



NOTICE

MEETING: St Mary's Municipal Council
Committee of the Whole

DATE: Wednesday, September 3rd, 2025

TIME: 6:00 pm

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

Please advise if unable to attend



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's
Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, September 3rd, 2025

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 of the Committee of the Whole held July 16th, 2025
 6. Business Arising from Minutes
 - a. Flag Policy
 7. Presentation: Access Wellness Program – Rob Wolf, Nova Scotia Health & Wellness
 8. Correspondence:
 - a. 2024-2025 Annual Report - Property Valuation Services Corporation
 - b. Code of Conduct Training – Paul LaFleche, Deputy Minister Dept. of Municipal Affairs
 - c. Community Impact Report – Eastern Counties Regional Library
 - d. Provincial Heritage Property – Dept. of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage
 - e. Value for Money Audit of NS Firefighters School – Hon. John Lohr, Minister of Dept. of Municipal Affairs
 - f. Thank You Email – Dr. Ackermann & Dr. McLean – Doctor Recruitment
 - g. Thank You Card – Ava Anderson – Financial Award Scholarship
 9. Other Matters of Business
 - a. Staff Report - Provincial Volunteer Awards Ceremony
 - b. Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities - Fall Conference – Attendance
 - c. Department of Public Works – J Class Road Submissions
 - d. Staff Report – Recplex Flooring
 - e. Staff Report – ZZAP Housing Policy Recommendations
 10. In- Camera: Contract Negotiations
- Adjournment



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Committee of The Whole (COTW) Meeting

Wednesday, July 16th, 2025

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, July 16th, 2025, at 5:24pm. in the Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, N.S.

2. Attending:

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

Absent with Regrets:

Councillor Emma Tibbo

Also Attending:

Marian Fraser, Director of Finance (DOF) & Interim CAO
Jadzia Rudolph, Municipal Clerk
Mallory Fraser, Director of Community Development and Recreation

3. Additions to the Agenda:

- Addition to #7. Correspondence item D. Thank You Card - Shelby Hayne.

4. Approval of the Agenda:

On the motion of Councillor Beaver and seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council approved the agenda with the addition.

Motion approved.

5. Approval of Minutes:

The Warden called for errors or omissions to the previous minutes, hearing none, Council approved the minutes of the COTW Meeting held July 2nd, 2025.

Motion approved.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. Correspondence:

- a. Department of Justice – Comprehensive Policing Review
 - Please see the Agenda/Package for the correspondence.
- b. Emergency Services Provider Fund - Regional Fire Fund
 - Please see the Agenda/Package for the correspondence.
- c. Thank You Card – SMECA Scholarship - Ursula Riviera
 - Please see the Agenda/Package for the correspondence.

- d. Thank You Card – SMECA Scholarship - Shelby Hayne
- Please see the Agenda/Package for the correspondence.

8. Presentation: Provincial Library Funding Update - Laura Emery, Executive Director Eastern Counties Regional Library

- Please see the Agenda/Package for the presentation.
- Laura Emery informed Council of the financial situation, on-going staffing challenges, and the need for improving services that the Sherbrooke Library is currently facing.
- Laura Emery informed Council that quarterly reports will be provided to ensure Council stays aware of the Sherbrooke Library services.
- Laura asked for a letter of support emphasizing the library's critical role as a foundational asset in the Municipality of St. Mary's contributing significantly to education, access to information, and community engagement. Council agreed to provide a letter of support.

9. Other Matters of Business:

- a. Staff Report – Proposed Flag Policy Amendments
- Staff provided an overview of the amendments to the Flag Policy as outlined in the attached staff report.
- Staff requested that Council review the flags listed in Appendix A – Approved Flags and consider if any flags should be added or removed.
- Council directed staff to remove Section 5.4.
- Council highlighted an administrative error in Section 7.1.

On recommendation of Councillor Beaver seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council approve the Flag Policy with the removal of section 5.4 and the non-substantive changes to section 7.1.

Recommendation adopted.

- b. Staff Report – Guysborough County Regional Emergency Management Office (REMO)
- Please see the attached staff report.
- Marian Fraser, Director of Finance & Interim CAO informed Council of the new requirements for municipalities to become a part of a Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO) for Guysborough County.
- This will require the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's to join with the Municipality of Guysborough and the Municipality of Mulgrave and create an intermunicipal agreement for the shared service

10. In-Camera: Contract Negotiations

On motion of Councillor O'Connell seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council agree to move In-Camera for Contract Negotiations at 6:26pm.

Motion approved.

On motion of Councillor O'Connell seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council agree to reconvene to regular session at 7:22pm.

Motion approved.

On recommendation of Councillor Beaver seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council accept the grant funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and sign the contract for the Climate Ready Plan and Process Fund – Climate Risk Assessment and Adaptation Planning.

Recommendation adopted.

Adjournment

On motion of Warden Fuller, there being no further matters of business, Council adjourned at 7:23pm.

Motion approved.

Recorded By
Jadzia Rudolph, Municipal Clerk

Approved By
Warden Fuller

Flag Policy

Department of Community Development & Recreation

SUMMARY

The Flag Policy outlines clear procedures for the display of flags on municipal flagpoles within the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's.

BACKGROUND

The Flag Policy was adopted in July 2024. Since the policy was adopted staff identified that the existing policy was not operationally effective. As a result, revisions have been made to improve functionality and were presented to Council at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on July 16th. Council provided staff direction conduct additional research and to make further edits.

The following recommendation was made at the COTW on July 16th, 2025;

On recommendation of Councillor Beaver seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council approve the Flag Policy with the removal of section 5.4 and the non-substantive changes to section 7.1.

MAJOR CHANGES BY SECTION

1. Purpose – Unchanged
2. Authority – Unchanged
3. Scope – Unchanged
4. Definitions – Added the definition for "First Responder"
5. Flag Protocol – Removed section 5.4
6. Procedure for flying flags at half mast – Unchanged
7. Requests for Raising Flags – Unchanged, non-substantive changes
8. Special Days – Added section
9. Policy Review and Amendments – Unchanged

CONSIDERATIONS

Staff conducted research and found that there are currently no nationally recognized flags associated with either Remembrance Day or the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

RECOMMENDATIONS

This report has been prepared for follow up to the recommendation made at the COTW on July 16th, 2025. If council has no further proposed changes to the Flag Policy no further recommendation is required at this time and the one from July 16th will move forward to the Regular Council meeting on September 17th, 2025. If additional changes are proposed a new recommendation would be required.

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear practices regarding flags to be flown on municipal properties and the procedures for flying flags.

2. Authority

This policy derives its authority from section 48 (3) of the *Municipal Government Act (MGA)*.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all flags flown on municipally owned flag poles.

4. Definitions

- 4.1 *CAO* – the Chief Administration Officer of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's.
- 4.2 *Commercial Entities* – for profit organizations or businesses that are not affiliated with government bodies, non-profits, or community groups and whose primary purpose is commercial activity such as selling goods or services.
- 4.3 *Council* – the Council of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's.
- 4.4 *Equity Seeking Group* – groups that identify barriers to equal access, opportunities and resources due to disadvantage and discrimination and actively seek social justice and reparation.
- 4.5 *First Responder* – includes volunteers and professionals who are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property and the environment during an emergency such as police, firefighters, military personnel, auxiliary coast guard members, paramedics, dispatchers, doctors, nurses, medical evacuation pilots, mental health providers, emergency managers, tow truck drivers and ground search and rescue volunteers.
- 4.6 *Political Parties* – organized groups of people who share similar political beliefs, values, or goals and work together to influence public policy, win elections, and govern.
- 4.7 *Religious Organizations* – groups or organizations formed around shared beliefs, practices and systems of faith or worship.

5. Flag Flying Protocol

- 5.1 Only one flag is to be displayed per municipal flagpole.
- 5.2 The Canadian Flag should be given the place of honour and as such no flag should be flown or displayed above the Canadian Flag. The Canadian Flag shall be flown on the 30-foot pole located at 8296 Highway 7, Sherbrooke, Nova Scotia. The Canadian Flag on this pole shall not be substituted for any other flag.

- 5.3 Flags should be the standard size of three feet by five feet.
- 5.4 One additional flag may be flown at the second flagpole located at the intersection of Old Road Hill and Highway 7.
- 5.5 The Municipality of the District of St. Marys shall not fly the following flags that are:
 - 5.5.1 Political or partisan in nature including political parties and organizations,
 - 5.5.2 Promote hatred, racism, violence, or discrimination of any kind, or
 - 5.5.3 Represent religious organizations or commercial entities.

6. Procedure for Flying Flags at Half Mast

- 6.1 In keeping with the Federal and Provincial protocol, flags will be lowered to half-mast on the occasions provided annually by the Province of Nova Scotia Protocol and Honours Secretariat.
- 6.2 Flags flown on municipal flag poles will be flown at half mast to mark the passing of specific individuals for a period beginning when the Municipality is notified of the individual's death until sunset on the day of funeral or if there is to be a memorial service the half-masting should take place from the time of notification of death until sunset the following day and from sunrise to sunset on the day of the memorial service.
- 6.3 Flags on all Municipal Flagpoles will be lowered to half-mast on the day of passing until sunset on the day of the funeral, in memory of the following people:
 - 6.3.1 The sovereign or a member of the sovereign's immediate family,
 - 6.3.2 The Governor General of Canada,
 - 6.3.3 The Prime Minister of Canada,
 - 6.3.4 A former Prime Minister of Canada,
 - 6.3.5 The Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Nova Scotia,
 - 6.3.6 The Member of Parliament for the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's,
 - 6.3.7 The current member of the Legislative Assembly of Nova Scotia who represents the Municipality of St. Mary's,
 - 6.3.8 A current or former municipal councillor of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's,
 - 6.3.9 An individual who is or was an employee of the Municipality for a period of at least 5 years, upon their passing,
 - 6.3.10 A member of the Canadian Armed Forces whose life is lost while on active duty, and
 - 6.3.11 A Municipal First Responder who dies in the line of duty.

7. Requests for Raising Flags

- 7.1 Individuals and organizations may request to hold a flag raising and to have a flag raised on the municipal flagpole on a one-time basis or an annual basis. Approved flags will be added to *Appendix A* of this policy.
- 7.2 Flag raising ceremonies may be held at the flagpole located at the intersection of Old Road Hill and Highway 7.

- 7.3 Requests shall be made using *Form A - Application for Flying a Flag*. The form must be submitted to the Municipal Office a minimum of 60 days prior to the flag raising event. Staff will review applications for approval and notify the applicant within 10 business days of receiving the application.
- 7.4 Those that make an application for flying a flag and are successful shall be responsible for providing the appropriate flag to the Municipality in the standard size of 3 feet by five feet prior to the flag raising.
- 7.5 The Municipality will notify the community in advance of the raising of honour flags. Details will be shared publicly through the Municipality's website and official social media platforms.
- 7.6 The Municipality reserves the right to reject any request that does not comply with the Municipality's policies or bylaws.

8. Special Days

Flags will be Half-masted on all Municipal Flagpoles from sunrise to sunset on the following days:

- 8.1 April 28, Day of Mourning for Persons Killed or Injured in the Workplace (Workers' Mourning Day),
- 8.2 June 23, National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism,
- 8.3 Second Sunday in September, Firefighters' National Memorial Day,
- 8.4 Last Sunday in September, Police and Peace Officers' National Memorial Day,
- 8.5 September 30, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation,
- 8.6 November 11, Remembrance Day,
- 8.7 December 6, National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women,
- 8.8 April 9, Vimy Ridge Day.

9. Policy Review & Amendments

This policy shall be reviewed by Council at least once every four years. All amendments to this policy shall be recorded using *Schedule A- Policy Amendments*.

Municipal Clerk

Date

SCHEDULE A
POLICY AMENDMENTS

Version #	Amendment Description	Approved By	Approval Date
1	Adoption of Policy	Council	July 8 th 2024
2	Amendments to Sections 2, 3,4, 5, 6, 7 & 8	Council	

DRAFT

APPENDIX A APPROVED FLAGS

Date	Recognition	Flags
Last Week of May starting on the last Sunday	Access Awareness Week	Access Awareness Flag
August 1	Emancipation Day	Pan African Flag
June	Pride Month	Progress Pride Flag
November 13-19	Transgender Awareness Week	Transgender Flag
March 31	International Transgender Day of Visibility	Transgender Flag
February	African Heritage Month	Pan African Flag/African Nova Scotia Flag
September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	Mi'kmaq Grand Council Flag
June 21	National Aboriginal Day	Mi'kmaq Grand Council Flag
October	Mi'kmaq History Month	Mi'kmaq Grand Council Flag
August 15	National Acadian Day	Acadian Flag

FORM A

APPLICATION FOR FLYING A FLAG ON A MUNICIPAL FLAGPOLE

Please note: To have an application considered by Council, this form must be submitted at least 60 days prior to the date requested. Once a decision has been reached, you will be advised through the contact information you provide below. Approved applicants must provide the flag noted in their application at least two business days prior to the date of the flag being flown and will be requested to provide a jpg/png file of the flag, along with promotional text/media release information.

Applicant Name & Organization if Applicable

Flag to be Flown.

Significance of the Flag. If additional space is required, please attach information to the application form. This information may be used in St. Mary's social media posts regarding the flag being flown.

Do you plan on having a flag raising ceremony? If yes, please share the details.

Contact Person: Please provide first and last name, email and phone number.

Signature of Applicant

Date

DRAFT



access
wellness
nova scotia

*Single Session Counselling Support
for Nova Scotians*

St. Mary's Council
September 3, 2025

Funded by:





access
wellness
nova scotia

Rob Wolf, M.Ed. Counselling, CCC.

***Senior Clinical Manager,
Access Wellness Program***

Funded by:





What is Access Wellness?

Single Session counselling support for Nova Scotians provided in person, telephonically, and over video (Microsoft Teams).

Single-session counsellors provide support for mental health and/or substance use concerns, including emotional support, strategies for dealing with short-term distress, feedback, ideas on how to make positive changes, and referrals.

There is no out-of-pocket fee for this service. It is covered by NS Health.

Office Locations and Hours

TELUS Health Counsellors are based out of 4 offices across Nova Scotia.

We have the capacity to offer approximately 180 appointments a week, across all modalities (in person, tele, video) & sites.

Hours vary by site and day of the week;
Typically:

- 9am to 8pm Monday-Thursday
- 9am-5pm Friday
- 9am-1pm Saturday.



Who can Access Wellness support?

Nova Scotians;

Aged 18+;

Individuals, couples and families (all must be 18+);

Who are experiencing mild to moderate mental health and/or addictions issues, such as:

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Stress
- Marriage/relationship issues
- Parenting
- Life transitions
- Sexuality
- Grief and loss
- Addictions and substance use concerns
- Anger management
- Self-esteem/self-image
- Other personal concerns or life challenges



The Access Wellness Team

Access Wellness providers are Master's level Registered Counselling Therapists and Social Workers. They work from a **trauma-informed, strengths-based lens** and utilize a variety of approaches including:

- Solution Focused Brief Therapy (SFBT)
- Motivational Interviewing
- Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT)
- Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT)
- Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT)

A Clinical Manager supports the team with case consultation and professional development opportunities.



Benefits of Single-Session Model

Research into the efficacy of single-session therapy indicates that ***it can be highly effective.***

Many people who have received a one-off session reported feeling better after the session and said it ***helped them understand their problems and develop coping skills.***

It is a great entry point and can break barriers and the stigma sometimes associated with therapy and mental health support. ***We make it easy to take the first step.***

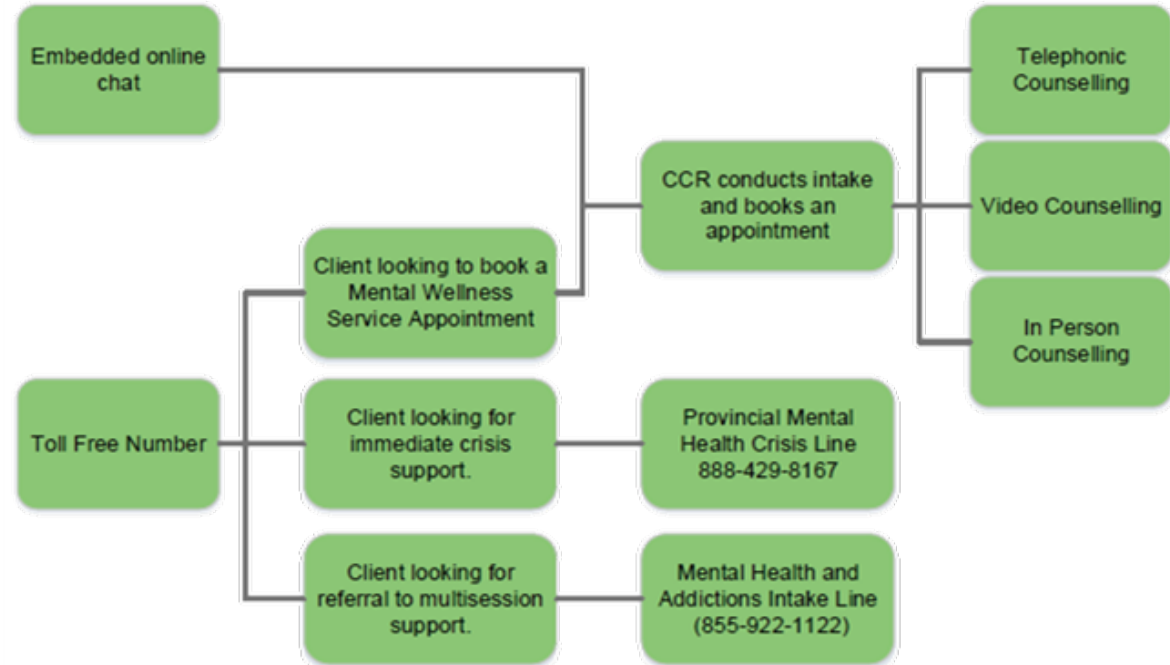


It is a brief intervention where you can ***receive focused and actionable insights*** without the commitment of multiple sessions.

Can provide ***quick relief of symptoms of anxiety, stress, low mood and depression*** by focusing on the issue that's bothering you and developing a plan to address it.



Access Wellness Intake Pathway



Pre and Post Tools and Resources

Clients will receive an email confirmation of their appointment, verifying their details.

We request that clients fill out a **pre-assessment booklet** that includes a brief description of the service, statement of understanding (consent), PHQ-4 questionnaire and Description of issues/goals etc.

Clients will leave the appointment with a **Personal Action Plan**, including date of Session, goals identified and next steps. Community resources will be included as appropriate.



Hello Jon Smith,

Thank you for selecting the Access Wellness service. Please find a link to the Client Booklet that was discussed with you during your recent call.

[Client Booklet](#)

Please take the time to fill out the online form to the best of your ability. Once you have completed it, the information will be sent to your provider prior to your appointment.

Should you have any questions regarding the pre-assessment, please speak with your counsellor on your first scheduled appointment.

If you need to cancel or reschedule your [appointment](#) please contact us at 1.888.429.8167 or visit accesswellness.ca

Thank you,

Access Wellness Team



Risk Assessment and Process

Client Care Representative (CCR) Risk Question:

“At the moment, do you have reason to believe that yours or someone else’s safety is at risk? That would include thoughts of harm to yourself or others.”

Once someone is identified as at risk the CCR would complete a warm transfer to the Provincial Mental Health Crisis Line.

Who can Access Wellness **not** support?

Clients at risk of harm to self or others. These callers will be redirected to MH&A Crisis Line. Clients in acute distress who need the immediate support of a clinician will be redirected to MH&A Crisis Line

On-going or longer-term counselling will be referred to other resources, including MH&A Intake line, private counsellors and community programs

Clients who **require a more intensive and/or more specialized intervention** than can be provided within the scope of a single session model

Clients who **appear to be under the influence of substances**, ie alcohol or drugs, will not be seen for their appointment, but can call to reschedule for a time that they will not be under the influence

Clients who **decline to participate in a single session** support program



Why are we reaching out to you?

St. Mary's Municipal Council is a vitally important generator of services and communication within the Municipality. You also come into contact with many people and have insight into the mental health needs of our citizens. We at Access Wellness would be glad to provide no cost support to people who need it!

How to contact Access Wellness

Online Intake Option

Chat with our intake team to book an appointment or be redirected to other resources, as appropriate.

This website contains information on what the service is, how to reach us, and FAQs to help assist Nova Scotian's in reaching the right service at the right time.

Telephone Intake Option

Call our toll-free number **1-833-691-2282**. Our Care Access Centre team will answer calls between 8am to 11pm, 7 days a week



accesswellnessnovascotia.ca



Questions?



Thank you



Your mental wellness **matters.**

Support is **here.**

As part of your mental health network, **Access Wellness** offers Nova Scotians quick access to a free, private counselling session and a follow-up action plan.

What we offer

- ✓ Help with personal, family, and relationship challenges
- ✓ Meet by phone, video, or in person
- ✓ Private care from trained counsellors
- ✓ Support available in English and French

We can help with many mental wellness needs, including:

- ✓ Stress
- ✓ Depression
- ✓ Anxiety
- ✓ Relationship issues
- ✓ Substance use
- ✓ Loss
- ✓ ...and more



Get free, private support today:

- Call **1-833-691-2282**
- Visit AccessWellnessNovaScotia.ca
- Scan the QR code

In a crisis? Call 1-888-429-8167 or 9-1-1.
You must be 18 or older to use this service.



July 29, 2025

Association of Municipal Administrators of Nova Scotia
c/o Kim Ramsay, President
Suite 1304
1809 Barrington St.
Halifax, NS B3J 3K8

Via Email: info@amans.ca; kramsay@easthants.ca

Dear President Ramsay:

Re: Delivery of 2024-25 Annual Report

On behalf of Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC), I am pleased to share that the 2024-25 Annual Report (for the April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025, fiscal year) is now available.

This year's Annual Report highlights our commitment to delivering exceptional service while remaining focused on the future, ensuring PVSC continues to meet its legislative obligations and support the evolving needs of the municipalities and property owners we serve.

The Report is on our website, here: [PVSC's Annual Reports | Property Valuation Services Corporation](#)

Sincerely,



Joseph Feeney
Chair, PVSC Board of Directors

cc: David Campbell, Executive Director, AMANS

July 23, 2025

Marian Fraser
Acting CAO
Municipality of the District of St. Mary's
Via email: marian.fraser@saint-marys.ca

Dear Marian Fraser:

As you are likely aware, the [Code of Conduct for Elected Municipal Officials Regulations](#) mandate that every councillor in Nova Scotia complete Code of Conduct training.

We are sending this correspondence as a reminder that your councillors are required to complete the Code of Conduct training provided through Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) and hosted by Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM). Please find attached a list of councillors from your municipality and their current training status, based on information provided by NSCC through NSFM. We're sharing this list to assist you in confirming that all members of council are up to date on their training obligations. **A list of those councillors that have not completed the training will be made public in September unless we hear of extenuating circumstances for individuals, so please emphasize to your council/councillors the importance of completing the training.**

We understand that some councillors have had difficulties accessing online training for various reasons. Individuals experiencing issues with technology should contact Beth McCormack at NSCC. Beth has assisted a number of councillors and commissioners through the process over the past number of months. Her contact information is: beth.mccormack@nsc.ca.

While we are very pleased with the completion rate thus far, it is critically important that every councillor complete the module. Aside from the fact that the training is mandatory, understanding the Code of Conduct is critical to the success of councillors/councils across the province. The purpose of the Code is to ensure that elected officials meet the standards of behaviour expected of them by their colleagues, municipal staff, and the public. The Code also outlines the process for investigating alleged violations, and the potential repercussions for failing to meet the applicable standards.

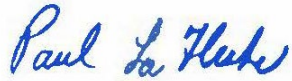
The Code of Conduct was the culmination of years of work, and something that municipalities across Nova Scotia had been requesting for some time. We kindly request your cooperation in this regard so that we can maximize awareness and appreciation of the Code, while minimizing the number of complaints. It is only with knowledge of the Code that councillors can avoid actions that may be in violation of its provisions.

Marian Fraser
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If you have any questions or concerns with the Code or anything contained in this correspondence, please contact Nick Barr, Director of Governance & Advisory Services at nick.barr@novascotia.ca or (902) 943-3090.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation.

Sincerely,



Paul LaFleche
Deputy Minister

Attached

c: James Fuller, Warden
james.fuller@saint-marys.ca

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	TOWN/MUNICIPALITY	No = Module Not Completed
O'Connell	Dana	Municipality of the District of St. Mary's	
Beaver	Scott	Municipality of the District of St. Mary's	
Tibbo	Emma	Municipality of the District of St. Mary's	
Malloy	Beulah	Municipality of the District of St. Mary's	
Fuller	James	Municipality of the District of St. Mary's (Warden)	

District of St. Mary's Community Impact Report

April-June 2025



Eastern Counties Regional Library (ECRL) is required to collect monthly statistics as per provincial reporting requirements and submits this information to the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. This information highlights community use and impact of the library services in your region.

Statistics by Location, April-June 2025

	April	May	June	Total
Circulation	102	169	158	429

	April	May	June	Total
Gate Count	162	214	188	564

	April	May	June	Total
Open Hours	90	110	100	300

Programming by Location, April-June 2025

	April	May	June	Total
Adult Programs	2	1	1	4
Adult Participation	21	12	8	41
Youth Programs	3	2	2	7
Youth Participation	10	8	7	25

Community Wellbeing @ ECRL

We display these items in public washrooms and common areas of the library to make it easy for community members to take them. Please promote these resources where possible.

Items currently available to the public for free at all ECRL branch locations:

- Diapers (size 0-8), Pull-Ups (3T-6T), baby wipes
- Menstrual Products (pads, tampons, liners)
- Incontinence Products (pads, liners, underwear)
- HIV self-test kits

We have spent approximately 80% of the grant funds allocated. Alternative funding sources and partnerships with our municipal and community partners will be needed to continue this invaluable program for our communities.

Food Security

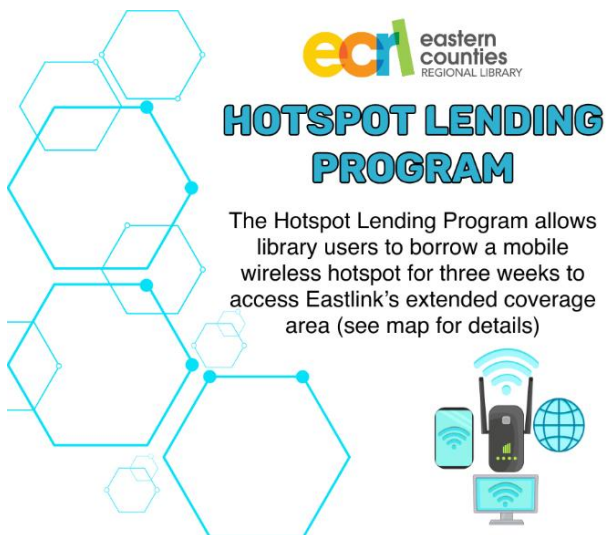
The 2025 seed library has been incredibly successful, giving away more than 10,000 seed packages across the region. These seeds will produce potentially thousands of

pounds of fresh produce to support local families and individuals in achieving food security and food sovereignty. Limited supplies are still available at most locations for your late-season planting needs!

Partnership & Programming Highlights

All Locations: Hotspot Lending Program

ECRL is thrilled to announce the return of the WiFi Hotspot Lending program, which allows library users to borrow a mobile wireless Hotspot and access wireless internet from anywhere within [Eastlink's extended coverage map](#). These Hotspots are available thanks to a partnership with [@NS](#).



All Locations: TD Summer Reading Club

Visit your local library to sign up and receive a TDSRC notebook, web access code, and punch card.

Bring your punch card when you borrow library materials - receive a sticker for each item you borrow. Collect 4 stickers and get an entry for our grand prize draw! Fill out your card and get an extra chance to win.

Participate in TDSRC library activities to receive extra stickers!

Return your punch card to your local library by September 6 to be included in the grand prize draw.

ecrl eastern
counties
REGIONAL LIBRARY

2025 TDSRC SUMMER READING CLUB

JUNE 9 - AUGUST 30



Visit your local library to register and receive your prize tracker and notebook! Borrow books, get stickers, enter to win our grand prizes!

LEARN MORE AT

[HTTPS://ECRL.CA/NEWS/2025-TD-SUMMER-READING-CLUB](https://ecrl.ca/news/2025-TD-SUMMER-READING-CLUB)



COPY

Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage
Office of the Minister

1741 Brunswick Street, PO Box 456, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2R5
Telephone 902-424-4889 • Fax 902-424-4872 • novascotia.ca

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION OF PROPERTY AS
A PROVINCIAL HERITAGE PROPERTY

RECEIVED

JUL 16 2025

TO: Sherbrooke Riverside Cemetery Association
c/o Ed Weir
9646 Highway 7
Stillwater, NS B0H 1E0

You are hereby notified that:

1. The property located at 8229 Highway 7, Sherbrooke, Guysborough County, Province of Nova Scotia, commonly referred to as the Riverside Cemetery, identified as PID 37544954, being and intended to be that property more fully described in the Schedule "A" attached hereto, has been registered in the Provincial Registry of Heritage Property by the Minister under the Heritage Property Act on June 16th, 2025.

2. The effect of registration in the Provincial Registration of Heritage Property is that no demolition or substantial alteration in exterior appearance of the property may be undertaken from the date of registration without the approval of the Governor in Council.

DATED THIS 16th day of June 2025.

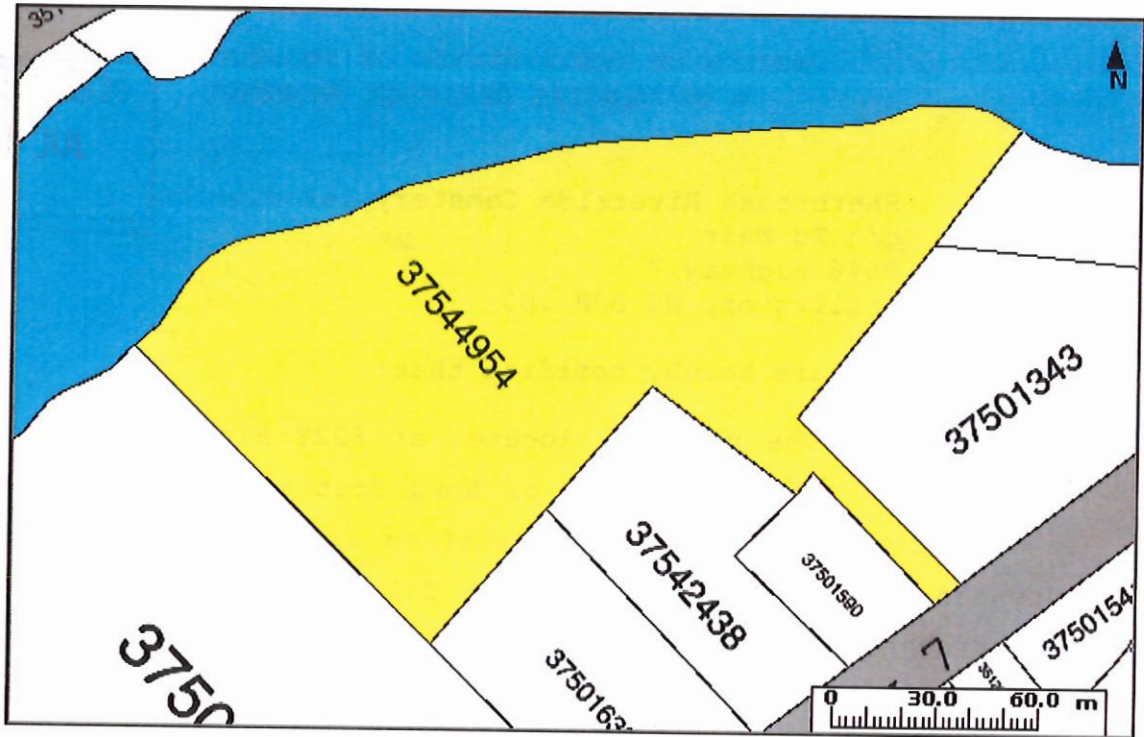
Honourable David Ritcey
Minister responsible for the Administration
of the Heritage Property Act

COPY

Property Map

8229 Highway 7, Sherbrooke, Guysborough County
PID 37544954

(the provincial heritage designation applies to the lands and several historic monuments of this property)



ALL AND SINGULAR that certain lot situated, lying and being at Sherbrooke in the District of St. Mary's, Province of Nova Scotia, said lands being shown on Plan 08-025-15A, prepared by J. Cory Sullivan, Nova Scotia Land Surveyor, dated the 27th of May 2008, being more particularly described as follows:

PREMISING that directions are full circle bearings, derived from GPS observations referenced to the Nova Scotia Coordinate Survey System and are referred to Central Meridian, 61 degrees 30 minutes West (Zone 4).

BEGINNING at a point on the northwestern limits of Highway No. 7 and being the southeastern corner of lands conveyed to Winnifred Jordan; said point also being 50 degrees 56 minutes 56 seconds and a distance of 522.512 metres from Nova Scotia Coordinate Monument No. 469;

THENCE 315 degrees 31 minutes 45 seconds a distance of 41.208 metres along lands conveyed to Winnifred Jordan to a point indicated by a survey marker;

THENCE 297 degrees 31 minutes 45 seconds a distance of 13.716 metres along lands conveyed to Winnifred Jordan to a point indicated by a nail;

THENCE 222 degrees 01 minutes 45 seconds a distance of 9.217 metres along lands conveyed to Winnifred Jordan to a point indicated by a survey marker;

THENCE 309 degrees 27 minutes 15 seconds a distance of 49.811 metres along lands of Martin Troy McLaren and Donita Marie McLaren to a point indicated by a survey marker;

THENCE 221 degrees 10 minutes 00 seconds a distance of 44.806 metres along lands of Martin Troy McLaren and Donita Marie McLaren to a point indicated by a survey marker;

THENCE 221 degrees 10 minutes 30 seconds a distance of 51.862 metres (170.15') along lands retained by Utah V. Beaver to a point indicated by a survey marker; as shown on plan no. 0010, prepared by H.J. Sullivan Surveying Ltd., dated June 22, 2000;

THENCE 315 degrees 50 minutes 50 seconds a distance of 96.926 metres (318.00') along lands of Robert M. and Lois Kelly to a point indicated by a survey marker; as shown on said plan;

THENCE 315 degrees 50 minutes 50 seconds a distance of 3 metres (10') more or less along lands of Robert M. and Lois Kelly to a point on the ordinary high water mark of St. Mary's River;

THENCE northeasterly a distance of 175 metres more or less along the ordinary high water mark of St. Mary's River to a point;

THENCE 123 degrees 55 minutes 00 seconds a distance of 22 metres more or less along lands conveyed to Nova Scotia Housing Commission to a point indicated by a survey marker;

THENCE 123 degrees 55 minutes 00 seconds a distance of 49.645 metres along lands conveyed to Nova Scotia Housing Commission to a point indicated by a survey marker;

THENCE 136 degrees 49 minutes 10 seconds a distance of 14.591 metres along lands conveyed to Nova Scotia Housing Commission to a point indicated by a survey marker;

THENCE 221 degrees 40 minutes 00 seconds a distance of 54.376 metres along lands conveyed to Nova Scotia Housing Commission to a point indicated by a survey marker;

Land Registry Office in Document No. 92300798, Book D Page 11, 1855, Book 15
Page 138, 1913 and Book 35 Page 396, 1958.

Z:\Projects\2008 Projects\08-0025 ANDERSON\DOCUMENTS\Lot 08-1.doc
Last printed 1/9/2009 11:39 AM



**Municipal Affairs
Office of the Minister**

PO Box 216, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2M4 • Telephone 902 424-5550 Fax 902 424-0581 • novascotia.ca

August 5, 2025

VIA EMAIL

To: Mayors and Wardens

Re: Value-for-money audit of the Nova Scotia Firefighters School

The Province values the crucial role fire services play in emergencies throughout the province. Firefighters put their lives at risk every day to keep Nova Scotians safe and away from harm, and in return, they deserve to be trained at a school that puts their safety first.

In June, we commissioned a comprehensive value-for-money audit into the operations and governance of the Nova Scotia Firefighters School. This letter is to inform you that we released the findings publicly today. The results were clear: the Nova Scotia Firefighters School cannot safely and effectively operate as it is.

The findings of the report were troubling. They show a consistent failure to uphold a culture of safety, and serious, unaddressed safety-related deficiencies. The report also identified a dysfunctional governance structure, outdated bylaws, non-existent committees, lack of strategic planning and a decline in infrastructure. Other issues noted in the report were lack of stakeholder engagement, inadequate oversight of the Executive Director, eroded public trust and a loss of confidence by firefighters.

As a result, the Province is ending its relationship with the school. A steering committee on firefighter training will be established in the coming weeks to oversee an interim training plan and to guide the work on a long-term comprehensive training model for firefighters once the results of a broader fire services review are in. The goal is to have the interim training available by fall.

The results of the audit will help to inform a broader fire services review focusing on governance, operations, communications, funding and more, expected in September.

Nova Scotian firefighters deserve no less.

Mayors and Wardens
Page 2

A link to the value-for-money audit report is included:
<https://beta.novascotia.ca/documents/nova-scotia-firefighters-school-audit>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Lohr".

Honourable John Lohr
Minister of Municipal Affairs

c: Chief Administrative Officers
Juanita Spencer, NSFM



James Fuller <[REDACTED]>

Thanks

2 messages

Michael Ackermann <[REDACTED]>
To: James Fuller <[REDACTED]>

Sun, Aug 17, 2025 at 8:57 PM

Warden Fuller,

I and Dr. McLean would like to thank the Municipality and all the participants of the two welcoming events put on this spring and summer to attract a NSPRAP doctor to our community.

Despite your superb efforts and excellent presentations, ultimately our community was not selected by any of the candidates.

This outcome, while disappointing, is in no way a reflection on the skills and dedication of everyone who was involved in the planning and execution of the welcoming events.

Thank you once again for your support of our medical system here in the Municipality of the District of St. Marys.

--

M.J. Ackermann, MD (Mike)
Rural General Practitioner,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

"Hope for the best, but be prepared for the worst".

** Please always use BCC and erase appended address lists when forwarding or sending to groups **

Michael Ackermann <[REDACTED]>
To: James Fuller <[REDACTED]>

Sun, Aug 17, 2025 at 8:58 PM

[Quoted text hidden]

Dear Municipality of St. Mary's,

Thank you so much for awarding me the financial award at my highschool graduation.

I am truly grateful for your generosity and support as I continue my studies in psychology at Acadia university. This award will help me pursue my goals with greater focus as I begin my next chapter.

Sincerely, Ava Andersen
SMECA 2025

Provincial Volunteer Awards Ceremony

Department of Community Development & Recreation

SUMMARY

This report requests Council's approval for the Warden or a designate to attend the 2025 Provincial Volunteer Awards Ceremony in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on September 29th, 2025. The event recognizes and celebrates outstanding contributions of volunteers from across the province. Attendance would allow the Municipality to support and honour its nominee, while demonstrating appreciation for community volunteerism.

BACKGROUND

The Provincial Volunteer Awards Ceremony is an annual event hosted by the Province of Nova Scotia to recognize and celebrate the outstanding contributions of volunteers from across the province. This event brings together volunteers, community leaders, and elected officials to honour individuals and groups who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to their communities.

Each year the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's nominates a local volunteer for recognition at this year's ceremony. Attendance by a member of Council would provide the opportunity to represent the Municipality, show appreciation to the honouree, and participate in the celebration of volunteerism in Nova Scotia.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council approve the attendance of the Warden or a designate at the 2025 Provincial Volunteer Awards Ceremony in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on September 29, 2025, with related expenses to be funded from the Council Travel & Professional Development budget.

2025 Fall Conference



Local Focus, Lasting Impact

NSFM Fall Conference

Nov. 4 - Nov. 7, 2025 • Westin Hotel, Halifax, NS

Conference Details at a Glance

The full program and registration will be available when the conference website launches in early September. In the meantime, here are some key dates to help with planning:

- **Tuesday, November 5:** Optional site tour and pre-conference session (2:00–4:00 p.m.)*; Meet and Greet Reception (7:00 p.m.)
- **Wednesday, November 6:** Conference officially opens in the morning
- **Friday, November 7:** Conference concludes at noon

*Additional fee applies for the site tour and pre-conference session.

Interested in sponsorship or exhibiting? Please contact:

Judy Webber, Director of Events and Member Development jwebber@nsfm.ca

Presenting Sponsor





Public Works

Johnston Building, 4th Floor
1672 Granville Street
PO Box 186
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 2N2

Bus: 902-424-0897
Fax: 902-424-0570
E-mail: laura.cunningham@novascotia.ca

August 12, 2025

Ms. Marian Fraser
Interim Chief Administrative Officer
Municipality of the District of St. Mary's
PO Box 296
Sherbrooke NS B0J 3C0

Dear Ms. Fraser:

RE: COST SHARE AGREEMENT 2023-020 ON THE PAVING OF SUBDIVISION (J CLASS) STREETS

The Department of Public Works expects to fund, subject to budget approval, the paving, repaving, and double chipping of Subdivision streets during the 2026-27 construction season.

Cost sharing, regardless of type of treatment (paving, repaving, or double chip), will be fifty per cent for eligible streets (50/50).

As per section 3.1 of the agreement, the Municipality must provide notice to the Province on or before October 31, 2025.

Attached, you will find a Road Submission List to be filled out electronically and returned to me electronically by October 31, 2025.

Examples of how to fill out the form are provided. Due to funding limitations, please limit your priorities to a maximum of ten candidates **and please put these in order of priority**. If any of the columns are not filled in, the list will be rejected by the Province and you will be asked to re-submit.

The submitted streets will be reviewed to verify eligibility and to determine if the condition of the proposed streets meets the minimum criteria for paving, repaving, or double chip.

Please submit this information to **my attention via email** to ensure your list will be considered for the upcoming fiscal year.

Please consider your Municipality's fiscal funding limitations when preparing your list and limit the list to only the projects the Municipality intends to fund in fiscal 2026-27.

Sincerely,

Laura Cunningham

Laura Cunningham
Capital Program Administration Officer

c: Andrew MacPherson, Construction Manager, Eastern

Recplex Flooring Replacement

SUMMARY

It has been identified that the current flooring at the St. Mary's Recplex is inadequate and unsafe during seasonal periods of the year and it is recommended that a solution be found to correct the issue.

BACKGROUND

During the summer and fall of 2024, Municipal Staff began the process of transforming the St. Mary's Recplex into a facility that can be used as an emergency shelter. Municipal Staff have also completed accessibility upgrades within the facility to make it a barrier free area for everyone to enjoy.

During inspections in the warmer months, it has been observed that the current flooring expands drastically with the warmer temperatures. This results in the mats heaving and creating several tripping hazards within the buildings. Adversely, in the winter months while the ice plant is active and it is cold within the Recplex, the mats shrink causing gaps between the mats which lead to damaged skate blades for customers who step in the cracks. Dressing rooms remain heated in the winter therefore the expansion and contracting does not occur.

CONSIDERATIONS

Quotes have been received for the installation of new 3/8" rubber flooring for the Recplex. Municipal Staff would be responsible for the removal and cleaning of the area prior to installation. This work would need to be completed while the ice plant is not running, and the building is warmer inside.

Option 1:

Replace all of flooring through out the Recplex, dressing rooms, bathrooms, main floor area, (excluding kitchen area) etc. for the quoted price of \$73,000 plus HST. This includes materials, delivery & labour/installation of 5,400 square feet. Quote was provided by Monarch Enterprises upon a site visit with staff.

Option 2:

Replace flooring in all areas of the Recplex excluding the dressing rooms and kitchen area for the quoted price of \$56,700 plus HST. This includes materials, delivery & labour/installation of 4,200 square feet. Quote was provided by Monarch Enterprises upon a site visit with staff.

Staff Report



Option 3:

Contract a contractor to remove all interior trim within the St. Mary's Recplex, trim existing matting to allow for better expansion in the warmer months and install and paint new trim throughout the building. No estimated cost at this time.

This project was originally scheduled as part of the 2024-2025 capital budget funded through provincial/federal grant funding and the capital reserve. There is currently \$51,795 left within this project budget carried forwarded from 2024-2025.

Option 1 would require an estimated \$24,125 of additional municipal capital funding, option 2 would require an additional estimated \$7,000 of municipal capital funding and option 3 costs are unknown at this time.

RECOMMENDATIONS

This report has been developed for Municipal Council to review the proposed options to help make an informed decision related to this project.

ZZAP Housing Policy Recommendations

Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF)

SUMMARY

The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's will aim to increase housing through the application of the Housing Accelerator Fund's (HAF) Initiative #2 - Permitting Enhancement of Processes, Policies & Resources and Initiative #4 Affordable Housing Incentives. St. Mary's Housing Policy will include the below detailed housing incentives.

BACKGROUND

On January 15th, 2025 a staff report was presented at the COTW to continue work with the company ZZAP that overviewed the following deliverables;

1. Summary report with research and examination/analysis of tools within various government acts including the MGA, *Municipal Government Act* and other Nova Scotia Acts to define municipal powers to encourage and incentivize housing development.
2. Working session with the municipality to present interim work for mid project direction.
3. Creation of a draft incentives policy for municipal long-term use.
4. Advice on development agreement terms and zoning/Land Use Bylaw potential updates to encourage Land Use Bylaw (LUB) support.

ZZAP presented 30 housing recommendations based on the above deliverables that would assist in progressing housing and align with the HAF projects. Based on those recommendations, seven were chosen to advance. The first recommendation was drafting a new land disposal policy incorporating a land for housing program to support residential development through below market value sale of surplus land is being completed under the January 15th proposal from ZZAP. The following six recommendations listed below are proposed to be completed by ZZAP Architecture & Planning at a quoted price of \$13,500 plus HST. The quoted price to complete the work on the recommendation and advance the HAF initiatives are within the HAF budget and grant funding.

2A- Waive minimum parking requirements for affordable housing projects.

- review affordability definition and provide recommendation
- prep intent/preamble text, prep amendment to the MPS, review/input
- finalized amendment for adoption
- insert into new Housing policy document

2E -Template Development Agreement document to mitigate risk for developers and reduce approval timelines & cost.

- prep intent/preamble text
- gather sample development agreements
- identify priority sections, test against St. Marys needs, prep draft document
- insert into new housing policy document

4B- Waive property tax for non-profit housing providers.

- Building permit review
- prep pre-amble text and prep policy
- insert into new housing policy document

4C- Waive all building permit fees for construction in the Community of Sherbrooke until 2028 for those properties connecting to the water and wastewater utilities.

- Building Permit review
- prep pre-amble text and prep policy
- insert into new housing policy document

4D- Waive planning application fees for projects completed by, or in partnership with, a non-market housing provider.

- Building permit review
- prep pre-amble text and prep policy
- insert into new housing policy document

4E - Full or partial refund of planning application fees associated with an approved residential project.

- Building permit review
- prep pre-amble text and prep policy
- insert into new housing policy document

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Municipal Council approve the ZZAP Architecture & Planning to complete St. Mary's Housing Policy recommendations (2A, 2E, 4B, 4C, 4D AND 4E) as outlined in the quoted proposal for a cost of \$13,500 plus HST funded through the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF).