



**TOWN OF LOCKPORT  
COUNCIL MEETING  
FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026, AT 1:00 P.M.  
AGENDA**

1. Call to order
2. Silence Electronic Devices
3. Approval of Agenda, including additions or deletions

**Staff Suggested Motion: That Council approve the agenda for the March 27, 2026, meeting as presented with the following additions/deletions.**

4. Conflict of Interest
5. Approval of Minutes of March 13, 2026, Regular Council Meeting

**Staff Suggested Motion: That Council approve the March 13, 2026, meeting Minutes as circulated.**

6. Business arising from previous Minutes.

There was no business to be dealt with from the previous meeting.

7. Community Forum (Open Mic)

- 20 Minutes Maximum
- Each resident is allowed a maximum of five minutes.
- Each resident is to state their name and where they live.
- The resident is to speak directly to the 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.

## 8. Presentations

There are no presentations scheduled for this meeting.

## 9. Department Reports

- Administration Report (Page 1 - 3)

## 10. Finance

- List of invoices already paid in the amount of \$113,309.99 (Page 4-5)
- NSFAM Workshop (Page 6)

## 11. Other Business

- Joint Services Board Exploration Committee Terms of Reference (Page 7 – 11)

## 12. Committee Reports

- Councillor Anna Chetwynd
  - o Recreation Committee Draft Minutes (Page 12 -14)
- Councillor Candace Malik
  - o Western Counties Regional Library Minutes (Page 15 - 19)
- Councillor Kevin Chetwynd
  - o Region 6 Meeting (Page 20 – 21)

## 13. Correspondence

- Email from Lisa Roy – Mermaid/Other Town attractions (Page 22)

## 14. Information Only

- Email from Nolan Young, MLA Shelburne County, regarding Museum funding (Page 23 – 24)
- Letter of support to Premier Houston from Mayor Mike Bartlett, Town of Digby – Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty (Page 25)
- Letter of support to Premier Houston from Warden Nicholas MacInnis, Municipality of the County of Antigonish – Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty (Page 26)
- Letter from Hayley Crichton, Executive Director, Public Safety and Security Division regarding RCMP 2026/2027 billing (Page 27)

15. Date of next meeting  
- Friday April 10, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

16. "In Camera"

17. Adjournment

Regular Council Meeting 032726.agd.

13

**ADMINISTRATION REPORT  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 27, 2026**

**BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED 2025/2026 FISCAL YEAR**

There has been a total of Three (3) building permits issued for the 2025/2026 fiscal year.

**TAX COLLECTIONS**

As of March 24, 2026, taxes are as follows:

2022 & prior = \$35,226.64

2023 = \$12,870.41

2024 = \$26,694.04

2025 = \$110,828.97

**Total taxes are \$185,620.06.**

I sent statements out on March 20, 2026 as a reminder.

**Outstanding Sub-Lease account**

The total owed on this sub-leased account is \$25,206.57 plus \$20,698.13 interest. My contact that works in the Government "Grants in Lieu" section has contacted me once again requesting an updated status of this account. He is very hopeful that they will take care of this, however, they will pay interest at their rate instead of ours so there will be a difference in the final amount. I will keep Council updated on this situation as I get more information.

The total outstanding taxes on the gear shed accounts are \$3,082.39 plus \$2,552.01 interest on four Gear Sheds. Three of the four gear sheds are owned by the same person.

**Budget 2026/2027**

Preliminary Budget Meeting held on January 26, 2026. Next Meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2026. I have met with Department heads to determine needs for the upcoming budget and behind the scenes I have been working on the budget entries.

**Meetings**

Council Meeting – March 13, 2026

Fire Services meeting with Jenn Bell, Warren MacLeod, Mayor Amalfa and myself, March 18, 2026.

(2)

Mayor Amalfa, Deputy Mayor Hillen and I attended the Mayors/Wardens/CAO's Meeting in the Town of Shelburne on March 18, 2025.

Climate Risk & Tourism Resilience – Teams - March 23, 2026

Alert Ready – Teams- March 24, 2026

Fleet safety – Teams – March 26, 2026

### **Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades Project**

Things are moving ahead with the new discharge site project and it is scheduled to happen soon. Lindsay Construction won the contract and as soon as the paperwork is signed, the work will commence. We must pay the invoices and CBCL will reimburse us and then recoup their money from their insurance Company. The work should be wrapped up in mid-June 2026. A new heat pump has been installed in the UV Building.

### **Play Park**

The new Play park had its opening on March 15, 2026 with a large crowd in attendance. The children were very excited and had a wonderful time.

I have finished and submitted the final claim to ACOA for the Play Park funding.

I received approval confirmation from the Taylor Lodge # 62 regarding a funding application that I submitted for equipment at the new Play Park. They would like to present the cheque to us in April 2026.

### **Sustainable Services Growth Fund Update**

I have successfully submitted the final reports for the Sustainable Services Growth Fund. The Town of Lockport got a substantial number of improvements accomplished with this fund over the last year.

(3)

**TDAP**

I have completed and submitted the final TDAP report.

Respectfully Submitted by:

June Harding-Town Clerk/Treasurer  
Town of Lockeport

(4)

LIST OF INVOICES ALREADY PAID TO BE PRESENTED AT THE		
MARCH 27, 2026 MEETING		
A.J. GALLAGHER INSURANCE	INSURANCE FOR PLAYPARK	968.00
BELL ALIANT	OFFICES, ELEVATOR, EMO FOR FEB.(CREDIT FROM BELL)	39.47
BELL ALIANT	FAX, FIRE HALL KITCHEN, LIBRARY, SEWER REC CENTRE FOR FEB. (CREDIT FROM BELL)	576.15
BELL ALIANT	FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR FEB	68.85
BELL MOBILITY	STREETS AND GEN GOV'T FOR FEB	202.20
CULLIGAN WATER	DRINKING WATER	63.12
EASTERN FENCE ERECTORS	TWO SWING GATES AT PLAY PARK (PAID BY DONATIONS)	3,744.90
HILLEN, CRAIG	MILEAGE FOR FEB.	71.18
LAMM, CONNIE REIMBURSEMENT	MYM SAFETY VESTS, SIT/STAND DESKS, PEDAL MACHINE FOR UNDER DESK	1,843.08
LEN'S PLUMBING AND HEATING	REPAIRS OF HEAT PUMP FOR REC CENTRE	1,612.54
LYDGATE LOCK STOCK AND BARREL	MOUSE TRAPS AND HEATER FOR BEACH CENTRE, SHOVEL FOR TRAVIS AND WATER FOR TOWN OFFICE	136.28
MALIK, CANDACE	MILEAGE FOR FEB.	35.59
MARK WILLIAMS	SNOW REMOVAL, TRUCKING SALT, SALTING ROADS	11,727.25
MBW COURIER	COURIER SERVICE	379.61
NOVA SCOTIA PUBLIC WORKS	RENTAL OF GRATOR IN MARCH 2024	600.00
ON TOWN AUTO	BATTERY INSTALLED AND AN EXTRA BATTERY	1,110.87
PAYROLL	FEB 21 - MAR 6 2026	14,956.66
PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA	Q4 RCMP COSTS	57,045.83
R. ZWICKER TRUCK AND TRAILOR REPAIR	MVI FOR TRUCK #133 AND #131	505.60
RECEIVER GENERAL	RADIO LICENSE RENEWAL	846.88
RECEIVER GENERAL	CPP DEFICIENCY 2025	149.16



**June Harding**

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**From:** NSFM Communications <communications@nsfm.ca>  
**Sent:** March 17, 2026 10:41 AM  
**Subject:** REMINDER Register Now - Meetings that Matter: Governance, Strategy & Public Trust

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**In-Person Workshop Designed for Elected Officials**

**Workshop Details**

Date/Time: March 30, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom, Westin Nova Scotian Hotel, Halifax

Fee: \$275 + HST

Note: Limited to 100 registrants

**About the Session**

Municipal meetings are where leadership is tested, and where credibility is built.

As municipalities navigate fiscal pressure and increased expectations, the way councils conduct their meetings plays a critical role in demonstrating leadership, accountability, and readiness to partner.

This full-day, interactive session will equip elected officials with practical tools to:

- Strengthen meeting structure and decision discipline
- Clarify roles and reduce common friction points
- Manage tone and difficult moments under pressure
- Use council meetings as visible demonstrations of professionalism and preparedness

Through real-world scenarios, structured exercises, and peer discussion, participants will leave with concrete strategies they can apply immediately in their next meeting.

**Presenters**



**Kristan Hines** – Senior Vice-President, Corporate & Public Affairs, NATIONAL Public Relations

# JOINT SERVICES BOARD EXPLORATION COMMITTEE

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### 1. Establishment of the Committee

The Joint Services Board Exploration Committee (the “Committee”) is a joint body established by the Municipality of the District of Barrington, Municipality of the District of Shelburne, Town of Clark’s Harbour, Town of Lockeport, and the Town of Shelburne (“the Municipal Units”) to explore the opportunities, challenges, and best approaches for establishing a Joint Services Board to deliver municipal services collaboratively across Shelburne County.

### 2. Definitions

- a. **“Committee”** means the Joint Services Board Exploration Committee.
- b. **“Council”** means the municipal council of any of the five Municipal Units.
- c. **“Councillor”** means a sitting member of Council for any of the Municipal Units.
- d. **“Municipal Units”** means, collectively, the Municipality of the District of Barrington, Municipality of the District of Shelburne, Town of Clark’s Harbour, Town of Lockeport and the Town of Shelburne.
- e. **“Member”** means a person appointed to the Committee.
- f. **“Chair”** means the person elected by the Committee to preside over meetings.
- g. **“Vice-Chair”** means the member elected to preside in the absence of the Chair.
- h. **“Administration/Staff Resource”** means the CAO/Clerk of each Municipal Unit, or their designate, providing administrative and technical support to the Committee.

### 3. Objectives

The Committee’s objectives are to:

- a. Explore the feasibility, structure, governance, and operational models for a Joint Services Board, including service delivery options, financial impacts, legislative requirements, and legal considerations.

- b. Identify municipal services suitable for inclusion in the Joint Services Board. Areas may include, but are not limited to, senior services, waste collection, building inspection, HR, IT, and other municipal functions.
- c. Provide a structured forum for discussion, information gathering, and collaborative analysis.
- d. Commission or support studies, reports, public engagement processes, and other research necessary to inform Councils.
- e. Develop recommendations for consideration by each Council regarding the formation, governance, scope, and implementation of a Joint Services Board.
- f. Report regularly to each Council on progress, findings, and emerging issues.

#### **4. Membership**

- a. Voting Members:
  - i. Two (2) Councillors appointed from each of the five Municipal Units.
- b. Non-Voting Members (Staff Resources):
  - i. The CAO/Clerk from each Municipal Unit (or designate).
- c. All appointments shall be made by each respective Council.
- d. Members serve without remuneration but may be reimbursed for authorized expenses incurred in performing their duties, in accordance with municipal policies.
- e. Members must disclose any conflicts of interest and abstain from voting where applicable. Committee deliberations and documents may include sensitive information and shall be treated confidentially, in accordance with applicable legislation and municipal policies.

#### **5. Meetings**

- a. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting members, including at least one representative from each Municipal Unit.
- b. Meetings shall be held quarterly or as required, at a time and location agreed upon by the Committee. Meetings may be in-person or virtual, at the discretion of the Chair.
- c. Except as permitted under applicable legislation, meetings shall be open to the public, with efforts to accommodate virtual attendance when feasible.

- d. Members may participate virtually using technology that allows all participants and the public to see and hear one another simultaneously.

## **6. Voting**

- a. Decisions shall be made by majority vote of the voting members present.
- b. Members who abstain from voting are deemed to have voted in the negative unless otherwise provided by statute or policy.
- c. In the event of a tie vote, the motion is defeated.

## **7. Role of the Chair and Vice-Chair**

- a. The Committee shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair annually.
- b. Duties will include:
  - i. Assisting Administration with agenda preparation and meeting scheduling;
  - ii. Calling the meeting to order;
  - iii. Confirming quorum;
  - iv. Maintaining order and facilitating respectful discussion;
  - v. Guiding the agenda;
  - vi. Recognizing members to speak;
  - vii. Putting motions to vote;
  - viii. Declaring the meeting adjourned.

## **8. Administration / Staff Support**

- a. The CAO/Clerks of the Municipal Units shall jointly provide administrative and technical support.
- b. Committee minutes, reports, and supporting documentation shall be maintained by the staff resources in accordance with municipal records management policies and made available to the public in accordance with applicable legislation.
- c. Staff may assist with research, analysis, report preparation, public engagement planning, and coordination of external consultants or studies.
- d. Committee members shall not direct or instruct staff except through the Committee in accordance with municipal policies.

## **9. Reporting**

- a. The Committee shall report regularly to the Councils of each Municipal Unit, providing updates, findings, and recommendations through formal written reports.
- b. Major reports, studies, or public engagement results shall be formally submitted to all five Councils.
- c. The Committee shall provide a formal written interim report within 6–12 months from the start of its work, outlining preliminary findings, observations, and any emerging recommendations, followed by a formal written final report within 12–24 months, presenting comprehensive findings and final recommendations.
- d. Costs associated with research, studies, or external consultants shall be shared among the Municipal Units in proportion to each unit's share of the uniform assessment and population of Shelburne County, as determined by the most recent provincial data.

## **10. General**

- a. The Committee's recommendations will be submitted to each Council for consideration. Implementation, if approved, will be the responsibility of the respective Municipal Units and may include further inter-municipal agreements.
- b. All public communications or media releases regarding the Committee's work shall be coordinated through the CAO/Clerks of the Municipal Units and approved by the Chair.
- c. The Committee shall conduct its work in accordance with all relevant legislation, municipal by-laws, policies, and codes of conduct.
- d. These Terms of Reference may be amended by mutual agreement of the Councils of all five Municipal Units.

## **11. Approved by Councils**

These Terms of Reference for the Joint Services Board Exploration Committee have been reviewed and approved by the Councils of the Municipal Units of Shelburne County. By way of the signatures below, each Council confirms its support for the establishment of the Committee, its mandate, and its operating principles as outlined in this document.



<b>Municipal Unit</b>	<b>Mayor/Warden</b>	<b>Date</b>
Municipality of the District of Barrington	_____	_____
Municipality of the District of Shelburne	_____	_____
Town of Clark's Harbour	_____	_____
Town of Lockeport	_____	_____
Town of Shelburne	_____	_____

DRAFT

Town of Lockeport Recreation/MYM Minutes  
March 2, 2026

Present: Mayor Derek Almalfa, Councillor Anna Chetwynd, Benn Himmelman, MYM Community Navigator Connie Lamm, Sue Crosby, Jan Fiske and recording Secretary Mary Meagher.

Regrets: Dawn DeMings-Taylor, Will Chetwynd and Emily Swim

The meeting was called to order at 6:02.

Approval of Agenda with several additions: Sugar Hut under Beach Bash, Town Budget 2026/27 under New Business, and Peace Hut under New Business. Moved by Jan and seconded by Connie. Motion carried

Approval of Minutes from February 2, 2026. Moved by Derek and seconded by Benn. Motion carried

There were no presentations/guests tonight.

There was no Old Business to address tonight.

Rhiannon Hinerman joined the meeting at 6:09.

Reports/Updates:

Make Your Move Lockeport

\*Skating date change from March 15<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> from 3-4:30.

\* MYM Day – walk/run that Sue and Dawn are organizing (use medals that Fran had in storage) and the wellnify promotion. This event needs to have longevity well past this pilot project. Build on the lending library – introduce games for seniors such as croquet and lawn bowling. Discussed possibly having a code access to storage building for equipment, need to work on the details.

\*Open Drop-in/Indoor Walking – Benn updated that the drop-in last Friday brought 9 adults and 9 kids. There was only 1 participant at the indoor walking. June and Jill have dropped in occasionally.

\*MYM Lending Library – this was noted above. Connie told us some equipment has been ordered. Benn added that a draft waiver form put together needs to be run past insurance.

\*Lockeport Sign Project – there will be one more meeting this week for fine tuning and will be presented to council at the March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. Derek will submit to the Recreation Committee for review.

**Playground Update:**

Tentative date of March 15<sup>th</sup> for the soft opening. The weather appears to be clearing. Murals will be complete in the next week or two.

Peace Hut – Jan is suggesting it be moved and Sue agreed. There ensued a discussion around this including safety issue with where it is located presently. A motion to board it up for the time being until a decision is made was made by Sue and seconded by Rhiannon. Motion Carried

**Playground Fundraising Group:**

There will be a meeting tomorrow with Sue, Jan and Anna to go over the Playground budget and plans. Eastern fence will be paid.

\*Easter Egg Walk – Rhiannon has wooden eggs that she offered for the walks route. Connie suggested we introduce the senior games at the Easter Hunt Event with the \$500 that she has allocated from the MYM funds for equipment helping with the longevity aspect.

\*50/50 – Sue informed us that another one is starting very soon. There was \$500 raised at the chili/soup fundraiser.

**School Update:**

The boy's basketball team starts provincials in Shelburne on Friday but unfortunately the girls are out of the running.

**New Business:**

Town Budget – Derek let us know that the budget will be put together at the end of March, first of April so if there are any suggestions that the group would like to see included in the budget it was suggested to pass them on to him beforehand.

Anna thanked Benn and Connie for doing an inventory of Fran’s old office, keeping what is good and could be used but also may want to put some items out for people to take. Anna will hold a Seniors Bingo on Tuesday the 17<sup>th</sup> and a Kid’s one on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Bike Camp – May have to see how many volunteers can be gathered to see if and how long this can run.

Beach Bash – New date August 1<sup>st</sup>. Sugar Hut interested in being there. The Heritage/Tourism Committee have offered to assist at this event. Sue said that the playground fundraisers would do the food once again this year.

Family Beach Bash – usually held as a July 1<sup>st</sup> event but it was decided that it would be a Recreation event and to have it July 4/5 or July 11/12, will finalize the dates later. Big Beach Market will sponsor an activity and provide a trophy and prizes. There will be family theme games such as Tug of War, Sandcastle building, water relay, treasure hunt, 3-legged race etc. There is \$500 from MYM funds available for sound.

Volunteer of the Month – no new ones selected at this time.

NSFM Community Success Story submission – Candice suggested the playpark project and Anna wrote it up.

Motion made by Derek and seconded by Connie to nominate the Playground Fundraiser Group (Sue, Jan and Dawn) as volunteers of the year for the Town of Lockeport. Motion Carried

Next meeting date: Monday March 30<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27, moved by Connie and seconded by Rhiannon. Motion Carried

# Western Counties Regional Library

## Board Meeting Minutes

**December 11, 2025**

### Present:

Councillor Sherry Thorburn Irvine, Board Chair, Municipality of Shelburne.

Councillor Kathy Bourque, Municipality of Argyle.

Councillor George Manzer, Municipality of Digby.

Councillor Phil Mooney, Municipality of Yarmouth.

Mayor Clay Kenney, Town of Clark's Harbour.

Councillor William McCormick, Town of Digby.

Councillor Belle Hatfield, Town of Yarmouth.

Clifford Hood, Yarmouth Public Library & Museum.

Erin Comeau, Secretary – Treasurer.

### Present via Zoom:

Councillor Amy MacKinnon, Municipality of Barrington.

Councillor Réanne Evans, Municipality of Clare.

### Regrets:

Councillor Candace Malik, Town of Lockeport.

Councillor Elizabeth Acker, Town of Shelburne.

### **1. Call to Order.**

The Chair, Sherry Thorburn Irvine, calls the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. and welcomes everyone to the meeting.

### **2. Adoption of the Agenda.**

There being no additions to the agenda, Belle Hatfield moves and Phil Mooney seconds the adoption of the agenda. Motion carried.

### **3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.**

The minutes of the September 25, 2025 board meeting are circulated. Belle Hatfield moves and Phil Mooney seconds the approval of the September 25, 2025 board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

### **4. Business arising from the minutes.**

#### **4.1 Communications Strategy – CORL Update and discussion**

Erin reports that the Council or Regional Librarians discussed communication strategies that will help regional libraries demonstrate the value of their services. Erin will start working on budget scenarios in the new year to present to the board in March. Multiple scenarios will be presented including one with reduced funding. Public communications about the future of library services will depend on financial decisions for the fiscal year 2026-2027. Erin noted that the headquarters space no longer meets the library's operating needs and that significant renovations are required. The WCRL will need to fund these renovations. A more in-depth discussion on budget and spending will be held at the March 2026 board meeting.

#### **4.2 Guidelines for Naming of Buildings**

Erin notes that the development of the guidelines are postponed until other priorities including transitioning the bookkeeping services, reviewing the operational needs for headquarters and developing budget scenarios are met. The guidelines will be kept on the agenda until the 2026-2027 Management Activities are approved by the board.

### **5. Chair's Report.**

Sherry noted that board members, our Executive Director and staff continues to serve residents with quality programming and services, despite many challenges. Prioritizing our core services remain at the heart of what we do as a library system in Southwest Nova Scotia. The Board remains committed to ensuring good governance and support to our Executive Director. She looks forward to the 2026-2027 fiscal year when all regional libraries in the province will be positioning their libraries to adapt to the current provincial funding reality that we face collectively, as sustainable provincial funding remains the goal.

**6. Director's Report.**

With Management staff down from 8 to 6, some duties have been redistributed in order to keep core operations going. Erin notes that a number of the 2025-2026 Management Activities have been postponed due to the redistribution of duties and staff capacity constraints.

**7. Approval of the Financial Statement.**

Erin presents the October 31, 2025 trial balance report. She notes that the staff wage increases and the retroactive pay were paid in November and will only appear in the November trial balance. Phil Mooney moves and Kathy Bourque seconds to accept the October 31, 2025 Financial Statement as submitted. Motion carried.

**8. HR Governance Committee Chair's Meeting Report**

Belle Hatfield, Chair of the HR Governance Committee, indicates that the HR Governance Committee met on November 27 to review two policies.

**8.1 Respectful Workplace and Harassment Prevention Policy**

Belle indicates that after review, the HR Governance Committee recommends approval from the board. Belle Hatfield moves and Phil Mooney seconds to accept the Respectful Workplace and Harassment Prevention Policy as presented. Motion carried.

**8.2 Employee Code of Conduct Policy**

Belle indicates that after review, the HR Governance Committee recommends approval from the Board. Belle Hatfield moves and George Manzer seconds to accept the Employee Code of Conduct Policy as presented. Motion carried.

**8.3 Discontinued Policies**

Belle indicates that after discussion, the HR Governance Committee recommends approval from the Board. George Manzer moves and Clay Kenney seconds that the following four policies be discontinued: Employee Code of Conduct, Code of Ethics, Staff Use of Library Materials and Equipment, and Political Activities by Employees.

Motion carried.

Belle notes that the HR Governance Committee also discussed the need to develop a performance review process for the Executive Director. A committee will be formed to do this.

#### 8.4 Board Orientation Package

Erin indicates that she created a Board Orientation Package based on the information that is in the WCRL Information Booklet for Municipal Councillors. The new sections in the orientation package are: Conduct, Conflict of Interest and Supporting Documents.

All new board members will receive this package as part of their orientation.

Belle Hatfield moves and Kathy Bourque seconds the approval of the WCRL Board Orientation Package. Motion carried.

A discussion was held on adding "Declaration of Conflict of Interest" to the board agenda, following "Adoption of Agenda". Also discussed was adding "In Camera" before "Adjournment". All agreed it was a good idea to add these two items to future agendas.

### 9. New Business.

#### 9.1 Public Policy Review.

Six public policies are presented for review. They are: Privacy Policy, Volunteers, Photography and Video in the Library, Library Use and Behaviour Code, Children in the Library and Fundraising. Belle Hatfield moves and Phil Mooney seconds that all six public policies be approved as amended. Motion carried.

### 10. Other.

Erin indicates that the library still has one cashable GIC in the bank with a lower interest rate than what is offered through the library's High Interest Savings Account (HISA). She would like to cash the GIC and move it to the HISA to simplify bookkeeping and generate more funds for the library. Kathy Bourque moves and Belle Hatfield seconds

that the Library's cashable GIC be cashed and placed in the Library's High Interest Savings Account. Motion carried.

11. **Around the Table.** - none

12. **Next Meeting – proposed date.**

The next quarterly board meeting date is Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 1:00 pm.

13. **Adjournment.**

The meeting adjourns at 2:05 pm.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO

# Regional Chairs Re-Cap

March 18 2026



All PPP items

45 School St Box 639 Mahone Bay NS B0J 2E0  
Christine.McClare@Region6SWM.ca

## Past Committee Meetings

Regional Coordinators  
Mar 5 Jan 15

Regional Chairs  
Jan 23

Municipal-Provincial Priorities  
Feb 19

## Diversion Credit Payment timing

Items outstanding as of Mar 18th

Unit or facility	Who contacted	Purpose	Details
Antigonish County	Terri Baglole and Tanya Williams	Complete Datacall and diversion credit	They still need to provide us with some outstanding Datacall information
NSECC	Don MacQueen and Elisabeth Mance	Diversion credit	HRM is disputing Halifax Water Sediment - Don needs to chime in
TorBrook C&D	Karie-Ann Parsons	Diversion credit	Christine (R6 coordinator) wants clarification about C&D sent from MJSB
Arlington Heights	Bev Connell	Diversion credit	Andrea Gibson-Garret (for VWRM) and Christine (for West Hants) required clarifications from Arlington Heights

Disposal/diversion tonnage and percent of funding cannot be calculated until all submissions have been received. Antigonish County still not finalized.

Two private C&D sites reported receiving large amounts of material from West Hants (Arlington Heights north of Bridgetown) and MJSB Lunenburg (Torbook C&D Site near Middleton). As West Hants and MJSB were aware of this material, clarifications were asked, to support the claim, about where it came from, who brought it, when was it received and how much was diverted. No response received from Divert NS yet.

Payments have never been this late before. Update coming next week (before year end).

## NSECC Response re: Sharps EPR legislation

Matt Seaboyer (NSECC) reported taking the sharps incidents data to the Minister. This was requested in support for legislation for EPR. The response was the timing was not right, a lot is going on, no resources to dedicate to this (and fewer in future years) so the answer was not now.

They say a next step could be to arrange a meeting between themselves, the Pharmacy Association of NS (PANS) and Divert NS.

Chairs were disappointed and felt this response was not good enough – a letter will be sent to the Minister requesting a meeting to discuss the importance of the issue, supported by data collected across NS. If meetings will be held with PANS and Divert NS, it will be requested to include municipal employee Rob Matheson who has been spearheading this issue for the past 2 years.

## Priorities Group – ICI Recycling Facility Access

Letter sent to CM by Chairs asking whether ICI material will be accepted at the new Super MRF.

Response received from Circular Materials (CM) was they would be open to discussing the idea. Divert NS would need to agree. Since the CM facility will be serving both NS and NB, both provinces would also need to agree.

Keeping ICI and Residential material separate is critical and would be complex. They expect it will take about 6 months to determine if it is possible.

Priorities Group will begin to survey Municipal sites/facilities on what they need to stay in business in the post EPR world. Any interest/ability to continue?

NEXT Committee Meetings		
Regional Coordinators Apr 10	Regional Chairs Apr 29	Municipal-Provincial Priorities TBA
R6 Inter-Municipal Comm – Sept 11 2026		

**June Harding**

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**From:** Lisa Roy <lisat22222@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** March 19, 2026 10:50 AM  
**To:** townoflockeport@ns.sympatico.ca  
**Subject:** Tourist attractions

Town Council,

I'll start by saying I'm in favour of the mermaid statue, the story I'm not right behind, but either way, I think it's great. Is there a reason why we couldn't have that plus another?

I had an idea this morning that i thought may be aligned with our history and an attraction I'm not aware of being anywhere else in Nova Scotia.

Have you ever seen the 'stairway to heaven' or Buddha's hand in China?  
We should do something that is also an optical illusion where you can sit in a boat with an old lobster fisherman and with the angle of the picture it looks like you're on the ocean but in actuality you're on dry land. I don't know how or where you'd position it but in a town surrounded by water, there must be a way. New Brunswick has Magnetic Hill. Same sort of attraction, looks like something it's not.

Just an idea I thought I'd pass along.

Lisa Roy

Sent from my iPhone=

**June Harding**

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**From:** Nicole Blades <nicole.blades@municipalityofshelburne.ca>  
**Sent:** March 24, 2026 8:58 AM  
**To:** Warden Penny Smith; Derek Amalfa ; Stan Jacklin; Clarks Harbour Mayor (mayor@clarksharbour.com)  
**Cc:** Warren MacLeod; June Harding; Sarah Mattatall; Jennifer Jones  
**Subject:** FW: Closure of Ross-Thomson House & Store Museum and Barrington Woolen Mill Museum

Good morning,

Please see a response from Nolan Young regarding the letter sent to the Premier from the four units regarding the announced museum closures.

Thank you,

*Nicole Blades*

Executive Assistant  
Municipality of the District of Shelburne  
414 Woodlawn Drive  
PO Box 280  
Shelburne, NS B0T 1W0  
Office: (902) 875-3544 Ext. 227  
[Nicole.Blades@municipalityofshelburne.ca](mailto:Nicole.Blades@municipalityofshelburne.ca)

\*\*\*My regular office hours are Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

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**From:** Nolan Young <nolan.young@shelburnemla.ca>  
**Sent:** March 23, 2026 2:18 PM  
**To:** Nicole Blades <nicole.blades@municipalityofshelburne.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: Closure of Ross-Thomson House & Store Museum and Barrington Woolen Mill Museum

**CAUTION: This email originated from an external sender.**

Dear Nicole  
Thank you for your email regarding the recent provincial budget.  
I apologize for the late reply; however, I have been in Halifax during the Spring legislative session so this is my first opportunity to respond.  
Although no one likes reductions, as you are probably aware, current spending is not sustainable, so we needed to begin making them.  
Last week, the Premier held a press conference where he reinstated funding for Senior and Disability programs.  
While the funding reductions for museums was not restored, the overall arts funding in Nova Scotia has increased from \$51 million in 2021 to \$66 million in 2026.

(24)

I want to assure you that I am working with my colleagues to find options that will allow our museums to remain open,

If you could share this response with your council it would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely

Nolan

On Tue, Mar 3, 2026 at 3:44 PM Nicole Blades <[nicole.blades@municipalityofshelburne.ca](mailto:nicole.blades@municipalityofshelburne.ca)> wrote:

Good afternoon Premier Houston,

Please find a letter attached submitted on behalf of four municipal units in Shelburne County concerning the recent decision to close several museums and visitor information centres across the province.

Thank you,

*Nicole Blades*

Executive Assistant

Municipality of the District of Shelburne

414 Woodlawn Drive

PO Box 280

Shelburne, NS B0T 1W0

Office: (902) 875-3544 Ext. 227

[Nicole.Blades@municipalityofshelburne.ca](mailto:Nicole.Blades@municipalityofshelburne.ca)

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(253)

# TOWN OF DIGBY

PO BOX 579 DIGBY NOVA SCOTIA B0V 1A0

March 17, 2026

**Dear Premier Houston,**

**Re: Letter of Support for Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty**

On behalf of the Town of Digby, I am writing to express our support for the concerns raised by the Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty (ACEP) regarding the need to increase social assistance and disability support rates in Nova Scotia.

We are increasingly aware of the growing pressures facing residents, as the costs of housing, food, energy, and other essential needs continue to rise. Many individuals and families in our communities rely on social assistance and disability benefits to meet their basic daily needs.

While we acknowledge the announced 1.6% increase to social assistance and disability rates for 2026, Council shares the concern that this adjustment does not keep pace with inflation or the rising cost of living. Without more substantial increases, many individuals and families will continue to experience significant financial hardship.

The Town of Digby supports ACEP's call for a meaningful increase to social assistance and disability support rates, with the goal of ensuring that Nova Scotians are able to meet their basic needs and live with dignity. Addressing poverty strengthens not only individuals and families, but also the overall health and resilience of our communities.

We respectfully encourage your government to carefully consider these concerns and to engage in further discussion with community partners, including ACEP, to identify solutions that better support vulnerable Nova Scotians.

Sincerely,



Mayor Mike Bartlett  
Town of Digby

Cc: MLA Jill Balseer, all Nova Scotia Municipalities

(26)

**MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF  
ANTIGONISH**

285 Beech Hill Road, Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4  
Web [antigonishcounty.ca](http://antigonishcounty.ca)  
Tel (902) 863-1117  
Fax (902) 863-5751

February 12, 2026

The Honourable Tim Houston  
Premier of Nova Scotia  
Office of the Premier  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor, One Government Place  
1700 Granville Street  
Halifax, NS B3J 1X5

Dear Premier Houston,

**RE: Letter of support for Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty**

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On behalf of the Municipality of the County of Antigonish, I am writing to express our support for the concerns raised by the Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty (ACEP) regarding the need to increase social assistance and disability support rates in Nova Scotia.

Council recognizes the important work being done by ACEP and its member organizations in supporting individuals and families across Antigonish and Guysborough Counties. We are aware of the growing pressures facing residents as costs for housing, food, energy, and other essential needs continue to rise. Many individuals and families in our communities rely on social assistance and disability benefits to meet their basic daily needs.

While we acknowledge the announced 1.6% increase to social assistance and disability rates for 2026, Council shares the concern that this adjustment does not keep pace with inflation or the rising cost of living. As outlined in ACEP's letter, current benefit levels remain below established poverty thresholds, including the Market Basket Measure. Without more substantial increases, many individuals and families will continue to experience significant financial hardship.

The Municipality supports ACEP's call for a meaningful increase to social assistance and disability support rates, with the goal of ensuring that Nova Scotians are able to meet their basic needs and live with dignity. Addressing poverty strengthens not only individuals and families, but also the overall health and resilience of our communities.

We respectfully encourage your government to carefully consider these concerns and to engage in further discussion with community partners, including ACEP, to identify solutions that better support vulnerable Nova Scotians.

Sincerely,



Warden Nicholas MacInnis  
Municipality of the County of Antigonish

CC: all Nova Scotia Municipalities

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## Justice

### Public Safety and Security Division

Hayley Crichton, Executive Director of Public Safety and Security Division

1690 Hollis Street

Phone:

902 225-0416

PO Box 7

Halifax, NS B3J 2L6

Email:

Hayley.crichton@novascotia.ca

(273)

March 18, 2026

Dear Chief Administrative Officers,

I am writing following calls to municipalities on March 17, 2026, regarding municipal billing for Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) policing services for the 2026–27 fiscal year. The information shared during these calls reflected estimated costs only. Final billing letters will be issued following the passage of the provincial *Appropriations Act*, in accordance with the usual course of business.

I would like to acknowledge the challenges the timing of sharing estimates may have created for municipalities as you worked through your own budget planning. I recognize that uncertainty can be frustrating, and I sincerely appreciate the patience and understanding shown by municipal partners. We are mindful of the impacts on municipal planning.

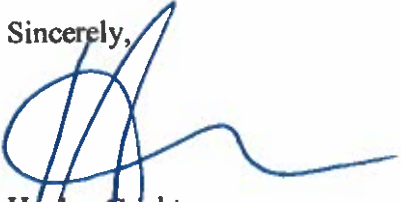
Looking ahead to 2026–27, we are committed to strengthening communication with municipalities. As we contemplate the implementation of a new billing mechanism, our goal will be to approach this consultatively and ensure a more accessible and responsive approach to RCMP service administration.

My team and I are available at any time should you have questions or wish to discuss billing and/or policing service matters further. Please feel free to reach out to any of us directly:

- Hayley Crichton, Executive Director – 902-225-0416
- Charcy Marchand, Director – 902-240-6706
- Matthew Ritchie, Manager – 902-497-2167
- Danielle Desjardins, RCMP Liaison to the DOJ – 902-818-9719
- Kai Qin, Strategic Advisor (Finance) – Kai.Qin@novascotia.ca

Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration in supporting effective policing services across Nova Scotia.

Sincerely,



Hayley Crichton  
Executive Director  
Public Safety and Security Division  
Nova Scotia Department of Justice