

# **MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH**

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA**

**Tuesday, September 17, 2019, 5:30 pm**

**Council Chambers**

**Municipal Administration Building**

**285 Beech Hill Road**

**Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4**

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1. Call to Order – Chairman, Warden Owen McCarron
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of September 3, 2019 Committee of the Whole Minutes
4. Business Arising from the Minutes
5. Delegations
6. Continuing Business
  - a. Letter of Support - Low Carbon Communities Application with Paqtnkek - Community Solar Project
7. New Business
  - a. Water Utility Budget
  - b. Statement of Estimates
  - c. Discussion about Notification of Road Name Change Applications
  - d. Consideration of Minerals Play Fairway Proposal
  - e. Discussion about EMO and Municipal Operations following Post-Tropical Storm Dorian
8. Reports from Inter-Municipal Boards, Committees and Commissions
  - a. Antigonish Heritage Museum Board
  - b. Antigonish Arena Commission
  - c. Antigonish Crime Prevention
  - d. Eastern District Planning Commission
  - e. Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management Committee
  - f. County – Paqtnkek Joint Steering Committee
  - g. Pictou Antigonish Regional Library
  - h. RK MacDonald Nursing Home
9. Community Events

This item provides Councillors with an opportunity to briefly bring to the attention of Council events that are taking place in their communities.
10. Staff Reports
  - a. RCMP Monthly Report - August 2019
11. Additions to the Agenda
12. In Camera Items

This subject matter falls within Section 22(2) of the Municipal Government Act as that which a committee may discuss in a closed session. It is recommended that a motion be made to initiate an in-camera session. Materials will follow.

13. Adjournment

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# MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

## Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 3, 2019, 6:30 pm  
Council Chambers  
Municipal Administration Building  
285 Beech Hill Road  
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

Present were: Warden Owen McCarron  
Deputy Warden Hugh Stewart  
Councillor Donnie MacDonald  
Councillor Vaughan Chisholm  
Councillor Remi Deveau  
Councillor John Dunbar  
Councillor Gary Mattie  
Councillor Neil Corbett  
Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Regrets: Councillor Mary MacLellan

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, Clerk-Treasurer  
Shirlyn Donovan, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator  
Allison Duggan, Director of Finance

1. **Call to Order – Chairman, Warden Owen McCarron**

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was called to order by the Chair, Warden McCarron, at 6:30pm

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Warden McCarron called for any additions or deletions to the minutes. The following items were added to the agenda.

- September is Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month
- Highway 337 speeds near Mount Cameron

**Moved By** Councillor MacDonald

**Seconded By** Deputy Warden Stewart

*That the agenda be approved as amended.*

**Motion Carried**

3. **Approval of August 6, 2019 Committee of the Whole Minutes**

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions in the minutes.

**Moved By** Deputy Warden Stewart

**Seconded By** Councillor Mattie

*That the Committee of the Whole minutes of June 21, 2019 be approved as presented*

**Motion Carried**

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

Warden McCarron asked if there was any update on the solar application. Mr. Horne noted that a response has not yet been received and is not expected until at least October.

6. **Continuing Business**

a. **Household Hazardous Waste Inter-Municipal Agreement**

Council gave direction to staff to create a permanent Household Hazardous Waste facility at the Beech Hill Solid Waste Facility. Division of costs will be based on where people are coming from Town or County. Operation costs will be dictated by waste coming in. Capital costs will be split 50/50 between the Town and the County. Staff are hoping for a grant to cover some of the capital costs. The estimated that operation costs for the first year will be about \$15,000. Budgeting will be dictated by the previous rolling three years.

Staff hopes to have the facility up and running by November and will be open the same hours as the Solid Waste Management Facility.

**Moved By** Councillor MacDonald

**Seconded By** Councillor Deveau

*The Committee recommends that Municipal Council approve the Household Hazardous Waste Inter-Municipal Agreement.*

**Motion Carried**

b. **Update on Private Roads By-law Research**

Mr. Horne provided an update on how Private Roads are maintained in Halifax. Halifax has both a By-Law and Administrative Order. The fee can be collected by area rate or levy. Any fee put on the tax bill is considered first lien and can lead to tax sale if not paid. Councillor MacFarlane suggest staff create a template or a toolbox for residents to use. Mr. Horne suggested inviting residents from a sample of private roads to an information session to discuss the concept and get their feedback.

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7. **New Business**

a. **Discussion about Council Conference Attendance**

Mr. Horne reviewed the list of conferences that Council could consider attending.

- Councillor MacLellan will likely attend the LBANS conference.
- Deputy Warden Stewart and Councillor Corbett would like to go to the Recreation Nova Scotia Conference.
- Councillor MacFarlane, Councillor Mattie, Councillor Dunbar, Councillor Deveau, Warden McCarron, Councillor Neil, Councillor Corbett and Councillor MacLellan would like to attend NSFM Fall Conference. Deputy Warden Stewart and Councillor MacDonald will let Beth know.
- Councillor MacFarlane and Councillor Chisholm are both interested in attending the TIAN conference.

b. **Discussion about Antigonish Community Transit**

Councillor Dunbar brought forward a concern from a resident who was a frequent user of Antigonish Community Transit under their poverty reduction grant. This grant funding has run out. Councillor Dunbar met with Madonna at ACT and has some concerns that they do not have enough funding overall and perhaps need more administrative staff. They will also be needing a new vehicle this year.

Councillor Mattie suggested Antigonish Community Transit contact Minister Delorey's office to see why the funding is no longer available. Mr. Horne and Town staff met with ACT staff and board about a month ago and are trying to get some ridership details. Councillor Dunbar requests that staff send a letter to Minister Delorey's office to ask what happened

**Moved By** Councillor Dunbar

**Seconded By** Deputy Warden Stewart

*The Committee recommends that Municipal Council send a letter to Minister Delorey's office to inquire why the Poverty Reduction Innovation Fund is no longer accessible and what if anything replaces it.*

**Motion Carried**

c. **Livingstone's Cove Wharf Road**

The road seems to be owned by Her Majesty the Queen and the road is not being maintained. When Councillor MacLellan returns, this can be discussed.

d. **HOW Club Antigonish Request**

**Moved By** Deputy Warden Stewart

**Seconded By** Councillor MacFarlane

*The Committee recommends that Municipal Council give \$2000 to HOW Club Antigonish.*

**Motion Carried**

e. **Beacons of Light for British Home Children**

**Moved By** Deputy Warden Stewart

**Seconded By** Councillor MacFarlane

*The Committee recommends that Municipal Council proclaim September 28 British Home Child Day in Antigonish County.*

**Motion Carried**

8. **Reports from Inter-Municipal Boards, Committees and Commissions**

a. **Antigonish Heritage Museum Board**

No meeting

b. **Antigonish Arena Commission**

The Antigonish Arena Commission budget was approved. Summer ice was reviewed and a decision will be made by November if there will be ice in going forward during the summer. Angus Bowie and George Arsenault have been named the new county representatives on the Arena Commission. The commission is in the process of implementing the recommendations that came from the operations review and the financial review.

c. **Antigonish Crime Prevention**

No meeting

d. **Eastern District Planning Commission**

No meeting.

e. **Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management Committee**

No meeting.

f. **County – Paqtnkek Joint Steering Committee**

Paqtnkek has an election in November and staff is making arrangements to have a Joint Council session prior to the election.

g. **Pictou Antigonish Regional Library**

No update provided.

h. **RK MacDonald Nursing Home**

No update provided.

9. **Community Events**

The following community events were noted:

- September 21 - 22 Pow-wow a Paqtnkek First Nation, Councillor Dunbar encourages everyone to go.
- September 8 1-3pm Annual Lobster Roll at Chez Deslaurier
- September 8 1-3:30pm Annual Staff Fun Day

Warden McCarron attended:

- 55+ Games in Antigonish in August 1-3. Warden congratulated Councillor Chisholm and Ms. Donovan for their work on the games.
- L'Arche Conference
- Re-Opening of the Irving Big Stop in Aulds Cove
- Aquaculture session at StFX University
- Met with Senator Mary Coyle and stressed the importance of infrastructure funding.
- Met with Juanita Spencer from NSFM.
- Eastern Nova Scotia Exhibition
- Miracle Treat Day at Dairy Queen

10. **Staff Reports**

a. **RCMP Monthly Report - July**

RCMP monthly report was circulated to the Committee.

11. **Additions to the Agenda**

a. **Spinal Cord Awareness Month**

Councillor Mattie brought forward a request that September be proclaimed as Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month.

**Moved By** Councillor Mattie

**Seconded By** Councillor Deveau

*The Committee recommends that Municipal Council proclaim September Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month.*

**Motion Carried**

**b. Mount Cameron**

Councillor MacDonald brought concerns forth about the speed along Highway 337 near Mount Cameron. Mr. Horne noted that there is a meeting with Minister Hines scheduled for September 6th, and that issue is on the agenda for that meeting. A resident would like to have access to the data that was collected by the speed signs. The Committee agreed that the data could be released after the Police Advisory Board meeting.

**13. Adjournment**

**Moved By** Councillor Chisholm

*That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 8:27pm*

**Motion Carried**

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Warden Owen McCarron

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Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer



**From:** "Sean Kirby" <>

**Date:** August 30, 2019 at 8:53:13 AM ADT

**To:** <[omccarron@antigonishcounty.ns.ca](mailto:omccarron@antigonishcounty.ns.ca)>

**Subject:** FW: Minerals Play Fairway

Warden, I am following up on our attached request for council's support of our Minerals Play Fairway proposal. Specifically, I am writing to update you on a couple recent developments and to again request that council considering writing to the provincial government to support our proposal for provincially-funded geophysical surveys that would lead to more economic opportunities and other health, safety and environment benefits.

Since I first wrote to you in January, the municipalities of Guysborough and Town of Antigonish have written the provincial government to support Minerals Play Fairway. Their letters are attached, FYI.

The ongoing challenges created by the Oxford sinkhole are a reminder of why this project is important. The natural erosion of water-soluble minerals, such as salt and gypsum, can cause sinkholes that potentially harm Nova Scotians and our infrastructure. Minerals Play Fairway would help identify areas with sinkhole potential before we build and help governments ensure that development decisions take into account potential safety issues in those areas. Recent reports about the potential for additional sinkholes in the area further highlight the importance of getting better data on Nova Scotia's geology that would help us avoid situations like the Oxford sinkhole (<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/sinkhole-oxford-trans-canada-highway-1.5265076>).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sean Kirby, Executive Director

Mining Association of Nova Scotia

902-820-2115

[www.tmans.ca](http://www.tmans.ca)

[www.NotYourGrandfathersMining.ca](http://www.NotYourGrandfathersMining.ca)

January 30, 2019

Dear Mayor McCarron:

I am writing to request council's support of our Minerals Play Fairway project – a proposal for provincially-funded geophysical surveys that would lead to improved safety, more economic opportunities and better land, water and environmental management.

Specifically, we respectfully request that you write to Energy and Mines Minister Mombourquette and Finance Minister Casey to encourage them to fund the surveys detailed in our Minerals Play Fairway report, which is available at <http://tmans.ca/minerals-play-fairway>.

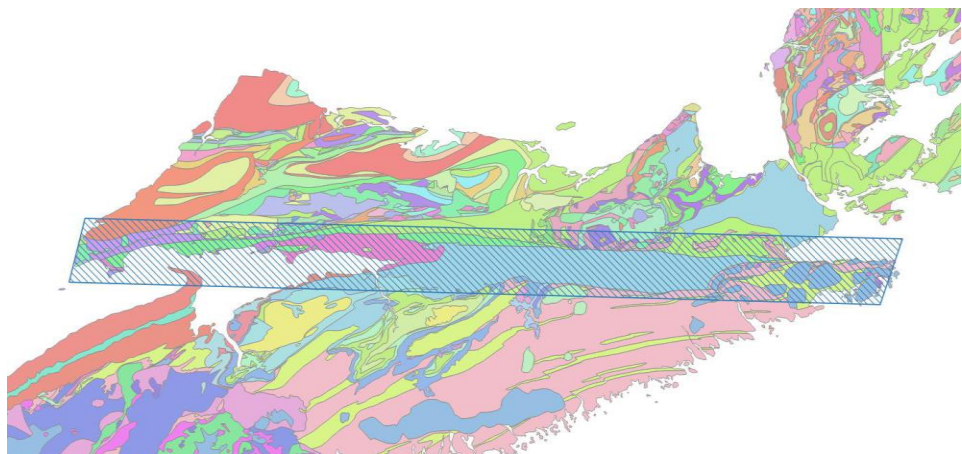
### **Background**

Nova Scotia's mining and quarrying industry is seeking \$19.5 million in government funding for an airborne geophysical survey program. The project, called Minerals Play Fairway, would improve our geological understanding of Nova Scotia, help find future mines and quarries, and be an essential tool for attracting investment and job creation to the province.

Minerals Play Fairway is modelled on the highly successful Nova Scotia oil and gas Play Fairway Analysis. In 2008, the Department of Energy commissioned a \$15 million Play Fairway Analysis and geoscience data package program with the goal of stimulating offshore petroleum exploration activity. The resulting data was made available for free to the global oil and gas industry and attracted over \$2 billion in investment in Nova Scotia's offshore.

The Minerals Play Fairway report is the first step toward building a minerals version of Play Fairway – a free, best-in-class database of geophysical knowledge that will help attract investment and job creation to Nova Scotia. The oil and gas Play Fairway was a made-in -Nova-Scotia success story and copying it for the mining industry would help the industry grow and create jobs for Nova Scotians.

Our Minerals Play Fairway report analyses the province's publicly-held airborne geophysical data and recommends that the Government of Nova Scotia fund a province-wide survey and a series of regional surveys using various geophysical sensors.

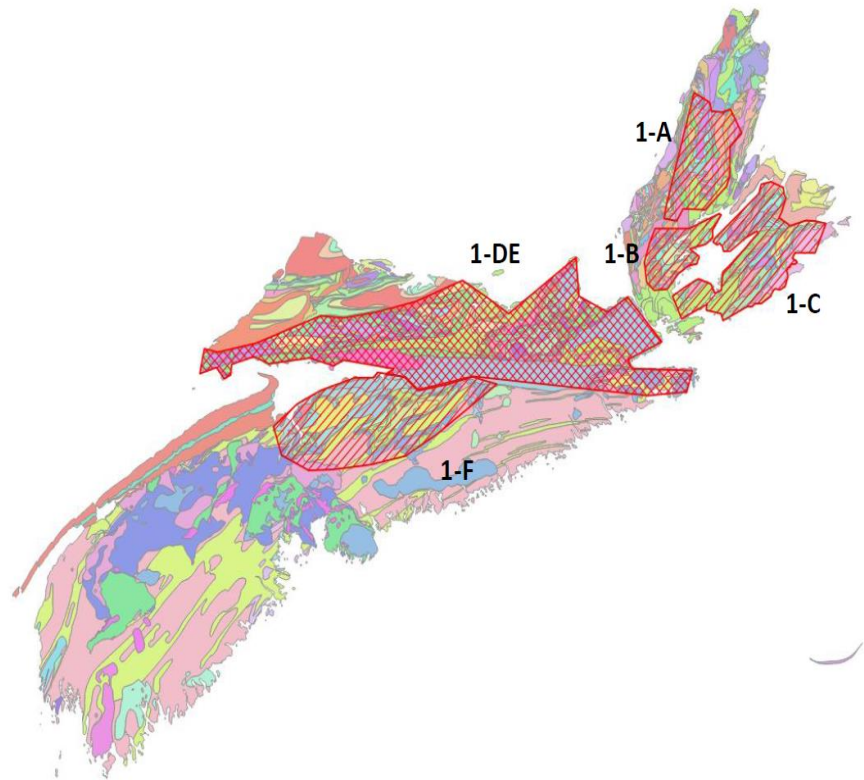


*The Cobequid-Chedabucto Fault System*

The regional surveys are shown in the maps and, as you can see, your area would be well-covered by them and the province-wide survey.

Nova Scotia's mining and quarrying industry employs 5500 Nova Scotians, mainly in rural areas, and generates \$420 million per year in economic activity. Fostering mineral exploration is essential to ensuring the industry's ability to keep creating new jobs for Nova Scotians. If we do not do exploration today, there will not be new mines tomorrow.

Geophysics is the study of the physical properties of the Earth, especially its electrical, gravitational and magnetic fields. Geophysical data help us "see" underground, from a few meters to several kilometers, so we can draw conclusions about geological structures and processes. Geophysical surveys are safe, non-invasive, and cost effective at providing valuable data sets over a large area in a short period of time.



### Other Benefits

While Minerals Play Fairway's main focus is to help find mineral deposits and attract investment to the province, there are several other ways in which Nova Scotians and governments would benefit from the geophysical surveys detailed in the Minerals Play Fairway report:

- There are many different types of chemical and physical geohazards in Nova Scotia that have the potential to place the public and infrastructure at risk. For example:
  - The 2018 sinkhole in Oxford's Lions Club park was an important reminder of the potential for natural erosion of water-soluble minerals to cause sinkholes that can harm Nova Scotians and infrastructure. Minerals Play Fairway would help identify areas with sinkhole potential and help governments ensure that development decisions take into account potential safety issues in those areas.
  - Deadly radon gas is the second leading cause of lung cancer and is estimated to cause 114 deaths per year in Nova Scotia. Radon gas occurs as a result of the natural decay of uranium and this colourless and odorless gas can pool in the basements of buildings. The data from Minerals Play Fairway could help identify

areas with elevated uranium levels and help governments manage this serious public health risk.

- Airborne magnetic surveys, such as those included in Minerals Play Fairway, can help identify bedrock prone to producing acid rock drainage (ARD). Typically in Nova Scotia, ARD occurs when pyrite and other sulphide minerals are exposed to water and oxygen, and react in a chemical oxidation process that releases sulphuric acid and metal oxides into watercourses downstream. This can harm the environment (i.e. runoff can harm aquatic life); human and animal health (i.e. contamination of drinking water); and infrastructure (i.e. corrosion of concrete foundations and bridges, metal culverts and pipes, and buried wiring). With greater knowledge of where sulphide-bearing bedrock is located, we can either avoid disturbing it or manage disturbance to prevent ARD.
- Geophysical data can also be used to help find and delineate aquifers. Increasing our knowledge of Nova Scotia's aquifers would help improve water management, especially given potential impacts on our water supply caused by climate change.
- Geophysical surveys are a non-invasive way of finding buried evidence of past human activities and are therefore helpful in archeology and preserving our history.

### **Conclusion**

Improving our geological knowledge of the province would lead to improved safety, economic opportunities and better land, water and environmental management. We believe it would be particularly helpful to governments at the provincial and municipal levels for safety and land use planning purposes.

Any support you can offer for Minerals Play Fairway would be greatly appreciated.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Yours truly,



Sean Kirby, Executive Director  
Mining Association of Nova Scotia  
902-820-2115  
[sean@tmans.ca](mailto:sean@tmans.ca)  
<http://tmans.ca/minerals-play-fairway>



Office of the Warden

January 30, 2019

Hon. Derek Mombourquette  
Minister of Mines & Energy  
Joseph Howe Building  
1690 Hollis Street  
P.O. Box 2664  
Halifax, NS  
B3J 3J9

Re: NS Minerals Playfair

Dear Mr. Minister

On behalf of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough (MODG) I would like to convey our support for the Mining Association of Nova Scotia's *Minerals Playfair* program.

Nova Scotia is blessed with outstanding potential in our resource sector. The *NS Minerals Playfair* program has the potential to contribute significantly toward unlocking this potential. Following on the tremendous success of the *NS Play Fairway Analysis*, our minerals sector is poised to become a major contributor to our Nova Scotia economy.

The MODG is proud to support responsible resource development. The mining sector plays a significant role in not only providing employment through existing developments such as Martin Marietta and future developments including Anaconda Mining and Vulcan Materials, but also helps fund the services demanded by Nova Scotian's.

Your government has taken meaningful steps to support investment in the mining sector. The elimination of the fuel surtax has helped to address, and reverse the long-held perception that our Province was not open to mining development.

By investing in the *Nova Scotia Minerals Playfair* initiative the Government of Nova Scotia would be sending a clear signal that we are open to investment in this important sector.

Regards,

Warden Vernon Pitts

c. Sean Kirby, MANS



April 11, 2019

The Honourable Derek Mombourquette  
Nova Scotia Department of Energy  
Joseph Howe Building  
1690 Hollis Street  
P.O. Box 2664  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3J9

Dear Minister Mombourquette,

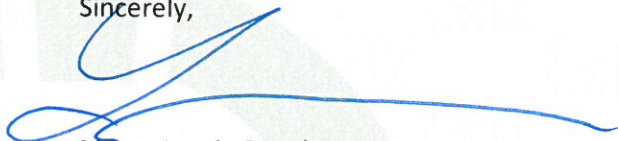
On behalf of Antigonish Town Council, I would like to indicate our support of the Mining Association of Nova Scotia's (MANS) Minerals Play Fairway Project.

The Town of Antigonish supports the pursuit of knowledge that would improve our understanding of Nova Scotia's geological landscape and sustainability of our environment. The Town believes that funding the Minerals Play Fairway geological survey program is an environmentally responsible investment that would improve safety for land developers, protect the public from potentially harmful toxins and provide better land management.

By conducting these regional surveys, MANS will improve our geological knowledge of the province, which is vital in helping communities like Antigonish assess and plan for the future. This survey is the best and safest way to provide valuable data on the detection of chemical and physical geohazards such as sinkholes and deadly radon gas, which is essential information needed to protect the public and local infrastructure. The surveys can also be used to improve our water management by helping to find and delineate aquifers and identify bedrock that is prone to acid rock drainage, which causes infrastructure erosion and is harmful to human and animal health. The collection of geophysical data with these surveys is a non-invasive way of discovering evidence of past human activities. This leads to huge potential for archeology exploration that can produce new discoveries about our province's diverse history.

The Town of Antigonish understands the need for the Minerals Plays Fairway Project and supports the MANS in their efforts to ensure province is safe for all Nova Scotians and our diverse ecosystems. If you have any questions regarding the Town of Antigonish's support, please do not hesitate to contact me directly by email at [mayor@townofantigonish.ca](mailto:mayor@townofantigonish.ca) or by phone at 902-863-5577.

Sincerely,



Mayor Laurie Boucher  
Town of Antigonish  
902-867-5577  
[mayor@townofantigonish.ca](mailto:mayor@townofantigonish.ca)

## **Antigonish RCMP Monthly Report – 2019/08/01-2019/08/31**

**Submitted by S/Sgt. Bill Mooney – 2019/09/05**

### **Occurrence and Crime Reporting – Calls for Service**

<b>Type of File</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Paqtnkek</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Crime against Person	31	20	11	<b>62</b>
Crime against Property	20	15	2	<b>37</b>
Impaired Driving	7	18	0	<b>25</b>
Traffic Collisions	8	17	0	<b>25</b>
Traffic Offences	13	127	0	<b>140</b>
Checkpoints	0	2	0	<b>2</b>
911 Act-Offences Only	6	15	0	<b>21</b>
Other Municipal	8	1	0	<b>9</b>
Other Provincial	34	16	7	<b>57</b>
Other Criminal Code	1	2	0	<b>3</b>
Assist Other Gov't Agency	1	4	1	<b>6</b>
Assist GP/Crime Prevention	33	54	3	<b>90</b>
<b>Total Calls for Service</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>479</b>

### **Notable Events:**

Two notable events took place during the month of August with the Nova Scotia Summer Fest at Keppoch Mountain August 22,23 and another race took place at Riverside Speedway August. Extra resources were scheduled to cover both of these events.

St FX students started to arrive the last week of August and planning is underway to schedule additional resources for Orientation Week and Home Coming.

**Human Resources:**

All positions in the detachment are now fully occupied as of August 2<sup>nd</sup> and everyone is healthy and reporting to work. With full contingent of resources we look forward to ability to carry out proactive initiatives

As always, myself and Sgt McBeath are available at any time to meet or make presentations to your respective Councils.

Regards,

S/Sgt. Bill Mooney  
Detachment Commander  
Antigonish RCMP  
902-863-6500  
bill.mooney@rcmp-grc.gc.ca