



**TOWN OF LOCKPORT
COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY OCTOBER 15, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M.
AGENDA**

1. Call to order

2. Silence Electronic Devices

3. Approval of Agenda, including additions or deletions

Draft Motion – That Council approve the agenda for the October 15, 2024, meeting as presented.

4. Approval of Minutes

- Regular Council Meeting Minutes September 23, 2024

Draft Motion – That Council approve the Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of September 23, 2024, as circulated.

5. Business arising from Previous Minutes

6. Community Forum (Open Mic)

- 20 Minutes Maximum
- Each resident is allowed a maximum of five minutes
- The resident is to speak directly to Council
- There will be no interaction by Council at this time
- If questions are posed by residents the question will be recorded to be researched

7. Presentations

There are no presentations scheduled for this meeting.

8. Finance

- List of invoices already paid in the amount of \$247,861.46 (Page 1- 2)
- Transfer \$14,081.69 from Sustainable Services Growth Fund Account to the General Operating Account (Page 3)

Draft Motion – That Council approve the transfer of \$14,081.69 from the Sustainable Services Growth Fund to the General Operating Account to fund various Accessibility – based projects already completed.

- Use of \$119,895.00 from the Sustainable Services Growth Fund for Fire Hall Accessible Washroom renovations. (Page 4-6)

Draft Motion – That Council approve the use of \$119,895.00 plus HST, from the Sustainable Services Growth Fund for the completion of Accessible washroom renovation at the Fire Hall, as described by Garion Construction.

- Solar Farm Project (Page 7-27)

9. Other Business

- Request for zoning redesignation from Timothy Rhyno (Page 28)

10. Council Reports

- Mayor Cory Nickerson
- Deputy-Mayor Dawn DeMings-Taylor
- Councillor Dayle Eshelby (Page 29)
- Councillor Kent Balish (Page 30)
 - o Western County Regional Library (Page 31-34)
- Councillor Mary Meagher (Page 35)

11. Correspondence

- Update from NSFM Re: Public Safety Advisory Committee (Page 36-37)
- Letter to the Department of Justice from the Mayors and Wardens of the five Eastern Shelburne Municipal Units (Page 38-39)
- Western County Regional Library Funding Review Committee Update (Page 40)
- Update on the Canada – Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act (Page 41)

12. Information Only

13. Date of next meeting

- October 28, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

14. “In Camera”

15. Adjournment

LIST ON INVOICES ALREADY PAID TO BE PRESENTED AT THE		
OCTOBER 15 2024 MEETING		
AC BELLIVEAU VENIOTTE	PREPARATION OF FIR AND AUDIT FOR 2023	20,815.00
ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER	INSURANCE FOR BUILDING AND VEHICLES	78,658.50
BALISH, MIKE	FIXING BOARDWALK AND RAILING	2,840.00
BALISH, MIKE	FIXING STAIRS FOR BEACH ACCESS, RAMPS AT BEACH CENTRE AND RAILING FOR BOARDWALK	900.00
BELL ALIANT	BEACH CENTRE	189.61
BELL ALIANT	OFFICES, ELEVATOR, AND EMO	172.58
BELL ALIANT	REC OFFICE, FAX, FIRE HALL KITCHEN, LIBRARY, SEWER, REC CENTRE, EMO	838.03
BLL ENTERPRISES	ONE CASE OF GREASE	114.43
CANADA POST	FALL FEST FLYERS	195.22
COTTER, JAMIE	ENTERTAINMENT FOR VOLUNTEER BANQUET	150.00
CULLIGAN WATER	DRINKING WATER	6.80
EASTERN OFFICE SUPPLIES	PAPER FOR OFFICE	347.40
GFL ENVIRONMENT	ANNUAL POWERWASHING OF LIFT STATIONS	3,680.31
HARDING, JUNE	MEDICAL AND LIFE INSURANCE	27.20
I.B.E.W.	UNION DUES FOR SEPTEMBER 2024	355.60
LESTER SWANBURG ELECTRIC	POWER TO ELECTRIC DOOR AT BEACH CENTRE	218.50
LOCKEPORT PHARMACHOICE	HANDSOAP FOR SEACAPS BATHROOMS AND GLOVES FOR BEACH CENTRE	22.99
LOCKEPORT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL	YEARBOOK AD	100.00
LOCKEPORT WELDING	STEEL ROUND BAR AND CUT CHARGE	29.28
MANULIFE	PENSION FOR EMPLOYEES	1,661.96
MARK WILLIAMS	GRAVEL TO ROAD AT TREATMENT PLANT	7,360.00
MBW	COURIER SERVICE	67.18
MINISTER OF FINANCE	DNA ANNUAL BILLING	354.16
MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF SHELBURNE	C & D SITE FOR BABY BARN DOOR AND OTHER STUFF	12.98
NICKERSON, CORY	MILEAGE TO BRIDGEWATER FOR ENVELOPES FOR TAX BILLS	121.75
NOVA SCOTIA POWER	BOARDWALK - SEPT 25	129.61
NOVA SCOTIA POWER	STREET LIGHTS, PLAYGROUND, TREATMENT PLANT - SEPT 24	2,662.99
NOVA SCOTIA POWER	LIFT STATIONS 6-13 SEPT 27	619.59
NOVA SCOTIA POWER	TRANSPORTATION, ROOD'S HEAD, LIBRARY, WIDOW'S WALK - OCT 1	457.44
NOVA SCOTIA POWER	LIFT STATIONS 1-5 OCT 1	1,036.12
NOVA SCOTIA POWER	BANDSTAND, BALLFIELD CANTEEN, BEACH CENTRE - SEPT 27	480.68
NOVA SCOTIA POWER	FIRE HALL, POINT ST., MEDICAL CENTRE, MARINE ROOM, LITTLE SCHOOL MUSEUM SEPT 27	950.22
NOVA SCOTIA POWER	LIGHTHOUSE STAGE AND MFR - OCT 1	215.26

It be duly moved and seconded that \$14,081.69 be transferred from the Town's Sustainable Services Growth Fund Account to the Town's General Operating Account, to fund the various Accessibility – based projects already completed as follows:

LSM Boardwalk - \$7,143.87

Large Boardwalk - \$4,001.01

CBC Door Opener - \$2,936.81

Total **\$14,081.69**

(4)

It be duly moved and seconded that Council approve the use of \$119,895.00 plus HST from the Sustainable Services Growth Fund for the completion of accessible washroom renovations at the Fire Hall, as described by Garian Construction.

P.O. Box 166
Tusket, Nova Scotia
B0W 3M0



Phone (902) 648-3307
Fax (902) 648-0167
info@garian.ca
www.garian.ca

October 7, 2024

Lockeport Volunteer Fire Department
Attention: Cory Nickerson
67 Hall Street
Lockeport, N.S.
B0T 1L0

Re: Washroom Renovation

We are pleased to submit the following estimate for work as per this description.

Scope of Work

- Remove existing washroom doors, toilet partitions, washroom accessories, counters, wood trim and plumbing fixtures
- Strip grey paint from washroom floors
- Remove acrylic finish from red concrete
- Sawcut floor and move two toilet flanges to meet code for barrier free standards
- Remove existing main entry aluminum door and trim
- Remove drywall as required to install blocking for toilet partitions, and washroom accessories
- Repair concrete floor where toilets were moved
- Repair drywall, crackfill, prime and paint walls and ceilings of the washrooms
- Touch up crackfill, spot prime the touch ups and paint one coat in the lobby of existing colour
- Supply and install new clear anodized aluminum entrance. One door to have a power operator with exterior button mounted on galvanized post fastened to exterior concrete slab. The other door to have standard door hardware.
- New entry door trimmed to match existing door c/w a clear finish
- Supply and install new VCT flooring in washrooms, lobby and multi-purpose room includes basic floor prep
- Supply and install new 4" rubber base to washrooms, lobby and multi-purpose room
- Multi-purpose room wood base to remain
- Clean the washroom area and lobby

P.O. Box 166
Tusket, Nova Scotia
B0W 3M0



Phone (902) 648-3307
Fax (902) 648-0167
info@garian.ca
www.garian.ca

- Supply and install
 - o (2) plastic laminate barrier free counters for washrooms
 - o Powder coated metal toilet partitions as per layout
 - o Standard code compliant stainless steel washroom accessories as per attached data sheets
 - o (6) ADA code compliant toilets with lockable tanks
 - o (2) drop in lavatory sinks c/w lever handle faucets and off set waste
 - o (2) new exhaust fans
 - o (2) 1500 watt heaters
 - o Power for one new door operator

General Requirements

- We have included the following
 - o All debris trucked to the landfill site
 - o Temporary power by owner

The total price of the above noted work includes all materials, labour and equipment to complete the project as described.

Price \$ 119,895.00 plus HST

This price is valid for 30 days.

Not Included

- Moving of owner equipment or furniture
- Waxing of VCT

Notes

- Workers Compensation Coverage
- \$5,000,000.00 Liability Insurance Coverage
- Member of the Nova Scotia Construction Safety Association since 1995
- Member of the Better Business Bureau.

Yours truly,

Rob Breton
Estimator / Project Manager
Garian Construction Ltd.

Acceptance of Proposal – The above prices, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and are hereby accepted. You are authorized to do the work as specified.

Date of Acceptance: _____

Signature: _____

(7)

August 27, 2024

I spoke to Sarah Mattatall this morning regarding the preposed Solar Farm project requiring a motion from our Councils, containing a decision to guarantee more money for the Solar Farm project or to consider the PAUSE option. Sarah has spoken to Aaron (AREA) just before she called me. They asked that we wait to make a decision on this matter at our October 15, 2024 Council meeting.

It would be my recommendation to Council to back out of this project at this time. If we guarantee \$250,000.00 and there is not profit forthcoming, the Town will be responsible for the payments. The payments would have to come from Reserves, which we do not want to happen.

Letter attached dated September 25, 2024

83

Town of Lockeport
26 North Street
P.O. Box 189
Lockeport, NS, B0T 1L0

September 25, 2024

Dear Program Evaluators of the Community Solar Program,

Re: Support for Oakhill Solar Project Application

On behalf of the Town of Lockeport, I am writing to express our wholehearted support for the Oakhill Solar Project being developed by our municipal partnership and the Alternative Resource Energy Authority under the Nova Scotia Community Solar Program. The Town of Lockeport fully supports the Province's climate action and renewable energy objectives, and we believe that community-driven projects like this are essential to achieving a sustainable future.

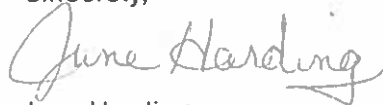
The Town of Lockeport contributed \$5,000 of at-risk funds toward the Program application costs of the Oakhill Solar Project. This contribution, significant for a small town in rural Nova Scotia, reflects our commitment to exploring municipal ownership of renewable energy facilities.

We fully intend to ensure that the Town of Lockeport remains at the forefront of climate action and sustainable development.

Town Council will be making a decision on whether or not to move forward with our participation in this particular project, at the next Council Meeting on October 15, 2024.

Should you have any questions regarding the Town of Lockeport's support for this project or any aspect of our involvement, please do not hesitate to contact me via my email below.

Sincerely,



June Harding

Town Clerk/Treasurer

townoflockeport@ns.sympatico.ca

Oakhill Community Solar Garden Project

Project Updates & Opportunity Review

Town of Shelburne and Lockeport Joint
Council Presentation July 2, 2024



No Pressure For Shelburne and Lockeport to Finance Construction

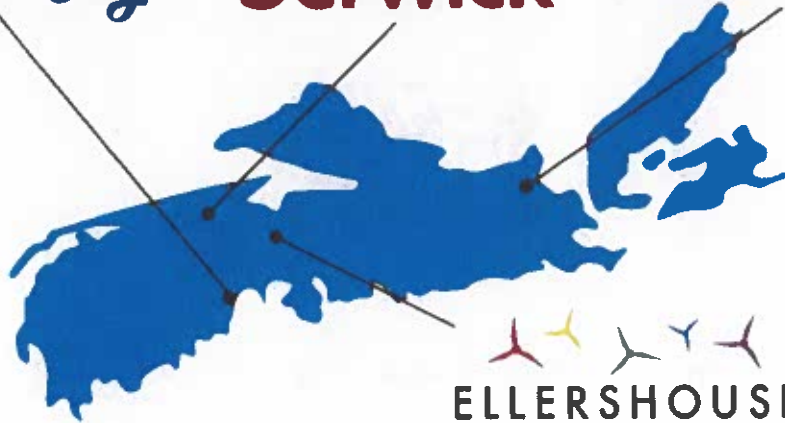
- Districts of Lunenburg, Argyle and Shelburne will finance the IMSA pending Provincial award.
- Towns of Lockeport (\$5,000; 1%) and Shelburne (\$22,000; 5%) have paid their agreed share of Provincial application preparation costs.
- Towns of Lockeport and Shelburne have options to continue with ownership, or pause.
- Other 3 district municipalities welcome your continued ownership, but also understand if you wish to pause.
- Provincial application is stronger with a 5-municipal group, but ownership is not required.
- If Lockeport and or Shelburne wish to pause, AREA recommends resolving ownership, financial contributions, allocation of benefits, etc, until after Provincial award so that resources are focussed on the Provincial submission.



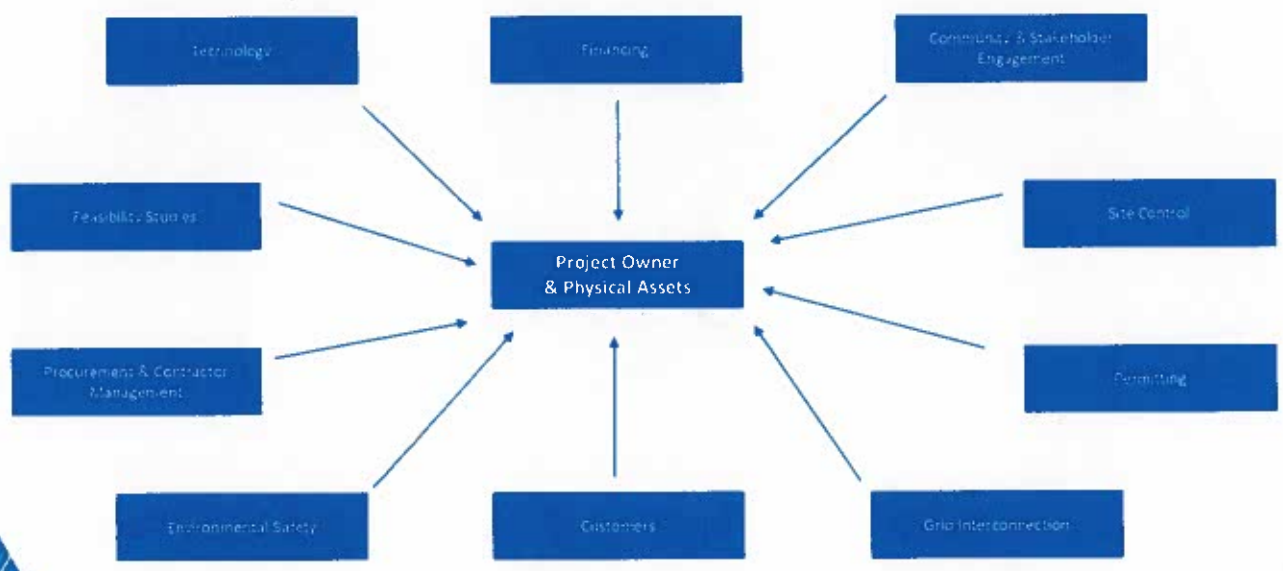
- This presentation provides an overview of the ownership opportunity, for Lockeport's and Shelburne's consideration.



Formed in 2014, AREA is a municipally owned corporation shared by the Nova Scotian towns of:



AREA manages all program activities throughout the duration of project development and construction.



AREA staff prioritize **community engagement** during the development and construction of clean energy projects.



Meeting Key Stakeholders

Meetings with neighbours and key stakeholders enables accommodation and inclusivity.



Open Houses

Public events tailored to educate and gain consensus amongst the community.



Community Liaison Committee

A platform that enables open dialogue between the community, key stakeholders and the project.



Community Updates

Media released through municipal platforms to educate citizens on clean energy and to update on project activities.



Education

Collaborating with local institutions to improve clean energy education.

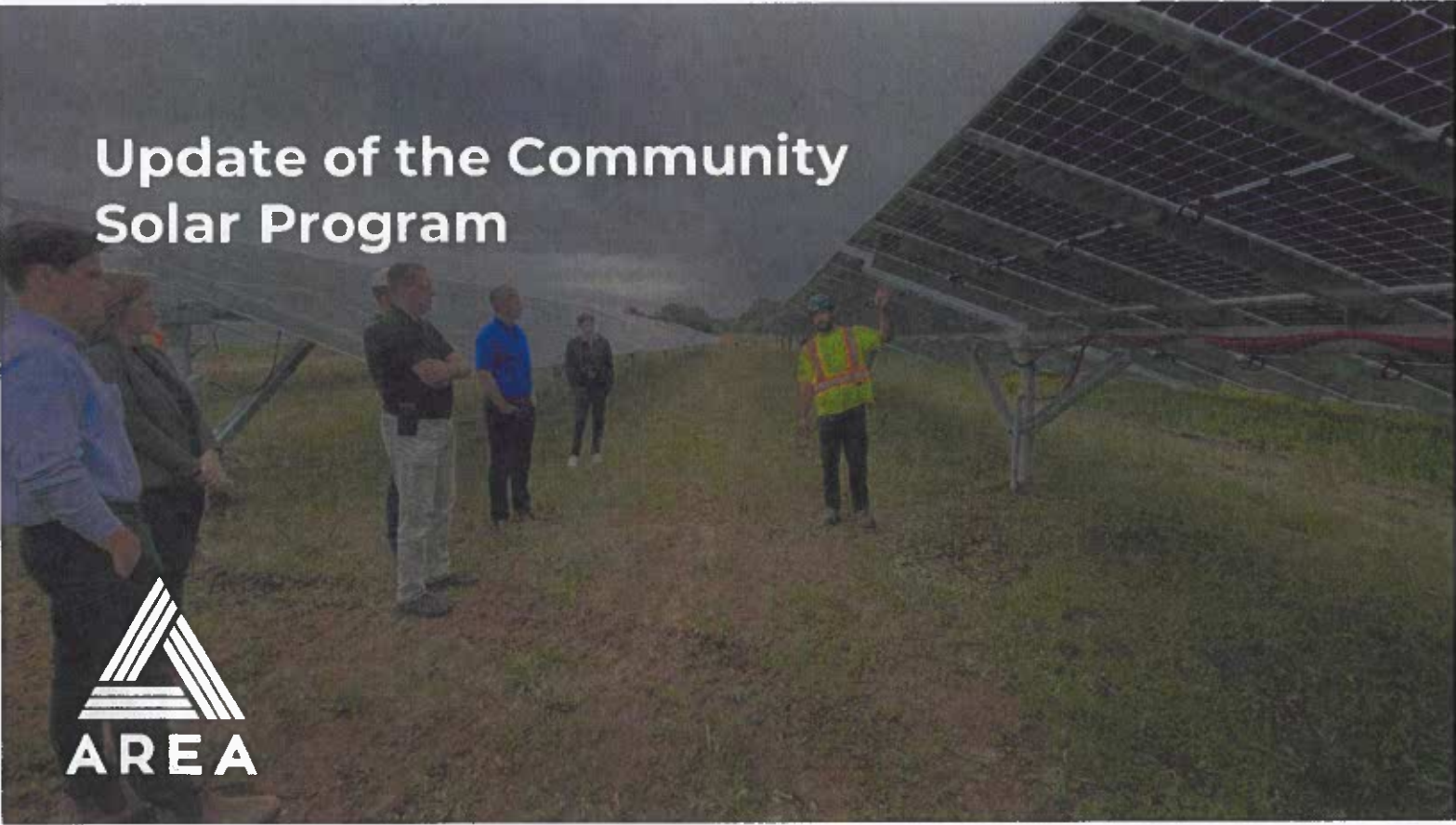


AREA staff have witnessed the success of these methods through a variety of **wind, tidal and solar** energy projects.



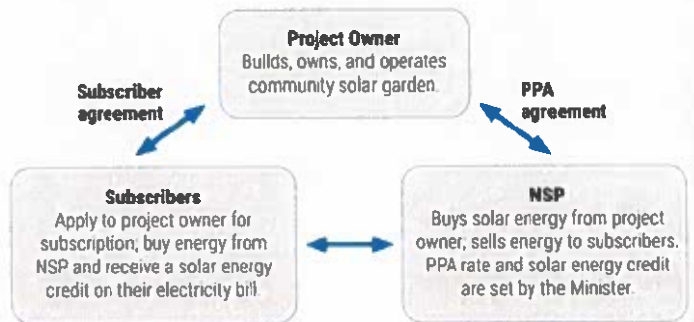
14.

Update of the Community Solar Program



Community Solar Program Overview

- Add up to **100 Mwac** of solar electricity to Nova Scotia's grid
- Application deadline: Ongoing basis
- Project owner(s) set up a solar garden of **0.5MWac - 10MWac**
- **25 years** Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)
- Make solar electricity **accessible**
- **Solar for your community** without cost of subscription (prioritized subscription offering)
- Support **local economic development**



Roles In Community Solar Program



Community Solar Project Structure



Ownership

MODL and its partners will own the solar garden and sell energy to NSPI through a PPA.

Citizens can subscribe but have no ownership.

MODL and its partners owns equipment, citizens are buying the right to energy generated.



Development & Construction

MODL contracted AREA for project management throughout the lifecycle.

AREA manages risks and facilitates development and construction of the facility.



Operations

MODL *can* contract AREA for operations and maintenance.

The facility has an operational life of **25 years** (the PPA is also 25 years)



IMSA Development

Inter-municipal service agreement has been signed by 5 municipalities: MODL, MODS, MODA, The Town of Shelburne and The Town of Lockport.

Participation from multiple municipal units **increases the probability of a successful** application to the NS Department of Renewable Resources



Municipal Benefits of a Community Solar Garden



Clean Energy

The 7 MW project will power approximately **1200 homes.**

6000 tonnes of carbon removed from the grid.

Solar subscriptions for community members provide citizens with an accessible and inclusive alternative to rooftop solar.



New Revenue Source

The PPA will generate a total of approximately **\$200K annual profit** for a 7 MW project.

Revenue can be disseminated amongst the project owners' strategic priorities.

Subscriptions (customer discounts) provide **another \$200k in annual financial benefit** to residents of owner municipalities.



Job Creation & Local Economy

An estimated total of **75 job-years** created with this solar project.

Workers moving in the area in need of accommodations, meals, etc. and local contractors hired for construction activities stimulates local economy.



The Community Solar Program is designed to promote renewable energy inclusivity and stabilize electricity rates for low-income families.



What is a “solar subscription”

- Not every NSPower customer can afford a rooftop solar installation.
- Or they may have an unfavourable roof.
- Department of Natural Resources and Renewables wants to increase participation in the clean energy transition, by *making solar energy more accessible*.
- A subscription is basically an allocation of a discount towards a customer’s NSPower bill. Project owner sends a list of subscriber names and account numbers to NSPower annually.
- Other jurisdictions require subscribers to pay a fee to receive the discount. DNRR designed it to be \$0.
- DNRR also designed the discount to be 2 cents/kWh (10% reduction). Costs of customer discounts are recovered in the bid price of the power purchase agreement, meaning that other NSPower customers pay for this.
- Oakhill project is expected to generate 12,000 MWh/y; assuming each home in NS uses 10MWh/y
- = 1200 subscriptions to be allocated *as the municipal owners wish*



More information is provided by the Provincial Department of Natural Resource and Renewables
<https://energy.novascotia.ca/renewables/community-solar-program>



Proposed Subscription Allocation Process

- 5% allocated to Oakhill project neighbours that could use the 10% power bill rebate the most. (60)
- Remaining 95% allocated to each owner municipality based on project/IMSA ownership %. Lockeport would be 11 (1%) and Shelburne 55 (5%).
- *Proposed* subscription allocation process (pending owner Councils' approvals):
- (a) identify appropriate methods in each municipality to contact vulnerable low-income residents with preference for marginalized community groups such as women, Black, First Nations, seniors, people with disabilities, etc.
- (b) allocate subscriptions according to lowest reported income to CRA. Review applications annually.



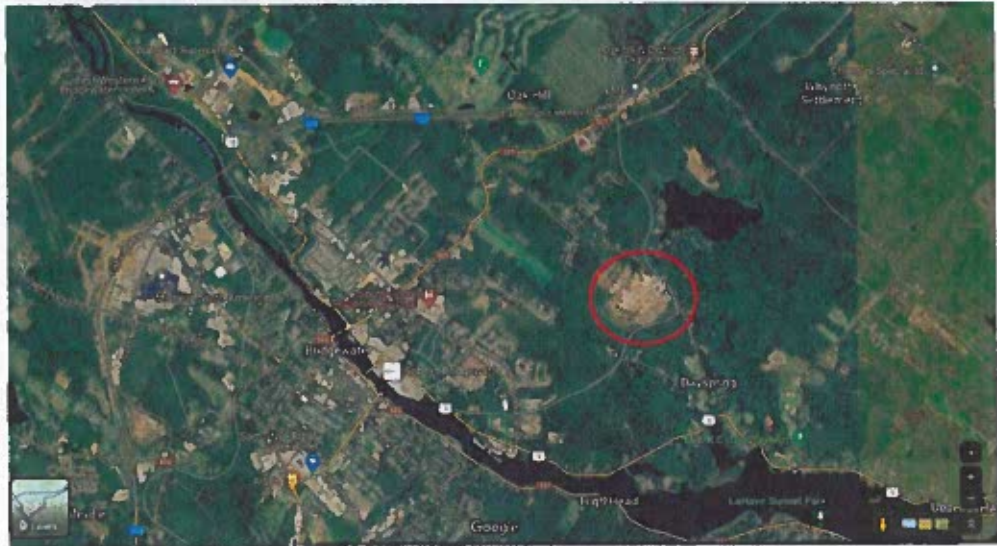
More information is provided by the Provincial Department of Natural Resource and Renewables

<https://energy.novascotia.ca/renewables/community-solar-program>

Site Details



(21)





Current Project Activities



Community Engagement

- Door to door campaign was completed on **April 15th** to inform the immediate community of the Diner and Learn session
- Dinner and Learn session with site neighbours took place **May 27th, 2024 from 6 pm to 8 pm.**
 - Attendees:
 - Residents surrounding Oakhill Road and Rhodenizer Lake
 - MODL Council & Staff, and AREA.
- Subscription Open House for the wider community after the project approval by the DNRR.



Site Development

- Geotechnical Program, Site Surveying and Preliminary Engineering:
 - Testing of physical site conditions & high-level design of the facility.
 - Performed by competitively procured EPC firm.
 - These programs are complete. Pile testing program **July-August 2024.**
- Interconnection Feasibility:
 - Electrical modelling for the community solar system.
 - Study to be completed by August.
- Environmental Study:
 - Implementation of a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment.
 - Study completed: no expected contamination.
- **Total cost estimated \$20-\$25 million**



Project Timeline



Risks and Rewards of Ownership



Mahone Bay Solar Garden (1.9 MW)

This is not a risk-free endeavor

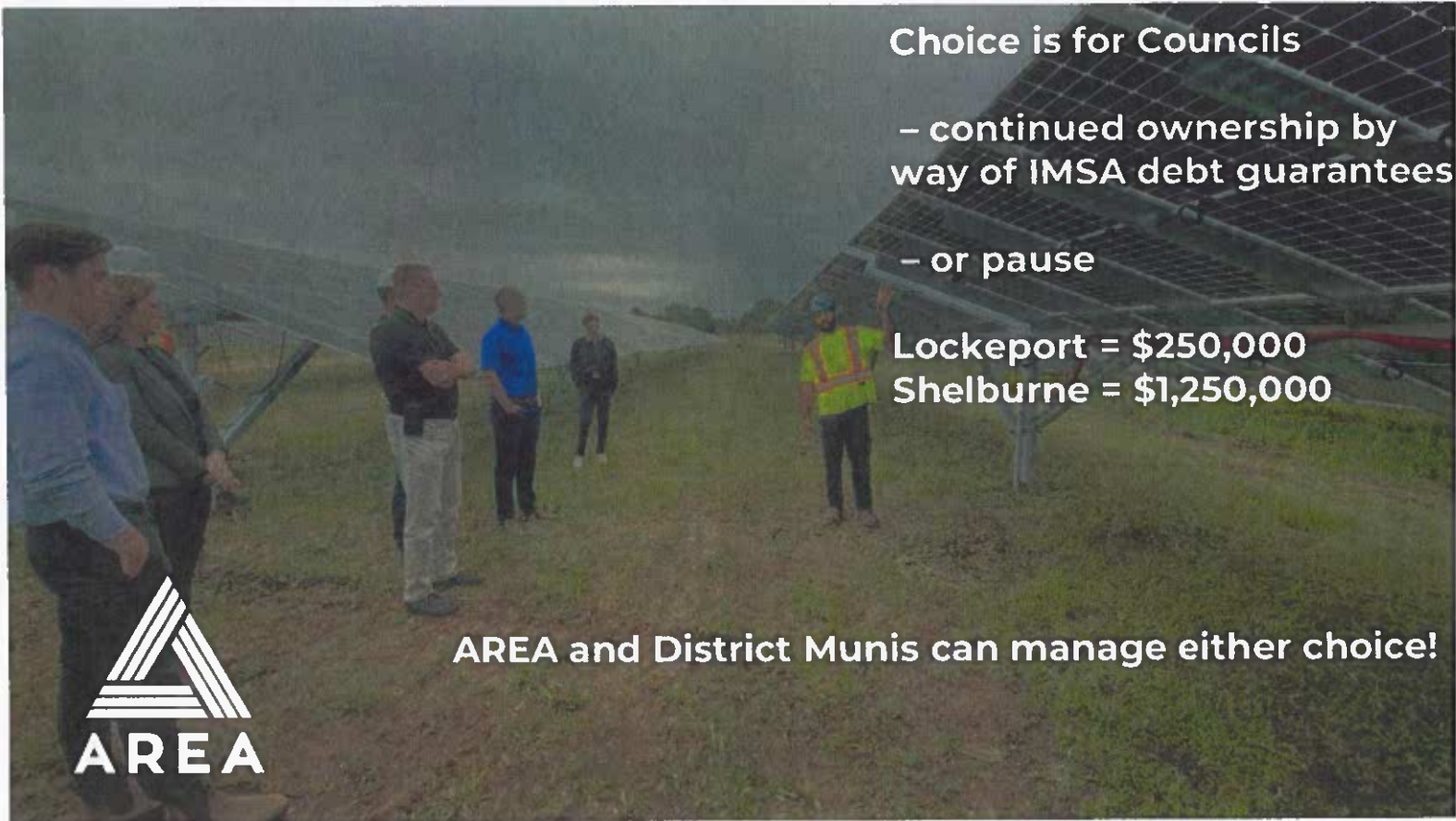
Rewards

- \$200k annual profit for owners
- \$200k annual value of subscriptions to your residents
- Economic development in the region.
- Participation in the greening of the economy (6000 tonnes of GHG emission reductions each year)

Risks

- Construction cost overruns.
 - Manage most of the risk by negotiating fixed price contracts with bondable general contractors (Goldbeck).
 - Dedicated oversight of construction designs and activities with an owner's engineer.
 - Also include healthy contingency.
- Less energy generated than expected.
 - Bid price is calculated based on energy generation assumption.
 - Manage the risk by including healthy contingency.
- Interest rate risk (during construction and long-term).
 - Bid price is calculated based on interest rate assumption.
 - Manage the risk by including healthy contingency.
- Operations and Maintenance cost overruns.
 - Manage the risk by purchasing high quality components, comprehensive insurance.
 - Further manage by implementing holistic asset management plan and hiring reputable firms in service contracts.
 - And yes, more contingency!





Choice is for Councils

– continued ownership by way of IMSA debt guarantees

– or pause

Lockeport = \$250,000

Shelburne = \$1,250,000

AREA and District Munis can manage either choice!



October 2, 2024

Mayor & Council, Town of Lockeport

I, Timothy Ray Rhyno, hereby request that my piece of property located on Water Street, in the Town of Lockeport, Nova Scotia. Assessment account # 04576543, be rezoned from Industrial to Residential.

Respectfully submitted by:

Timothy Ray Rhyno



September meetings, 2024, Dayle Eshelby

- September 4, 2024, Council discussion.
- September 25, 2024, volunteer award celebration
- September 25, 2024, NSFM climate change advisory committee.

SEPTEMBER 2024

COUNCILLOR BALISH

04 DISCUSSION

09 COUNCIL

17 STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

19 ROSEWAY MANOR

23 COUNCIL

24 ACCESSABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

25 EASTERN SHELBURNE COUNTY VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Library Report

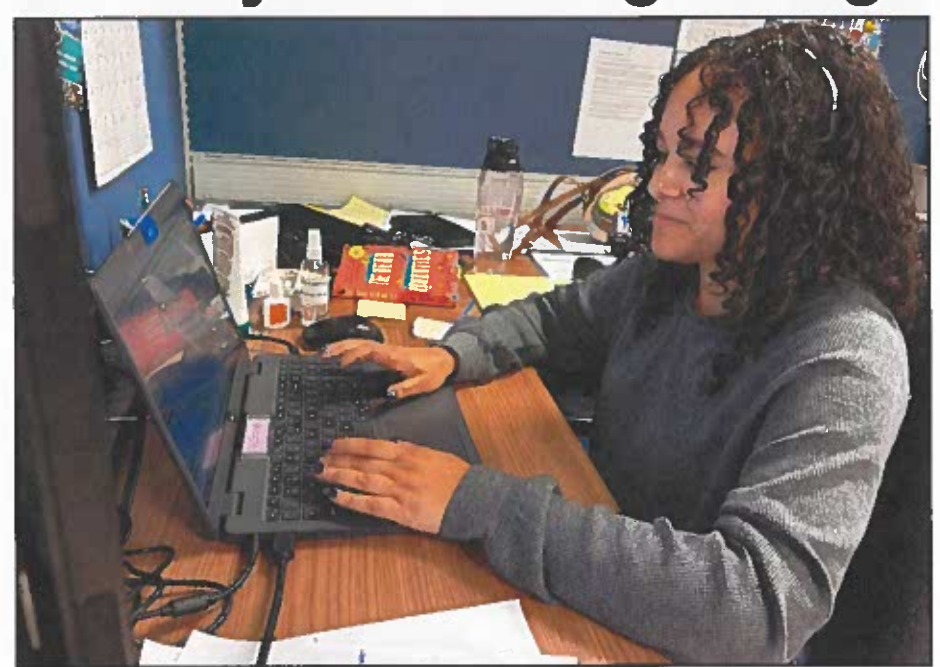
Going above and beyond during outage

Westport library's Internet connection had been down for almost a week, when library headquarters got the phone call from library clerk, Jaqueline Journey, in late August.

Journey, who was in Westport, had received boxes of books from headquarters. Without the Internet, Journey could not see if a book was meant to go to a patron or on the library's shelves. Not knowing when the Internet would be back up, she reached out to headquarters to see if there was a way to get the books in the hands of patrons without delay. Journey says her approach to any challenge is, "how can we do best for our customers."

"Basically, those holds are frozen," says Breanne Muise, Program and Services Manager, in Yarmouth headquarters. Muise got on the phone with Journey to help her solve the mystery of where each book in the delivery was going.

Journey says it was "old school" library work. She had to pull out each book or other item



Program and Services Manager Breanne Muise was busy helping Westport library clerk Jacqueline Journey determine where books and other material were going during an Internet outage at the branch.

from the box and give Muise the barcode number. Muise told her who was receiving the book, or whether the book should be returned to the library shelves. It took the pair almost two hours to complete the work.

"I am not sure people realize what happens behind the scenes at the library to ensure library users receive items they want to borrow from the library," says Erin Comeau, Executive Director at the library. "The headquarters and management

staff work very hard to keep things flowing behind the scenes," Comeau says. "Whether it is cataloguing new material, transferring items to the people who want to borrow them, returning items to the library from where they came, or repairing damaged books and other items."

Journey found the lack of Internet challenging during the outage. Internet service was restored at the branch on Sept. 5.

Story time, kids energize volunteer

For Brenda Taylor, volunteering to help out at Yarmouth library's Preschool Story Time was an easy decision.

"I recently retired and wanted to spend some of my extra time helping in my community," Taylor says.

"I love reading and I love young children. So, I reached out to my library to inquire if there was a need for volunteers."

Branch manager and Deputy Director Shannon Raynard said there was a place for a volunteer in the Preschool Story Time program and had Taylor fill out the paperwork.

"I was accepted and then I started helping (library clerk) River (Clairmont) with the story time on Thursday mornings," she says.

Volunteering has been an important part of Taylor's life. She has helped out a variety of organizations in and around Yarmouth County.

She has spent time assisting



Volunteer Brenda Taylor, right, reads a story during the Preschool Story Time program at the Yarmouth library in June.

with school lunch programs and breakfast programs. She has also helped run after-school cooking classes in junior high schools.

She finds participating in the story time very rewarding.

"I love playing with the kids, holding the babies and helping River," she says. "I also was

asked to read last Thursday (May 14) and I really enjoyed that."

She admits that she may have caught the storytelling bug, and would fill that role again if called upon.

If time permits, she would consider other opportunities helping at the library.

Library's key fundraiser runs from Oct. 1 to Nov. 30

People can help their public library in a big way over the next two months during Western Counties Regional Library's 2024 Adopt-A-Book campaign. The campaign runs from Tuesday, Oct. 1 through Saturday, Nov. 30.

The fundraiser allows people to adopt (purchase) books to put on their public library's

shelves. All 10 branches have books on display that are available to adopt and borrow right away.

People can adopt in person or online at westerncounties.ca. The goal is to have 750 books adopted, valued at approximately \$20,000

For information about the campaign visit any branch library or westerncounties.ca.

Around the Branches

Barrington



People learned the art of bottle hitching with Emma Rollin and Ryan Weir of the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic on Saturday, Aug. 10 at Barrington Municipal Library.

Clare



The Clare library branch set up a welcoming sign board during the Congrès mondial acadien 2024 from Aug. 10 to 18.

The Clare branch was happy to welcome visitors to the region during the Congrès mondial acadien 2024 in August. Some visitors were originally from the area and returned for the festivities, and a few had never been to Clare before, coming from Quebec and Louisiana. They used the library Wi-Fi and computers, asked about the services the library provides and the best local restaurants.

Family reunions are an important part of the Congrès mondial acadien. The organizing committees for the Deveau and Robichaud reunions held many meetings in the library community room throughout the summer. They

also looked through the library's local Acadian history collection to find more information and photos pertaining to their family history.

Clark's Harbour



Children enjoyed the August walk-in program at Clark's Harbour library, allowing them to create Q-tip lavender paintings.

Clark's Harbour library had a lot of people visiting from other provinces and countries, and staff received compliments about the branch. A retired librarian from Ottawa visited. She was very impressed with the selection at the branch, and welcoming atmosphere.

A library CELA (Centre for Equitable Library Access) patron who makes good use of the library's services for people with print disabilities discovered the Summer Reading Club. She signed up and really enjoyed participating in the program.

Digby



Digby library's new, accessible entrance is complete.

Around the Branches

Lockeport



Lockeport library received a new shelving unit for staff. The efficient, compact unit replaced a big metal filing cabinet, an old cupboard, and a trolley, making the aisle more accessible.

A little girl visited the Lockeport library regularly with her grandparents and enjoyed using the crayons and paper to create pictures. One evening, she and her grandfather came in, and handed library clerk Catherine Henneberry a couple new boxes of crayons. She had noticed that some of the crayons were broken or short and small. She was determined that there should be new crayons for all the other children visiting the library, so everybody can make nice pictures when they are here.

Westport



Westport library clerk Karen Walsh received her five-year work certificate on Sept. 10.

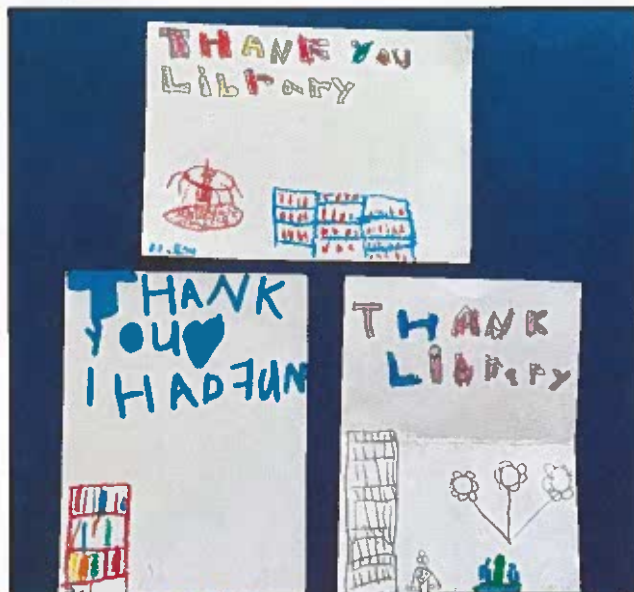
Shelburne

Former Shelburne library clerk Kathryn Acker died on Aug. 28. She worked at the Shelburne branch from 1979 to the mid-1990s. She was the senior clerk when she retired. She remained a loyal patron of the library and was a member of the Shelburne Library Building Association. The Shelburne staff has missed her in-person visits in recent years, but kept in touch with weekly calls about her library books.



Kathryn Acker

Yarmouth



Yarmouth library staff received some thank-you cards from the Mariners on Main day campers following their visit on Aug. 13. The visit included a library tour and bowling with the library's Sphero Bolt robots controlled by computer tablets (pictured above).

Mary Meagher Council Report for September

Sep 4 Council Discussion

Sep 9 Shelb Co. Community/NSH Stakeholder Group

Sep 17 Shelb County Mental Health & Wellness Association

Sep 18 Make Your Move Lockeport

Sep 19 Roseway Manor Board

Sep 23 Council

Sep 25 Eastern Shelburne County Volunteer Awards Event

June Harding

From: Wesley Petite <WPetite@nsfm.ca>
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2024 4:24 PM
To: townoflockeport@ns.sympatico.ca; Cory Nickerson
Subject: NSFM Public Safety Advisory Committee Update
Attachments: 2024_09_23_Public Safety Advisory Committee Member Update Cellphone Coverage.pdf

Hello, Mayor Nickerson and Ms. Harding

As the staff person supporting the NSFM Public Safety Advisory Committee, I'd like to provide you with an update regarding your council's request that Improving Cellphone Coverage for Emergency Preparedness become an advocacy priority for NSFM.

On September 6, the Board approved the Public Safety Advisory Committee's recommendation to make Cellphone Coverage for Emergency Preparedness an advocacy priority for NSFM. Please find the Committee's Recommendation attached.

The Public Safety Advisory Committee is happy to see continued progress of Build Nova Scotia's work to expand reliable cellular coverage across the Province, and the recognition of telecommunications providers as critical services providers. Continued work is necessary on both the federal and provincial level to ensure cellular service is available when needed most.

NSFM was also happy to see your council's engagement with the Advisory Committees on Areas of Municipal Interest.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Wesley Petite, PhD | Policy Advisor

Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

T: 902-943-7930

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Public Safety Advisory Committee Member Update
Cellphone Coverage for Emergency Preparedness
September 23, 2024

The NSFM Public Safety Advisory Committee (herein referred to as the Committee) met on July 29, 2024, to discuss all delegated requests from members. Among these requests was a call to review Rural Cellphone Coverage for Emergency Preparedness as a possible advocacy priority. A total of six members participated in correspondence calling NSFM to consider this issue.

A concern with poor cellphone coverage has been expressed by the NSFM membership in the past. It is also well-established that power outages and poor cellular service interfere with appropriate emergency responses. Efforts of both the federal and provincial governments to ensure cellular service providers are being held accountable also indicates a widespread recognition of this issue as a matter of public safety. Build Nova Scotia provided a presentation to the Committee on April 29 to update the Committee on the current provincial plan to address gaps in cellular coverage and advise on ways that municipalities could help in this process.

Using this information and information provided by NSFM staff, members of the Committee applied the NSFM Advocacy Prioritization Framework and made the following recommendations to the NSFM Board of Directors.

Motion: The NSFM Public Safety Advisory Committee recommends that Rural Cellphone Coverage for Emergency Preparedness become an advocacy priority for NSFM.

Moved by: Andy Thompson

Seconded by: James Fuller

Motion Carried

In a meeting on September 6, 2024, the NSFM Board of Directors passed a motion in support of this recommendation.



4 October 2024

The Honourable Barbara Adams
Minister of Justice and Attorney General for Nova Scotia

Department of Justice
1690 Hollis Street
P.O. Box 7
Halifax, NS
B3J 2L6

Email: justmin@novascotia.ca
Subject: Request for an Organized Crime Unit in South West Nova Scotia

Dear Minister Adams,

We write to you with deep concern regarding the alarming rise in violence and criminal activities that continue to threaten the safety and livelihood of our communities, particularly within the high-value fishing sectors in Nova Scotia. The current situation, marked by acts of arson, assault and property damage demands swift and decisive intervention.

The challenges we face are far-reaching and extend well beyond the sphere of marine resource management. We are now observing indicators of organized crime activity in the area, including increased coordination among individuals exploiting existing enforcement gaps, operating with little fear of reprisal due to the high-profit, low-risk nature of their crimes.

Furthermore, fisheries crime has not received the attention it deserves as a serious criminal issue. Too often, these offenses have been seen through the narrow lens of regulatory breaches rather than being treated as the significant threats to public safety and economic stability that they truly are. The leniency in penalties has only emboldened criminal elements to further entrench their operations.

We urge the immediate provision of additional law enforcement resources to support the efforts of local detachments. The scope of crime affecting our region has far surpassed illegal fishing and has now become a full-fledged public safety crisis.

It is more important than ever that we address this matter following the apparent inaction of the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) in enforcing existing regulations. The situation is rapidly

deteriorating, and we are facing the consequences of unchecked criminal activity and are concerned it will expand into Shelburne County. Inaction is not an option.

We strongly advocate for a coordinated and multi-agency response, encompassing collaboration among law enforcement bodies at all governmental levels. This includes enhanced intelligence-sharing and cooperation with international partners, as well as the active involvement of agencies such as CBSA, labour, and tax authorities. It is only through such a comprehensive approach that we can begin to dismantle the organized criminal networks currently operating with impunity.

Given the escalating violence, especially in the region of Clare, and the increasing risk to public safety, we also encourage you to form an Organized Crime Unit. Dedicated investigative teams, equipped to target and dismantle criminal organizations at their core, are urgently needed. The failure to act decisively in this moment risks not only the security of our communities but also the integrity of our natural resources and the rule of law itself.

We appreciate your attention to this urgent matter and stand ready to collaborate with your office to address these pressing needs. Our communities depend on swift and effective action to ensure a safer and more secure future.

Yours Sincerely,

Warden Penny Smith
Municipality of Shelburne

Warden Eddie Nickerson
Municipality of Barrington

Mayor Rex Stoddard
Town of Clark's Harbour



Mayor Cory Nickerson
Town of Lockeport



Mayor Harald Locke
Town of Shelburne



- Cc: Chris d'Entremont, MP West Nova
- Rick Perkins, MP South Shore-St. Margarets
- Minister Dominic LeBlanc
- Minister Kent Smith
- Maritime Fisherman Union
- Municipalité de Clare
- Jeff LeBlanc, RCMP
- Mark MacPherson, RCMP
- Warden Yvon LeBlanc - Municipality of Clare

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June Harding

From: Erin Comeau (Director) <director@westerncounties.ca>
Sent: Saturday, October 5, 2024 4:21 PM
To: Jeff Sunderland (jsunderland@digbymun.ca); Stéphane Cyr; Victoria Brooks; Jeff Gushue; Alain Muise; Chris Frotten (cfrotten@barringtonmunicipality.com); Jennifer Jones ; Warren MacLeod (warren.macleod@municipalityofshelburne.ca); Sarah Mattatall; Joyce Young
Subject: Library Funding Review Committee Update

Dear CAOs,

I am forwarding this update that we received from Lynn Somers, Provincial Librarian. I will continue to send you updates on the Library Funding Review Process as I receive them. In the meantime, let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you, Erin

- Update from Lynn Somers -

I am providing an update on the Library Funding Review Committee (LFRC) meeting that was held on August 29, 2024.

At the LFRC meeting on July 5, a smaller working group (WG) of Committee members was formed to review the library funding research and priorities established by the LFRC and prepare draft funding model options for LFRC review and consideration. The WG members included Eric Stackhouse, Asa Kachan, Laura Emery, Keith MacDonald, Eldon MacDonald, Mary-Jo MacKay, and me (Lynn). The WG met three times over the summer (July 15, 30; August 21).

On August 29, the WG presented four options that prioritize higher wages for library staff, increased investment in library collections and technology, and new investment in cybersecurity. The options are supported by the research and allow for greater sustainability and growth for libraries into the future.

Also, municipal representatives on both the LFRC and WG clearly expressed their concerns and challenges in terms of the impacts of a new library funding model on municipalities, and the LFRC has taken that feedback into consideration.

Moving forward, the library funding review process will shift from the LFRC to government, where department staff will build on the work done by the LFRC and develop library funding recommendations for government consideration.

The work of the LFRC was critical to achieve this milestone. We thank the members for their commitment and valuable input.

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June Harding

From: Info <info@cnsopb.ns.ca>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2024 11:32 AM
To: Colleen Fiske
Subject: October 7, 2024 – Update on the CNSOPB becoming the CNSOER

Good morning:

On September 20, 2024, the Government of Nova Scotia's *Advancing Nova Scotia Opportunities Act, Bill 471*, received Royal Assent. On October 3, 2024, *Bill C-49, An Act to amend the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Atlantic Accord Implementation Act and the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act*, received Royal Assent.

These are important milestones in our journey as the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board (CNSOPB) to becoming the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Energy Regulator (CNSOER) and one we have been working towards since Governments announced their intention to expand our mandates on April 11, 2022.

What happens now?

The Governments of Canada, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland and Labrador will decide when the Accord Acts amendments will come into force, i.e. when the CNSOPB will officially become the CNSOER.

While we await the come into force date, we will continue with our transition from our current mandate to our expanded one. As we become the lead and lifecycle regulator of the offshore energy industry in the Canada-Nova Scotia offshore area, we remain committed to working with Indigenous communities, fishers, and other stakeholders. We are committed to keeping you informed and will provide relevant updates on the expansion of the CNSOPB's mandate and renaming to the CNSOER.

If you have any questions, please contact:

info@cnsopb.ns.ca
902-422-5588

Sincerely,
Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board