



# Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Committee of The Whole (COTW) Meeting

Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025,

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

## **1. Meeting, Date & Time:**

Warden Fuller called the COTW Meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council to order on Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 6:20pm. in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, N.S.

## **2. Attending:**

Warden James Fuller  
Deputy Warden Beulah Malloy  
Councillor Dana O'Connell  
Councillor Scott Beaver  
Councillor Emma Tibbo

## **Also Attending:**

Lesley McFarlane, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)  
Jadzia Rudolph, Municipal Clerk

## **3. Additions to the Agenda:**

- There were no additions to the agenda.

## **4. Approval of the Agenda:**

*On the motion of Councillor O'Connell and seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council approved the agenda as presented.*

***Motion approved.***

## **5. Approval of Minutes:**

*On the motion of Warden Fuller, hearing no errors or omission to the previous minutes, Council approved the minutes of the COTW Meeting held October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.*

***Motion approved.***

## **6. Business Arising from the Minutes:**

- There was no business arising from the minutes.

## **7. Correspondence:**

- a. St. Mary's Memorial Hospital Society – Letter
  - Please see the Agenda/Package for the report.
  - Correspondence was received regarding St. Mary's Memorial Hospital Society requesting a letter of support for a new hospital as well as a nursing home to be built in the community.
  - Council agreed that Warden Fuller can draft a letter to be reviewed by the members of Council and send off to the society.
- b. Department of Municipal Affairs - Amendments Clarify Code of Conduct for Elected Officials - News Release
  - Please see the Agenda/Package for the report.

- Correspondence was received regarding the amendment to the Code of Conduct policy such as refining the language to enhance clarity and reduce the administrative burden and protect against potential misuse.
  - Amendments to the regulations clarify:
    - complaints may be made by a council member related to the conduct of another elected official in the same municipality.
    - council members may not submit a complaint on behalf of another person or entity.
    - multiple complaints may not be submitted by a council member on the same subject.
  - Staff will review the changes and make recommendations regarding changes needed to the municipality's Code of Conduct policy.
- c. Department of Municipal Affairs – Municipal Modernization Act Amendments - Letter
- Please see the Agenda/Package for the report.
  - On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 the Municipal Modernization Act received Royal assent in the Nova Scotia Legislature, the act includes amendments to the *Municipal Government Act*, *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*, *Halifax Regional Water Commission Act*, *Municipal Elections Act*, *Municipal Grants Act*, and the *Housing in the Halifax Regional Municipality Act*. The *Municipal Modernization (2025) Act* also includes a new *Transportation Corridors Control Act*.
  - Amendments to the Municipal Government Act (MGA)
    - Tax reductions due to natural disasters
    - Establishment of childcare centres areas
    - Allowing tax sale payments to be made electronically
  - Amendments to the HRM Charter & Halifax regional Water Commission Act
    - Ministerial authority to mandate planning documents
    - Sire plan to external appearance of structures HRM wide
    - Enable bonds and liens to be applied to municipal permit fees
    - Cogswell energy district authority
  - Amendments to the Municipal Grant Act
    - Removal of requirement for Governor in Council approval for annual Municipal Financial Capacity Grant allocations
  - Amendments to the Municipal Elections Act
    - Allowing returning officers to vote
    - Amend Elector Eligibility Trigger Date
    - Provide Optional Methods for Public Notice
    - Elector Privacy
  - Amendments to the Housing in the Halifax Regional Municipality Act Amendments
    - Remove barriers on development in Special Planning Areas
    - Update legislative requirements for public notification
  - New – Transportation Corridors Control Act
    - Enables the Province to designate priority transportation projects and their corridors to safeguard land for future transportation and infrastructure development, especially in urbanizing areas, and streamline coordination among government departments, landowners, municipalities, developers, and utility companies.

## **8. Other Matters of Business:**

- a. Main Street, Sherbrooke – Crosswalk

- A recent pedestrian incident at the intersection of Highway #7 and Main Street highlighted the importance of creating a crosswalk to increase safety for pedestrians crossing from the Clover Farm grocery store to the store parking lot.
- Staff recommended that staff reach out to the Department of Transportation Infrastructure and Renewables (TIR) to investigate costs and feasibility of installing a crosswalk across Main Street between Clover Farm grocery store and the store's parking lot. Council suggested that staff look into a crosswalk with amber lighting as an immediate solution and contact Sobeys as the owner of Clover Farm grocery store to contribute to the costs. Council expressed interest in a full review of ways to improve safety along Main Street as a subsequent activity, potentially including but not limited to more restrictive speed limits.
- Staff are also requesting Council direct staff to invite Provincial Department of Public Works (Department of Transportation Infrastructure and Renewables) to resume regular attendance at COTW meetings. Council agreed this would be important to get updates and ask questions.


*On motion of Councillor Beaver seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council direct staff to investigate all options and avenues for pedestrian safety at the intersection of Highway 7 and Mainstreet in front of the local grocery store (Clover Farm).*

**Motion approved.**

## **Adjournment**

*On motion of Warden Fuller there being no further matters of business, Council adjourned at 6:41pm.*

**Motion approved.**

  
 Recorded By  
 Jadzia Rudolph, Municipal Clerk

  
 Approved By  
 Warden Fuller

