



NOTICE

MEETING: St. Mary's Municipal Council

DATE: Tuesday, December 10th, 2018

TIME: 7:00pm

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

Please Advise If Unable To Attend

Dated: *Dec 3, 2018*

Marvin MacDonald
CAO

Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Meeting of Council

Tuesday, December 10th, 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 November 13th, 2018
5. Business arising from minutes
6. SMRA Presentation
7. New Business
 - a. Tourism Workshop Report – Councillor Smith
 - b. Community Liaison Committee Report – Councillor Smith
8. Recommendations from Committee of the Whole
9. Outside committee appointment reports
 - a. Community Health Board – Councillor Malloy
 - b. ESREN-Liaison and Oversight Committee – Councillor Smith
 - c. GALA – Councillor Smith
10. CAO report
11. Solicitor report

Adjournment

- *10 minute question and answer period pertaining to agenda items*

**Municipality of the District of St. Mary's
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, December 10th, 2018**

Meeting, Date & Time:

The regular meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council was called to order on Monday, December 10th, 2018 at 7:02pm in the Council Chambers Sherbrooke, N.S.

Attending:

Warden Mosher
Deputy Warden Dort
Councillor Malloy
Councillor Findlay
Councillor Kaiser-Kirk
Councillor Baker

Also Attending:

Marvin MacDonald, CAO
Denise Sawlor, Municipal Clerk/Special Projects Coordinator

Absent with Regrets:

Councillor Smith

Approval of Agenda:

On motion of Councillor Kaiser-Kirk and seconded by Councillor Findlay Council approved the agenda with the following additions.

12. Marine Protected Area Advisory Committee
13. In-Camera

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

On motion of Deputy Warden Dort and seconded by Councillor Kaiser-Kirk Council approved the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on November 13th, 2018.

Motion carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes

- None

St. Mary's River Association (SMRA) – Scott Beaver (President), Gwen Boutilier (Treasurer) & Madeline Beaver

- See attached presentation.
- This presentation has been given at some local community meetings with plans to present it at more locations throughout St. Mary's.
- Provided a handout describing the risks of the proposed gold mine on Cochrane Hill. See attached.
- Provided Council with the resume of the Consultant SMRA is hiring as well as a resume for a local consultant.

New Business

- Tourism Workshop Report – Councillor Smith
- Community Liaison Committee Report – Councillor Smith

Recommendations from Committee Of The Whole

- ACOA Contract
On motion of Councillor Findlay and seconded by Deputy Warden Dort that the municipality sign the contract with ACOA (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency) for the Sherbrooke Streetscape Project.

Motion carried.

- Recplex Mold Repair
On motion of Councillor Kaiser-Kirk and seconded by Councillor Malloy that Council award SystemCare the contract to fix the mold issue at the Recplex for the cost of \$5,842.50 plus HST. \$1,000 to be paid through the Recplex maintenance budget and the remainder through the Roy Steed Fund.

Motion carried.

- Land Tender
On motion of Councillor Findlay and seconded by Councillor Baker that a sealed tender bid be put out for PIDs 37530094, 35179746, 37530128 as one consolidated parcel for the minimum bid of \$47,000 plus HST and expenses.

Motion carried.

- Travel Expenses
On motion of Councillor Malloy and seconded by Deputy Warden Dort that Councillor Smith be reimbursed for travel expense related to attending the tourism workshop.

Motion carried.

Outside Committee Reports

- Community Health Board – Councillor Malloy
- ESREN-Liaison and Oversight Committee – Councillor Smith
- GALA – Councillor Smith

CAO Report

- See attached.

Solicitor Report

- Currently doing research on the by-law requested by SMRA.
- Working on the preliminary contracts related to the potential Chinese development.
- Completed the searches required for the January tax sale.
- Has submitted new affidavits regarding the land expropriation case.
- The Boudreau-Rodgers law firm will be shutting down and Adam is exploring opportunities of joining another firm or practicing on his own. Current cases are continuing unimpeded.

Marine Protected Area Advisory Committee

- The Eastern Shore Islands was identified as an Area of Interest (AOI) for Marine Protected Area (MPA) designation.
- The AOI Advisory Committee will be the key venue for multi-sector consultation to advance the MPA design prior to designation.
- The Municipality of St. Mary's has been asked to serve on the Advisory Committee.

On motion of Councillor Malloy and seconded by Deputy Warden Dort that Councillor Kaiser-Kirk serve as the Municipal representative on the Advisory Committee for the Eastern Shore Islands Area of Interest and Councillor Findlay will serve as alternate.

Motion carried.

In-Camera

On motion of Councillor Baker and seconded by Deputy Warden Dort Council moved into an in-camera session to discuss legal and confidential matters at 8:28pm.

On motion of Deputy Warden Dort Council reconvened to regular session at 8:58pm

Adjournment

On Motion of Councillor Findlay there being no further matters of business, council adjourned at 8:59pm.

Recorded By
Municipal Clerk/Special Projects Coordinator

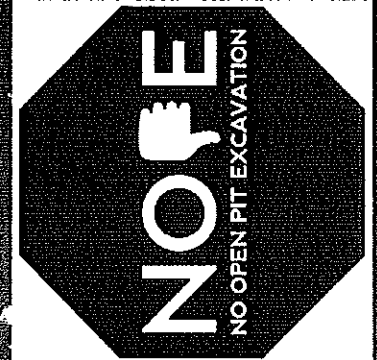
Approved By
Warden Mosher

Cochrane Hill

Coldwine NOPE

Camdoun -

OPEN PIT



Opening Remarks



- ▶ Representing the St. Mary's River Association, formed in 1979 as a conservation organization
- ▶ Our vision is the "Health for the River, the Atlantic Salmon and our community"
- ▶ Our NOPE campaign is an education campaign – where we talk about our point of view with our fellow community members



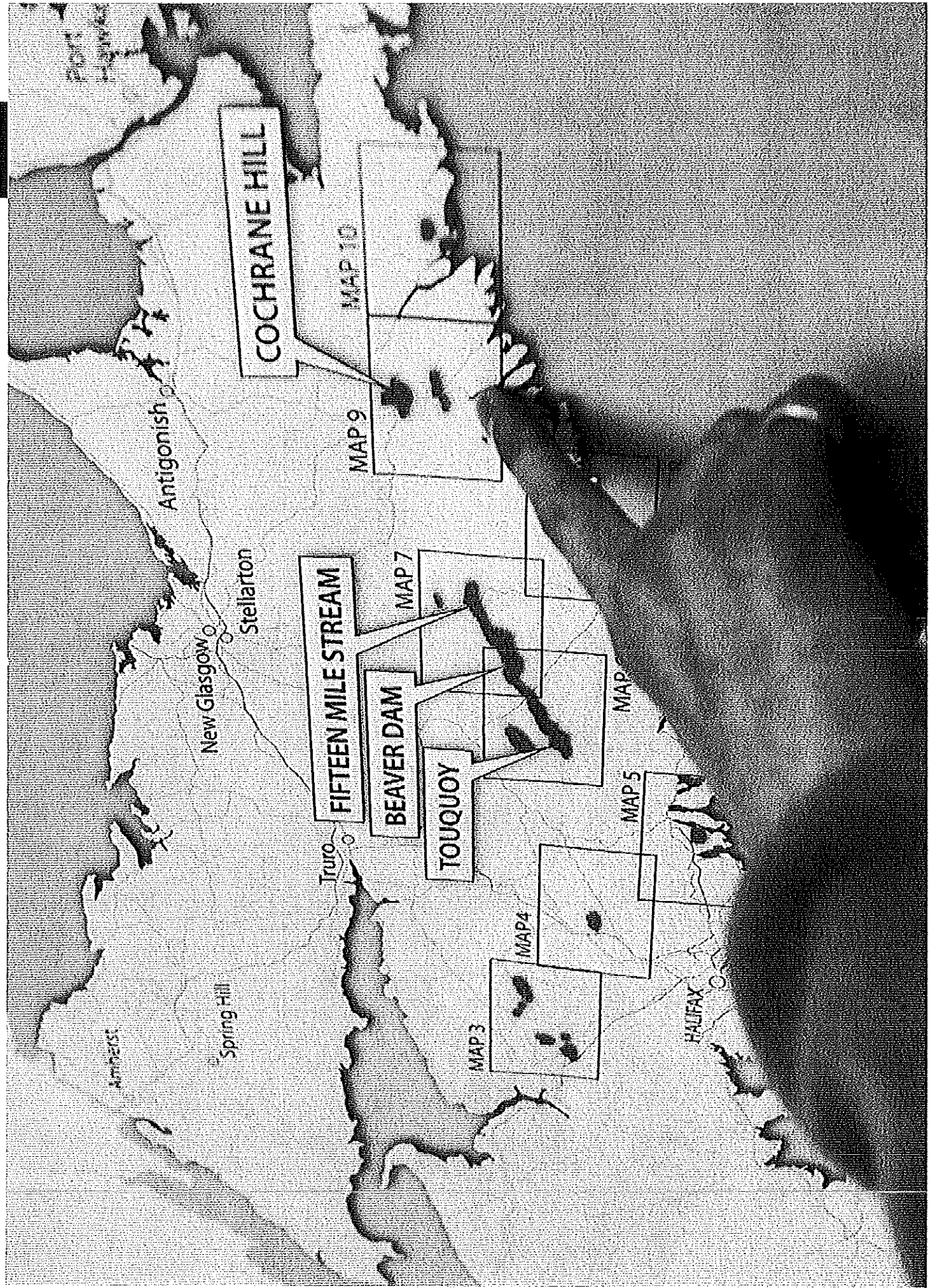
History of Cochrane Hill Mining

- ▶ Located between Sherbrooke and Melrose on Highway 7
- ▶ The site has a history of underground mining for gold that happened between 1868 and 1929. They retrieved 1350 ounces of gold during this time frame
- ▶ Further mining and exploration in 1970s and 1980s
- ▶ Currently is now an active mine site one of three satellite operations. The main site in Moose River known as Touquoy. Atlantic Gold is hoping to expand operations to 15 Mile Stream, Beaver Dam and Cochrane Hill



Who is Atlantic Gold?

- ▶ Australian junior mining company with Canadian Headquarters in BC- no vested interest in NS or Canada
- ▶ Cochrane Hill Gold Mine would start in 2021 and operate it for a minimum of 6 years
- ▶ At this point Atlantic Gold have conducted sampling and engaged stakeholders (council, local communities, First Nations, etc.)
- ▶ Completed a “Project Description”
- ▶ As of Nov 23rd, a federal environmental assessment is required - available for public comment until Dec 24th



COCHRANE HILL

MAP 10

MAP 9

FIFTEEN MILE STREAM

BEAVER DAM

TOUQUOY

MAP 7

MAP 5

MAP 5

MAP 4

MAP 3

Antigonish

Stellarton

New Glasgow

Spring Hill

Truro

HALIFAX

Amherst



How the CH Mine Will Work

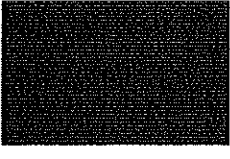
- ▶ At Cochrane Hill they will mine ore, crush it, process it down to a concentrate
 - ▶ Blasting will occur 2 – 3 times a week to get ore
 - ▶ A three step process to Crush the ore
 - ▶ The finely crushed ore will run through a *Process* using chemicals & a lot of water to produce a gold concentrate (Chemicals used will be Potassium Amyl Xanthate (PAX), Methyl Isobutyl Carbinol (Frother), W34 (Frother), Flocculant.)
- ▶ The gold concentrate is then transported to the Touquoy mine by way of Highway 7 through Sherbrooke to Sheet Harbour. All trucked by c-train configuration 8 axle trucks (58,500 kg or 128,700 pounds)
- ▶ Mine tailings (by product) will be deposited on site at Cochrane Hill to a Tailings Management Facility



Fire Departments

- ▶ Specialized training and equipment may be necessary
- ▶ Need to understand the characteristics of explosives and chemicals used in the mining process (Chemicals used will be Potassium Amyl Xanthate (PAX), Methyl Isobutyl Carbinol (Frother), W34 (Frother), Flocculant.)
- ▶ Hazards such as a forest fire in the area OR a fire at the site
- ▶ Collapse or failure of a structure at the site
- ▶ the emergency response effort and coordination required of local fire departments, first responders and mutual aid partners will be significant

SMRA Reasons for NO MINE

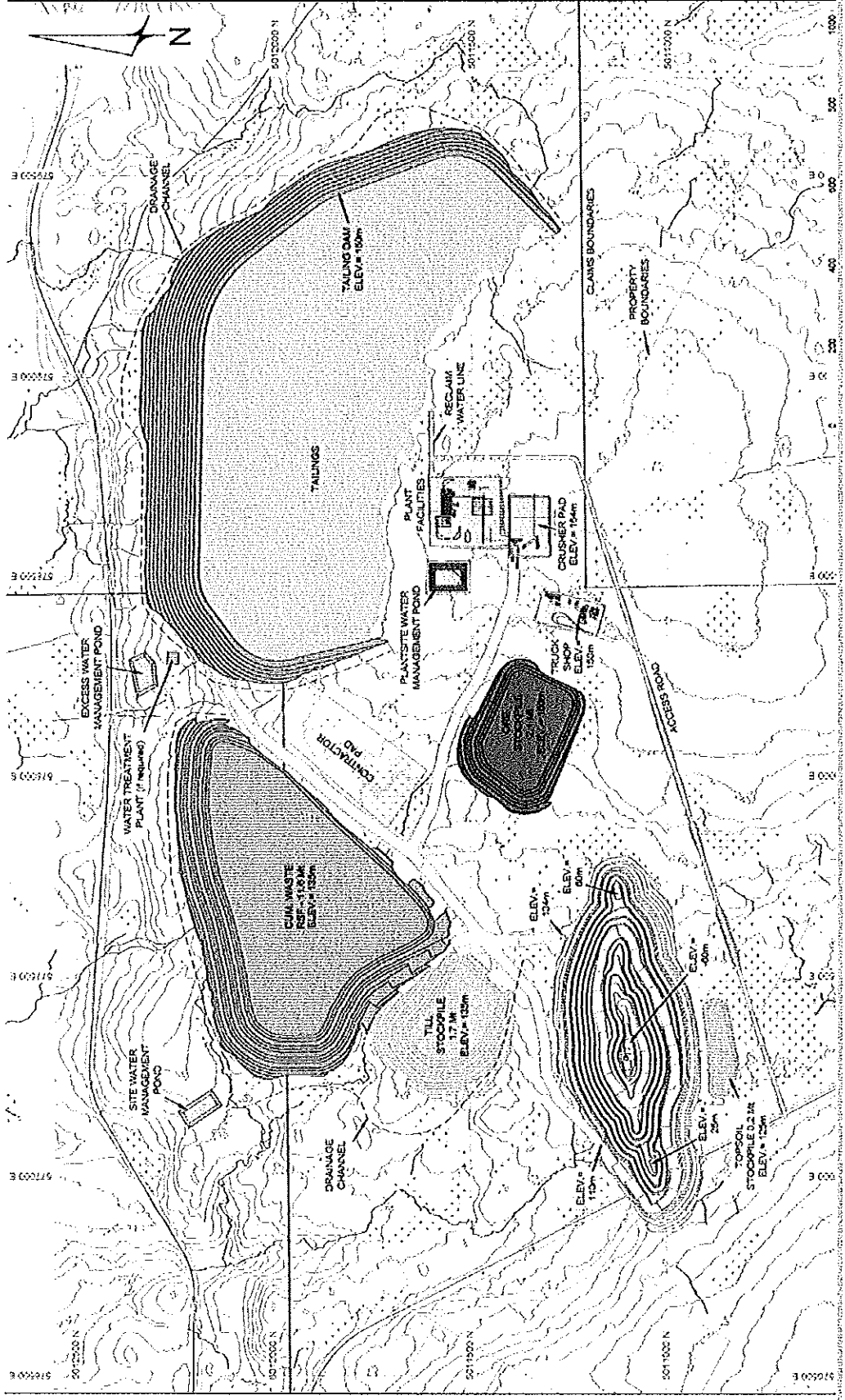


- The efforts and investments of decades should not be risked for a foreign owned company wanting to make a quick profit
- It does not make sense to allow an industry so large, intrusive and risky into our community for such a short term gain (6 years of operation)
- We as a community have to much to loose

SMRA Reasons for NO MINE

- ▶ Land
 - ▶ Total mine footprint is 600 acres
 - ▶ Estimated size of the Open Pit will be 70 acres - that is 950 metres long, 450 metres wide with a maximum depth of 170 metres
 - ▶ Depth is 60 metres below sea level
 - ▶ Size of the Tailings Pond will be 260 acres
 - ▶ Size of the waste rock, low grade ore, overburden pile will be 173 acres. 5% of ore is shipped after processing and 95% stays on site
 - ▶ Clear cutting is a known issue. The loss of more trees and ground cover will create additional problems with water leaving the area more quickly after a rainfall.
 - ▶ The resulting runoff puts silt into the river, erodes river banks killing invertebrates and fish eggs.


Cochrane Hill Mine Site Map



SMRA Reasons for NO MINE

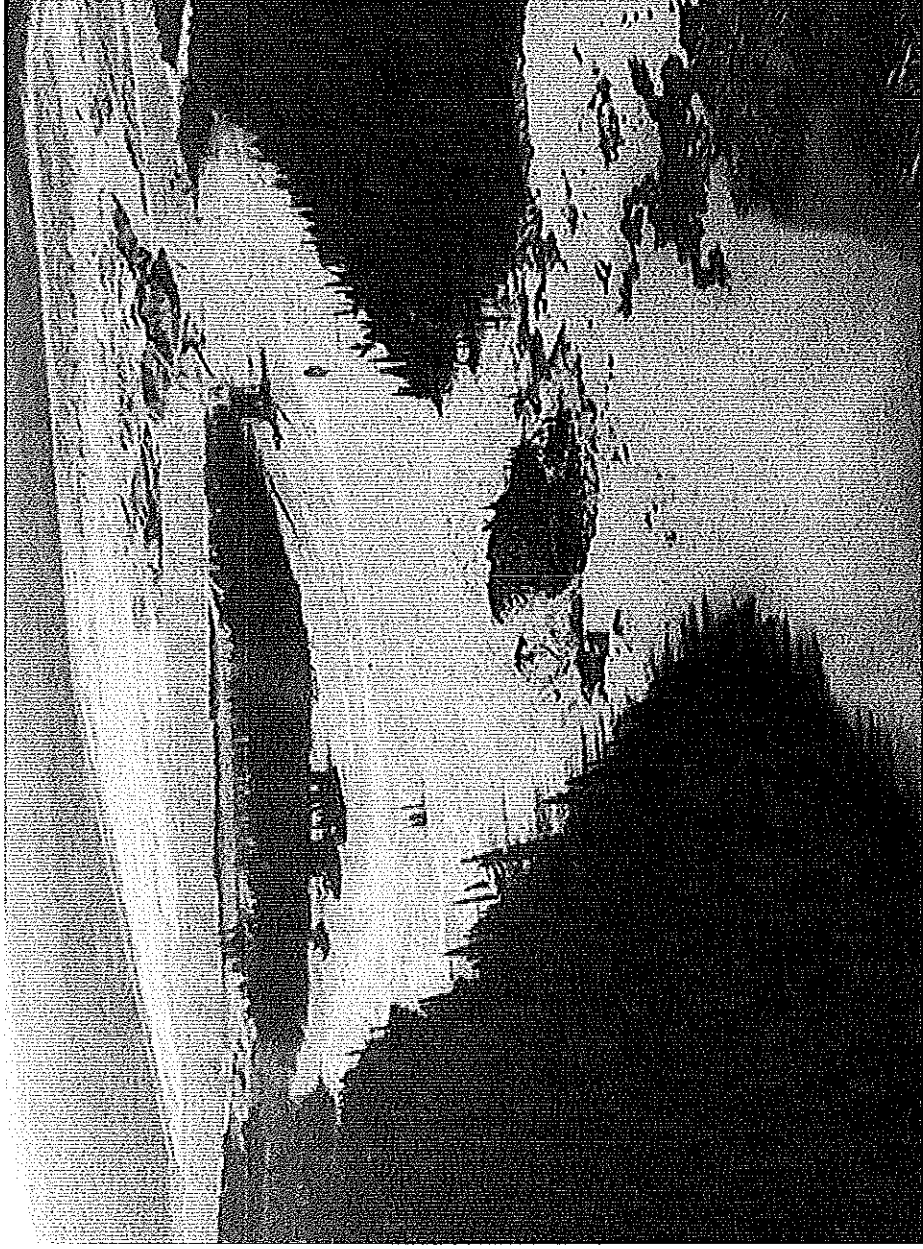
- ▶ Gold mining is ranked in the top 5 of the worlds worst and largest pollutants. This is for two reasons one is the final processing which involves arsenic and two **Acid Mine Drainage**
- ▶ Acid rock drainage: Occurs when sulphite minerals (e.g. pyrite) are brought to the surface, and interact with water and oxygen. This reaction leads to sulfuric acid and metal oxides, which can then decrease pH (= more acidic) and release heavy metals (e.g. arsenic) in water bodies that receive runoff
- ▶ Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) is currently the main pollutant of surface water in the mid-Atlantic region.. AMD comes mainly from abandoned mines and currently active mining. AMD degrades more than 4500 stream miles in the mid-Atlantic region with the loss of aquatic life, and restricts stream use for recreation, public drinking water and industrial water supplies.
- ▶ A region impacted by acid mine drainage often has a decline in valued recreational fish species such as salmon and trout as well as a general decline in outdoor recreation and tourism along with contamination of groundwater drinking supplies

SMRA Reasons for NO MINE

- 
- ▶ Water
 - ▶ Start up requirements will be 500,000 cubic meters of water to be taken Archibald Lake or the St Mary's River
 - ▶ From the Project Description AG estimates 50,000 litres or more a day required for on going operations (any more than 23,000 liters/day requires a water withdrawal permit)
 - ▶ In low water conditions, the St. Mary's River cannot support additional withdrawal - high temperatures and lack of water depth do not provide adequate conditions for fish (salmon and trout) and their eggs to survive
 - ▶ As the pit gets deeper the underground water table is altered and can completely disappear
 - ▶ Four species in the watershed have been added to the SARA in one status or another: salmon, wood turtle, snapping turtle and fresh water mussel known as the Brook Floater
 - ▶ River is also the home of the Gaspereau and American Eel – both fished commercially

SMRA Reasons for NO MINE

- ▶ Tailings Pond Impact
 - ▶ Tailings are the by-product of mining. They are the ore waste of mines, and are typically a mud-like material. Worldwide, the storage and handling of tailings is a major environmental issue. Many tailings are toxic and must be kept perpetually isolated from the environment.
 - ▶ The TMF (tailings management facility) at Cochrane Hill is designed to permanently store tailings.
 - ▶ Treated discharge (known as effluent) from Tailings Management Facility will go to Archibald Lake or McKeen Brook system & into the river
 - ▶ leaching from the tailings pond will end up in the surface water and in the river. Water or waste water will end up in the St. Mary's no matter what direction it leaves Cochrane Hill. It all slopes back to the river!
 - ▶ A breach of the tailings pond over time or during an extreme weather event like hurricane Florence can lead to structural failure which will unleash a torrent of toxic material into the environment
 - ▶ Companies seldom held accountable for the failure



The results of a tailing pond breach at Imperial Metals Corp's gold and copper mine in Mount Polley BC in 2014, which released 24 million cubic meters of water and waste into the near by lakes and rivers which ultimately end up in the Fraser River. Photograph: Reuters



LA PLATA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



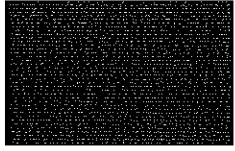
RIVER CLOSED

By Order of the La Plata
County Sheriff, pursuant
to C.R.S. 33-13-111 &

112

Due to Gold King Mine Spill, the
Animas River is closed to
recreational use until further notice.

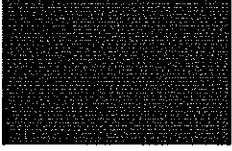
BY ORDER OF THE SHERIFF, ALAN C. BROWN, 2015





SMRA Reasons for NO MINE

- ▶ On August 5, 2015, the EPA on-site staff and contractors breached a dam blocking the toxic waste water from the Gold King Mine. The resulting release of three million gallons of toxic wastewater flowed into the Animas and San Juan Rivers and into the Navajo reservation. The contamination threat and water shutoffs in the wake of the spill devastated the tribe's agricultural center. According to testimony by Doug Holtz-Eakin, president of the American Action Forum, before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, the total economic impact of the spill could total \$335 million.
- ▶ Atlantic Golds bond held with provincial government is not big enough to cover the cost of recovery should an event ever happen on the St. Mary's. Bond is currently set at \$10 million; clean up of other sites has amounted to much more





SMRA Reasons for NO MINE

- ▶ Air Quality
 - ▶ Dust and dirt from blasting 2 – 3 times a week will become airborne
 - ▶ Operation of trucks and heavy machinery will produce air pollution 24 hours a day
 - ▶ Heavy metals are frequently released into the air during blasting (arsenic, mercury) posing a health hazard to anyone exposed
- ▶ Road Infrastructure
 - ▶ Damage to our roads as a result of heavy trucks, heavy loads and additional traffic will ultimately end up as repair costs charged to the NS taxpayer not Atlantic Gold
 - ▶ Our vehicles will be subject to debris resulting in paint chips or windshield damage, hitting potholes causing damage to tires and rims.



SMRA Reasons for NO MINE

- ▶ Tourism
 - ▶ District of St Mary's Municipal Council (10 year Strategic Plan) and St Mary's River Association (Outdoor Recreation Development Plan for the St. Mary's Watershed) both have documented objectives for eco-tourism development.
 - ▶ The paddling and canoeing work done with signage, maps and our annual paddling event should be just the beginning for SMRA and the District of St. Mary's.
 - ▶ There are two significant, historical and natural river valleys in Nova Scotia: **The St. Mary's River Valley and the Margaree River Valley**. Together they are an enormous attraction .
 - ▶ Our river valley is the centerpiece of the Marine Drive and has the potential to be one of Eastern Canada's most attractive tourist destinations. Our proximity to Halifax is a real plus!
 - ▶ Anything that distracts from what nature has created will have a huge negative effect on the entire Eastern Shore!



SMRA Reasons for NO MINE

- SMRA is the only river in NS that has an Atlantic Salmon recovery strategy.
- To date we have spent over 1 million in habitat work
- We have applied for 1.5 million for a 3 year habitat and liming project on the West branch of the St. Mary's from the federal Coastal Restoration Fund
- We have active stock enhancement programs in partnership with DFO both for Salmon and Sea Trout
- The Margaree- The Margaree-Lake Ainslie River System is a designated Canadian Heritage River with protection afforded for both cultural and natural heritage values.
- Annual spending of \$2.9 million generates \$2.5 million in GDP, 70 full time equivalent jobs, and \$ 2.1 million worth of income.
- (3) Economic value of wild Atlantic salmon in Atlantic Canada: Creates 3,873 FTE (full time equivalent jobs) and \$128 million worth of income



Gardner Pinfold Report:

(1) Value of salmon (2010 stats) by province in 2010 (Millions)

NB NL NS

Residents 28 19 3.3

Other Can 8.3 5.7 0.6

Visitors to 7.6 2.4 0.4

Canada

\$43.9 \$27.1 \$ 4.3

What the SMRA is doing

- ▶ Met with St. Mary's District council
 - ▶ Asked them to establish a by law to disallow any mining within 8 km of the St Mary's River
 - ▶ Pay for half of the cost for a specialist to analyze Atlantic Golds Environmental Impact Statement
- ▶ Hiring an expert to do an independent third party review of the EA
- ▶ Have representation on the Community Liaison Committee formed by Atlantic Gold
- ▶ Securing support and exchanging information with local like minded organizations such as NSNT, SUNNs, EAC, ASF, NSSA, CPAWS, ESFWA, Sherbrooke Village.
- ▶ Writing letters to our elected representatives
- ▶ Circulating a Petition for signature – sending it to our provincial government

SMRA Reasons for NO MINE

In Summary

Cons

- ▶ Only 6 years of production
- ▶ Huge Environmental Impact-Acid Mine Drainage
- ▶ Tailing Pond leaching or breach will lead to poisoning the river and potential loss or impact to other local jobs & industries
- ▶ Negative Impact to tourism & future dollars
- ▶ St Mary's River and salmon recovery program will suffer or cease to exist

Pros

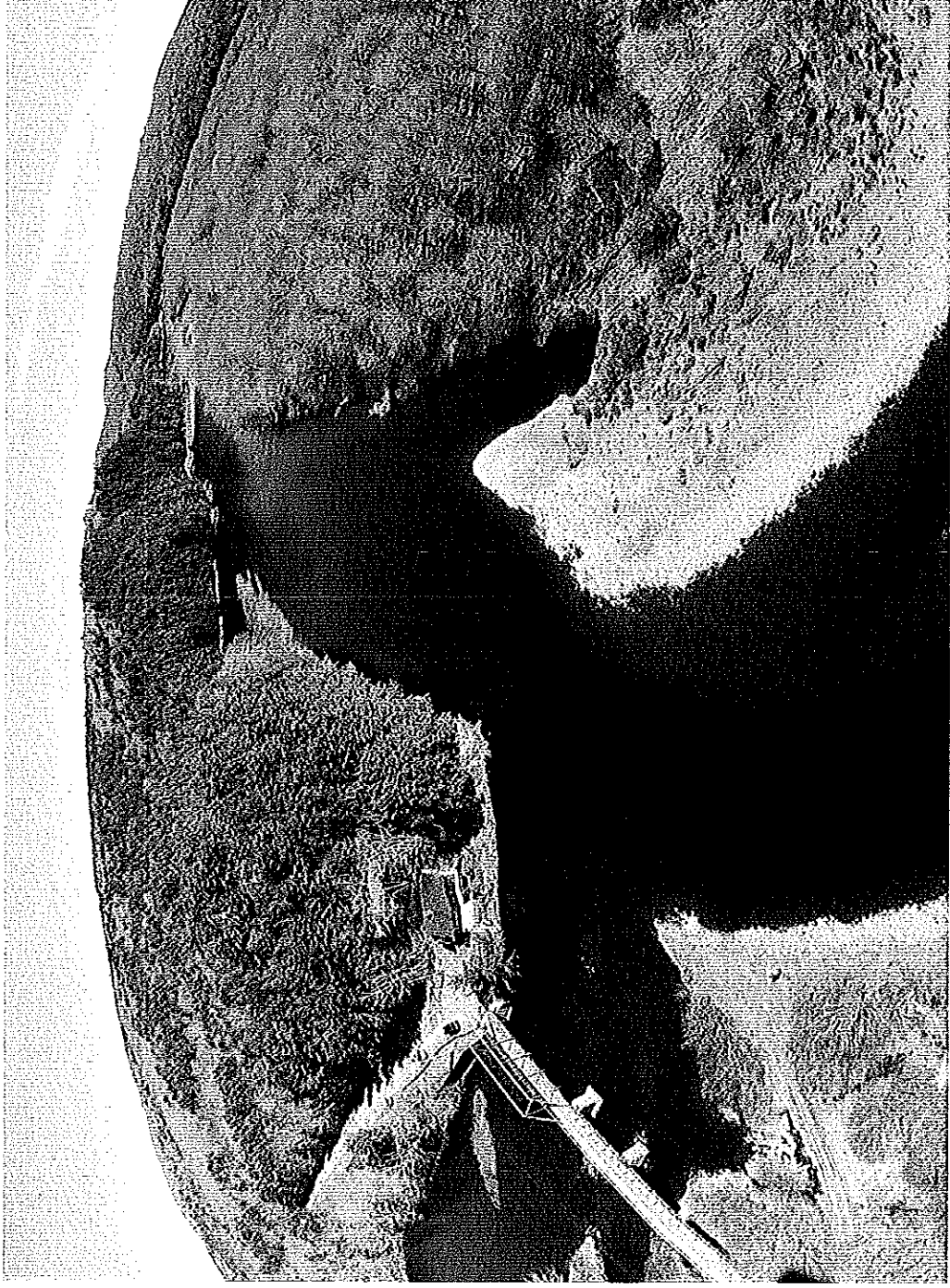
- ▶ A few jobs, Atlantic Gold cannot or will not provide a number for 6 to 10 years
- ▶ Local Businesses will see an increase in activity
- ▶ Some organizations may receive funding for their programs.

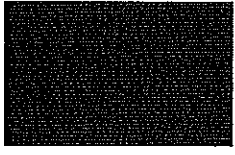


What you can do

- ▶ Get involved!
- ▶ Contact your council member to share your concerns Bonding increased to 200million and share the cost of the 3rd party assesment!
- ▶ Contact your local MLA and / or MP
- ▶ Talk to your family, friends and neighbors
- ▶ Send an email or letter to CEAA during the public comment periods (open now until Dec 24th)
- ▶ Attend Atlantic Gold community meetings to educate yourself & express concerns
- ▶ Sign the on line petition – about 1000 people have so far (<https://www.change.org/p/nope-no-open-pit-excavation-in-st-mary-s>)
- ▶ Sign our community petition which will be presented to our Provincial Government in the Spring

St. Mary's River Silvers Pool





Risks of the proposed open pit gold mine at Cochrane Hill, along the St. Mary's River

A large, open pit gold mine is proposed along the edge of the St. Mary's River, near Sherbrooke, Guysborough County. Construction and operation of the pit would involve blasting, trucking, heavy machinery work, and the creation of permanent tailings ponds and piles, all posing a serious risk to the environment, and imposing negative impacts on the community. Many residents who live near the proposed mine site are against it, and thousands of fans of the St. Mary's River don't want to see it happen. Here's what you should know:

About the pit

- The pit would be 950m x 450m x 170m, or about the size of 38 Olympic-sized swimming pools.
- 43.1 million tonnes of rock would be excavated, at a rate of 22,086 tonnes per day. This will involve loud blasting 2 to 3 times per week, and 6 or more truckloads of ore per day more passing through Sherbrooke to take the ore to be processed in Moose River Gold Mines.
- Partially processed ore will be left on-site, creating a tall tailings pile. Bringing ore to the surface runs the risk of creating acid rock drainage, in which runoff from the tailings pile releases sulfuric acid and heavy metals into the river.
- Massive amounts of water will be needed (50,000L/day) to operate the mine, which would be withdrawn from the St. Mary's River or Archibald Lake.

About the river

- The St. Mary's River is beautiful and quiet, currently free of industrial activity. It has a long history of settlement, and currently the community is focused on economic development related to eco-tourism and recreation. The river is beloved by anglers, and has several protected forests along its shorelines.
- The river hosts a population of the endangered Atlantic Salmon, and is one of the best rivers in Eastern Nova Scotia to support species recovery. At times of the year with low water levels it cannot support an additional withdrawal – lack of water depth and the resulting high water temperature do not provide adequate conditions for fish (salmon and trout) and fish eggs to survive. The mine would also pose the risk of changing river water pH, and could introduce toxic levels of metals and other contaminants into the river.
- The river and its banks also hosts other species at risk, including Wood Turtle, and several bird species at risk. All would lose habitat when the mine is developed, and would risk injury and death with the increase in trucking in their habitat.



Who stands to gain? Who stands to lose?

- Junior mining company Atlantic Gold Corporation is proposing this project, to make money off the gold they can extract from the ore. They suggest that the project would create local jobs, but that may not be the case – workers could come from Atlantic Gold's nearby mine site(s), or nearby cities.
- The site would be in operation for about 6 years, then "reclaimed." After the reclamation work is complete, the company gets to walk away... the tailings pile and pond remain forever. If a spill or leaching from these causes contamination down the line, the company is not held responsible.
- The St. Mary's River Association is the local community group that has poured more than \$1 million and countless hours of volunteer time into restoring salmon habitat on the river – that work would be jeopardized by the proposed mine.
- The community has been very clear about its vision for its future: the District of St Mary's Municipal Council 10 year Strategic Plan, and St. Mary's River Association Outdoor Recreation Development Plan for the St. Mary's Watershed both have documented objectives for eco-tourism development, which is not compatible with this mining project.
- The proposed project would provide a short term gain for a foreign mining company, at the expense of long-term risks to river and the community.



Next steps

- The proposed mining project will undergo an environmental assessment, at which point the public can comment on the technical aspect of the mine project. No part of this process incorporates the will of the community into decision making, nor does it seriously consider alternative, sustainable development options for the area.
- Decision makers, including politicians at all levels of government, need to hear from people about this proposed project.

Please consider learning more about the project from the St. Mary's River Association, and contacting politicians to share your views.

You are invited to sign a petition against the project at Change.org. Here are some reasons for signing submitted by people who signed the petition:

"My children and grandchildren have been granted a long history of family who lived along the river. Please let their children be granted the ability to sit on its bank, near the family farm and share stories of this magical place."

"Are these people insane? So much work has been done to protect the St. Mary's River why would anyone think a mine is a good idea?"

"Water is far more important than gold."



Sheep Island Gleneleg Lake

-You can check out SMRA's web page for more information on the proposed gold mine at <https://www.stmarysriverassociation.com/> Or google St. Mary's River Association.

-One interesting article to check out regarding what could happen is by simply googling "david suzuki polley mountain tailings spill article" or here <https://www.straight.com/news/714666/david-suzuki-mount-polley-tailings-breach-should-be-wake-call-canadas-mining-industry>



Kaytland Smith
Councillor District 3/5
November 14th 2018
Tourism Workshop
Larrys River, NS

November 14th 2018 I attended a session about developing a tourism strategy for Guysborough County.

The day consisted of discussion, break out groups, and defining of direction for the project.

The session stems from a Tourism committee consisting of business owners, government/municipal representatives, and engaged people involved in the tourism industry. The tourism committee is charged with creating a county wide tourism strategy, and the committee was looking for some input from the tourism community.

There are plans to hold more open sessions with the public to gain feedback on the ideas, perhaps traveling around to various areas in the county to get a more diverse vision/feedback.

And while we do currently have a representative from the area, (Kelly Greenland, Municipality of St.Marys EDO and Steven Flemming, Director of Historic Sherbrooke Village) they are looking for other representatives from the St.Marys area to sit on the core group.

If anyone is interested let myself or Kelly Greenland know and we will get your touch with the right people.

District #3/5 - Councillor Kaytland Smith
Melrose, Glenelg, Caledonia & Area
Phone (902) 833-2039
kaytland.smith@saint-marys.ca

Economic Development & Planning Officer
Kelly Greenland
(902) 522-2607
kelly.greenland@saint-marys.ca

Kaytland Smith
Councillor District 3/5
November 5th 2018
Community Liaison Committee (CLC)
Touquoy Mine Tour

On November 5th the fellow members and myself of the Community Liaison Committee (CLC) took a tour of the Touquoy mine site. It was a long and informative day. In my effort to educate myself on modern mining I found the tour very helpful. It allowed me to see, hear, smell, feel, what a working mine is like to be around. And I strongly encourage anyone, for or against, who has the opportunity to tour the mine to do so. Reading about a piece of machinery and seeing it are two different things. I feel my grasp on the proposed project was greatly improved with this tour. While I still have numerous questions my own experience of being on a site will be helpful moving forward.

Also, the Government has determined that an environmental impact statement (EIS) is required for the proposed Cochran Hill goldmine. A draft of the EIS can be viewed at the link below.

https://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/evaluations/document/126067?culture=en-CA&fbclid=IwAR1inLAIL7LPVUc9APd_gra2cvVzfCCV-Q5sA1NHPszYtHmANndUOFLKbtw

The public now has the opportunity to review the EIS draft and offer feedback, for example if there is an area you believe is not being looked at or that requires a different strategy for review. The public input is open until December 24th 2018.

I strongly encourage everyone to read the EIS draft and give feedback. These public input opportunities are there so the people feel they have a voice. And also it's important to stay educated about projects that may be in the area.

Atlantic Gold is planning to open an office in Sherbrooke to have more of a local presence. They are hoping to have it up and running within the next couple months. They plan to have it staffed a couple of days a week. Update on this as more information is finalized.

The CLC plans to meet again in January.



Report to Council

Member of Council: Beulah Malloy

Board/Agency/Organization: Community Health Board

Date Attended: November 14/18 **Location:** Chedabucto Centre

Agenda Items Discussed:

Regular meeting was postponed as we used that time to go over the wellness applications that the board received.

The board received 21 applications and 11 were approved over 9 different communities.

There will be more information to report on these applications at a later date.

Key Highlights:



Report to Council

Member of Council: Kaytland Smith

Board/Agency/Organization: ESREN-Liason and Oversight Committee

Date Attended: November 2nd & 15th

Location: Antigonish, NS

Key Highlights:

Both meetings were to discuss ESREN (Eastern Straight Regional Enterprise Network) and its further.

Last spring several of the funding partners put in there one years notice to possibly leave ESREN. Since this occurrence the Department of Municipal Affairs has been working with the partners, board, LOC, and ESREN staff, to try and come up with a solution.

Each meeting has been to discuss action, concerns, and goals, around the issues currently facing the REN. After lengthy discussion each partner is now in the process of discussing their options and moving forward with their own plan.

To date St.Mary's has not made a public statement on its intentions surrounding ESREN, beyond their one year notice and willingness to have continual discussion with the REN and other funding partners. Most of the other Municipal partners have deferred their decision until they have received more information on options, or they are waiting for information on their own individual budgets.

If partners do wish to leave ESREN, and have already given there one years notice, they could possibly be removed from the REN end of this fiscal year.

<https://www.esren.ca/our-communities/>

Report to Council

Member of Council: Kaytland Smith

Board/Agency/Organization: Guysborough Adult Learning Association (GALA)

Date Attended: November 13th 2018

Location: Guysborough NS

Agenda Items Discussed:

- AGM-set for December 13th 2018
- Treasures report
- Credit card update
- Next board meeting-December 13th, prior to AGM

Key Highlights:

- Current enrolment- Canso (9), Sherbrooke (8), Guysborough (4)
- GALA is continuing to participate in LAE's E3 pilot. 5 currently enrolled in the program.
- 1200 books were received from a First Book shipment to Halifax. Following that GALA also received another donation of approximately 400 books, with the shipping costs covered by Amazon.
- Concern was raised again surrounding the current GED program. Each board member plans to do an education piece to their respective groups/organizations.
- Phase 3 of the NSSAL review is currently under way. This phase is focused on engaging the key stakeholders.
- There was discussion on placing free book boxes around the county. Perhaps engaging the local schools in the building of the boxes. Board member will explore the idea, costs, and avenues for the project.
- Grail Sangster has submitted her resignation letter, for employment ending March 31st 2018
 - A hiring committee was struck and plans to meet in the near future to discuss job descriptions, and possible changing roles for staff members.
 - Grail is commended on her commitment, passion, and unwavering love of GALA and all that it stands for. It will be a hit for all of us to be without her knowledge and spirit attached to the program. Nothing but well wishes are for Grail.

GALA-Guysborough Adult Learning Association

LAE-Learning and advanced education

GED-General Education Diploma

AGM-Annual general meeting

NSSAL-Nova Scotia School for Adult Learning



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ST.MARY'S

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

CAO Report – December 10, 2018

CAO:

Meetings and Other:

- Meeting with Department of Municipal Affairs and ESREN partners regarding the status of the Regional Enterprise Network
- Walked the land proposed for development and identified work to be done to prepare for the proponents site visit
- Ongoing discussions with Grace Chum, ESREN and NSBI regarding potential business development
- Meeting with ACOA to review funding contract for the Beautification & Streetscaping project
- Meeting with the steering Committee for the Beautification & Streetscaping project
- OHS inspections of the RecPlex and community space at the school followed by OHS committee meeting
- Strait Region CAO meetings in Halifax with Tourism Nova Scotia, Nova Scotia Business Inc, Develop Nova Scotia, Business Nova Scotia to discuss gaps and opportunities for those departments in the Strait Area
- CoTW meetings on November 21 and December 5
- Fire Services meeting
- Internal budget and policy discussions with staff

Community Development & Recreation Department Report

December 10, 2018

Josh Hilton

Director of Community Development and Recreation

Recreation Programming:

We had a number of programs begin in the month of November. These programs include:

Open Gym Tuesday's 6-7pm at SMECA
Free Skates Wednesdays 6-7pm and Saturdays 1-2pm
Recreation Hockey Ages 5-12 Thursdays 3-4pm
Active Start Fundamentals for Kids Thursdays 5:30-6:30pm at SMECA
Learn to Skate/Learn to Play Hockey Fridays 6-7pm
Craft Program Fridays 7-8pm at St. Mary's Recplex
Yoga Tuesdays 6:00-7:30pm at SMECA
Chinese Stretching Wednesdays 6:00-7:30pm at SMECA

I will just give a general overview of all programs, I won't go into detail about each program in depth as this report would be very long. These programs are run either by recreation staff, Maggie or myself. Programs were generally well attended, although we had to cancel Recreation Hockey twice along with Learn to Skate Learn to Play Hockey twice and Active Start because of the bad weather we have had over the past two weeks. Hopefully we see less of it from now on and do not have as many cancellations. All youth programming (Open Gym, Recreation Hockey, Active Start Learn to Skate and the Craft Program) has been well attended thus far, along with Community Free Skates which have been seeing up to an average of 20 people per skate, which I have been very happy with. Last year free skates were not very well attended. Participation has come from all age ranges with toddlers out with their parents to teens and seniors as well. I have been disappointed with the participation for Yoga and Chinese stretching, since I started last January I have had many residents ask for some type of yoga or stretching class. We are lucky enough to have a Yoga instructor from Asana Yoga in Antigonish, George Cotsomitis, who is a fantastic instructor, but the numbers have dropped off since we have started from 15 to about 4.

Old Fashioned Christmas Festival

Recreation staff helped out at Old Fashioned Christmas throughout both weekends assisting at warming stations throughout the village. Maggie and I also put on an Ultimate Santa Race, which is an obstacle course race where teams of 3 dress up as an elf, reindeer and Santa and race each other doing a number of different tasks each throughout the race, the team that completes all their individual tasks and crosses the finish line as a group first wins.

Youth Advisory Committee

I was asked by Marvin about an update on the Youth Advisory Committee and as of right now it is on hiatus. I have approached student council at SMECA on a number of occasions trying to get it started and explaining to them what the committee is about and how it went last year with great success. The students however generally seem uninterested to the idea of doing it. After a number of attempts to get a first meeting set up with no success I have asked the guidance councillor at the school if they or anyone else at the school whether it be a teacher/support staff would be interested in coming and being a liaison for the students and myself, I have received no interest in doing it from anyone. I have spoken to Principal Mike MacIsaac about the issue and while we both agree it would be great for the committee to operate, I cannot force the students or staff to participate in doing something they

simply do not want to do. I will continue to try and make them aware that this is an important issue and many great things could come out of this group. Hopefully in the New Year this will happen.

Upcoming Programs/Events

All programs that started in November will continue throughout the month of December and into January. We will be doing a Family Christmas Party on December 8th 3-5pm at the Sherbrooke Lions Hall with games, crafts, snacks and a visit for Santa for the children.

We will also be hosting a Christmas free skate fundraiser with SMECA students and staff on Thursday December 13th. Students and staff will walk from school to the Recplex for an hour skate. The grades primary-6 will go mid-morning and then grades 7-12 will go in the early afternoon. Each student and staff will also be asked if they are able to, bring a non-perishable food item for the food bank. I will then donate everything on behalf of the municipality and SMECA.

Grants

We received a \$5000 grant from the Community Use of Schools grant that we apply for every year and use for after school recreation programming to buy equipment that may be needed or snacks for participants.

I have also applied for the Celebrate Canada Grant from the federal government that goes towards Canada Day celebrations within our municipality. Last year we received \$700 from this grant. We usually get a response for funding allotted in March or April.

Facilities

Recplex

Besides the already mentioned recreation programming going on at the Recplex, we also saw the start of Curling both league and drop-in play on Monday and Tuesday nights. Adult Hockey has also started as well with 4 teams playing twice a week (Wednesday's and Friday's). The Annual Keith Jordan Hockey Tournament was also played from November 30th-December 2nd. 7 teams competed in the tournament with teams from Cheticamp to Brookfield participating. Money raised from the event goes towards paying for ice time for the Learn to Skate/Learn to Play Hockey program that takes place on Friday nights.

Updates

The sprinkler room at the Recplex has a lot of mold growing on the ceiling which needs to be removed and repaired. I have had two companies (Purlbrook DKI and System Care) look at the sprinkler room to provide estimates on how much it will cost. I received estimates back and with approval from Council will move forward on the repairs.

The fitness centre is seeing its usual use. Spartan Fitness will be coming to clean and to provide preventive maintenance of the Fitness Centre equipment on December 19th. We get this done twice a year to make sure the equipment is in good working order and clean. I have also asked Spartan to look at the cardio equipment for wear and tear. Our bikes and treadmills are over 10 years old and may soon need to be replaced dependent upon how much use they have gotten over the past 11 years. I will consult with Spartan to see what the options are after the assessment.

Professional Development and Meetings

Highland Recreation Directors Meeting November 8th

Highland Connect November 14th

Upcoming in December

Highland Region Recreation Directors Meeting Thursday December 13th

Economic Development & Planning:

November 2018

- Continued Review of Planning Documents
 - Discussions with province on amendments to MGA awaiting proclamation (expected spring 2019) which will lead to provincial regulations pertaining to planning documents
 - Report with Recommendations on go-forward to be finalized in January
- Attended Guysborough County Tourism Strategy Committee Workshop in Larry's River
 - Workshop to get input into the values and strategic goals in order to begin development a county wide Tourism Strategy.
 - Well attended by public representing Guysborough but no St. Mary's attendees aside from Kaytland and Kelly.
 - A second workshop is being planned within Sherbrooke for early 2019
- Hosted St. Mary's Beautification & Streetscape Steering Committee meeting on Nov 20
 - Began the RFP process for a Sherbrooke Streetscape Plan
 - Next meeting early December
- Atlantic Gold – Meeting with Chrystal Fuller (Nov 22)
 - Anticipated planning application in late spring/early summer 2019. (Coincides with submission for EA process)
 - Need to determine public engagement process
 - Application will require a plan amendment and a zoning bylaw amendment
- Municipal Awareness Week (Nov 19-23)
 - Engagement posts on Facebook (should really look into making this a little more formal – contest of some sort?)

- Three councilors along with myself and Marian Fraser attended the St.Mary's Academy to talk about municipal awareness (Councilors went to primary to grade 5 classes and myself and Marian did grades 10, 11 and 12)
- Spoke with principal about visiting with grades 6-9 during the winter semester
- There is opportunity here for some job shadowing or career open houses
- Engage St.Mary's
 - Report from Sept workshop received and sent out to attendees and placed on website

December 2018 +

- Engage St.Mary's
 - Determine Next Steps/Action Plan
- Beautification & Streetscaping
 - RFP has been issued and proposals are due Dec 21 at 12:00pm
 - Review proposals and being evaluation process with steering committee
 - Draft workplan for 2019 for the committee
- Draft report on all tourism projects/committees currently in process for our area (WITAP, Guysborough County, other DEANS projects, RICHES, Beautification and Streetscaping)
 - How are they all working together/over-lap
 - What is our plan for engaging the public while not over-burdening them with meetings and workshops on the "same" issues
- Begin drafting a 2019/2020 Economic Development & Planning Budget
- Draft 2019/2020 Economic Development & Planning workplan
- Local Business Directory
 - Need to find a way to ensure the businesses that are operating within St.Mary's are accounted for and we have a way of engaging them/contacting them. This could look like full district mail-out; a winter event; an open call through media and social media; a review of business licensing and property assessments

Finance:

- Tax Sale Update –Thursday, January 17th, 2019 at 11am– to date one property has been removed. Listing has been advertised in the Guysborough Journal, Municipal Newsletter and Website.
- Tax Arrears listing to November 30th, 2018 – see attached
- 2019 Assessment Roll - Assessment notices will be mailed out to property owners on January 14th, 2019. The cap rate for 2019/20 has been set at 2.9%.
- Reminder that low income exemption and provincial property tax rebates deadline for 2018 is December 30th, 2018.

- Municipal Awareness Week – attended the High school on November 21st and made presentations to the grade 10 and 11 students regarding Municipal Government and the different careers opportunities that exist in Municipal Government.

Public Works:

- Received report from Strait Engineering regarding ultraviolet lights option
- Lift station electrical repairs
- Ongoing operations at the water treatment plant
- Ongoing operations at sewer treatment plant
- Ongoing operations at Transfer Station

Municipal Clerk & Special Projects:

Municipal Clerk/Special Projects Report December 2018

- Updating website (Council minutes & agendas, latest news, events, audited finance documents, Council expenses, etc)
- Municipal newsletter – receiving and editing material, layout design, coordinating printing, stapling and mail out with the receptionist
- Work on new website – coordinating with AMA on new design
- Records management – ongoing maintenance and shredding tracking
- Streetscapes Meeting
- Agenda and meeting minutes (Council, COTW, OHS, Fire Services)
- Office Christmas Cards – design, order, label, mail.
- OHS meeting and two site inspections
- Apply water account interest, print & mail bills.
- Fire boundary maps – continue work with Ian Gunn
- Assist with decorating the Municipal Old Fashioned Christmas window.
- ESREN Broadband Committee meeting in Antigonish
- Fire Services Meeting
- Assist with preparations for upcoming delegation visit.