



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Committee of The Whole (COTW) Meeting

Wednesday, September 6th, 2023,

We acknowledge that we are gathering in Mi'kma'ki the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

1. Meeting, Date & Time:

Warden Wier called the COTW Meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council to order on Wednesday, September 6th, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, N.S.

2. Attending:

Warden Wier	Councillor Mailman
Deputy Warden Fuller	Councillor Malloy
Councillor Baker	Councillor Zinck
Councillor Harpell	

Also Attending:

Doug Paterson, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance (DOF)
Mallory Fraser, Municipal Clerk
Jadzia Graham, Interim Municipal Clerk

3. Additions to the Agenda:

7. Watermain Break – Staff Report

4. Approval of the Agenda:

On the motion of Councillor Harpell, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council approved the agenda with addition.

Motion approved.

5. Approval of Minutes:

On the motion of Councillor Baker, and seconded by Deputy Warden Fuller, Council approved the minutes of the COTW Meeting held Wednesday, August 2nd, 2023.

Motion approved.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- See Attached Staff Report
- The Director of Finance provided an update on Service Exchange Agreement Information session that was held in August, by the province additional summary information will be sent out when received.

7. Watermain Break – Staff Report

- See the attached staff report.

8. Presentation

a. Naomi Society & Antigonish Women's Resource Center – Marcia Connolly, Outreach Support Worker, Antigonish Women's Resource Center and Carrigan Martell, Prevention & Awareness Coordinator, Naomi Society

- See attached presentation.

- Naomi Society provided a presentation about the Informational support system that offers resources and advice to women, and youth that are battling sexual abuse/ assault, mental health, domestic violence, and referral services.

9. Correspondence:

a. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Printed Paper and Packaging (PPP) - Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM)

- Correspondence was received from NSFM informing the Municipality that the regulations for EPR for PPP are now in place.

b. Connecting the Dots Between Poverty and Health - Community Health Board

- Correspondence was received from the Community Health Board inviting Council to participate in the Connecting the Dots Between Poverty and Health event being held on October 17th, 2023, at the Civic Center in Port Hawkesbury and for a \$500.00 financial contribution towards the cost of hosting the event.
- Council discussed providing a financial contribution and if Councillors would be available to attend.

On the motion of Councillor Baker, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council agreed to provide a \$500.00 financial contribution from the municipal operating budget to the Community Health Board for the Connecting the Dots Between Poverty and Health Event.

Recommendation approved.

c. Petition for Cell Tower - Sue Amberg

- Correspondence was received from resident Sue Amberg regarding a petition for cell towers in the area requesting feedback from Council on the work that has been completed to get service and asking for support in gathering signatures for the petition.
- Council directed staff to write a letter supporting this petition to Member of Parliament Sean Fraser and Member of the Legislative Assembly Greg Houston.

10. Other Matters Of Business:

a. Truth and Reconciliation – Staff Report

- See attached staff report.
- Council agreed that you cannot fly another flag on the same flagpole as the Canadian flag and that there is not enough time to erect another flagpole prior to September 30th, 2023.
- Council directed staff to review previous direction from Council regarding truth and reconciliation and follow up with Council via email.

b. Flood Line Mapping Project – Staff Report

- See the attached staff report.

c. Human Resources (HR) Policy

- Staff presented Draft 1 of the revised HR Policy at a COTW Meeting on Wednesday, July 19th, 2023. Council agreed to complete the review of the policy and provide feedback on the policy for this COTW meeting.
- Council did not provide any further edits or direction for staff on the Human Resources Policy.

On the recommendation of Councillor Fuller, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council rescinded the Municipal Working Policy.

Recommendation adopted.

On the recommendation of Councillor Harpell, and seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council approved the Human Resources Policy.

Recommendation adopted.

d. Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities Conference (NSFM)

- NSFM is holding their fall conference in Halifax, at the Westin from Tuesday, November 7th to Friday, November 9th, 2023.
- Council discussed who would attend the NSFM Fall Conference. Council agreed that Warden Wier, Deputy Warden Fuller, Councillor Malloy, Councillor Harpell, and CAO Doug Patterson would attend the NSFM Fall Conference.

e. Council Meeting Dates

- Staff requested to hold a Special Council Meeting on September 18th, 2023, at 5:30 pm to present the Audited Financial Statements.

On the recommendation of Councillor Malloy, and seconded by Councillor Baker, Council agreed to hold a Special Council Meeting held Wednesday, September 18th, 2023.

Recommendation adopted.

f. Construction and Demolition Cell Design Quotes – Staff Report

- See attached staff report.

On the recommendation of Councillor Baker, and seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council agreed to hire Strait Engineering Ltd. to complete the design of construction and demolition cell number six for the amount of \$13,250 plus HST from the municipal operating budget.

Recommendation adopted.

g. Quotes for St. Mary's Recplex Sprinkler System Repair– Staff Report

- See attached staff report.

On the recommendation of Deputy Warden Fuller, and seconded by Councillor Mailman, Council agreed to hire T&T Fire Protection and Backflow Services Inc. to complete the sprinkler repair work at the St. Mary's Recplex in the amount of \$6,869.00 plus HST from the municipal capital budget, less any applicable grants.

Recommendation adopted.

h. Snow Removal and Ice Control Tender

- Staff recommended awarding the tender for the Municipal Snow Removal & Ice Control Services for the 2023-24 fiscal year to Waternish Construction for the retainer amount of \$10,000 per month and per occurrence amounts specified in the bid form as the other bidder cost over 50 percent more per month.

On the recommendation of Councillor Harpell and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council awarded the tender for Municipal Snow Removal & Ice Control Services for the 2023-24 fiscal year to Waternish Construction for the retainer amount of \$10,000 per month and per occurrence amounts specified in the bid form.

Recommendation adopted.

i. In-Camera: Land Matters and Contract Negotiations

On the motion of Councillor Baker, and seconded by Councillor Mailman, the Council agreed to move in-camera for contract and land matters at 5:10 p.m.

Motion approved.

On the motion of Deputy Warden Fuller, and seconded by Councillor Harpell, the Council agreed to reconvene to regular session at 5:40 p.m.

Motion approved.

Adjournment

On the motion of Councillor Mailman, and seconded by Councillor Baker, there being no further matters of business, the Council adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Motion approved.

Recorded By
Jadzia Graham, Interim Municipal Clerk

Approved By
Warden Wier



Carrigan Martell – Naomi Society Prevention & Awareness Coordinator

For the Municipality of the District of Saint Mary's

Sept. 6th, 2023

Who We Are:



- ▶ Non Profit Organization, established in August, 1983.
- ▶ Part of the Transition House Association of N.S. (THANS)
- ▶ Outreach in Antigonish & Guysborough Counties

What we do:



- ▶ Naomi Society provides support services to women, children, and all genders who have experienced family, domestic, intimate partner and sexual violence.

Services Offered:

- ▶ Supportive counselling
- ▶ Safety planning
- ▶ Information, referrals and advocacy
- ▶ Support with Peace Bonds and Emergency Protection Orders
- ▶ Accompaniment to court and legal appointment
- ▶ Space for trauma-informed police statements**
- ▶ Access to emergency overnight shelter
- ▶ Second Stage Housing for women and their children
- ▶ Outreach to Guysborough and Antigonish Counties
- ▶ Support with matters involving Department of Community Services (DCS) and Mi'kmaq Children and Family Services (MCFS)
- ▶ Community Presentations & Education

Resources:

- ▶ Neighbors, Friends & Families Handouts:
 - How can you identify and help women at risk of abuse
 - Safety Planning

www.neighboursfriendsandfamilies.ca
- ▶ Making Changes Book (Can be found online as well)

www.women.novascotia.ca/MakingChanges

Podcast: Somebody Must Say These Things



- ▶ An **8-part** series that fully investigates Violence Against Women in Nova Scotia.
- ▶ This podcast speaks with survivors of violence and the women who make it their mission to end it for good.
- ▶ Throughout the podcast you will hear stories of survival and examine the critical role of transition houses in our province.
- ▶ Find “**Somebody Must Say These Things**” on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, or at www.thans.ca/somebody-must-say-these-things/

Stay in touch:

Carrigan Martell – Naomi Society Prevention & Awareness Coordinator

- Professional Development
- Education Sessions
- Event & Campaign partnerships
- **Phone: 902.863.3807 ext. 5**
- **Fax: 902.863.6008**
- **Email: projectcoordinator@naomisociety.ca**

Contact Us:

- ▶ By phone: **902-863-3807**
- ▶ By email: info@naomisociety.ca
- ▶ Website: www.naomisociety.ca
- ▶ Provincial DV 24 Hour Support Line (Call or Text): **1-855-225-0220**
- ▶ Located at 103-133 Church Street, Antigonish, N.S.
- ▶ Hours: **Monday to Friday, 8:00am - 4:00pm**

Presentation to St. Mary's Council

September 6th, 2023

Marcia Connolly
Women's Support Worker
Antigonish Women's Center & Sexual Assault Association

Presentation Outline

- (1). **Introduction..**My name is Marcia Connolly, I extend the services of the Antigonish Women's Center to the rural communities of Guysborough County; including Guysborough, Sherbrooke and Canso.
- (2). **Information packets...**distribute individual information packets to each councillor. Speak on the various services offered by the AWRCASASA....(Lindsays Health Center, trauma therapy program, healthy relationships for youth, the immigrant support program. . Speak also on the various applications (rent supplement program, heat fund applications, EMS ambulance low-income waiver, etc).
- (3). **Issues:** speak on the various complex issues that rural women and their families are experiencing and the role of political officials in providing information and resources to individuals in need.

From: NSFM Communications <communications@nsfm.ca>

Date: August 2, 2023 at 1:16:11 PM ADT

To: NSFM Communications <communications@nsfm.ca>

Subject: Announcement: Extended Producer Responsibility for Printed Paper and Packaging

Dear Members,

NSFM is pleased to advise the regulations regarding **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)** for **Printed Paper and Packaging (PPP)** are now in place. This has been an advocacy priority of the membership since 2019.

We would like to extend our thanks to the provincial government for passing legislation in 2021, as part of *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act*, that facilitated these new regulations. EPR for PPP represents a **multimillion-dollar savings** to municipalities as the responsibility for the collection and processing of blue bag waste shifts to those companies producing these materials. Perhaps most important is the added incentive for producers to create more environmentally sustainable types of packaging.

The Solid Waste-Resource Management Regional Chairs Group, led by elected officials from across the province, has worked hard to inform and track the progress of these regulations. We extend our thanks to them as well.

NSFM looks forward to providing additional information to our members on key decision points as implementation gets underway. Please stay tuned and thank you for your support in continuing to create strong, sustainable communities.

Please refer to the link below for the news release, issued this morning.

[News Release](#)

Sincerely,

Juanita Spencer | Chief Executive Officer
NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION OF MUNICIPALITIES

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NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION
OF MUNICIPALITIES



Friday , July 28th , 2023

Dear Waren Weir and Council;

Health Promotion staff from Mental Health & Addictions, Public Health, and the Community Health Board Program are partnering with Raising the Villages” to host an event called **“Connecting the Dots Between Poverty and Health”**. Community Health Boards from Antigonish, Guysborough, Richmond, Inverness, and Victoria counties are also collaborating to provide support for this event.

This event will offer opportunity for learning and community conversation that will center around poverty, other social determinants of health and their impacts on health outcomes. The event is happening at the Port Hawkesbury Civic Center on October 17, 2023, **The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty**.

Community organizations, municipal partners, and decisions makers will be invited come together to learn new information, share work that is happening, identify opportunities for collaboration, and to start forming actionable items to reduce the negative impacts on health equity caused by Poverty and other Social Determinants of Health. We look forward to hosting several guest speakers, panel discussions, and small group conversations as well as providing participants with the opportunity to network, create new partnerships and increase their knowledge on how to address these issues in their existing roles. Please see the attached agenda for information about speakers and event flow.

We are writing to ask for a financial contribution toward the cost of hosting this important event. Municipalities play a large role in poverty reduction efforts and are a valued partner in this work and we are eager to have your municipality in attendance. Each municipality in the catchment area is being asked for a contribution of \$500.00. This contribution will go towards space rental, nutrition, facilitation, speakers, and other event cost. If you can provide a contribution to help, make this event happen please make your cheque payable to our community partner Raising the Villages. Here is the address: Raising the Villages - Poverty Impact Health Event; 456 Piper’s Glen Road, PO Box 28, Inverness, NS BOE 1N0.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comment or for more information about the event at dorothy.bennett@nshealth.ca

Thank You for considering this request for assistance with this important event.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Bennett

On behalf of the event planning team:

NSH Mental Health & Addictions Health Promoters: Andrea Donavon & Rowan Hart

NSH Public Health Promoter: Kalen Long

NSH Community Health Boards Coordinators: Connie Ross-MacDonald & Dorothy Bennett

CONNECTING THE DOTS

Between Poverty and Health

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

October 17th, 2023

Port Hawkesbury Civic Center

This event will bring community organizations, decision makers, and municipal partners together to learn, network and collaborate on poverty reduction and the Social Determinants of Health.

OUTCOMES

- Increase understanding of how health is impacted by income poverty.
- Increase knowledge on how to address the issue of poverty within our work.
- Create new networks.
- Brainstorm new projects and new ways to collaborate to reduce the number of people experience poverty in our communities.
- Commit to working together on the issues of poverty and health.

1) Opening	Welcome and Intention setting
2) Keynote	Christine Saulnier and Leslie Frank - Impacts of Poverty in Nova Scotia
3) Panel Discussion	Community Organizations - Perspective of what's happening at the community level
4) Lunch & Gallery Walk	Gallery of Projects and Initiatives working to reduce the impacts of poverty in our communities.
5) Message from NS Health	Message from the Eastern Zone Medical Officer of Health Jesse Kancir
6) Discussion	Focused conversation /Collaboration Table discussion on the health Impact of living in poverty; 7 priority areas; Housing, Transportation, Social Inclusion, Food Security, Mental Health, Early Childhood Development, Income
7) Commitment Statements	Development of a commitment statement for future poverty reduction work in our communities
8) Closing	Closing and Evaluation



Connecting the Dots

Between Poverty and Health



Save The Date
October 17, 2023



For
Community conversations

Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre
9am-3pm

Spark a Conversation & Ignite Action

[Register Here](#)

From: Sue Amberg <sue_amberg@yahoo.ca>
Date: August 10, 2023 at 2:18:11 PM ADT
To: Courtney Mailman <courtney.mailman@saint-marys.ca>
Subject: Petition for Cell Tower

Hello Courtney

My name is Sue Amberg. I live in Ecum Secum.

I wanted to let you know that I am getting signatures for a petition that I will be sending to BellAliant, Sean Fraser and Tim Houston.

I am aware that there has been a lot of discussions and meeting about getting a cell tower for our area, but, still, there are numerous residents in the area that are desperate to get a stable cell service.

If you have any feedback on the work that has been done to get a service, I would love to learn from you.

Also, if you have contact with residents in your area who have complained about not having a service, would you be in a position to get signatures from them?

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to discussing my plans with you in due course.

Best regards

Sue Amberg
Nova Scotia
902-800-1822

Topic: Opportunity to fly the Mi'kmaq Flag at the Municipal Office

Department of Community Development and Recreation

SUMMARY

To consider the opportunity to raise and fly the Mi'kmaq Grand Council Flag at the Municipal Office. Adding the Mi'kmaq Grand Council Flag to the Municipality's flagpole year-round is an opportunity to represent the Municipality's commitment to Truth and Reconciliation efforts and further its land acknowledgement.

BACKGROUND

The Municipality's journey towards Truth and Reconciliation has been an on-going effort since the National Truth and Reconciliation Commission issued its report in 2015. The report includes calls to action specifically for municipal governments.

The Mi'kmaq Grand Council is the hereditary, traditional governance council that was replaced by the Canadian Government through the Indian Act in 1876. The white in the flag represents the purity of creation. The cross represents mankind and infinity of the 4 directions, the sun is the forces of the day and the moon is the forces of the night.

CONSIDERATIONS

Flying the Mi'kmaq Grand Council flag at the Municipal Office is a way in which the Municipality can further its Truth and Reconciliation efforts. Flying the Grand Council Flag will increase public awareness of the flag and what it represents. The flag furthers the Municipality's land acknowledgement, by identifying the Mikmaw as the first people on the land. The flag will demonstrate to Mikmaw & Indigenous peoples and all Nova Scotians that the Municipality recognizes the Mi'kmaq Nation. The Municipality will join many other government bodies and educational institutions to fly the flag at their buildings.

An official flag raising ceremony should be planned prior to National Truth and Reconciliation Day on September 30th, 2023, with an invitation to the Chief and Council of Paqtnkek Mikmaw Nation to participate. An Elder can also be invited to do a prayer at the event.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff are recommending that:

The Municipality add the Mi'kmaq Grand Council Flag to a flagpole at the Municipal Office and host a flag raising ceremony in advance of National Truth and Reconciliation Day 2023.



Eastern Shore Flood Line Mapping Project Update & Phase 2 Announcement

Economic Development

SUMMARY

The Final Report, data, model, and flood maps for phase 1 have been completed and submitted to St. Mary's by the consultants, CBCL Limited. A second phase of the Flood Line Map Project, which extends into the watershed level, has been recently announced by the province. Phase 2 is fully funded and lead by the province. CBCL Limited was awarded with the contract, a kick-off meeting was held July 27, 2023, and additional Stakeholders and Rights-holders are currently being determined.

BACKGROUND

The Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing is supporting municipalities with flood mapping projects under their Municipal Flood Line Mapping program. The St. Mary's Municipal Flood Line Mapping Project RFP issued in December 2022 was awarded to CBCL Engineering and Design Services in January 2023. The project area with measuring, modeling and mapping encompassed the coastline of the Eastern Shore from Ecum Secum to the Canso Causeway. Phase 1 of this project was lead by the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's and included collaboration with NS Municipal Affairs and Housing (NSMAH) and the Municipality of the District of Guysborough.

Phase 2, lead by NSMAH will extend the flood line map along the coastline past the Canso Causeway to Antigonish and include the primary watersheds of Liscomb, St. Mary's, County Harbour, New Harbour-Salmon, Clam Harbour St. Francis and Tracadie. Included in this phase is new riverine and coastal mapping and updating of current coastal mapping to include waves. Collaboration in Phase 2 will be with MODSM, MODG, Antigonish County, Town of Antigonish, HRM and NSMAH. This will allow a more complete picture of flooding risks and hazards for St. Mary's. Final Deliverables are expected in April – May of 2024 with regional workshops to follow.

CONSIDERATIONS

To aid in the success of the project and add to data collected, it is requested that Councillors inquire with members of their respective communities about known areas of past or current flooding and erosion, coastal or inland. Historic knowledge and photographs are incredibly valuable. The same online data collection format will be used in this phase. Councillors will be notified when the data collection begins.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff Report



None at this time.

NSFM Fall Conference 2023

[📅 \(/communications/event-calendar.html?date=2023-11-01\)](/communications/event-calendar.html?date=2023-11-01) [📄 \(/flat.html?date=2023-11-01\)](/flat.html?date=2023-11-01) [📅 \(/week.html?date=2023-11-05\)](/week.html?date=2023-11-05) [📅 \(/day.html?date=2023-11-07\)](/day.html?date=2023-11-07) ⚙️

Date: Tuesday, November 07, 2023 11:00 am - Friday, November 10, 2023 12:05 pm

Duration: 3 Days, 1 Hour, 5 Minutes

Categories: Conferences (/190-conferences.html)

NSFM Fall Conference
November 7th – 10th
Halifax

Raising the Bar On Local Leadership

NSFM Fall Conference
November 7-10

Halifax, NS

Program and registration details will be available early in September.

If you are interested in sponsoring or exhibiting, please contact Judy Webber, Event Planner (<mailto:jwebber@nsfm.ca>)

Staff Report- Quote for design of a new Construction and Demolition (C&D)

Public Works

SUMMARY

On August 4th, 2023, the Municipality issued a request for **Quotes for the design of a new Construction and Demolition Cell #6** at 150 Cape Gegogan Road, Geogan, NS (Municipal Transfer Station). Quotes were due on August 25th, at 3pm.

BACKGROUND

As per the new Department of Environment guidelines set out for disposal of Construction and Demolition material, effective, July 5th, 2023, when burying C&D material the cell which it is being buried in must be engineered to meet the DOE standards. The scope of work/deliverables included a review of current information/DOE regulations, a detailed survey of the area, and design for sedimentation/leachate pond. The engineered design should include but not limited to separation distances (from watercourses, property lines, etc.), provide the UTM NAD 83 coordinates, the liner, max height of cell, cell cover, distance between existing cells, drainage plan, layout of adjacent roads and construction notes. The quote did not include time for preparing a tender for the construction of the cell or monitoring the construction.

CONSIDERATIONS

Based on the above specifications the request for quotes was sent to multiple engineer firms but only one firm responded to the RFQ.

SEL (Strait Engineering Ltd) Consulting Engineers from Port Hawkesbury bid \$13,250 plus HST. The bid is attached to this staff report for an additional breakdown on items/assumptions and construction monitoring rates.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council award the request for **Quotes for the design of a new Construction and Demolition Cell #6** at the Municipal Transfer Station to SEL (Strait Engineering Ltd.) in the amount of \$13,250 plus HST from the Municipal Operating budget.

Staff Report



Staff Report- Quote for St. Mary's Recplex Sprinkler System Repair

Department of Public Works

SUMMARY

Over the last several weeks Public Works staff have contacted qualified companies to provide a quote on necessary repairs required on the sprinkler system located in the St. Mary's Recplex.

BACKGROUND

During routine sprinkler system maintenance/checks it was discovered that repairs are required for the sprinkler system. The required repairs include replacing the sprinkler tank header and the existing piping. Partial funding for this project has been obtained by the Municipality from the Recreation Facility Development Grant in conjunction with the Recplex exterior wall repair project.

CONSIDERATIONS

Three companies were contacted to provide a quote for the necessary repairs. The three companies conducted a site visit with one of the public works staff and they reviewed the systems that requires repairs.

The following quotes did not include:

- Fire watch
- Electrical wiring
- Water supply
- Cutting and repairs to the wall

Company	Quoted Price
T&T Fire Protection and Backhoe Services Inc.	\$6,869 plus HST
Fire Stop Enterprises	\$7,895 plus HST
Terry Sprinkler Ltd	\$20,500 plus HST

It is important to note that the Terry Sprinkler LTD quote has since expired and not been updated.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council agree to hire T & T Fire Protection and Backflow Services Inc. to complete the sprinkler repair work at the St. Mary's Recplex for the amount of \$6,869.00 plus HST from the Municipal Capital budget, less any applicable grants.