



Town Council Meeting
Council Chambers – 105 Lower Main Street
Wednesday, February 25, 2026
6:00 pm

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Agenda

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3. Approval of Minutes – Regular Council Meeting – January 28, 2026
Special Council Meeting – February 11, 2026

Pages 2 – 4 – January 28, 2026, Minutes

Pages 5 – 6 – February 11, 2026, Minutes

4. Business

4.1 Cumberland Public Libraries Request for Additional Board Members

Pages 7 - 8

5. Correspondence

5.1 Growth and Renewal for Infrastructure Development Program – Award

Pages 9 - 11

5.2 Cumberland County Exhibition – Sponsorship Package

Pages 12 - 16

6. Adjournment



Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting

Place: Council Chambers, Zoom, streamed live to Facebook
Date: Wednesday, January 28, 2026
Presiding Officer: Mayor Greg Henley
Councillor Present: Councillors Carla Black, Brenton Colborne, Padraic Moore, Paul Jones, and Deputy Mayor Chrystal McNutt.
Councillors Regrets: Olivia Canning-Sweet

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: Linda Cloney – CAO, Ruthann Brookins – Manager of Finance, Larry Reicker – Public Works Supervisor, and Stan McDougall - Admin Assistant / recording secretary

Presenters in attendance: Nil

Gallery (media and public) in attendance: Mark Rushton, HelloOxford

1. Call to Order

Mayor Henley called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and welcomed all who were in attendance.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Deputy Mayor McNutt that the agenda of the Regular Council Meeting for Wednesday January 28, 2026, be approved, as presented.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of Minutes – Regular Council Meeting – December 17, 2025
Special Council Meeting – January 14, 2026

Approved by _____

Mayor Greg Henley, on January 28, 2026

4. Business

4.1 Request for Grant or Property Tax Exemption – 2026/27 tax year – the Sunset Community

A letter received by staff, included in the council agenda package, was presented to Council.

Moved by Deputy Mayor McNutt and seconded by Councillor Black to approve the request to a grant or property tax exemption for the Sunset Community.

Motion Defeated

Consensus by Council to review this request at budget time.

4.2 Public Works Committee Recommendation

CAO discussed with Council the idea of two salting and plowing trucks and how they could help take the strain off equipment, provide backup for equipment requiring maintenance, and to decrease reliance on subcontractors. The Manager of Finance has indicated that there is room in the capital budget for this. There were a couple of items on the current budget that will not be done and could be allocated toward the purchase.

The Public Works Committee recommended that the Town of Oxford prepare two trucks for salting and plowing.

Moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Councillor Black that the Council of the Town of Oxford approve the recommendation by the Public Works Committee to prepare two trucks for salting and plowing spending up to \$25,000.00.

Councillor Jones – Yes
Councillor Black – Yes
Deputy Mayor McNutt – Yes
Mayor Henley – Yes
Councillor Colborne – No
Councillor Moore – No
Councillor Canning-Sweet - Regrets

4.3 Boards and Committees Update – Recreation Commission and Police Advisory Board

CAO provided a brief update regarding a vacancy on the Police Advisory Board. An Oxford citizen representative is required. Anyone interested please email or drop into the Town Hall to inquire.

An update to the recreation commission will also be provided at a later date.

5. Correspondence

5.1 Bill 24 Regulations – Link Nova Scotia

The information was shared with the Council and was included in the Council Agenda package.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:11 PM

Mayor Greg Henley

Stan McDougall, Admin Assistant

Date Approved



Minutes of the Special Council Meeting

Place: Council Chambers, Zoom, streamed live to Facebook
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026
Presiding Officer: Mayor Greg Henley
Councillors Present: Councillors Carla Black, Brenton Colborne, Olivia Canning-Sweet, Paul Jones, and Padraic Moore
Councillor Regrets: Deputy Mayor Chrystal McNutt

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: Linda Cloney (CAO), Ruthann Brookins (Manager of Finance), and Stan McDougall (Admin Assistant / Recording Secretary)

Media in attendance: Mark Rushton, HelloOxford

Gallery in attendance: Nil

1. **Call to Order**
At 6:18 PM, Mayor Henley called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.
2. **Approval of Agenda**
Moved by Councillor Canning-Sweet and seconded by Councillor Jones, that the agenda of the Special Council Meeting for Wednesday, February 11, 2026, be approved, as presented.
Motion Carried
3. **In-Camera**
 - 3.1 **acquisition, sale, lease and security of municipal property**
At 6:19 PM it was moved by Councillor Colborne and seconded by Councillor Black to go in-camera.
Motion Carried

At 6:45 PM it was moved by Councillor Colborne and seconded by Councillor Jones to come out of in-camera and resume the Special

Council Meeting.

Motion Carried

Linda reviewed with the Council that due to the number of potholes needing patched, extra resources were required to expedite the process. Three bids were received for the recent tender issued to supply and install or to install only, cold patch, to repair the numerous potholes in the Town of Oxford.

Moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Councillor Moore, that the Council of the Town of Oxford award M&H Management of Indian Mountain, New Brunswick, the tender to supply and install or to install only, cold patch, at \$57/bag supplied by M&H or \$35/bag supplied by the Town of Oxford.

Motion Carried

Next, it was reviewed that there is a surplus of assets and the Town of Oxford is looking to post these items for sale. The list currently includes up to 11 items including large equipment such as loaders and a walk-behind snowblower.

Moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Councillor Canning-Sweet to direct the staff of the Town of Oxford to begin the process of selling the list of surplus assets.

Motion Carried

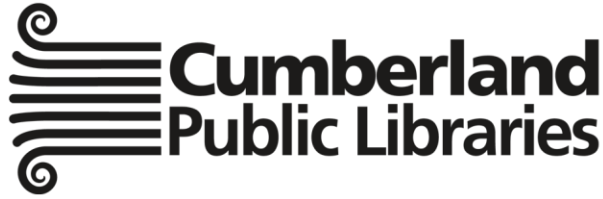
4. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 PM

Greg Henley, Mayor, Chair

Linda Cloney, Chief Administrative Officer

Date Approved



PO Box 220
21 Acadia St., 2nd floor
Amherst, Nova Scotia
B4H 3Z2
information@cumberlandpubliclibraries.ca

Mayor Henley and Municipal Council
Town of Oxford,
P.O. Box 338
Oxford, Nova Scotia
B0M 1P0

November 25, 2025

Dear Mayor Henley and Council:

I am writing to request council's input on a change to the Cumberland Regional Library Board. The Library Board has been struggling due to its small size. Currently, the board is made up of 4 appointed members, one from each of the municipalities of Cumberland, Amherst, and Oxford, and one community member appointed by the board itself to increase inclusion, equity, and/or diversity. There are also supposed to be 2 members appointed by the province of Nova Scotia, but those positions have been vacant for several years.

We wish to add two community representatives to be selected by the Library Board in an effort to strengthen the library board's connection to the community and aid us in making decisions that will benefit a larger sector of the population. The Library Board would control the selection process in order to have board members that represent different parts of the community or who have specific needed skills.

The Library Board is also seeking to have an additional Council representative from the Municipality of Cumberland.

In total, that would mean a board comprised of;

- 1 Town of Amherst councillor;
- 1 Town of Oxford councillor;
- 2 Municipality of Cumberland councillors;
- 1 Equity, Diversity, Inclusion or Accessibility community member;
- 2 community members at large;
- and 2 provincially appointed representatives,

leading to a board of 9 individuals. A board of that size would allow for much more responsible governance, give the Library Board the ability to create subcommittees, and to allow for more perspectives.

Section 10 (2c) of the Libraries Act specifies that the appointment of additional members requires agreement from all parties:

- (2) A regional library board shall consist of*
(a) one member appointed by each city, town and municipality that is a party to the agreement;
(b) two members appointed by the Governor in Council; and
(c) additional members appointed in such manner and number as the parties to the agreement agree.

Therefore I am reaching out to you to ensure that the Council is in agreement with the proposed change to the makeup of the board. The library board will be discussing this at the February 5, 2026 meeting. If council has an objections to addition of a community board member I would ask that they contact me by January 23, 2026.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Denise Corey
Library Director, Cumberland Public Libraries

cc. Kim Ford, Library Board Chair
Carla Black, Town of Oxford Councillor and Library Board Member



News release

Province Supports Growth for Municipalities

20 February 2026 | 12:50 PM

[Municipal Affairs](#)

The Province is investing in critical infrastructure projects so municipalities can expand services, support housing growth and build more inclusive communities.

Eighteen projects will receive \$15 million in total, covering up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs, from the Growth and Renewal for Infrastructure Development Program.

“These investments help municipalities with the infrastructure they need to support development and drive growth,” said John A. MacDonald, Minister of Municipal Affairs. “By strengthening core services, enhancing climate resiliency and increasing accessibility, we’re helping to lay the foundation for more housing, more opportunity, and a better quality of life for residents across Nova Scotia.”

Since 2021, the Province has committed nearly \$500 million to support municipalities with critical infrastructure projects, including water, stormwater, disaster mitigation, accessibility and transit.

The full list of projects receiving funding for the 2025-26 application year is at:

<https://www.novascotia.ca/documents/growth-and-renewal-infrastructure-development-program-grant-recipients>

Quotes:

"We are pleased that our application has received this level of support from the government. The improvements will be directed to the Windsor water treatment facility and help to address existing redundancy requirements with our water treatment process while helping to future proof our utility for existing and future customers. We remain committed to investing in our now consolidated water utility to accommodate growth and to ensure ongoing quality water to our community. This project aligns with the capital plans for the municipality, including the recent addition of a new water tower in the Garlands Crossing area."

— *Abraham Zebian, Mayor, West Hants Regional Municipality*

"Following several years of steady attention by council and staff to asset management, climate risk assessment, and considering long-term financial impacts, Oxford is ready to move from planning to action. This funding will support the initial design work for capital projects that reduce infrastructure risk, protect the Town's investment in core services, improve water system reliability, modernize Main Street with nature-based stormwater solutions, and unlock new development opportunities across the highway. Investments like this from the Province are essential for small and rural municipalities to protect critical services and build a sustainable future."

— *Greg Henley, Mayor, Town of Oxford*

Quick Facts:

- the Growth and Renewal for Infrastructure Development Program (GRID) is open to municipalities and villages
- applications closed October 9

Additional Resources:

Program details: <https://www.novascotia.ca/apply-funding-support-municipal-infrastructure-projects-growth-and-renewal-infrastructure-development-program>

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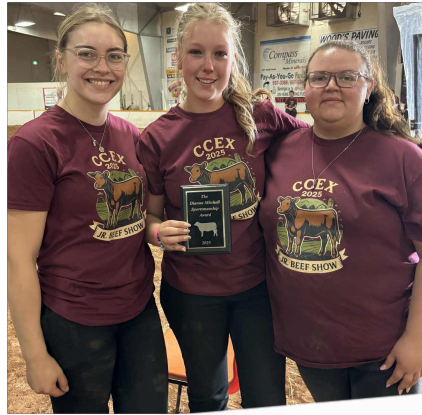
 [Facebook](#)

 [YouTube](#)

 [All government social media accounts](#)



Cumberland County Exhibition Oxford, Nova Scotia 1918-2026 Sponsorship Package





February 1, 2026

Dear Sponsor,

This year marks the 108th Cumberland County Exhibition and we are building on the success of the 2025 Cumberland County Exhibition. Our 2026 plans are being made for an exciting line-up of activities and events, including the popular Horse Pulls, Strong Man & Strong Woman events, the 4 Horse Classic, Light Horse Show, Beef show, our local 4H Animal and Life Skills Competitions, music and entertainment for all ages, as well as many other events that have been a part of the long standing tradition of the Cumberland County Exhibition. 2026 will also see the return of a few popular events started in 2024, which includes the Kids Show n Shine and the Mud Stomp dance.

We couldn't do the work we do without the help of generous people like you. The Exhibition relies on the support of our community and generous sponsorships from businesses and individuals which allows us to continue to promote rural Cumberland County.

We have included a brochure with details on sponsorship opportunities and are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Monetary sponsorship can be made by cheque by mail to P O Box 516, Oxford, or by e-transfer to cumberlandexhibition@gmail.com.

For donations in kind, please reach out to the email above. For more info, cash donations, or a request to sponsor an event, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your continued support,

The CCEX Sponsorship Committee

Cumberland County Exhibition
PO Box 516, Oxford, NS B0M 1P0
cumberlandexhibition@gmail.com
902 447 3285



Cumberland County Exhibition

Oxford, Nova Scotia

1918-2026

SPONSOR INFO

2026 will mark the running of the 108th Cumberland County Exhibition and plans are being made for an exciting line up of events from August 31 - September 6, 2025. With increased visitors last year, we plan to build on the success and continue to grow in 2026. In addition to the livestock shows, we will be hosting multiple events to celebrate the communities and the spirit of Cumberland County. We rely on the generous sponsorship from our community minded businesses and individuals, which allows us to continue to promote Cumberland County and all it has to offer. Your sponsorship is greatly appreciated, and will be recognized in several ways, including announcements during the show, signage on the grounds as well as exposure on our social media (Facebook, Instagram and TikTok) as well as our website.

CONTACT US

Cumberland County Exhibition
56 Waverly Street
Oxford, Nova Scotia
902-447-3285
cumberlandexhibition@gmail.com
www.cumberlandcountyex.com

ABOUT US

The Cumberland County Exhibition (CCEX) grounds continue to be owned and maintained by the Oxford Agriculture Society (OAS) for the primary purpose of hosting an annual exhibition. The Town of Oxford and OAS have an agreement where the town owns and operates the Arena, and the society owns the land it sits on. Each year OAS takes possession of the Arena for the use of the Cumberland County Exhibition. This partnership allows the growth of the CCEX. OAS generates all operating income to maintain and upgrade the facility through yearly exhibition revenues, as well as facility and equipment rentals.

SPONSORSHIP DEADLINES

We will gladly accept sponsorships all year round however in order to take part in the benefits below, and be advertised as a 2026 sponsor, we do have a few deadlines:

JUNE 30, 2026 - Confirmation of sponsorship, and payment due. If applicable, confirmation of booth space.

JULY 31, 2026 - Logos and art for advertisement and promotions.

AUGUST 15, 2026 - Banners supplied by sponsor for set up (or arrangements made for pick up by CCEX)

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES 2026

We believe sponsorship is a relationship built on supporting each other, and we have designed this sponsorship package with that belief in mind. If you would like to partner in something not listed here, please do not hesitate to start the conversation with us!

FRIEND OF THE EXHIBITION

INVESTMENT: Up to \$100

- Listed on partnership banners located around the grounds
- Listed on social media and website

BRONZE

INVESTMENT: \$101 - \$499

- Everything above plus:
- One complimentary season pass
- Verbal recognition during events
- Social media recognition

SILVER

INVESTMENT: \$500 - \$999

- Everything above plus:
- Two complimentary season passes
- Listed on poster boards to be placed around the grounds

GOLD

INVESTMENT: \$1000 - \$2499

- Everything above plus:
- Five complimentary season passes
- Banners (supplied by sponsor) hung in main arena

PLATINUM

INVESTMENT: \$2500+

- Everything above plus:
- Ten complimentary season pass
- 10'x10' booth space
- Logo on schedule of events brochure
- Title sponsor on platinum level event or day

WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

Our exhibition relies on volunteers to run. From gate attendants, canteen workers, prep, clean up and more during the exhibition, to the various projects throughout the year, we welcome back our regular volunteers and extend a welcome to newcomers with a few hours to spare. If you are interested in helping, please send us an email to cumberlandexhibition@gmail.com to add your name to a list of volunteers. We will send details of events and projects we are working on, and would love to meet new faces and helping hands in our community.

