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June Harding

From: Roger Mader <roger@myramedia.com>
Sent: April 21, 2026 5:01 PM
To: June Harding
Cc: Michael Broley; Danielle King; Derek Amalfa
Subject: Myra monthly digital management

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

June

Thanks for getting back to us. I'm forwarding an update from my message of 3/13. If acceptable I will send a formal statement of work in whatever form you prefer for vendor contacts. (Typically a one pager pdf from Myra to you. Let me know if you have a standard you'd like us to use.)

I am happy to formalize this as a contract but here are the services we would recommend and at \$500/mo.

1. 4 hours of work at \$100/hr. Assumption is approximately 30 min of routine maintenance / check in / wordpress updates
2. A few updates per month to the town website, such as adding a feature or content (short of a major redesign)
3. Maintain both the web and email server, including any emergency management like after a local power outage (as June previewed).
4. Set up gmail for the Lockeport domain, set up your email users and maintain that with changes as they occur (add / delete / reset users when needed)
5. Optionally we can provide "signature management", like my signature below, designed with your town logo and formatted template, so it is standardized across town email addresses with unique name and title and contact info of course.

Anything beyond that we would give you an estimate of effort and a separate price but this is the service required to keep you up and running and flawless and evolving organically.

This represents a significant discount because we built and know your site and have an established (and pretty delightful) working relationship. Another south shore township retains Michael for considerably more, just FYI.

So glad to hear that this is still possible!
Roger

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June Harding

From: Lorenda Williams <lorenda.williams55@gmail.com>
Sent: April 28, 2026 12:16 PM
To: nolan.young@shelburnemla.ca
Cc: premier@novascotia.ca; Jessica.fancy@part.gc.ca; derekamalfalockeport@gmail.com; Joyce Young
Subject: Re: Property Tax Letter
Attachments: 83 South (1).jpg; 83 South (2).jpg; 83 South (3).jpg; 83 South (4).jpg; 83 South (5).jpg; 83 South (6).jpg

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

John Scott & Lorenda Williams
83 South Street,
Lockeport, N.S.
B0T 1L0

lorenda.williams55@gmail.com

Date: April 27, 2026
To: The Honorable Nolan Young
Minister of Labour, Skills and Immigration
nolan.young@shelburnemla.ca
Subject: Property Tax Increases

Honorable Nolan Young,

We are writing as current residents of 83 South Street, Lockeport, Nova Scotia. Although we moved away from Lockeport many years ago due to our careers, John and I have always considered this small town our home. John joined the Canadian Armed Forces when he was 19, spending 26 years serving his country. He represented Canadians faithfully, whether it being domestic operations such as the Toronto ice storms, Winnipeg floods, or completing International deployments to Cambodia (1992), Bosnia (1994), and Afghanistan (2004). He retired with honour and distinction in 2011 and found great struggle with belonging, which took a personal toll, due to his dedication and sacrifice of his service. Sadly, in 2024, Lorenda dealt with the loss of her parents within a 2-year span, and the family home became available to purchase from the estate. We were ecstatic at the opportunity to move home to capture that sense of belonging which had been missing all our lives, in the hope for a positive retirement phase of our lives.

Constant increases in property taxes since purchasing the home in 2024 have not only created a higher tax burden on us but once again a feeling of unbelonging in a town we thought would be a great place to retire. To move back home and have your property taxes increase by 484.11 % since 16 September 2024 is not sustainable, not to mention unfair. This forces us to consider moving once again because this system of taxes is not viable. My daughter who lives in Edmonton, Alberta, does not pay the amount of taxes that we do for their 5-year-old home. The scale of this increase feels disproportionate to the

economic realities faced by residents in our small town. Overtaxed residents such as us are currently subsidizing feasible tax rates to a population of 476 people, 210 of that being 65 and older. There are no positive incentives for homeowners to beautify or improve their properties knowing there will be tax increases to follow. This has resulted in old disrepair houses of aged, fixed income population.

Our concerns about our taxes were conveyed to June Harding, Lockeport Town Clerk, at a meeting we requested on May 27, 2024, when our taxes took the first substantial increase. She explained that the \$ 2.40 residential tax rate is set by the local council. We learned that adjustments can be made for "forgiving taxes" in the example of Clearwater in Lockeport having their commercial tax rates reduced by 20% while residential tax rates increased by 257%.

The town had a long-standing agreement with Albert Townsend (previous owner and my dad) that the property taxes were adjusted due to the infringement on Church Street on our property not being perpetuated and reflected on our new taxes calculated. Furthermore, a commercial zoned parking lot was approved by the town for Cotter's Ocean Products for parking of their large trucks accessed by Church Street. This has increased traffic on Church Street considerably, on this narrow street (see attached photos). There has been no appropriate widening of the road to date. Moreover, there is increased traffic of RV's and larger vehicles in the summer on Church Street going to Rood's Head Park. Consistent nightly traffic to the park, speeding, and disregard for the stop sign has caused an unsafe situation next to our property that can no longer be ignored. It is a safety concern when two vehicles try to pass on Church Street especially if one is a large truck. The east side of Church Street has brush growing out in the road and rocks falling into the road. It was mentioned by the town foreman in the Lockeport Council minutes dated January 24, 2022 about further discussions to widen this area but no action has been taken by the town.

I hope this letter prompts immediate action and an independent audit into the town of Lockeport's property tax/assessment system currently in place. The tax assessment system is unfair for residential property owners.

- 1) We would like the Town to honour their original agreement and make the appropriate tax adjustment to our annual taxes retroactively back to the purchase date.
- 2) Address the widening of Church Street on the East side where the survey markers show adequate space, to alleviate further deterioration to our property.
- 3) The municipal Rood's Head Park has a permanent gate installed that can be closed at night to limit the evening traffic activities.
- 4) A request for a more consistent police presence in this area, which is currently non-existent.

For your consideration,

Respectfully,

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Lorenda Williams and John Freeman Scott (WO Ret'd) CD1

c.c.

The Honorable Tim Houston
premier@novascotia.ca

Honorable Jessica Fancy-Landry
jessica.fancy@part.gc.ca

Derek Amalfa
Mayor of Lockeport, N.S.
derekamalfalockeport@gmail.com

June Harding
Town Clerk/Treasurer
townoflockeport@ns.sympatico.ca

attachments

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(51)



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55



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Council Status Report: April 2026
Mayor Derek Amalfa

Meetings Attended:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Committee</i>
April 1	NRCANN CRCC Inter- Municipality Learning Session
April 1	Amalgamation Steering Committee
April 4	Community Easter Egg Hunt
April 7	Clean Foundation Check In
April 10	Amalgamation Workshop - Ms. Karen Mattatal
April 10	Town of Lockeport Regular Council
April 13	Shelburne Arena Committee
April 13	Shelburne CED Society
April 14	SWNT Board Meeting
April 14	Lobster Catch Debrief
April 14	Heritage & Tourism Committee
April 17	Nova Scotia Health Check In
April 17	Finance Committee
April 19	Legion Breakfast
April 20	Shelburne County Leadership Meeting
April 20	Interview - South Shore Bulletin
April 21	Clean Foundation Thriving Forests EOI
April 24	Town of Lockeport Regular Council
April 24	Clean Foundation Check In
April 27	Community Outreach - Smile Cookies
April 29	MYM Progress Update

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**Craig Hillen, Deputy Mayor
Committee, Meeting Reports
Month of April, 2026**

01/04/2026	Amalgamation Steering Committee	Municipality of Shelburne
10/04/2026	Workshop- K. Mattathal	Lockeport
10/04/2026	Regular Council Meeting	
13/04/2026	Seniors Bingo	
14/04/2026	Harnessing the Power Tourism Nova Scotia (Webinar)	Regrets – Tech issues
14/04/2026	Sea Catch Festival Debriefing	
14/04/2026	Heritage & Tourism Committee	
16/04/2026	RCMP Advisory Board	Lockeport
17/04/2026	Finance Meeting - Council	
20/04/2026	Shelburne County Leadership Meeting with MLA N. Young	Barrington Municipality
24/04/2026	Municipalities Youth Summit (Yarmouth NSCC)	Regrets due to scheduling conflict with Reg Council Meeting
24/04/2026	Regular Council Meeting	
26/04/2026	Celebration of Poetry – Shelburne County Arts Council	Crescent Beach Centre, Lockeport
28/04/2026	Eastern Shelburne Accessibility Committee	Lockeport
30/04/2026	Special Meeting re: Summer Students	

Town of Lockeport Heritage and Tourism Advisory Committee

Tuesday, April 14th, 2026

Lockeport Town Council Chambers at 6PM

Present: Craig Hillen, Connie Lamm, Nicole Stephens, Gabe Buchanan, Tim Rhyno, Jeff Wood, Emily Swim, Derek Amalfa and Rudy Sommer

Regrets: George Benham

Audience: Mary Meagher

Call to Order at 6:02 pm

Additions to the agenda:

- Update on current condition of Buoys
- Mermaid Project- Recommendations for moving forward
- Family Beach Bash - MYM
- Correspondence- Discover Shelburne County Marketing strategy

Jeff Wood moved to approve the April 14, 2026 agenda; Rudy Sommer seconded; All in favour motion passed.

Jeff Wood moved to approve the previous minutes from the March 17, 2026 meeting; Gabe Buchanan seconded; All in favour motion passed.

Public Presentation

Mary Meagher did not have a public presentation planned but wanted to speak about the Red Petticoat sign that is located on Crest Street. Mrs. Meagher would like the sign to stay located on Crest Street but suggested that the sign should be moved closer to the road as it is currently quite a distance from the road. This causes people to have to go down a slight slope in order to reach the sign to read it which poses accessibility issues for some.

Connie Lamm made a motion that the HTC committee recommend to council and the Town of Lockeport public works that the Red Petticoat sign be moved forward from its current location to be made more accessible; Jeff Wood seconded; All in favour motion passed.

Mrs. Meagher is also a member of the 'Friends of the Library' and she wanted to let the committee know that the group is looking into replacing the current Library sign out of their funds as acknowledgment towards the work that is being done to refresh the other signage around town.

Jeff Wood asked if council had any more discussion around keeping the colours of future signage uniform with the new signs that will be created. Derek Amalfa said that this had been discussed in council.

Outstanding Business

Recognition and Appreciation Awards - Beech Street Kitchen and Lester Swansburg Electric are being recognized for the month of April.

Connie made a motion for Surf Lodge Nursing Home and Giggles & Grins Daycare be the recipients for the month of May; Gabe Buchanan seconded; All in favour motion passed.

Lobster Crawl Events (Lockeport Lobster Sea Catch Festival) - the first annual festival was a huge success, and the committee had a post-event review. The Town has passed a motion and is supportive of the Lockeport Lobster Sea Catch Festival become an annual event for the community and the South Shore. Craig Hillen suggested that 'Thank-You' cards be sent out to all the sponsors of this year's event, which everyone was in favour of. Derek Amalfa suggested purchasing the hand printed lobster cards from Braden Chewtynd that he had for sale at this year's event to be used.

Nautical Buoys Re-painting - The budget that was submitted to council from the HTC committee included \$400-\$800 for the refresh of the buoys. Both buoys are extremely rusted and in poor condition, especially the one located by Crescent Beach due to the daily elements that it is subject to.

There was discussion around focusing on the one on the boardwalk first as it is the first one that everyone sees when coming across the causeway into the Town. Since harsher techniques, like sandblasting, would pose potential damage to the buoys and boardwalk they will need to be cleaned up as best they can with hand sanding and steel wool, as these would be less invasive processes.

There was discussion around the colours that would be used and if anything would be added, such as 'welcome' or drawings. First steps will be to get the initial painting done and then other ideas can be added down the road if so. The area around the buoy would be laid with tarps to ensure no environmental issues from the sanding, as well as keep the boardwalk free from any stray paint.

Nicole Stephens has a suggestion that the 'Keep Off The Dunes' signs should be repainted and enlarged to reinforce the message to the public to stay off the dunes.

District 33 & 34 Christmas Lights & Sign decorations - Craig Hillen briefly spoke about some potential neon lighting ideas for the message when this item gets discussed more down the road.

Jeff Wood suggested that we look into having a Lobster Trap tree in the Town at Christmas time as so many other communities in the area already do this. If we did have a tree, it could be offered to people to put the names of loved ones as memorials on the buoys that could hang on the tree like they do in other communities.

Mary Meagher mentioned that her father used to own the end of West Head and he helped to build the current Seamans Memorial that we have in town today. She

suggested that it would be nice to see a refresh of the memorial site. Nicole Stephens has agreed to take the lead with this initiative and has been in contact with Sterling & Alden Stephens who previously expressed their interest in helping with the Seamans Memorial updating. They have both offered to attend future meetings to discuss this more; Sterling can attend virtually and Alden can attend in person.

Lockeport Historical Documents/Artifacts - Many of Lockeport's historical documents were transferred over to Barrington Meeting House Museum after the dissolution of Lockeport Ragged Island Historical Society. Craig has advised that in light of recent provincial funding cuts, we need to have a discussion regarding this important history and its preservation. There have been informal discussions with Mrs. Mary Meagher (former Councillor & Chair of the Ragged Island Historical Society) who has been very helpful in providing insight into the type of documents that moved.

Currently the items are now located in Woods Harbour under the direction of Cecil Swim who has compiled the genealogy and business information for all the areas (ie, Shelburne, Barrington, Lockeport). Craig commented that it is good to know that all the documents are in the same location for safe keeping and continuity purposes.

Crescent Beach Visitor Information Centre- Craig Hillen updated the committee that \$500 has been requested for budget consideration from HTC to council. The purpose of this budget item would be to refresh the Cabana for possible revenue generation and in turn it could potentially be run as a seasonal business to offset operational costs of the Beach Centre as well as money to use for upkeep. This would be pending council's budget review.

Connie Lamm mentioned that she had found several cans of paint in the Recreation Office while she has been organizing it and has offered that they can be used at the Beach Centre/Cabana if needed.

Connie also suggested that a complete water testing should take place at the Beach Centre to determine what the condition of the water is there. Emily Swim suggested having Public Works check out the drainage and septic connections since it appears that the showers and kitchen sink might be draining under the deck.

Connie Lamm made a motion to recommend to Council to have a complete water test done at the Crescent Beach Centre; Jeff Wood seconded; All in favour motion passed.

Tourist / Art/ Dedication Site- Little Mermaid - Jeff Wood reported that he is still waiting for the updated metrics for the estimates on how this potential tourist attraction could draw people to town. Based on data from 6 years ago, this proposed site as well existing local attractions could potentially draw 660,000 to 1 million visitors in a year. The metrics give insight of additional sites that entice visitors to come to our town, stay an extended period of time and the potential items that could keep them here longer (ie. restaurants, lodging, etc.)

Tim Rhyno reported that he has been speaking with Sam Nickerson, who is doing the mermaid carving, and Sam has suggested that the carving be done as the mermaid is

laying on her side/sitting instead of straight up to prevent damage. Connie Lamm has offered a log that can be used for the carving that she currently has for Sam to use.

The committee has confirmed that there is continued support for the artistic sculpture from people far and wide. Layla Crouse another very talented local artist and businesswoman has offered to help with some fundraising efforts if needed. It has been decided that the original story will not be part of this project and discontinued.

Tim Rhyno suggested that the Mermaid could have some significance to serve in memory of a local child (Donna) who sadly drowned at Crescent Beach in 1971. Tim spoke with the family who have shared with him that it would be special to have her memory honoured in connection with the sculpture.

Derek Amalfa suggested HTC create a proposal for council that includes the full scope of the project (location, rationale, supporting data/metrics) but to make sure that we have all the information needed so that we only have to present it once. This will help with creating a collective to-do list so that we can properly present the project to the community and council when ready to.

Nicole Stephens suggested that in light of some of the negative social media including some comments of which were very personal and offensive that the initial project received. It would be a nice idea for the committee recognize that there are many people who live here who do not share these views. Nichole recommended that the Committee create a gratitude post about Lockeport to address the feelings around Lockeport feeling like home to so many even if they have lived in the area for generations or are newcomers, seasonal, or if they are from here and moved away in our hearts, we are all Lockeporters. The committee felt this was a great idea and a positive step forward.

The wording could include.

“We value you, no matter where you are located and we love and appreciate that you feel Lockeport is your home.” The Committee thanked Nicole for this suggestion and are overwhelmingly supportive.

Floyds Stuarts Little Harbour Boats- Jeff Wood reported that there were no new updates at this time.

(Note- since this meeting Craig Hillen has been contacted by a resident who shared that a couple of residents would like to speak with the Mayor and/or committee about future support plans in maintaining Floyds dock and Little Harbour Boats for years to come. It has been shared that the HTC is very supportive of the site and welcomes these discussions)

New Business

Canadian Cultural Spaces Fund - Connie Lamm reported that this grant supports renovations and suggested that it is something that could potentially be used to fix up the Seaman's Memorial. This grant is done with cost sharing at 50% which can include In Kind donations. She will investigate it for more information as there is no timeline associated with it.

New Business Directory Sign - Derek Amalfa - reported that there is currently money in the budget to get a new sign at the turnaround spot across from the soccer field. There was discussion around what could be on this sign. Past suggestions were around a business directory as it has been in the past. Craig Hillen suggested that logos for local groups could be placed around the edge of the sign (ie. The Legion, Masonic Lodge, etc.) as well as consideration as a welcome sign with the population and year of founding of Lockeport (Ragged Islands) Mary Meagher shared that she recalls the accurate historical founding of the settlement was in 1755 not in 1762 as widely thought. It was decided that there would be a future meeting to discuss what to do with that space, some suggestions to think about were:

- Pictures
- Business information
- All seasons community bulletin board
- LES/LRHS Sporting events info
- Active Transportation/MYM interpretive sign locations
- Magnetic/chalk board section

Jeff Wood reported that the Shelburne & Area Chamber of Commerce is currently making a new business directory map for Lockeport. Mary Meagher suggested that the Town of Lockeport could re-establish a better working relationship with this group organization than there was with council at the time that she was a councilor. Connie knows Anita Telford, Chamber of Commerce, and will invite her to a future HTC meeting.

Annual Beach Bash - Craig Hillen reported that this event will take place on August 1st and this is under the direction of the Recreation Committee. For clarification purposes the Chairs did have a informal discussion and it was suggested to make this a joint collaborative but the Recreation committee opted to go it alone. Craig, who shared at a council meeting if the Recreation Committee if needed, should make a request for volunteers and perhaps some members of the HTC would assist if they were willing and available. This does not mean that the HTC offered to assist as a committee unless it was an equal collaboration as previously discussed between the respective Chairs.

Tim Ryhno shared that he had financially been donating for several years to cover band costs indicated that this year the Recreation Committee never discussed it with him and it is his understanding that the costs of the band have risen significantly. This was confirmed as correct.

Family Beach Bash - Connie Lamm reported that the Recreation Committee has scheduled this beach bash for July 4th with a rain date of July 11th, both which fall on a Saturday. Connie will be organizing this event and is looking for volunteers to help run the different beach related games and events. Derek Amalfa has offered to be the MC for the event.

Discover Shelburne County Marketing strategy - Craig Hillen brought it to the attention of the committee, the tourism marketing initiatives between the Municipalities of Barrington and Shelburne to invest in The Canada Magazine - Travel & Lifestyle as well as a digital billboard on the Gardiner Expressway in Toronto. Both these initiatives

will highlight Shelburne County in major ways. Jeff Wood commented that this connected to Discover South Shore, which the Town of Lockeport is a member of as well, and could potentially highlight some of the photos of our town as well. He will reach out to Robin Smith for some more information regarding what was sent in to be presented in both initiatives.

Clean up of murals/signs - Jeff Wood reported that the mural that is located on the side of the property of Beech Street Kitchen would be more visible if the bushes around it were removed. Derek Amalfa has offered to speak to the owners, Cathy and Jayde, if they would mind if the bushes were removed since it is on their property.

Jeff Wood also suggested that the Icelandic Monument that is now located on the property that is owned by Giggles & Grins daycare needs to be cleaned. Someone will have to reach out to the owner to see if she minds this work being done.

Washrooms - Nicole Stephens asked when the public washrooms near the playground would be open as the weather is getting nicer and there are more people in town using the playground and walking. Derek Amalfa reported that this is something that council will be addressing in the very near future.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on May 19th , 2026 at 6pm in Lockeport Town Council Chambers.

All meetings are open to the public

Adjournment at 7:47pm.

Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday April 28th, 2026

Start time: 2:30 pm

(In Person Meeting)

In Attendance: Adam Dedrick, Holly Perry, Michelle Vacon, Craig Hillen, Therese Cruz

Regrets: Wanda Buchannan, Eric MacIntosh, Ron Coole, Catherine Jones, Jessie Dyer

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Therese at 2:38pm

Agenda Approval: Meeting Agenda was reviewed aloud. Approval of this agenda was moved by Craig and 2nd by Michelle.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Meeting minutes from January 27th, 2026, were reviewed and approved electronically. This was moved by Michelle, 2nd by Craig.

Business:

- a) **Implementation Plan Update 2025/2026:** Adam gave an update. A storage shed will soon be installed at Welkum Park for the mobi chair. Upgrades to the Jordan Youth Park will also be taking place adding some pathways and a picnic area. The Shelburne Municipality Building is tending to sound issues in the main foyer with some grant funds that have been received.

Craig gave an update. Town of Lockeport has purchased equipment for audio visual recordings. This will make council meetings more accessible. The playground has been inspected and approved by the insurance company and new swings are also being installed. The parking lot project will likely not take place this year as there are no available funds.

- b) Implementation Report Card 2025/2026:** Adam gave an update. As per the accessibility plan, each unit needs to complete a report card indicating action items from 2025/2026 and what the status is on each action item. Adam, Craig and Jessie will see that these get completed for review at the next meeting.
- c) Implementation Update 2026/2027:** Action items for 2026/2027 will be reviewed.
- d) Equity & Anti Racism Plan Update:** A public call for committee members was made for the Eastern Shelburne County Equity and Anti Racism Advisory Committee. Four expressions of interest were received so far! This committee will also have 3 council representatives.
- e) Committee Membership:** Currently there are some vacancies on the Accessibility Advisory Committee that need to be filled. A representative from the Town of Lockeport would be a huge asset. Adam will advertise for expressions of interest in the upcoming municipal newsletter.

Other Business:

- a) There was no other business

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday August 18th, 2026, from 2:30-4:00pm at the Town of Shelburne Council Chambers.

Meeting Adjourned 3:15pm.

The following meetings/ events were attended by Councillor A Chetwynd for the month of April 2026.

- April 04- Easter Egg Walk (Seacaps Park)
- April 06- Met with Playground Inspector (Seacaps Playground)
- April 08- COM re survey results (online)
- April 10- Amalgamation information session with Karen Mattatall (Council Chambers)
- April 10- Mock Council with LES Grades 3/4 (Council Chambers)
- April 10- Regular Council Meeting (Council Chambers)
- April 13- Sr Bingo (Recreation Center)
- April 16- RCMP Advisory Committee (Council Chambers)
- April 17- Finance/Budget Meeting (Council Chambers)
- April 20- Playground Committee Budget Review (Council Chambers)
- April 21- COM Check-in (online)
- April 24- Regular Council Meeting (Council Chambers)
- April 29- Healthy Tomorrow Foundation Meeting (Council Chambers and Town Tour)
- April 30- Canada Summer Jobs Meeting (Council Chambers)

Councillor Malik April 2026 report:

April 7th - SAC; 3 resignations and 3 new elected members. Without quorum for several months, the committee was finally able to move business forward. Still needed are; 1 senior student and 1 community member. However, with only 2 meetings left, these will have to be filled in September when SAC resumes for the 2026/27 school year.

April 10th - meeting with Karen Matatall re: previous Amalgamation discussions during her time in office

April 10th - Mr. Stoddards grade 3/4 class met with Council in chambers for Q&A

April 10th - regular Council meeting

April 10th - July 1st

April 16th - WCRL Audit & Risk committee meeting

April 17th - TOL budget meeting

(April 19th - attended Legion breakfast)

(April 21st - went on field trip with LES students to the MODS office for meet and greet/Q&A)

April 22nd - EAR Nominating committee meeting to discuss application submissions for the newly created Equity & Anti-Racism (EAR) committee. Currently have only received a few applications, with none coming from Lockeport residents. Encouraged to advertise and invite residents to ask questions and get information about how to join.

Recommendation from the nominating committee to accept the four applications submitted.

April 24th - Council meeting

April 29th - July 1st; received resignation from Councillor Kevin Chetwynd.

Recommendation for draft of updated TOR for Councils discussion and/or approval. Based upon approval, another Councillor may or may not need to be assigned to the July 1st committee.

Lockeport and Area Canada Day Celebration Committee

Lockeport N.S.

Friday, April 10, 2026

Present were: Emily Swim in the Chair, Ellen Suttle, Candace Malik, Nancy Williams.

Regrets: Kevin Chetwynd, Connie Lamm

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of March 11th, 2026 as circulated were approved on motion by Candace Malik and seconded by Nancy Williams. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Security/Fire Dept. – Traffic Management – Ground Search and Rescue, David Nickerson responded that they will do this job.

Carnival – Mary Ayer (Clown Whisperer) will attend at the same rate of pay as last year.

Wendy Richardson (Balloon Art) will be in attendance from 12-3 at \$70.00 per hour plus \$30.00 travel which equals \$240.00.

Charlie's Treasure Chest will be in attendance. This year they will be offering a "Build a Bear" game which we will advertise over social media.

Baddie Beauty (hair tinsel and tattoos) – have not received confirmation of attending as of yet.

Yarmouth Big Bounce – very interested in bringing a food truck. Emily will direct them as to obtaining a permit.

Amanda Pedro (Face Painting) will be in attendance from 12-3. After discussion it was agreed to pay \$300.00 to Amanda Pedro for her face painting.

Prizes for Canada Day Raffle –

\$500.00

\$300.00

\$100.00

Shelburne Woodworkers – Deluxe Gas BBQ

The Bayman – Pizza and Garlic Fingers

Ocean Escape Cottages – Off Season Weekend Pass – Candace will ask

Cory Huskison – 24 Golf (Simulator) – Emily has reached out for this donation

Boing Rock – two flights – Emily has reached out for this donation

Dirt to Dishes – Pottery Class – Candace will ask for donation

Daniel Khan – Roseway River Cottages – Emily has reached out and he wants a letter sent to him

Lockeport Campground and Cottages – twonight cottage stay – Ellen will follow up

Abby MacKenzie – massage – Candace will ask for donation

Lucy's Cottage – Candace will ask for donation

Lockeport Town Market – 4 packs of sausages – Candace will ask for donation.

Afternoon Social – Jamie Cotter and his band will perform for \$600.00. It was agreed upon by the committee to hire Jamie Cotter and the Outlaws. Nancy will work with Locke Stock & Barrel for cheese and cracker trays and fruit trays.

Flag Raising – Nancy reported that for 150 cupcakes the total price for cupcakes, packaging and tax is equal to \$327.75.

New Business:

Celebrate Canada – We have received notification that we have been approved to receive a grant of \$18,000.00 from Celebrate Canada.

Facebook Posts – Natasha Amalfa has generously offered to produce the social media posts for Lockeport and Area Canada Day Celebrations. This offer was gratefully accepted by this committee

Magic Show Kevin Smith – Emily will follow up with Kevin Smith re. availability, costs etc.

Beach Bash – It has been brought to our attention that the Recreation Committee is going ahead with our suggestion of hosting the Family Beach Bash. This Committee would like clarification if this is a July 1st event hosted by the Recreation Committee so that we may advertise this event in our brochure for them.

Craft Fair – Christina Williams needs two tables. Emily has confirmed the two tables with Christina.

Volunteer messages – Steve Balazs has sent Emily a message that he and his wife are interested in volunteering for activities for July 1st celebrations. It was felt that judging the Grand Street Parade is one activity of which they could definitely help and other activities will be suggested to them.

Quotes – Cory Nickerson – We are still waiting for the quotes from Cory for the fireworks, brochures & mailing, trophies, and sound for flag raising, Little Miss pageant, and the awards ceremony.

Antique Car Parade – Ellen will ask Mike Cotter to organize this event.

Committee Membership – Counsellor Kevin Chetwynd has been absent for all of the July 1st planning meetings for this year’s celebrations. He has not attended a July 1st meeting since August 24th, 2025 nor has he sent his regrets when unable to attend any of the meetings. Our committee has done our best to accommodate his preferred Friday evening meetings although we acknowledge that not all meetings can be held on Friday evenings out of respect for other committee members’ obligations. Therefore the committee is requesting his status with the July 1st Committee going forward.

There being no further business, Candace Malik moved the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Next meeting – April 29, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Suttle

July 1st Celebration Events - 2026

June 21 - Indigenous Day - Shon as guest presenter. Candace Malik organizing
12 – 3 p.m.

June 27 – Multicultural Share Fair - Show case the culture of Italy Emily (Ellen) organizing
6 – 8 p.m.

June 28 – Seaman’s Memorial Service - Pastor Tim Garron 2:00 p.m.
Little Miss Lockeport Pageant – Kelly Penney 3:00 p.m.

June 30 - Afternoon Social – Nancy Williams organizing 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

July 1st – Annual craft fair 10 a.m.– 3 p.m.

Strawberry Festival – Tennis & Pickleball Group/Lockeport Legion Branch 80
11:00 a.m.

Annual grease pole 12:00 p.m.

Flag Raising Ceremony & Cake 11:00 a.m.

Carnival in the Park 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Children’s Parade 11:30 a.m.

‘Little Mac’s” Antique Car Parade 2:15 p.m.

Grand Street Parade 2:30 p.m.

Pie Eating Contest 3:45 p.m.

Awards Ceremony & Raffle Draws 4:00 p.m.

Beans and Brown Bread Supper (Community group)??

Family Dance Party & Free Glow Stuff 9:00 p.m.

Mini Fireworks Display 10:00 p.m.

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Lockeport and Area Canada Day Celebration Committee

Lockeport N.S.

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Present were: Emily Swim in the Chair, Ellen Suttle, Candace Malik, Nancy Williams.

Regrets: Connie Lamm (will join later)

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of April 10th, 2026 as circulated were approved on motion by Candace Malik and seconded by Nancy Williams. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Carnival – Baddie Beauty (hair tinsel and tattoos) – Plans to attend with her air-brush tattoos as well as regular tattoos. Emily will relay the need for a vendors license from the town.

Canada Day Raffle – Since the July 1st Committee has not been able to secure a volunteer group willing to sell the Canada Day Raffle tickets. Therefore the July 1st Committee will set up a booth by the SeaCaps stage on July 1st and will only sell the tickets from there.

Canada Day Raffle Prizes are\;

\$500.00

\$300.00

\$100.00

Shelburne Woodworkers – Deluxe Gas BBQ

The Bayman – Pizza and Garlic Fingers

Cory Huskison – 24 Golf (Simulator) – Emily has reached out for this donation

Boing Rock – two flights – Emily has reached out for this donation

Dirt to Dishes – Pottery Class – \$85.00 gift certificate. July 1st Committee will purchase another certificate to make a pair of tickets.

Lockeport Campground and Cottages – two night cottage stay – Ellen will follow up

Lucy's Cottage – Candace will ask for donation

Lockeport Town Market – sausages and buns

Oasis – Two gift certificates

Locke, Stock, and Barrell – Five gift certificates - \$20.00 each

Volunteer Judges – Steve Balazs confirmed that he and his wife would be the judges for the Grand Street Parade. They will also be asked to help sell the Canada Day Raffle Tickets.

Quotes (fireworks, brochures and mailing, trophies, sound x3) Cory Nickerson – nothing as yet.

New Business:

Musical Entertainment – Phillip Harding and son, Seth, would like to play and sing in Lockeport on July 1st. This Committee agreed that this would be an excellent idea and that this duo would be payed \$400.00.

Mersey Band – Grand Street Parade – Ann Dunlop has confirmed attendance for the parade and the cost is \$650.00

Connie Lamm joined the meeting at this time.

Craft Fair – Alyssa Chetwynd and Donna Newell are requesting 5 tables.

April Comeau & Scotiacentric designs are requesting 1 table.

Letter of Resignation – A letter of Resignation from Councillor Kevin Chetwynd was received. After discussion, this letter of resignation was accepted with regret from the July 1st Committee as a whole. It was hoped by the Committee that perhaps in the future when Kevin feels he has a bit more time that he rejoins this Committee.

July 1st (Canada Day) Committee Mandate – Candace presented the submission draft of the July 1st Committee Mandate. This will be discussed at the next meeting after the Committee members have had a chance to study this.

Antique Car Parade – Ellen spoke to Mike Cotter and he will organize this event.

Facebook Posts – Ellen spoke to Natasha Amalfa and expressed our gratitude for her generous offer. She would like to sit down with a member of the Committee and discuss time lines, content, etc.

Clean Foundation – This organization is providing a vehicle to be in our parade as well as allowing the general public to test drive this vehicle.

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There being no further business, Candace Malik moved the meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Next meeting – May 13, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

May 27, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Suttle

July 1st Celebration Events - 2026

June 21 - Indigenous Day - Shon as guest presenter. Candace Malik organizing

12 – 3 p.m.

June 27 – Multicultural Share Fair - Show case the culture of Italy Emily (Ellen) organizing

6 – 8 p.m.

June 28 – Seaman’s Memorial Service - Pastor Tim Garron 2:00 p.m.

Little Miss Lockeport Pageant – Kelly Penney 3:00 p.m.

June 30 - Afternoon Social – Nancy Williams organizing 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

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Beans and Brown Bread Supper (Community group)??

Musical Entertainment

Family Dance Party & Free Glow Stuff 9:00 p.m.

Mini Fireworks Display 10:00 p.m.

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**TOWN OF LOCKEPORT
POLICY STATEMENT**

POLICY #GG-03

**CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS Effective Date
Committee Terms of Reference May 27, 2019
And Policy**

**Revision Date:
April 27, 2020
Feb. 15, 2024
April 22, 2026**

Objective

The purpose of the Canada Day Committee is to provide advice to Council on matters relating to Canada Day activities of the Town. The Committee is established as outlined in Section 24 of the *Municipal Government Act (MGA)*. The Canada Day Committee will plan and implement Canada Day activities for the Town.

Composition

The Committee will consist of at least 5 members, one of whom is a Town Councillor. The Make Your Move co-ordinator will provide support to the Committee but will not be a voting member. The chair of the Committee should liaise through the Clerk Treasurer and/or designate. Council shall annually appoint the Committee. The Committee will elect a chairperson. All Committee members will serve without pay. Members who are not able to attend a meeting will notify the chair by noon of the meeting date. Any member absent for 3 consecutive meetings without notification will be deemed to have vacated their position and the position will be filled per the terms of reference

Budget and Finances

The chair of the Committee shall bring forward budget requests of the Committee as part of the Town budget process. All funds collected for the Canada Day event shall be deposited in the Town's bank account. All expenses associated with the event will be paid by the Town from these funds. Any excess funds from the event shall be kept in the Town's special reserves, segregated for Canada Day purposes

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**TOWN OF LOCKEPORT
POLICY STATEMENT**

CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS Committee Terms of Reference And Policy **Effective Date May 27, 2019**

POLICY #GG-03
Revision Date:
April 27, 2020
Feb. 15, 2024
April 22, 2026

Duties and Responsibilities

Canada Day Committee meetings are open to the public and suggestions and recommendations of the Committee are made available to the public. The Committee must maintain minutes of meetings. The Committee reports to Council.

Statement

1. Planning today and saving incrementally for future capitol expenditures will help address some of the long-term funding strategies for the Town and to ensure good financial and cash management for ongoing financial stability of the Town.
2. The Town of Lockeport is required to establish and maintain a Capitol Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 99 of the *Municipal Government Act*. The level of Capitol Reserve Fund will be a least twenty per sent (20%) of regular general fund operating expenses plus amortization expenses.

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**TOWN OF LOCKEPORT
POLICY STATEMENT**

**CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS Effective Date
Committee Terms of Reference May 27, 2019
And Policy**

**POLICY #GG-03
Revision Date:
April 27, 2020
Feb. 15, 2024
April 22, 2026**

Town Clerk/Treasurer's Annotation for Official Policy Book

Date of Passage of Current Policy: May 27, 2019

I certify that this Policy was adopted by Council as indicated above.

Town Clerk/Treasurer

Date

April 22, 2026

Revision Date

To: Council
From: EAR Nominating committee
Date: May 8th, 2026
Subject: Eastern Shelburne County, Equity & Anti-Racism Advisory Committee
community representatives further to be referred to as EAR

Origin

Advertising was held in March and April 2026 for Expressions of Interest for public members of EAR

Recommendation

THAT, Council of Lockeport approve the appointment of Louise Delilse, Davie Hartley, Cat Hartley and Cory Lavendar as community representatives for EAR based on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee.

Background

EAR provides advice to the three Councils representing the Municipality of the District of Shelburne, Town of Shelburne and Town of Lockeport on identifying, preventing, and eliminating discrimination (based on race, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, disability, or sexual orientation) in Municipal/Town services.

As per the Terms of Reference, the Committee will consist of six (6) community members to be appointed by all three (3) municipal units. The committee will aim to have representation from a diverse array of voices and equity deserving groups and from different geographical areas of the Municipality/Towns. Additional community members may be appointed.

Discussion

All Expressions of Interest were reviewed by the Nominating Committee, which is comprised of the appointed Council representatives from each municipal unit and resource staff. Four Expressions of Interest were received and reviewed by the Nominating Committee. The following individuals are being recommended to be appointed as community representatives for EAR:

Louise Delilse - Resident, Town of Shelburne

Louise seeks to join the committee to support her community's growth and well-being using her time, knowledge, and skills. Raised in Shelburne, she has long worked to address equity, racism, and discrimination and is committed to helping find solutions. Drawing on her lived experience, she believes she can make a meaningful impact. She is active in several organizations, including the Black Cultural Society, Southwestern Regional Providers Network, and African Nova Scotian Justice Institute, and was a founding member of SEED and CEJ.

Davie Hartley - Resident, Municipality of Shelburne

Davie is a community development leader with over 30 years of experience advancing equity and anti-racism. His ancestral roots in Shelburne (since 1783) and lived experience shape his commitment to addressing systemic racism and historical trauma. He holds degrees in sociology, psychology, and counselling, informing his understanding of intergenerational inequality. He has worked with organizations like the Black United Front, Saint Mary's University, and the Métis Nation of Ontario, leading initiatives in youth support, economic development, and community

health. He currently chairs the Shelburne Community Health Board and leads local efforts to support marginalized communities.

Cat Hartley - Resident, Municipality of Shelburne

Cat believes discrimination shouldn't be ignored and is motivated by personal experiences and observations of how subtle and overt racism can harm people. She values both speaking up and listening, and is open to learning and engaging in meaningful, even uncomfortable, conversations. As a Black person and descendant of Black Loyalists, this work is personally meaningful to her. Ultimately, she wants to help create real, positive change and be part of something that makes a difference.

Cory Lavendar - Resident, Municipality of Shelburne

Cory, from Gunning Cove and originally Liverpool, Nova Scotia, is part of a Black Loyalist family (the Lavenders) with deep ties to Shelburne County. His work explores race, identity, and African Nova Scotian history. He holds a Master's in English and Cultural Studies from McMaster University, researching racism and George Elliott Clarke. Cory writes poetry on mixed identity and Black Loyalist heritage, leads workshops on poetry and microaggressions, serves on the Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia board, and is committed to community-focused, collaborative work.

Councilor Chetwynds,
Meetings and events.

April 4th- attended the easter egg walk.

April 10th- amalgamation information information with Karen Mattatall.

April 10th- mock council meeting with LES grade 3/4.

April 10th- regular council meeting.

April 17th- Finance meeting.

April 24th- regular council meeting.

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June Harding

From: Smith, Stephanie N <Stephanie.N.Smith@novascotia.ca>
Sent: April 30, 2026 2:40 PM
To: Smith, Stephanie N
Cc: MacKay, Mary-Jo; Bennett, Laura E; Chaisson, Rodney S; MacIntyre, Maggie (CCTH)
Subject: Update from the Nova Scotia Museum / CCTH

Good afternoon,

As you may be aware, six of the twelve Nova Scotia Museum sites that were closed as part of the province's 2026-27 budget will re-open this season with support from a new funding stream in the Community Museum Assistance Program (CMAP). We understand that this has caused some concern and confusion within the broader museum sector. The last few months have been challenging for museum staff and volunteers, and we appreciate that there are questions about the potential impacts of this decision.

Though CCTH staff have been sharing information at Spring regional heritage meetings, I would like to take this opportunity to provide further information and clarity to help answer some of the questions we've heard from the sector about this decision.

Transitioning to Community-Run Museums

When the decision was made to close 12 provincial museums, it was acknowledged that some of these museums could potentially operate as community-run sites. These museums hold significance for their communities, and the province sought a way for them to continue serving their communities outside of the provincial museum system.

To support this transition, funds were set aside to create a transition fund for these sites under the umbrella of the CMAP program. These funds, which were retained from museum closures, are intended to assist museums in moving from provincial to community ownership. The six sites receiving funding from the new funding stream have submitted applications and will adhere to the conditions for operating a CMAP site in Nova Scotia. Over time, we anticipate that the two funding streams of CMAP will consolidate. This process will be considered a part of the next CMAP review.

Impact on Existing CMAP Funding

The existing \$1.3 million dollars allocated for CMAP is not being divided amongst a greater number of museum sites. The former Nova Scotia Museum sites did not displace any museums from the CMAP fund, nor did they prevent sites waiting to join the program from doing so.

The overall objective of the NSM Transformation project is to ensure the long-term sustainability of the provincial museum. We are encouraged by the spirit of collaboration and ingenuity within the museum community, which will undoubtedly help us achieve this goal.

The Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage is pleased that these six former Nova Scotia Museum sites will operate this season and continue to contribute to Nova Scotia's heritage community.

We also recognize the many challenges facing the sector and remain committed to collaborating with and supporting Nova Scotia's culture and heritage organizations. Thank you for your ongoing dedication to Nova Scotia's heritage.

Sincerely,

Stephanie



Stephanie
Executive Director
Nova Scotia Museum
1747 Sun



NOVA SCOTIA

**Municipal Affairs
Office of the Minister**

PO Box 216, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2M4 • Telephone 902 424-5550 Fax 902 424-0581 • novascotia.ca

April 22, 2026

Dear Mayors, Wardens and Village Chairs:

I am writing to provide an overview of the legislative amendments approved this spring in the House of Assembly that relate to municipal governance. These changes were a part of Bill 212 ([c001.pdf](#)). We are sharing this information to ensure Council has clarity on the intent and scope of these changes, as well as next steps.

Amendments to the *Municipal Government Act* and *Halifax Regional Charter Act*:

- Clarify the oversight relationship between councils and Chief Administrative Officers, affirming council's discretion to exclude the CAOs from meetings related to CAO performance (effective immediately).
- Enable councils to delegate CAO performance oversight to a committee (effective immediately).
- Clarify council's authority in approving CAO participation in external organizations and delegating responsibilities during CAO absences (effective immediately).
- Introduce mandatory onboarding training for newly elected councillors to support strong governance and informed decision-making. Will become effective after details are established in regulations.

These amendments are intended to strengthen municipal governance and support councils in their leadership and accountability roles.

We appreciate the support that you have shared for these changes either directly, through your MLA or through your associations. If council has questions or would like additional clarification, your municipal advisors would be pleased to assist.

In the coming months, the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) will be seeking your input on what mandatory training for newly elected councillors will look like in Nova Scotia. Our intention is that councillors feel equipped to fulfill their important responsibilities, how to work effectively with their colleagues and the staff of the municipality, and how to best deliver on the priorities of their constituents, the municipality and our beautiful province. Regulations will establish the minimum standards for mandatory training, such as the types of training, the timelines for completion, and key responsibilities. We will look to you to shape these requirements, through the work of NSFM.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Yours truly,

Honourable John A. MacDonald
Minister of Municipal Affairs

c: CAOs (please share with your councillors)
Village Clerks
Juanita Spencer, CEO, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities
Jeff Sunderland, Executive Director, Association of Municipal Administrators Nova Scotia



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's
Box 296, 8296 Highway #7, Sherbrooke, NS B0J 3C0

April 22nd, 2026

The Honorable Tim Houston
Premier of Nova Scotia
Office of the Premier
7th Floor, One Government
1700 Granville Street
Halifax, NS B3J 1X5

Dear Premier Houston,

RE: Letter of Support for Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty

On behalf of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's, I am writing to express our support for the concerns raised by the Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty (ACEP) regarding the need to increase social assistance and disability support rates in Nova Scotia.

We are increasingly aware of the growing pressures facing residents, as the costs of housing, food, energy, and other essential needs continue to rise. Many individuals and families in our communities rely on social assistance and disability benefits to meet their basic daily needs.

While we acknowledge the announced 1.6% increase to social assistance and disability rates for 2026, Council shares the concern that this adjustment does not keep pace with inflation or the rising cost of living. Without more substantial increases, many individuals and families will continue to experience significant financial hardship.

The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's supports ACEP's call for a meaningful increase to social assistance and disability support rates, with the goal of ensuring that Nova Scotians are able to meet their basic needs and live with dignity. Addressing poverty strengthens not only individuals and families, but also the overall health and resilience of our communities.

We respectfully encourage your government to carefully consider these concerns and to engage in further discussion with community partners, including ACEP, to identify solutions that better support vulnerable Nova Scotians.

Sincerely,

Warden James Fuller
Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Cc: MLA Greg Morrow, all Nova Scotia Municipalities

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**Municipal Affairs
Office of the Minister**

PO Box 216, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2M4 • Telephone 902 424-5550 Fax 902 424-0581 • novascotia.ca

May 4, 2026

David Mitchell
President, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM)
Suite 1304, 1809 Barrington Street
Halifax, NS B3J 3K8
Via email: david.mitchell@bridgewater.ca

Dear David Mitchell:

Under the provisions of the *Municipal Government Act*, the Minister of Municipal Affairs must provide to the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities 12-months' notice of any provincial legislation, regulation, or administrative actions that could have the effect of decreasing revenues or increasing the required expenditures of municipalities. This letter is intended to provide notice of such changes for fiscal year 2027-2028 and beyond.

The Department of Municipal Affairs (DMA) canvassed all provincial departments to seek information on plans for legislative, regulatory, and policy changes in the coming fiscal year. Below you will find a summary of the results of that process.

Department of Cybersecurity and Digital Solutions

- 1) Starting in 2026-27, the Department of Cyber Security and Digital Solutions (CSDS) will begin working with affected municipalities to offboard from the following SAP-related services:
 - o Customer Care and Service (CCS) Utilities (e.g., property tax and revenue): Amherst, Annapolis, CBR, Cumberland, East Hants, Queens
 - o Materials Management: Amherst, Annapolis, CBRM, Cumberland, East Hants, Queens, HRM
 - o HR Pay: CBRM, HRM
 - o Environment Health and Safety Management: HRM
 - o Success Factors HR: HRM

CSDS is issuing notice and will be communicating with municipalities directly.

Department of Emergency Management

- 1) The Department acknowledges that elements of ongoing work to strengthen fire services in Nova Scotia may have a financial impact on some municipal units.

With the introduction of the *Act to Provide Support for Fire Protection Services*, the Department is providing one-year notice that all municipalities – whether they oversee fire services or not – will be required to:

- o conduct a fire protection service review in order to ensure municipalities and fire service providers make evidence-based decisions about the services they provide to their community,
- o ensure that local firefighter competencies, training, and personal protective equipment meet the service standard required by the fire protection service review, and
- o participate in a common records management system.

The possible impacts of these new requirements, which will be further detailed through regulations and standards, may vary significantly based on local context, including existing governance and collaboration models, levels of municipal readiness, and voluntary fire service provider capacity.

This legislation is part of an ongoing commitment to strengthening the fire service sector through:

- o access to specialized firefighter training and the certification process,
- o education/training for municipal elected officials,
- o procurement support,
- o mutual aid and service agreement templates,
- o the new Fire Records Management System, and
- o a risk-based assessment tool to facilitate council decision-making around fire protection service levels.

Department of Growth and Development

- 1) A review of the *Peggy's Cove Commission Act* is seeking to modernize planning for the Peggy's Cove area. Given the location of Peggy's Cove within the boundaries of HRM, any proposed changes to the Act or its administration could have an impact on the municipality, for example, shifting responsibility for planning approvals.

- 2) The Department is undertaking a review of the Regional Enterprise Networks (RENS) program. Key areas of focus include improving consistency in service delivery across the province, improving how businesses access and navigate existing programs and services and aligning delivery with provincial economic development priorities. Addressing these areas may involve adjustments to the current REN model, which would have implications for municipal partners.

Department of Intergovernmental Affairs

- 1) Under our trade policy responsibilities, Intergovernmental Affairs advises that there are procurement thresholds under several free trade agreements that could impact municipalities. Every two years, Global Affairs Canada updates its thresholds for covered procurements under the Canada-Europe Trade Agreement (CETA), the Canada-UK Trade Continuity Agreement (TCA), and the Canada Free Trade Agreement (CFTA). Municipal procurements are covered under these obligations. All procurements above the thresholds must be publicly tendered unless subject to an exemption.

The threshold values in Canadian dollars for the period of January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2027, are as follows:

FTA	Goods	Services	Construction
CFTA	Province		
	\$34,700	\$139,000	\$139,000
	Municipalities and MASH		
	\$139,000	\$139,000	\$347,400
CETA/TCA	Crowns, Utilities, etc.		
	\$694,700	\$694,700	\$6,943,900
	Province, Municipalities and MASH		
	\$368,000	\$368,000	\$9,200,000
CFTA	Crowns		
	\$653,200	\$653,200	\$9,200,000
	Utilities, etc.		
	\$736,000	\$736,000	\$9,200,000

Department of Justice

- 1) The Nova Scotia Comprehensive Policing Review was released in June 2025. Since that time, the Department of Justice has met with all municipalities to discuss implementation of the six foundational changes and the expanded role of the provincial police service. These foundational changes are designed to strengthen public safety across the province and support more effective, consistent, and sustainable outcomes. As part of implementation:
 - o Municipalities are required to meet established provincial policing standards. Municipalities that are unable to meet these standards independently will be required to contract with the provincial police service for the delivery of those services and, effective April 1, 2027, will be required to purchase those services on a fee basis. While these changes are intended to enhance public safety and ensure greater consistency across jurisdictions, they may result in increased costs for some municipalities. At this time, the specific nature and extent of any financial impacts cannot be determined for any individual municipality.
 - o The Province will continue to enhance and modernize its policing standards over time. The creation or expansion of standards may result in additional costs for municipalities.
 - o The Province will procure a province-wide records management system (RMS) in fiscal year 2026–27. The Province will fund the acquisition and associated start-up costs. It is anticipated that beginning in 2027–28, as part of implementation, municipalities with their own police agencies will be required to contribute annual licensing fees associated with the RMS. For municipalities policed by the RCMP under the provincial policing model, RMS-related costs will be incorporated into the provincial billing model.
 - o The Province will continue to work toward the development of a new municipal billing model for provincial police services during fiscal year 2026–27. Municipalities will continue to be engaged throughout this process. The specific structure of the model and the extent of any financial impacts cannot be determined at this time for any individual municipality; however, changes to the billing model could result in increased costs for some municipalities beginning in 2027–28.
- 2) The National Police Federation is the certified union representing regular members and reservists of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) below the rank of Inspector. The current Collective Agreement expires on March 31, 2025, and labour negotiations between the National Police Federation and Treasury Board Secretariat Canada are ongoing. The cost implications cannot be determined at this time.

David Mitchell
Page 5

- 3) The 'H' Division (Nova Scotia) Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) have provided the Department of Justice with the annual Multi-Year Financial Plan (MYFP), that reflects the organization's budget requests for the next fiscal year, and strategic planning for subsequent years. The cost implications cannot be determined at this time.
- 4) Biological Casework Analysis Agreement provides municipalities with DNA analysis arising from criminal investigations. Costs will be determined upon the release of the "Total Uniform Assessment" by Municipal Affairs.
- 5) Municipalities in Nova Scotia are prescribed under the *Accessibility Act* which means they must have an accessibility advisory committee, prepare and make publicly available accessibility plans, and comply with accessibility standards (regulations) once they are enacted.
 - o The Built Environment Accessibility Standard Regulations under the *Accessibility Act* were approved on March 7, 2025. Compliance with the standard is required beginning April 1, 2026. These regulations apply to newly constructed and newly installed elements of the built environment such as pedestrian facilities, recreational spaces, and outdoor infrastructure. These regulations include technical design requirements for infrastructure. The regulations also introduce requirements for accessibility planning for both new and existing infrastructure, including municipal infrastructure. These infrastructure plans are due April 1, 2026. There is no requirement to retrofit existing infrastructure, and as a result the cost implications are minimal.
 - o The Department of Justice is expected to share the proposed accessibility standard for employment, and goods and services for public review in 2026-27. This would be an opportunity for municipalities to review the proposed standard to provide input into the feasibility and cost implications of the proposed standards on municipalities.

Department of Public Works

- 1) The recoverable cost to municipalities for adjustments to catch basins, manholes, and water valves during construction work will increase June 1st, 2027. Manhole and catch basin adjustments will increase from \$600 to \$1200, and water valve adjustments will increase from \$300 to \$600.

David Mitchell
Page 6

Department of Service Nova Scotia

- 1) Nova Scotia's new FOIPOP Act will come into effect on April 1, 2027 and regulations are currently under development to support the new Act. The legislation requires municipalities to adopt new privacy policies and practices, requires mandatory reporting of significant privacy breaches to affected individuals and the Information and Privacy Commissioner, and gives the Information and Privacy Commissioner oversight over municipal privacy programs for the first time. It is anticipated that these changes will require municipal resources in the form of personnel to undertake privacy assessments for any new projects or programs where personal information is being collected, for mandatory privacy breach notifications when there are significant privacy breaches, and for responding to privacy complaints filed with the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC). The Province will support municipalities through creation of templates, training materials, and education campaigns to help mitigate some of these impacts.

Yours truly,



Honourable John A. MacDonald
Minister of Municipal Affairs

c: Juanita Spencer, Chief Executive Officer, NSFM

(92)



Naturally Yours

136 Hammond Street, PO Box 280 Shelburne, NS BOT 1W0 Phone: (902) 875-3544 - Fax: (902) 875-1278

2026-04-22

The Honourable Tim Houston
Premier of Nova Scotia
P.O. Box 726
Halifax, NS
B3J 2T3

Email: premier@novascotia.ca

Re: Request for Five-Year Freeze on Power Rates and Exploration of Public Ownership of Nova Scotia Power

Dear Premier Houston,

On behalf of the Municipality of the District of Shelburne, I am writing to express our concerns regarding residential power rates in Nova Scotia and their growing impact on our residents and communities.

The Municipality wishes to formally express our support for the correspondence submitted by the County of Antigonish regarding this matter. We share the concerns outlined in their letter and echo the importance of advocating on behalf of rural Nova Scotians who are increasingly burdened by rising electricity costs.

While we recognize that the Nova Scotia Energy Board has approved Nova Scotia Power's recent General Rate Application for 2026–2027, we believe it remains critically important to voice our concerns. Within the Municipality, many households—particularly seniors, fixed-income residents, and working families—are experiencing significant financial strain. The cumulative effect of rising energy costs, combined with broader affordability pressures, is becoming increasingly unsustainable.

We are particularly concerned that residential customers continue to see higher percentage increases than some other customer classes. This raises important questions about fairness and equity, as households may be bearing a disproportionate share of the operating and capital costs of Nova Scotia Power.

Additionally, events such as the recent cybersecurity incident at Nova Scotia Power and subsequent billing disruptions have further eroded public confidence. Residents in our municipality continue to express frustration—not only with costs, but with reliability, transparency, and trust in the system.

Warren MacLeod CAO

warren.macleod@municipalityofshelburne.ca

www.municipalityofshelburne.ca

Penny Smith, Warden

Warden@municipalityofshelburne.ca

In light of these concerns, and consistent with the requests put forward by the County of Antigonish, we respectfully ask that you advocate for the following on behalf of Nova Scotians:

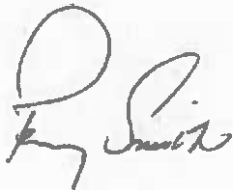
Consideration of a five-year freeze on residential power rates to help protect residents from further financial strain;

A thorough exploration of returning Nova Scotia Power to public ownership, ensuring that the interests of residents are prioritized over corporate profits.

We recognize that operating and capital costs have risen due to inflation, tariffs, and other factors. However, we strongly urge decision-makers to explore ways to more fairly distribute these costs across customer classes so that residential ratepayers are not disproportionately affected.

Our municipality, like many rural communities, relies on affordable, reliable, and equitable energy. It is essential that both government and regulatory bodies take meaningful steps to restore balance, protect residents, and rebuild public confidence.

Sincerely,



Warden Penny Smith

cc:
Nova Scotia Energy Board
Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM)
All Municipal Units in Nova Scotia
Hon. Nolan Young, MLA - Shelburne

	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	2027 Projection	2028 Projection	2029 Projection	2030 Projection	Projection Growth Rate
TAXES - TOTAL	1,007,278	1,082,874	1,205,920	1,269,858	1,391,496	1,413,200	1,435,355	1,457,972	1,481,063	4.9%
Property Tax	612,931	685,351	782,755	870,773	1,002,041	1,012,061	1,022,182	1,032,404	1,042,728	3%
Commercial Tax	394,347	397,523	423,165	399,085	389,455	401,139	413,173	425,568	438,335	1%
PROTECTIVE SERVICES - TOTAL	227,264	256,085	274,491	283,824	331,490	363,215	392,796	424,795	459,412	
Police Protection	171,130	190,015	201,495	213,911	236,519	260,171	280,985	303,463	327,740	8%
Fire Protection	45,775	52,521	58,914	53,275	71,180	76,874	83,024	89,666	96,840	8%
First Responders / EMO	10,359	13,549	14,082	16,638	23,791	26,170	28,787	31,666	34,832	10%
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - TOTAL	264,722	268,896	305,558	308,148	290,000	301,343	313,158	325,467	338,291	
Sewer Collection & Disposal	107,161	114,240	139,644	98,746	132,151	138,759	145,696	152,981	160,630	5%
Garbage & Waste Collection and Disposal	157,561	154,656	165,914	209,402	157,849	162,584	167,462	172,486	177,660	3%
TRANSPORTATION / PUBLIC WORKS - TOTAL	181,576	209,654	186,194	207,971	258,784	277,234	297,047	318,327	341,185	
Roads / Maintenance	61,111	65,586	46,721	48,272	75,100	78,855	82,798	86,938	91,285	5%
Common Services (salaries & Equip / Building)	120,465	144,068	139,473	159,699	183,684	198,379	214,249	231,389	249,900	8%
GENERAL GOVERNMENT - TOTAL	286,389	317,924	328,005	312,599	391,439	416,637	443,511	472,174	502,749	
General Administrative	222,726	253,700	264,084	248,667	318,018	340,279	364,099	389,586	416,857	7%
Legislative	63,663	64,224	63,921	63,932	73,421	76,358	79,412	82,589	85,892	4%
SCHOOL BOARD	102,900	104,633	113,662	127,724	173,379	190,717	209,789	230,767	253,844	10%
EXPENSES - TOTAL	1,062,851	1,157,192	1,207,910	1,240,266	1,445,092	1,549,146	1,656,301	1,771,531	1,895,481	7.5%
SURPLUS / DEFICIT	-55,573	-74,318	-1,990	29,592	-53,596	-135,946	-220,946	-313,559	-414,418	
RESERVES	818,061	1,063,718	909,573	804,457						
LIABILITIES	639,545	589,443	734,425	719,590						
Long-Term Debt										

Notes:

Actual figures are based on audited financial statements.

2026 figures are based on the operating budget.

Future projections are calculated using trend-based annual growth rates derived from historical data.

Projection rates have been adjusted in some cases to reflect conservative and reasonable assumptions.

Total revenue may vary year-to-year due to grants and external funding; property taxation remains the Town's primary stable revenue source.

The purpose of this analysis is to illustrate overall financial trends and potential future pressures, not to provide precise forecasts.