



## NOTICE

**MEETING:** St. Mary's Municipal Council

**DATE:** Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**TIME:** 7:00pm

**PLACE:** St. Mary's Municipal Office  
Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, NS

**Please Advise If Unable To Attend**

Dated: *February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018*

Marvin MacDonald  
CAO

**Municipality of the District of St. Mary's**  
Meeting of Council  
Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
  2. Roll Call
  3. Approval of Agenda and any additions
  4. Approval of minutes of Regular Council Meeting held January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018
  5. Business Arising from Minutes
  6. Recommendations from Committee of the Whole
  7. Outside Committee Appointment Reports
    - a. ESREN Liaison Oversight Committee – Councillor Smith
    - b. Eastern Region Solid Waste Management – Deputy Warden Dort
    - c. Community Health Board – Councillor Malloy
    - d. GALA – Councillor Smith
    - e. GALA AGM – Councillor Smith
  8. CAO Report
  9. Solicitor Report
  10. Other Matters of Business
    - a. Councillor Roundtable
  11. Adjournment
- *10 minute question and answer period pertaining to agenda items*

**Municipality of the District of St. Mary's  
Regular Council Meeting  
Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Meeting, Date & Time:**

The regular meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council was called to order on Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers Sherbrooke, N.S.

**Attending:**

Warden Mosher  
Deputy Warden Dort  
Councillor Malloy  
Councillor Findlay  
Councillor Kaiser-Kirk  
Councillor Baker  
Councillor Smith  
Adam Rodgers, Solicitor

**Also Attending:**

Marvin MacDonald, CAO  
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance  
Denise Sawlor, Municipal Clerk/Special Projects Coordinator

**Approval of Agenda:**

*On motion of Deputy Warden Dort and seconded by Councillor Baker Council approved the agenda with the following additions:*

10.b Federal Marine Protected Areas

*Motion carried.*

**Approval of Minutes:**

*On motion of Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Malloy Council approved the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018.*

*Motion carried.*

**Business Arising From Minutes:**

- None

## Recommendations from Committee Of The Whole

- Ice Helmet Policy  
*On motion of Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Baker Council approved the new Ice Helmet Policy.*  
  
*Motion carried (1 Nay Councillor Kaiser-Kirk).*
- Chedabucto Lifestyle Complex  
*On motion of Councillor Kaiser-Kirk and seconded by Councillor Malloy that Council give \$5,000 to the Chedabucto Lifestyle Complex project.*  
  
*Motion carried.*
- Eastern Strait Regional Enterprise Network (ESREN) – Mulgrave Request  
*On motion of Councillor Findlay and seconded by Councillor Baker that Council support Mulgrave in their request to join the ESREN.*  
  
*Motion carried.*
- Plastic Bag Ban  
*On motion of Deputy Warden Dort and seconded by Councillor Findlay that Council be in support of a ban on single use plastic bags. Further that the Minister of Environment continue to work towards implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility province wide.*  
  
*Motion carried.*
- DEANS Gala Dinner  
*On motion of Councillor Baker and seconded by Deputy Warden Dort that Council have Councillor Kaiser-Kirk and Councillor Findlay attend the DEANS Gala dinner.*  
  
*Motion carried.*

## Outside Committee Reports

- ESREN Liaison Oversight Committee – Councillor Smith
- Eastern Region Solid Waste Management – Deputy Warden Dort
- Community Health Board – Councillor Malloy
- GALA – Councillor Smith
  - Copies of the Canada 150 book are available at the library. Also, working on an electronic copy.
- GALA AGM – Councillor Smith

## CAO Report

- Report attached to minutes

## Solicitor Report

- Helmet policy
  - New policy was reviewed by Solicitor prior to going for Council approval.
- Water Utility Land Issue
  - The Municipality has submitted evidence regarding title information for the land.
  - Solicitor will keep the Municipality updated on progress.

## Other Matters of Business

- Councillor Roundtable
  - Councillor Smith
    - iPad Training
    - Economic Development Committee Meeting
    - ESREN Investment Database Launch
    - Fire Services
    - Guysborough County Adult Learning Association (GALA) meeting
    - GALA Annual General Meeting
  - Councillor Baker
    - Sherbrooke Village Volunteer Appreciation
    - Library Board Meeting
    - Legion Meeting
  - Député Warden Dort
    - ESREN Investment Database Launch
    - Fire Services
    - Eastern Region Solid Waste Management Committee Meeting
    - Goshen Community Center Meeting
    - Goshen Volunteer Fire Department Meeting
  - Councillor Malloy
    - Guysborough Community Health Board Meeting
    - Sherbrooke Village Volunteer Appreciation
    - ESREN Investment Database Launch
    - Fire Services Meeting
    - IHL Valentine Social
  - Councillor Findlay
    - Sherbrooke Village Volunteer Appreciation
    - Sherbrooke Village Committee Meeting
    - ESREN Investment Database Launch
    - Women`s Institute Meeting
  - Councillor Kaiser-Kirk
    - Port Bickerton Play Space meeting
    - ESREN Investment Database Launch
    - EMO meeting
  - Warden Mosher
    - JOHS
    - Sherbrooke Village Volunteer Appreciation
    - Fire Services
    - Strait Regional School Board African Heritage Month Launch

- Federal Marine Protected Areas
  - There is a presentation coming up regarding the Federal Marine Protected Areas along the Eastern Shore. Marvin was invited to attend.
  - Marvin will attend the meeting.
  - Budget meeting rescheduled to February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 1pm.

**Adjournment**

***On Motion of Councillor Findlay there being no further matters of business, council adjourned at 7:33pm.***

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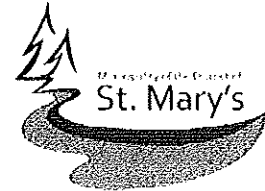
Recorded By

Municipal Clerk/Special Projects Coordinator

Approved By

Warden Mosher

## ICE HELMET POLICY



### **Purpose:**

This policy was implemented for the safety and wellbeing of all users while participating in ice skating activities at the St. Mary's Recplex.

The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's is committed to the safety of all individuals and groups while utilizing the St. Mary's Recplex. Therefore, the mandatory wearing of a Canadian Standard Association (CSA) approved protective helmet on ice for all participants is for their protection and safety during ice skating activities at the St. Mary's Recplex.

### **Policy:**

CSA approved protective helmets are mandatory for all individuals while enjoying ice skating activities at the St. Mary's Recplex. This policy will be clearly posted with the other established regulations for activities and placed at the entrance of St. Mary's Recplex.

### **Procedures:**

All individuals and groups are to wear a CSA approved helmet during ice skating events. The chinstrap of the helmet shall be securely fastened under the chin. The failure to wear a helmet by an individual will result in the removal of the individual from the ice surface until a helmet is available for wear.

### **Exemption:**

Exemption to this policy may be requested on the basis that the wearing of a helmet would interfere with the observance of a religious custom or a user group assumes liability coverage. It is the responsibility of the user group that each member sign a waiver acceptable to the Municipality.

Requests can be made as follows: Application for such exemption must be made to the St. Mary's Recplex in writing. Granting of such an exemption will require the applicant to provide a signed St. Mary's Recplex Helmet Policy Waiver prior to the participation in any ice skating activity.

Examples of potential user groups that can assume liability coverage include curling clubs and figure skating clubs. Age restrictions will apply.



# Report to Council

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**Member of Council:** Kaytland Smith

**Board/Agency/Organization:** ESREN Liaison Oversight Committee

**Date Attended:** January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2018      **Location:** Sherbrooke, NS

## **Agenda Items Discussed:**

- Business Plan 2018-19
  - Attached to document
- Budget Projections
- Question and Discussion period

## **Key Highlights:**

- Plan to hire a Economic Development Officer for Antigonish Town and County, and Connector Program Coordinator
  - Funding approval dependant
- Budget is approved by board-concerns raised
  - Concern being that Municipalities or LOC have no chance to review the budget before its approved
  - Options will be brought to the next LOC meeting
- Mulgrave has sent in a formal request to join ESREN
  - Each representative will take the request back to their respective Council for discussion
  - A fact sheet will be sent out by John Beaton before those meetings take place
  - If approved by Council they would be required to pass a motion to that effect
- Discussion was held around confusion of roles in the REN system.
  - A training will be planed to educate on roles and responsibilities of each level.
- ESREN Board Recruitment
  - The recruitment committee is actively in process of contacting possible new board members.
  - All suggestions for board members are asked to be forwarded on to Mayor Chisholm-Beaton
- ESREN is currently looking for the next partner who is interested in the 'Start U' program.
  - Any interested parties are asked to contact John Beaton

- ESREN Operational Update. Items including:
  - Port Development
    - The Straight of Canso Port
  - Investment Readiness
    - Investment readiness study, report card and development support for each partner. And the launch of the Investment readiness database on the ESREN website [www.esren.ca](http://www.esren.ca)
  - Entrepreneurship
    - BusinessNow visits are ongoing and ramping up.
    - Working on the Connector Program to help newcomers connect with local explore and resources so that skills are retained in our region.
  - Post secondary engagement
    - Working with St.FX and NSCC to connect business to applied research opportunities.
  - Operational Update
    - Moved to new office in Antigonish and hired an Administration Professional.
    - Website has been built and updates ongoing.
    - Developing a newsletter and subscription base.

# Eastern Strait Regional Enterprise Network

ANTIGONISH TOWN AND COUNTY

PORT HAWKESBURY

GUYSBOROUGH

ST. MARY'S

OFFICES  
ANTIGONISH | GUYSBOROUGH | PORT HAWKESBURY



**ESREN**  
EASTERN STRAIT  
REGIONAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK

## Business Plan 2018-19

292 Main Street  
Antigonish NS  
B2G 2C4

office. 902.867.3817  
email. [info@esren.ca](mailto:info@esren.ca)

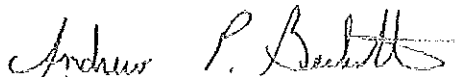
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## Message from Board Chair

The Eastern-Strait Regional Enterprise Network has been created to build a network of partnerships and players which revitalize business opportunities in our regional municipalities. Looking ahead to 2018-19 the ESREN Board of Directors will continue to lead with a true business growth lens. We are continuing to put a focus on small business development and entrepreneurship while building on the assets that we have right here in the Eastern-Strait Region. There are several new and notable developments happening in the Eastern-Strait Region including Maritime Launch Services, Anaconda Mining Inc., and smaller but mighty business ventures such as Peace by Chocolate and Startup Port Hawkesbury winner, "That Dog Place". Throughout the 2018-19 fiscal year, ESREN will continue to support small business in a big way, while using our regional advantage to drive success at a local level.



  
Andrew Beckett, ESREN Board Chair

## Message from CEO

The Eastern-Strait REN (ESREN) is pleased to have a number of new staff on board for 2018-19 including Economic Development Officer Maria Ludlow and Executive Assistant Lynne Delorey. As we approach our full operational capacity, we are looking forward to launching several new initiatives including a focus on building labour force capacity through a connector program and Supply Chain work for our local industries. We will be looking at phase 2 of our "Start-up" program and continuing our critically important work on getting the region ready for investment through our Investment Readiness program. We are working with communities on business revitalization projects in the Town of Antigonish and The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's. As we focus on regional opportunities we frequently review the One NS goals to ensure that our impact stays relevant.



  
John Beaton, ESREN CEO

## About ESREN

The Eastern-Strait Regional Enterprise Network has been created by the Towns of Antigonish and Port Hawkesbury and the Municipalities of Antigonish, Guysborough and St. Mary's, as well as the Province of Nova Scotia. We work closely with Municipal partners to ensure our region is ready for investment opportunity.

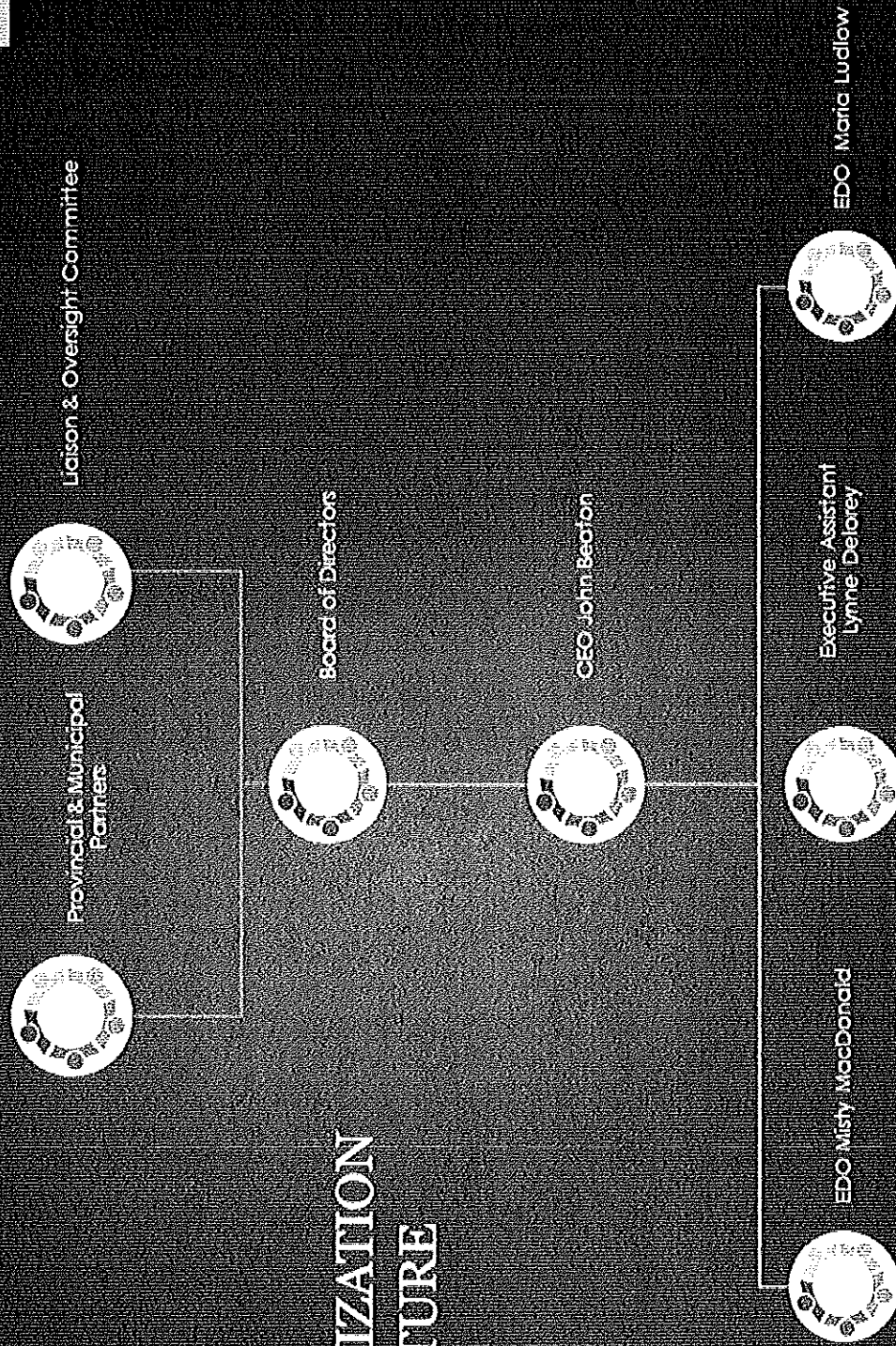
We work with partners to provide regional economic development leadership in the Eastern Strait Region of NS. Our approach is strategic and driven by business.

ESREN is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, comprised of leaders in the business community, who provide strategic leadership to the organization. The executive committee of the ESREN Board of Directors consists of a Chair, Vice-chair, and finance committee. The Board reports to the **Liaison Oversight Committee** who represent our stakeholders and partners and ensure that we are exercising fiscal prudence and transparency.

We are here to work diligently with businesses to promote growth and retention



# ESREN ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE



## Meet Our Team



John Beaton

### Chief Executive Officer

John is an economic developer with nearly 15 years of business development experience in both rural and urban settings including project management, trade and export development, energy sector development and small business counseling. John is also the author of "Your Business, Our Business", a direct standpoint on our economic development opportunities.



Lynne DeLorey

### Executive Assistant

Lynne brings to ESREN many years of experience in Administration, Networking, HR, Marketing and Finances as a business owner. She has and continues to be an advocate for businesses thru her role as a board member on several local boards, including AVICA (Visitor Information Centre) and DEANS.



Misty MacDonald,  
Port Hawkesbury

### Economic Development Officer

Misty has extensive experience in the financial management of private and non-profit enterprises. She holds a Bachelor of Business Administration (Honors) from Memorial University of Newfoundland and has recently completed a Master of Science with Distinction in Tourism Management from Edinburgh Napier University.



Maria Ludlow,  
St. Mary's & Guysborough

### Economic Development Officer

Maria brings 10-plus years of combined financial and administrative experience to her new role of Economic Development Officer (EDO). She has worked with both profit and not-for-profit business throughout her career. Ludlow is a graduate of the BBA program at St. F.X. and looking forward to contributing skills and experience to creating opportunities in rural Nova Scotia.

# Eastern Strait Region's Situational Analysis

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Road to the future:

#### Paqtukek Highway Interchange

The estimated \$15.3 million collaborative project, in partnership with Antigonish County and Paqtukek Mi'kmaq Nation, involves the construction of a diamond interchange, including new north and south connector roads and highway underpass.

#### Maritime Launch Services

Maritime Launch Services (MLS) proposes to construct and operate a private commercial spaceport for the purpose of establishing a commercially-controlled, and commercially-managed launch site near Little Dover, Hazel Hill and Canso, that would provide launch site options in North America.

#### GCIFA Leaders in science and innovation

Lobster, snow crab, trawl shrimp are all MSC certified and the inshore shrimp trap fishery is being considered in 2018 for certification. Guysborough counties LFA 21A-B are the first and only inshore fisheries to have a Use of Fish for science in Atlantic Canada. Guysborough County has the only Shrimp Trap Fishery in Atlantic Canada.

## AT A GLANCE

The Eastern Strait is in eastern Nova Scotia, north of Halifax and adjacent to the Cape Breton Region. It covers 5,500 square kilometres and has a population of approximately 30,100.

The Eastern Strait offers impressive advantages including a competitive cost environment, a high-quality workforce and good transportation infrastructure. Beyond the general economic climate, the Eastern Strait features many industries that are poised for growth. The provincial tourism strategy is focused on growing that sector's revenue from \$2.6 billion in 2016 to \$4 billion by 2024. The Eastern Strait is ideally positioned to attract tourism investment and new entrepreneurs. The renewable energy, mining and forestry sectors feature growth opportunities as does the aquaculture sector. The Strait is also well positioned to attract a new generation of freelance workers who could live anywhere but who are attracted to the region to take advantage of its pristine, rural lifestyle.

### Economic Climate

The economic climate in the Eastern Strait is improving. The number of unemployed persons in the North Shore region of Nova Scotia which includes the Eastern Strait and three other counties was down by 26 per cent compared to the level back in 2012. The value of building permits in the North Shore region jumped to nearly \$196 million in 2016 – the highest level since 2011. The number of new dwellings constructed increased by over 40 per cent in 2016. New growth opportunities and a renewed focus on attracted talent to the region bode well for the future.

## **Education**

The Eastern Strait region is home to two education institutions providing a wide range of undergraduate, Graduate, professional and technical training. St. Francis Xavier University located in the Town of Antigonish with enrollment totaling just over 5000 students. It was recently announced STFX will be home of the \$60 million Brian Mulroney Institute of Government. The Nova Scotia Community college strait area campus is a recognized leader in delivering a broad diversity of programs including the globally renowned Nautical Institute, which offers state-of-the-art training to the marine industry.

We are a highly-educated region. More than 50% of our workforce has achieved post-secondary training and the number of people who have achieved education levels above a Bachelor's degree exceeds the provincial average. Institutions such as St. Francis Xavier University and the Nova Scotia Community College provide both ample access to education and highly skilled jobs

## **Minerals**

**Martin Marietta Inc.** is the second largest construction aggregates producer in the United States and the quarry it operates in the District is its only Canadian aggregates operation. The quarry is located on tidewater within the Strait of Canso. Production at the facility has increased significantly in recent years

**Vulcan Materials Company**, the United States' largest producer of construction aggregates, purchased the rights to the Black Point Aggregate Project in 2014 and is currently permitting the Project for eventual production within the 2018 to 2020 period

**Anaconda Mining**, currently conducting a 6000 M Drilling program at Goldboro

## **Forestry Sector Investment**

In 2016 there were 66 firms in the Eastern Strait forest products cluster including; 31 in forestry and logging, 15 in support activities for forestry, six in wood product manufacturing, one in paper manufacturing and 13 in forest products trucking. In recent years, the economic contribution of the sector has been in decline, but it remains a central driver of the regional economy. The cluster is anchored by the paper manufacturing mill in Port Hawkesbury and supported by several sawmills a deep supply chain

## **Farming**

There are nearly 3,500 farms across Nova Scotia with a diverse mix of animal and crop farming. The government is focusing an increasing amount of effort into the wine production sector, wild blueberries and apples while developing new international markets in the European Union and China. The government is also focused on promoting local food and on fostering agricultural innovation through its partnership with Perennia Food and Agriculture Inc. and other stakeholders.

In the Eastern Strait there were nearly 300 farms in 2016 or nine per cent of the provincial total. Eastern Strait farmers focus on a variety of animals and crops but have a focus on cattle ranching; fruit and tree nut farming; greenhouse, Christmas tree cultivation, nursery and floriculture production and hay farming. In recent years there has been a reduction in the number of farmers and the number of hectares in the region dedicated to agriculture. There is significant opportunity for a new generation of farmers from Nova Scotia, across Canada or around the world to come to the region.

## **Fishing, Aquaculture and Seafood processing**

The ocean has sustained the economies of numerous Eastern Strait communities for hundreds of years. There are more than 300 establishments in the fishing sector (NAICS 1141) in the region, several seafood processing operations and nine firms involved in the wholesale distribution of fish and seafood products.

There are more than two dozen aquaculture operations around the region with potential for more. Fish species being farmed in the Eastern Strait include: Blue Mussel, European Oyster, American Oyster, Sea Scallop, Bay Scallop, American Oyster, Blue Mussel, Dulse, Finger Kelp, Sea Lettuce, Sugar Kelp, Atlantic Salmon, and Rainbow Trout.

In the Eastern Strait there are two Fisheries association: Guysborough County Inshore Fisheries Association (GCIFA) and the Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association. GCIFA reported their Lobster landed values are up from 2016 by 27% and set a record in 2017 at \$37,000,000. Snow crab landed values are up from 2016 by 19% to a record in 2017 of \$6,500,000

The recreational fishery is also an important part of the Eastern Strait economy. Sports fishing for the prized Bluefin Tuna attracts visitors from around the world. The tuna charter fishery is relatively new in the region. Although fishing has been a long established as an industry in Northern Nova Scotia, the conjoining of the tourist industry and the fishing industry was only implemented in 2010. Since then, the region has seen the creation of the Tuna Charter Nova Scotia Association, which has an average of 20 members per year from the north part of the province with the majority of those members operating out of the Antigonish region. Those 20 members produce an average of 200 fishing trips per year, taking tourists from around the world on the hunt for bluefin tuna, one of the most sought after big-game fish in the world.

Our region plays host to the largest of these species and, so we have become renowned as 'THE' place to go if you want to interact with one of the biggest fish in the sea. The charter fishery is catch and release only so it is considered a very sustainable activity. The impact that these 20 boats have on the local economy is immense, extending the tourist season roughly five to six weeks past the traditional 'yearend/low season'. Since the past eight charter seasons, many businesses in the local area have felt a significant impact, particularly those in the tourism/service industry as well as those providing services directly to the charter businesses such as fuel companies, mechanics businesses, local wharfs etc.

## **Key Employers**

### **Port Hawkesbury Paper**

Produces super calendared paper and manages over 500,000 hectares of Crown land in central and northern Nova Scotia. Port Hawkesbury Paper is striving to deliver the highest quality and most efficient super calendared paper production in North America.

### **St. Francis Xavier University**

One of the best regarded primarily undergraduate universities in Canada, StFX is home more than 5,000 students and was recognized as one of Atlantic Canada's top employers in 2017. The university employs 800+ full and part time employees and is the top employer in the Eastern Strait region.

### **Central Home Improvement/Kent**

Now owned by Kent Building supplies. Central Home Improvement owns multiple stores in the Eastern Strait supported and serviced by a Retail Support Center and Distribution Center located in Lower South River, Antigonish.

### **Arisaig Fisheries Limited**

Arisaig Fisheries Ltd, has been in operation since 1976. The Arisaig Fisheries plant in Arisaig, Antigonish County processes ground fish and is home to their holding tanks for lobster, as well as their head offices. They also own and operate a large lobster processing plant in Lismore, Pictou County which has been running since 1984.

### **Nova Scotia Health Authority formerly known as GASHA (Guysborough Antigonish Strait Health Authority)**

The Eastern Strait area serves patients at St. Martha's Regional Hospital, Guysborough Memorial Hospital, St. Mary's Memorial Hospital and Strait Richmond Hospital. The hospitals employ over 1000 full and part time employees, not including the 60+ Doctors, who have privileges.

### **Martin Marietta**

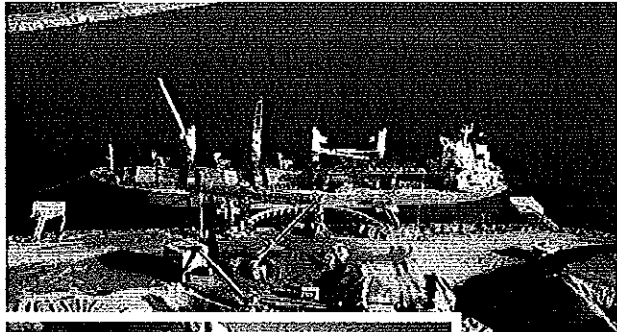
Martin Marietta, is a leading supplier of aggregates and heavy building materials, with operations spanning 26 states, Canada, the Bahamas and the Caribbean Islands. Dedicated teams at Martin Marietta supply the resources for the roads, sidewalks and foundations on which we live. Martin Marietta's Magnesia Specialties business provides a full range of magnesium oxide, magnesium hydroxide and dolomitic lime products, and employ over 100 at their Mulgrave location

### **DSM Mulgrave**

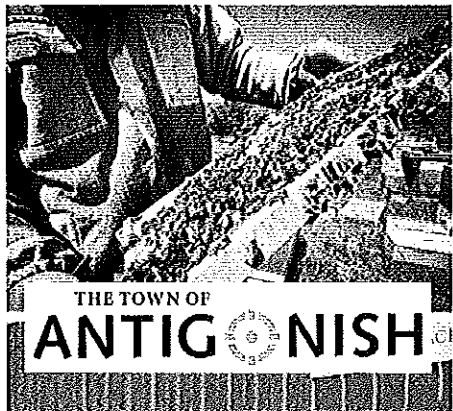
DSM is a global science-based company active in health, nutrition and materials with solutions that nourish, protect and improve performance and is home to over 100 employers

### **Nova Scotia Community College**

With over 100 employees and located in **Port Hawkesbury**, the Strait Area Campus offers an extensive range of programs. The Campus is home to the Nautical Institute that provides Transport Canada-approved marine training.

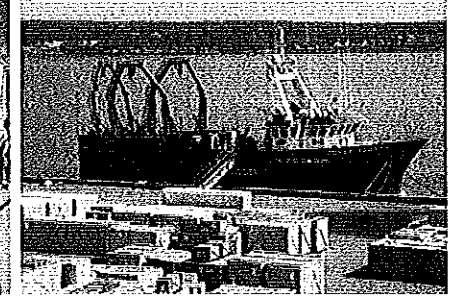
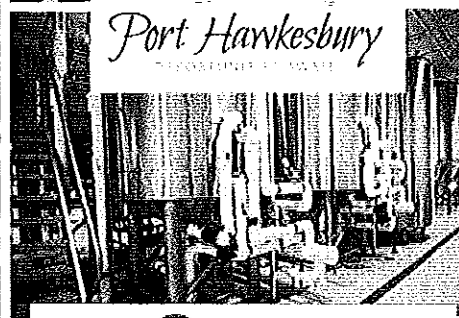


**STARTUP**  
PORT HAWKESBURY  
#LAUNCHYOURBUSINESS

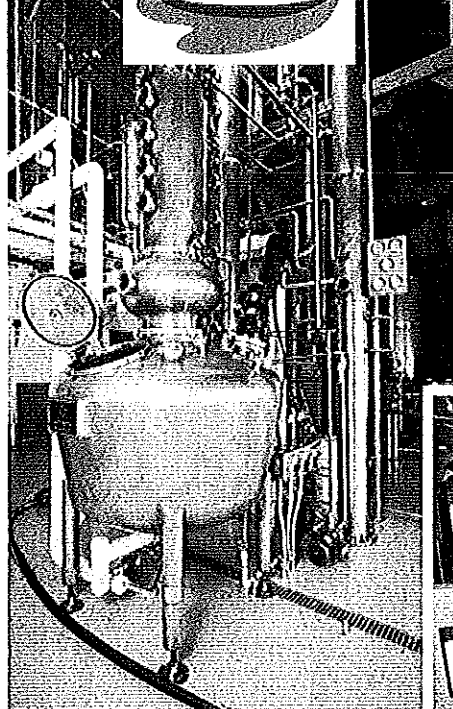
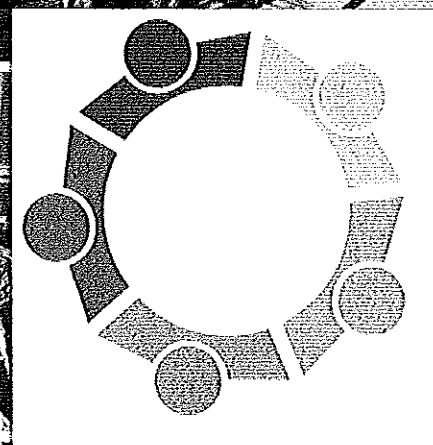


THE TOWN OF  
**ANTIGONISH**

Port Hawkesbury  
MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF

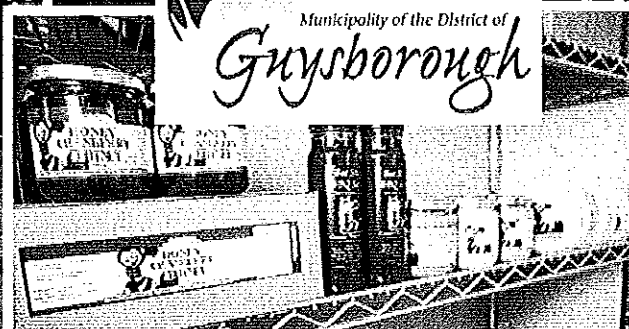


Municipality of the  
District of  
**St. Mary's**



MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF  
**ANTIGONISH**

Municipality of the District of  
**Guysborough**



## Economic Challenges & Opportunities

### *Uncertain: NAFTA Negotiations*

Political uncertainty around the globe will continue to impact our rural economy. The US is the market for 75% of Canadian exports therefore a pending renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) may also have dramatic implications for the flow of goods and services between Canada and the US. The two biggest uncertainties that will affect our region concern dairy supply management and softwood lumber exports.

### *Opportunity: CETA*

Canada and the European Union have negotiated the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA) which eliminates tariffs between the parties and will benefit exports in sectors where high tariffs existed such as agricultural goods; chemicals, rubber, and plastics; motor vehicle parts; and food, beverage and tobacco products. The agreement further reduces commercial barriers by reducing EU regulations on Canadian products creating new opportunities for Canadian exports. One significant resulting opportunity in our region is price competitiveness with lobster exports over the US.

### *Uncertain: Exchange Rates*

Current conditions in the economy indicate that a stronger Canadian dollar will result if there is an interest rate hike in the first quarter of 2018, as anticipated. Fluctuations in currency have a myriad of consequences within individual businesses but in general, current conditions are optimistic.

### *Opportunity: Immigration*

Immigration has been identified as a key target to address population decline within the province. Traditionally, the immigrant retention rate in Atlantic Canada has been low but it has increased from 38% to 75% in the past two decades. Programs like the Atlantic Immigration Pilot will further assist in attracting and retaining new immigrant families to the region.

### *Uncertain: Transportation Infrastructure*

Adequate infrastructure exists in the region to provide basic transportation and services necessary for industry to thrive. The Eastern Strait Region is home to one of the natural deep-water harbours on the Eastern Seaboard of North America capable of handling vessels up to 500,000 deadweight tonnes (dwt). Port facilities are operated by The Strait of Canso SuperPort Corporation and includes the Port Hawkesbury Pier and the Mulgrave Marine Terminal. An abundance of small craft harbours dot the coastline of the Eastern Strait Region which are maintained and operated by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

The Eastern Strait Region is central to two small regional airports (Trenton and Port Hawkesbury) and is within a few hours drive of JA Douglas McCurdy Airport in Sydney, and Stanfield International Airport near Halifax.

Opportunities exist in further developing the Strait of Canso Port and the Port Hawkesbury Airport as competitive options within the province making the area more attractive for potential investment. Rail service from Point Tupper to Truro is provided by the Cape Breton and Central Nova Rail Line.

There are two major highway developments taking place currently; Paqtnekek First Nation is constructing a highway interchange on Highway 104 and FMI Management is constructing a new commercial development at Exit 32.

***Challenge: Broadband and Cellular***

The Eastern Strait Region and other rural areas are challenged by inadequate broadband and cellular access. The CRTC recently declared broadband to be an essential service and set minimum target download speeds of 50 Mbps. In rural communities, broadband customers are challenged by available connectivity, higher costs, and lower average speeds (Ernst & Young, 2016). There are also large gaps in cellular coverage in many rural areas. Anecdotal evidence suggests that broadband and cellular availability is an impediment to investment in underservice areas and encourages migration to urban areas. There is a significant economic barrier to providing rural broadband and cellular service because of the significant investment required to implement, maintain, and upgrade networks.

***Opportunity: Highly Skilled Workforce***

We are a highly-educated region. More than 50% of our workforce has achieved post-secondary training and the number of people who have achieved education levels above a Bachelor's degree exceeds the provincial average. Institutions such as St. Francis Xavier University and the Nova Scotia Community College provide both ample access to education and highly skilled jobs. However, our labour force reflects rural trends with a slightly lower workforce participation than the provincial average and higher rates of unemployment indicative of the seasonal nature of many jobs.

***Opportunity: Partnerships with Post-Secondary Institutions***

Both St. FX University and NSCC have Liaison Officers who work to develop partnerships with business within our region. Funding for university research is a primary driver for technological innovation and development and recognize the opportunity for businesses to reap the benefits through research partnerships.

***Challenge: Population Decline***

The threats associated with population decline are well recognized in Nova Scotia. The population of Nova Scotia has increased by 0.2% while the population of Canada has increased by 5%. A declining birth rate, outmigration of workforce, low levels of immigration, and an aging population all contribute to the problem. The stark reality is that rural communities in Nova Scotia are in decline and that the small amounts of growth experienced is happening in urban areas. In the Eastern Strait Region, data shows that the population of residents older than 55 is increasing by approximately 25% while the population of residents younger than 55 is decreasing by approximately 36%. Our demographics threaten our basic services and infrastructure by placing the burden of taxes which pays for these services on a decreasing tax base.

*Opportunity: Entrepreneurship and Innovation*

Most new investment is generated locally through new and existing small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) but the success rate for new start-ups is very low. Opportunities for retention or expansion of local businesses through the *BusinessNow* program or for new and existing business to start up or relocate within the region.

*Opportunity: Collaboration with First Nations*

Our First Nations communities have a demographic outlook contrary to the provincial decline; the median age in the population of First Nations peoples in Nova Scotia is 25.4 years, compared to 41.6 for the general provincial population and it is growing! Employment rates among these communities is in stark contrast to the population trend, reporting rates as high as 25% in First Nations communities as compared to 8 % provincially indicating that there is an extensive underutilized employment resource. Locally, P'aqti'kek First Nation has formed strategic alliances, reacquired access to land, and is progressing rapidly with a new Highway Interchange that will be a game-changer for economic development in their community.

*Opportunity: Positive Economic Benefit for Region with Community Development*

With the development of the \$12 million-dollar Chedabucto Lifestyle Complex in Guysborough, brings an added advantage to economic development in this area. The same would hold true for the Antigonish Community with the addition of the Mulroney Institute of Government on STFX campus. In Port Hawkesbury, a 4.6-million-dollar project was just completed to enhance Pitt Street and Napean Street's water and wastewater, replacement of asphalt and the addition of sidewalks and curb and gutter.



## ESREN 3-year Strategic Focus Areas

### Engage and Cooperate with First Nations

ESREN facilitating the collaboration of local first nation community with County of Antigonish; undertaking partnership projects and jointly supporting joint enterprise projects. ESREN will focus in capacity building among municipal units and will assist with entrepreneurship endeavors among our first nation community. ESREN will also take an active role as a facilitator for the engagement between the First Nations community and local industry.

### Port Development

ESREN is co-leading a working group of economic developers with the CBREN on a 5-year strategy to maximize opportunities in the Strait of Canso. Our plan has tight timelines with clear measurables including a resourced approach to marketing one of our greatest assets.

### Think Export (promote export development)

Small businesses engaged in export opportunities, realizing that what many are doing is already exporting, doing it right, becoming more scalable, ESREN dispelling myths about exporting and working with partners such as Nova Scotia Business Inc. promote exporting as a viable option for any manufacturing business. ESREN will council business on export skills, make connections with NSBI programming and host export reediness training.

### Support and Enable Industrial Development

Being a region that is open for business but still interested in protecting its natural assets. Understanding that larger-scale development is one of the many keys to our vitality; high paying jobs, strong skill sets, new innovations, start-up culture of spin-off companies, population retention. ESREN is here to connect the dots and work with partners to support industrial development enabling local job creation.

ESREN is working with our partners to complete a supply chain study for Maritime Launch Services (MLS). Current activities are focused on securing partnership funding for this study. The ultimate goal is to ensure that MLS is better prepared for the project startup and acts from a position where they have intimate knowledge of local suppliers and enterprises that stand ready to contribute to the process.

### Investment Readiness

A region that has all of the right conditions for growth and attraction. Regional data at our fingertips, a throughout knowledge of available commercial space throughout the region. Strong web marketing presence and communities connected better than ever before. Five unique regions and one open door. ESREN will examine the investment readiness of each partner municipality and work with such to implement improvements. ESREN will also work to better network the whole region so that incoming requests for information are seeing the region marketed positively and consistently.

## Entrepreneurship

Thriving entrepreneurship ecosystem. A well-coordinated effort to support a vibrant start-up culture in the Eastern-Strait Region. Well-established entrepreneurial education system to ensure that local businesses are strong and competitive and have all the tools to succeed. A Business Retention Expansion International Program with a robust data set informing ESREN's process.

ESREN will support local entrepreneurs through its BRE outreach program and referral network. ESREN staff are expected to undertake smaller and larger project initiatives to support the wider business community. Opportunities for business incubation exist and ESREN will pursue these by matching new businesses to opportunities. Enabling and facilitating cross-business connection.

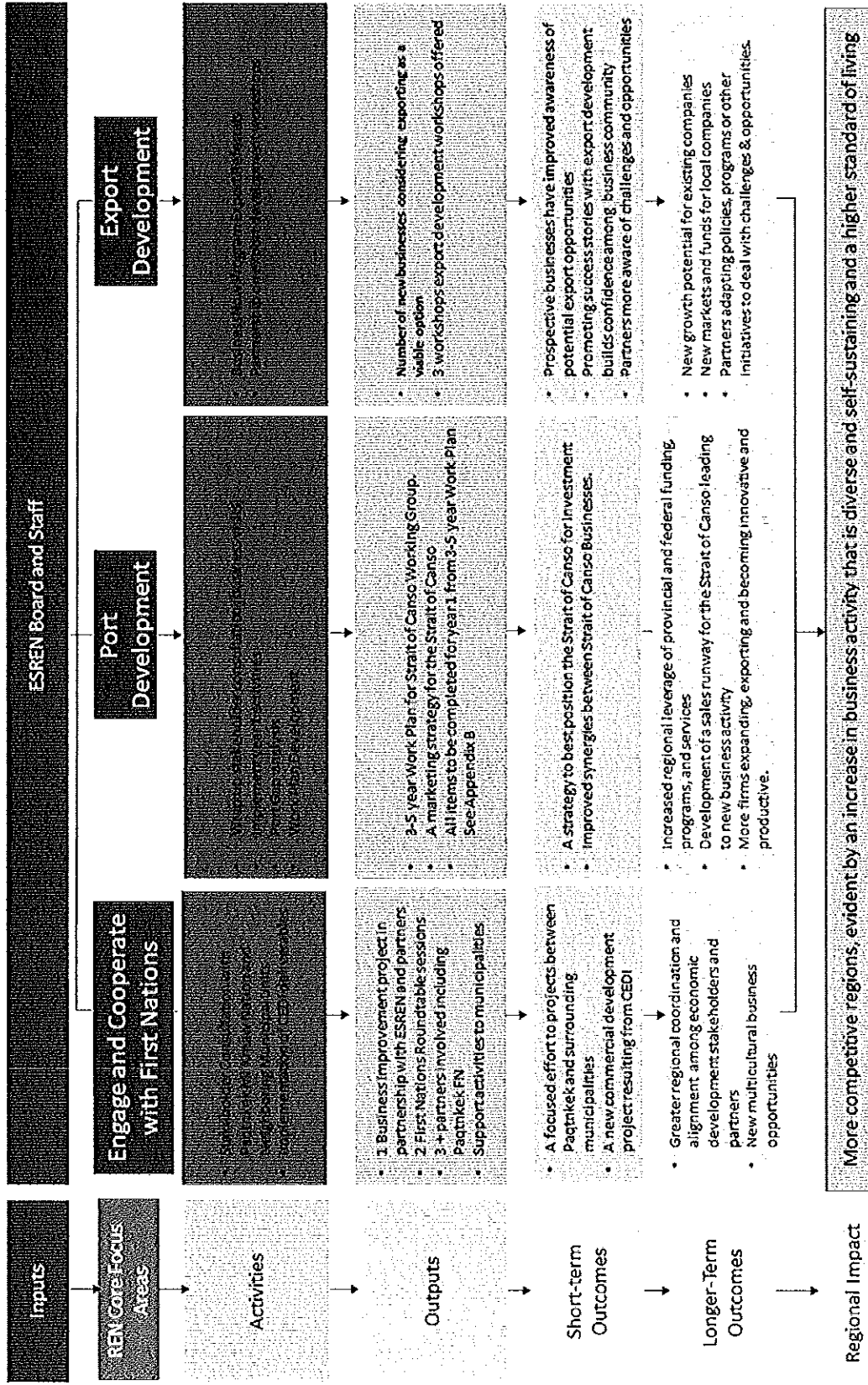
## Post-Secondary Engagement

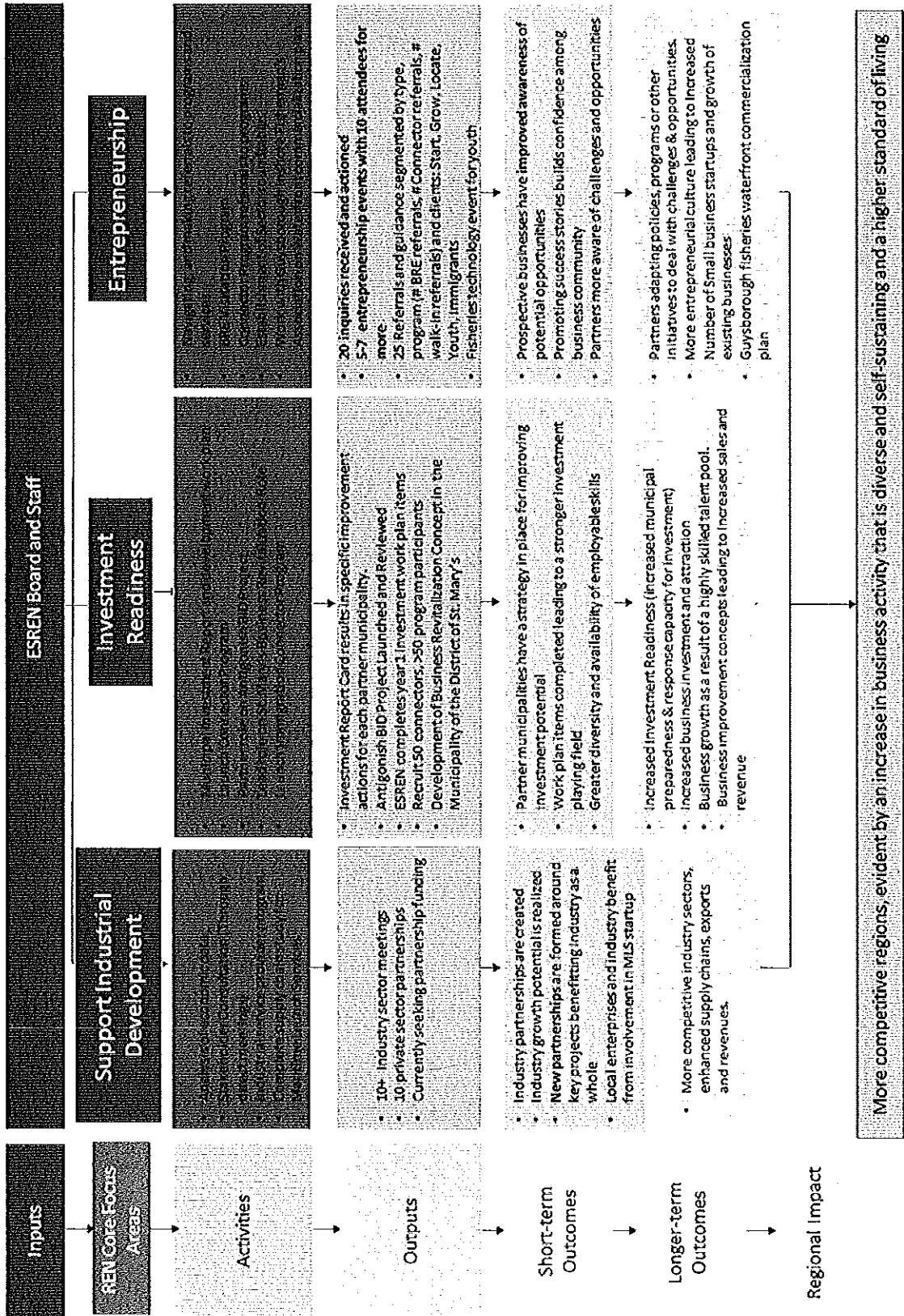
A solid network of businesses and educational institutions. St. Francis Xavier University and Nova Scotia Community College both have applied research branches. ESREN sees a clear connector role in introducing businesses to research programs for the purpose of problem solving. In addition to making connections between academic institutions and business, ESREN will also be assisting in the application of grant funds to offset the upfront cost of research. Both regional schools have expressed an interest in outreach with the business community and ESREN will work to bridge the gap through events and one-on-one liaison with SME's.

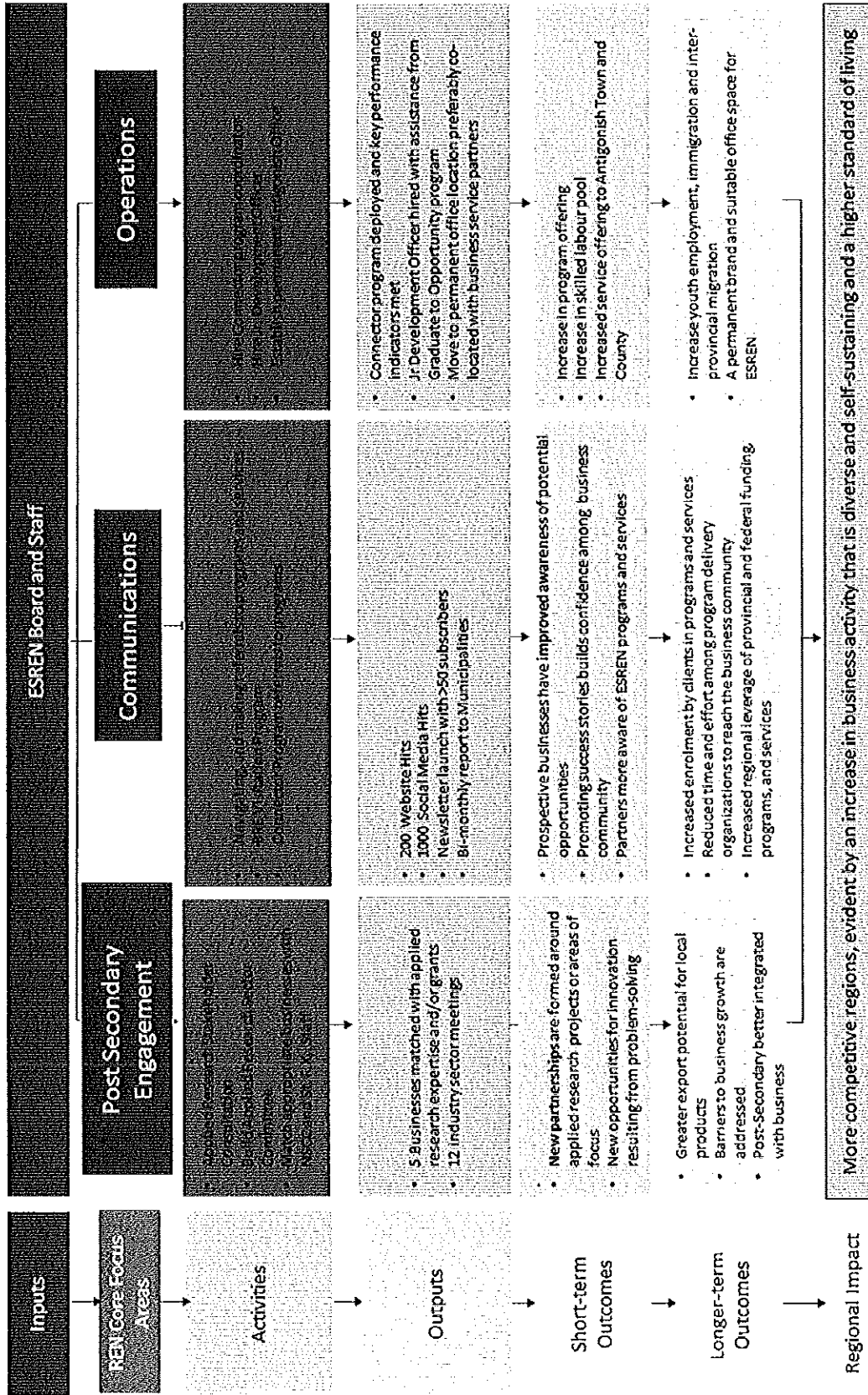
## Landscape and Policy Considerations

What is holding business back and preventing them from thriving? We've been told by our stakeholders that red tape reduction, better business and municipal Government policy as well region-wide land use planning application will make the business conditions stronger and the region as a whole more attractive to locate to and do business in. There is widespread agreement that resource sharing will reduce costs, improve inter-municipal relations and create new economic opportunity. ESREN will apply a lens of collaboration, efficiency and cost savings organization-wide so that it is the fabric of how we operate and improve business conditions regionally.

As a policy example with municipal land use planning – Local municipal units understanding the investment attraction benefits of a municipal land use plan, communities zoned for commercial or residential have a clear future direction for local development. Outside businesses looking at the Eastern-Strait Region as an area that is open for business, welcome to new development and has a clear plan for accommodating or allocating future development.







## Regional Priorities for 2018-19

### Investment Readiness: Investment Readiness Report Card and Work Plan

Municipalities being responsive to business requirements is important - critically. How quickly do we respond and how much rigor goes into the information we provide? How ready are we when it comes to infrastructure requirements? The municipal investment report card will determine the steps we need to take to make our region well positioned for investment and ESREN will have a work plan to getting us ready for investment. This is the second phase of multi-phase focus on setting the regional groundwork for investment.

### Post-Secondary Engagement: Applied Research

The Eastern-Strait Region is home to two top-notch post-secondary institutions with several world-class recognitions. The Eastern-Strait Region also has many businesses who may have problems that can be addressed with Applied Research. This fiscal we are establishing a Applied Research focus group (industry roundtable) and bringing academic expertise into many of the businesses we work with so that Applied Research can be used as a problem-solving tool. Through this process we will be leveraging research dollars into our region.

Rural Nova Scotia stands at the verge of a crisis point. Population growth in key regions of rural Nova Scotia has not only slowed, but is declining. According to the latest figures from the 2016 Census, the Western Region has dropped from 49,957 residents in 2011 to 48,736 residents in 2016, a difference of -2.4%. Meanwhile, population outside Nova Scotia's two largest cities has declined from 434,000 in 2011 to 425,900 in 2016. While this is partially buoyed by population growth in Halifax, rural Nova Scotia must prevent its population from leaving the province if it is to succeed economically.

### ESREN Connector Program: Goals of the Connector Program

- Increase labor market participation (jobs)
- Increase labor market and community integration through connector meetings, networking associations and community-based activities
- Increase newcomer and recent graduates' confidence and knowledge through skill development, building professional networks and interactive training portal
- Increase strategic opportunities for newcomers and recent graduates to secure employment Connector Concept

The **Connector** concept is simple. It is essentially a pay-it-forward concept that taps engaged community and business leaders (Connectors) to help employment-ready local and international graduates and immigrants (Connectees) build professional's networks and break into the local labor market. Through direct referrals, Connectees learn about the local job market and rapidly grow their business network which increases their likelihood of finding a job in their field and staying in Nova Scotia. Connectors benefit by gaining access to pre-qualified job seekers and by helping to grow their industry and the local workforce.

## Funding & Budget

The Eastern-Strait Regional Enterprise Network is funded 50% by the Province of Nova Scotia and 50% by partner municipalities. The following outlines revenue amounts that have been calculated as per our inter-municipal agreement. Expenses against revenue indicate how our programs and services are resourced for 2018-19.

<b>Budget Forecast</b>	
<b>April 2018 – March 2019</b>	
<b>Province of Nova Scotia</b>	\$ 236,573.00
<b>Municipalities</b>	\$ 236,573.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 473,146.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Core Wages and Benefits	\$ 330,880.00
Travel, Meals and Lodging	\$ 31,000.00
Consulting and Planning	\$ 2,000.00
Facility Costs and Meetings	\$ 3,000.00
Office Space, IT and Supplies	\$ 46,066.00
Office Furniture	\$ 3,000.00
Communication and Recruitment	\$ 5,200.00
Accounting and Audit	\$ 13,500.00
Board Training and Governance	\$ 1,000.00
Insurance and Professional Services	\$ 5,900.00
Training and Professional Development	\$ 3,000.00
Bank Fees, Memberships and Dues	\$ 1,100.00
Marketing	\$ 10,000.00
<b>Projects and Events</b>	
Investment Readiness	\$ 10,000.00
Startup Community	\$ 5,000.00
Applied Research	\$ 1,000.00
Small Business Week	\$ 1,500.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 473,146.00</b>

## Governance

### Board of Directors

**ESREN** is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, comprised of leaders in the business community, who provide strategic leadership to the organization. The executive committee of the ESREN Board of Directors consists of a Chair, Vice-chair, and finance committee.

Andrew Beckett, Chair

Carole Gartside, Vice-Chair

Jeff George, Finance Committee

Tanya Felix

Carmel Avery-MacDonald

JP Boudreau

The Board reports to the **Liaison Oversight Committee (LOC)**, which is composed of municipal and provincial representatives. The committee is responsible for financial oversight and appointing an Audit Committee, approving the regional economic development strategy, evaluating the REN's overall performance, appointing the Board of Directors, and planning for Board succession. The Liaison and Oversight Committee strengthens the Board's accountability to funders and ensures that the Board of Directors delivers on its strategy

## APPENDIX A

### One-NS Economic Development Goals 1-10

**Goal #1: Inter-Provincial Migration** – Nova Scotia will be averaging a net gain of 1,000 working age persons per year. (Over the past 10 years the province has lost an average of 800 persons per year because of net outmigration).

**Goal #2 International Immigration** – With the cooperation of the federal government, Nova Scotia will be receiving annually its proportionate share (2.7%) of all new international immigrants to Canada. i.e. approximately 7000 new permanent residents per year. The current 5-year average is 2400 per year.

**Goal #3 Retention of International Students** – An annual average of 10% of foreign students graduating from Nova Scotia universities, the Nova Scotia Community College and other education and training bodies will be making choices to become permanent residents of the province (i.e. roughly double the current rate).

**Goal #4 Business Start-Ups** – The Nova Scotia economy will be generating 4200 new business start-ups per year. a50% increase over the current 10-year average.

**Goal #5 Value of Exports** – Nova Scotia will have increased the total annual value of exports (international and inter-provincial) currently in the \$14 billion range by 50% to exceed \$20 billion.

**Goal #6 – Firms Participating in Export Trade** – The number of Nova Scotia firms participating in export trade will have increased by 50% over the current level of 850

**Goal #7 Labor Force Participation Rate** – Nova Scotia – Nova Scotia will have a labor force participation rate at least as high as the Canadian rate, bringing more than 25,000 Nova Scotians into permanent attachment to the labor market. (The Nova Scotia rate is currently 63.4% compared to the Canadian rate of 66.4%)

**Goal #8 Employment Rate – First Nations and African Nova Scotians** – the employment rate (i.e. percent of the working age population currently employed or “officially unemployed”) for First Nations and African Nova Scotians will be equal to the provincial average. (The rate is currently 62% for African Nova Scotians and 53% for First Nations people, compared to provincial rate of 68%)

**Goal #9 Youth Employment** – Nova Scotia’s youth unemployment rate (currently 19.5%) will be at or better than the national rate in that year (currently 14.0%)

**Goal #10 Post-Secondary Education and Training** – The Proportion of Nova Scotia’s working age population with a post-secondary certificate, diploma or degree, including apprenticeship completion, will have increased from the current 55% to 65%

## One-NS Economic Development Goals 11-17

**Goal #11 Universities Research and Development** – Through both individual initiative and expanded collaboration and with the support from government, Nova Scotia's universities and the Nova Scotia Community College will have doubled research funding to total \$360 million

**Goal #12 Research and Development Partnerships** – The number of research and development partnerships between business enterprises and Nova Scotia universities and the Community College will have doubled from an average of 1000 per year to 2000 per year

**Goal #13 Venture Capital** – The five-year average for per capita venture capital investment, which was \$24.80 over the 2007 to 2011 period, will be equal to or better than the Canadian average (currently \$41.10)

**Goal #14 Tourism Expansion** – As Nova Scotia's leading source of service sector exports, gross business revenues from tourism will reach \$4 billion (approximately double the current level).

**Goal #15 Fisheries and Agriculture Exports** – The value of exports from the fisheries (including aquaculture) and the agriculture sectors will each have doubled on a sustainable basis. (The report prepared for the Commission by APEC identified current fisheries and seafood exports valued at \$860 million and agricultural exports at \$240 million).

**Goal #16 Domestic Markets for Agricultural Products** - The value of agricultural products produced for, and consumed within, the Nova Scotia domestic market will have doubled. The current value is approximately \$230 million.

**Goal #17 Strait of Canso Work Plan** – will add prior to delivery

APPENDIX B

STRAIT OF CANSO DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

December 2016

The Strait Area Mayors and Wardens Committee passed a motion to pursue port development opportunities in an industry-led process – this changed the conversation from governance to business development, and was a catalyst to begin collaborative discussions

April 2017

An initial gathering of industry stakeholders gathered to establish an ongoing forum for stakeholders to advance development in the Strait of Canso, and to identify opportunities for growth

Summer 2017

The input provided by industry stakeholders in April, and additional research sources, was used by local development partners to create a framework to advance economic development priorities

November 2017

On Nov 7, 2017, almost 30 industry and development leaders gathered to review the framework and a new collaborative approach to economic development along the Strait of Canso – see results below

November 2017 Stakeholder Session Summary

<b>6</b> Goals Identified	<b>25</b> Objectives to Advance Development Goals	<b>5km</b> Economic Zone Around the Strait of Canso Identified
<b>70%</b> Of Stakeholders Support General Goals	<b>85%</b> Of Stakeholders Support the Specific Objectives	<b>88%</b> Of Stakeholders Support the the Direction Proposed

*\* Additional details are in the attached notes*

## Economic Development Goals and Objectives

**Draft Vision Statement:** The economic zone surrounding the Strait of Canso is a thriving destination for cargo, people and materials.

**GOAL 1.** Strait of Canso stakeholders work collectively to maximize sustainable economic opportunities and to stimulate growth of the economic zone

- 1.1. Establish a Strait of Canso Working Group
  - 1.2. Consult with a Lead Stakeholder Group to maintain broad community consensus regarding the direction of economic development efforts
  - 1.3. Develop a Vision, Mission, Values and Action Plan
  - 1.4. Develop and execute a communications plan with stakeholders and the general public.
- 4 month  
timeframe

**GOAL 2.** Strait of Canso economic zone information is easily accessible by all users/stakeholders

- 2.1. Collect, maintain and make available relevant studies, data and assets (including land use planning)
  - 2.2. Conduct an evaluation of all products, services and infrastructure (including site visits/meetings with existing industry stakeholders focused on value proposition)
  - 2.3. Conduct a gap analysis to identify opportunities
  - 2.4. Identify baseline data upon which to build metrics of success
- 12 month  
timeframe

**GOAL 3.** The Strait of Canso economic zone has a focused strategy for business recruitment

- 3.1. Establish a unique selling point/value proposition
- 3.2. Develop a marketing plan
- 3.3. Develop a consistent and professional brand
- 3.4. Develop a prospectus & marketing materials
- 3.5. Develop a lead sharing process (based on the principles of integrity and discretion) to respond to inquiries and potential investment
- 3.6. Establish dedicated investment attraction resources and metrics for success (in collaboration with NSBI)

**GOAL 4.** Business retention and expansion is collaboratively supported

- 4.1. Identify industry synergies to maximize supply chain opportunities
  - 4.2. Review trends, opportunities, and challenges collected through BusinessNow data
  - 4.3. Take action on issues and opportunities identified through BusinessNow (ongoing)
- 4 month  
timeframe

Economic Development Goals and Objectives  
(CONTINUED)

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**GOAL 5.** Barriers to economic growth are reduced

- 5.1. Communicate development strategies to ensure alignment of projects and plans
- 5.2. Facilitate information sharing between existing and new businesses/industry (government contacts, regulatory navigation, subcontracting, etc)
- 5.3. Develop a unified assessment process related to regulations, permitting, and environmental
- 5.4. Develop safety, health and environmental management goals, guidelines and standards

1-5 year  
timeframe

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**GOAL 6.** New business investment is attracted to the Strait of Canso economic zone

- 6.1. Implement a marketing plan with full time, dedicated resources
- 6.2. Liaise with other government departments and agencies with development mandates
- 6.3. Share value proposition with all levels of government to improve business conditions in the province (pro-active lobbying by the Working Group and Stakeholder Leads)
- 6.4. Facilitate public engagement and advocacy at the local level by providing the Stakeholder Lead Group with information on opportunities

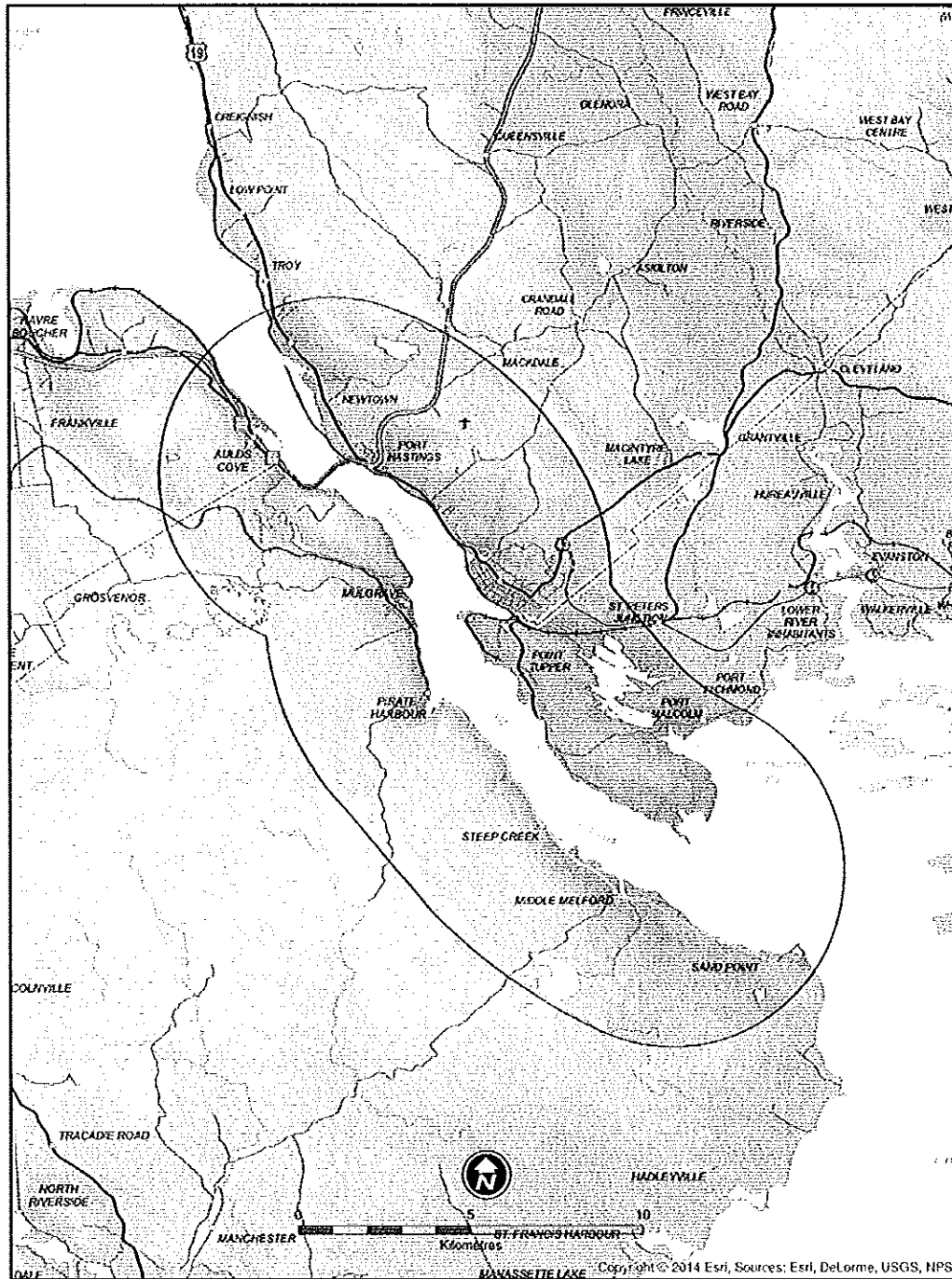
2-7 year  
timeframe

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APPENDIX B STRAIT OF CANSO

Strait of Canso Economic Zone

In terms of geographic scope for the framework proposed, the Strait of Canso economic zone covers a 5 km radius on either side of the Strait of Canso.



## APPENDIX B STRAIT OF CANSO

### Aligning the Team / Resources

Development partners recommend establishing two groups to advance economic development initiatives in the Strait of Canso. The formation of a Working Group and Lead Stakeholder Group will ensure that priorities are built on a solid foundation of industry support, and that resources to achieve outcomes are in place.

#### Strait of Canso Lead Stakeholder Group

##### **Guiding Principle**

The Lead Stakeholder Group will act in good faith to support the development goals and objectives established through a consultative process in an effort to advance economic development in the Strait of Canso economic zone.

##### **Members**

The Lead Stakeholder Group will consist of industry and government partners within the economic zone. See attached list.

##### **Roles & Responsibilities**

The Lead Stakeholder Group will provide timely responses to requests for feedback from the Working Group and will attend meetings every six months to receive comprehensive updates/provide input on priorities.

#### Strait of Canso Working Group (SCWG)

##### **Guiding Principle**

The Working Group will be a proactive and effective group of development partners supported by the wider stakeholder community to develop business in the Strait of Canso economic zone.

##### **Members**

Executive Director, Strait Area Chamber of Commerce (SACOC)

Chief Executive Officer, Eastern Strait Regional Enterprise Network (ESREN) – Co-chair

Development Officer, Cape Breton Partnership (CBP) - Richmond County – Co-chair

Business Development Advisor, Nova Scotia Business Inc – Cape Breton / Eastern Region

Account Manager, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) – Cape Breton & Antigonish Offices

First Nation Development Officer

##### **Mandate/Goals**

1. Build consensus and work towards goals established by the Strait of Canso Lead Stakeholder Group.
2. Develop, implement and adhere to a lead sharing process for all development partners/stakeholders in the Strait of Canso economic zone.

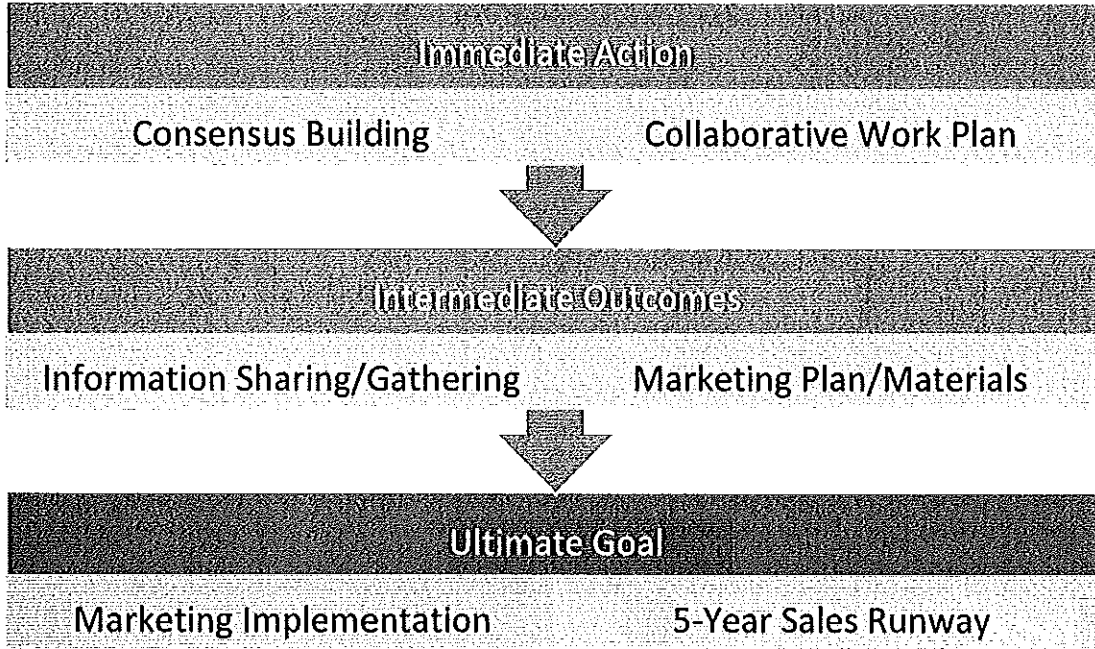
##### **Resource Commitment**

The Working Group will be led by the two RENs, with agreement of working support from partners. The Working Group will seek direction from the Lead Group based on their collective input.

APPENDIX D STRAIT OF CANSO

Phased Approach

In developing a series of goals and objectives, the development partners examined several options for achieving key milestones. Based on the realities, constraints and opportunities that exist along the Strait of Canso, a “phased approach” to development was identified as having the best chances of success. As a result, general timelines have been estimated for each set of objectives. Generally, the process can be described as follows:



Specific goals and objectives have been outlined to enable the Lead Group and Working Group to achieve our ultimate goal of attracting new business to the Strait of Canso economic zone.

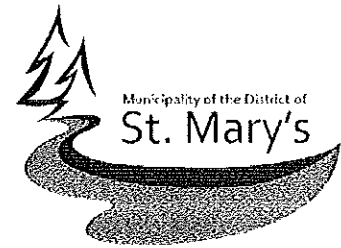
## APPENDIX B STRAIT OF CANSO

### Strait of Canso Port Stakeholder List

Antigonish County  
Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency  
Bear Head LNG  
Cabot Gypsum  
Cape Breton Central Nova Scotia Railway  
Cape Breton Partnership  
Celtic Air Services  
DSM Nutritional Products  
Eastern District Planning Commission  
Eastern-Strait Regional Enterprise Network  
Guysborough Municipality  
Inverness Municipality  
Martin Marietta  
Melford Atlantic Gateway  
Mulgrave Machine Works  
Native Council of NS / Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council Nova Scotia Business Inc. Nova Scotia Power  
NSCC – Strait Area Campus  
NuStar Energy  
Point Tupper Marine Services  
Port Hawkesbury Paper  
Richmond Municipality  
Strait Area Chamber of Commerce  
Strait Area Mayors & Wardens  
Strait of Canso Superport Corporation  
Strait Supplies  
Superport Marine Services  
Svitzer Canada  
Town of Mulgrave  
Town of Port Hawkesbury  
Tupper Industrial Developments

#### Additions Suggested on Nov 7, 2017:

Zutphen Contractors  
Ideal Concrete  
Norvon Enterprises  
Atlantic Sub-Sea Construction & Consulting  
Leslie & Benn Contracting  
Camin Cargo Control Canada



# Report to Council

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**Member of Council: Deputy Warden Jackie Dort**

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**Board/Agency/Organization: Eastern Region Solid Waste Management Committee**

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**Date Attended: January 25, 2018**

**Location: Boylston, N.S.**

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## **Agenda Items Discussed:**

- Recycling Badge/Pin
- Plastic Film Communication
- Plastic Bag Ban
- Textiles
- Data call
- Budget 2018/19

## **Key Highlights:**

- Divert NS has shown an interest in creating a provincial recycling badge or pin that could be earned by various youth and other organizations. They will look into it further at a later date following a sufficient launch of the School Curriculum Resources.
- A communication piece on plastic film was created and shared with the regions municipalities. This was inserted in St. Mary's February Newsletter
- Regional Chairs were asked by Minister Rankin if they support a Province Wide Ban on Single Use Shopping Bags. The Regional Chairs in turn have asked the regions if they support this ban by way of a resolution. A resolution is being considered by ERSWMC and seek support and/or advice from the individual municipalities in the region by way of a motion of council.
- The Regional Coordinator is compiling a list of textile collection bins locations in the region and hopes to have it on the ERSWM information app in the near future.
- The data call report is near complete. Some municipal units are higher than others and in many cases this is due to the disposal of C&D material.
- The ERSWM Budget 2018/19 was reviewed. Copies are being sent out to the individual municipalities for their budget considerations.



# Report to Council

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**Member of Council: Councillor Beulah Malloy**

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**Board/Agency/Organization: Community Health Board**

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**Date Attended: January 10, 2018**      **Location: Guysborough, N.S.**

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## **Agenda Items Discussed:**

- Prior to regular meeting an orientation was held for new members
- Guysborough County Early Years Group Project Update
- Chairperson's Report
- Recruitment Committee Report
- Canso Food Bank
- Funding Applications

## **Key Highlights:**

- A letter was sent to the Guysborough County Early Years Group stating their funding application was approved.
- The Chairperson reported:
  - A study is currently being done on Food Bank Security. Women over age 65 can participate. Members were encouraged to spread the word on how to participate in this study/survey.
  - The Community Health Board sent a letter to the Premier concerning the distribution of cannabis.
- The Recruitment Committee reported they continue to look for new members concentrating on the areas now not covered.
- There is no longer a food bank in Canso. Options to cover this area are being looked into by the committee.
- Applications for the Wellness Fund were reviewed and forwarded to the provincial level.



# Report to Council

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**Member of Council:** Kaytland Smith

**Board/Agency/Organization:** GALA

**Date Attended:** February 6<sup>th</sup> 2018

**Location:** New Harbour, NS

## Agenda Items Discussed:

- Executive Directors Report
- Project Update
  - Canada 150 book completed
  - ComIn New Horizons winding down, end date for March
- Policy Review Committee
  - No Report
- Financial Report

## Key Highlights:

- Credit Card
  - Contact made at RBC in Guysborough, will require a deposit of \$5000.00 into a GIC in order to obtain a card with them
  - Board has opted to look at other financial institutions
  - Cost of new checks would be the only out going cost related with changing banks
- Literacy Nova Scotia requested a letter of support for funding. Tys in with the governments anti-poverty strategy.
- Lorraine Brymer, Healthy Care Coordinator NS Health Authority, submitted her letter of resignation
- NSAL Renewal process is ongoing
  - Still awaiting directive
  - Coordinators meeting expected soon
- E3 Pilot is still on going
- GED
  - Provincial/Municipal/Federal reps had been put together to form a committee to create their own GED Canada Program
  - Talks have broken down with provider
  - Current agreement expires the end of 2018
  - Online version was being considered
  - \$50,000.00 a year to run the GED program in NS



# Report to Council

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**Member of Council:** Kaytland Smith

**Board/Agency/Organization:** GALA AGM

**Date Attended:** February 6<sup>th</sup> 2018

**Location:** New Harbour, NS

## **Agenda Items Discussed:**

- Chairpersons Report
- Executive Directors Report
- Elections of Office
- Approval of Auditors Report

## **Key Highlights:**

- Chair Persons Report-Edmund LeBlanc
  - Continual work on updating and adapting new policy's a high priority
  - Thanks to Jackie Dort for holding chair, Ricky McLaren for returning to the table
  - Appreciation and goodbye to Lorraine Brymer, Health Care Coordinator NS Health Authority
- Executive Directors Report-Grail Sangster
  - 4000 children's book were purchased and distributed across the county in a family literacy project
  - Participated in the E3 program, NSSAL Renewal, Canada 150Program, New Horizons for Seniors Program, and seen many life long learners.
  - Acknowledged Edmund and Heather both for being a board member for GALA for over 10years
- Treasures Report-Rev. Heather Manuel
  - Total Revenue \$287,297.03
  - Total Expense \$227,374.34
  - Net Income \$59,922.69
- Elections of Office
  - Chairperson Edmund LeBlanc
  - Vice-Chair Barry Potter
  - Secretary-Treasurer Rev. Heather Manuel



## **MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ST.MARY'S**

P.O. BOX 296, SHERBROOKE, NOVA SCOTIA, B0J 3C0

### **CAO Report – February 12, 2018**

#### **Economic Development:**

- The January Economic Development Committee meeting was rescheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup>. Committee to revisit the Draft Action Plan.

#### **Water line Replacement Project:**

- The project has been put on hold until ground conditions improve. Funding and completion date has been extended to June 30, 2018.

#### **2018/19 Budget Process:**

- The 2018/19 budget process has begun, budget planning meeting were held with all department heads in January and the first draft of budget was presented to council on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Staff is currently working on draft #2 of the 2018/19 budget.

#### **SHOPS / Community Space at the School:**

- Working with the Strait Regional School Board to develop a Draft Agreement on Usage of Community Space at the School
- Expect to have an Agreement in place soon.

#### **Tax Sales Update:**

- 33 tax accounts, totaling \$44,628 in outstanding taxes have been sent tax sale notices in January. This notice provided property owners with the opportunity to agree to a payment plan over the following 3 months before tax sale procedures commence. To date seven of these properties have been paid in full, totaling \$7,447.
- Tax accounts receivable listings attached.

- Anticipate the next sale will be in the July/August time frame.

### **Research Position:**

The Researcher for the AAN/PID match project began on Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> and to date has completed the initial work in District 2. Findings are as follows:

- 56 accounts were found on the registry of deeds online system that had a PID (property identification number) but did not have a corresponding municipal assessment account number nor an assessed value attached. The listing of these have been sent off to both Property online (registry of deeds) and PVSC representatives for review
- 11 Municipal Tax Accounts were found with no matching PIDS, these have been sent to the assessor to confirm they are third party leases, if they are not 3<sup>rd</sup> party leases then they have to be attached to the correct PID
- 12 accounts were found to have discrepancies between the PID number on the POL (registry of deeds system) and information provided in the 2018 assessment roll by PVSC
- 5 owner unknown accounts were determined to exist in district 2, two of these accounts also did not have matching Municipal account numbers nor assessment values
- 5 Municipally owned properties were identified in district 2
- Ownership in all systems have been reviewed and any discrepancies are being corrected
- Issues regarding the accuracy of civic numbers have been identified and are being passed onto the provincial 911 coordinator for review – upon confirmation from the civic addressing coordinator updates will be made

### **Transfer Station:**

- Repairs completed on the backhoe and will be within the \$10,000 -\$12,000 range originally estimated