern Annapolis Valley. The BNS currently has about 190 single and family members, an active email list of almost 300 addresses, over 1,600 Facebook followers, a Facebook group of almost 900 members and Instagram has over 660 followers. All our programming is open to the general public. Our mission is to develop understanding and appreciation of nature, and as such we are committed to environmental conservation and advocacy. Through dedicated observation of the natural world, we have a deep understanding of the utmost importance of protecting lands and waters in this province. Our active membership includes a significant number of natural and social scientists, including Acadia University faculty, with expertise relevant to the environmental, ecological and sustainability fields.

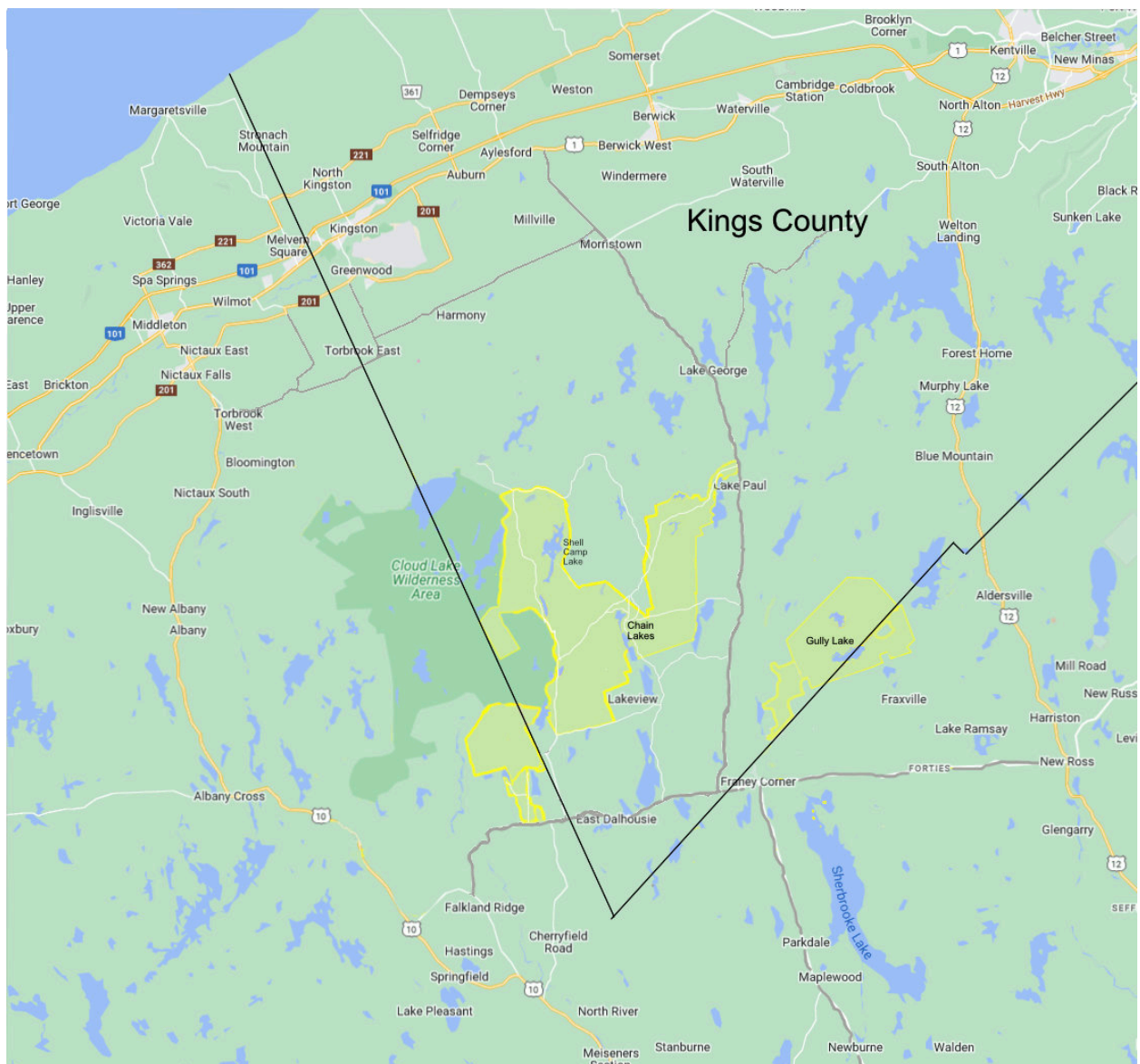
The Blomidon Naturalists Society recognizes the following ecological considerations when choosing an area to be protected.

1. Large areas are better than small areas as species diversity increases with size of area.
2. Areas with older forested stands are important as they are under-represented and support unique species not present in younger stands.
3. Choose areas near or contiguous to existing protected areas as this will result in large continuous protected areas.
4. Choose areas not isolated by highways, urban development and other human barriers.
5. Choose areas with known populations of species at risk.
6. Choose areas with under-represented habitats.
7. Focus on ecological priorities for the maintenance of biodiversity: freshwater, species at risk, and old forest (>80 years).
8. Collaboration, not just consultation, with First Nations, community groups, academics and ecologists, NGOs, and all other engaged Nova Scotians.

## The Proposed Wilderness Protected Area for Kings County

Currently, only 4.5% of Kings County is protected, the majority of which is Blomidon Provincial Park and Cape Split. Much of Kings County is agricultural and/or privately owned. However, there is a large area of crown land in the southwestern part of the county (see map 1 below) which meets the guidelines above and is proposed for protection. The areas with the highest ecological integrity and a higher level of intact forests and endangered species, based on ground and aerial photo and forest inventory research, are defined in red on map 1. To the east, the area around Gully Lake has particular ecological value. The smaller, middle sections on the

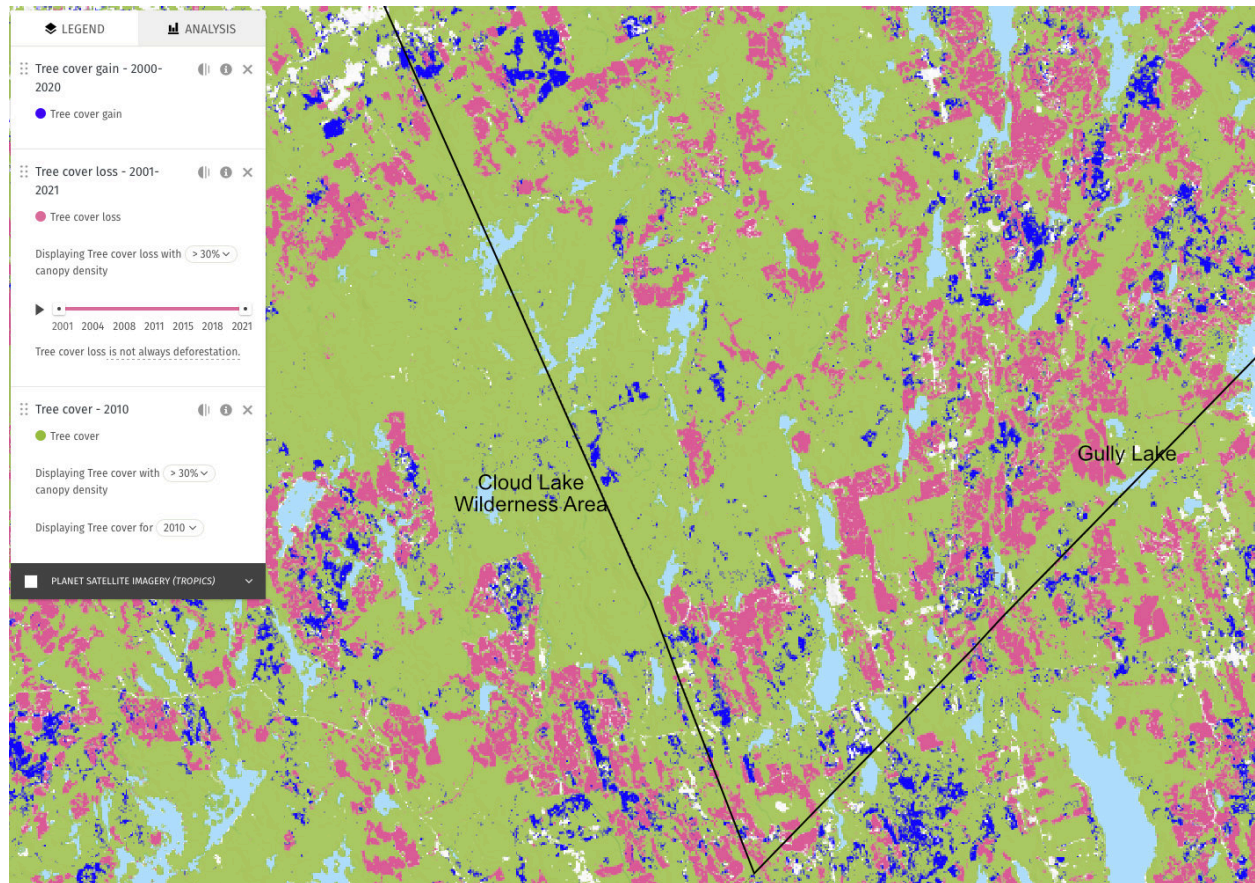
map to the south (bottom) provide a bridge from Gully Lake to the Cloud Lake Wilderness Area, and are a critical wildlife corridor. Several of these areas include high quality old forests that have been already proposed for protection by other citizen groups. The largest area on the western side has very limited human uses at this point although the northern aspects of it have suffered from significant cutting and forest fire, and have a lower ecological integrity at this point. It should be noted that some lower grade and younger forests will need to be included in protected areas moving forward to achieve the provincial 20% goal as there is nowhere near enough old forests to achieve 20% existing in the province. Lower grade forests are important for consideration when they connect to older forests and add size to habitats, which are a requirement for many species.



*Map 1: Proposed Wilderness Area in the southwest corner of Kings County – The yellow areas are the Crown lands proposed for protection. The orange mesh section refers to the area zoned for windmills by the Municipality of Kings County. Small white routes in and around the proposed area are dirt roads and off-road vehicle trails. Gray routes near area are paved roads.*



Most of the area is forest covered (see map 2 from Global Forest Watch below). All of these areas have almost no human development excepting some cottage leaseholders, which would be honoured in a protected area. There are a significant dirt roads and existing ATV trails for which boundaries should be drawn to enable existing uses. We have named this area as the **Chain Lakes Wilderness Area** simply because the Chain Lakes form an important watershed down the middle of it.



*Map 2: The pink areas are tree cover loss; blue is tree cover gain and green depicts tree cover. The map is taken from Global Forest Watch ([globalforestwatch.org/map/](https://globalforestwatch.org/map/)).*

## At-Risk Species and Habitat Considerations

Numerous species at-risk, including endangered species, have been identified in the area— the Canada Warbler, olive-sided flycatchers, wisqoq (black ash), and blue felt lichen and other rare lichens. There are snapping turtle nests, foraging chimneys swifts and nighthawks, and even the very elusive rusty blackbird. The area has been surveyed in 2022 by Alain Belliveau, Plant Ecologist, Acadia University, and James Churchill, Avian Ecologist with Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Two extensive sections totalling 72 km have been surveyed and Appendix 1 presents the findings.

The habitat in the proposed Chain Lakes Wilderness Area, especially in the southern part of the Crown Land adjacent to Cloud Lake Wilderness Area, indicates this area is of high conservation

value based on the ecological considerations 1 to 7 presented above. This is a particularly important area to protect in Kings County, for which existing protected land is dramatically below the current provincial average.

We have specifically excluded the wind zone lands set aside by the Municipality of the County of Kings for Large-scale Wind Turbine Development from the proposed protected area as we are supportive of this wind zone, where it is hoped that wind mills will be installed in the future. We support adjusting this boundary in the future pending precise wind zone mapping by the Municipality of Kings County.

### **Moratorium on Forestry and Development in Old Forests and Wetlands**

Defining specific boundaries and protocols for a new protected area is a time-consuming process that involves consultation with a range of stakeholders and interests. It will likely take a number of years. Given this process, it is an essential first step to place a moratorium on forestry and development in this area until a specific boundary is designated, because if an area is clear cut, particularly the areas with the highest ecological significance and biodiversity, the value of the land for biodiversity is lost. We cannot replace old forest within a human lifetime.

*We request the Nova Scotia government begin the process to designate this yellow area noted on the map below, and that in the meantime the Government place a moratorium on new forestry harvesting plans or those under consideration, and roadbuilding, and mining development in the proposed area.*

## Appendix 1: Tables of At-Risk Species Identified in the Wilderness Protected Area

Data Centre. Two extensive sections totalling 72 km have been surveyed. In the tables below, the meaning of Conservation Status Rank is as follows: S= Extirpation risk (1=high, 5=low), B=migratory and The proposed wilderness area contains significant populations of species at risk, which are listed below, including endangered species (highlighted in yellow). The area has been surveyed in 2022 by Alain Belliveau, Plant Ecologist, Acadia University, and James Churchill, Avian Ecologist with Atlantic Canada Conservation breeding species, and M= migratory and non-breeding. When two extirpation risks are given, the species straddles the criteria).

Table 1: Gully Lake Area surveyed by James Churchill

<i>Conservation Status Rank</i>	<i>Scientific Name</i>	<i>Common Name</i>
S3B	Cardellina canadensis	Canada Warbler
S3	Perisoreus canadensis	Canada Jay
S3S4	Loxia curvirostra	Red Crossbill
S3S4	Arctoparmelia incurva	Finger Ring Lichen
S3B	Contopus cooperi	Olive-sided Flycatcher
S2S3	Pannaria lurida	Wrinkled Shingle Lichen
S3S4	Anaptychia palmulata	Shaggy Fringed Lichen
S2S3B, S1M	Chaetura pelagica	Chimney Swift
S3	Collema nigrescens	Blistered Tarpaper Lichen
S3S4	Leptogium acadiense	Acadian Jellyskin Lichen
S3S4	Heterodermia speciosa	Powdered Fringe Lichen
S2S3	Collema leptaleum	Crumpled Bat's Wing Lichen
S3B	Charadrius vociferus	Killdeer

Table 2: Gully Lake area surveyed by Alain Belliveau

<i>Conservation status</i>	<i>Scientific Name</i>	<i>Common Name</i>
S3	Neottia bifolia	Southern Twayblade
S3	Perisoreus canadensis	Canada Jay
S3B	Chordeiles minor	Common Nighthawk
S3B	Cardellina canadensis	Canada Warbler
S3B	Contopus cooperi	Olive-sided Flycatcher
S3S4	Leptogium corticola	Blistered Jellyskin Lichen
S3S4	Heterodermia speciosa	Powdered Fringe Lichen
S1S2	Fraxinus nigra	Black Ash
S2S3B, S1M	Chaetura pelagica	Chimney Swift

S3	<i>Spinus pinus</i>	Pine Siskin
S3	<i>Fuscopannaria ahlneri</i>	Corrugated Shingles Lichen
S3	<i>Leptogium milligranum</i>	Stretched Jellyskin Lichen
S3S4	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	American Beech
S3S4	<i>Amelanchier spicata</i>	Running Serviceberry
S3S4	<i>Anaptychia palmulata</i>	Shaggy Fringed Lichen
S3S4	<i>Heterodermia neglecta</i>	Fringe Lichen
S3S4	<i>Evernia prunastri</i>	Valley Oakmoss Lichen
S3S4	<i>Coccocarpia palmicola</i>	Salted Shell Lichen

*Table 3: Area surveyed next to Cloud Lake Wilderness Area by James Churchill*

<i>Conservation Status Rank</i>	<i>Scientific Name</i>	<i>Common Name</i>
S3B	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	Olive-sided Flycatcher
S3B	<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>	Canada Warbler
S3	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>	Snapping Turtle
S2S3	<i>Collema leptaleum</i>	Crumpled Bat's Wing Lichen
S3S4B	<i>Contopus virens</i>	Eastern Wood-Pewee
S3	<i>Spinus pinus</i>	Pine Siskin
S1S2	<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>	Black Ash
S3S4	<i>Leptogium acadiense</i>	Acadian Jellyskin Lichen
S3S4	<i>Anaptychia palmulata</i>	Shaggy Fringed Lichen
S3S4	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	American Beech
S3S4	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	Red Crossbill
S3B	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	Common Nighthawk
S3S4	<i>Heterodermia speciosa</i>	Powdered Fringe Lichen
S3S4	<i>Sclerophora peronella</i> (Atlantic pop.)	Frosted Glass-whiskers (Atlantic population)
S3	<i>Collema nigrescens</i>	Blistered Tarpaper Lichen
S3	<i>Perisoreus canadensis</i>	Canada Jay
S2B	<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>	Rusty Blackbird
S2S3	<i>Parmelia fertilis</i>	Fertile Shield Lichen
S3S4	<i>Leptogium corticola</i>	Blistered Jellyskin Lichen



# The Proposed Chain Lakes Wilderness Area

Peter Lake, Chain Lakes Protected Area



## Wilderness Areas...

- ... protect biodiversity for our own survival and the web of life.
- ... provide opportunities to appreciate nature, and support physical and mental health.
- ... protect endangered and at-risk species and their habitats.
- ... support wilderness recreation, hunting, sport fishing, trapping, and other associated uses.
- ... support existing snowmobile and ATV usage in the area into the future.
- ... generate economic benefits as an attraction for the recreation and tourism sectors.
- ... reduce climate change impacts.



The Blomidon Naturalists Society is proposing a new wilderness area for Crown land in southwest Kings County. We need support to make it happen.

## Why Protected Areas in Kings County?

- The Nova Scotia government has recognized the value of protecting wild land to “nourish biodiversity, contribute to sustainable prosperity and provide access to nature — an important determinant of mental and physical health.”
- The Province has a legislated target of protecting 20% of Nova Scotia by the year 2030.
- This is an important step as only 13% of our province is currently protected. In Kings County less than 5% of the land is protected — we really need to get to work!

## Why the Chain Lakes Wilderness Area?

- The southwest corner of Kings County is the only major section of Crown land in the County that remains largely forested without human habitation.
- A good deal of it has been and continues to be clear cut. Yet there are pockets of old growth, forests that are older than 80 years, beautiful lakes, and pristine still waters and wetlands.
- Numerous endangered species have been identified in the area— the Canada Warbler, olive-sided flycatchers, wisqoq (black ash), and very rare lichens. There are snapping turtle nests, foraging chimney swifts and nighthawks, and even the elusive rusty blackbird.
- There is much to celebrate and protect, the pockets need to be linked as a wildlife corridor, and the cut areas can be restored given protection and time.





## What Does Protection Mean?

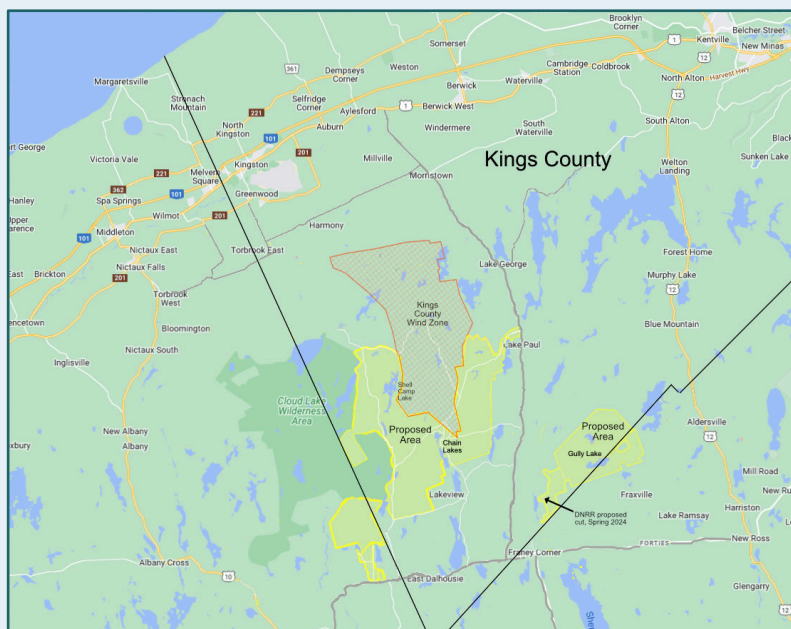
- Commercial resource development (e.g., mining, forestry, aquaculture, dams, pipelines, etc.) is absolutely prohibited, except where there are pre-existing commitments.
- Recreation activities with minimal environmental impact are permitted, including walking, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, hunting, sport fishing, trapping, and cross-country skiing. Trails and facilities for these activities can be developed.
- Existing snowmobile and ATV trails and usage in the area can and should be agreed to by the Province into the future at the outset. The legislation allows for continued motorized vehicle use on existing trails. New trails or usage areas for motorized vehicles are prohibited.
- Access to private lands across the wilderness area can be assured. Existing land leases can be honoured.

## What Do We Need to Do to Make It Happen?

- It is time for all of us to step up and advocate for the protection of nature locally. That's what the Blomidon Naturalists are doing.
- You can help by writing to the N.S. Minister of the Environment, the Minister of Natural Resources, and your MLA, requesting designation of the Chain Lakes as a wilderness area and a moratorium on resource extraction in the interim period.
- Join the campaign to *Save Our Old Forests*.



For more information and ways to get involved in this effort, e-mail [info@blomidonnaturalists.ca](mailto:info@blomidonnaturalists.ca), or visit the Blomidon Naturalist web site at [www.blomidonnaturalists.ca](http://www.blomidonnaturalists.ca).



The yellow shaded areas are the approximate boundaries proposed for protection. White routes in the boundaries are existing dirt roads and off-road vehicle trails.





**TOWN OF KENTVILLE**  
**Staff Report to Council Advisory Committee**  
**For the Month of May 2024**  
**DEPARTMENT- FINANCE**

**Operations**

- Staff preparation for the 2023-2024 financial audit continues. Kent & Duffett begin their audit work on June 4, 2024.
- This month Finance and IT staff focused on operating budget development and presentation, customer support, onboarding of seasonal staff, IT capital projects, audit file preparation, year-end variance analysis and accounting.
- Reporting to Municipal Affairs regarding Annual Expenditure Report (AER) for CCBF (formerly Gas Tax) was completed and submitted by the deadline.

**Financial**

- Engineering and Public Works along with Finance initiated the Town of Kentville Water Commission draft three- year operating and capital budgets. They will be presented to the Commission in June.
- The Investment Advisory Committee (IAC) met on May 22, 2024. TD Wealth provided a review of performance, asset composition and compliance with our investment policy.
- Perpetual fund investment values as at April 30, 2024 were \$13.049 M at cost (\$12.928 M market value) spread across cash and cash equivalents, fixed income securities and common shares.
- Year to date May 31, 2024 capital expenditures are \$ 330,793 (4% % of budget). See Capital Investment Plan update Appendix A.
- Uploading of the 2024-2025 ratified capital fund budget into the financial system is in progress.
- Preliminary unaudited fiscal 2024 consolidated results indicate a surplus position.
- April and May 2024 financial results are incomplete. No extraordinary expenses noted.
- 88% of Q4 utility bills were paid by May 31, 2024.
- Of the \$ 6,662,782 tax levy billed in 2024-2025, 10.2% remains outstanding as at May 31, 2024. 2023-2024 tax receivable represents 0.51% of the prior year levy; a 39% percent reduction in the month.

Outstanding Tax Receivable Aging		
2024-2025	2023-2024	Prior Years
\$ 682,354	\$ 62,578.74	\$ 3060.66

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Wanda Matthews".

Wanda Matthews, CPA, CA

Director of Finance







**TOWN OF KENTVILLE  
CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN  
2024-2025  
YTD May 31, 2024**

<b>PROJECT BY DEPARTMENT/AREA</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>YTD ACTUAL</b>	<b>% Expended</b>
Canada Community Building Fund - MacDonald/Henry/ Braeside	\$ 1,214,000		0%
Green Infrastructure Fund - Trails and Pathways	1,800,000	96,059	5%
General Administration	125,000	78,857	63%
Protective Services	194,525	132,849	68%
Transportation	727,000		0%
ICIP - Donald Hiltz Connector	3,174,000	11,453	0%
Planning and Development	88,800		0%
Parks and Recreation	403,500	11,576	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,726,825</b>	<b>\$ 330,793</b>	<b>4%</b>



**Town of Kentville**  
**Staff Report to Council Advisory Committee**  
**For the Month of May 2024**  
**Department of Parks and Recreation**  
**Presented on June 10, 2024**

**Administration and Operations**

- Staff, Mayor, and Council met with DSRA for the review of the Conditions Assessment and Feasibility Study for the Centennial Arena.
  - Final Report is due by the end of June 2024
- Park Landscaper hired – Coady Craig

**Facilities and Operations**

- Hemlock Conservation
  - Staff and community members marked, tagged, and treated approximately 1,500-2,000 hemlock trees at the Gorge
  - Remaining trees will be marked, tagged, and treated in 2025
- Baseball, softball, and cricket season is in full swing
  - Cricket is new! This is a grassroots community group (informal group)
- Splash Pad is open for the season
- Safe Sharp Disposal
  - Staff are securing quotes for Public Safe Sharp Disposal Bins. If the project moves forward, staff will be committed to intentional communications and will involve community partners in the process.
- *Update on Capital:*
  - Skatepark Shelter Awarded
    - Work to be completed prior to September 2024
  - Cenotaph Project Awarded
    - Work to be completed this summer
  - ¾ Ton Truck Awarded

**Programs and Operations**

- Kentville Home Show
  - The Kentville Home Show surpassed \$20,000 for the Town of Kentville contribution, budget was \$15,000 for 2024-2025 fiscal
- Staff, Community Members, and Trail Flow are continuing to meet for the planning of the 2024 XCO/XCC National Championship for July 18-21, 2024
- Staff have partnered with **Jays Care as a Canadian Local Government Partner!**  
Our Outreach staff underwent specialized training to facilitate Challenger Baseball



and Girls at Bat programming. With new skills, they'll launch these adapted baseball sessions this summer, providing tailored support and fostering inclusivity.

- Challenger Baseball offers children and youth with disabilities the chance to play organized baseball at their ability level.
  - Girls at Bat is an introductory baseball program aiming to remove barriers for girls in sports, empowering them in an inclusive community.
  - These programs promote physical activity, socialization, and community engagement, enriching Kentville's inclusivity and supportiveness.
- **Nature Kids After School Program:** We currently have 48 children registered, which is maximum registration.
  - **The SHIFT Program**, a collaborative effort with local organizations serving individuals with disabilities, has received acclaim for its positive impact on participants' well-being. It provides accessible and engaging physical activities, addressing service gaps, and fostering social inclusion. Due to increased demand and success over the past year, the program will expand to three sessions weekly this summer.

### **Community Outreach**

- Staff have successfully identified and engaged community champions to become stewards and guardians of the Oakdene Park Community Garden.
- This group of people are a volunteer collective called the Oakdene Park Community Garden Group (OPCGG) who refer to themselves as Growing Partners. They have a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and a Communications coordinator. So far, this powerful community group have created a Facebook page with 126 members and they have a website – they meet regularly and want to find new growing partners from diverse communities.
- The OPCGG are planning to run workshops within the garden on Yoga and Gardening, Pollinators and Bugs Hotels and Garden to Kitchen Cooking. They will also work closely with the Summer Outreach Staff to bring more opportunities to the community.
  - In partnership with the Neighborhood Outreach Program Coordinator they are thriving and are hoping to create a free food plant program for the spring/summer of 2025 if they are able to achieve funding for a new greenhouse.
- **Community Garden Infrastructure**
  - staff collaborated with contractor (Troy Lightfoot) to install a rain gutter water system on the back of the Oakdene Park Amphitheater which will be used to water the Oakdene Park Community Garden. Troy Lightfoot (red seal certified carpenter) volunteered 6 hours of his time to complete this project.
  - 100% of all planters have been repaired and planters were raised to make them accessible. This was made possible by support from the citizen volunteers, students and staff from the Edge on Employment and the Summer Outreach Staff.

- Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator was able to identify and negotiate the donation of a galvanized 18-foot bridge from NSCC Kingstec Campus to make Oakdene Park more accessible to senior citizens living in the adjacent senior's community. This was installed with support from Supervisor, Facility Operations and Public Works.
- **The Future** – staff working to realize a new vision for Oakdene Park in conjunction with direct community engagement in the North End.

### **Council Related**

Kentville's Accessibility Committee:

- Nothing to report at this time.

Kentville's Active Transportation Plan:

- Nothing to report at this time.

Regional Recreation Complex:

- Nothing to report at this time.

Respectfully Submitted,



Craig Langille  
Director of Parks and Recreation





June 10, 2024

RE: Kentville Rotary Club Request

---

---

Deputy Clerk  
Jennifer West  
354 Main Street  
Kentville, NS  
B4N 1K6

902-679-2503  
[jwest@kentville.ca](mailto:jwest@kentville.ca)

---

The Kentville Rotary Club has made a request to build and donate a gazebo in the playground of Kings County Academy. Staff received the attached request and forward it to Council for their consideration. This donation is in recognition of 100 years of service by the Kentville Rotary Club.

Staff recommend that Council direct staff to review the Rotary Club request in more detail to ensure that it does not conflict with existing infrastructure or facilities.

Jennifer West  
Town of Kentville

# ROTARY CLUB OF KENTVILLE

SERVICE  
ABOVE SELF



HE PROFITS MOST  
WHO SERVES BEST

The Mayor and Council  
Town of Kentville  
354 Main St.  
Kentville, N.S.  
B4N 1K6

P.O. BOX 85  
KENTVILLE, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA B4N 3V9  
[www.kentvillerotary.org](http://www.kentvillerotary.org)

Attention: Craig Langille, Manager of Parks and Recreation Facilities

Dear Sir,

As you are aware through various recent meetings, 2024 signifies 100 years of the Rotary Club of Kentville ("the Club") serving the needs of our Community and beyond. To mark our Centenary, the Club wishes to create a legacy to recognize our contribution to the Town of Kentville ("the Town") over the past 100 years and as well to serve the Town in the decades to come.

## **100 Years of Rotary in Kentville**

Through the past century, the Club has made a meaningful and positive impact on the citizens of Kentville; through:

- Direct contributions to persons with disabilities, for equipment and various other medical needs;
- Scholarships to local youth in their pursuit of higher education opportunities;
- Tangible support to local hospitals and their foundations as well as schools and their infrastructure;
- Various charities and social enterprises, whose mandates are to serve the needs of local citizens;
- Various organizations in support of the Arts, including but not limited to Kings County Music Festival;

Some of the more meaningful projects where the Club partnered with the Town would include, but not be limited to:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oakdene Park development</li><li>• Rotary Room at Kentville Library</li><li>• Sidewalk Signs</li><li>• Miners Marsh development</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Swimming Pool (both the original at Mill Run and then the Memorial Park Pool)</li><li>• Town Clock</li><li>• Street Lighting at Memorial Park</li></ul>
---	---

## **Legacy Project Development**

For well over the past year, the Club has embarked on a mission to create a legacy that would serve as visible recognition of Rotary's century in Kentville and at the same time compliment the Town's existing recreational infrastructure, while serving needs with infrastructure that may not exist at this time. Through exhaustive research, field examinations and consultation with you, we believe our mutual objectives can be met through the creation of a gazebo structure located on the northwest corner of the



recreation field west of Gary Pearl Dr. and West Main St. The blue mark on the screenshot below provides our proposed location:



### **Why a gazebo in this location?**

A gazebo in this location would provide an ideal venue for smaller concerts, outdoor celebrations (school graduation, weddings, etc.) and rain protection from parents and others, while children make use of the playground and mini-soccer fields.

### **Other Site Benefits:**

- Noise considerations. In our deliberations, we considered the noise impact on residents from potential events and that from street traffic impacting viewer experience with performances on site. We consider this location to have minimal noise impact from both perspectives.
- Access to electrical power. Access is not seen to be problematic given the proximity to the Recreation Department structure. Power to the gazebo would be needed for lighting and audio.
- Site development costs. Seen as minimal as well as the existing surface is flat and yet ideal for outdoor viewing of events. Of course, our intent is to cover the cost of site remediation due to gazebo construction.
- Access to parking. With space available at KCA and on West Main St. and Gary Pearl Dr., we believe the need for parking on Park St. to be non-existent.
- Visibility. We are aware of the significant level of recreation usage that this location enjoys and as such, the prominence of our structure would clearly provide significant visibility of Rotary to those participants and their parents, etc.

### **Gazebo Design Considerations:**

We propose to build an approximately 600 sq. ft. gazebo, which would have an elongated front and back. Please see the attached concept drawings. The elongated feature would allow larger choral groups (eg Dukes of Kent) to perform at the gazebo with ample space for singers and their equipment. It would also allow for larger groups 'on stage' for graduations, etc. Please see example below:



Other features worthy of note:

- We envisage the use of a steel roof; so to enhance its useful life and reduce maintenance.
- We intend to utilize an elevated slab-on-grade, with stairs at the front and an all-accessible, graded slope for the rear entrance. We anticipate an elevation of approximately 3 feet; so to enhance viewer experience.
- Our preference is to utilize a pressure-treated wooden structure, so to manage capital costs more efficiently and have an aesthetically appealing appearance.

#### **Mutual Considerations**

1. On completion of a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) with the Town, the Club would embark on detailed architectural-certified plans and specifications; at which point the Club would seek final approval from the Town, evidenced by the issuance of a Building Permit.
2. It is our objective to have the project completed by the end of 2024; so to align with our Centennial celebrations. This is of course dependant on several factors external to our Club; beginning with the Town’s approval of the concepts and understandings contained herein.
3. Said MOU would include:
  - a. The Club undertaking to construct the gazebo in accordance with the approved plans and building permit;
  - b. The Club granting ownership of the structure to the Town on completion, via Bill of Sale or otherwise;
  - c. The Town allowing access to the site for construction equipment, building materials, etc.
  - d. The Town providing electrical power service to a secure service panel located within the gazebo;
  - e. The Town granting permission, in a form to be negotiated, for the Club to erect signage to recognize the premise of the gazebo (ie. 100 Years of Rotary in Kentville);



- f. The Town manage the use of the gazebo;
  - g. The Town's agreement to maintain the gazebo in perpetuity.
4. Ideally, the Club wishes to see the project completed during 2024. However, this timeline is subject to multiple external factors beyond the Club's control.

The Rotary Club of Kentville is genuinely excited to once again partner with the Town of Kentville, to not only recognize and celebrate our successful relationship over the past 100 years; but to demonstrate that our partnership will continue into the decades ahead.

We look forward to further discussions as necessary to secure Council approval and then embarking on this exciting project.

Yours very truly,



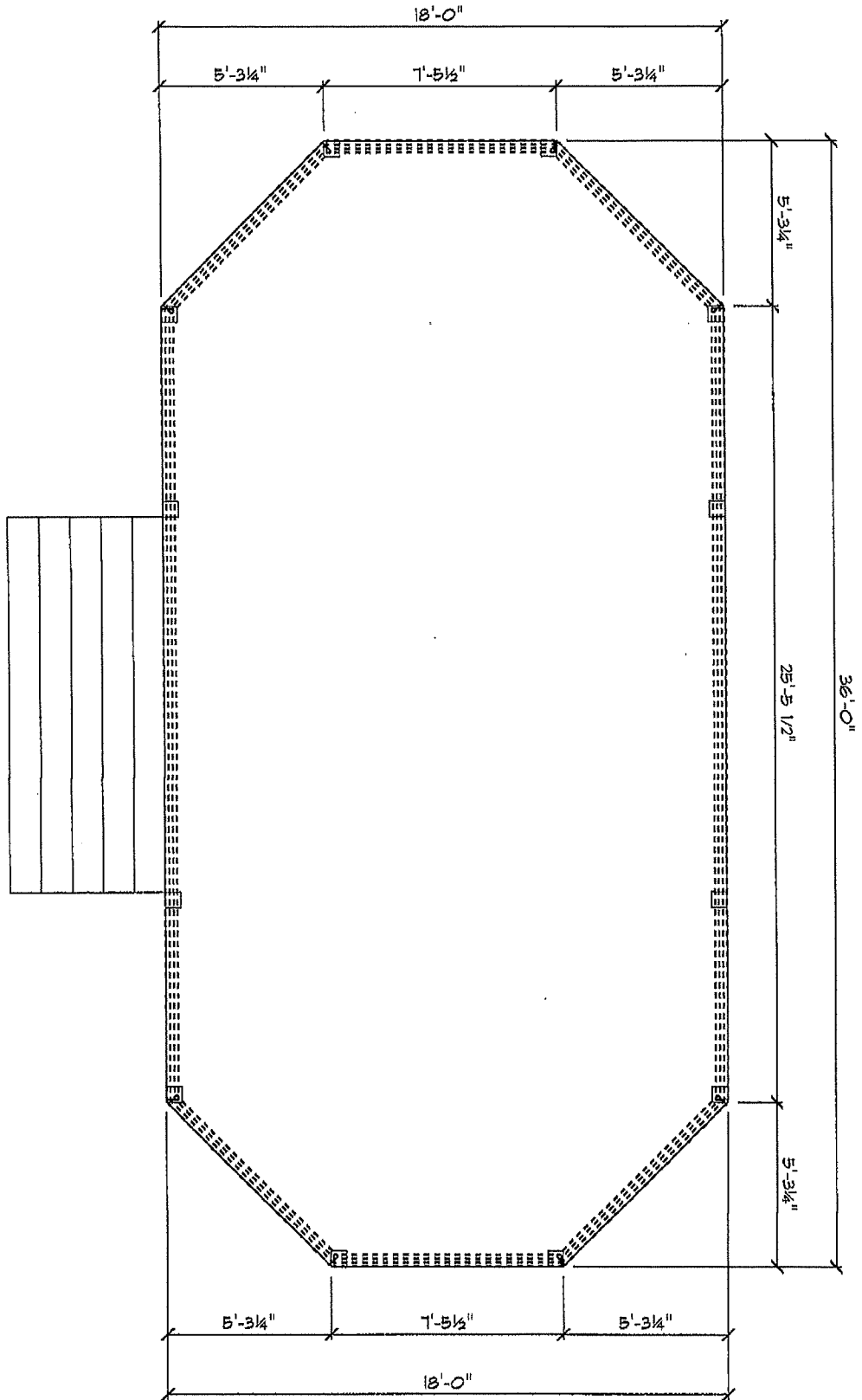
Ellen Crowley, President

Rotary Club of Kentville

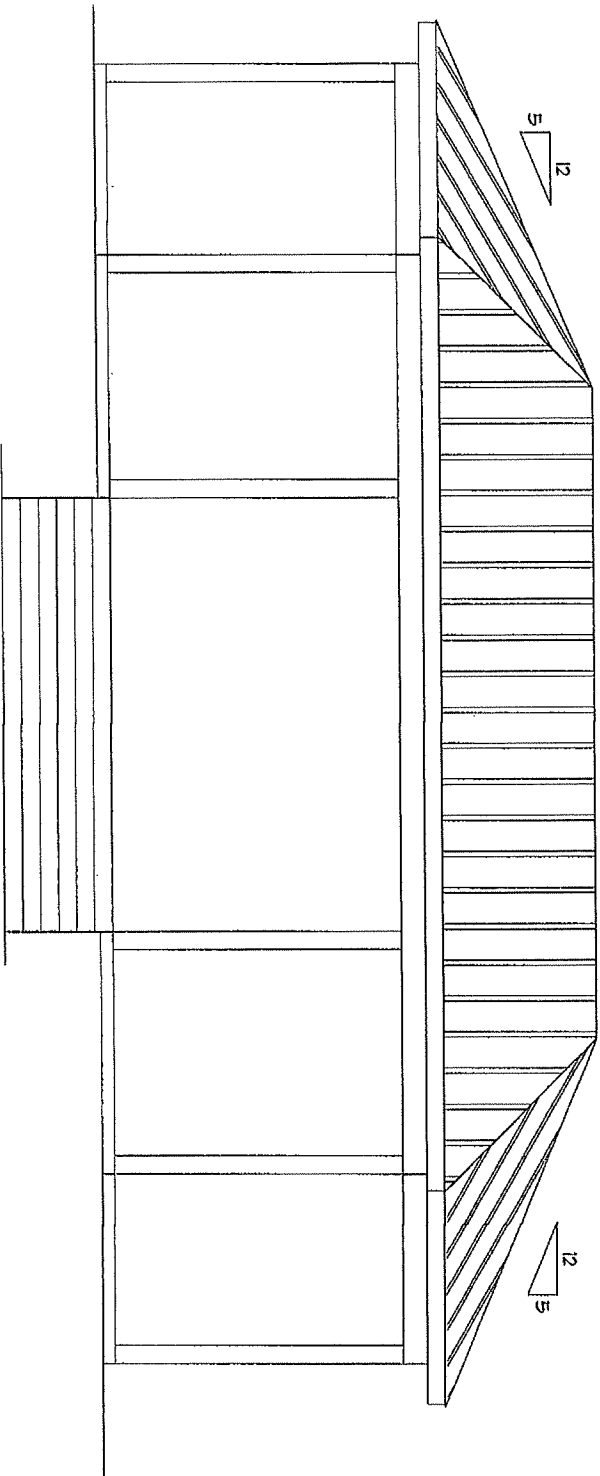
Ph: 902-679-1787

Email: ellentcrowley01@gmail.com

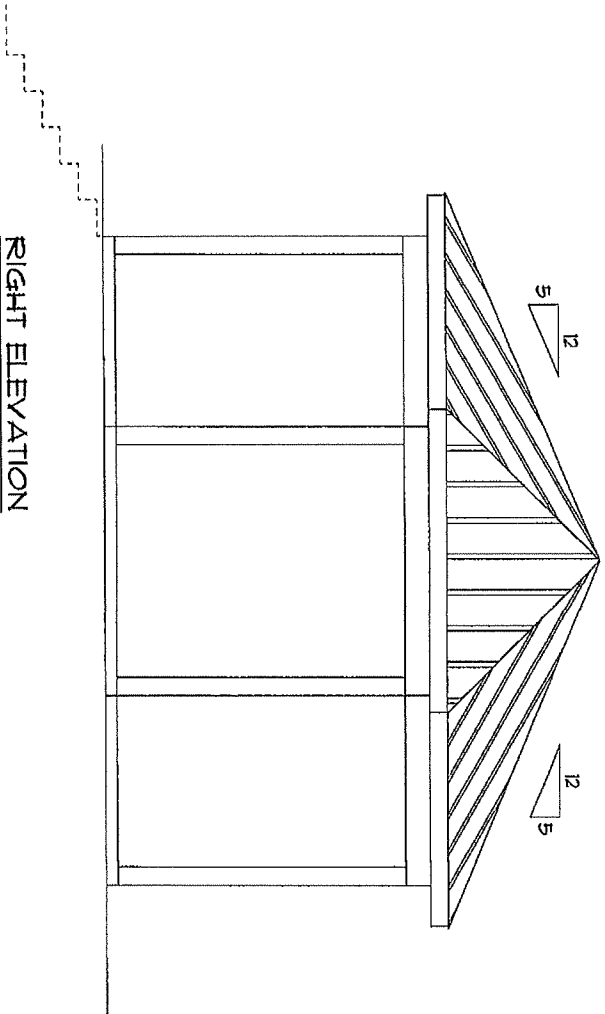
MAIN FLOOR PLAN







FRONT ELEVATION



RIGHT ELEVATION





---

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** Craig Langille, Director of Parks and Recreation

**DATE:** June 10, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Rec Hub – Climate Control

---

**ORIGIN**

The Rec Hub located next to Kings County Academy (KCA) currently is home to Nature Kids Program and other future programming opportunities.

**BACKGROUND**

The Rec Hub is approximately a 450 sq ft facility that can offer workshops and programs. Currently, there is no climate control in the facility, which causes concerns for facilitating programming in the summer months, due to extreme temperatures.

**DISCUSSION**

To continue to offer programming in the Rec Hub during the summer months and to ensure that health and safety of staff and participants are a top priority, staff are seeking the purchase and installation of a climate control system. Staff are seeking \$7,000 from Capital Reserves to be used for the purchase and installation of a Wall Mount Heat Pump.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**BUDGET IMPLICATION**

\$7,000 from Capital Reserves

**ATTACHMENTS**

None

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommend that council approve \$7,000 from Capital Reserves to be used for the purchase of a heat pump for the Rec Hub to provide a climate control solution for the facility.

Town of Kentville Decision Wheel:



## Town of Kentville

### Office of the Chief of Police

March 2024



Administration	Time	March 2024	April 2024
	Plate queries	1405	1866
	Training hours	100	128
	Veh. Cks 38's	145	138
	SOT Tickets	49	52
	Foot Patrol Hours	120	140
	CC Charges	33	30
	Calls for service	314	274
Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ACE</li><li>• CPIC information Management</li><li>• ICS 200</li><li>• PROS</li></ul>		
Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Municipal Chief's Meetings</li><li>• Executive Leadership Meetings</li><li>• Meeting with DOJ</li><li>• Meetings with Finance</li><li>• Weekly meetings with Deputy Chief</li><li>• Meeting with New Minas RCMP</li><li>• Recruiting Session</li><li>• Apple Blossom</li><li>• NSCPA Spring Conference</li><li>• Tiny Meadows</li></ul>		



<b>CCN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended 15 <b>Agency meetings</b>, i.e., Portal, Youth Community Hub, Open Arms, Homeless no more, Wellness Court</li> <li>• Attended 6 <b>Community Events</b></li> <li>• Received 10 <b>referrals</b> from KPS members/other Agencies</li> <li>• <b>39 meetings</b> with clients</li> <li>• Attended 7 <b>other calls</b> and assisted members</li> <li>• 7 other activities, i.e. First Responders Symposium, Interviews, Meeting with Chief</li> </ul>
<b>Staffing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short 2 Constable positions</li> </ul>



## **Kentville Police Service Bylaw Report April 2024**

<b>Municipal Bylaw Investigations</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Loitering -Warnings</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Assist Police</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Taxi Inspections</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Animal Control</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Smoking-Charges</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Smoking-Warnings</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Parking-Charges</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Parking- Warnings</b>	<b>51</b>



## Town of Kentville

### Staff Report to Council Advisory Committee

### Department of Engineering and Public Works

June 10, 2024

#### Programs and Operations

- **Kentville Water Commission:** There were no direct operational issues with the KWC in May. The Water Commission and Source Water Protection Advisory Group quarterly and special KWC Budget meeting has been rescheduled to June 19<sup>th</sup>.
- **Sanitary Sewer Area Service:** The Regional Forcemain Replacement Project has been awarded by the Municipality of Kings and work is expected to start by mid summer. I have requested that the County provide us with a work schedule so our Comms Team can inform residents along the impacted area and the timeline that the Harvest Moon Trail will be impacted and/or closed.  
Operationally there were no direct operational issues with the Kentville Sanitary Sewer Service in May.
- **Public Works:** Patch paving of main routes is now complete. Public Works has much of the downtown line painting completed with some additional crosswalks, hatches, arrows, and parking lots still left to do in other areas of Town. The line painting truck was in Town in late May to complete that annual re-paint task just before Apple Blossom Festival week.

#### Projects

- The downtown sidewalk replacement project is off to a great start with a portion of Webster Street and all of Aberdeen Street now complete. The next section of curb & sidewalk replacement that the contractor will start on is the corner of Main & Bridge Street by Maritime Travel and then complete the loop on Webster Street back to where the project started. We currently have tenders out now for various paving, curbing, sidewalk and pipe projects closing later this week, with some of the larger Capital Works projects closing later this month. Our Engineering and Planning



Department are currently working improvements to the safety and beautification components of the Webster Street Bike Lane before it is completely reactivated this season.

### **Public Engagement**

- Frequent phone calls and site visits with residents.
- Appointments are now being accepted for in person meetings.
- Letter & email correspondence – As required.

### **Meetings and Events**

- Bi-weekly Senior Staff meetings
- CAC – May 13<sup>th</sup>
- Interviews for Director of Planning
- Donald E. Hiltz Road – Multiple design review meetings
- Operating Budget Meeting – May 30<sup>th</sup>

Respectfully Submitted,

David Bell  
Director of Engineering and Public Works



**TO:** Kentville Mayor & Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** Dave Bell, Director of Engineering & PW

**DATE:** June 10, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Switch Capital Equipment (Transportation) Purchase Year

---

**ORIGIN** The Town’s Capital Investment Plan replaces Transportation Equipment on an annual basis to maintain our fleet by replacing most equipment by the 10-year mark to avoid the costly maintenance of “beyond the useful life of equipment” while still meeting the required depreciation timeframe.

**BACKGROUND** In March 2024 the 2024/25 Capital Budget was approved which included the purchase of a replacement street sweeper for the Public Works fleet with a budgeted amount of \$450,000. The delivery of a specialized truck such as this is over twelve months once the order is placed, so delivery and payment would not happen until the 2025/26 fiscal year.

In year two of the 5-year Capital Investment Plan, council approved in principal the purchase of a 2-ton truck to replace the 2013 truck that is used as a plow & salt truck in the winter and small dump truck in the construction season, a key component of our Public Works fleet. It was hoped that this truck could continue to be used in 2024/25, but the estimated cost to keep it on the road for another year at over \$20,000 is not practical.

The availability of a suitable replacement 2-ton truck is also very limited; we have made initial calls to vendors throughout Eastern Canada and there is only 1 suitable truck in the region that would be available before this winter.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS** N/A

**BUDGET IMPLICATION** The basic “Cab & Chassis” has been priced at \$120,000 with the additional components (dump body, salt spreader, lights and plow controls) at \$24,000 for a total of \$144,000 including the non-recoverable portion of the HST. Our mechanic will assemble the components and repurpose the existing plow blade to keep the overall costs down.

It is proposed to flip the fiscal purchase years of the above mentioned pieces of equipment so that the 2-ton Plow & Salt truck is purchased in 2024/25 and the Street Sweeper will be ordered now, but not delivered and invoiced until 2025/26.

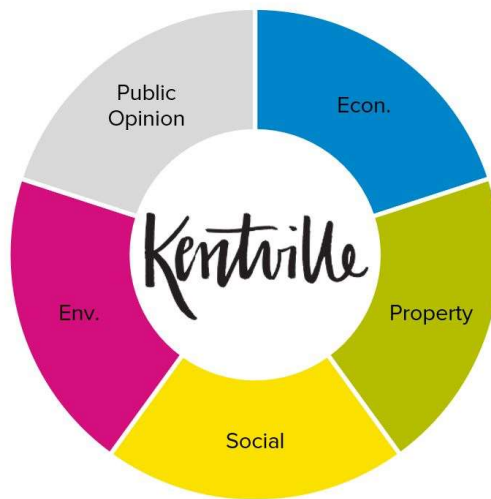
**ATTACHMENTS** N/A



**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council approve the switch in fiscal years for the Public Works Capital Transportation equipment to purchase a “2-ton Plow & Salt Truck” in 2024/25 and order the planned “Street Sweeper” now for delivery and purchase in 2025/26.

Town of Kentville Decision Wheel:







**Town of Kentville  
CAO Report to Council Advisory Committee  
For the Month of May 2024  
PRESENTED ON THE 10<sup>TH</sup> OF JUNE, 2024**

**Administration and Operations**

- Operations
  - Completed interviews and began reference checks for the Director of Planning position.
  - Supporting the Planning and Development Department to bring in a Development Officer. Kimberley Lam from C+D Consulting will be in the Planning Department looking after communication with the public and developers on permit matters.
  - Supporting the Director of Finance Department to finalize the Operating budget, which was presented to Council on May 30, 2024.
  - Discussions and planning with the Recreation Department to support summer camp and other programs.
  - Met with a number of community individuals and organizations regarding various issues and concerns they may have.
  - Supported the roll out of Apple Blossom Festival to better understand this important annual event.
- Council Related
  - Met with Committees and Councillors on a number of issues and continue to refine our working relationship.

Respectfully Submitted,

Craig Langille, for  
Jeffrey Lawrence, CAO



---

Jennifer West  
Deputy Clerk  
354 Main Street  
Kentville, NS  
B4N 1K6

902-599-2503  
jwest@kentville.ca

---

June 10, 2024

RE: Request for Land, for Racquet Centre

---

On May 13, the Director of Parks and Recreation presented a report to Council on potential locations in the Town of Kentville for a Racquet Sport facility. The report listed a number of properties, and gave a recommendation for Council to consider that a lot in the Kentville Business Park be donated for the location of this sport centre.

At the May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, this request for land could not take place until other land business has been resolved for this site.

The request is before Council today, with the staff recommendation as follows:

Staff recommend that Council approve and provide the Kings County Tennis Association with the Kentville Business Park land PID 55263776 located near Donald Hilz Road and Chipman Drive.

Jennifer West  
Deputy Clerk  
Town of Kentville



---

**TO:** Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** Craig Langille, Director of Parks and Recreation

**DATE:** May 13, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Kentville Racquet Facility

---

### **ORIGIN**

The Racquet Facility development was first brought forward to council in June 2023 by Paul Morgan and a second presentation occurred in January 2024 by Richard Galpin, both representing the Kings County Tennis Association. At the January meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Richard Galpin presented to Council on a proposal to build a racquet facility in Kentville on Field 4, located behind the Credit Union Soccer Facility and Councillor Maxwell proposed Oakdene Park as a preferred location during that meeting of Council Advisory Committee.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Annapolis Valley has been identified by Tennis Canada and Rogers as a location for their Year-Round Tennis Courts Program, which is an initiative in capacity building to make tennis more accessible across Canada. This is a joint agreement between Tennis Canada and Rogers, and its goal is to provide year-round tennis for Canadians and help foster increased participation amongst youth with the aim of building 160 year-round courts at up to 30 facilities by 2029.

To support council in the decision and impact of a racquet facility in Kentville, council motioned the following: *That Council direct the CAO to continue to explore town-owned spaces that might be appropriate for a racquet facility, to be presented at the May Council Advisory Committee meeting.*

### ***The Kings County Tennis Association (KCTA) has requested the following from Council:***

- 50-year lease (2024-2074) with the option to renew for another 50 years for a dollar (\$1.00) per year
- Water and sewer - requesting the Town of Kentville provide these services to the street. KCTA will pay from the street into facility.
- Financial commitment
  - June 2023 presentation, ask was \$500,000 and land.
  - January 2024 presentation, KCTA stated financial commitments will be based on the land provided. If the land is on existing park or sport field and TOK needs to excavate the land (irrigation, playing field), then no financial contribution is needed by the Town. If provided with other land source, then upwards of \$500,000 will be requested.

### ***Site Specifications:***

Facility size is 270 sf x 120 sf = 32,500 sf

Parking lot request 15,000 sf – 20,000 sf

Total 52,500 sf or 1.2 acres

If additional land is available, solar paneling would be used on the excess land.

**Note:** *For reference to size, Credit Union Soccer Facility is 80,000 sf with building, parking, and paved section surrounding facility.*



## DISCUSSION

Staff have evaluated its properties, open park space, sport fields, playgrounds and buildings and have provided the following assets as evaluated for a racquet facility. Sites 1-8 were previously discussed with staff and Kings County Tennis Association (KCTA) and properties 9-13 were identified based on the direction of council to review its Town owned land. Staff have reviewed all locations and believe the best option for the Racquet Facility would be located in the industrial park, site location #9. Please see below recommendation summary and the staff recommendation following the summary.

Previously reviewed sites between KCTA and TOK staff		
	Facility	Recommendation by TOK staff
1.	Parking lot beside Credit Union Soccer Facility	<b>Recommendation:</b> Not recommended for use due to building envelope and parking lot being too large for size of property.
2.	Extension to the Credit Union Soccer Facility	<b>Recommendation:</b> Not recommended for use as it would be financially constraining for the Kings County Tennis Association.
3.	Donald E. Hiltz Connector	<b>Recommendation:</b> Not recommended for use as it does not align with the short timeframe for building the recreation complex.
4.	KCA Playground and Soccer Field	<b>Recommendation:</b> KCTA proposed to TOK staff the soccer field and partial KCA playground. The building would be placed near the playground and built along the three small established soccer fields. It is not recommended to build a facility at this location due to the impact on user groups, existing assets and potentially KCA.
5.	Oakdene Park Fields	<b>Recommendation:</b> Not recommended to build facility on existing soccer fields or park spaces as previously stated in recommendation to council in March 2024.
6.	Field 4	<b>Recommendation:</b> Whereas Field 4 is a current asset in the community, and whereas the facility development on this site would lead to user groups being displaced. Staff do not recommend that council approve the development of a racquet facility on Field 4.
7.	Justice Land – Provincial Land	<b>Recommendation:</b> Not Town owned property and it would need to be discussed with the Province and KCTA. Property is in a flood zone.
8.	Private land	<b>Recommendation:</b> Staff would recommend the continued discussion of KCTA working with Parsons Investment to secure land.

Sites added due to councils request to find suitable town owned land:		
9.	Industrial Park – Between Donald E. Hiltz and Chipman Dr.	<b>Recommendation:</b> Staff recommend that the land be provided to Kings County Tennis Association for the use of building a racquet facility.
10.	Soccer Field 1 & 2 – KCA School	<b>Recommendation:</b> Both fields are current assets in the community, and whereas the facility development on this site would lead to user groups being displaced and removal of a site for school kids to utilize. Staff do not recommend that council approve the development of a racquet facility on either field.
11.	Bantam Field and Softball Field	<b>Recommendation:</b> Staff do not recommend the development of a racquet facility in this location due to the significant impact to several existing assets and user groups.
12.	Burgher Hill	<b>Recommendation:</b> Staff do not recommend the development of a racquet facility in this location due to recent development on the land and the poor contour of the space for the development of a racquet facility.
13.	Tennis Courts, Tennis Building and Little League Field	<b>Recommendation:</b> Staff do not recommend that the land be used for the development of a racquet facility. This development on the Little League field would result in a loss of use for two introductory sport levels for minor baseball along with access for affordable outdoor pickleball and tennis.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff have identified a parcel of land in the Industrial Park (Site Location #9 – Industrial Park) that would not provide an impact to the Town’s current assets or impact any current user groups utilizing park and recreational space. Staff recommend that council approve and provide the Kings County Tennis Association with the industrial park land (PID#: 55263776) located near Donald E. Hiltz and Chipman Drive.

---

## APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL SITE LOCATION INFORMATION

---

Site Location #1 - Parking Lot Area – Across from KCA

---

PID: 55247597

Area acre: Approximately 2 acres

*Background:* This land was provided to KCTA in principle but was deemed to be too small for their needs and facility envelope.

*Recommendation:* Not recommended for use due to building envelope and parking lot being too large for property size.





---

Site Location #2 - Extension to Credit Union Soccer Facility or Buying Facility

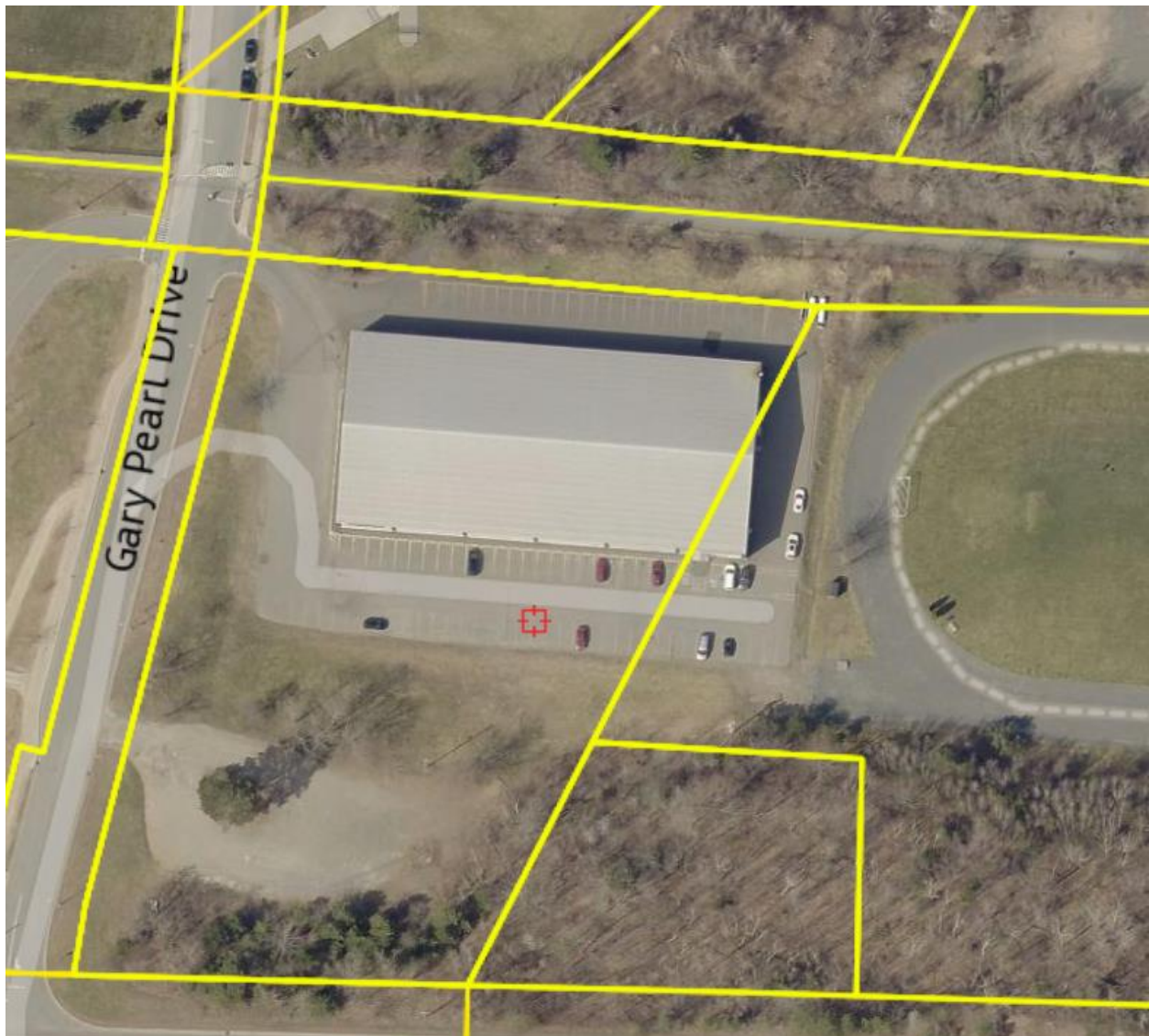
---

PID: 55247597

Area acre: Approximately 2 acres

*Background:* It was deemed to be available but the addition to the facility would be too costly based on the conversation with KCTA.

*Recommendation:* Not recommended for use as it would be financially constraining for the Kings County Tennis Association.





---

### Site Location #3 – Donald E. Hiltz Connector

---

*Background:* Unknown land availability and did not fit with timeline for the building of a racquet facility.

*Recommendation:* Not recommended for use as it does not align with the short timeframe for building the recreation complex.

---

Site Location #4 - KCA Playground and Soccer Field (3 Mini Fields)

---

PID: 55264436 & PID: 55386551  
Area acre: 1.70

*Background:* KCTA proposed the following location to TOK staff. The building would be placed near the playground and built along the three small established soccer fields.

Pros:

- Land is large enough to accommodate recreation facility, parking lot, and potentially a solar field.
- Additional parking lot west of Recreation Hub for large scale events at the facility (provincial championships and national championships)
- Public use access through Harvest Moon Trail – Active Transportation

Cons:

- Reduction in access to minor soccer and KCA students
- Loss of three small soccer fields, KCA Playground and trees along trail
- Remove free play to incorporate pay to play model

**Recommendation:** Not recommended for build as it would have a major impact on minor soccer and the use of the fields for KCA. Also, it would require removing multiple assets.





---

Site Location #5 - Oakdene Park – Forest Area and Soccer Field or Lower Soccer Field

---

PID: 55290795

Area acre: 11.23

*Background:* Site is proposed by Council for development of a racquet facility. Facility would be located either in forested area and upper soccer field or on lower soccer field and adjacent green space. TOK staff provided recommendation to not develop a racquet facility at Oakdene Park.

*Documents associated with this location include: (1) staff recommendation to council and (2) Oakdene Park survey from Winter 2024.*

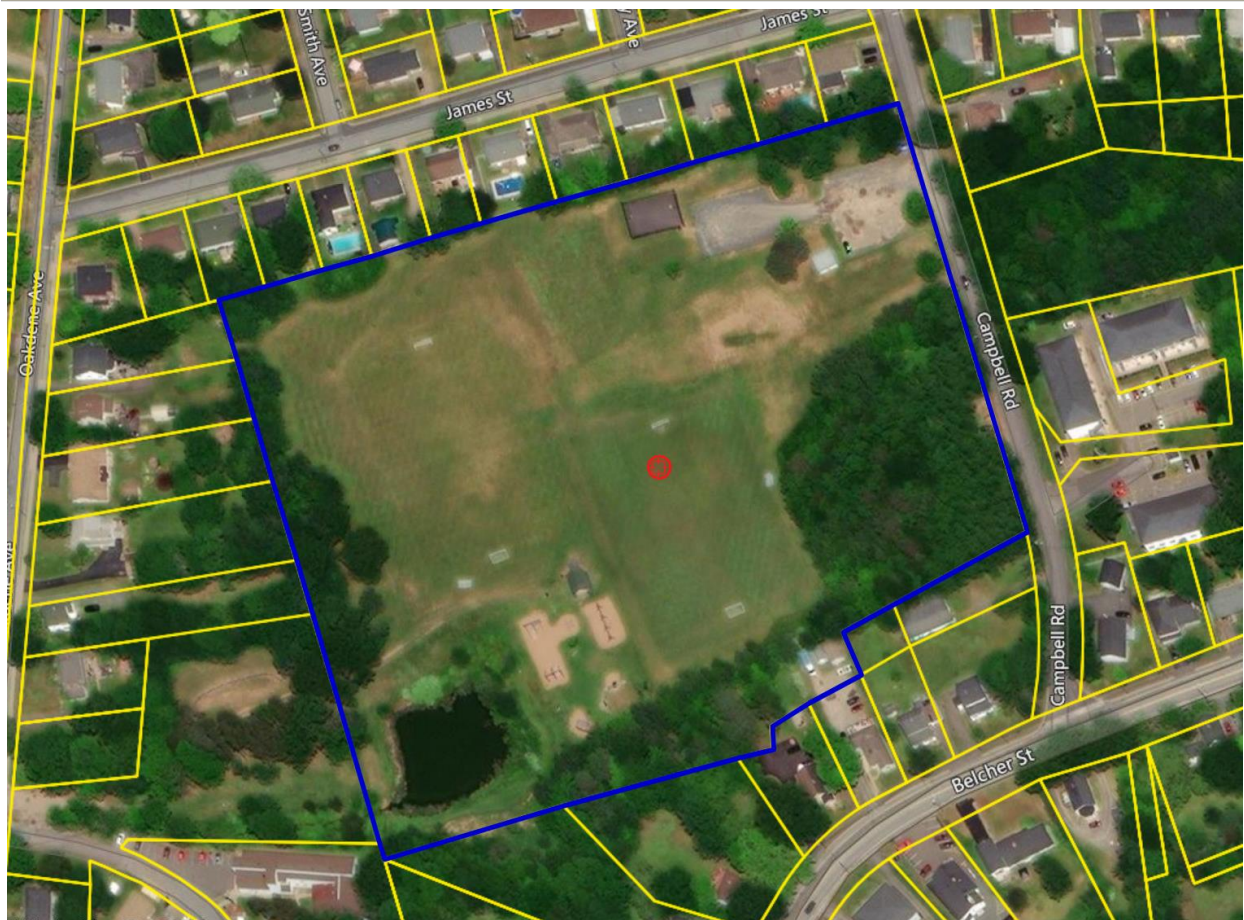
*Pros:*

- Access to Oakdene Park from Campbell Rd.
- Community would have access to a facility year round
- Community Hub could be built within the Racquet Facility. Additional space would need to be provided to accommodate and facility layout would need to be adjusted with KCTA. Staff would still require a secondary building built for park equipment and supplies.

*Cons:*

- Removing assets
- Community survey from 2024 listed the following feedback on park improvements
  - 49% of respondents said they would like to see children's programs and play facilities improved
  - 27% wanted to see general programming/facilities improved
  - 13% indicated improving sports facilities within the park
  - 11% want to see wildlife further improved
  - 87% of respondents thought a new community would be a good fit in Oakdene Park
- Impact on local soccer association through reduction in use.
- Removing a community memorial within the forested area. Consultation needed.
- Oakdene Park is currently used for all under 14 (12-14 years old) programs and other user groups, such as football, ultimate frisbee and town programming.

**Recommendation:** Not recommended to build facility on existing soccer fields or park spaces as previously stated in recommendation to council in March 2024.



## Site Location #6 - Field 4

---

PID: 55247480

Acre acre: 31.67

*Background:* Field 4 was proposed to the Town of Kentville by KCTA as a potential location. This location was brought to Council through a recommendation at CAC to not build on Field 4 or Oakdene Park.

*Documents associated with this location are the Q&A to Council and CAC recommendation.*

### Pros:

- Land is large enough to accommodate the recreation facility, parking lot, and potentially a solar field.
- Water and sewer hookup would be accessible with Credit Union Soccer Facility
- It would be located across from KCA

### Cons:

- Both green spaces hold value in the community and are current assets that the Town has previously invested into developing
- Adding an asset is valuable for the Town but not at the expense of an existing asset(s) that is utilized in the community for programming of all ages
- Field 4 currently hosts under 5 and under 7 soccer programs, which accounts for 250 children under the age of 7 that specifically use the field. Furthermore, all senior men's and women's programs play on this field and host all home games at this location.
- Field 4 is the only field that can operate after long periods of rain
- Field 4 is an ideal location for an artificial turf surface with lighting in the future. Which is on the Town of Kentville's 5-year capital plan.
- This site has been home to the Canada Cup Mountain biking championships and National XCO/XCC Championships in 2023 and 2024

**Recommendation:** Whereas Field 4 is a current asset in the community, and whereas the facility development on this site would lead to user groups being displaced. Staff do not recommend that council approve the development of a racquet facility on Field 4.





---

Site Location #7 - NS Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal

---

PID: 55247597

Area acre: 7.91

*Background:* This site was brought forward by KCTA. This is provincial land, but it was communicated to KCTA by TOK staff that it is a flood zone.

**Recommendation:** Not Town owned property and it would need to be discussed with the Province and KCTA. Property is in a flood zone.





---

## Site Location #8 - Private Land

---

### Parcels of Land from Parsons Investment

*Background:* Parsons Investment connected with Town of Kentville staff to be put in contact with Kings County Tennis Association. Parsons Investment had offered properties that could be used for the development of a recreational facility.

#### Pros:

- Would not result in the removal of an asset.
- It would not disrupt other user groups established and reliant on specific facility space.
- The facility would add to the recreational options in the community
- The Town would only be providing a financial contribution to the building of a facility. It wouldn't be providing land and a financial contribution or redevelopment of space.

#### Cons:

- The cost of the parcel of land was deemed to be too expensive for KCTA

**Recommendation:** Staff would recommend the continued discussion of KCTA working with Parsons Investment to secure land.



---

## Site Location #9 - Industrial Park

---

PID#: 55263776

Area acre: 10.50

*Background:* This parcel of land is in the industrial park.

**Pros:**

- Would not result in the removal of an asset.
- It would not disrupt other user groups established and reliant on specific facility space.
- The facility would add to the recreational options in the community
- Visibility from Highway 101
- Less than 2kms from Exit 14

**Cons:**

- There are developers interested in the land identified.

**Recommendation:** Staff recommend that the land be provided to Kings County Tennis Association for the use of building a racquet facility.



---

Site Location #10 - Soccer Field 1 & 2

---

PID#: 55251672

Area acre: 5.30

*Background:* These fields are used by the soccer associations along with KCA school for physical activity. By developing on this space, it would require eliminating two soccer fields for use.

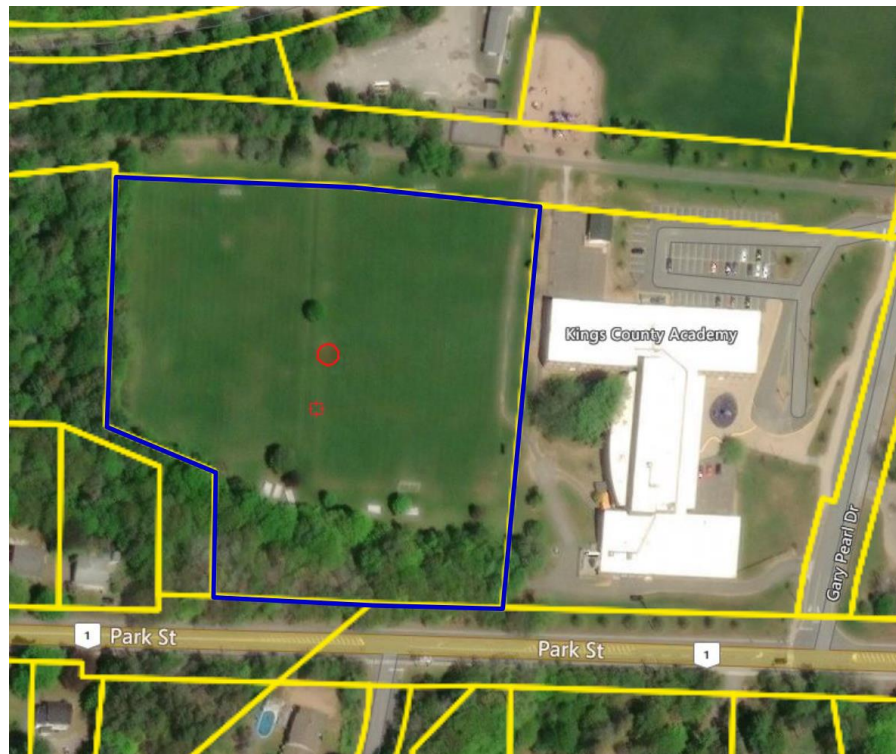
Pros:

- The land size would accommodate racquet facility, parking lot, and solar structures.
- Active Transportation would bring participants directly to recreation facility.

Cons:

- Both green spaces hold value in the community and are current assets that the Town has previously invested into developing
- Adding an asset is valuable for the Town but not at the expense of an existing asset(s) that is utilized in the community for programming of all ages
- Reduction is access to minor soccer and KCA students
- Loss of two soccer fields
- Remove free play to incorporate pay to play model
- Access would be through Harvest Moon Trail.

**Recommendation:** Both fields are current assets in the community, and whereas the facility development on this site would lead to user groups being displaced and removal of a site for school kids to utilize. Staff do not recommend that council approve the development of a racquet facility on either field.



---

Site Location #11 - Bantam Field and Softball Field

---

PID: 55247480

Acre acre: 31.67

*Background:* The development of a racquet facility in this site would require removing the following:

- Bantam Baseball Field
- Softball Field
- Gazebo
- Public washroom with canteen
- Irrigation
- Fencing
- Lighting
- Dugouts

Pros:

- There is an access road through the Harvest Moon Trail by West Main to the fields
- Established parking exists.
- Land is flat

Cons:

- Significant loss in the number of assets to accommodate facility
- Impact to our local baseball association
- Minor baseball has noted increase in registration year over year, and this would cause a halt in participation and registration for the association

---

**Communication from Minor Baseball:**

---

Thank you for the email, Trevor. I will be sure to include this within our presentation to Council, for any space that is proposed with an impact to Minor Baseball.

Craig

**From:** Trevor Butler <[trevor\\_butler@hotmail.com](mailto:trevor_butler@hotmail.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, April 15, 2024 4:08 PM

**To:** Craig Langille <[clangille@kentville.ca](mailto:clangille@kentville.ca)>

**Cc:** Matt Pearl <[matt.pearl@gmail.com](mailto:matt.pearl@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Kentville baseball fields

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

---

Dear Craig,

It has been brought to our attention that there is consideration of using one of the Kentville minor ball fields for a permanent tennis/pickleball facility. This year we have well over 300 kids registered in our minor baseball programs. We are already struggling for space, as discussed in





my presentation to council on Feb 12, 2024, requesting partnership in funding for adding batting cages to our minor ball fields.

Our association has spread out to fields in Coldbrook, Port Williams, New Minas and Hantsport to try to accommodate our teams. Loss of one of our core fields in Kentville would be devastating to our players and organization.

We are very supportive of any possibility of increasing recreation facilities and opportunities in Kentville. I am hopeful an appropriate location can be found for the racquet facility. However, it cannot be at the expense of existing recreation facilities that already have high volume usage.

Please forward this email to town administration and/or council to ensure the opinions of Kentville Minor Ball are known related to this.

Trevor Butler  
VP Kentville Minor Ball

[trevor\\_butler@hotmail.com](mailto:trevor_butler@hotmail.com)

**Recommendation:** Staff do not recommend the development of a racquet facility in this location due to the significant impact on several existing assets and the impact on Kentville Minor Baseball.



---

Site Location #12 - Burgher Hill

---

PID: 55435010

Area acre: 4.06

*Background:* Burgher Hill is known as a sliding hill and bike park in the community. The Town recently invested in the refurbishment of the bike park along with the installation of a new shade shelter on the top of the hill.

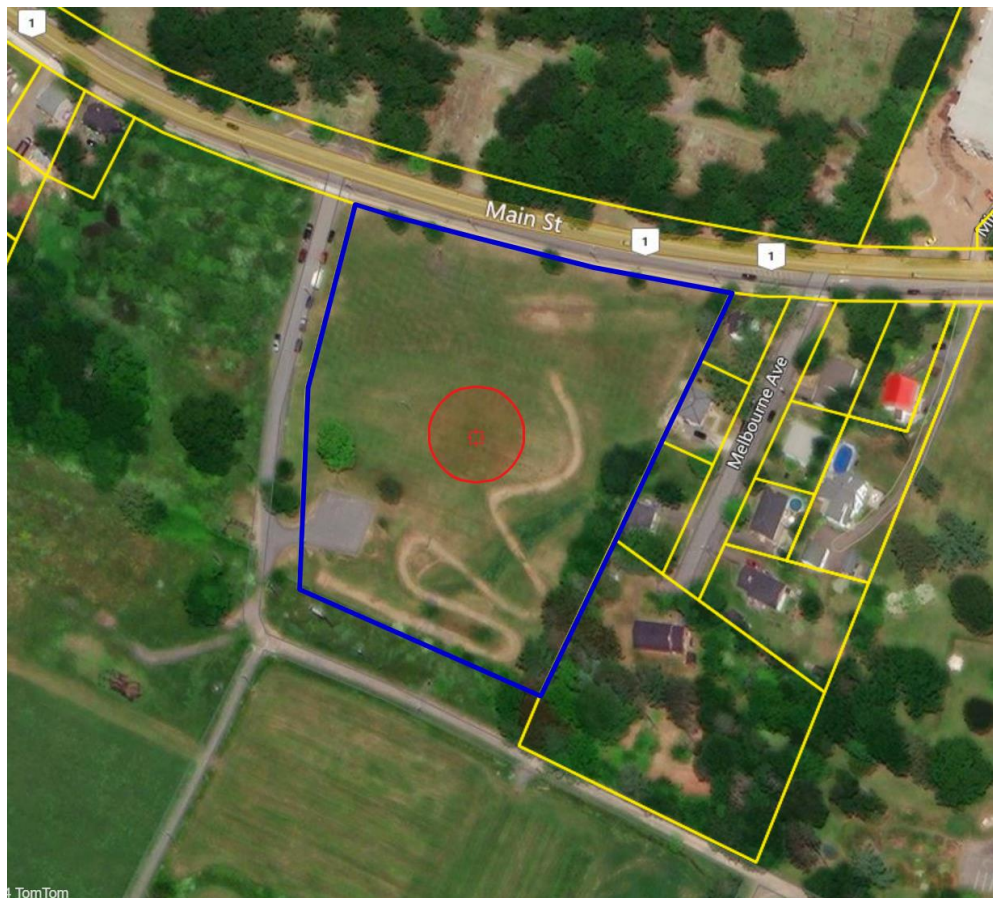
Pros:

- Highly visible land location to the community
- Easy access from Highway

Cons:

- Newly built shade structure 2024
- Renovated bike park in 2023
- Unfavorable land due to its contour
- Stormwater issues from Research Property into Burgher Hill
- Impact to Mountain Biking community and Winter Sledding activities

**Recommendation:** Staff do not recommend the development of a racquet facility in this location due to recent development on the land and pour contour of the space for a development of a racquet facility.





---

Site Location #13 - Tennis Courts/Tennis Building/Little League Field

---

PID: 55247480

Area acre: 2.60

*Background:* The development of a facility in this location would result in the loss of the little league field, tennis building, tennis courts, lighting, and a storage building. There is established parking along with access to the space by Park Street.

Pros:

- Established parking lot
- New racquet building and courts
- Easy access from Park Street
- Water and sewer hookup available

Cons:

- Loss of affordable programming space for pickleball and tennis
- Loss of space for Minor Baseball, which the field is used for introductory to the sport.
- The development would result in a loss to the following assets:
  - Tennis/pickleball courts
  - Lighting
  - Tennis Building
  - Storage shed
  - Dugouts
  - Fencing
  - Old growth poplar trees
- Little League field is in a flood zone and would require land to be redeveloped.

---

**Communication from Minor Baseball:**

---

Thank you for the email, Trevor. I will be sure to include this within our presentation to Council, for any space that is proposed with an impact to Minor Baseball.

Craig

**From:** Trevor Butler <[trevor\\_butler@hotmail.com](mailto:trevor_butler@hotmail.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, April 15, 2024 4:08 PM

**To:** Craig Langille <[clangille@kentville.ca](mailto:clangille@kentville.ca)>

**Cc:** Matt Pearl <[matt.pearl@gmail.com](mailto:matt.pearl@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Kentville baseball fields

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

Dear Craig,

It has been brought to our attention that there is consideration of using one of the Kentville minor ball fields for a permanent tennis/pickleball facility. This year we have well over 300 kids registered in our minor baseball programs. We are already struggling for space, as discussed in



my presentation to council on Feb 12, 2024, requesting partnership in funding for adding batting cages to our minor ball fields.

Our association has spread out to fields in Coldbrook, Port Williams, New Minas and Hantsport to try to accommodate our teams. Loss of one of our core fields in Kentville would be devastating to our players and organization.

We are very supportive of any possibility of increasing recreation facilities and opportunities in Kentville. I am hopeful an appropriate location can be found for the racquet facility. However, it cannot be at the expense of existing recreation facilities that already have high volume usage.

Please forward this email to town administration and/or council to ensure the opinions of Kentville Minor Ball are known related to this.

Trevor Butler  
VP Kentville Minor Ball

[trevor\\_butler@hotmail.com](mailto:trevor_butler@hotmail.com)

**Recommendation:** Staff do not recommend that the land be used for the development of a racquet facility. This development on the Little League field would result in a loss of use for two introductory sport levels for minor baseball. Furthermore, a part of the property is in a flood zone.





**TO:** Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** Craig Langille, Director of Parks and Recreation

**DATE:** March 11, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Kentville Racquet Facility

---

### **ORIGIN**

At the January meeting of Council Advisory Committee, Richard Galpin presented to Council on a proposal to build a racquet facility in Kentville on Field 4, located behind the credit union soccer facility. Council directed staff to provide a staffing report to gather further information on the impact of this facility in the community.

### **BACKGROUND**

To support council in the decision and impact of a racquet facility in Kentville, staff have been in discussions with the Kings County Tennis Association and Tennis Nova Scotia. The Annapolis Valley has been identified by Tennis Canada and Rogers as a location for their Year-Round Tennis Courts Program, which is an initiative in capacity building to make tennis more accessible across Canada. This is a joint agreement between Tennis Canada and Rogers, and its goal is to provide year-round tennis for Canadians and help foster increased participation amongst youth with the aim of building 160 year-round courts at up to 30 facilities by 2029.

The Kings County Tennis Association spoke to several municipalities, and it was determined that the Town of Kentville would be the most desirable location. The facility was originally proposed beside the Credit Union Soccer Facility, but it was determined to be too small for the layout of the facility and parking. It was proposed at the January CAC by Richard Galpin and the Kings County Tennis Association to build the facility on Field 4, behind the Credit Union Soccer Facility. Councillor Maxwell further proposed a location of Oakdene Park.

### **DISCUSSION**

Further discussions took place with staff and the Kings County Tennis Association regarding possible options for the location of the facility. The Parks and Recreation department was approached by Parsons Investment to discuss options for privately owned land that could be acquired for the build of the facility. These discussions continue with the Kings County Tennis Association and Parsons Investment.

Staff have received letters of support for the Racquet Facility through the Kings County Tennis Association, which include:

- Town of Wolfville
- Town of Berwick
- Municipality of the County of Kings
- Annapolis Valley Pickleball
- Gordon Hughes Tennis Club in Windsor
- Wolfville's Tennis Club
- Bridgetown Tennis Club

Also, staff have received a letter from the Kings West Soccer Club and Valley District Soccer Club voicing their concerns for the build of a facility on Field 4 or Oakdene Park.



Staff has considered the following information for its recommendation:

- Both green spaces hold value in the community and are current assets that the Town has previously invested into developing
- Adding an asset is valuable for the Town but not at the expense of an existing asset(s) that is utilized in the community for programming of all ages
- Field 4 currently hosts under 5 and under 7 soccer programs, which accounts for 250 children under the age of 7 that specifically use the field. Furthermore, all seniors men's and women's programs play on this field and host all home games at this location.
- Field 4 is the only field that can operate after long periods of rain, due to its ability to withstand rainfall. Especially after a rain filled year in 2023, this field saw more participation than other fields in Kentville.
- Oakdene Park is currently used for all under 14 (12-14 years old) programs and other user groups, such as football, ultimate frisbee and town programming.
- For long-term capital planning
  - Field 4 is an ideal location for an artificial turf surface with lighting in the future. Which is on the Town of Kentville's 5-year capital plan.
  - Oakdene Park has an irrigation project scheduled for spring 2024 and the department is currently engaging community in the area for a recreation hub building development that was approved by council in the 5-year capital plan. This links to the Accessibility Action Plan and the feedback we have received from our community partners for additional space.
- Both Oakdene Park and Field 4 would require further asset displacement to accommodate parking and access roads to facility

Staff believe that the Town of Kentville would benefit from a Racquet Facility in our community. This facility would be an asset for physical activity, community health, and enhancing recreation opportunities and sport development for the community of Kentville.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

None.

### **BUDGET IMPLICATION**

Has not been determined at this time and staff are awaiting financial request from Kings County Tennis Association.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Letters of Support

- Town of Wolfville
- Town of Berwick
- Municipality of the County of Kings
- Annapolis Valley Pickleball
- Gordon Hughes Tennis Club in Windsor
- Wolfville's Tennis Club
- Bridgetown Tennis Club

Letter of Concern

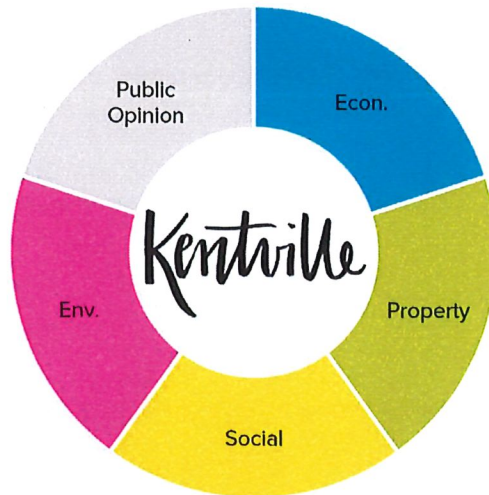
- Kings West Soccer Club
- Valley District Soccer Club



### **RECOMMENDATION**

Whereas Field 4 and Oakdene Park fields are current assets in the community,  
and whereas the facility development on either of these sites would lead to user groups being  
displaced. Staff do not recommend that council approve the development of a racquet facility at  
either Field 4 or at Oakdene Park.

Town of Kentville Decision Wheel:







January 8, 2024

Honourable John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Dear Minister Lohr;

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the Kings indoor racquet facility to be developed in the Town of Kentville but to serve our entire region.

The facility will incorporate year-round tennis and pickleball opportunities, both very popular and growing in our region. One of the challenges of smaller communities is the ability to provide services such as this in our smaller populations, and we appreciate the support given to this group by way of land by the Town of Kentville.

Our region has a relatively high percentage of older adults for whom it is so important to engage in healthy, active and social opportunities. I believe this facility will enhance those opportunities to the benefit of all our residents.

It is well understood that such facilities also strengthen our economic foundations. As our businesses work to recruit employees and their families the amenities of a region play a significant and often under appreciated role in attraction and retention. These goals in turn will contribute to growth priorities of the Provincial government and I am happy to write to you in support of funding applications your government may receive.

Sincerely

Wendy Donovan  
Mayor, Town of Wolfville  
902.698.6342



To whom it may concern,

Indoor facilities for sport and recreation are in high-demand in the Annapolis Valley region of Nova Scotia. Arenas, soccer domes and gymnasiums see regular and consistent programming spanning many age ranges and activity levels. The Town of Berwick is home to a small, recreational gymnasium that is fully booked seven days a week with a variety of activities, the primary booking being pickleball. The Berwick pickleball group runs seven sessions a week from the Town Hall gymnasium, and the demand exists for further bookings which can not be accommodated within this facility.

An indoor racquet facility, as proposed by the Kings Indoor Racquet Facility non-profit group, would undoubtedly be beneficial to the Annapolis Valley region. Facilities, which are not intended or most suitable for racquet sport use, are booked across the region regularly and consistently. The popularity of pickleball cannot be denied, and in the summer months, tennis continues to be a popular choice at our revitalized outdoor courts in the Town of Berwick. An indoor facility dedicated to these sports would increase awareness and lead to greater physical activity levels within the region's population. An indoor facility would also boost tourism and have economic benefits for all parts of the region.

The Town of Berwick supports the efforts of the Kings Indoor Racquet Facility non-profit group to bring an indoor racquet facility to the Annapolis Valley, and recognizes the value of such a facility to the community. It is our hope that the facility will be able to secure the necessary funding and support to become a reality in the near future.

Sincerely,

TOWN OF BERWICK

Mayor Donald E Clarke



**MUNICIPALITY of the  
COUNTY of KINGS**

Attn: David Lang  
Kings County Indoor Tennis Association  
Kings County, NS

January 4, 2024

Via email: [dkeslang@gmail.com](mailto:dkeslang@gmail.com)

Dear Mr. Lang,

Thank you for your communication regarding the potential development of an Indoor Tennis Centre in Kings County, and your plans for applying to different funding opportunities.

We are pleased to provide this letter of support to accompany your application.

The Municipality of the County of Kings has been offering a very popular tennis program in the summer months for several years and expects to see the desire for more racquet sport opportunities grow even more in the future. A year-round facility that could provide access to tennis, pickle ball, and other similar sports would be a welcome addition to the region.

Our own Council will consider requests for our Vision Grant Fund when appropriate. We greatly appreciate the work of your group to take the initiative to develop such a facility, and again are supportive of having such a facility available for the residents of Kings County.

Respectfully,

Deputy Mayor Emily Lutz  
Municipality of the County of Kings

To the Municipalities of Kentville and Kings County  
Cody Bloise MP Kings Hants John Lohr MLA Kings North  
Brad Lawlor Tennis Nova Scotia

Pickleball is the largest growing sport in North America and the Valley is fortunate to be part of this boom. The numerous benefits of playing pickleball are currently being experienced by many with interest growing daily. This growth has created the need for additional venues especially in the Kings County area.

Venue registrations for pickleball play tend to fill on average 10 minutes after the registration opens. This leaves many players without a place to play if they were not able to register during that very short time frame. This speaks to the demand for play currently much higher than the available spots for play. In addition to this, there is very limited space for introductory sessions, clinics, and tournaments.

The Valley players use numerous venues including school gyms and community centres. Players also commute to Bedford to play at the tennis facility. The challenge with relying on school gyms for court time is that schools are not available on storm days, holidays, off season and play is always cancelled for school events and sports.

There are currently about 950 spots used in valley through a combination of registered programming and drop in pay as you go sessions. Some players have one spot in this number per week with others have up to 7. The valley has a Facebook group with 975 members.

Many members have joined competitive groups and are playing in tournaments and the local, provincial and national level.

It is important for the Annapolis Valley Pickleball Association to enhance and support the program for many reasons:

1. **Accessibility:** One of the key reasons for pickleball's popularity is its accessibility. The sport is relatively easy to learn and can be played by people of all ages and skill levels. The court is smaller than a tennis court, and the rules are simpler, making it more approachable for beginners.
2. **Demographic Appeal:** Pickleball attracts a wide demographic, including both younger and older players. Its popularity among older adults, in particular, is notable due to the sport's lower impact on joints compared to some other racquet sports. Older adult physical health is



extremely important, and this sport is one of a few that supports it.

3. **Social Aspect:** Pickleball is known for its social aspect. It's often played in doubles, and the game's nature encourages interaction and camaraderie among players. Many people enjoy the social component of pickleball, leading to the formation of community groups and organized leagues.
4. **Physical Benefits:** Pickleball provides a good cardiovascular workout, promoting physical fitness. The sport involves short bursts of movement, which can be less demanding on the body compared to some other racquet sports. This makes it attractive to individuals looking for a fun way to stay active.
5. **Adaptability:** Pickleball can be played both indoors and outdoors, allowing for year-round play in various climates. This adaptability contributes to its widespread popularity in different regions.
6. **Media Exposure:** Increased media coverage and promotion of pickleball at both local and national levels have played a role in its rising popularity. Tournaments, exhibitions, and positive coverage in the media have helped raise awareness and attract new players to the sport.
7. **Facility Availability:** More recreational facilities and community centers are adding pickleball courts, responding to the demand for this sport. The availability of facilities makes it easier for people to try pickleball and engage in regular play. The valley is currently experienced challenges in accessing enough facilities.
8. **Professionalization:** While pickleball originated as a recreational activity, it has developed a more competitive edge with the establishment of professional tournaments. The growth of professional pickleball has drawn attention from serious athletes and spectators alike.
9. **Economic Spin Off:** Players travel to play, clinics and tournaments. With the ability to host the latter two, this would create revenue to hotels, restaurants and local shops. People coming to the area for an afternoon of recreation play will extend their time while eating in a local venue or shopping in a local store.

With the information outlined above, the association is excited about the work being done to create a tennis facility in the valley. The venue would create the opportunity for Valley Pickleball to rent the courts for weekly, monthly and quarterly

booking commitments which would include learn to play sessions, rec play, competitive play and league play. The association would also book the facility to host local and regional tournaments. There would also be the opportunity to bid to host sanctioned regional and national tournaments.

Yours,

Leigh-Ann Murphy  
Chair, Annapolis Valley Pickleball

***Gordon Hughes Tennis Club – Windsor, NS***  
151 College Road, P.O. Box 432, Windsor, NS B0N 2T0

January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Honourable John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Dear Minister Lohr,

On behalf of the members of The Gordon Hughes Tennis Club – Windsor, NS, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for an indoor Tennis/Pickleball facility to be built in Kentville, servicing the Valley region.

Our Windsor Tennis Club has up to 200 members registered each season (Apr-Aug) which includes families/adults/children and seniors ranging from 4 to 85 years of age. Approximately 200 people use our facility on a regular basis during the short season we have.

As you can see, our season is very short and our members would certainly benefit in having a facility closer to home in the Annapolis Valley. At this point, many of us drive into the Halifax area to play the sport we love to play all year round as well as attend lessons and clinics. Having a year-round Tennis /Pickleball facility in Kentville area would benefit our members that live in a rural district where many are not afforded the opportunity to access indoor courts all year round. This type of facility would entice new members to try the sport of tennis and pickleball.

Strong communities are built on many people working together and supporting each other to provide valuable services within each of our districts to make our Towns and Municipalities a great place to live, work and play. We in Windsor are fortunate to have this type of teamwork with the Wolfville/Kentville area tennis clubs already through years of working together.

In closing, we strongly support this initiative and are very excited to have the opportunity to play tennis year-round in the Annapolis Valley.

Sincerely,

Shirley Drake, President  
Gordon Hughes Tennis Club – Windsor, NS  
902-798-2737





Stephen LeDrew, President  
Wolfville Tennis Club  
email: wolfvilletenniscub@gmail.com  
tel: (709) 764-5441

December 23, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Wolfville Tennis Club (WTC), I am writing this letter in support of the development of the proposed Valley Racquet Centre. For nearly fifty years, our club has been a centre of community life in Wolfville and the broader region. With 105 registered members in 2023, plus another 113 participants in junior programs, WTC is an important site of recreation and socialization for people in the area. Unfortunately, it all comes to an end each year in late October when the club shuts down until the spring, and people no longer have access to the same opportunities for exercise, recreation, and social activities that are so important to our physical and mental well-being. An indoor racquet sports facility is something our members have desired for years and would meet the demands of a growing sports community. Thanks in part to the success of some young Canadian tennis stars, the sport is currently enjoying a period of growing popularity in the province. Our most recent tournament, the Valley Open, was held in July of 2023 and attracted participants from Truro, Halifax, Dartmouth, Chester, Windsor, and Annapolis Royal, in addition to the Wolfville area. The new Valley Racquet Centre could host sanctioned Tennis Canada tournaments that would bring people into the region from other areas of the province and beyond.

At WTC we have spring and summer junior programs, offering lessons and organized activities for youth between the ages of 5-16 that routinely attract over 100 participants each year. Most of these young people, however, have no opportunity to continue playing when the summer is over. We have several promising junior players in the area who have had success at Tennis Nova Scotia tournaments held at the Sobeys Atlantic Tennis Centre, but their development is challenged by having to travel to Bedford during the winter months for lessons. Access to an indoor facility is necessary for athletes from Nova Scotia to succeed in the sport at higher levels. Given the strong interest in our junior programs each year, I am confident that the Valley Racquet Centre would enjoy a successful junior lesson program.

The Annapolis Valley is changing, and young families are moving here because it has a lot to offer. I can speak from personal experience, as we are a young family that relocated to the area a few years ago. While there are many benefits to living here, the limited availability of year-round recreational opportunities for children is an issue. To continue to attract young families and encourage growth in our region, it is vital to provide access to these kinds of resources and facilities. As President of WTC, and as a father and a member of our community with an interest in enhancing the quality of life in the area and its ongoing development as a desirable destination for people from all walks of life, I strongly support the development of the Valley Racquet Centre.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen LeDrew'.

Stephen LeDrew, President  
Wolfville Tennis Club

From: **Lynn Winter** lwinter1721@gmail.com  
Subject: **Letter of support**  
Date: **Jan 18, 2024 at 6:12:59 PM**  
To: **rggal89@gmail.com**

---

**Good evening,**

**Please find the letter of support from the Bridgetown  
Tennis Club attached. I hope it meets with your approval.**

**Sincerely,**

**Lynn Winter  
President of BTC**

Bridgetown Tennis Club

Lynn Winter, President  
email: [btowntennisclub@gmail.com](mailto:btowntennisclub@gmail.com)  
tel: 902-526-0778

January 18, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

As president of the Bridgetown Tennis Club, I am writing on behalf of our club in support of the proposed Valley Racquet Centre. Our club understands the need for such a centre in the heart of the Annapolis Valley.

Tennis and Pickleball are taking off in our community and I know that this centre would provide the perfect opportunity for our members to play and to attend coaching sessions and clinics in an indoor facility year round.

Clearly a great deal of thought and time has gone into this project. This is not just a centre for a select few, but a centre that will enhance the lives of so many: families/adults/children and seniors.

Health and fitness is the goal for the future and we stand behind a centre that would promote this lifestyle by providing a year round place to play.

In closing, the Bridgetown Tennis Club strongly supports this initiative and look forward to the completion of this wonderful centre.

Sincerely,

Lynn Winter  
President of Bridgetown Tennis Club





# **KINGS WEST SOCCER CLUB**



**P.O. Box 664  
Kentville, N.S.  
B4N 3X9**

January 30, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

In reference to the proposal of removing Kentville soccer Field #4 and the surrounding track to make room for construction of a Racket Facility.

The news of this proposal creates a number of concerns for the Kings West Soccer Club (KWSC) who are responsible for providing soccer programs for the members of the Town of Kentville and neighbouring communities.

- 1) Kings West has a membership of approximately 800 players. Within that, the largest and fastest growing component is the Under 5 and Under 7 mini programs which in 2023 had just under 250 members. All these players have their time slots on Field 4, Mondays to Thursdays from 6-7pm. Each evening there are up to 100 players participating, accompanied by coaches, leaders, parents, etc. Prior to being able to use Field 4 several years ago, and when numbers were smaller, players from the Coldbrook area used the school field there and players from the town of Kentville were on Oakdene fields. Having the groups split meant division and duplication of equipment, leaders, etc. The Coldbrook school field also brought challenges in terms of safety and maintenance. In Kentville, there were only 50-60 players on the Oakdene fields but not a week went by without complaints coming to both the town and the soccer club about traffic congestion and issues. The parking lots were full and both sides of Campbell Road lined with parked vehicles, at some times making it impassable. This was further compounded as when the U-5's and 7's wrapped up at 7pm, the next user groups were arriving at the same time. Field 4 in Kentville allows all players of these age groups to be together which in turn allows consolidation of both physical and human resources. Equipment is stored for easy accessibility in both the indoor facility and the Kings West shed. There is ample parking space for all those involved and the setup at the facility allows the 6-7pm users to leave on one side while the post 7pm users can arrive on the other. Not only does this field allow the most efficient and effective use for these 250 players but there currently are no other options on Kentville fields. During these time slots, Fields 1 and 2 are being used by the U-11's and some youth teams. Field 3 is solidly booked with U-9's and Oakdene has U-13's along with other sports like Ultimate Frisbee on their surfaces.
- 2) Kings West has 5-8 senior men's and women's teams, depending on the year. After the mini programs wrap up at 7pm, Field 4 is the location for all home games played by these teams. Very few nights do not have a game. The only other fields in the area with the proper dimensions to play these games are

Fields 1 and 2 by the KCA school. These however, are booked solid after 7pm each day by the Kings West U15 and U18 teams for their training and home games.

- 3) Due to its sub-surface, Field 4 has by far the best ability of all fields in the area to handle large amounts of water. Last year often saw huge amounts of rain come down at one time. Sometimes, two days later under sunny skies, most fields including those at Lockhart-Ryan and KCA would still be closed due to them still being saturated. Field 4 would be good to go and was often the location for important games that needed to be played.
- 4) For a number of years there has been talk of the desire and need for an artificial surface with lights, surrounded by a track to be built in the area – like the ones found at Acadia and Bridgetown. Field 4 is by far the obvious location for such a venture. It already has a track and it has the space around it for lights, bleachers, fences, etc. to be built without being jammed up against other fields or buildings.
- 5) Jumping off the soccer theme – I am currently working out of the office at the indoor facility which allows me to look directly at Field 4 all day. The number of people that come regularly (even in the winter) and use that field to walk/jog/run around, exercise their dogs, etc. is incredible. I had no idea. The majority of these are older, likely retired, people. Field 4 gives them the opportunity to park on a paved flat surface a few yards from the field/track and to access them on a flat well-gravelled roadway. They also get to do this without traffic or other interference from other activities such as those around a school. There is no other such venue in the area that I know of.

The loss of Field 4 would have a huge impact on both the soccer members of Kings West and general public users. What would be lost could not be replaced. No other single field in the area could be removed that would do anywhere close to the damage that losing Field 4 would.

I'm all for the creation of any new recreational facilities that add to what the area already has, especially when it is something that didn't previously exist – like the skatepark. But not at the loss of what is already there. To me, this would feel like spending \$300 to earn \$100. Hopefully Field 4 continues to exist for many years to come.

Respectfully

Stephen McNeill

Administrator – KWSC

Alanna Chiasson

President - KWSC



**VALLEY DISTRICT SOCCER**



38 Gary Pearl Drive  
Kentville, NS  
B4N 0H4

Phone: 902-678-2426  
Fax: 902-678-3602  
[www.valleysoccer.org](http://www.valleysoccer.org)

February 5, 2024

Craig Langille  
Director, Parks and Recreation  
Town of Kentville

Re: Racquet Facility for Kentville

Dear Craig

I am writing to offer comment on a proposed Racquet Facility within the Town of Kentville. The Valley District Soccer Association (VDSA) is in full support of efforts to create a municipal / regional facility(ies) to support the needs of everyone enjoying participation in racquet sports.

Our comment is focused on the understanding that a proposed site under consideration could be the current Kentville Field #4 location, directly adjacent to the Credit Union Recreation Complex.

Currently Field #4 provides a multitude of daily use options for residents of Kentville and participants in programs offered within Kentville and the surrounding municipalities. The Field is accessible from the CURC parking lot which affords appropriate parking and avoids traffic congestion. The use of Field #4 ranges from traditional soccer practices and games to a daily walking area (with year-round use), and over the years local and regional track and field events.

The spring and summer season sees the field used regularly by the Kings West Soccer Club for programming of all ages. The club has over 800 members and programming ranges from minis (100 plus 5-7 year-old players) through youth and senior teams (adult) for training and games from May to September. The availability of Field #4 allows Kings West to operate most programs in proximity also using Fields #1, #2, and #3, adjacent to the west at the KCA School site.

Field #4 is also one of the best fields from an operational standpoint, as it has a superior sub-surface and can handle more precipitation than the other fields close by. This Field would also be site of interest should the long-held discussion of a lighted field or artificial playing surface within the Town come to fruition. Designating Field #4 for an alternate use would have more impact as a loss for the community than any of the other fields.





**VALLEY DISTRICT SOCCER**



38 Gary Pearl Drive  
Kentville, NS  
B4N 0H4

Phone: 902-678-2426

Fax: 902-678-3602

[www.valleysoccer.org](http://www.valleysoccer.org)

The value of additional recreation facilities in the Town of Kentville is not in question at all, and in fact VDSA would support any development that encourages physical activity and positive engagement for all ages, like a racquet facility.

The concern arises when the addition of needed and valued facilities comes at the expense of another needed and valued facility. That seems counter intuitive on several levels, especially for the leader in quality municipal recreation facilities and programs that Kentville is in our province.

If there is more specific data or evidence of the volume of activity taking place on Field #4 is needed, we'd be happy to provide some leadership in gathering that information.

I appreciate your time in reviewing these concerns and welcome an opportunity to participate further in this process as appropriate.

Sincerely,

*James Sanford*

James Sanford

President

Valley District Soccer Association



---

Jennifer West  
Deputy Clerk  
354 Main Street  
Kentville, NS  
B4N 1K6

902-599-2503  
jwest@kentville.ca

---

June 10, 2024

RE: Federal Offer to Purchase Land

---

In August 2023, the Federal Department of Environment and Climate Change delivered an offer to purchase land from the Town of Kentville. The two land parcels of interest are located north of the Cornwallis River, between West Main Street and Brooklyn Road. See page 2 for maps of the location.

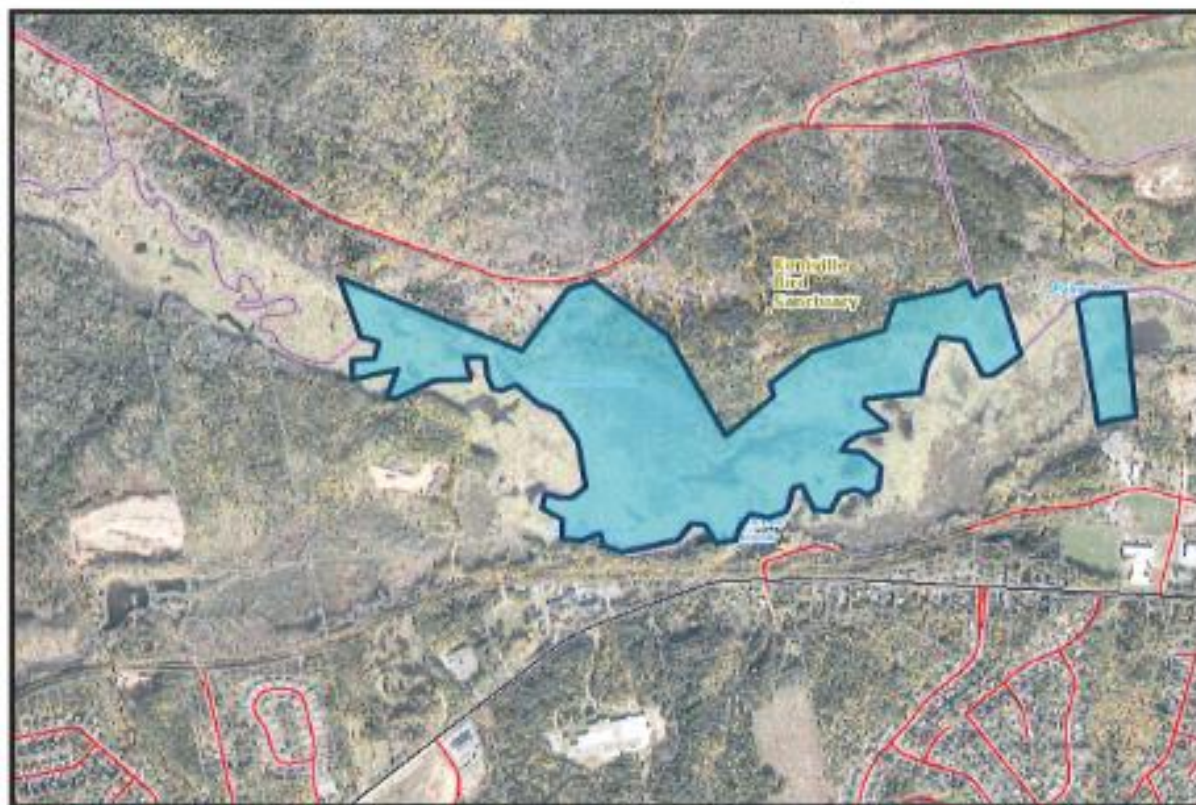
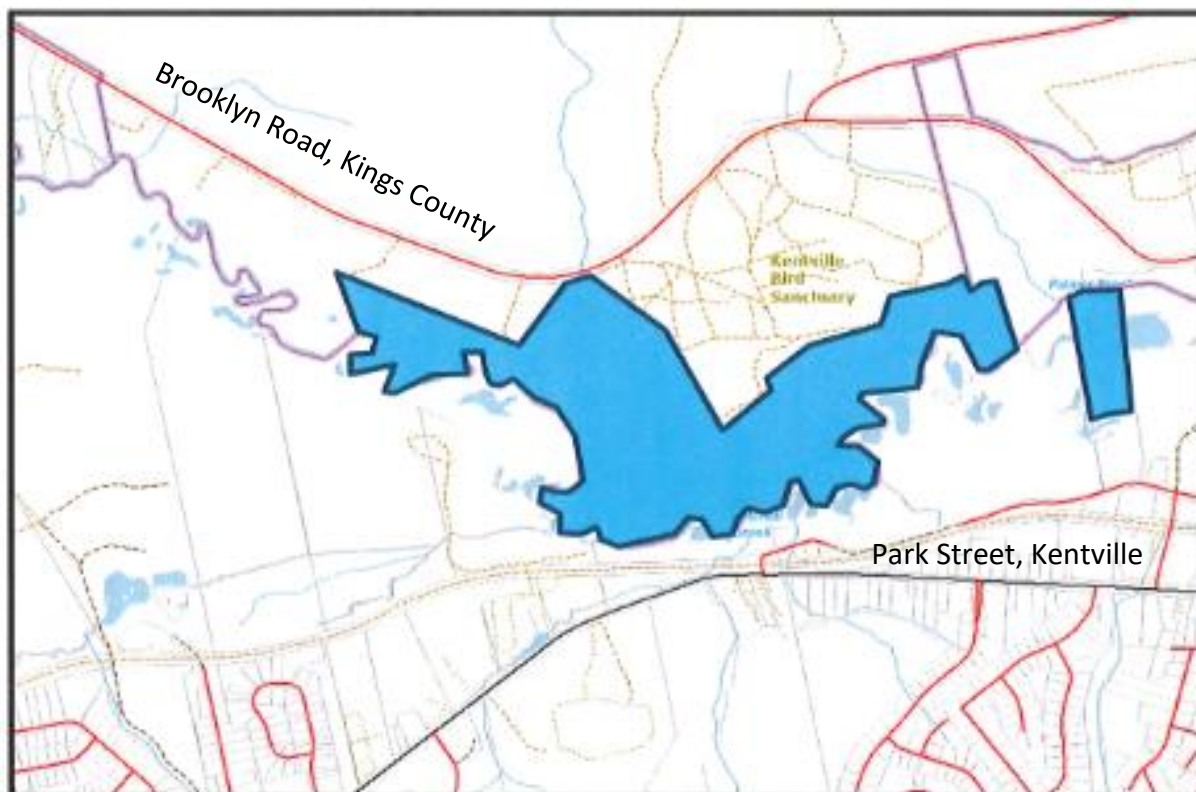
The Federal Government is interested in purchasing land across Canada that will support habitat protection to help reach the national target to protect 25% of Canada's land by 2025. There is particular interest in this parcel of land because it is adjacent to existing federal protected area (Migratory Bird Sanctuary).

Although some maps indicate that these parcels are not part of town-owned property, staff confirmed that these are part of the Town's assets. Both parcels fall under the category of Floodway in the Municipal Planning Strategy and are not currently eligible for any type of development. See page 3 for the overlay of the Environmental Constraints Overlay Map from the Municipal Planning Strategy, on the larger parcel. Staff identified no issues with the sale of the larger parcel of land. The small parcel to the east is adjacent to the public works building parcel and is of interest to the Public Works and Engineering Department for future expansion or land use.

Staff recommend that the CAO to respond to this offer to purchase land and report back to Council with the proposed purchase price.

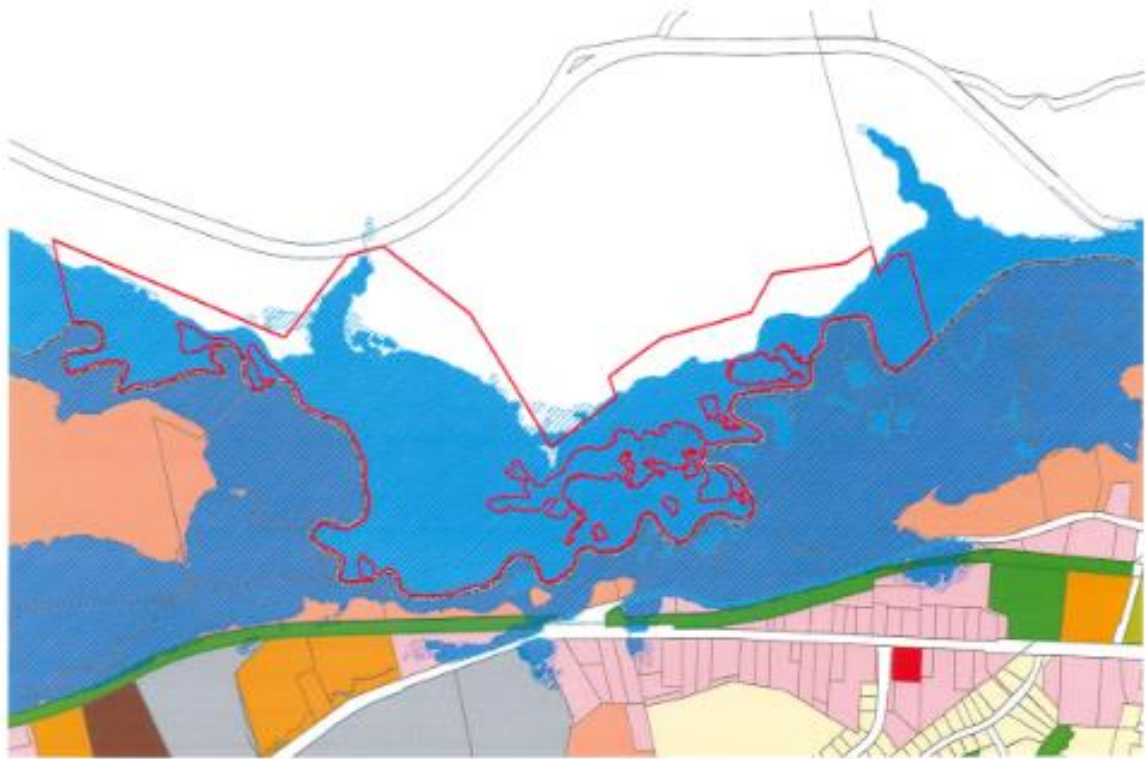
Jennifer West  
Deputy Clerk  
Town of Kentville

Map of the property, in context of the Kentville Bird Sanctuary, Brooklyn Road and Kentville's Main Street.





Red outline of the properties, with the blue layer of the floodway land designation from the Town of Kentville's Land Use Bylaw.





June 10, 2024

RE: Environmental Planning Task Team

---

---

Deputy Clerk  
Jennifer West  
354 Main Street  
Kentville, NS  
B4N 1K6

902-679-2503  
jwest@kentville.ca

---

Kentville is at the beginning of a three-year path toward many exciting environmental initiatives. Through the Community Climate Capacity grant, and the Quest Net Zero Community Accelerator program, the town will be able to move forward with a number of projects, policies and events to support sustainability and resilience.

As part of this work, staff recommend that Council support the creation of an Environment Planning Task Team. A task team is a “sub-committee” with a defined goal and limited time frame. Staff envision that the EPTT will be a group of residents and elected officials who will:

- Be the lead engagement group for energy conversations and engagement for the Quest program, which will lean on this engaged group to provide feedback, participate in energy mapping, and encourage larger discussions on energy and adaptation conversations in the community.
- Develop a terms of reference for a standing committee of council, to be presented to Council for review in September 2025.

The draft terms of reference for the task team is attached for your review and feedback, as well as the background of the environment projects currently underway.

Staff want to engage residents in the work on sustainability and resilience as early as possible and establish a model for long term planning and advising on future initiatives and priorities. Staff hope that Council will consider supporting the launch of this task team in June of 2024.

Staff recommend that Council support the establishment of a one-year Environment Planning Task Team to (a) support the work of the Quest Net Zero Accelerator program and (b) create the framework for a standing committee of Council for environmental issues.

Jennifer West  
Town of Kentville



# Introducing: Climate Projects 2024-2026

The Town of Kentville has been approved for a Climate Community Capacity by the province through the Clean Foundation. This grant will provide a dedicated, remote staff person to help us with our climate-related projects over the next three years. The project will focus on the following three areas of work:

## Community Energy Planning.



The town needs staff support to complete the Net Zero Community Accelerator Program through Quest Canada in 2024. This program will include public engagement, strategic planning meetings, creation of an Energy Plan for the Town, and setting emissions targets as a town. To support the town's Energy Plan Kentville the CCC will liaise with the Valley community Learning Association in 2025 to create demonstration projects at VCLA and throughout the town that showcase ways for residents to be more energy independent and resilient. Examples include building and installing bicycle- or solar- powered phone chargers, washing machines, and other devices. Community events will expand on these ideas and help residents create their own power during outages. In 2026, the town will be poised to complete deep energy retrofits to the town hall building. Following an energy audit in 2022 and an accessibility audit in 2023, the CCC will help guide the town to a decision around implementing deep retrofit recommendations by 2026.

## Community Adaptation and Resilience.



After several years of extreme rainfall and flooding events, the Town is launching a program to support stormwater management (SWM) for residents and homeowners. From 2024-2025 staff and the CCC will help coordinate seminars, a demonstration site, property assessments and SWM incentives for upgrades on private property. This program will lead to other conversations around adaptation initiatives that will help residents be more prepared for, and resilient in the face of changing weather. Staff and the ccc will work to create an Adaptation Action Plan for the town in 2026.

## Birds and Biodiversity.



Kentville has a number of beautiful natural parks that support education programs for bird and wildlife habitat conservation. This has led to the development of a Bird Team which is preparing an application to have the town designated as a Bird Friendly Town through Nature Canada. Staff and the CCC will complete this designation process that includes programs around threat reduction, conservation policies, and engagement programs around birding and habitat conservation. In anticipation of an Adaptation Action Plan, to reduce urban heat islands and to expand bird habitat, staff and the CCC will develop and implement a tree planting plan in the downtown and across public land.

The Climate Coordinator will be highly supported in their work. Through the Clean Foundation, they will have a team of coordinators to work with on complex issues. In Town Hall they will liaise primarily with Jennifer West and also with Alisha Christie, with appropriate oversight by the Chief Administrative Officer Jeff Lawrence.



### **YEAR 1 OBJECTIVES:**

- Community Energy Planning: Net Zero Community Accelerator Program, phase 1. Engagement, strategic planning, data collection.
- Community Adaptation and Resilience: Climate Resiliency Initiative: Natural Stormwater Management. Two seminars, demonstration site design and build, resources and tools for residents
- Birds and Biodiversity: Complete the criteria for Bird Friendly Town designation, submit the application to Nature Canada for consideration.

### **YEAR 2 OBJECTIVES:**

- Community Energy Planning: Net Zero Community Accelerator Program, phase 2. Plan development and implementation.
- Community Adaptation and Resilience: Community Energy Interactive Exhibits. Development of interactive exhibits showing ways to create alternative energy
- Community Adaptation and Resilience: Climate Resiliency Initiative: Natural Stormwater Management. Two seminars, demonstration site design and build, resources and tools for residents

### **YEAR 3 OBJECTIVES:**

- Birds and Biodiversity: Review priority areas for adding shade trees to the town, and create a short and long term Tree Plan, including budgeting, for new trees in Kentville
- Community Adaptation and Resilience: Using the learnings from the Climate Resiliency Initiative and Bird Friendly Town project, develop and being implementation of an Adaptation Action Plan
- Community Energy Planning: Implement deep energy retrofits and accessibility upgrades to town hall based on energy audit recommendations and accessibility audit recommendations.



## Environment Planning Task Team – 2024-2025

---

### Introduction:

The Environment Planning Task Team is a foundational/engagement group made of residents, elected officials and staff.

### Values & Expectations:

- Accountability: We accept responsibility.
- Integrity: We are honest, and impartial. We are committed to standards of behaviour, safety, and expertise befitting our respective duties and responsibilities.
- Diversity: We are welcoming and free of discrimination. We believe that everyone brings value - we all belong, whatever our race, culture, gender, age, spiritual belief, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability or any other personal attribute. We encourage new ideas. We develop the skills needed to bring these ideas to life. We value diversity in colleagues and the public.
- The Public Good: We are guided by what is best for our citizens. Our every service is in support of and intended to advance the community - we work to earn the trust and confidence of our community.
- Collaboration: We are committed to working together in peace and harmony to share ideas, efforts, and to find solutions as a community for the community.
- Conflict: We recognize that in collaboration, conflict may arise and we are committed to empathy and understanding when navigating uncertainty or discourse to find collect agreement.

### Membership and Meetings:

Members should have interest or expertise in one or more of the following areas: environmental science, environmental engineering, geology, hydrology, climate change, sustainability, energy systems, adaptation methods, strategic planning, environmental advocacy, community engagement, habitat conservation, policy or policy development, or community development.

The task team will be made up of 4 residents, 3 councillors and 2 support staff (non-voting members). Members are expected to make a commitment to the term of this task team, which is one year. The task team meets at least 6 times at a location and time that is most convenient for the most members. The task team provides updates to Council through the elected officials' monthly reports.

### Goals and Outcomes:

The purpose of the EPTT is to

- (a) be the primary advisory group for Kentville's Net Zero Community Accelerator project



- (b) create a structure and terms of reference for a standing committee of Council, to recommend to Council in September 2025.

## **Purpose:**

The resulting standing committee will support and advise the staff and non-staff Climate team in the completion of projects as well as other events, policies and programs that enhance climate capacity, community resilience and/or regional collaboration around sustainability and resilience.

This task team follows Policy Statement G57 Committees of Council for its meeting structure and processes and follows Policy Statement G16 Code of Conduct for Elected Officials for the behaviour of members.