

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF LUNENBURG
Minutes of a Meeting of
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
Held in Council Chamber, 210 Aberdeen Road, Bridgewater, NS
Tuesday, April 9, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson
Deputy Mayor Cathy Moore, District 5
Councillor Eric Hustvedt, District 1
Councillor Martin Bell, District 2
Councillor John Veinot, District 4 (arrived 11:20 a.m.)
Councillor Claudette Garland, District 6
Councillor Wade Carver, District 7
Councillor Reid Whynot, District 9
Councillor Errol Knickle, District 10

Regrets: Councillor Lee Nauss, District 3
Councillor Michael Ernst, District 8

Staff: Kevin Malloy, Chief Administrative Officer
Alex Dumaresq, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Sherry Conrad, Municipal Clerk
Elana Wentzell, Director of Finance
Sarah Kucharski, Communications Officer
Tina Robichaud-Bond, Executive Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bolivar-Getson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/RECOGNITION

Councillor Hustvedt acknowledged the School Advisory Council at the Petite Riviere School for their work in developing a newsletter that will be distributed to the community, not just parents of school children.

Councillor Whynot recognized Rick Hebb and thanked him for taking the position of Chair of the Miller Point Peace Park Committee.

Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation joined the meeting.

3. PUBLIC INPUT

Karen Baris, Bridgewater - Ms. Baris was in attendance to express her concerns over the possible closure of the HB Studios Sports Centre. She advised that she, along with her family, are users of the facility and felt that it was an important attraction for young professionals as well as providing employment opportunities for youth in the area.

Jana Bailey, Bridgewater – Ms. Bailey was in attendance to express concern over the possible closure of the HB Studios Sports Centre on behalf of many of the seniors who use the facility. She

advised that the facility was the only indoor area for seniors to walk and keep active, which also provides a safe and secure place for activity, away from dogs and rough walking trails.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was requested that an In Camera matter be added to the Agenda as Item 14.2.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Moore, seconded by Councillor Whynot that the Agenda be approved with the addition of Item 14.2 Land Negotiations re Oakland under Section 22(2(a) of the MGA. Carried unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 26, 2019

Councillor Hustvedt suggested that Section 10.3.1 DB Pension Plan PSSP of the Minutes be amended to show that the majority vote required was by the members of the “defined benefit plan”.

Moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Knickle that the Minutes of March 26, 2019 Council meeting be approved as amended. Carried unanimously.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Letter of Support – Shoreham Village

Sherry Conrad, Municipal Clerk, reported that the information requested on the plans to renovate the Shoreham Village Senior Citizen Association Long Term Care Home had been received and circulated with the Agenda. Ms. Conrad noted that Council had been requested to provide a letter of support of their efforts to obtain funding for the proposed renovations.

Moved by Councillor Knickle, seconded by Councillor Whynot that the motion deferred at the March 12, 2019 meeting to forward a letter of support for the project Shoreham Village is undertaking for their renovation plan be put back on the table for consideration. Carried unanimously.

Motion on the table:

Moved by Councillor Knickle, seconded by Councillor Whynot that Municipal Council forward a letter of support for the project Shoreham Village is undertaking to get approval and funding for their renovation plan. Carried unanimously.

7. AWARDING OF TENDERS/RFPs

7.1 Award of Tender 2018-05-021 On-Site Sewage Disposal System Project Group #20

Maria Butts, LaHave River Project Coordinator, was in attendance.

Ms. Butts reviewed her report, “Tender Award: On-Site Sewage Disposal System Installations for LaHave River Properties, Project Group #20” (circulated with the Agenda).

Moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Carver that Municipal Council award Tender #2018-05-021 On-Site Sewage Disposal System Installations for LaHave River Properties to CK Earthworks Limited in the amount of \$95,279.00 plus HST. Carried unanimously.

7.2 Award of Tender 2018-05-024 On-Site Sewage Disposal System Project Group #21

Ms. Butts reviewed her report, “Tender Award: On-Site Sewage Disposal System Installations for LaHave River Properties, Project Group #21” (circulated with the Agenda).

Moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Whynot that Municipal Council award Tender #2018-05-024 On-Site Sewage Disposal System Installations for LaHave River Properties to Dennis Lively Construction and Backhoe Services Ltd. in the amount of \$63,480.00 plus HST. Carried unanimously.

Ms. Butts left the meeting.

Tissy Bolivar, Program Coordinator, joined the meeting.

8. PRESENTATIONS/SCHEDULED TIMES

8.1 HB Studios Sports Centre

Scott Patterson and Ken Smith, members of the South Shore Fieldhouse Society, were in attendance.

Mr. Patterson circulated photographs and newspaper clippings regarding the South Shore Fieldhouse Society (attached to Minutes), provided background as to how the Fieldhouse became to be, and spoke to the current status of the Fieldhouse and options to proceed with the future.

Mr. Patterson reported on the following topics:

- Demographics
- Operating Revenue and Expenses
- Capital Debt - \$320,000 loan and \$70,000 line of credit
- Funding Request - \$40,000 per year for 5 years
- Users of the facility

Discussions followed regarding the availability of funds from other sources such as donations and in-kind revenue. It was noted that going forward without a debt, the operations of the facility would be sustainable.

Ms. Bolivar left the meeting.

8.2 Declare Climate Emergency

Jeff Merrill, Director of Planning and Development Services, was in attendance at this time.

George Buranyi, representative of the Extinction Rebellion Group, was in attendance.

Mr. Buranyi gave a presentation on Climate Emergency (circulated with the Agenda). He acknowledged that he liked the Municipality's Climate Action Plan and asked for Council's support in declaring a climate emergency for the Municipality, as have 331 Councils across the country, including HRM and Town of Mahone Bay. A summary of Mr. Buranyi's presentation is attached to the Minutes.

Moved by Councillor Garland, seconded by Councillor Bell that Municipal Council refer the request to Declare a Climate Emergency to staff for further investigation and report. Carried unanimously.

Jeff Merrill, Director of Planning & Development Services, left the meeting.

9. CONSIDERATION OF CORRESPONDENCE (Nil)

10. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES & BOARDS

10.1 Finance Committee

10.1.1 Proposed Changes to Audit Standing Committee Terms of Reference

Moved by Deputy Mayor Moore, seconded by Councillor Hustvedt that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee and approve the amended Terms of Reference for the Audit Standing Committee as presented.

It was clarified that the auditors have been appointed by Council. They would, therefore, answer to Council not to staff, making them a third party.

The Motion on the floor was voted on. Opposed: Councillor Knickle Motion Carried.

10.1.2 Full & Partial Tax Exemptions

Councillor Hustvedt declared a conflict of interest and left the table.

Moved by Councillor Knickle, seconded by Councillor Carver that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee and approve the full and partial tax exemptions for qualifying non-profit organizations as outlined in the attached schedules. Carried unanimously.

Councillor Hustvedt returned to table.

10.1.3 Council Summer Break

Mayor Bolivar-Getson reported that Council reduces its schedule for a time frame during the summer months. She noted that if any matters arise during the break time, Councillors would be called to meet.

Moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Whynot that Municipal Council accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee and approve the summer break from Council and Council Committee meetings from July 29 – August 23, 2019. Carried unanimously.

10.2 Sherbrooke Lake Stewardship Committee

10.2.1 Implementation of Community Plan & Public Release of Reports

Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, was in attendance.

Ms. Kucharski reviewed the Communications Plan (circulated with Agenda) recommended by the Sherbrooke Lake Stewardship Committee for publically releasing the Water Quality Monitoring Report, which noted the following avenues:

- News Release
- Newspaper and Radio ads
- 2 Open Houses – 1 on each side of the Lake
- Post Report on social media sites
- Municipal Matters newsletter
- Municipality of the District of Chester newsletter
- Email list
- Municipal website

Discussions followed on the viability of using all suggested ways to release the Report. It was determined that the Open Houses were not required but that all other avenues be pursued.

Moved by Councillor Carver, seconded by Deputy Mayor Moore that Municipal Council approve the communications plan through written communication for the release of the full and summary Sherbrooke Lake 2018 Water Quality Monitoring Reports as discussed in Council. Opposed: Councillor Bell. Motion Carried.

11. STAFF REPORTS (Nil)

Councillor Veinot arrived at the meeting.

12. MAYOR'S/DEPUTY MAYOR'S/COUNCILLORS' MATTERS

12.1 MJSB Update

Councillor Garland provided an update on the Municipal Joint Services Board as follows:

- Cyber Security Risk & Insurance presentation by David Muise

- A decision was made not to move forward with the insurance due to costs versus security risk
- Community Litter Cleanup Incentive Program presentation
 - Discussions of implementing a \$100 incentive program for roadside litter clean up
 - Criteria to be met
 - Did not support implementing the program
- Operating plan and capital program
- Discussions continuing regarding the plastic ban initiative
 - HRM leading the cause to eliminate single use bags from stores
- HR secondment agreement approval

She noted that the Shared Services Committee and CAOs would be meeting on April 10, 2019 to discuss future shared services under MJSB.

A question arose around the Municipality's liability in regards to non-partner members being at risk for cyber attacks if the MJSB did not carry this insurance. It was noted that David Muise, IT Administrator, indicated it would be more beneficial to establish a cyber security reserve fund rather than purchase insurance. Mr. Malloy suggested that Mr. Muise correspond with non-partner members indicating the Board's decision to not procure cyber security risk insurance.

12.2 Deputy Mayor's Update

Deputy Mayor Moore advised that she attended agenda briefings, funerals, and had several telephone discussions with residents.

12.3 Mayor's Update

Mayor Bolivar-Getson reported that she had received several telephone calls from concerned residents regarding the results of the substantial rain recently received, which triggered road closures and wash outs. She attended the Mayors/Wardens meeting, the 48th Annual Hebbville Fire Department banquet, several breakfasts and penny auctions.

13. ADDED ITEMS - Nil

14. IN CAMERA

At 11:25 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Hustvedt that Municipal Council go In Camera to discuss the following items:

14.1 Contract Negotiations re HB Studios Sports Centre under Section 22(2)(e) of the MGA.

14.2 Land Negotiations re Oakland under Section 22(2)(a) of the MGA

Carried.

Municipal Council In Camera in session.

Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO, declared a Conflict of Interest in regards to Item 14.2 and removed himself from the room for the discussion.

At 12:50 p.m. it was moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Carver that Municipal Council come out of In Camera and return to open session. Carried.

Municipal Council in session.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business at 12:50 p.m. it was moved by Councillor Whynot, seconded by Councillor Bell that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

TRANSPORTATION

LUNENBURG WEST

News from Carolyn Bolivar-Getson, your Member of the Legislative Assembly October 2008



Scott Patterson and Doug Quinn, members of the South Shore Fieldhouse Society, took the Premier and MLA Carolyn Bolivar-Getson on a tour of the facility under construction. The MacDonald government contributed \$898,000 towards construction of the fieldhouse.

Bridgewater Bulletin

\$1.30
+HST

38th year, No. 38

NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA • WEDNESDAY

Bridgewater Bulletin, Wednesday, September 19, 2007 **A3**



CALLED TO ORDER

Province recognizes children's author Joyce Barkhouse

Page B6

LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Exercise tests emergency response

Page B1

DECLARED SURPLUS

Housing project moves closer

Page A6



CELEBRATING SENIORS

John Sawlor

Fieldhouse gets more green

Province kicks in another \$65,000 for indoor athletics

By KEITH CORCORAN
kcorcoran@lighthouse.ns.ca

BRIDGEWATER — The cash keeps rolling in for the South Shore Fieldhouse Society.

This time the province has come through with more of the green stuff — to the tune of \$65,000.

Both society officials and government representatives on hand for last week's money announcement underlined the co-operative effort that has taken place as construction of an indoor athletic facility stands just weeks away.

"Nova Scotia needs more organizations like the fieldhouse society and communities like Bridgewater and surrounding communities to take a dream and make it a reality," said Lunenburg West MLA Carolyn Bolivar-Getson.

In making the September 14 funding announcement, Ms Bolivar-Getson used the same section of the Glen Allan Drive trail near the fieldhouse's future site that MP Gerald Keddy did one week ago to announce \$400,000 in federal funds for the project.

Most of the new provincial cash, \$50,000, is designated for design and engineering costs while the rest is slated for marketing.

This cash is in addition to the \$833,000 given to the society by the province in April.

The fieldhouse will be a centre of fitness, community spirit and economic development, Ms Bolivar-Getson said last week, and will feature trade shows, athletic tournaments and competitions inside the year-round facility.

The fieldhouse will also be an environmentally friendly building with energy-efficient lighting, plumbing and geothermal heating and cooling systems, Ms Bolivar-Getson said.

Still, the fieldhouse society needs to raise at least \$250,000 but has enough cash on hand to commit to construction, which society president Doug Quinn estimates could start in October.

Mr. Quinn said they will turn to the public for funds very soon.

See GREEN, A3



KEITH CORCORAN PHOTO

Lunenburg West MLA Carolyn Bolivar-Getson announced more provincial funding toward an indoor athletic facility expected to be widely used by soccer enthusiasts and a myriad of other groups and organizations.

Fieldhouse secures more money

GREEN from A1

"The reality of it is without the support of everybody, both formal government organizations, businesses, individual citizens, this truly is a community effort and we are stewards of the various sources of money that we've gotten and when it opens it truly is a community facility and we hope to run it that way," Mr. Quinn said.

It will cost \$1.8 million to build a 26,000-square-foot indoor artificial turf field encircled by a four-lane, 200-metre track. Construction will last two months and the facility should be hosting activities by February 2008 at the latest.

recreational groups and association using the soon-to-be-built facility the another fieldhouse — without the track — may be needed within two to three years.

The society is expected to soon name the firm tasked with the building's architectural design, and introduce a naming sponsor. They've already unveiled their logo.

Society officials have already secured \$310,000 each from the Town of Bridgewater and the Municipality of Lunenburg, \$25,000 from the Municipality of Chester, \$12,500 from the Town of Lunenburg, and \$10,000 from the Town of Mahone Bay.



KEITH CORCORAN PHOTO

South Shore Fieldhouse Society vice-president Scott Patterson, right, and South Shore-St. Margarets MP Gerald Keddy hold a logo sign steady while posing with local soccer enthusiasts Josh Young and Courtney Whynot.

Feds support fieldhouse

FEDS from A1

"This project is a shining example of what can happen when some dedicated people pool their efforts and talents," he said.

Before Mr. Keddy's address, society vice-president Scott Patterson welcomed the federal contribution.

"It comes as a pinnacle of many activities that we've been working towards over the last few months — since November when we got started," he said. "This is a huge component and cornerstone of the project we're working on for our community."

It will cost about \$1.8 million to build a 26,000-square-foot indoor artificial turf field encircled by a four-lane, 200-metre track. Project site work is expected to start soon. Construction will last two months and the facility should be hosting activities by February 2008 at the latest.

The society figures to have enough recreational groups and associations using the soon-to-be-built facility that

another fieldhouse — without the track — may be needed within two to three years.

Society president Doug Quinn said major corporate sponsors will be announced soon.

The society is expected to soon name the firm tasked with the building's architectural design, and unveil a naming sponsor and a public fundraising campaign. They introduced their logo last week after the federal funding announcement.

Society officials have already secured \$310,000 each from the Town of Bridgewater and the Municipality of Lunenburg, \$25,000 from the Municipality of Chester, \$12,500 from the Town of Lunenburg, and \$10,000 from the Town of Mahone Bay.

Mr. Quinn said Shelburne County and Queens County municipalities can expect knocks on their doors for support once the building is constructed.

Bridgewater Bulletin

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120th year, No. 37

NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA ■ WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2007


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*begins nine-month
adventure*

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Feds kick in \$400,000 toward fieldhouse

By KEITH CORCORAN
kcorcoran@lighthouse.ns.ca

BRIDGEWATER — Soccer players Josh Young and Courtney Whynot relish the thought of booting a ball inside a brand-new, state-of-the-art athletic facility in town instead of having to travel elsewhere to get their kicks.

It's a challenge when the snow flies for Courtney, 17, who's been playing the game since she was a tot, to keep sharp between seasons.

"There's nothing here in the winter," the Newcombville teen said.

The non-profit South Shore Fieldhouse Society is confident players such as Courtney won't be saying that this time next year.

With municipalities and private donors jumping on the bandwagon, the federal government last week announced its contribution — \$401,500 — toward an indoor fieldhouse that will open early next year on Glen Allan Drive.

South Shore-St. Margarets MP Gerald Keddy said the investment from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency's innovative communities fund will mean opportunities and investment for residents and businesses.

"This is about sports and recreation and a lot more," Mr. Keddy said, making the announcement on the Centennial Trail September 7 by the facility's four-acre future site.

"This fieldhouse is expected to generate annual revenues from sporting events of more than \$300,000 and over \$50,000 from trade shows."

Mr. Keddy said other business spinoffs are expected as well. He credited the background work of the society and congratulated them on the business plan they presented.

See *FEDS*, A3

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Thank-you for the opportunity to speak to you about our climate emergency and our request that MODL join the hundreds of Canadian councils that have declared a climate emergency.

I reviewed the [Municipalities Climate Action Plan](#) and read the important steps in place that were already being taken to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.

I am hoping that after today's presentation you will declare a climate emergency and develop plans to reduce GHG emissions and transition to sustainable energy sources.

I speak to you today representing the group Extinction Rebellion which is established in over 35 countries. Our request to you is also supported by the [Council of Canadians](#), The Preparedness Project, the [Ecology Action Centre](#), and Earth Strike.

The climate crisis is considered the [most important threat facing humanity](#). Over 30 years ago it was identified as a threat and nations got together and set guidelines to reduce GHG emissions. Those targets were not met and the situation has worsened to the point that leading scientists are stating that we face an existential threat. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in their [2018 report](#) stated that GHG emissions need to fall to 45% below 2010 levels in the next 11 years if we hope to keep global heating below 1.5C.

[Slide 1](#)

This slide indicates the effect of current pledges and policies by the world's nations.

The current trend indicates [we will not meet the IPCC 1.5C target](#) and are headed to 2C.

[Going from 1.5 to 2 is more dramatic than going from 1 to 1.5C and is not linear.](#)

We are experiencing dramatic species loss and extinction. Currently, [species endangered](#) include 1 in 4 mammals, 1 in 8 birds, a third of all amphibians, [70% of plant species](#), [45% of insects](#). The [WWF notes that half of the over 900 monitored wildlife species in Canada have declined](#). Worldwide it is [60% decline over 40 years](#). If we were talking people you would empty Europe, Canada, the US, China and South America and Africa, and Russia.

[100's of millions](#) to a billion people could be forced to migrate due to sea level rise, famines will increase due to soil desertification and [reduced crop yields](#). The oceans will become more acidic and warm effecting the [fishing industry](#) to the tune of [3 million tons less fish](#) for each 1 degree celsius increase. and there are unpredictable [feedback loops](#) that will come into play.

The effects of global warming driven primarily by our increasing use of fossil fuels is worsening and is responsible for extreme weather events such as flooding, wildfires, drought, severe storms.

[Slide 2](#)

The effects are also seen in temperature increases throughout the world but occurring at twice the global average in Canada.

[Slide 3](#)

That IPCC report ignited a significant rise in awareness of the climate crisis and resulted in mass protests demanding that governments act. That interest is now not only shown by adults but by youth and the recent global youth strike was the largest mass protest in the history of the world with over [1.6 million](#) people in over 100 countries taking part. Youth are planning ongoing and regular protests because they understand that our industrial practices and fossil fuel economy are robbing them of a future (Monbiot quote). The young Swedish teen Greta Thunberg who launched that movement has not only been nominated for a [Nobel Peace Prize](#) but she has convinced the [EU to set aside one of every 4 euro's in their budget to address climate change](#). “The young people taking to the streets for the climate strike are right: their future is being stolen. The economy is an environmental pyramid scheme, dumping its liabilities on the young and the unborn. Its current growth depends on intergenerational theft and the cannibalization of our children's future ([Monbiot](#)).

The world is finally waking to the realities of the climate crisis and it is in many nations the top priority for voters ([69% of Canadians have it as in the top 5 election concerns](#)).

Slide 4

This is increasingly reflected in the number of municipality, town, and city councils declaring a climate emergency and setting up committees or task groups to develop plans to meet the IPCC targets regarding GHG emissions. In Canada over [331 councils have declared a climate emergency](#) and close to 9 million Canadians now live in such jurisdictions. In NS both Halifax and Mahone Bay have joined this group and presentations like this will be made to other councils over the coming weeks.

[Slide 5](#)

It is fitting that so many Canadian councils have chosen to act. Canada ranks per capita as the third highest in carbon emissions.

Slide 6

And though our national governments have historically argued that our economy would suffer if we curbed emissions and have [we have actually deliberately ignored their commitments to international agreements on reducing carbon emissions](#) the evidence indicates that countries that honored agreements did not suffer economically but actually did better.

Slide 7

Local governments are essential to the successful implementation of the urgent measures required to address the climate crisis. [Municipalities are best suited to develop climate change policies](#), alongside other stakeholders.... climate change policies should “trickle up” from local governments and not “trickle down” from provincial, federal or international policymakers. Municipalities are much more aware of what goes on in their own contexts and well aware of the challenges and opportunities in their own environment. At the local political level people tend to experiment more.... have less political baggage ... and are able to develop solutions that are more tailored and customizable to their communities. They can call on senior levels of government for more urgent emergency responses.

NS specific effects:

[The Tantramar marshes on the Chignecto Isthmus connecting NS and NB will need to be rebuilt](#) if we want to prevent NS from becoming an island in the next 15-20 years. Water is already breaching the dikes at the community wind farm. Rail and truck traffic would be effected with storm surges and sea rise costing an estimated [\\$50 million a day in lost commerce](#) (Natural Resources of Canada estimate).

Certain communities along the South Shore will also experience problems. Melting arctic ice will result in up to a one meter rise in sea levels by 2100 ([or much higher if we fail to limit global warming to under 2 celsius](#)). Worse in NS because our province is also [sinking 20-30 cm a century](#). Storm intensity and hurricanes are increasing as a result of global warming. Hurricane Sandy had a storm surge of 4 meters. Were this to occur at high tide major sections of downtown Halifax – lower Water Street, the rotary – many other coastal communities like Bridgewater, Western Shore, Lunenburg, Yarmouth, Amherst and the Tantramar Marsh area, would probably be affected ([Dr Tim Webster and LiDAR mapping sytem](#)). This is now without taking into account the rising sea levels expected as part of global warming.

Lyme disease will also be more prevalent in NS with global warming. Over the next 50 years suitable [tick habitat will increase by 212% in Canada](#) and current habitat already having ticks will become increasingly suitable leading to increase in tick populations. Lunenburg county has a [lyme disease rate 12.7x](#) the National average. Forestry practices such as clear cutting also play a role. [Mosquito Born Diseases](#) are also predicted to increase in Canada as a result of global warming (West Nile, equine encephalitis).

The urgency of the need for action is easy to overlook in a country like Canada which consistently ranks as among the [five top places in the world to reside](#). We step outside in NS and have clean air, beautiful beaches and rural areas. However, we are burning through our forests and wreaking devastation and destroying the very trees that sequester carbon ([48 lbs carbon per tree per year](#)) and we still burn biomass and coal for electricity. [Biomass is falsely promoted as green](#) but produces up to [50% more carbon emissions than coal](#). Yet despite this we have managed to also institute programs that [surpass those of most provinces](#) in reducing GHG emissions but we are still among the [provinces with highest emissions](#). If we actually implemented the [Lahey forestry recommendations](#) and reduced the [extensive clear cutting](#) of crown lands our forests would become significant carbon sinks and help to more quickly meet IPCC emissions targets.

Canadians cannot ignore this problem. Our per capita carbon emissions [rank top three in the world](#) and are only surpassed by Australia and the US and are way above those of the vast majority of the world's nations including highly industrialized EU.

In Nova Scotia we have the potential to easily become self-reliant in sustainable energy. Both wind and solar are abundant and all we need is the political will to make the transition. We can no longer argue that solar and wind are too expensive. They now compete head to head with coal, gas, oil and technological advances continue to not only reduce cost but [increase efficiency](#). [Solar panel prices dropped 99%](#) in 40 years. Green energy is cheaper now even before one factors in the [externalities](#) of fossil fuels (health costs, environmental degradation) which governments never do in their accounting. We have for too long treated the commons of our citizens air and water as something industries can take advantage of without limit or cost. The environmental footprint of green energies is substantially lower and it saves the environment, creates well paying jobs ([\\$92,000 with benefits](#)), and health benefits. [Every dollar spend can produce three](#).

[Slide 8](#)

I do not know if as a province, nation, or a world we have the political will and foresight to take on the challenge that the climate crisis poses and do what is necessary but I want to be able to say to my children that we tried. Vaclav Havel noted: "Hope is not the conviction that something will turn out well, but the certainty that something is worth doing no matter how it turns out."

I ask you today to join me in accepting this challenge and to join the 331 other councils that have taken up this cause and the many more that will sign on over the next several months. We have 11 years to meet that first target, the time for debate is over and the time for action is now. As Greta Thunberg said "Action First then Hope will Follow"

Slide 9

Thank-you for your time and interest.