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## **Policy & Strategy Committee Meeting Agenda**

**Tuesday, June 16, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.**

**MODL Council Chambers, 10 Allée Champlain Drive Cookville NS**

- 1. Call to Order**
  - 1.1 Mi'kma'ki Territorial Acknowledgement
- 2. Announcements, Acknowledgements, Recognition**
- 3. Public Input (15 Minutes)**
- 4. Changes/Approval of Agenda (as circulated)**
- 5. Approval of Minutes – May 19, 2026 (as circulated)**
- 6. Business Arising from Minutes – Nil**
- 7. Presentations/Scheduled Times – Nil**
- 8. Referral from Council – Nil**
- 9. Staff Reports**
  - 9.1 Administration**
    - 9.1.1 Community Development Project, Shannon MacKay & Kwan Ki Tsoi ..... 1-29
  - 9.2 Finance**
    - 9.2.1 LaHave Coastal Conservation Association Tax Exemption Application..... 30-33
  - 9.3 Recreation, Parks & Tourism**
    - 9.3.1 Funding Model for Proposed Commemorative Asset Policy ..... 34-38
- 10. Mayor's/Deputy Mayor's/Councillors' Matters**
  - 10.1 South Shore Regional Public Library Board Update, Councillor Smith
  - 10.2 Lunenburg County Seniors Safety Society Update, Councillor Smith ..... 39-40
  - 10.3 FCM Update
- 11. Added Items**
- 12. In Camera**
  - 12.1 Contract Negotiations re Section 22(2)(e) of the MGA 11:00 a.m.
- 13. Adjournment**



# Community Development Project Council Discussion Session

Policy and Strategy June 2026

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Municipality of the District of Lunenburg



## Agenda

- Welcome and Purpose of the Meeting
- Volunteerism
- Definition and Guiding Principles
- Background
- Jurisdictional Scan
- Options
- Questions and Discussion

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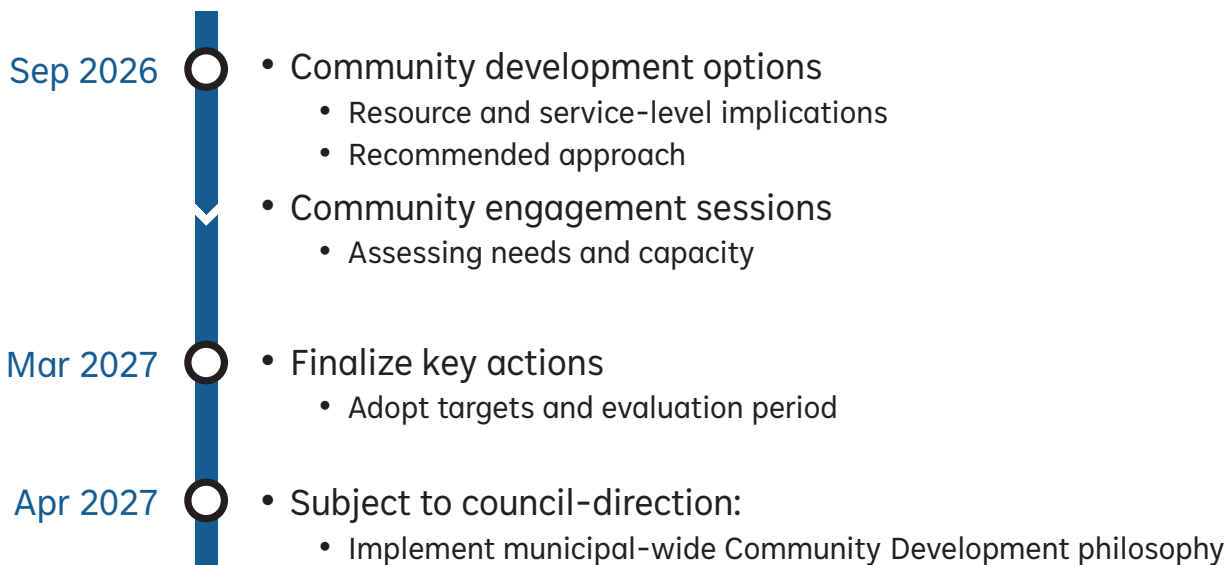


# Purpose of the Meeting

1. To understand and clarify Council’s goals for community development
2. To review what MODL is currently doing
3. To understand where council wants more investigation and analysis
4. To review the timeline



# Council’s Decision-Making Timeline



# Volunteerism

## - Trend in Nova Scotia

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## Volunteerism Status in Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia is facing a decline in volunteerism

- Fewer people are volunteering, and
- Volunteers are dedicating fewer hours on volunteering work

\*Note: The smallest geographical unit on volunteering data from Statistics Canada is the Province (NS), so the data shows the overall trend but may not be representative to MODL as a rural municipality

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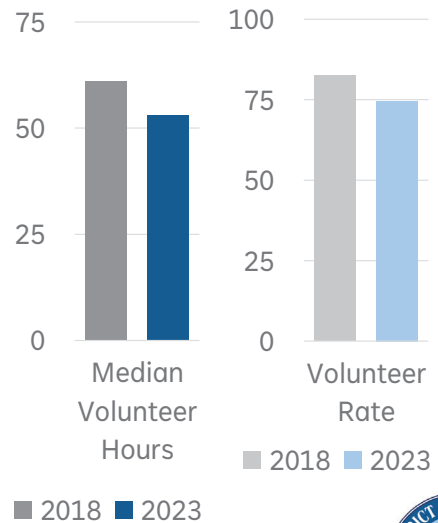
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# Volunteerism Status in Nova Scotia Cont.

Comparing data between 2018 and 2023

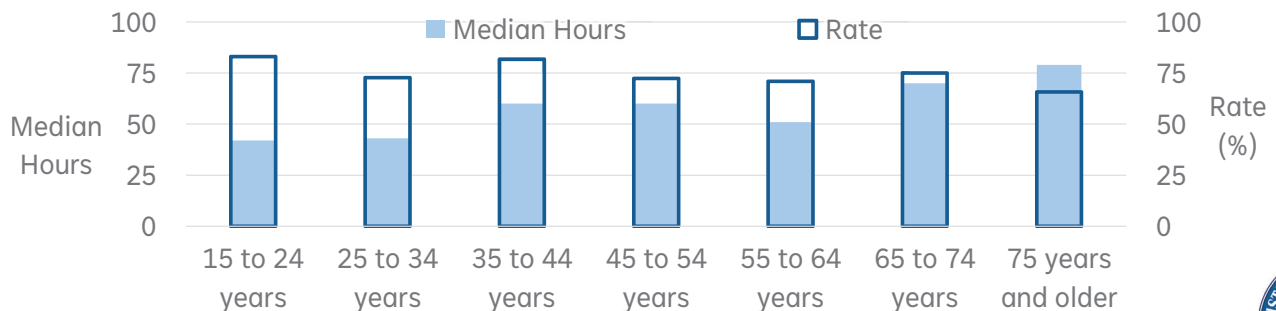
- *Annual Median Volunteer Hours per Person* (hours dedicated to volunteering work)
  - Had a **13% reduction** (8 hours fewer)
- *Volunteer Rate* (percentage of population that have engaged in any volunteering work)
  - Had a **9% reduction** (-8% of the population)



# Volunteerism Status in Nova Scotia Cont.

Volunteer hours and rate does not always correlate

- Age groups of 15 to 35 have **higher volunteer rate** but **lower hours**
- Age group of 75+ have **higher hours per volunteer** but **lower rate**



# Definition and Guiding Principle

on Community Development



## Council's Vision

- During previous strategic projects planning council identified a vision that the Municipality will use **Community Development** to improve **Quality of Life** in MODL.



# Guiding Principles

Community Development  
will ...

**direct** how Council makes decisions and  
delivers services

**drive** us to take bold actions to sustain  
and invigorate a healthy volunteer sector

**inform** how departments and staff  
collaborate on municipal work and  
respond to community needs



# Definition and Guiding Principle

## Quality of Life Priorities

Five quality of life priorities identified in July 2025 PSC report  
will provide guidance to the community development process



# Definition and Guiding Principle



## Approach

- Support grassroots initiatives
- Communities know what they need to succeed
- Bottom → up community development
- Fogo Island approaches, like “PLACE”
  - Community-led

Promote community leaders

Link divergent perspectives

Amplify local capacities and assets

Convey compelling stories

Embrace complexity, balance old and new ideas



## Community Development Is...

- Enabling community-led solutions
- Building local capacity and leadership
- Strengthening relationships and participation
- Aligning support around improving quality of life
- Supporting resilience and well-being



## Community Development Is **Not**...

- Municipality directing community projects
- A replacement for core municipal services
- Only a title



# New Germany Community Café



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## Example – New Germany Community Café

- A weekly event drawing 60-80 people
- Began with small group of leaders
- Used natural skills of the community to fill a need for connection
  - Friendly greeters
  - Sharing food
  - Childcare support



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# New Germany Café – Value to MODL

- Enhancing community spirit and connections in MODL
- Adds value to community without relying on MODL services
- Creates pre-established networks and audience
  - Eg. Salmon Falls Presentation



## Background

on existing initiatives



# Established Elements in Community Development

## Council's Impact

- Favour projects involving community champions
- \$3M in grants for community organizations
- Strategic role in creating and maintaining infrastructure
- Seeks partnerships to provide municipal services



# Established Elements in Community Development

## Municipal Work

- Economic Development
- Recreation and Community Service
- Procurement
- Planning Services
- Community Partnerships



# Established Elements in Community Development

## Municipal Work

- Economic Development
- Recreation and Community Service
- Procurement
- Planning Service
- Community Partnership

- Business Development, Navigation and outreach
- Sector specific support
- Partner on regional events



# Established Elements in Community Development

## Municipal Work

- Economic Development
- Recreation and Community Service
- Procurement
- Planning Service
- Community Partnership

- Community-led programming
- Support for community halls and fire halls
- Navigation for non-profits



# Established Elements in Community Development

## Municipal Work

- Economic Development
- Recreation and Community Service
- Procurement
- Planning Service
- Community Partnership

- Buy local advantage policy
- Partnership for service



# Established Elements in Community Development

## Municipal Work

- Economic Development
- Recreation and Community Service
- Procurement
- Planning Service
- Community Partnership

- Extensive engagement process to guide planning process
- Energy Navigation Services
- Fire hall energy efficiency upgrades



# Established Elements in Community Development

## Municipal Work

- Economic Development
- Recreation and Community Service
- Procurement
- Planning Service
- Community Partnership

- Fire departments
- Trail groups
- Park management agreements
- Community Hub
- Stewardship and conservation
- REMO Comfort Centre program



## Community Hub

- A place to bring ideas together and make things happen



# Community Hub

- A place to bring ideas together and make things happen
  - Scheduled to open in Fall 2026
- Featured amenities and services provided:
  - Meeting rooms and team rooms
  - Event spaces
  - Podcast and creator studios
  - A commercial kitchen
  - A flex office
  - Library programming spaces
  - Business support and advisory services

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# Community Hub

- A place to bring ideas together and make things happen
  - Scheduled to open in Fall 2026
- Featured amenities and services provided:
  - Meeting rooms and team rooms
  - Event spaces
  - Podcast and creator studios
  - A commercial kitchen
  - A flex office
  - Library programming spaces
  - Business support and advisory services

Non-profits may use the spaces and amenities at a discounted rate

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# Existing Supports to the Volunteer Sector

- Volunteer sector mailing list
- Designing for Belonging training
- Volunteer Summit
- Training opportunities
- Recognition and Awards
- Support for Fire Services
- Grant program
- Governance Advice



# Jurisdictional Scan



# Overview

- No targeted municipal Community Development strategies identified
  - “Community Wellness Strategy” in development at Queens
- Community Development is often mixed in with economic development, planning, and recreation
- HRM Neighbourhood and Volunteer Services Department
  - Neighbourhood engagement initiatives
  - Neighbourhood Placemaking Program
  - Youth and Senior Specific Streams



# Overview Cont.

- MODL’s grant program is among the most comprehensive in NS
- Five NS municipalities have dedicated Community Development Coordinators
  - East Hants, Halifax, Pictou, Inverness, Cape Breton
  - Grant writing and prospecting support
  - Tailored training (including volunteer recruitment/training, board governance, meeting optimization, etc.)
  - Networking supports
  - Youth and newcomer strategies



# Options



## How Far should the Municipality Go?

Level 1 Expand Current Initiatives

Level 2 Short-Term Initiatives

Level 3 Medium-Term Initiatives

Level 4 Long-Term Initiatives



## Options – Expand Current Initiatives

- Review Grant Application Process
  - Develop alternative application methods (online portal?)
  - Keep current form for accessibility
  - Seed funding for new groups
- Volunteer Awareness Campaign
  - Volunteer mailing list
  - Volunteer spotlight
  - Volunteer awards
  - Updates to “volunteer” section and content on website
- Volunteer Summit



## Options – Short-Term Initiatives

- Create Non-Profit Support Directory
  - Gather resources on grant writers, facilitators, etc. in the region
  - Explore options for discounted services
- Develop “tool kit” of existing volunteer and community development training resources



# Options – Medium-Term Initiatives

- Engage Business Community
  - Employee volunteering initiatives
  - Business volunteer awards
- Enhanced Non-Profit Supports
  - Free photocopies (through Community Hub), facility access, large equipment loans



# Options – Long-Term Initiatives

- Community Development Pilot Project
  - Based on grassroots community development theories
  - Coordinating with community group
  - Designing training / framework
- Create Community Development Coordinator Role
  - Formalize and enhance “side of the desk” community support work
  - Dedicated support for grant writing/prospecting, strategic planning, training, networking, etc.
  - Could undertake the previous suggested projects



# Council's Decision-Making Timeline



# Questions and Discussion



# Discussion Questions

- What should community development mean for MODL?
- What role should the Municipality play in supporting community-led action?
- What outcomes should be prioritized?
- Is Council interested in a long-term initiative with broader outcomes, or more tangible, short-term solutions?
- How should MODL measure success?
- What options should staff investigate further and bring back for Council's consideration?



# End of the Presentation



# Appendix



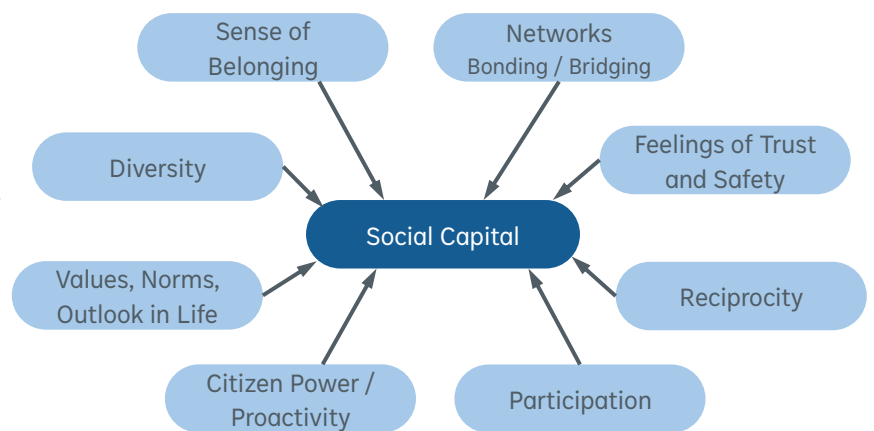
## Theories of Community Development

- Social Capital
  - Networks, relationships, and trust that exist in a community
  - Can increase volunteering frequency

### Resources

[What is Social Capital – Tamarack Institute](#)

[Social Capital and Community Development – Research Paper](#)



Source: [Social Capital and Livelihood among The Congolese Urban Refugees: A Narrative Literature Review](#)



# Theories of Community Development

- Asset Based Community Development (ABCD)
  - “Bottom Up” approach
  - Focused on assets (what we have) vs deficits (what we are missing)
  - Developing community leaders
  - Shorefast Institute on Fogo Island uses a [version of this approach](#)

Resources
<a href="#">ABCD – How to Get Started</a>
<a href="#">St. Andrew’s, NS Case Study</a>
<a href="#">Prince Edward County, ON Case Study (with Shorefast Institute)</a>
<a href="#">ABCD Toolkit – City of Calgary</a>



# Fogo Island

- Community-led response to economic decline
- Asset-based and place-based development approach
- Social enterprise (Fogo Island Inn) reinvest profits locally
- Strong local engagement and ownership
- Demonstrated success in resilience and economic renewal

Resources
<a href="#">MUN Case Study</a>
<a href="#">CBC News Article</a>
<a href="#">The Shorefast Institute</a>
<a href="#">The PLACE Framework - Primer Series - Gustavson - UVic</a>



# The State of Volunteering

- Formal vs informal volunteering
  - Formal: Providing services on behalf of a registered charity or non-profit
  - Informal: Providing help to people outside of the household and family
- Volunteer rates and hours have dropped across the country
- In MODL, based on Project Volunteer Survey:
  - Support needed for volunteer recruitment and grant funding
  - Volunteer recruitment needs vary – from Board to short term positions
  - Volunteer Award awareness could improve
  - Interest in recruiting youth and newcomers



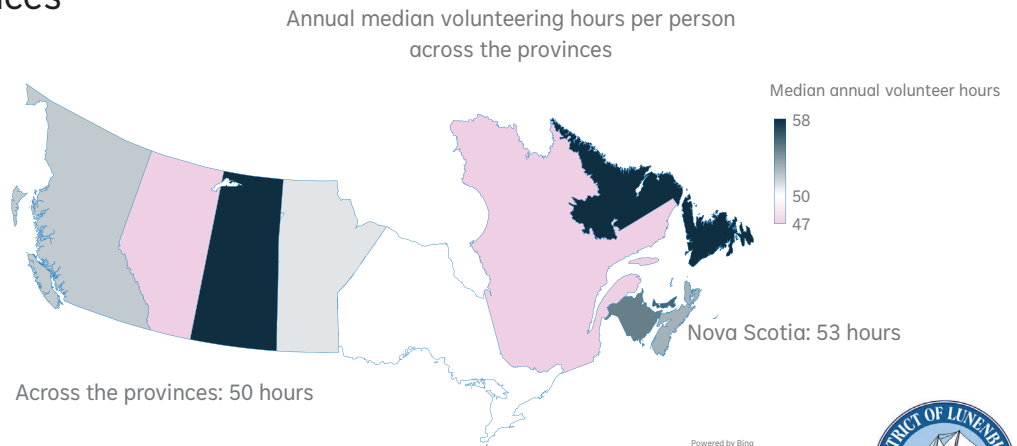
# The State of Volunteering – Nova Scotia

- Two key quantitative measures:
  - Hours - Time spent on volunteer work (amount)
  - Rate - Proportion of individuals that have engaged in volunteer work (willingness)
- Hours and Rate do not correlate
  - E.g., A group of people can have a high volunteer rate but each spent 1 to 2 hours only, or a group of people can have a low volunteer rate but each spent 20 hours on volunteering



# The State of Volunteering – Nova Scotia

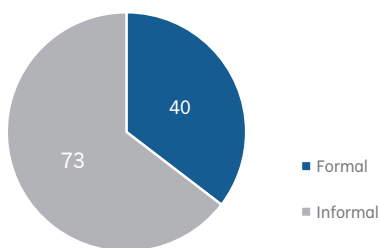
- Nova Scotia has an annual median volunteering hours slightly higher than the other provinces



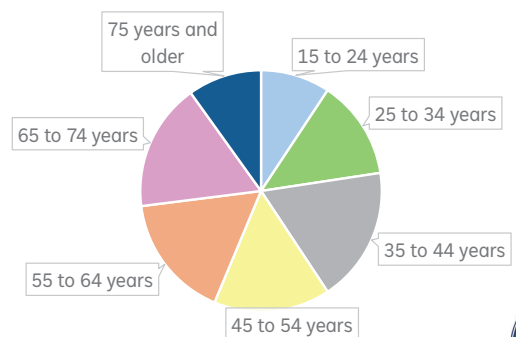
# The State of Volunteering – Nova Scotia

- Nova Scotians spent more time on informal volunteering
- Age groups of 35 to 64 are the main contributor to volunteering hours

Informal vs formal volunteering hours (in millions), all ages

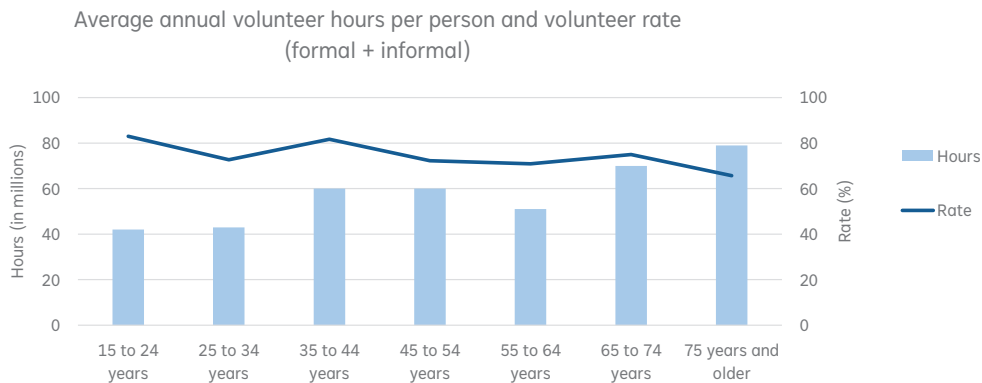


Volunteer Hours Composition by Age



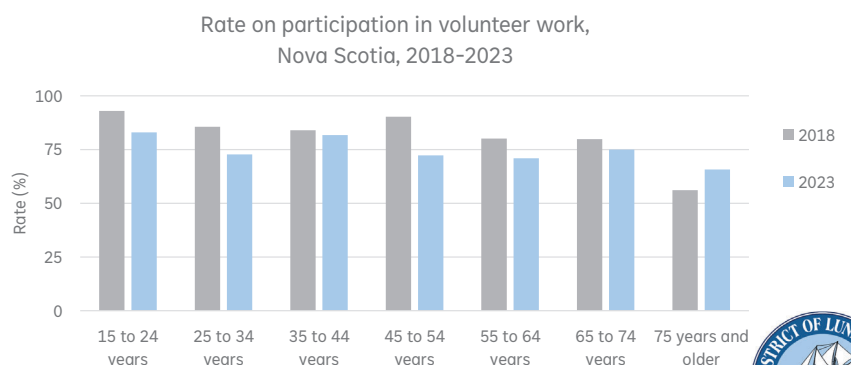
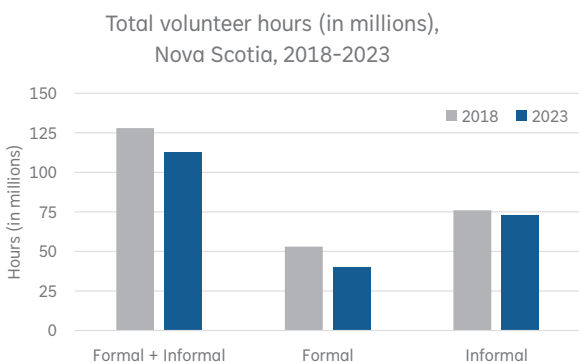
# The State of Volunteering – Nova Scotia

- Age groups of 15 to 35 have higher volunteer rates
- Age groups of 65 and older volunteer for more hours per volunteer



# The State of Volunteering – Nova Scotia

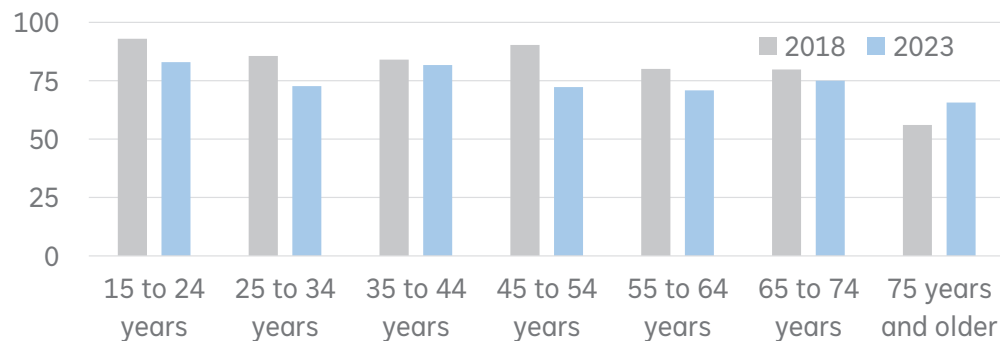
- Volunteerism has been declining in NS and across Canada
  - Fewer total hours and lowered rate in 2023



# Volunteerism Status in Nova Scotia

Comparing data between 2018 and 2023

- All ages groups except 75+ have declining volunteer rate



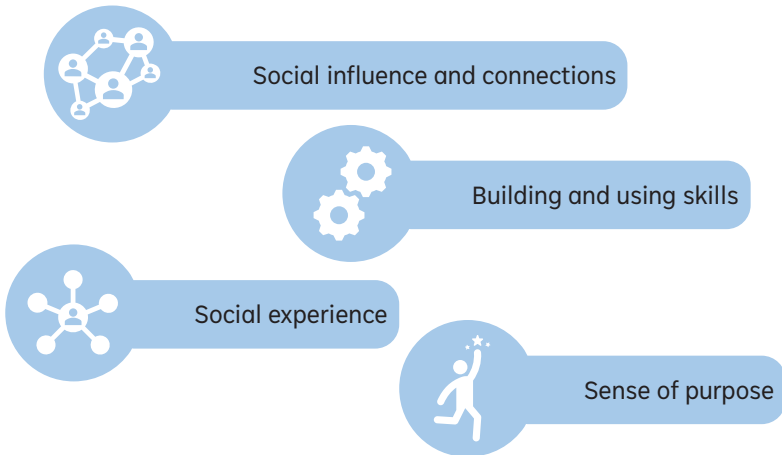
## Options Table

Level	What It Means	Examples	Resource/Service-level Impact
<b>1. Expand Current Initiatives</b>	Strengthen supports MODL already provides.	Update grant application process, volunteer awareness campaign through existing communications channels, volunteer summit expansion	Moderate: may require redesigning current work, increased staff time.
<b>2. Short-Term Initiatives</b>	Create new stand-alone supports that require less ongoing maintenance and relationship-building work.	Non-profit support directory, training tool kit.	Moderate: may require staff time, budget, and trade offs with existing work.
<b>3. Medium-Term Initiatives</b>	Add selected supports for community groups, deepen relationships with business community.	Equipment loans, facility access, free transit, adding business volunteer award.	Moderate to high: may require new rules, administration, staff time, budget, and trade-offs with existing work.
<b>4. Long-Term Initiatives</b>	Long-term projects that require ongoing coordination and assessment	Community Development Pilot Project, create Community Development Coordinator role, create formal Community Development Strategy / Policy	Moderate to high: may require new rules, administration, staff time, budget, and trade-offs with existing work. Will require extensive community engagement, strategic visioning, follow-up, tracking, and evaluation.

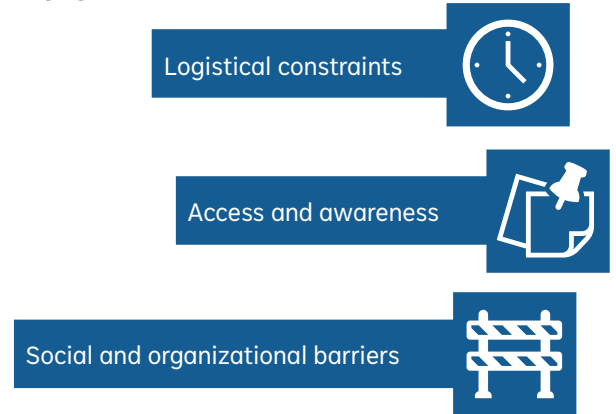


# Reported Motivations and Barrier to Volunteering

## Motivations



## • Barriers



More Information: [Canadian Knowledge Hub for Giving and Volunteering](#)



## Community Development Coordinators – Job Description Samples

- [Region of Queens Municipality Job Description](#)
- [Cape Breton Regional Municipality Job Description](#)





## The Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

### Request for Decision

**Report to:** Policy & Strategy Committee

**Submitted by:** Elana Wentzell, CPA, CMA, Director of Finance & Municipal Treasurer

**Date:** June 16, 2026

**Re:** LaHave Coastal Conservation Association Property Tax Exemption Application

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### Recommendation

The Policy and Strategy Committee recommend that Municipal Council approve the tax exemption application from LaHave Coastal Conservation Association per Policy 012 for a 3-year renewal term in the amount of \$3,224.39 as presented.

### Background

Policy 012 provides a partial or full tax exemption to qualifying non-profit organizations demonstrating service to the community. This tax exemption is awarded at Council's discretion as per Section 71 of the Municipal Government Act.

LaHave Coastal Conservation Association (LCCA) made application and was granted full tax exemptions in previous years. They are now making application for 50 newly acquired properties. A major consideration for qualification of tax exemption is the service the organization provides to the community.

### Discussion

Please see the attached application and list of properties, as well as the amount of tax exemption.

## **Strategic Focus**

Granting a tax exemption for conservation properties supports Council's Climate Change Action Strategy by supporting non-profit organizations that purchase property to conserve them for future generations.

## **Budget/Financial Implications**

The tax exemption request is for \$3,224.39 and is not currently budgeted in the approved 2026/27 Operating Budget. There may be budgetary room in the tax exemption section, but this will not be known until later in the fiscal year after the final tax billing.

## **Climate Change/sustainability**

Providing a property tax exemption for the LaHave Coastal Conservation Association supports the Municipality's climate change and sustainability goals by encouraging long-term land conservation, ecosystem protection, and climate resilience. It also helps advance the target of conserving 20% of land by 2030 under the Municipality's local climate change action plan.

## **Inclusion Diversity equity and Accessibility (IDEA@MODL)**

N/A

## **Strategic Communications**

N/A

## **Work plan**

The Finance Department Staff can complete the necessary work within the existing work plan.

## **Alternatives**

Because tax exemptions are granted solely by Council as per the policy, Council may decide not to grant the tax exemption.

## **Conclusion**

Council has previously approved tax exemptions for LaHave Coastal Conservation Association. Staff are recommending that Municipal Council approve the tax exemptions as presented.

<b>Report Preparation</b>	
<b>Department</b>	Finance
<b>Report Prepared by</b>	Hailey Authier
<b>Report Approved by</b>	Elana Wentzell
<b>Date Reviewed by C.A.O.</b>	

PID	AAN	Assessed Type	Staff Calculated Tax Exemption
60356664	00981737	RESOURCE TAXABLE	\$ 499.77
60356086	01012363	RESOURCE TAXABLE	35.64
60356029	01012371	RESOURCE TAXABLE	56.70
60354370	01012398	RESOURCE FOREST	2.50
60355211	03837114	RESIDENTIAL TAXABLE	820.53
60452885	03949702	RESOURCE FOREST	5.00
60356706	04035364	RESOURCE TAXABLE	34.83
60453347	04035844	RESOURCE TAXABLE	147.94
60453487	04035895	RESOURCE TAXABLE	29.05
60358587	04930045	RESOURCE TAXABLE	447.12
60494903	05724384	RESOURCE FOREST	3.25
60356458	08154171	RESOURCE TAXABLE	85.86
60494879	08171416	RESOURCE FOREST	3.00
60453578	08236895	RESOURCE TAXABLE	13.77
60351319	09172483	RESOURCE TAXABLE	4.86
60583309	09177787	RESOURCE TAXABLE	15.39
60443009	09719679	RESOURCE TAXABLE	5.67
60461233	09743928	RESOURCE TAXABLE	41.31
60466117	09743936	RESOURCE TAXABLE	38.88
60472404	09743944	RESOURCE TAXABLE	13.77
60472651	09743952	RESOURCE TAXABLE	40.50
60472750	09743987	RESOURCE TAXABLE	11.34
60472768	09743995	RESOURCE TAXABLE	15.39
60617073	09744002	RESOURCE TAXABLE	13.77
60617172	09744045	RESOURCE TAXABLE	5.67
60453362	09942742	RESOURCE FOREST	2.75
60450764	10044383	RESIDENTIAL TAXABLE	187.92
60450772	10044391	RESIDENTIAL TAXABLE	187.11
60450780	10044413	RESOURCE TAXABLE	13.77
60453453	10309476	RESOURCE FOREST	6.25
60453461	10309484	RESOURCE FOREST	3.50
60453511	10309522	RESOURCE FOREST	1.50
60451630	10327806	RESOURCE TAXABLE	42.12
60453388	10337526	RESOURCE TAXABLE	36.45
60453370	10337534	RESOURCE TAXABLE	41.31
60453396	10337550	RESOURCE TAXABLE	17.01
60453404	10337569	RESOURCE TAXABLE	34.02
60442902	10337798	RESOURCE TAXABLE	104.49
60356771	10541441	RESOURCE TAXABLE	16.20
60453156	10666694	RESOURCE TAXABLE	17.01
60452968	10666708	RESOURCE TAXABLE	28.35
60442878	10666724	RESOURCE TAXABLE	27.54
60356789	10708664	RESOURCE FOREST	2.75
60494895	10729238	RESOURCE FOREST	3.00
60494887	10729246	RESOURCE FOREST	3.00
60740263	11163645	RESOURCE TAXABLE	10.53
60452802	11164358	RESOURCE FOREST	0.75
60740396	11164366	RESOURCE FOREST	1.00
60740560	11165338	RESOURCE TAXABLE	44.55
60452687	11168248	RESOURCE FARM	-
			<b>\$ 3,224.39</b>



## **The Municipality of the District of Lunenburg**

### **Request for Direction**

**Report to:** Mayor MacLean Wile & Municipal Council

**Submitted by:** Sandra Challis, Administrative Assistant – Recreation, Parks & Tourism

**Date:** June 16, 2026

**Re:** Funding Model for Proposed Commemorative Asset Policy

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#### **Recommendation**

**That Council provide direction on the preferred funding model for the proposed Commemorative Asset Policy to allow finalization and implementation of the policy.**

#### **Executive Summary**

The Municipality currently lacks a formal policy for commemorative park assets such as benches and picnic tables. Requests have historically been handled on an ad hoc basis. With the introduction of standardized, higher-cost park furnishings and an increase in requests being made over the last few years, staff have developed a draft policy and are seeking Council direction on an appropriate cost recovery model. Several options are presented, each with varying levels of taxpayer subsidy and donor affordability.

#### **Background**

The Municipality has historically received requests from the public to install commemorative assets in parks in memory of loved ones. These were managed informally, typically involving wooden benches installed upon receipt of an undefined donation.

There has been no requirement for the commemorated individual to be a resident, and locations such as Miller Point Peace Park have been frequently requested.

With no formal policy in place, staff lack consistent guidelines for decision-making. Recent investment in standardized, durable park furnishings have increased costs, along with increases in requests, have prompted the need for a formalized approach

## Discussion

A draft Commemorative Asset Policy has been developed to guide future requests. Key elements include:

- Assets become Municipal property and are maintained accordingly
- Approved locations list, with final approval by MODL
- Standardized plaques and inscription approval
- No guarantee of replacement if damaged or stolen
- Expected lifespan of approximately 10 years
- Donations are not in perpetuity
- Donors receive a tax receipt for donation

Asset costs including installation & engraved plaque (2025/26):

- **Bench:** \$3,610 total
- **Picnic Table:** \$6,020 total
- ***Engraved Plaque Only*** \$100 total

Council direction is required on how much of these costs should be recovered from donors. Each option balances affordability with fiscal responsibility differently. The options are:

**1. Full Cost Recovery (\$3,610 / \$6,020)**

No taxpayer subsidy  
May be cost-prohibitive

**2. Equipment Cost Recovery (\$2,190 / \$2,660\*)**

Donor pays asset purchase only  
Installation subsidized

\*Note – Picnic table installation costs are more than double the costs to install a bench.

**3. Set Donation Amount (\$1,000–\$1,500)**

Predictable fee  
Heavily subsidized

**4. Plaque Only Option Full Cost Recovery (~\$100)**

Most affordable  
No new asset added  
No exclusivity for commemoration

### **Strategic Focus**

This initiative supports Council's priorities related to:

- Quality of Life, Affordability & Social Inclusion - Strengthening community connection and legacy recognition
- Infrastructure Upgrades, Expansion & Management - Enhancing public spaces and park infrastructure
- Communication & Engagement - Ensuring consistent and transparent municipal processes

### **Budget/Financial Implications**

The selected funding model will directly impact the Recreation, Parks and Tourism operating budget:

- Full Cost Recovery: No financial impact
- Partial or fixed donation: Ongoing municipal subsidy required
- Plaque-only option: Full cost recovery but change in service level (no longer an exclusive commemoration).

Costs will need periodic review due to inflation and material changes.

### **Climate Change/Sustainability**

The proposed park furnishings are constructed using recycled plastic, wood and durable galvanized steel with anti-corrosion and UV-resistant finishes. These materials support long-term sustainability by:

- Reducing maintenance frequency
- Extending asset lifespan
- Utilizing recycled materials

### **Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA@MODL)**

The policy provides inclusive opportunities for commemoration regardless of residency status. Accessible installation standards (e.g., grading and placement) ensure park furnishings are usable by a wide range of community members.

The plaque-only option also provides a more financially accessible way for residents to participate.

## Strategic Communications

Upon adoption, the policy will be:

- Shared through standard communication channels
- Provided directly to residents upon inquiry
- Published on the Municipal website

Clear messaging will outline options, costs, and expectations to manage public understanding.

## Work plan

Implementation of the policy will:

- Provide staff with clear guidelines, reducing time spent on case-by-case decisions
- Require minor administrative processes for application intake and tracking
- Include maintaining a registry of commemorative assets and plaque placements

## Alternatives

Council could choose to:

- 1) Continue with the current ad hoc approach (not recommended due to lack of consistency and increasing costs); or
- 2) Establish a policy that MODL will not commemorate **any further** individuals in parks through commemorative park furnishings and plaques. This helps ensure fairness for everyone. Some parks have limited space, and once park features are installed, no more may be needed. This could mean some requests are denied simply because there is no space left, while similar requests in other parks might be approved. By not allowing commemorative plaques in any parks, MODL treats all applicants equally and avoids having to turn people away based on space limitations.

## Conclusion

Establishing a formal Commemorative Asset Policy will provide consistency, transparency, and better financial planning. If Council wishes to enable people to recognize someone through a Commemorative Asset Policy, direction on the preferred cost recovery model is required to finalize and implement the policy.

<b>Report Preparation</b>	
<b>Department</b>	Recreation, Parks & Tourism
<b>Report Prepared by</b>	Sandra Challis
<b>Report Approved by</b>	
<b>Date Reviewed by C.A.O.</b>	



## Lunenburg County Seniors' Safety Program Monthly Report –May 2026

Prepare June 1, 2026

The LCSSP is a free confidential community-based non-profit service that works collaboratively with BPS, RCMP, and many community partners to help address the safety concerns of older adults (55 years of age+), residing in Lunenburg County. Service is provided through awareness campaigns, advocacy, community outreach projects, educational programs, community presentations and one to one support.

*“Lunenburg County is stronger when our seniors feel safe, valued, and supported—their experiences and wisdom enrich our communities.”*

### LCSSP May highlights:

- **The spring Seniors' Safety Academy** wrapped up in New Germany on May 7<sup>th</sup>. The sessions started small, gained momentum, with 21 participants for the final two sessions. Thank you - New Germany community for such a warm welcome. A Special Thank you to the presenters for giving their time and sharing their knowledge with us. And a warm thank you to the St. John in the Wilderness Anglican Church Hall for the seamless use of their facility. We look forward to future events.
- **May 11<sup>th</sup>** LCSSP attended with RCMP CST Kay a Scam Prevention presentation to the residence and staff at the Rosedale Home for Special Care in New Germany.
- Words of gratitude for the generous donation of digital device camera covers and jar grips were sent to Earth Angel's Home Care. We greatly appreciate your generosity.
- **On May 15<sup>th</sup>** LC Senior Safety met with **WellTide Health/Partners for Care and MODL Councillor, Alison Smith** regarding future collaborations in supporting our local seniors. WellTide/Partners for Care will be in the new facility in Cookville next to the MODL office.
- The final annual report for LCSSP United Way funding has been submitted.
- After a successful presentation at our recent Seniors Safety Academy, LISNS and LCSSP are engaged in a series of discussions in how to bring trained volunteers and seniors together for estate planning clinics throughout Lunenburg County.
- **May 25<sup>th</sup>** Coordinator participated in a second **ISOC podcast** regard scams and frauds. Topic: renovation scams/prevention.
- Virtual training with CaregiversNS on **May 28<sup>th</sup>** on Caregiver Burn Out, setting healthy boundaries and self care.
- The Mental Health First Aid – Supporting Older Adults Cohort met virtually to finalize materials to be able to offer this course in person soon.
- “We Are Young” released Vallie Walker’s Wish Story. It can be found on LCSS FaceBook page or by following the link <https://www.facebook.com/lunenburgseniorssafety>. You can nominate a senior for a wish at <https://www.weareyoung.ca/submit-a-wish>.
- June 15<sup>th</sup> is **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD)**. Wearing purple or a purple ribbon invites conversations in bringing awareness and inspiring action. This year’s LCSS collaboration with the YMCA Youth starts with a **WEAAD** Presentation followed by assembling purple ribbons





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to be given out during their annual fundraiser event. This will be our 3<sup>rd</sup> year of working together on this project. Go to <https://www.weaad.ca/> to learn more about **WEAAD**.

- Two of our wonderful older volunteers **will be** manning a table at the Seniors Expo sharing **WEAAD** information. Holding a giveaway for a basket and passing out seeds of purple flowers – to sow seeds of awareness on how we can mitigate Elder Abuse in our Communities. Thank you to the Bridgewater’s Farmer Co-Op for the seed packages donation.

**Please follow the link for important information on intimate partner violence.**

<https://www.bridgewaterpolice.ca/services/intimate-partner-violence>

- Collaborative client specific meetings with Provincial Housing Authority, RCMP, CCC, Adult Protection, South Shore Health, South Shore Open Doors and BPS.
- Collaborations for clients also include PHA, RCMP, SSRH, MLA offices, BPS, Continuing Care, St Vincent de Paul and United Way.
- Collaborative visits with RCMP, South Shore Health, PHA, SSODA and Continuing Care.

**Referrals:** There were 3 referrals concerning one individual counted as 1 in the stats.

2 other referrals have also been counted as 1

{New Referrals: **15** + Re Referrals: **5**} Home/site Visits: **20** Active clients: **104** Closed files: **13**

New Referrals Service Area in Municipal Units (#'s have been rounded either up/down)	%
MOC	20%
MODL	30%
Mahone Bay	20%
Lunenburg	5%
Bridgewater	25%

**Referral Source:**

Community Partner **35%** Self/Family **15%** RCMP **30%** BSP **10%** AP **10%**

**Areas of concern remain unchanged:** Safe/affordable/accessible Housing, Seniors’ Mental Health/Addictions, Adult Protection, Hoarding, Scams/Fraud, Cost of living, Community resources/connections, Health Care (no primary care physician). LCSSP is seeing a continued increase of complex issues and concerns at the time of referrals/intakes. This translates into clients being active clients longer and collaboration with multiple disciplinaries. The complexity and volume of referrals reflects in having the ability/time to review files for possible and appropriate closing.

**LCSSP Client Emergency Contingency Fund (CECF):**

The CECF continues to serve the community in partnership with other organizations to help mitigate risk for seniors experiencing financial hardship. **The end of May balance \$273.55.**

*‘Thank you to all Lunenburg County Seniors’ Safety Program supporters. We couldn’t do what we do without you.’*

