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Municipal Council Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, April 9, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

MODL Council Chambers – 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville

- 1. Call to Order**
 - 1.1 Mi'kma'ki Territorial Acknowledgement
- 2. Announcements, Acknowledgements, Recognition**
 - 2.1 Proclamation – Volunteer Week
 - 2.2 Proclamation – Daffodil Month
- 3. Public Input (15 Minutes)**
- 4. Changes/Approval of Agenda (as circulated)**
- 5. Approval of Minutes – Nil**
- 6. Business Arising from Minutes**
- 7. Awarding of Tenders/RFPs - Nil**
- 8. Presentations/Scheduled Times**
 - 8.1 Coastal Protection – Meghan McMorris & Peter Horne, 9:15 a.m. 3-4
NS Department of Environment and Climate Change
- 9. Consideration of Correspondence**
 - 9.1 Concern re Condition of Green Bay Road 5-15
- 10. Recommendations from Committees & Boards**
 - 10.1 Dangerous & Unsightly Property Committee**
 - 10.1.1 Demolition & Clean Up of Property, PID 60493012 16-23
- 11. Staff Reports**
 - 11.1 Administration Department**
 - 11.1.1 2024 Municipal & CSAP Elections 24-28
 - 11.2 Planning & Development**
 - 11.2.1 Renaming Portion of Logan Road, Wileville to White Pine Drive 29-36

11.3 Recreation Department

11.3.1 Project Volunteer..... 37-45

12. Mayor's/Deputy Mayor's/Councillors' Matters

12.1 Ceasefire & Financial Aid to Palestinians (Councillor DeLong)..... 46-53

12.2 MJSB Update

12.3 Deputy Mayor's Update

12.4 Mayor's Update

13. Added Items

14. In Camera

14.1 Contract Negotiations under Section 22(2)(e) of the MGA

15. Adjournment



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Memo to Council

Report To: Mayor and Municipal Council
Submitted By: Planning Staff
Date: April 9, 2024
Re: Coastal Protection Regulations and Provincial Hazard Map

This memo outlines the differences between the MODL coastal protection regulation flood risk map and the provincial flood risk hazard map.

Total flood risk elevations for both maps are as follows:

1. MODL Map: **3.97 m** (CGVD 2013)
2. Provincial Map: **3.2 m** (CGVD 2013)

Sea Level Rise

Sea level rise is a projection of the anticipated future sea level resulting from the impacts of climate change. Below is a chart showing the differences between the two maps.

	Province	MODL
Total Projection	1.2 metres	1.57 metres
Time Frame	2100	2100
Percentile	95 th Percentile	95 th Percentile
Climate Change Model	CMIP5 (2013)	CMIP6 (2021)

Emissions Scenario	RCP 8.5	SSP5 8.5
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Storm Surge

Storm surge accounts for the increase in water levels as a result of storm events. Below is a chart showing the differences between the two maps.

	Province	MODL
Storm Surge Allowance	1 metre	1.63 metres
Reference Study	Richard and Daigle (2011)	Richard and Daigle (2011)
Precautionary Principle (Benchmark Storm Event)*	No	Yes

*The precautionary principle accounts for extreme events such as hurricanes. The MODL number is higher because it includes a storm surge equal to Hurricane Juan.

Tide Range

Tidal ranges reflect normal tidal cycles by accounting for the Higher High Water Large Tide (HHWLT) that occasionally occurs. Below is a chart showing the differences between the two maps.

Province	MODL
1 metre	0.77 metres

Preparation	
Department	Planning and Development Services
Report Prepared by	Planning Staff
Report Approved by	Reid Shepherd, Manager of Planning
Date Reviewed by C.A.O.	

RECEIVED
MAR 25 2024

To: Hon. Kim Masland, Minister of Public Works

March 23, 2024

Hon. Becky Druhan, Minister of Education

Jerome Tanner,

Carolyn Bolivar-Getson, Mayor of Modl

44 Bayview Rd.,

From: Doug Ward, jdmward@gmail.com

Green Bay, N.S. B4V6N5,

Colin Cooper, poppycoop@gmail.com

902-212-0407

Jerome Tanner, 144dublin@gmail.com

We are contacting you to express our concern about the conditions of the Green Bay road.

Please see the attached letter and the following attachments:

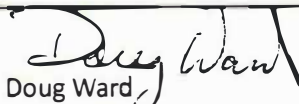
List of Nova Scotia Hurricanes 2000-2023

Picture of Breakwater at Bridgewater Bridge #404 then and now

Pictures of Road damage after Hurricane Lee

Correspondence of 2021 with previous MLA of Lunenburg West concerning repairs to Breakwater.

We thank you for your time reading the following documentation.


Doug Ward


Jerome Tanner


Colin Cooper.

Urgent Concerns Regarding Road Conditions Green Bay Road

We hope this letter finds you well. We are writing to bring attention to a matter of great concern for many residents (full and part time)of Green Bay. The deplorable condition our road.

Green Bay Road Road Conditions

The state of our road has deteriorated significantly due to increased traffic, severe weather conditions and frequent storm surges. In 2003 Hurricane Juan came to Nova Scotia and caused considerable damage. After the storm damage was repaired large rocks were placed along the water's edge to protect the road from further storm surges. Over time these rocks have settled and need to be firmed up and some more added. In 2004 Hurricane Lee arrived and did further damage to the road and part of one of the bridges was destroyed which closed off entry and exit to the Green Bay road for a period of time. The Bridge was repaired within a day and the roadway was resurfaced in sections with crumpled asphalt which is not holding up. The remainder of the road is asphalt dirt, or sand .The shoulders of the road are in need of repair.

Winter Road Conditions

In winter a plow truck with a salter travels the Green Bay road as far as the water then turns and goes back .A day or so later a grader arrives to plow the remaining 1.8 km of road but with no salting. The grader is causing damage to the crumbled asphalt sections of the repaired road.

Exit/Entrance to Green Bay

At this point in time there is only one exit/entrance to the Green Bay road .If one of the two Bridges fail as it did last fall there it leaves the residents without Fire/Police or EHS services. There is need to extend Richardson Road to Drews Hill Road to create another Entrance/Exit.

Break Water Damage

There is one Breakwater on the ocean side of Bridge #404 made of concrete which breaks the waves coming over the road as well as preventing large amounts of sand and saltwater from entering the pond on the other side of the road know as Bickle's Pond. A large portion of the pond now has beach sand in it and not much water, One half of the Breakwater collapsed on January 21,2024 and now hangs by a piece of rebar resulting in an unsafe situation.

We urge you to take immediate action to address these issues. A well maintained road infrastructure is vital for the prosperity and safety of our community .We kindly request your support in securing the necessary resources and funding to initiate repairs and improvements to our road promptly.

Investing in our infrastructure will not only enhance the quality of life for many residents but also contribute to the economic growth of our region. We believe that prioritizing these improvements aligns with our shared goal of creating a safe and thriving community.

We appreciate your attention to these matters and look forward to hearing about actions taken to address the road conditions in Green Bay.

Thank you for your dedication to public service ,and we trust that you will work toward the betterment of our community.

Hurricanes affecting Nova Scotia 2000-2023

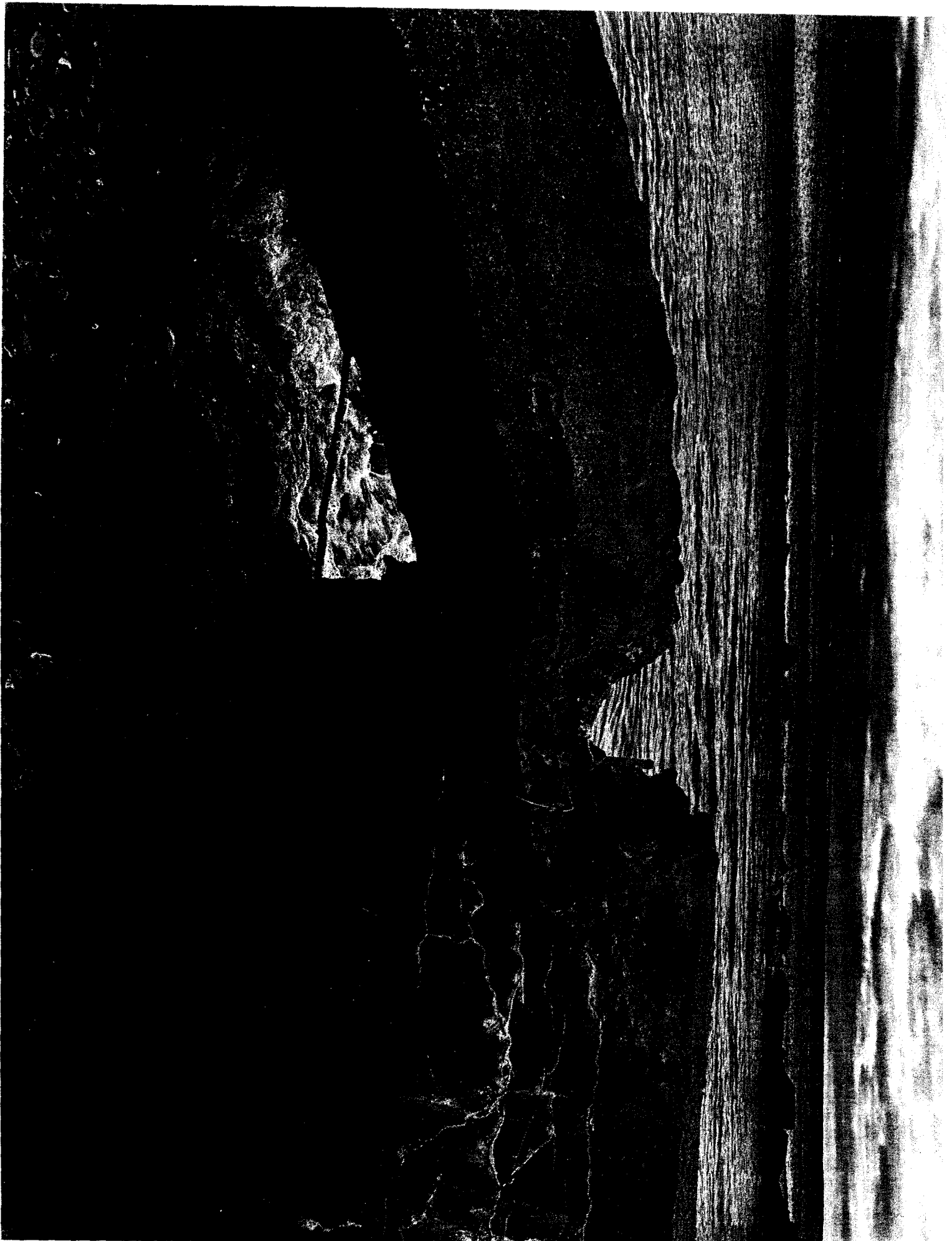
(Red indicates storms that caused significant damages in Green Bay area)

- October 15, 2001: **Hurricane Karen** brought beneficial rain after striking Liverpool, Nova Scotia. Winds there only gusted to about 64 mph (103 km/h), and little damage was reported.^[13]
- September 12, 2002: **Hurricane Gustav** struck Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, both as a Category 1 hurricane. Gustav brought hurricane-force winds to Nova Scotia and dropped at least two inches (51 mm) of rain across all Nova Scotian sites. The highest rainfall amount was 4 inches (100 mm) in Ashdale.^[14]
- **September 29, 2003: Hurricane Juan** was at the time Atlantic Canada's most destructive hurricane in over a century. Juan killed 8 and caused over \$200 million in damage. Power outages in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island left over 300,000 Canadians without power for two weeks. Many marinas were destroyed and many small fish craft were damaged or sank. Hurricane-force gusts were reported as far out as 100 miles (160 km) on either side of Juan at landfall with an astounding peak gust of 144 mph (232 km/h) (equivalent to a Category 4 hurricane) recorded in Halifax Harbour, although it was a Category 2 at landfall with 100 mph (160 km/h) sustained winds.^[15]
- September 17, 2005: **Hurricane Ophelia**, after stalling for several days off the coast of the southeastern states, raced up the Atlantic coast. On the 17th, Ophelia became extratropical and moved parallel to the Nova Scotian coast, never making landfall. Ophelia later struck Newfoundland. Although strong winds were forecast, they did not occur and overall damage was less than expected. One indirect death was reported from Ophelia in Canada.^[16]
- November 6–7, 2007: **Hurricane Noel**, after gaining hurricane-force winds north of the Bahama Islands, Noel moved north toward the Cape Cod region of the Massachusetts U.S. coast. After swiping southeast Massachusetts with hurricane-force winds, the system transitioned to an extratropical stage at which time the storm slightly intensified and moved north-northeast to the Nova Scotia coast near Yarmouth. Full hurricane-force conditions occurred over much of southeastern and eastern areas of Nova Scotia from Yarmouth north and eastward to the metropolitan Halifax area (84 mph recorded at McNabs/Halifax). This very same area reported large-scale power and utility line damage as well as widespread tree damage. In areas south of Halifax the tree damage was more severe than that which had occurred during Hurricane Juan in 2003. This was due to the longer transition over the southern peninsula of Nova Scotia than that of Juan. Though at Category 1 status, Noel in its extratropical stage was responsible for coastal damage to some structures from waves and tides and wind damage to roofing and windows. Western areas of Nova Scotia, even well inland received strong gales, the strongest of which occurred in relation to a tropical system since hurricanes Gerda of 1969 and Ginny of 1963.
- September 28, 2008: **Hurricane Kyle**, after forming as a tropical storm just east of the Bahamas, headed north, making landfall in Nova Scotia as a Category 1 hurricane, causing power outages to 40,000 and \$9 million in damage.^[17]
- September 3, 2010: **Hurricane Earl** made landfall at Western Head, Nova Scotia as a minimal hurricane.^[20] Earl produced 80–120 km/h (50–75 mph) sustained winds throughout Nova Scotia, which resulted in widespread power outages, fallen trees, and minor coastal flooding. After crossing Nova Scotia, Earl sped across Prince Edward Island before emerging into the Gulf of Saint Lawrence. As the storm tracked through the

Gulf of Saint Lawrence, western and northern Newfoundland experienced sustained tropical storm conditions. Earl finally transitioned into a non-tropical low approximately 120 kilometres (75 mi) northeast of Anticosti Island.

- July 5, 2014: Hurricane Arthur made landfall in south western Nova Scotia on July 5, 2014. The storm at the time was downgraded to a tropical storm. Arthur brought heavy rain, winds and pounding surf to parts of the Atlantic Coast of Nova Scotia. The strong storm dropped nearly 150 mm of rain to parts to New Brunswick. It cut power to 1/3 of the Nova Scotia households and 65% of New Brunswick.
- October 10, 2016: Hurricane Matthew's remnants affected Nova Scotia and Newfoundland causing heavy rain and strong winds In Nova Scotia, rain amounts were recorded from east to west as 8.85 inches (225 mm) in Sydney (Cape Breton Island), 5.09 inches (129 mm) in Port Hawkesbury. More than 100,000+ Nova Scotia Power customers lost power.^[24]
- September 7–8, 2019: Dorian transitioned from a Category 2 hurricane to a post-tropical storm as it arrived Saturday Sept 7/19. That transition spread the damaging winds even wider from the centre of the storm. In the end, more than half a million people in the region, 400,000 in Nova Scotia, were left without power: in some rural areas for up to nine days. Wind gusts were 90-110 kph, resulting in a construction crane being toppled in Halifax. Rainfall along the south shore reached up to 164mm. Damage in Nova Scotia was estimated by the Insurance Bureau of Canada at \$62.2 million, in New Brunswick at \$22.2 million and in P.E.I. at \$17.5 million. That \$101.9-million price tag made it the most destructive storm on record for the region, topping Juan's \$85 million in damage.
- September 22–23, 2020: Hurricane Teddy made landfall on Nova Scotia and Newfoundland as a quickly weakening post-tropical storm and did little to no damage to the provinces.^{[27][28][29]}
- September 24–25, 2022: Hurricane Fiona made landfall in Whitehead, Nova Scotia as a post-tropical cyclone with Category 2 force winds of 170 km/h. Fiona is the strongest storm to ever impact Canada as measured by barometric pressure. Hart Island, NS recorded a pressure reading of 931.6 millibars, which shattered the previous record of 940.2 millibars at St. Anthony, Newfoundland on Jan. 20, 1977. Fiona caused catastrophic damage to electrical infrastructure, which Nova Scotia Power described as five times worse than the damage caused by Hurricane Dorian, which in 2019 was considered the most damaging storm in the utilities history. The storm was vast in size and the damaging winds extended well from its center, causing damage across all four Atlantic Provinces and the Magdalen Islands. Storm surge caused homes to be washed out to sea in Channel-Port aux Basques, Newfoundland and severe coastal erosion occurred along the northern coastline of Prince Edward Island. A total of three deaths were attributed to the storm in Atlantic Canada. The storm also caused extensive damage to forests across the region, particularly in Eastern Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island with thousands of trees downed. Insured losses from Fiona in Canada are estimated to be at least \$800 million CAD (US\$600 million), with the total damage expected to be significantly higher, making Fiona the costliest hurricane in Canadian history and the costliest natural disaster in Atlantic Canada history.^{[30][31]}
- January 16, 2023: An unnamed subtropical storm, operationally considered non-tropical by the NHC, brought wind gusts of near 60 mph (100 km/h)^[32] to Nova Scotia's Sable Island on the night of January 16, while moving northward toward the Cabot Strait. This prompted Environment Canada to issue wind warnings for parts of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.^[32] The next day, it made landfall at Louisbourg, Nova Scotia, as a weakening storm, then soon became a post-tropical low, before dissipating over far eastern Quebec the next day.^[33]

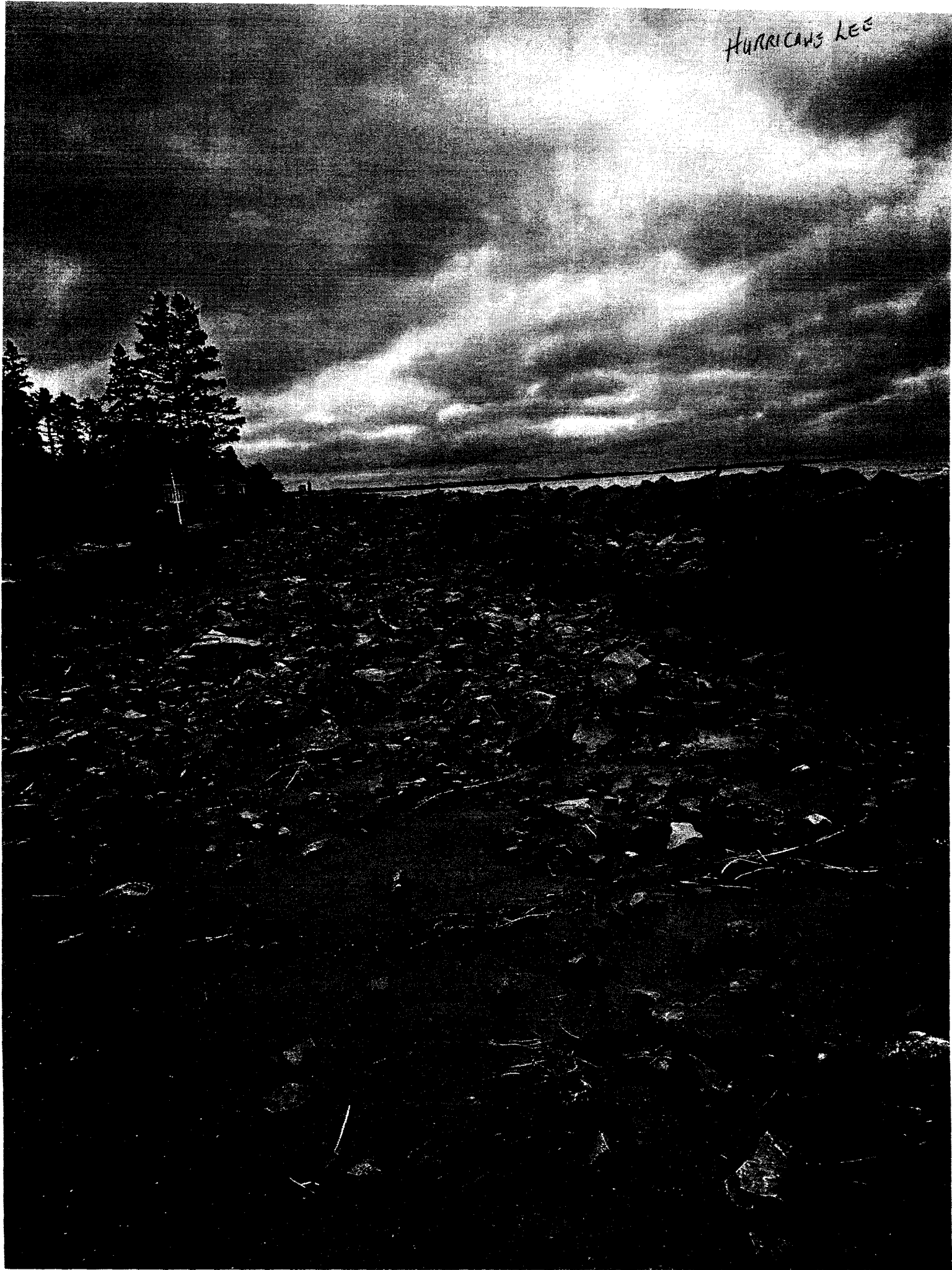
- **September 16–17, 2023: Hurricane Lee traversed each province in Atlantic Canada as a extratropical cyclone. Storm surge damaged beaches and coastlines. Power was interrupted for days, roads washed out and seaside bridges damaged. Most flights to and from Halifax Stanfield International Airport were canceled.^[78] Over 200,000 customers lost electricity.^[79] A utility pole caught fire in Stoney Island and coastal roads were inundated by storm surge, with several roads in the Eastern Shore region being destroyed by storm surge. Most of the damage was caused by trees being knocked over by wind gusts. Rissers Beach Provincial Park suffered significant storm surge, with extensive damage to the boardwalk and several trees being knocked over throughout the park.^[80] The highest wind gust caused by the cyclone in Canada, 73 miles per hour (117 km/h), was recorded at Halifax Stanfield International Airport.^[76]**



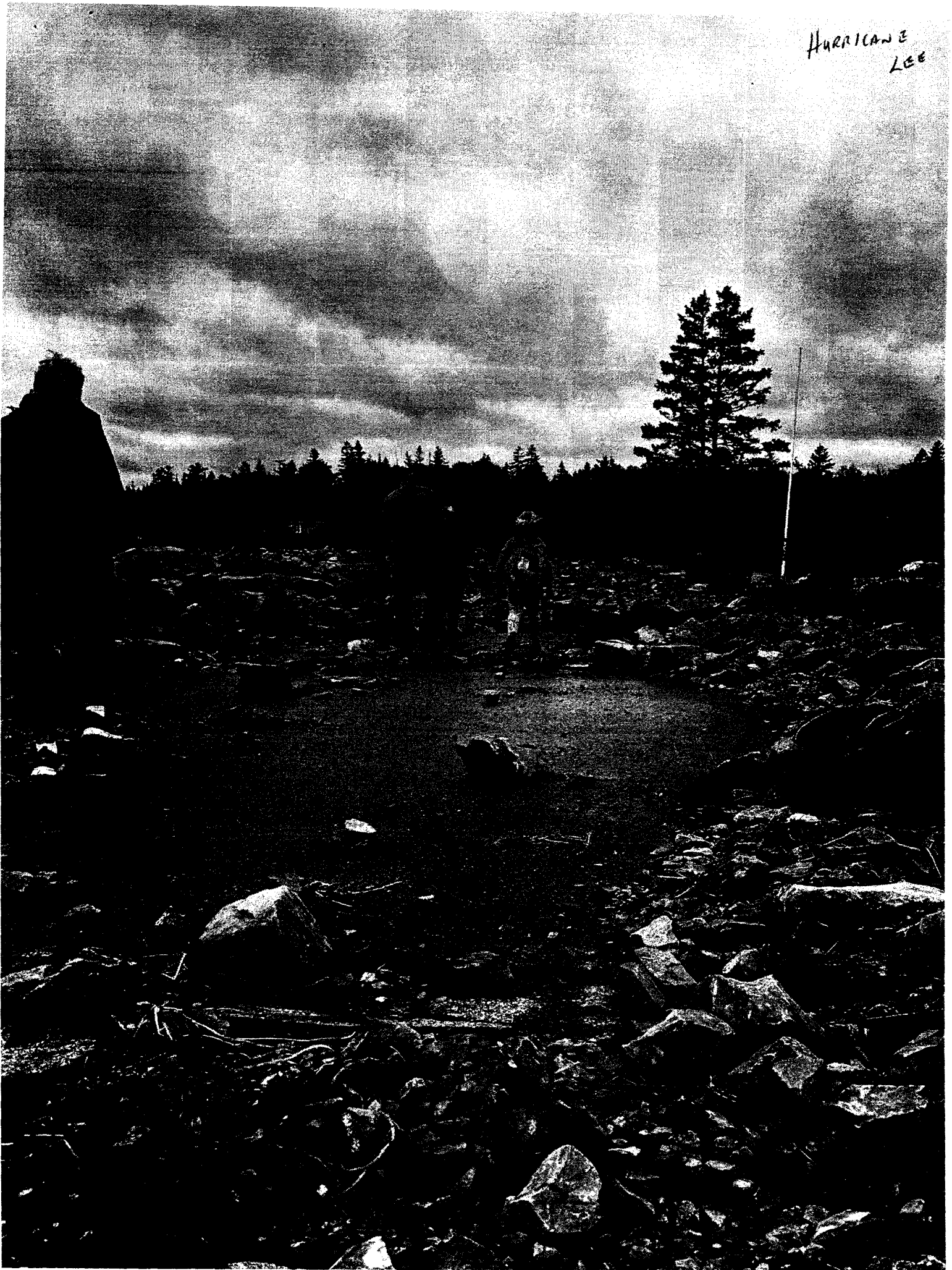


Two years
ago

HURRICANS LEE



HURRICANE
LEE



From: Jerome Tanner 144dublin@gmail.com
Subject: Re: bridge#404 Green Bay Lunenburg Coun
Date: May 10, 2021 at 1:03:09 PM
To: Mark Furey MLA markfurey.mla@eastlink.ca

Thanks Sandy

On May 10, 2021, at 8:57 AM, Mark Furey MLA <markfurey.mla@eastlink.ca> wrote:

Hey Jerome;

TIR already looked at the issue and the repairs are scheduled for this summer.

Sandy

From: Jerome Tanner <144dublin@gmail.com>
Sent: May 7, 2021 9:21 AM
To: Mark Furey MLA <markfurey.mla@eastlink.ca>
Subject: Re: bridge#404 Green Bay Lunenburg Coun

Sandi,

Any word yet on my issue.

Jerome

On Apr 23, 2021, at 8:56 AM, Mark Furey MLA <markfurey.mla@eastlink.ca> wrote:

Not yet. Mark will be coming back in the office, so I have provided him with a copy of correspondence. I will follow up with Glen today.

Sandy

From: Jerome Tanner <144dublin@gmail.com>
Sent: April 23, 2021 8:37 AM
To: Mark Furey MLA <markfurey.mla@eastlink.ca>
Subject: Re: bridge#404 Green Bay Lunenburg Coun

Sandi,

Just wondering if you heard anything from Glen Strang yet?

Thanks,

Jerome

On Apr 9, 2021, at 9:03 AM, Mark Furey MLA <markfurey.mla@eastlink.ca> wrote:

Thanks Jerome;

I will make an inquiry this morning and get back to you as soon as I receive a response.

All the best,

Sandy

Sandy Mair-Dodman
Constituency Assistant
Mark Furey MLA
Lunenburg West

425 King St Bridgewater NS B4V 1B1
Phone (902) 530-3883
Fax (902) 530-3919

From: Jerome Tanner <144dublin@gmail.com>
Sent: April-08-21 5:35 PM
To: markfurey.mla@eastlink.ca
Subject: Fwd: bridge#404 Green Bay Lunenburg Coun

Sandi,

This is the info sent Glen Strang. I also have a ticket number S853 140.

Thanks Jerome

Let me know if you receive this email please

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jerome Tanner <144dublin@gmail.com>
Date: March 15, 2021 at 9:15:15 AM ADT
To: Glen.Strang@novascotia.ca
Subject: Fwd: bridge#404 Green Bay Lunenburg County

Glen,

I sent these pictures and email to Tir Nova Scotia and they said that they would respond in 48 hours ago that was 12 days ago. I am now sending them to you hoping for a response.

Thank You,

Jerome Tanner

Begin forwarded message:



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg Planning & Development Services

March 27, 2024

To Her Worship, Mayor Bolivar-Getson, and Councillors
of the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Dear Mayor and Councillors:

The Dangerous & Unsightly Property Committee, in session on March 27, 2024, made the following recommendation to Municipal Council:

“that Municipal Council approve the lowest bid from Terra Nova for the demolition of the buildings and the clean up at the property located at 323 Charles Hill Road, Farmington PID 60493012; that is \$13 478.00 including HST”.

Respectfully submitted,

The Chair and Members
of the D&UPC

/sb

Attachments

Meeting: D&UPC
Date: March 27, 2024
Item No: 6.1
Approved by: J. Merrill



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Request for Decision

REPORT TO: Dangerous & Unsightly Properties Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Kyle Whynot

DATE: March 27, 2024

RE: Dangerous Premise – Darren Arseneault

Property – 323 Charles Hills Road, Farmington, NS

PID 60493012

AAN 00652601

LU-DG2022-007

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends:

The Committee recommend to Council that the lowest bid from Terra Nova be accepted for the demolition of the buildings and cleanup of the property located at 323 Charles Hill Road, Farmington, PID 60493012: that is \$13,478.00.

BACKGROUND

We received a complaint on April 10, 2022, in reference to the above-noted property. An initial inspection was carried out on January 27, 2023, which concluded that the property is considered dangerous and unsightly under the terms of the *Municipal Government Act* (the “Act”). As per Policy MDL-07, a letter dated January 30, 2023, was sent to the property owners advising of the dangerous and unsightly condition of the property and the remedy required to return the property to a safe and sightly condition.

On February 27, 2023, a follow up inspection was conducted which found no change in the condition of the unsightly property. As a result of this inspection, an Order was issued on April 4, 2023, providing the property owner 30 days to clean up the property. That Order reads:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that you are to, within thirty (30) days of the service of this Order, remedy the dangerous/unsightly condition of the property; namely:

ACTION "To remedy the dangerous condition, the three buildings must be demolished, and the demolition debris cleaned up and totally removed from the property along with the junk."

On May 8, 2023, a follow up inspection was conducted which found no change in the condition of the unsightly property. The file was then sent for site cleanup tender.

Bidder's Name	Price with HST
Jamil Construction	\$25,852.00
Terra Nova	\$13,478.00
Hutchinson	\$82,800.00
Kind Guys Property	\$25,875.00
Dexters	\$27,140.00
CK Earthworks	\$18,055.00
GFL	\$32,205.00
Capital Demolition	\$15,180.00
Verhagen Demolition	\$24,610.00
Gillespie Horticulture	\$14,605.00

The total quoted may not reflect the actual bill as any other costs that may arise as a result of the work on the property are required to be passed on to the property owner.

Further, MODL receives an HST rebate which reduces MODL's cost of the HST to 4.29%. However, the Canadian Revenue Agency requires MODL to charge HST on top of its costs. Therefore, the cost to the property owner is calculated as follows:

Cost of work + 4.29% (MODL's HST cost) = subtotal + 15% HST = Final invoice to property owner.

DISCUSSION

- The Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) records show the land as being assessed at \$23,700.00 in 2024.
- The lot area 0.80 acres (34,887 square feet).
- Property taxes are: \$2656.18 and are outstanding as of 2020.
- Property was on the 2024 property tax sale list but has been pulled off the list.

ALTERNATIVES

- a) Do nothing and close file.
- b) Grant additional time.

CONCLUSION

It is my opinion that the property is dangerous and unsightly as per the Municipal Government Act, and therefore requires demolition and cleanup.

ATTACHMENTS

Photos from last inspection

Department:

Report Prepared By: Kyle Whynot

Date: March 20, 2024

Report Approved By:

Date:

Reviewed By CAO:

Date:



323



Antenna

323





CADET



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Request for Decision

Report to: Mayor Bolivar-Getson and Members of Council
Submitted by: April Whynot-Lohnes, Municipal Clerk
Date: March 26, 2024
Re: 2024 Municipal and CSAP Election

Recommendations

- 1. That Municipal Council approves the use of alternative (electronic and phone) voting as the voting methods in the 2024 Nova Scotia Municipal and CSAP elections from the first advanced poll day October 10, 2024, to the close of the Ordinary Poll Day on October 19, 2024.**
- 2. That Municipal Council accepts Option 1, as presented for poll locations for the 2024 Nova Scotia Municipal and CSAP elections.**

Executive Summary

At the January 23, 2024, Council meeting, council made several decisions in preparation for the 2024 Municipal and Conseil Scolaire Acadien Provincial (CSAP) Election. Direction is now required from council on the following:

- Use of alternative voting methods (internet and phone) only
- Confirm poll location(s)

Discussion

Alternative Voting (Internet and Phone)

Council introduced alternative voting methods in the 2016 elections for advanced polls and carried that forward to the 2020 elections for advanced polls and ordinary election day. The goal was to ensure greater accessibility for all voters to exercise their

individual and democratic right to vote. The results have been positive and there was an increase of approximately 600 additional voters in 2020 compared to the 2016 elections resulted. (1 acclamation in 2016 versus 3 acclamations in 2020)

The following table provides a recap of voting activity since 2012.

Election Year	Eligible Electors	Voted Advance Poll	Voted on Ordinary Day	Total No. Voted	% of Voter Participation	Acclamations
2012	17,483	825	6,631	7,456	43%	3
2016	20,652	4,096	4,353	8,449	40.9%	1
2020	20,699	7,484	1,600	9,084	43.9%	3

Connectivity concerns were raised during the 2020 election process, and whether electors would vote or not depended on their internet availability and their trust with voting over the internet. However, this was mitigated by having the option of telephone voting, and 2,607 (28.7%) of the voters chose this option in the 2020 elections.

The below table provides a breakdown of voting by method and includes the age groups for each.

Age	Eligible	No. Voted in Age Group	Voted by Internet	Voted by Phone	% of Participation
18 – 19	135	59	54	5	44%
20s	1922	430	380	50	22%
30s	2445	752	668	84	31%
40s	2789	1035	879	156	37%
50s	4040	1792	1413	379	44%
60s	4719	2601	1807	794	55%
70s	3275	1804	1014	790	55%
80s	1126	531	224	307	47%
90s	210	77	37	40	37%
99+	8	3	1	2	38%
Total	20,669	9084	6477 (71.3%)	2607 (28.7%)	43.9%

Alternative methods have the capacity to offer voting from the earliest advanced poll date through to the ordinary poll day. In addition, it eliminates the need for polling stations. It also offers voters the ability to vote by phone or online, which removes physical access barriers such as transportation and provides an opportunity for residents to vote from anywhere in the world

online or anywhere within North America by phone 24/7 over the election period for those who may be away from their primary residence due to vacations, personal reasons, work, etc.

This method also eliminates the management of proxy voting and transfer certificates which are very time consuming for the election management team.

Lastly, Councils Bylaw 041, Alternative Voting specifies that alternative voting must be permitted on advanced polling days (October 10 – October 18) and may be used on the ordinary election day.

Therefore, staff and the Returning Officer is recommending that Council continue with its goal to ensure greater accessibility for all voters by authorizing alternative voting methods for the 2024 Municipal and CSAP elections, which includes the ordinary election day.

Polling Stations

During the last election municipalities were required to pivot due to covid and voter turnout was not impacted. MODL provided a single voting kiosk at the municipal administration building which created resource savings.

Having one kiosk location as a poll station throughout the election period eliminated human resources, rental space costs, staff overtime, training and supply needs. Essentially it reduced the challenge of recruiting qualified staff and locating halls that would meet the connectivity and accessibility requirements.

It is anticipated that finding workers for the elections will continue to be a challenge and the estimated rate of pay would need to increase in order to meet current market demands. It is estimated that the rate would be \$25.05.

The requirement to have two workers at each poll station and back-up workers for the Ordinary Poll Day in 2020 was estimated at \$22,700 and the estimated budget for rentals was \$9,700. With the change to have one kiosk available the cost was reduced to less than \$3,000.

After considering the requirements for setting up poll stations we have provided two options for the council's consideration.

Option 1

The Election Office be set up to accommodate a voting kiosk, which would be accessible

throughout the voting period, (10 full days) and that the required mobile polls be provided for residence of Long Term Care Facilities on the ordinary election day.

Option 2

On election day one polling station located centrally within the four quadrants of the Municipality, (Lahave River and 103 Highway being the division) would be set up to accommodate voting in addition to the required mobile polls for residence of Long Term Care Facilities.

With option 2 it is critical to ensure that the locations meet accessibility requirements, have reliable internet access and phone capabilities (cell coverage) and they would need to be centrally located within the quadrant to create a benefit for residence. In addition, equipment such as tablets, cell phones, laptops, and printers would be required at each of these locations and all poll workers would require more in-depth training to ensure they understand and can troubleshoot matters that may arise.

This option would only be set up on ordinary election day and there would be no kiosk at the elections office as the staff would need to be available to travel to the other poll locations to offer assistance and/or trouble shoot technology or voting challenges.

With option 1 the kiosk would be available during regular office hours throughout the voting period and until the close of polls on ordinary election day and the mobile polls would occur only on ordinary election day.

Finding a central location in each quadrant that will satisfy electors and meet the criteria for accessibility, internet and cell coverage may be a challenge versus having a continuous polling kiosk at the election's office. It is felt that it is better to encourage electors to vote early versus waiting until the last day to vote at a kiosk in their area and added media resources will be placed so that the message gets out to voters.

Therefore, the Returning Officer and staff are recommending option 1 as the preferred option for polling station(s) on ordinary election day.

Polling Division Descriptions

Section 9(1) of the Municipal Elections Act requires the Returning Officer to revise polling descriptions if needed and has reported that this task has been completed. The changes reflect the new URB approved district boundaries.

Candidates Deposit

Section 51(1) of the Municipal Election Act states that every nomination paper must be accompanied by a deposit of \$200. The municipality does not have a bylaw that allows

for a different fee and therefore the fee for filing nominations will remain at \$200.00.

This is a reasonable fee and it encourages a level of commitment by potential candidates to the election process. Also, candidates may receive all or a partial amount of their deposit if they meet the criteria set out in the Municipal Election Act.

If Council wants to change the fee, then a motion directing staff to draft a bylaw would be necessary and it would need to be passed prior to the end of August.

Alternatives

At the discretion of Council within legislative authority, Council may choose to do a hybrid election, using electronic and paper and direct staff to have more than one polling station. In addition, they may direct staff to prepare a bylaw for the setting of a nomination fee different from the Municipal Elections Act prior to the August deadline.

Conclusion

With two successful alternative voting elections in the last eight years, the accessibility of electronic voting and the concerns with staffing shortages, higher costs and accessible locations it is recommended that the 2024 election be conducted using alternative voting methods and that one polling station on ordinary poll day, located at the election's office be established.

Report Preparation	
Department	Administration
Report Prepared by	April Whynot-Lohnes, Municipal Clerk Leah Zinck, Returning Officer
Report Approved by	
Date Reviewed by C.A.O.	



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Request for Decision

Report To: Municipal Council

Submitted By: Melissa Deveau, Civic Addressing Coordinator

Date: April 9, 2024

Re: Renaming Logan Road (the portion from St. Phillips Street to Highway 325), Wileville to White Pine Drive

Recommendation

"That Council provide a positive recommendation to the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works that the portion of Logan Road from the Town of Bridgewater boundary near St. Phillips Street to Highway 325 in Wileville be renamed to White Pine Drive, as per the Municipality's Civic Address Bylaw."

Background

A petition for renaming a portion of Logan Road to Westwood Drive was taken to Council on January 23, 2024. The motion was defeated. Some Councillors suggested they'd prefer if the name was unique to the local area.

Discussion

A new petition for renaming a portion of Logan Road to White Pine Drive was received April 2, 2024.

Information was received on the reason for selecting the proposed road name White Pine Drive. The properties along the road have many white pine trees, which is a species known to be common around Lunenburg County. For further reasoning behind this name, please refer to the attached letter from Nancy and Gerald Dagley, property owners along the road.

Because the road is a Provincial Road, the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works (NSPW) needs to approve the road name change. For the renaming to be approved, the Provincial Policy requires fifty percent plus 1 (51%) of property owners in agreement. This petition was received with 81.8% in support of the White Pine Drive name. Once NSPW approves this name change, staff will request that the road signage be posted.

Additionally, as a portion of this road is within the Town of Bridgewater, this name will also follow their approval process (Heritage Advisory Committee and then Council).

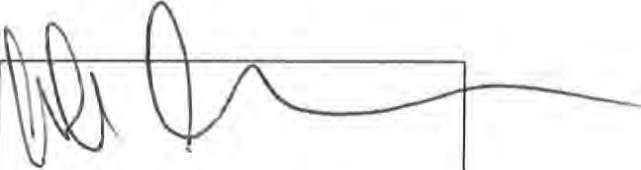
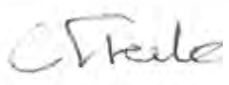
Conclusion

The proposed name change aligns with the guidelines outlined in the Council's Civic Addressing Bylaw.

Report Preparation	
Department	Planning and Development Services
Report Prepared by	Melissa Deveau, Civic Addressing Coordinator
Report Approved by	
Date Reviewed by C.A.O.	

We, the undersigned property owners, hereby request that the portion of provincial road known as Logan Road, Wileville, from St. Phillips Street to Highway 325, be renamed to "White Pine Drive".

Property Location	Name	Signature
Pid# 60662087	Gerald Dagley	
	Nancy Dagley	
Pid# 60305190	Mary Boudreau	
	Jonathan Boudreau	
Pid# 60668068	West Nova Fuels Limited	
Pid# 60720745 and Pid# 60305185	Municipal Enterprises Limited	
Pid# 60414091	G.W. Mosher Motors Ltd	
Pid# 60305208	Vast – Auto Distribution Atlantic Ltd/ Vast – Auto Distribution Atlantique Ltee	
Pid# 60304854	Addee Developments Limited	
Pid# 60024031	E. Turner	

Pid# 60305174	Mirzaagha Investments Inc.	
Pid# 60666690	Fleck Holdings Limited	

Note: One vote per property

We, the undersigned property owners, hereby request that the portion of provincial road known as Logan Road, Wileville, from St. Phillips Street to Highway 325, be renamed to "White Pine Drive".

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Pid# 60720745 and Pid# 60305185	Municipal Enterprises Limited	
Pid# 60414091	G.W. Mosher Motors Ltd	
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Pid# 60304854	Addee Developments Limited	
Pid# 60024031	E. Turner	

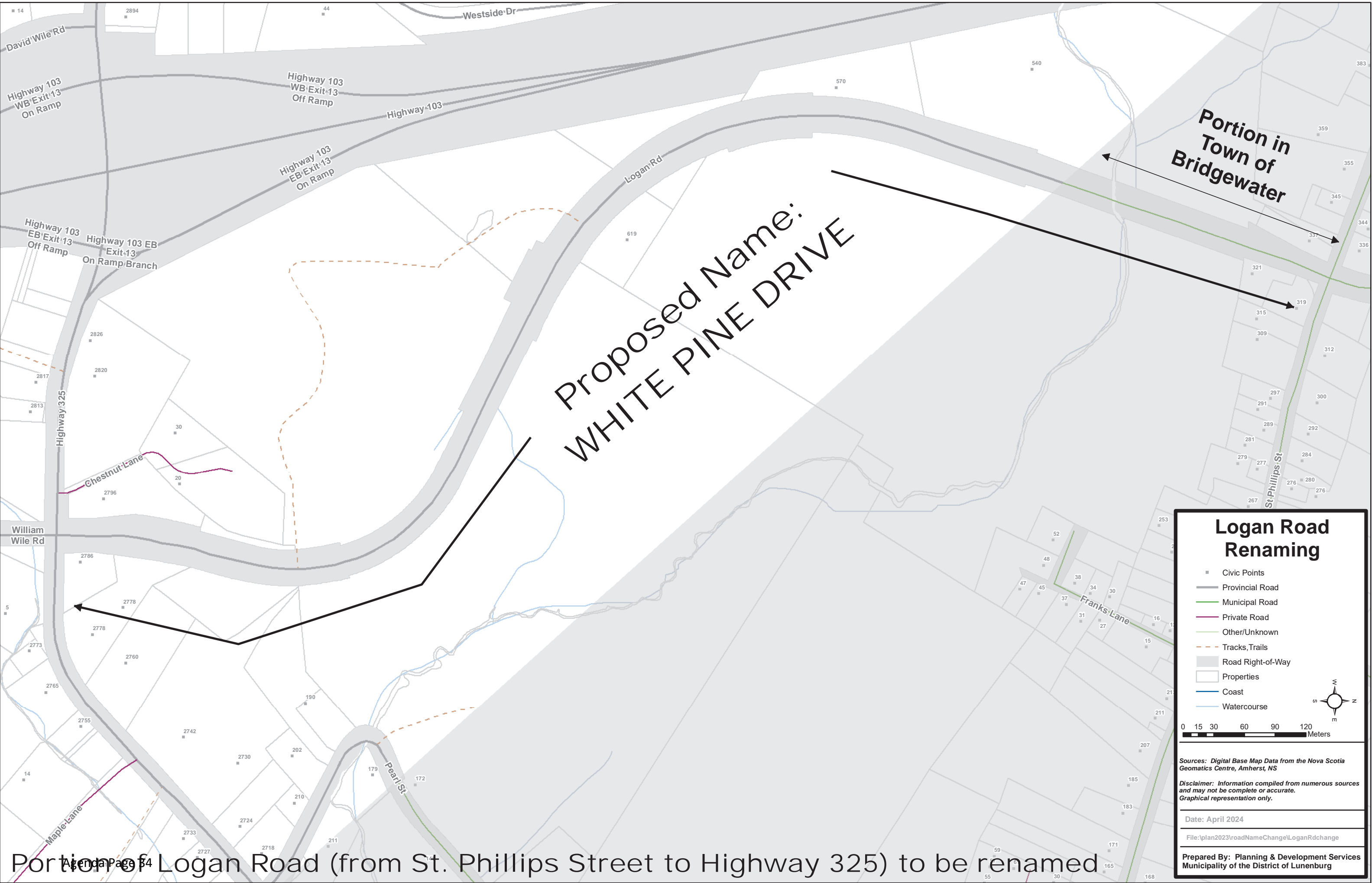
Information on the White Pine Drive name choice to go with the Petition

We picked the name White Pine Drive as we have 24.5 Acres on Logan Road and the dominant native tree on our land is the White Pine. All the neighboring properties also have a large number of White Pines all along the road.

As a local native tree species, the White Pine is very common all over Lunenburg County and adds to the beauty of our local forests.

Thank-you

Nancy and Gerald Dagley
Wileville N S



Proposed Name:
WHITE PINE DRIVE

Portion in
 Town of
 Bridgewater

Logan Road Renaming

- Civic Points
- Provincial Road
- Municipal Road
- Private Road
- Other/Unknown
- - - Tracks, Trails
- Road Right-of-Way
- Properties
- Coast
- Watercourse

0 15 30 60 90 120 Meters

Sources: Digital Base Map Data from the Nova Scotia Geomatics Centre, Amherst, NS

Disclaimer: Information compiled from numerous sources and may not be complete or accurate. Graphical representation only.

Date: April 2024

File: \plan2023\roadNameChange\LoganRdchange

Prepared By: Planning & Development Services
 Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Portion of Logan Road (from St. Phillips Street to Highway 325) to be renamed

PROJECT VOLUNTEER!

Council
Item: 11.3.1
Date: April 9, 2024
Authorization: T. MacEwan



Background

- The drop in nominations for MODL's Volunteer Awards Ceremony, identified a need for a project to reignite Volunteerism in our region.
- The outline of the project was presented to the Lunenburg Queens Recreation Directors Association in November 2023 (MOC, TOB, ToL, RofQ, ToFMB), and they all agreed to participate in Phase 1 of the Project – The Survey.
- The 31-question survey was released January 3rd and ran for the entire month with heavy promotion.



Overall Results

- 146 responses
- Almost 82% were already registered as non-profits
- Almost 90% were actively looking for new volunteer members
- Just over 62% were worried about the future of their organization
- Almost all had a website/social media presence
- Almost 70% were aware of municipal grant programs for non-profits
- Just over 65% were aware of their municipal Volunteer Recognition Ceremony
- The main areas identified where the groups needed help were:
 - Volunteer Recruitment
 - Funding
 - IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility)
 - Social Media/Website
- 55% were aware of Volunteer NS

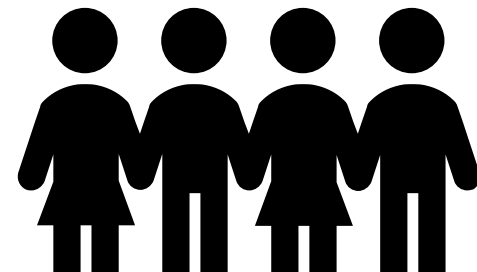
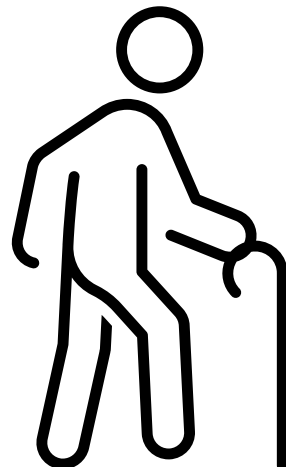
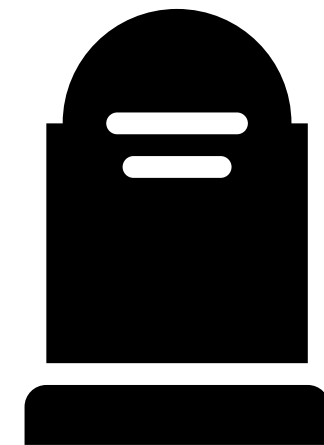
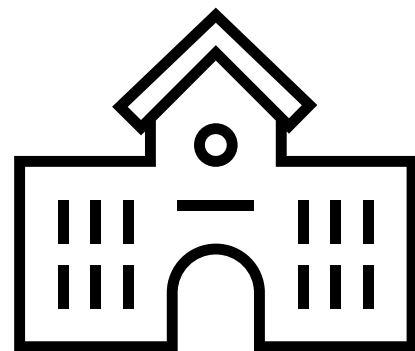
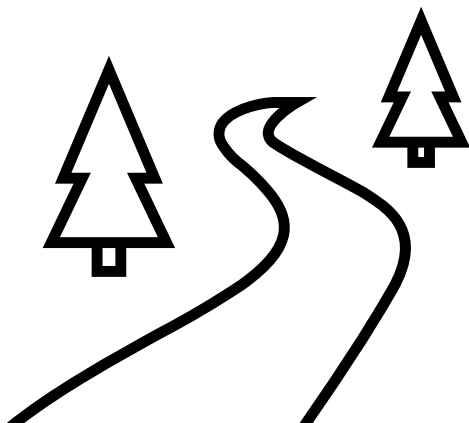
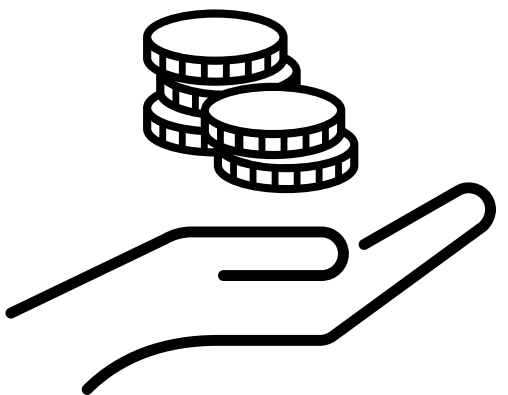
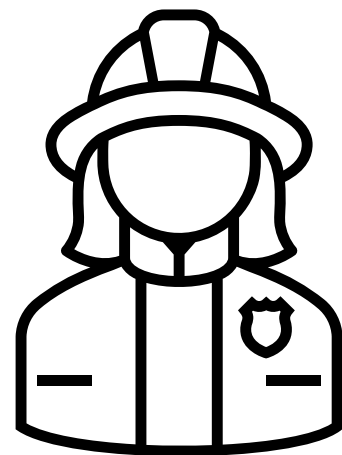
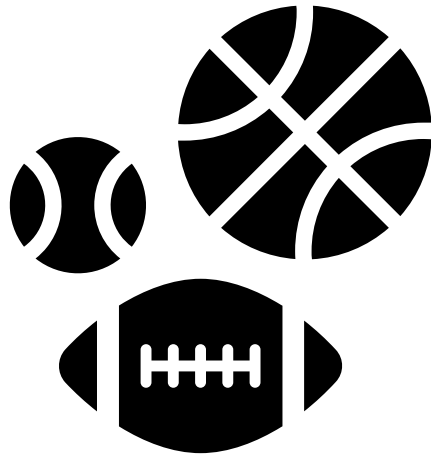


MODL Results

- 35 responses
- Almost 83% were already registered as non-profits
- 800 current volunteers, the mean number per organization was 19
- Just over 91% were actively looking for a total of 550 new volunteers
- Almost 75% were worried about the future of their organization
- Almost all had a website/social media presence
- Almost 66% were aware of municipal grant programs for non-profits and just over 71% knew of the municipal Volunteer Recognition Ceremony
- 41% would like help setting up a profile on Volunteer NS

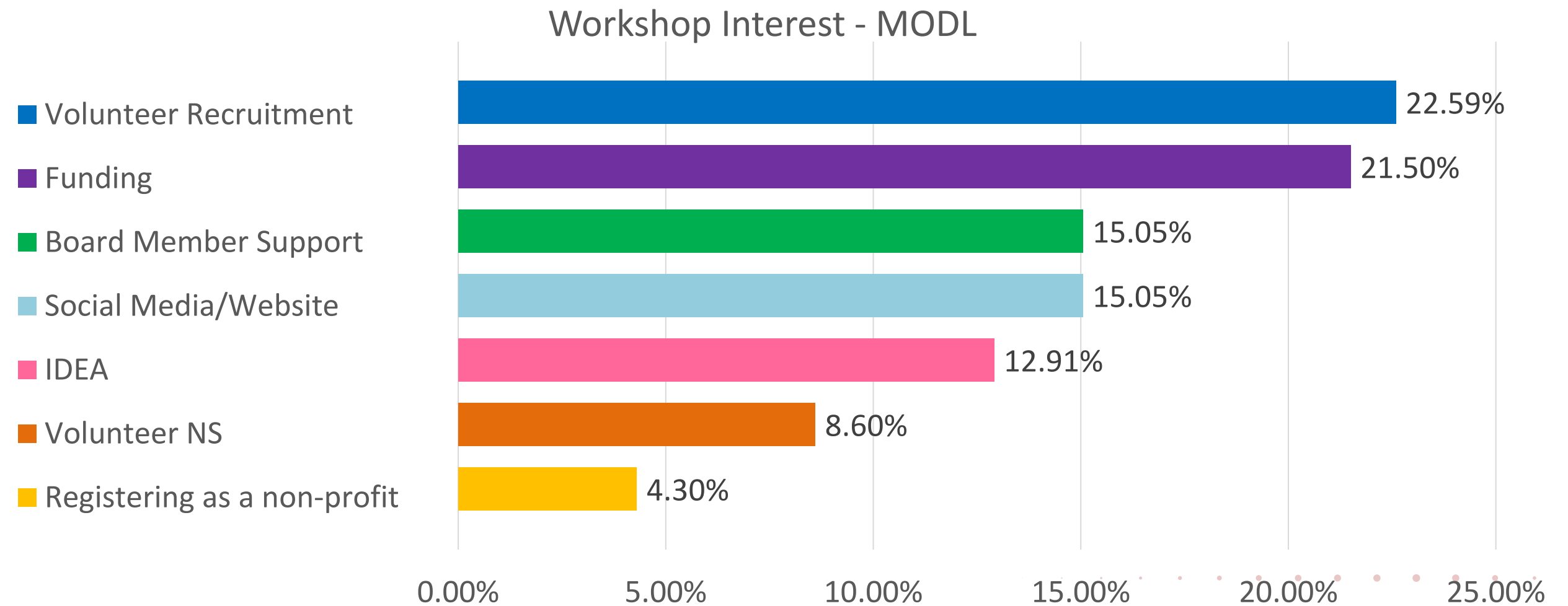


Who We Heard From



Workshops

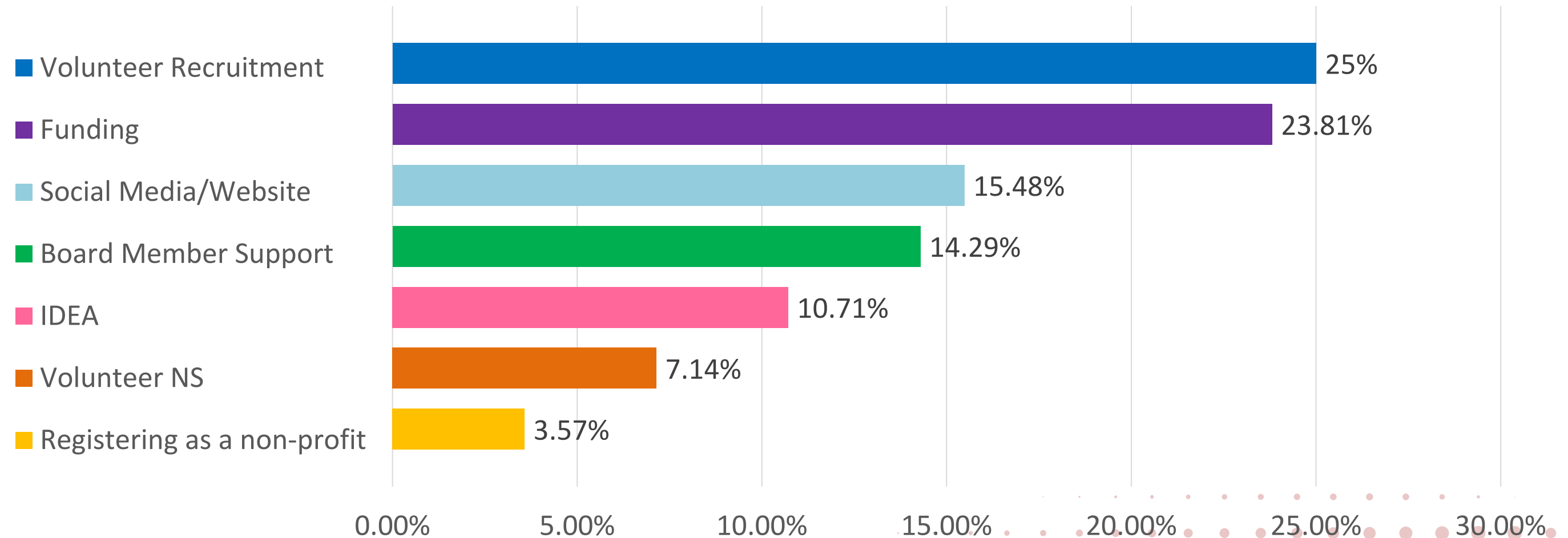
- The main subjects of interest for workshops were:
 - Volunteer Recruitment - 22.59%
 - Funding – 21.50%
 - Board Member Support - 15.05%
 - Social Media/Website – 15-05%



Municipal Help

- The main areas where Municipal Help was needed were:
 - Volunteer Recruitment - 25%
 - Funding – 23.81%
 - Social Media / Website – 15.48%

Municipal Assistance - MODL



Other Units



34 responses
916 current volunteers
Seeking 334 new
volunteers



19 responses
486 current volunteers
Seeking 224 new
volunteers



10 responses
236 current volunteers
Seeking 150 new
volunteers



27 responses
466 current volunteers
Seeking 280 new
volunteers



35 responses
800 current volunteers
Seeking 550 new
volunteers



17 responses
337 current volunteers
Seeking 180 new
volunteers



What Next?



GATHER DATA

PROMOTION

WORKSHOPS

VOLUNTEER NS

EXPO?

Through a promoted survey, ask Volunteer Group to identify problem areas.

Raise the profile of volunteerism in our communities with "Spotlights" in local media.

Based on survey results, run a series of workshops

Introduce Volunteer NS to groups and explain the benefits of funneling volunteer opportunities to one place.

Hold Volunteer Expo where potential volunteers can meet with volunteer organizations.

JAN-FEB

MAR-SEP

MAR-JUN

MAR-JUN

OCT...

COMPLETE

Request for Agenda Items under Mayor's/Deputy Mayor's/Councillors' Matters

TO: Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: _____
DATE: _____

1. Agenda Item

2. On what agenda do you want the item placed?

3. Do you have written material to circulate with the agenda? Yes _____ No _____

If you do, please attach it to this form. If you do not, please explain.

4. What is its relevance to Council or the committee?

5. What outcome(s) are you seeking?

funds to be taken from the Contingency Fund.

K. P. DeLong
Councillor's Signature

_____ Date

Approval for agenda: Yes No

Reason for Denial:

_____ Mayor or Chair of Committee

_____ Date

Motion for Resolution by MODL Council, April 9, 2024

Preamble:

The Municipality of the District of Lunenburg received a presentation from a delegation, South Shore Ceasefire Now, asking that we:

- Make a motion to call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza;
- Match the donation approved by Council on March 8, 2022 of \$10,000 to the Red Cross Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal
- Condemn all acts of antisemitism, anti-Palestinian racism, and Islamophobia in our communities, which have risen since the escalation of violence;
- Commit to ensuring our community is just, safe, and welcoming for all.

I recognize that there is room for discussion on whether a municipal body should take a stance on a global foreign policy issue, however, I feel that we can make a statement in support of the federal government's position. I would like to introduce a motion that makes plain that our council does not support hostage taking that stokes war and the endangerment of innocent people OR the colossal violence now taking place against civilians, in particular seniors, women, and children, and that it is right for us to denounce it. These issues directly affect our residents and it is reasonable to take a stance.

Motion:

I move: ...that the Council of the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg pass a resolution in support of the Canadian Government as it works towards its goal of a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in the Middle East and its support of an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza. (see resolution below)

...that MODL donate \$10,000 to the Red Cross earmarked to aid in relief efforts in Palestine to come from the Council Contingency Fund.

Resolution:

The United Nations Security Council adopted a resolution demanding a ceasefire in Gaza during Ramadan. Resolution 2728 also calls for the immediate release of hostages and for ensuring humanitarian access to Gaza.

Foreign Affairs Minister Melanie Joly stated that Canada welcomes the United Nations Security Council's call for a ceasefire in the war between Israel and Hamas during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan adding that Canada has been asking for a sustainable ceasefire since December.

The Council for the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg joins with the Federal Government in its support of UN Security Council Resolution 2728.

Supporting material:

Appendix 1

[Microsoft Word - 2022-03-01 DRAFT Finance Comm Minutes \(modl.ca\)
https://www.modl.ca/index.php?option=com_docman&view=download&alias=7684-03-01-2022-finance-committee-minutes&category_slug=finance-committee-03-01-2022&Itemid=823](https://www.modl.ca/index.php?option=com_docman&view=download&alias=7684-03-01-2022-finance-committee-minutes&category_slug=finance-committee-03-01-2022&Itemid=823)

From the March 1st 2022 MODL Finance Committee meeting: Mayor Bolivar-Getson advised that there is currently a Red Cross Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal campaign taking place. In the past, Council has donated to other relief efforts through registered charities, such as the Fort McMurray wildfires. It was suggested Council donate \$10,000 and the funds for this proposed donation will come from the Councillor Contingency Fund

Moved by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, seconded by Councillor Hubley that the Finance Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council provide a donation in the amount of \$10,000 to the Red Cross Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal, and that these funds be taken from the Council Contingency Fund. Carried unanimously.

Appendix 2

[Middle East Humanitarian Crisis - Canadian Red Cross https://www.redcross.ca/how-we-help/current-emergency-responses/middle-east-humanitarian-crisis](https://www.redcross.ca/how-we-help/current-emergency-responses/middle-east-humanitarian-crisis)

Canadian Red Cross response

The Canadian Red Cross has a long history of supporting the work of Magen David Adom (MDA – Israel's National Society) and the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) as members of the International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

The Canadian Red Cross has mobilized funds and personnel to support the response to the current humanitarian crisis, and continues to coordinate with MDA and PRCS, as well as other Movement partners, on further support.

The Government of Canada, through the Canadian Red Cross, has generously contributed funds to support the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement response to the ongoing violence.

The Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) is the leading provider of emergency medical services in the occupied Palestinian territory. PRCS staff and volunteers in Gaza have been mobilized to:

- Provide medical, surgical, and emergency health care, including psychosocial support.
- Receive and distribute humanitarian aid through the Rafah border crossing.
- With support from Egyptian Red Crescent, establish an organized camp for people who are displaced.
- PRCS also continues to provide vital support in the West Bank.

The work of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is guided by the seven Fundamental Principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity, and universality.

Appendix 3

[filestream.ashx \(e https://pub-mississauga.escrimeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=49378scribemeetings.com\)](https://pub-mississauga.escrimeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=49378scribemeetings.com)

This example was provided by South Shore Ceasefire Now as a resolution from a Canadian municipality that they thought demonstrated strength and conviction.

City of Mississauga Resolution:

Whereas foreign policy is the prerogative of the Federal Government; and

Whereas municipal councils are concerned with more local issues, closer to residents - residents who

are increasingly global in outlook; and

Whereas incidents of anti-semitism and Islamophobia are unfortunately increasing as the Israeli-Hamas

war continues - affecting residents in our cities, especially our youth; and

Whereas reputable, humanitarian agencies and United Nations spokespersons are expressing deep concern over the deaths, suffering and destruction taking place in this war; and

Whereas U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres reports yearly on the number of children's casualties

in conflicts taking place in various parts of the world, averaging 600 per year, he shockingly reports over

4000 deaths in a single month in the Israeli-Hamas War; and

Whereas Guterres is advocating most strongly for a ceasefire at this time as are other humanitarian

agencies that are being overwhelmed by the conflict - 101 U.N. workers and families killed - such that

Gazan hospitals including El Shifa have collapsed without electricity, oxygen, anaesthetics, clean water

and adequate light while under constant bombardment; and

Whereas 220 plus Israeli hostages are suffering under the same conditions the Gazans are enduring; and

Whereas we have just observed Remembrance Day for those who fought in two World Wars eventually

resulting in protocols such as the Geneva Convention - opposing collective punishment, the taking of

hostages, using non-combatants as human shields, and more; and

Whereas millions of protestors throughout the world, including thousands here in Mississauga, are asking for a ceasefire to end the carnage and move toward a solution to the conflict;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Council of the City of Mississauga, representing its diverse population, condemns all acts of terror and violence resulting in loss of life and disablement of civilians, most especially seniors, women and children.
2. Council joins the growing hundreds of thousands of voices - Jewish, Muslim, Palestinian and every other group represented in our City's diverse population - to call for a release of the hostages and an immediate ceasefire in Gaza to allow for urgent medical aid and desperately needed relief as well as immediate steps to initiate discussions on ending the war.

Appendix 4

TOB motion:

“At the December 11, 2023, meeting of Bridgewater Town Council, Council received a formal request from a delegation asking that the Town “write a letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to request the federal government call for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the release of all hostages, and the flow of humanitarian aid.”

Since that time, Town Council has received additional correspondence requesting a similar statement be issued.

On December 12, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand called for a “sustainable ceasefire,” the unconditional release of all remaining hostages, and that safe and unimpeded humanitarian access into Gaza must be increased and sustained. The Town of Bridgewater supports the position of our federal government and hopes that peace, a lasting cessation of fighting along with the delivery of aid to the region materializes quickly.

The Town of Bridgewater does not have geopolitical or foreign policy information or expertise. Our community, like all municipal and provincial governments in Canada, relies on the federal government, their diplomats, data, and entire 3 departments related to foreign policy matters to represent Canada and Canadian interests. Recognizing this, the Town of Bridgewater’s position is that wherever there is conflict, we want peace and an end to needless loss of life and human suffering. On the specific conflict happening right now in Gaza, the Town of Bridgewater supports the Canadian, Australian, and New Zealand statement of condemnation of Hamas’s October 7, 2023, attack on Israel; support for Palestine’s right to selfdetermination; and a permanent end to fighting on both sides so that aid can begin to safely flow, and partners working collaboratively toward a two-state solution where Israelis and Palestinians can live securely within internationally recognized borders.

Town Council also reiterates that our community is a welcoming, diverse place for all people, and that celebrating what makes us different is just as important as what makes us similar. There is no place for any kind of hate or prejudice in Bridgewater, and we must continue to work in supporting and lifting each other up, not tearing anyone down.”

Appendix 5

News article sources:

[Canada's support for ceasefire is better late than never, say Londoners with family in Gaza | CBC News https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/israel-gaza-london-ceasefire-ontario-families-1.7056926](https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/israel-gaza-london-ceasefire-ontario-families-1.7056926)

[Canada, Australia, NZ call for immediate ceasefire in Gaza | CTV News https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/canada-australia-new-zealand-call-for-immediate-ceasefire-in-gaza-ahead-of-rafah-assault-1.6769721#:~:text=The%20leaders%20of%20Canada%2C%20Australia%20and%20New%20Zealand,reports%20about%20Israel%27s%20planned%20military%20operation%20in%20Rafah.](https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/canada-australia-new-zealand-call-for-immediate-ceasefire-in-gaza-ahead-of-rafah-assault-1.6769721#:~:text=The%20leaders%20of%20Canada%2C%20Australia%20and%20New%20Zealand,reports%20about%20Israel%27s%20planned%20military%20operation%20in%20Rafah.)

[Why BC Politicians Are Calling for Ceasefire | The Tyee https://thetyee.ca/News/2023/11/16/More-BC-Politicians-Urging-Ceasefire/](https://thetyee.ca/News/2023/11/16/More-BC-Politicians-Urging-Ceasefire/)

Daniel Tetrault, a Burnaby city councillor, said the open letter comes out of concerns that local politicians are hearing from their constituents. Tetrault said he and his colleagues have heard from constituents who say their voices are being ignored or they fear the consequences of speaking up.

“People were heartbroken and horrified at the violence and suffering that they were seeing in Palestine and Israel, and they are also hearing from their own

constituents who were asking them to take a stand and to speak up,” Tetrault said.

“We felt it was important to join as one voice in calling for Canada to advocate for a ceasefire, the release of all hostages and humanitarian aid.”

(...) “So many civilian lives have been needlessly lost and there is no end in sight. The collective punishment of civilians is understood to be a violation of international law,” the letter reads.

(...)The open letter from the local government politicians also condemns “acts of antisemitism, anti-Palestinian racism and Islamophobia.”

[Burnaby council calls on Trudeau to press for Gaza ceasefire as death toll mounts | Globalnews.ca](https://globalnews.ca/news/10077692/burnaby-israel-hamas-ceasefire/)
<https://globalnews.ca/news/10077692/burnaby-israel-hamas-ceasefire/>

[Letter To The Editor: Pressure Mounting on Municipal Governments for Ceasefire Response – The Lunenburg Barnacle 2023 \(thebarnacle.ca\)](https://www.thebarnacle.ca/letter-to-the-editor-pressure-mounting-on-municipal-governments-for-ceasefire-response/) <https://www.thebarnacle.ca/letter-to-the-editor-pressure-mounting-on-municipal-governments-for-ceasefire-response/>

Letter To The Editor: Pressure Mounting on Municipal Governments for Ceasefire Response

March 14, 2024 contributed by South Shore Ceasefire Now

Excerpt:

After a successful bid to move Bridgewater Town Council to make a statement in support of a Ceasefire, SSCN presented a similar appeal to the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg (MODL) on Tuesday, March 5th. The central request was for the Mayor and Councillors to pass a motion calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza. SSCN cited MODL’s 2023 commitments to Equity and Inclusion, anti-discrimination, and anti-racism, as well as its outpouring of support for Ukraine in 2022, as evidence of its responsibility and capacity to pass the motion.

SSCN is optimistic that MODL will be receptive. Support has been strong and consistent, with the community raising over \$4 000 for the Palestinian Children’s Relief Fund, and a local petition gathering approximately 250 signatures.

Appendix 6

[Joint Statement by the Prime Ministers of Australia, Canada and New Zealand | Prime Minister of Canada \(pm.gc.ca\) https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2023/12/12/joint-statement-prime-ministers-australia-canada-and-new-zealand](https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2023/12/12/joint-statement-prime-ministers-australia-canada-and-new-zealand)

Joint Statement by the Prime Ministers of Australia, Canada and New Zealand

Australia, Canada, and New Zealand mourn every Israeli and Palestinian innocent life which has been lost in this conflict and express our condolences to all families and communities affected by the violence.

We unequivocally condemn Hamas’ terror attacks on Israel on October 7, the appalling loss of life, and the heinous acts of violence perpetrated in those attacks, including sexual violence. We condemn Hamas’ unacceptable treatment of hostages and call for the immediate and unconditional release of all remaining hostages.

We recognise Israel’s right to exist and right to defend itself. In defending itself, Israel must respect international humanitarian law. Civilians and civilian infrastructure must be protected. We are alarmed at the diminishing safe space for civilians in Gaza. The price of defeating Hamas cannot be the continuous suffering of all Palestinian civilians.

We remain deeply concerned by the scale of the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and ongoing risks to all Palestinian civilians. Safe and unimpeded humanitarian access must be increased and sustained.

The recent pause in hostilities allowed for the release of more than 100 hostages and supported an increase in humanitarian access to affected civilians. We acknowledge the persistent diplomatic efforts of the United States, Qatar, and Egypt to broker this pause, and we regret it could not be extended.

We want to see this pause resumed and support urgent international efforts towards a sustainable ceasefire. This cannot be one-sided. Hamas must release all hostages, stop using Palestinian civilians as human shields, and lay down its arms.

There is no role for Hamas in the future governance of Gaza.

We support Palestinians' right to self-determination. We oppose the forcible displacement of Palestinians from Gaza, the re-occupation of Gaza, any reduction in territory, and any use of siege or blockade. We emphasize that Gaza must no longer be used as a platform for terrorism. We reaffirm that settlements are illegal under international law. Settlements and settler violence are serious obstacles to a negotiated two-state solution.

We recommit ourselves to working with partners toward a just and enduring peace in the form of a two-state solution, where Israelis and Palestinians can live securely within internationally recognised borders.

We remain concerned about the impact of the conflict spilling across the region and urge all governments in the region to work towards containing the conflict. We call on the Houthis to cease immediately their attacks on international shipping and crew operating in the Red Sea.

We condemn rising antisemitism, Islamophobia, and anti-Arab sentiment in our countries and around the world and remain firmly committed to combatting prejudice, hatred, and violent extremism.

Appendix 7

[Security Council Demands Immediate Ceasefire in Gaza for Month of Ramadan, Adopting Resolution 2728 \(2024\) with 14 Members Voting in Favour, United States Abstaining | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases](https://press.un.org/en/2024/sc15641.doc.htm) <https://press.un.org/en/2024/sc15641.doc.htm>

Security Council Demands Immediate Ceasefire in Gaza for Month of Ramadan, Adopting Resolution 2728 (2024) with 14 Members Voting in Favour, United States Abstaining

After 171 days of war in Gaza, the Security Council today adopted a resolution demanding an immediate ceasefire for the month of Ramadan respected by all parties,

leading to a lasting sustainable ceasefire, while many speakers underscored that this is only the first step towards a permanent ceasefire.