

**Sherbrooke Lake Access Advisory Committee**

**AGENDA**

**Location: New Ross Consolidated School, 4689 Hwy 12**

**December 10, 2015 at 7 p.m.**

Page

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF November 12, 2015 MEETING AS CIRCULATED
4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
5. WHO IS THE SHERBROOKE LAKE ACCESS COMMITTEE AND WHAT IS THEIR MANDATE p1-16
6. UPDATE ON THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CONCERNING THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS
7. INTRODUCTION OF THE CONSULTING FIRM UPLAND
8. PRESENTATION BY DR. BARRIE CLARK – SHERBROOKE LAKE WATER QUALITY REPORT 2014
9. UPDATE ON THE REPORT TO MODL COUNCIL p17-20
10. UPDATE AND FINANCIAL REQUEST TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF CHESTER COUNCIL p21-23
11. PUBLIC INPUT (15 minutes)
12. NEXT MEETING DATE
13. INCAMERA ITEM as per the MGA 22 (2) (a) - Land Negotiations
14. ADJOURNMENT

**Sherbrooke Lake Access Advisory  
Committee**

**Monthly Meeting**

**New Ross Consolidated School**

**December 10, 2015**



# No Decision has been made

- ▶ The mandate of the Committee is:
- ▶ To provide broad based community advice to the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg and provide options available for establishing public access to Sherbrooke Lake
- ▶ To engage the public to ensure community input throughout the process



# Background

- ▶ In 2013/2014 MODL Council began discussing the topic of public access to Sherbrooke Lake
- ▶ In May/June 2014 residents and property owners wrote and presented to Council expressing the need to have input from the community before making any decision and moving forward



# Background

- ▶ In September 2014 Council directed staff to prepare a Terms of Reference for the Committee
- ▶ The Terms of Reference states the Committee will be ten members with representation from MODL and MODC.



# Background

- ▶ The ten member Committee appointed:
  - ▶ Chair, Larry Hagell                      Lennis Corkum
  - ▶ Vice-Chair, Jack Wentzell              Douglas Moore
  - ▶ Garth Bangay                              Allan Veinot
  - ▶ John Budden                                Rex Veinot
  - ▶ Murray Coolican                         Mark Wentzell



# Background

- ▶ Committee held first meeting in May 2015
- ▶ Committee meets monthly



# Snap Shot of Accomplishments to Date

- ▶ The Committee approved their work plan at the November meeting.
- ▶ Outcomes in the Plan include:
  - ▶ 1. Research & Identify Site Options
  - ▶ 2. Determine concerns of the public and impact in the lake



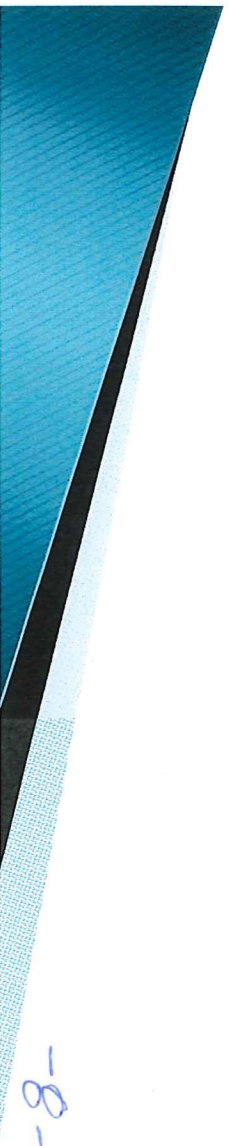
# Work Plan Continued

- ▶ 3. Determine level and interest of the public to determine type of access to Sherbrooke Lake
- ▶ 4. Investigate best practices concerning public access to lakes
- ▶ 5. Present site options, recommended uses and report to Council



# Site Options Identified

- ▶ A sub-committee has been formed to identify possible site options; some contacts have been made; continuing to explore other site options



# Public Consultation

- ▶ A Request for Proposals was issued seeking a firm to objectively implement and manage the public consultation process ensuring opportunities for residents and property owners in both MODL and MODC to provide input
- ▶ MODL has engaged the services of Upland to implement and manage the public consultation process
- ▶ Public consultation will begin after the holidays



# Determining concerns of public and impact to the lake

- ▶ Sub-committee formed to pull knowledge around the lake pertaining to land use; water quality – to provide a picture of the lake
- ▶ Dr. Barrie Clarke is on the agenda tonight to present the water quality report of 2014 of Sherbrooke Lake



# Next Steps

- ▶ To work closely with the Consulting Firm around the public consultation process which should be completed by the middle of March 2016
- ▶ To continue work on gathering the knowledge around Sherbrooke Lake pertaining to history, community stories, water quality and overall environmental concerns



## Next Steps Continued

- ▶ To continue investigating site options
- ▶ To have a report for Council between June–August 2016



# Decision of Council

- ▶ There has been no decision made by MODL Council pertaining to the location or the type of public access
- ▶ There is a sub-committee in place investigating possible site locations
- ▶ The firm Upland has been hired to conduct an extensive public consultation process to help determine the type of access (will include web based survey)

# Decision of Council

- ▶ A sub-committee has been formed to gather knowledge and information to inform the report to Council – water quality, land use, environmental impacts – to develop a picture of the lake
- ▶ Best Practices will be researched



# Decision of Council

- ▶ The information gathered from:
  - ▶ The site options investigation
  - ▶ The Public Consultation Process
  - ▶ The research to pull knowledge of the lake
  - ▶ The research conducted looking at Best Practices

Will help inform the report presented to Council by this Committee (June–August 2016)

# We Want to Hear from You

- ▶ Sherbrooke Lake is a resource not owned by any one of us but it is up to us to get constructively involved in providing input and factual information that will help ensure the decision made is a well informed decision
- ▶ A decision that is community focused and in the best interest of the lake.



-16-

MEMO

**TO:** Municipality of the District of Lunenburg Council  
**FROM:** Sherbrooke Lake Access Advisory Committee  
**RE:** Update on Committee's Activities  
**DATE:** December 1, 2015

The Sherbrooke Lake Access Advisory Committee has been working on a number of activities since the last update provided to Council on The following provides a snap shot of the accomplishments to date.

- The Committee's work plan was approved at the November 12, 2015 meeting (attached)
- A sub-committee was formed to identify possible site options and some contacts made. Site possibilities are being explored. (outcome # 1)
- A Request for Proposals was issued and advertised in the local papers, MODL's website and on the Provincial site that post tenders and RFP's. (outcome # 3)
- Seven proposals were received from consulting firms seeking the contract to conduct the public consultation process that will ensure the engagement of residents and property owners in the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg and the Municipality of the District of Chester. (outcome # 3)
- A sub-committee was formed to evaluate the proposals. Firms were short listed based on evaluation criteria established in the Request for Proposals. Interviewed four firms, contacted references on two, to assist in making a final decision. The consulting firm will be involving Council to receive input concerning the questions to be asked in the survey (on-line and paper form).
- Sub- committee formed to pull knowledge around the lake pertaining to land use; water quality – to provide a picture of the lake. (Outcome # 2)
- An update will be provided to the Municipality of the District of Chester Council on December 10, 2015 and a request will be made for financial assistance to help pay the costs associated with the public consultation process. (outcome # 3)

- **Next Committee meeting will be held Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the New Ross Consolidated School. The Committee is working on having some guest speakers to speak of some environmental factors to consider when providing public access to a lake. This is the second meeting the Committee will have held in the Municipality of the District of Chester to date.**

**The Committee has been busy working on a number of outcomes as outlined in the work plan and striving to meet the deadline of having a report to Council in July/August of 2016 which will make recommendations pertaining possible site options; the type of public access based on extensive public input; the environmental impacts to be considered when making a decision concerning public access; and Class D level pricing of four possible access options (outcome # 5). Although the Committee meets only once a month, several sub-committees have been formed, are meeting and getting a great deal of work accomplished in between meetings.**

**Over the next several months the committee will be involved in the public consultation process, continuing to work on investigating site options and gathering information pertaining to land use and water quality of the lake – all information that will assist Council in making an informed decision concerning public access to Sherbrooke Lake.**

Sherbrooke Lake  
Access Advisory Committee  
Work Plan

Sherbrooke Lake Access Advisory Committee Work Plan

Outcomes	Activities	Responsibility	Resources	Time Line
1. Research & Identify Site Options	a) Research	Staff/Committee	Staff / Committee Time	Sep 2015 – May 2016
2. Determine concerns of the public and impact in the lake	a) Survey/Public Meetings	Consultant/Staff/Committee	Funding for Consultant	Nov-Jan 2016
	b) Pull knowledge around Sherbrooke Lake pertaining to land use; water quality – to provide a picture of the Lake	Staff/Committee	Residents/Parkdale/Maplewood Museum, Planning staff	Oct-Jan 2016
	c) Invite Kings Co. to come speak to Committee	Staff/Committee		Nov 2015
	d) Create map of the Lake	Staff	Planning Staff	Oct 2015
3. Determine level and interest of public to determine type of access to Sherbrooke Lake	a) Approach Council for funds to be able to hire a consultant to conduct public consultation – survey and public meetings	Staff/Committee	Funding to hire Consultant	Sep 2015
	b) Create a RFP to hire a consultant	Staff/Committee	Staff / Committee Time	October 2015
	c) Hire consultant	Staff/Committee	Staff/Committee Time	Nov 2015
	d) To work with a consultant to design, implement and report back on findings from public consultations	Consultant/Staff/Committee		Nov – March 2016
	e) Report findings to Council	Staff/Committee	Staff/Committee	March 2016
4. Investigate Best Practices concerning public access to Lakes	a) Visit sites in NS	Committee/Staff	Staff/Committee Time	Sep-Dec 2015
	b) Conduct Research on Internet, call other provinces, etc.	Committee/Staff		
5. Present site options, recommended uses and report to Council	Create and present report based on public input and research	Committee/Staff	Staff/Committee Time	June/July 2016



# Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

## Recreation Services

December 2, 2015

Municipality of the District of Chester  
151 King Street  
Chester NS B0J 1J0

**Re: Sherbrooke Lake Access Advisory Committee**

Dear Council for the Municipality of the District of Chester:

Thank you for providing the Sherbrooke Lake Access Advisory Committee, which is a Committee of the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, an opportunity to come and speak to you today about the mandate of the Committee and the outcomes we are working towards concerning providing public access to Sherbrooke Lake. As you are aware, Sherbrooke Lake is the second largest lake in Nova Scotia and spans both the District of Chester and the District of Lunenburg.

The Municipality of the District of Lunenburg made the decision to form the Sherbrooke Lake Access Advisory Committee after receiving input from residents and property owners. In September 2014 staff were directed to create a Terms of Reference for this Committee. In December 2014 the Terms of Reference were approved by Council, a copy of which is attached. The Municipality then placed ads in the local paper and on their website seeking applications from interested individuals who were residents and/or property owners in both the District of Lunenburg and the District of Chester. At the February 24, 2015 Council meeting the following individuals were appointed to the Committee:

**Garth Bangay, John Budden, Murray Coolican, Lennis Corkum, Douglas Moore, Allan Veinot, Rex Veinot, Jack Wentzell and Mark Wentzell. Larry Hagell was voted in as Chair, and Jack Wentzell as Vice-Chair.**

The Committee held their first meeting in May 2015 which was an orientation session outlining the role of the Committee. The Committee meets monthly and has been working on their work plan which was approved by the Committee at their November 2015 meeting, also attached. There are five outcomes outlined in the work plan. They are:

- 1. Research and identify site options**
- 2. Determine concerns of the public and impact on the lake**
- 3. Determine the level and interest of the public to define the type of access to Sherbrooke Lake (public consultation process)**

-21-

4. Investigate best practices concerning public access to lake
5. Present site options, recommended uses, and report to Council

#### **Research & Identify Site Options**

The Committee has identified a number of site options around the lake and have been making contacts with property owners. This work is ongoing.

#### **Determine concerns of the public and impact of the lake**

A sub-committee has been established to do the leg work to pull knowledge around the lake pertaining to land use; water quality – to provide overall a picture which will help inform the Committee and the two Councils. Guest speakers will be invited to the Committee meetings to help provide information to form that picture.

#### **Determine the level and interest of the public to determine the type of access to the Lake**

A public consultation process will be conducted to help to achieve this outcome. At the September 22, 2015 MODL Council meeting, Council approved funding up to \$20,000 to conduct public consultation. Our goal is to objectively determine the level and nature of the public's interest in having access to Sherbrooke Lake, and for staff to investigate options that could reduce the cost to MODL. A Request for Proposals was issued and advertised in the local paper, MODL's website, and on the Provincial tendering site. Seven proposals were received. The selected consulting firm will conduct and manage the public consultation process which will provide opportunities for all stakeholders to get engaged and provide input.

#### **Investigate best practices concerning public access to Lakes**

During the summer months several committee members visited some public lake access sites in the Valley. This outcome will also involve conducting some research.

#### **Present site options, recommended uses and a report to MODL Council**

This last outcome will be informed by the first four outcomes.

The Committee will be extremely busy over the next several months. They will continue to investigate possible site options, working closely with the consulting firm conducting the public consultation process, and working to gather information and engage experts to help create the "picture of the lake". This will involve looking at land use, water quality, and what environmental factors are to be considered when providing public access to the lake.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the New Ross Consolidated School. The Committee has made a commitment to hold meetings in both the District of Lunenburg and the District of Chester. This will be the second meeting the Committee has held in the District of Chester.

The District of Lunenburg values its partnership with the District of Chester surrounding providing public access to Sherbrooke Lake. We value and appreciate the dedication of Councillor Tina Connors who

regularly attends the Sherbrooke Lake Access Advisory Committee meetings, in an attempt to keep herself and you as a Council informed on this matter.

The Request for Proposal issued concerning public consultation has clearly stated that residents and property owners in the District of Chester must be included in the process. Part of our reason for being here today is to request that the Council for the District of Chester make a financial contribution towards the public consultation process. This process will help not only the District of Lunenburg but also the District of Chester when making decisions pertaining to public access to Sherbrooke Lake.

Once again, thank you for providing us with the opportunity to update you on the activities of the Sherbrooke Lake Access Advisory Committee. We look forward to working with your Council and the District of Chester as we continue gathering the vital information required to make informed decisions.

Sincerely,

Members of the Sherbrooke Lake Access Committee