



NOTICE

- MEETING:** Regular Council Meeting
- DATE:** Monday, September 11th, 2023
- TIME:** 4:00 pm
- PLACE:** Council Chambers, 8296 Highway 7,
Sherbrooke

Please Advise If Unable To Attend



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Regular Council Meeting
Monday, September 11th, 2023

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

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Additions to the Agenda
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes from:
 - Regular Council Meeting held August 14th, 2023
 - Special Council Meeting held August 23rd, 2023
 - Emergency Council meeting held September 6th, 2023
6. Business Arising from Minutes
7. Recommendations from Committees of Council
 - a. Committee of the Whole Meetings – September 6th, 2023
8. CAO Report
9. In-Camera: Contract Negotiations

Adjournment

A 10-minute question and answer period pertaining to agenda items.



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Regular Council Meeting
Monday, September 11th, 2023

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

1. Meeting, Date & Time:

The Regular Council meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council was called to order on Monday 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 Patterson, Chief Administrative Officer CAO
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance (DOF)
Jadzia Graham, Interim Municipal Clerk

3. Additions to the Agenda:

- There were no additions to the agenda.

4. Approval of Agenda:

On motion of Councillor Harpell, and seconded by Deputy Warden Fuller, Council approved the agenda as presented.

Motion approved.

5. Approval of Minutes:

On the motion of Councillor Mailman, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council approved the minutes as presented.

Motion approved.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- No business arising from the minutes.

7. Recommendations from Committees of Council:

Committee of the Whole - September 6th, 2023

On the motion of Councillor Baker, and seconded by Councillor Zinck, the Council agreed to provide a \$500.00 contribution from the Municipal Operating Budget to the Community Health Board for the Connecting the Dots Between Poverty and Health.

Motion approved.

On the motion of Councillor Mailman, and seconded by Councillor Harpell, Council agreed to hold a special Council Meeting on Monday, September 18th, 2023 at 5:30 pm.

Motion approved.

On the motion of Councillor Baker, seconded by Deputy Warden Fuller, 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.

Motion approved.

On the motion of Malloy and seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council agreed to hire T&T Fire Protection and Backflow Services Inc. to complete the sprinkler repair work at the St. Marys Recplex in the amount of \$6,869.00 plus HST from the Municipal Capital Budget, less any applicable grants.

Motion approved.

On the motion of Councillor Harpell, and seconded by Councillor Mailman, Council awarded 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.

Motion approved.

8. CAO Report:

- See the attached report.

9. In-Camera: Contract Negotiations

On the motion of Councillor Malloy, and seconded by Councillor Harpell, Council moved in-camera for Contract Negotiations at 4:15 pm.

Motion approved.

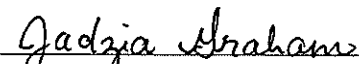
On the motion of Councillor Harpell, and seconded by Councillor Mailman, Council reconvened to regular session at 4:35 p.m.

Motion approved.

Adjournment

On motion of Councillor Zinck, and seconded by Councillor Mailman, there being no further matters of business, the council adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Motion approved.


Recorded By
Jadzia Graham, Interim Municipal Clerk


Approved By
Warden Wier



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Regular Council Meeting
Monday, August 14th, 2023

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

1. Call to Order:

Warden Wier called the Regular Council meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council to order on Monday, August 14th, 2023, at 4:00 pm in Council Chambers.

2. Attending:

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

Absent with Regrets:

Councillor Baker

Also Attending:

Marian Fraser, Director of Finance (DOF) & Interim Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Denise Dunn, Economic Development Officer
Mallory Fraser, Municipal Clerk

3. Additions to the Agenda:

- There were no additions to the agenda.

4. Approval of Agenda:

On motion of Councillor Harpell, and seconded by Deputy Warden Fuller, Council approved the agenda as presented.

Motion approved.

5. Approval of Minutes:

On motion of Deputy Warden Fuller, and seconded by Councillor Harpell, Council approved the minutes of the:

- Regular Council Meeting held July 10th, 2023.*
- Emergency Council Meeting held July 27th, 2023.*
- Special Council Meeting held August 9th, 2023.*

Motion approved.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

- There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. Recommendations from Internal Committees of Council

Committee of the Whole – July 19th, 2023

There were no recommendations from the July 19th, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Committee of the Whole – August 2nd, 2023

On the motion of Councillor Harpell, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council awarded the Transfer Station Buildings Demolition Tender to Verhagen Demolition Ltd –Option B in the amount of \$38,000 plus HST.

Motion approved.

On the motion of Deputy Warden Fuller, and seconded by Councillor Zinck, the Council approved the allocation of the \$312,383 received from the Sustainable Services Growth Fund as follows:

Project	Fiscal	
	2023/24	2024/25
Hospital Rd Pump/piping project	\$ 22,383	
Housing Project		\$ 100,000
SAR - Recommendation #1- Efficiency Study (4 components)	\$ 60,000	
SAR - Recommendation #2 - Building Upgrades	\$ 9,000	
SAR - Recommendations #3 - Monitoring and Scada Equipment	\$ 5,000	
SAR - Recommendation #4 - Process Equipment and WTP Upgrades		\$ 66,000
Recommendations from AT Plan		\$ 50,000
Total	\$ 96,383	\$ 216,000

Motion approved.

On the motion of Councillor Malloy, and seconded by Councillor Mailman, Council approved the assessment account number 04771753 owned by Sherbrooke Village Development Society for the Non-Profit Property Tax Exemption, effective April 1st, 2023.

Motion approved.

On the motion of Councillor Harpell, and seconded by Deputy Warden Fuller, the Council approved the Goshen Community & Recreation Centre as a Municipal Comfort Center contingent on receiving a water test from the facilities well; the Indian Harbour Lake & Jordanville Community Center contingent on receiving a water test from the facilities well; and the St. Mary's District Lion's Club.

Motion approved.

On the motion of Councillor Mailman, and seconded by Councillor Zinck, the Council approved a one-time 2023-24 Municipal Comfort Center grant to the Goshen Community and Recreation Center in the amount of \$7,500 from the municipal operating budget.

Motion approved.

On the motion of Deputy Warden Fuller, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, the Council approved a one-time 2023-24 Municipal Comfort Center grant to the St. Mary's District Lion's Club in the amount of \$7,000 from the municipal operating budget.

Motion approved.

8. External Board / Committee Reports

a. Sherbrooke Village Commission – Deputy Warden Fuller

- See the attached report.

b. Guysborough Adult Learning Association – Deputy Warden Fuller

- See the attached report.

9. Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation Housing Accelerator Fund

- See the attached staff report.

On the motion of Councillor Harpell, and seconded by Deputy Warden Fuller, Council directed the Chief Administrative Officer to submit a Housing Accelerator Fund Action Plan that includes the five initiatives as outlined in the staff report, along with all additional required documentation to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation as the Municipality's application under the Housing Accelerator Fund program; and Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to enter into any contribution agreements or amending agreements that may be required should the Municipality be approved for funding under the program.

Motion approved.

10. Hospital Road Sewer Lift Station

- See the attached staff report.

On the motion of Councillor Malloy, and seconded by Councillor Mailman, Council agreed to purchase the pump from Xylem in the amount of \$11,438.54 plus HST for the replacement of the sewage pump at the municipal lift station located on Hospital Road with the expense to be allocated from the Hospital Rd Pump/piping project through the Sustainable Services Growth Fund.

Motion approved.

11. CAO Report:

- See the attached report.
- The CAO provided highlights of what is included in the report.
- Staff have been working on Human Resources on the Policy and hiring a new CAO.
- Fire Services Advisory Committee met under the policy.
- Land Development Committee What Was Heard and Final Recommendations Report has been posted online.
- Source Water Protection Plan has continued throughout the summer, the committee is meeting this evening.
- Work on the AT Plan is underway by Upland Design & Consulting.
- Department of Community Development & Recreation and Economic Development have been working on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. Staff report coming to Council at a future date.

On the motion of Deputy Warden Fuller, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council agreed to dissolve the Land Development Committee as it has completed its mandate.

Motion approved.

Adjournment:

On motion of Councillor Malloy, and seconded by Councillor Harpell, there being no further matters of business, Council adjourned at 4:23 pm.

Motion approved.

Recorded By
Mallory Fraser, Municipal Clerk

Approved By
Warden Wier



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Special Council Meeting
Wednesday, August 23rd, 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 Special Council Meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council to order on Wednesday, August 23rd, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, NS.

2. Attending:

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

Absent with Regrets:

Councillor Harpell

Also Attending:

Marian Fraser, Director of Finance (DOF) & Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Jadzia Graham, Interim Municipal Clerk
Mallory Fraser, Municipal Clerk

2. Approval of the Agenda

On motion of Deputy Warden Fuller, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council approved the agenda as presented.

Motion approved.

3. In-Camera: Contract Negotiations

On the motion of Councillor Baker, and seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council moved to an in-camera session for Contract Negotiations at 4:01 p.m.

Motion approved.

On motion of Councillor Malloy, and seconded by Councillor Mailman, Council reconvened to regular session at 4:16 p.m.

Motion approved.

On the motion of Deputy Warden Fuller and seconded by Councillor Baker, the Council appointed Douglas Patterson as Chief Administrative Officer for the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's, effective September 5th, 2023 in accordance with the employment conditions as specified in the letter of offer.

Motion approved.

On the motion of Councillor Malloy, and seconded by Councillor Zinck, the Council agreed to remove former CAO Marissa Jordan and appoint Douglas Patterson CAO as of September 5th, 2023, as a designated signing officer all-encompassing for the Municipality of St. Mary's.

Motion approved.



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Special Council Meeting
Wednesday, August 23rd, 2023

Adjournment

On the motion of Councillor Mailman, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, there being no further matters of business, Council adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Motion approved.

Recorded By
Mallory Fraser, Municipal Clerk

Approved By
Warden Wier



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Emergency Council 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:

Chief Administrative Officer Doug Patterson called the Emergency Council meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council to order on Wednesday, September 6th, 2023, at 5:45 p.m. in Council Chambers.

2. Attending:

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

Also Attending:

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

3. Approval of Agenda:

On the motion of Deputy Warden Fuller, and seconded by Councillor Baker, Council approved the agenda as presented.

Motion approved.

4. Water Main Break

- See the attached staff report.
- That Municipal Council approved repair costs up to \$11,000.00 to complete needed repairs to the Sherbrook Water main from the Capital reserve

On the motion of Councillor Harpell, and seconded by Councillor Baker, Council approved the expenditure of up to \$11,000 to complete the required repairs to the Sherbrooke Water Main.

Motion approved.

Adjournment

On the motion of Councillor Malloy, and seconded by Councillor Zinck, there being no further matters of business, Council adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Motion approved.

Recorded By
Jadzia Graham, Interim Municipal Clerk

Approved By
Warden Wier



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Monday, September 11th, 2023

Council Meeting

Recommendations from Internal Committees

Committee of the Whole – September 6th, 2023

On the motion of Councillor Baker, and seconded by Councillor Malloy, the Council agreed to provide a \$500.00 contribution from the Municipal Operating Budget to the Community Health Board for the Connecting the Dots Between Poverty and Health

Recommendation adopted.

On the recommendation of Councillor Malloy, and seconded by Councillor Baker, Council agreed to hold a Special Council Meeting on Wednesday, September 18th, 2023 at 5:30pm.

Recommendation adopted.

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.

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.

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.

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

CAO Position Advertisement and Executive Recruitment Services

The selection Committee for the CAO position recruitment completed the recommendation process and at a Special Meeting of Council on August 23rd, 2023, Council appointed Douglas Patterson as the new CAO.

HR/Policy Work:

Successful candidates for the Active Living Coordinator and the Interim Municipal Clerk (Maternity Leave) began in August. Advertisement and job description for the Recplex Labourer position has been developed and posted. Deadline for position is September 21st.

St. Mary's Emergency Management Organization

Staff sent correspondence to approved Municipal Comfort Centers and are awaiting Memorandum of Understandings to be returned to complete the registration process. Staff continued working on EMO contingency plans for the committee's review. The contingency plans will be presented to Council in the fall for review.

Tenders & RFP's

Tenders and RFP/Q's were developed advertised/requested for New Building Construction at Transfer Station, Snow Removal, Recplex Sprinkler Repairs and the engineer design of the C&D Cell at the Municipal Transfer Station. Staff held a kick off meetings with the contractors for the awarded tenders dealing with both the Recplex Building repairs and Transfer Station Building Demolition.

DataCall

Staff completed the DataCall survey for the Municipal Transfer Station.

Big Gasperaux Lake Civic Addressing Project

Staff assigned civic addresses and sent correspondence to property owners notifying them of the new road names and civic addresses.

Fire Services Advisory Committee

The next Fire Service Committee is schedule for October 25th, 2023.

Eastern Shore Flood Line Mapping

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 2023 was awarded to CBCL Engineering and Design

Services in January. The project area with measuring, modeling and mapping will encompass the coastline of the Eastern Shore from Ecum Secum to the Canso Causeway.

The Final Report, data, model, and flood maps for phase 1 have been completed and submitted to St. Mary's by 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.

Land Development Committee:

The Land Development Committee held their ninth meeting on June 6th, 2023. The committee heard feedback as per the Land Development Committee Policy regarding perspectives considered in land development decisions. The What We Heard and Final Recommendations Report was submitted to Council for approval and adoption including the creation of actions and pathways that Council can take regarding municipal owned properties on June 12th, 2023, and the Report was approved and adopted on June 21st, 2023. Staff are currently seeking federal and provincial housing related funding opportunities and identifying and fostering suitable partnerships with non-profit housing associations.

Sherbrooke Streetscaping

The new redesigned storm water infrastructure, Main Street and 16 Main Street grading and paving, and sidewalks and curbing are complete. The Sherbrooke Public library entryways and gathering space stonework is complete and the final stages of beautification to the parking lot and the library have commenced with placement of a conversation set, welcome benches and planters. Plants and flowers are now placed in their respective garden boxes. Reporting for funding partners has been submitted. The final touches including parking lot line painting and erection of No Parking signs on Main St. has begun. Funding has been received from the Nova Scotia Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage's ACCESS-ability program to install accessible handrails on both entrances of the library with estimated completion this September.

EV Charging Stations

The municipal charging Stations are available for use and have been added to widely used Charge Station Apps with information about surrounding amenities. Local public postings with Electric Vehicle and Charging Station information been shared on local and provincial communications channels in May 2023 and again in July ahead of the long weekend in August. The Municipal EV Charging Stations have seen a variety of EVs visit Sherbrooke and Port Bickerton including most models of Tesla, Ford F-150 Lightnings, Hyundai Ionics and Konas, Chevrolet Bolts, KIA EV6s.

Source Water Protection Plan

Protecting the sources of our drinking water is a cornerstone of *A Drinking Water Strategy for Nova Scotia*. The strategy provides the framework for managing drinking water supplies across the province using a multiple-barrier approach to clean, safe drinking water. The original St. Mary's Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP) was created with a committee of Stakeholders. Since the plan's inception, interns have participated in its creation and implementation. The

2023 Clean Foundation Intern has completed the hybrid position of Source Water Protection Plan Coordinator in August. They have completed the review and gap analysis of the existing plan and review of previous goals and objectives. The Intern has researched, amended the current plan and developed a monitoring plan while creating awareness for the protected area and how the community can contribute to its protection. The new Source Water Protection Advisory Committee has started the review process on August 14th, 2023. The Committee will meet again on September 11, 2023. The feedback from the advisory committee will be incorporated into the SWPP. The Source Water Protection Plan Coordinator set-up an information booth for River Days, a presentation for Summer Day Camp as well as creating flyers, posters and newsletter contributions to raise awareness of Source Water Protection.

Tourism Guysborough County Association

The board of the Tourism Guysborough County Association (TGCA) is awaiting data from Tourism Nova Scotia's Voice of the Visitor program. The questionnaire has been released to past visitors for their feedback. The VisitGuysborough.ca website is undergoing updates in partnership with Guysborough Business Development Partnership. Funding (\$15,000) has been awarded through the Nova Scotia Tourism Digital Assistance Program (TDAP) to Tourism Guysborough County to assist with digital adoption including Website Design & Development, Copywriting, Photography, Search Engine Optimization (SEO) and Online Booking which will highlight all communities in Guysborough County. A web developer contract has been awarded and preliminary user features have been approved. A physical & digital asset inventory has been created to determine gaps and funding focus, photography and copy writing is underway.

Guysborough County Housing Network (GCHN)

GCHN has paused the implementation of a website for Guysborough County that will provide resources, information including programs available to homeowners, community organizations and resources related to intersecting needs such as food security, mental health, poverty, health issues and others. The GCHN presented to Council on May 17th, 2023, where the GCHN representative outlined the necessity for becoming a non-profit housing association while highlighting specific housing needs identified from the Service Based Homelessness Count Report, Fall and Spring Workshops. The Spring Workshop was held on Friday, May 5th, 2023 at the Chedabucto Lifestyle Centre in Guysborough with residents and business owners from St. Mary's attending. A public engagement event for Housing Needs in St. Mary's was held on Saturday, June 17th, 2023. The next GCHN meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 16th, 2023, at 2pm. New members from St. Mary's are welcome to join the network and upcoming board positions for the formation of a non-profit housing association.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Property Taxation:

Staff continued to serve residents and assist with property tax payments, with the due date for the 2023/24 Taxes being July 31st, 2023. Interest on overdue accounts was applied in early August which included the 2023/2024 outstanding. Staff continued to process updates received from PVSC regarding address changes, property title changes and appeals.

Property Taxes Collected:

By fiscal year as of August 31st, 2023

- 2023-2024 Taxes – 85.98% Collected
- 2022-2023 Taxes – 96.10% Collected
- 2021-2022 Taxes – 98.16% Collected
- 2020-2021 Taxes – 99.05% Collected
- 2019-2020 Taxes – 96.89% Collected

Financial Statements and Reporting:

Completed monthly bank reconciliations/ financials and prepared reports along with processed accounts payable, receivables and various invoicing as required. Assisted the Community Development and Recreation Department with provincial grant reporting.

Committee/Policy Work:

Continuation of presentation of the new Human Resource Policy to council at the COTW in August.

Human Resources:

Completed bi-weekly and monthly payroll procedures and remittances. Completed staff schedules, position interviewers, orientation binders, timesheet summaries, ROE's, as needed/required.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Human Resources

Currently training staff in the water utility and wastewater sections with the intention that staff obtain additional certificates/credentials in the field. This month, Tim Wilson and Brennan Mackay have successfully passed their 2nd Class Refrigeration exams and are now qualified to operate the ice plant at the Recplex. Tim Wilson has also been training in the day to day operation of the water and wastewater treatment facilities.

Sherbrooke Water Utility

Public works has been working diligently to try to increase the efficiency of the Water Treatment Facility. Public Works along side of the Sherbrooke Village maintenance staff identified a water leak at the exhibition center and have repaired the leak. Public Works also identified that the cushion tanks located inside the water plant have become flooded. Public Works drained all 4 tanks, installed 2 additional cushion tanks, replaced 1 faulty cushion tank and recharged all tanks. This will allow the system to run with much less pressure fluctuations which will lead to less water hammer effect on the distribution system.

Sherbrooke Sewer Treatment

Public Works continues to monitor the equalization pumps at the sewer treatment facility. The pumps have been running steady for the past month. Although still tripping every four to five days, when they trip there is a substantial amount of rags plugging the pumps. Public Works discovered a pipe rupture in the hospital road lift station. Although it is still keeping up with the flow, Public Works is in the process of having the piping replaced or repaired. Mackenzie Septic are scheduled to come and investigate the source of the leak inside the lift station as they are equipped with the proper confined space entry equipment. The new pump for the lift station has been ordered with an approximate 11 week delivery time frame. Public Works have also installed the new lift station pump for the Sonora Road lift station. Public Works have also pulled the lift station pumps on the main street lift station and cleared the pumps of debris.

Recplex Facility

Public Works staff are currently monitoring the repair of the Recplex. A&T Construction were awarded the tender for repair of the wall and replacement of the wood siding with steel siding. The annual sprinkler testing has been completed at the Recplex. Public Works staff are currently starting to prepare the Recplex for the upcoming season.

Transfer Station

Public Works staff has barricaded off two buildings at the Transfer Station as a result of severe damage which occurred during hurricane Fiona. Public Works is still working with the public to ensure that normal operation of the facility occurs while we await further direction of where we go with the buildings. The new monitoring well has been installed at the Transfer Station. Public Works is now awaiting the tender for the design of Cell #6 to be awarded in order to move to the next stage of having the C&D pile buried. The tender for the demolition of the damaged buildings at the Transfer Station has been awarded to Verhagen Demolition. Verhagen demolition is to have this scope of work completed prior to September 15, 2023. The tender for the construction of the new Transfer Station building is still active.

Department of Environment Annual Directives

Public Works have received the final draft of the SAR report and have also received communication from DOE for an action plan to remedy the issues observed.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

New Active Living Coordinator

Tyler MacLaughlin was hired as the new Active Living Coordinator for the Municipality in August. Tyler is returning to the Community Development and Recreation Department after a number of years. Tyler worked for the Municipality as a Summer Day Camp Leader and Summer Manager for a number of years. Tyler has a number of projects and initiatives already underway and looks forward to working with staff and council.

Fitness Centre Fob Program

A new treadmill was purchased over the summer for the St. Mary's Fitness Centre with funding from the Province of Nova Scotia through the Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage. As there is only room for two treadmills in the facility, the department issued a call for sealed bids on a surplus Treadmill. The winning bidder will be required to move the treadmill from the facility within two weeks.

Community Library Boxes

Staff are currently working on developing a contract with a local woodworker who submitted a quote to build 6 wooden community library boxes. It is hoped that boxes will be able to be completed by the end of October. Installation of boxes will depend on staff capacity and weather.

Goshen Soccer Skills Program

The Goshen Soccer Program came to an end on August 25th, 2023. Organizers were able to host a weekly program throughout the summer, with some weather disruptions. Overall, the program received great feedback from parents and the community. The Municipality was successful in receiving a Sport Nova Scotia Sportfund Grant to support the purchase of all of the equipment needed to host the program. The program was sponsored by the Timbits Program, which provided players with jerseys, socks, shorts and medals to each participant.

Before and After Program

25 children are currently registered for the upcoming 2023/24 Before and After Program. The program begins on the first day of school, September 6th, 2023 and runs until June 26th, 2024. Before and After is a paid program open to families with children in grades pre-primary to grade 6 and takes place in the after school time period only. The program is funded by the Province of Nova Scotia.

St. Mary's Active Transportation Plan

UPLAND Planning and Design has been hired to complete an Active Transportation Plan for the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's. The project is currently in phase 1, which is the discover phase of the project. To date, a start-up meeting has been held, UPLAND consultants made a site visit and a project launch presentation to council at the August 2nd Committee of the Whole meeting and have completed a draft "Background Report". Work on phase 2 has begin, which is focused on engagement and communication with the public. This phase will result in the "What We Heard" report, which will be included in the final report.

Summer Day Camp

Summer Day Camp came to a close on August 24th, 2023 for the season. The program had much success over the summer, with roughly 40 children being registered and attending at different times over the summer. Some children attended full time while others attending on a part time basis. There were many great partnerships developed for the program in August, including a visit to the Sherbrooke Library where 18 children were registered to receive a library card, visits from Watermill Grove, CBDC, local artisan Meghan Jordan and the Clean Foundation. The program also visited the St. Mary's River Association and the Liscombe Lodge. A program end survey was created for parents to provide feed back and staff have already started to develop programming for next year based on successes or identified areas of improvement from this year.

Guysborough County 55+ Games

The Guysborough County 55+ Games is a two day event that takes place at the Liscombe Lodge each year. The event offers seniors an opportunity to compete in a number of activities such as cards, board games and outdoor activities. Planning continues for this year's Guysborough County 55+ Games which will take place on October 4th and 5th. The Organizing committee for this event is made up of recreation departments from the three municipal units in Guysborough County and senior volunteers. This year's event contract with the Liscombe Lodge has been finalized and staff are working on collecting registration forms from seniors across the county.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Planning is underway for a number of initiatives for the Municipality to honour National Truth and Reconciliation Day on September 30th, 2023. Every Child Matters banners have been ordered to install on the power poles in Sherbrooke in advance of the 30th. Staff from the Community Development and Recreation and Economic Development departments will be speaking with an elder who has agreed to assist in the creation of a commemorative plaque honouring victims and survivors of Residential Schools in Canada. Finally, a group of local organizations have come together with a common goal of gathering local history of indigenous people in St. Mary's. The Municipality will join with the Sherbrooke Village, St. Mary's Genealogy Society and the St. Mary's River



Association to collectively work on a research project to begin to learn more about the history of the Mi'kmaw in St. Mary's.

Active Communities Fund

The Active Communities Fund supports community-wide initiatives to encourage less-structured physical activity and movement. The Community Development and Recreation Department has been working on a comprehensive list of projects that align with the Active Living Strategy. A funding application will be submitted for consideration in September.

Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage Meeting

The Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage (CCTH) helps businesses and communities grow by providing program and event funding for arts, culture and heritage, sport and recreation and cultural identity and languages. Community Development and Recreation Department staff met at the Antigonish CCTH Offices in August for staff introductions and a day of idea generating and to receive advice on current and upcoming projects.