



TOWN OF OXFORD
Town Council Meeting
Council Chambers, conducted through Zoom and Live to
FaceBook
Monday, November 15, 2021
6 PM

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Previous Minutes
 - 3.1 Town Council Minutes – October 18, 2021
4. New Business
 - 4.1 **Vaccination Policy** – recommendation to Council from Committee of the Whole 01 Nov 21 – *Linda*
 - 4.2 **Intermunicipal Poverty Reduction Advisory Committee, Terms of Reference** – recommendation to Council from Committee of the Whole 01 Nov 21 – *Councillor Black*
 - 4.3 **Policing Review Update** – *Linda - verbal*
 - 4.4 **Black River Substance Update** – *Mayor Henley - verbal*
 - 4.5 **Recommendation of the Steering Committee, re: Divestiture of Cumberland Central Landfill**– *Mayor Henley*
 - 4.6 **Eat Local Cumberland request** – *Linda*
 - 4.7 **Oxford Historical Society request** – *Linda*
 - 4.8 **Oxford Pioneer Heritage Club request** - *Linda*
5. Reports
 - 5.1 Public Works Report - *Linda*
 - 5.2 Fire Department Report - *Linda*
6. Committee Updates
 - 6.1 Accessibility Committee – Chairperson Councillor MacDonald

- 6.2 Arena Committee – Councillor Colborne, Jones and MacDonald
 - 6.3 Audit Committee – Chairperson Councillor Black
 - 6.4 Community Economic Development Committee – Chairperson Councillor MacDonald
 - 6.5 Fire Department Committee – Councillors MacDonald and Colborne
 - 6.6 Procurement Committee – Chairperson Councillor Jones
 - 6.7 Public Works Committee – Mayor Henley, Councillors Black and Jones
 - 6.8 Recreation Commission Committee – Councillor McNutt
 - 6.9 Town Buildings Committee – Mayor Henley, Deputy Mayor Adshade, Councillors Colborne and Jones.
 - 6.10 Town Services Committee – Chairperson Councillor Jones
- 7. Correspondence
 - 7.1 Municipal Affairs and Housing - Minister Lohr – Municipal Awareness Week.
 - 7.2 Nova Scotia Department of Justice - Hayley Crichton, A/Executive Director, Public Safety and Security Division – Collective Agreement
- 8. Adjournment



Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting

Place: Conducted through Zoom and streamed live to Facebook
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021
Presiding Officer: Mayor Gregory Henley
Councillors present: Deputy Mayor: Wade Adshade and Councillors: Carla Black, Brenton Colborne, Paul Jones, Arnold MacDonald, and Chrystal McNutt
Regrets: nil

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: Town Clerk – Linda Cloney (recording secretary)

1. Call to order

Mayor Henley called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded that the agenda of the Regular Town Council Meeting for October 18, 2021, be approved, as presented.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting for September 20, 2021 and the Special Town Council Minutes for October 4, 2021 be approved, as presented.

Motion Carried

4. New Business

4.1 Oxford Arena Association Proposal

It was moved and seconded to approve the Oxford Arena Proposal as presented.

Motion Carried

A copy of this proposal is included in the Council Package

4.2 Cumberland Trails Association – Kiosk – Town Space

The Cumberland Trails Association approached the Town of Oxford for use of property to install a Kiosk for the Oxford Trail Head, which is just off Water Street.

It was moved and seconded that the Town of Oxford grants permission to the Cumberland Trails Association to install a 12 x 14 gravel pad to put the kiosk in place at the location of the Oxford Trail Head.

Motion Carried

A copy of this proposal is included in the Council Package

4.3 Oxford Volunteer Fire Department – back ballfield - two-year lease

The Town of Oxford received a request from the Oxford Volunteer Fire Department to be granted a two-year lease to use the back ballfield to host fundraising events.

This request has been sent to the Recreation Commission for their review and recommendation.

A copy of this proposal is included in the Council Package

4.4 Oxford Minor Ball Request

A letter was received from Oxford Minor Ball to request use of the back ballfield. Oxford Minor Ball has been receiving donations and grants to assist in the investment of the back ballfield for future Oxford Minor Ball use.

This request has been sent to the Recreation Commission for their review and recommendation.

A copy of this proposal is included in the Council Package

4.5 Vaccination Policy

Staff gave notice to Council that a Vaccination Policy is being drafted and ready for review at next Committee of the Whole.

4.6 Cumberland Public Libraries – Council’s input required

A letter was presented from Denise Corey of the Cumberland Public Library Board. The Library board is looking to add a community representative to the makeup of the board. An addition to the Library board requires an agreement from all parties involved. That the Council agrees to the proposed change to the makeup of the board.

It was moved and seconded to accept the proposed change to the makeup of the library board.

Motion Carried

4.7 Northern Region Solid Waste Management Committee – needs Council Representation

The Town of Oxford needs Council representation on the Northern Region Solid Waste Management Committee. Linda will reach out to the committee and learn if the meetings

can be held via zoom rather than in-person. If so, Councillor McNutt would be able to attend those meetings.

4.8 Policing Review Update

A letter from Donna Jewers was received regarding the Municipality of the County of Cumberland's decision on the reduction of RCMP members. The Municipality of the County of Cumberland Council have declined any further reduction in RCMP members. Staff will reach out to Ms. Jewers for clarity of Oxford's options.

5. Reports

5.1 Public Works Report

Report accepted. No discussion.

5.2 Fire Department Report

Report accepted. No discussion.

5.3 Police Advisory Board Update

A couple of residents on Lower Main Street requested crosswalks to assist getting their children across the road for school safely. These requests were sent to the Traffic Authority, and they have recommended to install the two crosswalks as requested. Public Works has this work order.

A Volunteer Board Member for the Police Advisory Board has just resigned and now the Police Advisory Board is looking for a new community member to be a volunteer on the board. Anyone that may be interested to reach out to Town Hall.

It was moved and seconded to accept the reports as presented.

Motion Carried

6. Committee Updates

6.2 Arena Committee – Councillor Colborne

It was reported that the Ceiling Tape project was soon to be completed. It was also reported that the netting at the arena is in very poor shape and in need of replacing.

6.3 Audit Committee – Councillor Black

It was reported that the Town of Oxford books are with the auditors and once finalized the audit committee will schedule a meeting.

6.8 Recreation Commission Committee – Councillor McNutt

Christmas Parade planning is underway. The commission is currently working on the reports required for the funding that was received.

It was moved and seconded to accept the reports as verbally presented.

Motion Carried

7. Adjournment

At 6:23 pm, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

Gregory Henley, Mayor

Linda Cloney, Recording Secretary

DRAFT

TOWN OF OXFORD POLICY

Subject: COVID 19 Vaccination Policy

Minutes reference date: November 15, 2021

Department: All Town of Oxford Employees, Council, Volunteers, Board and Committee Members

Effective Date: November 15, 2021

Revision Date:

Purpose:

The Town of Oxford is committed to providing a safe working environment for our employees, Council and members of the public with whom we interact with regularly. Protective measures within the workplace are the responsibility of the employer. The purpose of this policy is to provide the Town of Oxford's expectations and requirements of staff, Council, volunteers, Board and committee members with respects to COVID-19 vaccination requirements so as to protect all workers and the public we serve.

Policy Statement

1. The Town of Oxford will require all employees, Council, volunteers, board and committee members (a part of membership in Town-owned premises) to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and provide proof of vaccination by January 17, 2022. The required proof needed is the most up to date Province of Nova Scotia COVID 19 proof of vaccination issued, ie. QR code. All people involved, that is described in the category of Department at the top of this document, must have received full vaccination of an approved COVID-19 vaccine by January 4, 2022. Proof of vaccination records will be kept confidential and used only as required to administer the Policy. Proof of vaccination will be the responsibility of the Mayor, Town Clerk, Chair and anyone that is head of an organization relating to the Town of Oxford.
2. The Policy applies to all Town of Oxford employees, Council, volunteers, board and committee members regardless of workplace, or worksite location, including those who are remote working.
3. Those who cannot be vaccinated based on an approved written medical exemption may request an exemption through the Town Clerk, by providing the appropriate documentation from a qualified medical professional as determined by the Province of Nova Scotia. If the exemption is validated and accepted by the Mayor, those people must participate in a Rapid Testing Program, and wear masks on an ongoing basis.
4. Any persons who fail to comply with any of the requirements by January 17, 2022, will be placed on an immediate unpaid leave of absence and may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.
5. Based on operational needs, positions vacated by the unpaid leaves of absence may be temporarily filed.

Definitions

- “fully vaccinated” means receipt of 1 dose of a vaccine authorized as a 1 dose vaccine series such as Janssen plus 14 days, or 2 doses of a vaccine authorized as a 2 dose vaccine series such as Pfizer, Moderna or AstraZeneca plus 14 days, or a complete series of any other World Health Organization authorized series of COVID-19 vaccine such as Sinopharm or Sinovac plus 14 days.
- “not fully vaccinated” means no receipt of any vaccine dose or receipt of 1 dose of a vaccine authorized as a 2 dose vaccine series such as Pfizer, Moderna or AstraZeneca plus 14 days.
- “vaccine” means a vaccine against COVID-19 that has been approved by either the Public Health Agency of Canada or the World Health Organization.

Certification

I, Gregory Henley, Mayor of the Town of Oxford, do hereby certify that the policy of which the foregoing is a true copy was duly passed at a duly called meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Oxford held on the 15th day of November 2021.

GIVEN under the hand of the Mayor and the corporate seal of the Town of Oxford this 15th day of November 2021.

Gregory Henley
Mayor



October 26, 2021

Linda Cloney
Municipal Clerk
Town of Oxford

Re: Intermunicipal Poverty Reduction Advisory Committee

Dear Linda:

At the October 25, 2021 meeting of Amherst Town Council, the following motion was passed;

That Council accept the Terms of Reference for the Intermunicipal Poverty Reduction Advisory Committee

I have also attached the draft terms of reference. We understand that the councils of Cumberland and Oxford will be considering the TOR and we look forward to your decision.

Yours truly,

Kim Jones
Director of Communications &
Community Well Being



Inter-Municipal Poverty Reduction Advisory Committee (PRAC) **DRAFT Terms of Reference**

Purpose

The purpose of the PRAC is to advise all municipalities of Cumberland County on matters regarding poverty reduction through the application of social equity lenses within rural communities. The primary goals of the PRAC are:

- 1. to increase wellness and quality of life for all constituents living in Cumberland County focusing on what is needed to prevent people from experiencing poverty.***
- 2. To support those who are financially marginalized by focusing on inclusion, empowerment, capacity building, and cross-sectoral collaboration.***

Mandate

The mandate of the PRAC is to:

- Develop a Strategic Plan (this is the initial mandate and should be presented to the Municipal Councils within 9 months of the Committee start-up) to be reviewed annually, and approved by the Municipal Councils.
- Provide advice and recommendations to Municipal Councils as determined by the Strategic Plan, or as directly requested by Municipal Councils;
- Create awareness and education around poverty and its impact on social wellness;
- Function as a hub of community-based poverty reduction assets;
- Consider and integrate the advice and activities of other council committees with mandates aligned with poverty reduction;
- Align with strategic priorities of councils that are matters related to the committee's purpose;
- Review these Terms of Reference every three years.

Strategic Plan

The components of the Strategic Plan may contain the following:

- Ongoing asset mapping and statistical analysis of relevant evidence and data sets including, but not limited to, local housing market, Canadian census, employment, health and wellness, etc.
- Outline causes of poverty and identify those that are most likely to experience it.
- Identification of most vulnerable demographics and related service gaps.
- Establish priorities based on the Social Determinants of Health model as they relate to poverty and develop corresponding action plans.

- Messaging and communications needs to actively engage our local community which will be delivered and managed through the Municipal Units communication processes.
- A five-year outlook with actionable goals outlined for years one and two.
- Develop tools to measure the success of the strategic plan and a reporting strategy to communicate results to municipal councils and the public.

Committee Composition and Term

The committee will endeavor to maintain a diverse and inclusive membership and represent all demographics and cultural groups within Cumberland County.

The membership of the **PRAC** will be as follows:

- Three Councillors as voting members - One Councillor from each Municipality (Amherst, Oxford and the County).
- Up to six members of the public as voting members, with at least one representative from each municipal unit. Representation from the following sectors preferred when possible:
 - Business
 - Non-Profit
 - Education
 - Medical
 - Social Supports
 - Justice
 - Lived Experience with poverty
- Each Municipality will appoint one staff person as their lead for the committee. Staff are not voting members.
- Other staff members from each municipal unit may be asked to attend meetings to assist the Committee as required.
- Members will be appointed by their respective Municipal Councils.
- Applications for community representatives will be solicited using radio, newspaper, social media and municipal websites. Interested citizens and organizations will be invited to submit a letter of interest and experience. The staff and Council members appointed to the Committee will review the applications and recommend the community representatives to the respective Municipal Council for approval.

Delegated Authority

The PRAC is established as an advisory committee to the three Municipal Councils and does not have any delegated authority. The Committee has no authority to direct staff. Any advice requiring implementation, reports or staff actions must first be considered by each of the municipal Councils.

Functioning of the Committee

The Clerks Office of each municipal unit will manage the scheduling and running of Committee meetings. This role will be shared amongst the municipal units on an annual rotating basis.

The Chairperson role shall be shared amongst, and meetings co-chaired by, the elected officials.

A quorum consists of a majority of the members of the Committee. Decisions of the Committee will be made by consensus. For the purposes of this Committee, consensus means general agreement, or a decision that all members of the Committee can live with, even if it is not every member's preferred way forward. If a minority of the Committee strongly objects to a decision, reasonable efforts will be made to find an accommodation. If those efforts fail, the dissenting opinions will be briefly noted in the Committee's recommendations.

Sub-Committees

The PRAC may convene sub-committees with the purpose of implementing specific action items within defined time frames.

Budget and Resources Remuneration

PRAC Committee members serve as volunteers and shall serve without remuneration.

Reimbursement of Expenses

Committee member expense reimbursement will be as per each municipal unit's policy.

Location of the Meetings

The Committee meetings will rotate annually between the three Municipal units with the option to be held virtually.

Frequency of Meetings

It is expected the PRAC will meet monthly or as determined by the Committee. Meetings will normally be held during normal business hours, however special workshops and meetings may be held on weekends or evenings.

Absenteeism

If a Committee member misses three consecutive meetings without the consent of the Committee, the Committee will advise the person or body responsible for the appointment or nomination of the member, and request that they recommend either the continued representation by that member, or the replacement of the member with another person to be named.

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Councils of the Municipality of the County of Cumberland and the Towns of Oxford and Amherst

FROM: Landfill Divestiture Steering Committee

DATE: November 12, 2021

SUBJECT: Divestiture of Cumberland Central Landfill

Background

Over the past fifteen months the councils of the Municipality of the County of Cumberland and the Towns of Oxford and Amherst have been considering options for the provision of solid waste management for the citizens and businesses of the region in the long term.

In June of 2020 the Councils collectively called for proposals for the sale of the Cumberland Central Landfill. The councils had concluded that an in-depth examination of the provision of the service by a private sector provider who would buy the assets of the facility and enter into a long-term agreement with predictable and manageable tip fees was appropriate. To guide the process, the councils agreed upon a set of guiding principles which defined the problem they were trying to solve and the issues that had to be addressed in solving it. Those guiding principles are attached to this memo.

The councils also formed a steering committee of the Mayors, CAO's and the general manager of the Cumberland Central Landfill to oversee the process.

Three proposals were received and two were judged to be compliant with the RFP. GFL Environmental, Inc. was identified as the preferred proponent and the negotiating team, under the direction of the steering committee, set out to negotiate an agreement for the sale. It was, however, not a sale at any cost – the team was mindful at every turn of the guiding principles set out by the Councils in bringing the matter to a successful outcome.

After many months of discussions, due diligence reviews, discussion with regulators, meetings, analysis and negotiations, the councils approved the agreements necessary to give effect to the sale of the assets of the CJSMA and the septage assets of the Municipality of Cumberland County to GFL Environmental Inc. on June 29, 2021.

Pursuant to the agreements to sell the assets of the CJSMA to GFL Environmental Inc., the Municipality of Cumberland County is required to acquire an additional property owned by Rothesay Paper Holdings Ltd., who has agreed to exchange the additional property in return for portions of land currently owned by the Municipality of Cumberland County in trust for the Towns of Oxford and Amherst, two right of ways to access adjacent property owned by Rothesay Paper Holdings Ltd., and an equalization payment from the Municipality of Cumberland County to Rothesay Paper Holdings Ltd.

The land exchange agreement reached with Rothesay Paper Holdings Ltd. reflects the transfer of subdivided lands owned by the Municipality of Cumberland County in trust for the Towns of Oxford and Amherst in exchange for the additional property subdivided from lands owned by Rothesay Paper

Holdings Ltd., two right of ways across further lands owned by the Municipality of Cumberland County and the subdivided land acquired by the Municipality of Cumberland County in favour of Rothesay Paper Holdings Ltd., and payment by the Municipality of Cumberland County to Rothesay Paper Holdings Ltd. for the additional property, of which the Municipality of Cumberland County shall be reimbursed from the funds received from GFL Environmental Inc. on the close of the agreement for the sale of the Cumberland Central Landfill. As part of the sale of the assets of the CJSMA to GFL Environmental Inc., the Municipality of Cumberland County will also provide an indemnity to GFL Environmental Inc., covering any defects in the disposition of the lands by Rothesay Paper Holdings Ltd. to the Municipality of Cumberland County. The aforesaid indemnity shall exist for twelve months from the closing of the transaction, and, in the event of a defect, the Municipality of Cumberland County would seek to recover from Rothesay Paper Holdings Ltd. based on its representations and warranties given under the land exchange agreement.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the unanimous recommendation of the Steering Committee that the Councils approve the legal agreements necessary to give effect to the land exchange agreement with Rothesay Paper Holdings Ltd. and the indemnity agreement with GFL Environmental Inc. pursuant to the terms of the agreement for the sale of the Cumberland Central Landfill to GFL Environmental Inc.

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:

That council approve the subdivision, granting of right of ways over and exchange of lands owned by the Municipality of Cumberland County in Trust for the Towns of Oxford and Amherst by approving the land exchange agreement with Rothesay Paper Holdings Ltd. and the indemnity agreement with GFL Environmental Inc., and that the Mayor and CAO be authorized to execute the agreements with such amendments as the Mayor and CAO deem necessary or advisable and implement same.



October 1, 2021

Dear Community Garden Coordinators,

Eat Local Cumberland applied for funds from the Municipality of Cumberland this year, to use towards our municipality's community gardens, and received a grant of \$1,500. ELC's board has decided to distribute these funds among the active community gardens in Pugwash, Amherst, Oxford, Springhill and Joggins. Please find attached a cheque for \$215. Please use this money as needed for your community garden.

The Municipality requires a report on how the funds have been spent by the end of March 2022. Eat Local Cumberland will prepare this, but we will need to know what the funds have been spent on, and we will need copies or originals of the associated receipts (pictures of the receipts sent to me via email should be fine). I am attaching an expense form for each garden to submit to Eat Local Cumberland. If you send it in electronically, it doesn't have to be in that exact format, as long as I have the info. mentioned in the form.

Something else that would also help in the preparation of the report is a brief description of how the funds have helped your community garden, and a picture or two of the garden. It would be appreciated if all this could be submitted to me by the end of February 2022, electronically at katie.castleton@gmail.com or via mail at 4380 Hwy 6, Amherst Head, NS, B4H 3Y2.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at katie.castleton@gmail.com.

Thank you,

Katie Castleton
Treasurer
Eat Local Cumberland

Nov 8, 2021

I received a check (\$215.00) and letter from Eat Local Cumberland. I will enclose the letter and the money with this letter.

I have made a few observations about our Community Gardens, and I have spoken to a few people. Following are my conclusions:

The Gardens in South Oxford are all well used, and I would like to see that continue.

The gardens we had the Lion's Park disappeared into the sink hole. There was a nice sign that was removed, and I assume it is the one placed at Black River Park.

The gardens that were at The Food Bank were moved without consultation or a reason that was shared with us or the Food Bank. I made a few inquiries and found out they would like them back. If possible, this money could go towards those two boxes being replaced. If this does not fit with a plan, could you put another new box in South Oxford and another fruit tree or two to go with the fruit trees at Black River Park. These trees were planted there for the use of the community.

We have a grouping of boxes at Meadow Vista that are a feeding area for deer and Fred Milner has looked after them every year. He tried, with my help to get a small electric barrier put up but Dept. Of Housing would not agree. It is the only garden boxes that have consistently had trouble. When Spring comes, we may have to revisit this problem. But this is not the venue to fix that.

Thank you.

Eleanor Crowley, Community Garden rep.

November 9, 2021

Mayor & Council
Town of Oxford

Re: Oxford Historical Society

Dear Mayor Henley and Council members,

The Oxford Historical Society (OHS) is in need of a secure storage area for materials collected from local residents and organizations. At this point we are not seeking office space or off-hours access, merely a spot to safeguard materials, with access during working hours and at the convenience of town staff.

We were hoping that unused spaces in the Town Hall may be available for this purpose. Heating is not required, nor are any other amenities.

The OHS is moving into period of revitalization and hope to be in a position to pursue new projects relating to our shared heritage in the coming months.

Your kind assistance would be most welcome.

Kindest regards,

Tracy Black, Secretary
Oxford Historical Society 2021

NOV 10 2021

Oxford Pioneer Heritage Club
P.O. Box 156, 31 Ellis Street,
Oxford, N.S. B0M 1P0

Linda Cloney
Town of Oxford
Oxford, N.S.

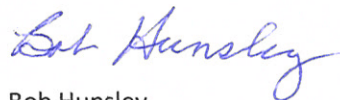
November 8, 2021

Dear Ms Cloney

As per your recent conversation with the OPH CLUB contact person, Sharon Rogers; the OPH Club would like to request permission to paint the paneled walls at the OPH Center.

The club members would also request that broken floor tiles be replaced, as soon as possible, as this is a bit of a hazard.

Thank you



Bob Hunsley

Secretary

October 2021

Public Works Report

Water break at 210 Foundry St

25 ton of asphalt for potholes

Shoulder on Waverly & Water where there was new asphalt

Finished crosswalks & put 2 new crosswalks down toward the school

Sidewalk repair -Waverly St, Water St, Main St

Cleaned around the town

Water Meters were read

On Oct 9 the main sewer line on upper Main St was plugged by Oxford Frozen foods due to debris being washed into the main line McCormick's vac truck was brought into clean the line. On Oct 13 we had the same issue. We had to pull both pumps on Oct 11 to clean debris from the pumps. Oct 25, we had to pull pump 1 due to debris caught in the pump. OFF have been notified & they are dealing with it.

Replaced floats at the Main St lift station

Cleaned lift station Main St, Prince William, Little River, Water St

Crew received Traffic Control & signage on Oct 27, 28, and 29.

Respectfully submitted,

Wes Adshade
Town Supervisor

Fire report for October

We had 4 calls for the month of October

1 Mutual aid standby

1 commercial vehicle fire

1 Residential fire alarm

1 MVA

All 4 calls were in the county

The 3 new breathing apparatus have been ordered with an estimated delivery date of December 22

Fleet service was in and did the servicing on the trucks and safety inspected trucks 1 and 2 just waiting on the report.

Clean heros will be in this week to wash and inspect the bunker gear will report if any issues are found.

Kyle Purdy will remain on as Deputy Chief for the next 2 years

The windsocks are in just need to have them installed at the 2 locations to assist with landing life flight when needed

That is my report for October if you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me

Thanks

Good afternoon,

Today, November 4, Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister Lohr read a resolution in the Provincial Legislature acknowledging Municipal Awareness Week, which will take place November 22-28. I have attached a copy here for your information.

Municipal Awareness Week is an opportunity to highlight the important work happening at the local government level and encourage citizens to participate in municipal government and elections.

Mayors, wardens, councillors and staff are essential for the effective governance of their municipalities and I thank you all for your dedication.

The department will be sharing social media posts for Municipal Awareness Week. Please follow @NS_DMAH and feel free to share the posts.

Sincerely,

Nick



Nicolas A. Barr, B.Sc., J.D.
Director, Governance & Advisory Services

Maritime Centre, Floor 8 North, 1505 Barrington Street
PO Box 216, Halifax, NS B3J 2M4

 **(902) 424-4656**

 **Nick.Barr@novascotia.ca**

RESOLUTION:

DATE: November 4, 2021

NOTICE OF MOTION

MOVED BY: Honourable John Lohr
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
MLA, Kings North

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS municipal and village governments across the province provide essential services that enhance the quality of life of Nova Scotians and make our communities a destination of choice for immigrants around the world; and

WHEREAS dedicated mayors, wardens, councillors, commissioners, and staff are critical to the effective governance of our municipalities and villages; and

WHEREAS municipalities and villages have been exemplary partners in our fight against COVID-19 through their on-going efforts to keep Nova Scotians healthy, safe, and informed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that as November 22nd to 28th is Municipal Awareness Week, all members of the House of Assembly recognize the vital role of municipal government and all who support it.

Mr. Speaker, I request waiver of notice and passage without debate.

Email sent on behalf of Hayley Crichton, A/Executive Director, Public Safety and Security Division, Nova Scotia Department of Justice

To: Nova Scotia Chief Administrative Officers, Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Local Contract Management Committee, and Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

In 2015, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that RCMP had the right to collective bargaining, similar to other members of the public service. The National Police Federation became the bargaining agent for RCMP Regular Members.

The first Collective Agreement was negotiated between the federal government and the National Police Federation, for RCMP Regular Members (below the rank of Inspector) and Reservists. The Collective Agreement was signed on August 6, 2021, with an expiry date of March 31, 2023, as posted on the federal government website: [RCMP Regular Members \(below the rank of inspector\) and Reservists \(RM\)-Canada.ca \(tbs-sct.gc.ca\)](https://www.rcmp.gc.ca/tbs-sct.gc.ca)

With this agreement, RCMP total compensation, including pensions and benefits, is competitive with other police services, and considered to be fair and reasonable for Canadian taxpayers.

We are mindful that policing represents a significant cost for municipalities, and we understand your concerns. The province is working closely with the National Contract Management Committee to address the impacts to municipalities in Nova Scotia that contract RCMP as their policing service provider. There has also been a delay due to the federal election and the newly formed cabinet.

Please note that the provisions in the Nova Scotia Police Service Agreements, including those related to method of payment and financial planning and reporting, are unchanged and remain in effect.

We appreciate your need for further details while we are waiting for answers to calculate the financial impact to municipal budgets. We will share this information with you as soon as it's available.

Thank you for your patience.

*Hayley Crichton, A/Executive Director
Public Safety and Security Division
Nova Scotia Department of Justice
1801 Hollis Street, Halifax, NS*

*Stephen Ong, Director of Contracts
Nova Scotia Department of Justice*

Donna Jewers

RCMP Liaison

Nova Scotia Department of Justice

1690 Hollis Street, PO Box 7

Halifax, NS B3J 2L6

902-424-6501 – Office Phone

902-266-8261 – Cell Phone

✉ donna.jewers@novascotia.ca