

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

Tuesday, June 27, 2023, 6:30pm Council

Chambers

Municipal Administration Building

285 Beech Hill Road

Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

1. Call to Order – Chair, Warden Owen McCarron
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of June 13, 2023 Committee of the Whole Minutes
4. Business Arising from the Minutes
5. Delegations
 - a. Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty
 - b. Jason Parise, SWEB Energy – Weaver’s Mountain Project Update
6. Continuing Business
 - a. Approval of the 2023/24 Antigonish County Water Utility Budget
 - b. Funding Formula for Regional Emergency Shelters
7. New Business
 - a. Tri-Council Meeting Debrief
 - b. Community Partnership Grants Policy Discussion
8. 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.
9. Reports from Inter-Municipal Boards, Committees and Commissions
 - a. Antigonish Heritage Museum Board
 - b. Antigonish Arena Association
 - c. Eastern District Planning Commission
 - d. Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management Committee
 - e. Pictou Antigonish Regional Library
 - f. RK MacDonald Nursing Home
 - g. County Paqtnkek Joint Steering Committee
 - h. Consolidation Steering Committee
10. Community Navigation & Physician Retention Services Association
11. Additions to the Agenda
12. In-Camera Items
13. Adjournment

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES CHART (amended October 2022)

COUNCIL PRIORITIES	
<u>NOW</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WATER UTILITY DEVELOPMENT <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion & Renew Aging Infrastructure Securing Long-Term Source Water Long-Term Financial Plan 2. DEVELOP & IMPLEMENT AN EVENTS & TOURISM PLAN 3. CONNECTIVITY – CELLULAR AND BROADBAND 4. RENEWABLE ENERGY 5. NEXT GEN SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT 	
<u>NEXT</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN: Update & Implementation ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN: Implementation COMMUNITY HUBS: Plan & Implementation 	<u>ADVOCACY/PARTNERSHIPS</u> <i>Connectivity Funding (Prov & Feds)</i> <i>TIR Service Provision (Prov)</i> <i>Long-Term Care Facility Funding (Prov)</i> <i>Aging In Place Program (Prov)</i> <i>Accessible/Affordable Housing</i>
ADMINISTRATION	FINANCE
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CELLULAR & BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY 2. EVENTS & TOURISM 3. ASSET MANAGEMENT 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING: Plan & Implementation - Ongoing
PUBLIC WORKS	RECREATION
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WATER UTILITY DEVELOPMENT 2. NEXT GEN SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION 2. COMMUNITY HUBS
SUSTAINABILITY	PLANNING
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RENEWABLE ENERGY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LCC COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MANDATORY MINIMUM PLANNING: Development & Implementation 2. EASTERN ANTIGONISH PLANNING STRATEGY & BYLAW: Complete Review

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday June 13, 2023, 5:30 pm
Council Chambers
Municipal Administration Building
285 Beech Hill Road
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

Present were: Warden Owen McCarron
Councillor Mary MacLellan
Deputy Warden Hugh Stewart
Councillor Donnie MacDonald
Councillor Shawn Brophy
Councillor Remi Deveau
Councillor John Dunbar
Councillor Gary Mattie
Councillor Bill MacFarlane
Councillor Harris McNamara

Regrets: None

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, CAO
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk
Kaytland Smith, Municipal Intern

Others Present: Gallery (in person and by Zoom)

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 5:30 pm.

Approval of Agenda

Warden McCarron called for any additions or deletions to the agenda. Mr. Horne noted an addition: Meeting with Premier Houston

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried

Approval of May 23, 2023 Committee of the Whole Minutes

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions in the Committee of the Whole minutes of May 23, 2023.

Moved and Seconded

That the minutes of May 23, 2023 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Approval of May 30, 2023 Committee of the Whole Minutes

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions in the Committee of the Whole minutes of May 30, 2023.

Moved and Seconded

That the minutes of May 30, 2023 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of May 23, 2023 or May 30, 2023.

Delegations

There were no scheduled delegations.

Continuing Business

Further Discussion of PARC Request

Mr. Horne reviewed the presentation that was made by representatives from PARC at the Joint Council meeting on Monday June 5, 2023. Mr. Horne a brief update on process, and to give Councillors the opportunity to discuss the proposal further. Mr. Horne noted that Town and County staff has been asked to prepare a draft RFP to determine what a feasibility study would cover and cost. Contact has also been made with St. FX University.

The floor was then opened for questions from Council, and comments included praise for the work that the group had done to prepare their proposal. Questions were asked regarding payment for a recreation centre, and accessibility for peripheral communities. Mr. Horne noted that it was expected that a feasibility study would look at subjects such as capital funding, maintenance funding, amenities in a centre, user groups, and community consultation. A large component of a feasibility study would also be an assessment of existing facilities and programming. The draft RFP will be presented to the Committee when it is ready.

ARMEO Emergency Shelter Generator Discussion

Mr. Horne reviewed the presentation that was made by Mr. Blaise MacDonald, EMC, at the Joint Council meeting on Monday June 5, 2023. Mr. Horne noted that in order for the two locations that were identified in that presentation to be properly equipped to operate as emergency shelters, back-up power would be necessary. Mr. Horne reviewed the amount of funding secured by each location to date and asked for direction from the Committee regarding a cost-share agreement being arranged between the Town and County for the remainder of the funding needed to purchase and install the generators. Discussion followed.

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends that Municipal Council support the establishment of emergency shelters at the Heatherton Community Centre and CACL.

Motion Carried

New Business

Information on the Road Trails Act

Ms. Smith spoke to a memo prepared reviewing the province's recently passed legislation regarding the designation of roadways as trails to permit the use of off-road vehicles. She noted that regulations and a designation request process are currently under development by the Province and are expected in Fall 2023. Discussion followed. Councillors shared examples of enquiries that they've received since the legislation was passed in March, and their thoughts on the information presented. Ms. Smith was thanked for her presentation.

Correspondence from Honourable Brad Johns, Minister of Justice and Attorney General re: Joint Antigonish Town and County Police Advisory Board

Mr. Horne reviewed correspondence received from the Minister of Justice regarding Police Advisory Boards, as well as the response sent by Mr. Horne providing details on the Town and County Joint Police Advisory Board.

Mi'kmaw Place Names on NSDPW Community Signs

Mr. Horne noted that a Joint Council between Paqtnkek, the Town of Antigonish, and the County of Antigonish on Monday, June 26th. During the planning meeting held for that Joint Council meeting, an item that came up during discussion was a desire to acknowledge Mi'kmaw place names in the same manner as is done in Gaelic around the province. Staff reached out to NSDPW and learned that the province does have a policy to support posting Mi'kmaw place names on road signs. Members of the committee were very supportive of staff working with NSDPW and Paqtnkek to get this signage in place.

Community Events

Members of the Committee shared the following community events:

- Councillor Deveau:
 - Chez Deslauriers Friday meals starting,
 - Acadian Days happening in August,
 - Pomquet Fire Services Chicken BBQ in early August.
- Councillor MacFarlane:
 - Williams Point Community Association will be putting out Canadian Flags in Williams Point.
- Councillor Dunbar:
 - Visitors to Bayfield Beach will be happy to know that the ice cream parlour is now open
- Councillor McNamara:
 - Walk for Alzheimer's in Havre Boucher earlier in the month and was a great success.
 - Monastery Fire Hall Car Show is scheduled for July 8th
- Councillor Mattie:
 - Annual Fireman's Meal took place, where Johnny Duykers was awarded the Jubilee award.
- Councillor MacLellan:
 - North Shore Development Association planning their annual fundraising concerts at the Tuna Centre and at the Arisaig lighthouse.
- Councillor MacDonald:
 - Antigonish Affordable Housing having their AGM on June 21st at their Appleseed Drive location.
- Deputy Warden Stewart:
 - The community centre has a new manager and programming is being planned.
- Warden McCarron:
 - Attended the St. FX President's Dinner,
 - Participated in the Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament,
 - Attended the NSCC convocation on June 8th in Port Hawkesbury,
 - Participated in a Commonwealth Study Group meeting June 9th.

Staff Reports

Mr. Horne reviewed the staff reports that were included in the agenda package. He highlighted the EA binders being in the office for Weaver's Mountain. AREMO is monitoring the wildfire activities around the province and offered support to the Provincial EMO if needed. Mr. Horne also noted that tax bills were mailed shortly after the budget was passed, and collections are underway. Recreation summer programming is ongoing, and planning is in the works for Canada Day activities. The tender for the Active

Transportation Corridor has been awarded, work is underway with the water expansion projects, and curb and gutter on Vincent's Way is expected to start shortly.

Mr. Horne also reviewed some staffing updates, noting that Linda Arsenault was assisting in Reception during the tax collection period, and that Laurie O'Connor has provided notice and will be leaving in a few weeks. The Receptionist position was posted for internal and external competition earlier in the week.

Mr. Horne also highlighted staff milestones that were being celebrated, which included:

5 Years

- Amy Leigh George

10 Years

- Matt McKeen
- Tracey MacEachern
- Glenn Horne

15 Years

- Tammy Feltmate
- Shirlyn Donovan

35 Years

- Denise Fougere

Additions to the Agenda

Meeting with Premier Houston

Warden McCarron noted that earlier in the day, he and Mayor Boucher met with the Premier, MLAs Thompson and Morrow, and Minister Lohr to discuss consolidation.

In-Camera Items

Moved and Seconded

That the Committee of the Whole move to an in-camera session at 6:33pm to discuss Litigation/Potential Litigation and Personnel Matters.

Motion Carried

Moved and Seconded

That the in-camera session adjourns at 8:43pm.

Motion Carried

Moved and Seconded

The Committee recommends to Municipal Council that Carroll MacAdam and Carleton MacNeil be appointed to the Joint Town and County Police Advisory Board.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

Moved

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 6:45pm.

Motion Carried

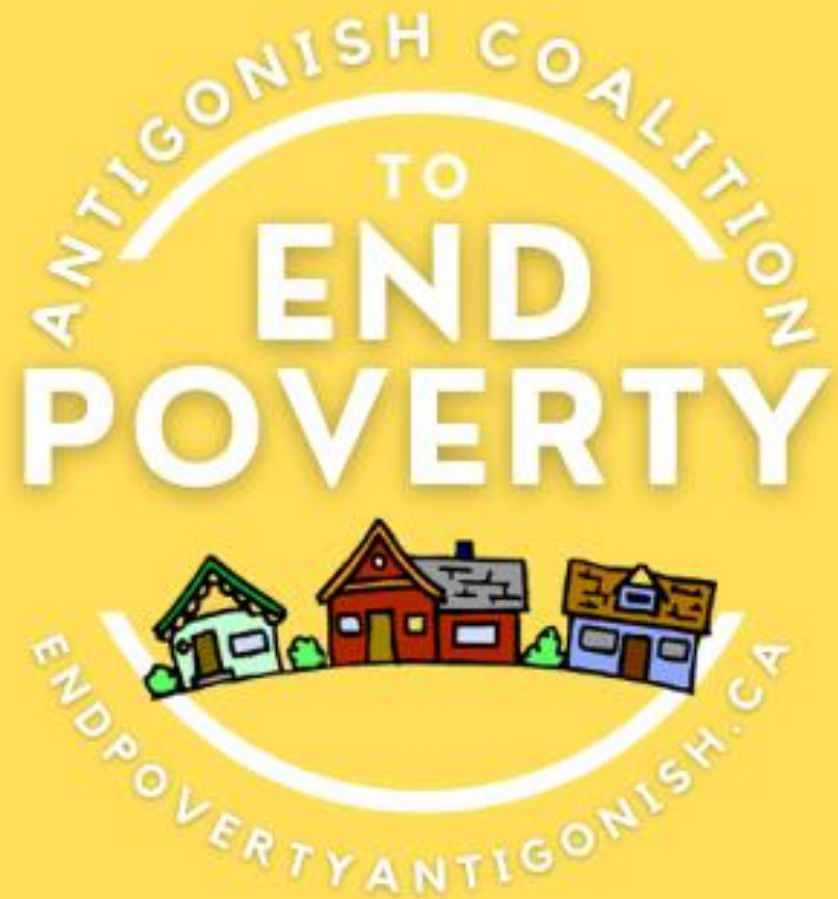
Warden Owen McCarron

Glenn Horne, CAO

Guaranteed Livable Basic Income Presentation

Antigonish Coalition to End
Poverty (ACEP)

June 27, 2023



Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty

Established in 2010, the Antigonish Poverty Reduction Coalition (APRC) brings together organizations, groups and individual community members committed to eliminating poverty in Antigonish Town and County.

Our mission is to reduce and eliminate poverty by working with communities to address the root causes through advocacy, education, and organizing for collective action. The name was recently changed to the Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty to better reflect this mission.

We have a vision of healthy and inclusive communities where everyone is able to participate fully and has access to opportunities and support to live with dignity and choice, free from inequality and poverty.

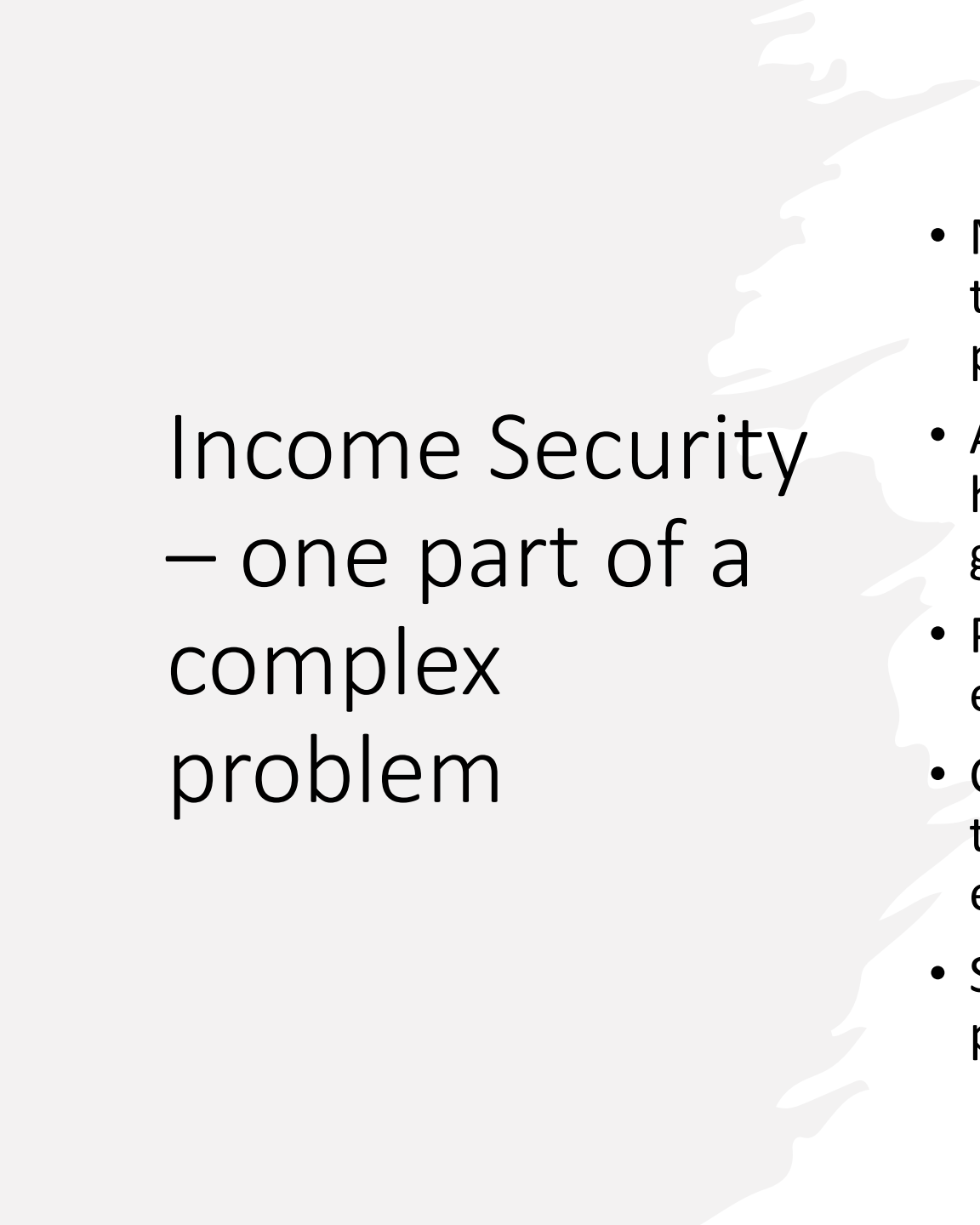
What we've done

- In 2011-2012 we developed an action plan with more than 60 items for addressing local poverty
- Many initiatives were born or strengthened by that work, including the Antigonish Food Security Association, Antigonish Affordable Housing Association, Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund, and Antigonish Community Transit Society
- The municipalities of the Town and County have shown support and leadership for all of these initiatives
- We also applaud initiatives like property tax relief for low-income residents

Poverty and Food Insecurity in Antigonish

- 31,370 children live in poverty in Nova Scotia, which amounts to 18.4% or close to 1 in 6 children. This is the first time child poverty dropped below 24% since 2000, almost entirely due to federal pandemic relief. (2023 Report Card on Child and Family Poverty, CCPA)
- 1 in 4 households in Nova Scotia is food insecure.
- In 2021, 1071 individuals visited the Antigonish Community Food Bank 5972 times.
- At the Antigonish Community Fridge and Pantry, which opened in August 2022, volunteers can't keep up with demand.
- Front line service providers at community organizations are desperately trying to keep people housed, fed, and with the lights on but the number of people living in deep poverty continues to climb and they are unable to continue to fill the gaps.





Income Security – one part of a complex problem


- More and more municipalities are realizing that there are gaps in the social safety net and many people are falling through.
- Along with safe, affordable housing, reliable health care, and other social supports, a major gap is income security.
- People need a livable, reliable income that will ensure they can meet basic needs.
- Current programs, like employment assistance or the Canada Workers Benefit, are not serving everyone.
- Social assistance rates in NS are shockingly and persistently inadequate.

Need for a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income

- A Guaranteed Livable Basic Income is an income security option that would provide a regular, livable income to those who otherwise would fall below the poverty line and are not being served by other programs.
- It is different than a livable wage – which is a wage that is paid by employers calculated to allow employees to be able to live on their salaries.
- It is similar to the combined Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement that low-income seniors can access, except it would be available to working-aged adults.

Basic Income – not a new idea

- BI has been around for a long time in Canada, dating back to the pilot project in Dauphin, MB in the 1970s.
- Some argue that Canada currently has many forms of basic income in place, including the Canada Child Benefit for households with children and OAS/GIS for low-income seniors.
- A short-lived pilot project in Ontario in the early 2000s had a remarkable impact for those participating, including health improvements, ability to access higher education, and reduced isolation.



Growing support for a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income

- In April 2020, 50 Senators wrote a letter to the Prime Minister and Finance Minister asking to extend the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) into a guaranteed livable basic income program, led by Senator Kim Pate.
- PEI has all-party support for a province-wide basic income program and has sent a letter of support to the Prime Minister.
- Last month, the Senate passed Bill S-233, An act to develop a national framework for a guaranteed livable basic income. It has been sent to the Senate Finance Committee for further study.
- The companion bill, Bill C-233, has been tabled in the House of Commons, but MP Leah Gazan.

PEI is calling for a province-wide basic income program


- All party support
- Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI support
- First Nations Chiefs' support:
<https://www.saltwire.com/nova-scotia/news/first-nation-chief-on-pei-backs-basic-guaranteed-income-for-mikmaq-people-396189/>




Basic Income NOW Atlantic Canada



- A coalition of Atlantic Canadian organizations and individual advocates working in solidarity to call for the implementation of a basic income.
- [Consensus statement](#)
 - A shared vision—we speak with one voice
 - Identifies the basic income we advocate for and why
 - Currently signed by 41 organizations and 320 individuals



Basic Income NOW Atlantic Canada Consensus Statement – Local Signatories

- A Roof Over Your Head
 - Antigonish Coalition to End Poverty
 - Antigonish Community Transit Society
 - Antigonish Women's Resource Centre & Sexual Assault Services Association
 - Coady Institute
 - Martha Justice Ministry, Sisters of St. Martha, Antigonish
 - Social Justice Committee, St James United Church
 - Along with several NS Community Health Boards, faith groups, and food security groups
- 

Municipal Basic Income Actions

Past

- 2015: Kingston resolution passed, followed by 40 other Ontario Municipalities
- 2018: Halifax included 2 action items (1.5, 3.4) for a BIG in its [Poverty Solutions report](#)

2022-23

- January 2022: City of Victoria [resolution](#)
- April 2022: Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities (AVICC) ([resolution #37](#))
- June 2022: Halifax Regional Municipality [resolution](#)
- September 2022: Moncton [resolution](#) (#12)
- October 2022: St. John's and Fredericton
- January: St. John, NB
- Recently, Wolfville, Pictou County, County of Annapolis, Town of Antigonish and Atlantic Mayors' Congress have passed resolutions. Others that have considered but not passed a resolution (yet) are Lunenburg County and Town of Yarmouth.

Poverty impacts
our communities
and costs of
poverty are
downloaded
onto
municipalities.



[Case for Basic Income for Municipalities](#)

What you can do...

- Learn more...Read and sign the Basic Income Atlantic Canada Consensus Statement and links to resources:
<https://www.big-ns.org/read-and-sign-the-consensus-statement>
- Pass a resolution in support of a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income program in Canada
- Reach out to other municipalities that have passed resolutions

Resolution

- That Antigonish County Council request a letter from the Warden to the Prime Minister, Ministers, and Premier of Nova Scotia calling on the Government of Canada to implement a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income, ensuring that everyone has sufficient income to meet their needs, which would contribute to the eradication of poverty and homelessness, relieving pressure on municipalities to use limited resources to fill in the gaps of a failing social safety net.

”

Thank you for your attention.
We welcome any questions.

Basic Income: Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: What is a basic income?

A basic income is a **periodic, unconditional cash payment provided by government to individuals**. It ensures recipients can meet their basic needs and live with dignity regardless of their work status. Different terms are used for similar policy proposals to emphasize different key characteristics of basic income:

- i) a **Basic Income Guarantee (BIG)** creates an income floor, preventing people from falling into poverty. It is unconditional, and (like health care) universally *available*, but income tested and so delivered only to those who need it, regardless of their work status.
- ii) a **Guaranteed Livable Income (GLI)** GLI and BIG are essentially the same. Many Canadian advocates have adopted the use of GLI to emphasize the importance of the benefit's sufficiency. It must be high enough not just to survive, but to live with dignity. The sufficiency requirement is also part of all detailed definitions of BIG, but not highlighted. This document uses the phrase livable BIG throughout to keep sufficiency to the fore.
- iii) a **Universal Basic Income (UBI)** In terms of its definition, a UBI is an unconditional payment made to *all* adults, rich or poor, and is not clawed back. It contrasts directly with income tested models. In Canada, however, UBI has come to be used often to refer to any kind of basic income program. This leads to confusion exploited by opponents to attack BIG's affordability.

Q2: What program do we propose for Canada?

The Coalition advocates for an **income tested livable BIG for adults aged 18-64 functioning as part of a comprehensive array of social supports**. The benefit for a single adult should be set at or above the chosen poverty line and indexed to the cost of living. The reduction rate for paid work should be set at a level which will make working always worthwhile – certainly no higher than 50%. The Coalition proposes a lower reduction rate, but the precise reduction rate will depend on various aspects of the final design. Disabled people with exceptional costs due to their disability should receive additional monetary support to allay those costs.

Q3: How high should a livable BIG be set?

Since the purpose of a BIG is to address income insecurity and poverty, the guarantee should be set at or above the poverty line. There are a number of ways to define that line. Three that Statistics Canada uses are the Low Income Cut Off (LICO), the Low Income Measure (LIM), and the Market Basket Measure (MBM). All are adjusted for family size. But since they are calculated in differing ways, each can be applied easily to some regions/communities but not to others, and they render up different poverty rates. As a result, experts disagree which to use for what purposes, although Canada recently adopted the MBM as its official poverty line.

With respect to basic income, the best measure to use will depend on various aspects of the ultimate design. As can be seen from the Parliamentary Budget Office's 2021 report, basic income has the potential to completely transform the rate of poverty in Canada. To be effective, the benefit level of a livable national BIG must be high enough to lift everyone out of poverty.

Q4: What existing income support programs should be replaced by a national livable BIG?

A national livable BIG must replace Provincial, Territorial, and Indigenous income assistance programs (welfare).

Currently, welfare benefits are conditional, accessing them is humiliating and stigmatizing, and interactions with multiple intermediaries leave applicants vulnerable to racism, sexism and other biases. Welfare rates vary widely across the country, but all are far too low to meet basic needs. Struggling to subsist on too little income is time consuming and exhausting. It causes stress and ill health. Additionally, current welfare programs are counterproductive because they create barriers to employment. The federal government has the wherewithal to administer a consistent, fair and more robust income security program set at a livable benefit level across the country.

Basic Income: Frequently Asked Questions

Q5: What existing income support programs should be retained with a livable BIG?

Together with a livable BIG, the federal programs below should be retained, ensuring that income security is accessible and equitably delivered to everyone in need.

A livable BIG would work effectively with the Canada Child Benefit, Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS). Both resemble basic income programs targeted to particular populations and should be retained. That is why we advocate for a program focused on people 18-64. Contributory programs like The Canada Pension Plan and Employment Insurance should also be continued. The GIS may need an upward adjustment to ensure fairness and EI surely needs redesigning in light of the radically changing world of work if it is to be effective with respect for people engaged in precarious work and gig economies. To address the extraordinary costs of having a disability, the federal disability tax credit should be made fully refundable and the definition of disability adjusted to make the credit available to a less restricted group of people.

Q6: What are the benefits of a livable BIG?

There are many benefits of a well-designed national livable BIG program. It will provide a reliable and steady income for people currently receiving welfare, others struggling with multiple low paying or gig economy jobs, those who farm and fish and do other seasonal work, and those working in the creative arts. A livable BIG will also bring about a reduction of the high costs to taxpayers of poverty's impacts. Once people know they can meet their most basic needs for food, shelter, transportation, etc., the stress of living on a low income is immediately reduced. As a result, accidents decrease, hospitalizations, health and mental health costs decrease, crimes and incarceration due to desperation goes down, general health and educational outcomes improve, community participation increases, and alternative living possibilities for abused family members are created.

Since people living on low incomes tend to spend their money locally, BIG offers predictable benefits to the local economy and improves community cohesion, safety and security. The resulting financial stability in the lives of recipients both restores their dignity and autonomy and increases well-being. Altogether, the cost of remedial programs is reduced, saving taxpayer money. Finally, as we strive to meet Canada's environmental protection goals, individuals, businesses and whole communities will need financial support to undertake the many changes required for the transition. A livable BIG, together with an improved Employment Insurance program, will provide the community resilience needed to move Canada toward an environmentally sustainable economy.

Q7: Should provincial programs, other than welfare be displaced, by a livable BIG?

In general, no. Both income security and a comprehensive array of social supports and services are necessary for people with unique challenges and vulnerabilities to live with dignity. Income alone cannot address factors such as disability, mental health or addiction. Provincial employment and training programs, counseling and rehabilitative services and supports must remain and should be updated or expanded where needed. A federal BIG should be designed to harmonize with other provincial, territorial, and indigenous social support and service programs. A recent study showed that when people have a reliable livable income, fewer calls on other social support services can be expected. Federal, provincial and Indigenous governments must determine collaboratively which programs, if any, should be replaced and which continued once a livable BIG is implemented.

Q8: Will people stop working if they get a BIG?

No. Canadian research has identified only two reasons people leave the workforce when receiving a basic income: mothers who stay home with very young children and youth who stay in school to graduation. Research on Mincome - a basic income pilot program in Manitoba in the 1970s - showed that most people continued to work. There was no change at all in labour force participation rates and extremely little change in total hours worked except for those two groups of people. Research on the truncated Ontario Basic Income Pilot by

Basic Income: Frequently Asked Questions

a group from McMaster showed similar results - most recipients who had jobs continued to work after receiving a basic income and more than a third of them reported that basic income helped them find higher-paying jobs with better working conditions. This Canadian evidence accords with evidence from basic income trials conducted throughout the world and at various time periods.

The livable basic income program we propose for Canada explicitly provides incentives to work. This is ensured by a gradual reduction in benefit level as earned income increases. For example, a reduction rate of \$.25 means that the basic income benefit will be reduced by only 25 cents of each dollar earned. So, it will always pay to work. This contrasts directly to the work disincentive built in by design to the CERB (see Q9) which worked very well. CERB recipients were allowed to earn only \$1000 a month before losing the entire \$2000 CERB benefit. As the economy started to reopen, there were complaints that businesses could not get their employees to return to work. Also, people were concerned about returning unsafe workplaces or travel conditions and bringing the virus home to their families. Finally, many families continued to lack childcare as schools had not yet opened. The CERB enabled people to remain at home to avoid the risk of contagion, as designed. In contrast, basic income is designed to foster engagement with the job market.

Q9: How is a basic income different from CERB?

Unlike BIG, CERB designed to slow the progress of COVID-19, was temporary, conditional, and deliberately designed to support people so they would NOT risk contagion by going to work. CERB support payments were conditional on applicants having lost their jobs, had their hours reduced, or had childcare responsibilities associated with school closures due to the pandemic. In addition, applicants had to have earned at least \$5,000 in the previous 12 months. Because of its conditions, CERB failed to reach all those in need as the Government's frequent extensions of the program indicated. In contrast, a livable BIG would be permanent and unconditionally available to those whose income fell below the benefit level. CERB did have some similarities to BIG, however. It recognized that an adequate monthly income was essential both for individual financial security and to keep the economy going. It was easily accessible and the stigma associated with welfare was eliminated. In these ways, CERB was like BIG, and provided a direct contrast to provincial welfare programs.

Q10: How much would a national income-tested livable BIG cost?

BIG is clearly affordable and a more effective use of tax dollars than current income support systems. Precisely because it is income tested, the livable BIG we propose costs a fraction of the amount a Universal Basic Income (UBI) would cost (which goes to everyone, see Q1). Over the last three years, there have been three PBO calculations of the cost of a BIG with total costs ranging from \$76-85 billion, and a Policy Options Report from the Basic Income Canada Network which models three different funding options. In these studies, certain federal refundable and non-refundable tax credits are used to pay for a basic income. Together with savings from federal transfers to provinces for welfare, much of which would no longer be needed, the net cost would come closer to \$23 billion. If tax loopholes useful only to higher income earners were eliminated, that would offset the net cost still further.

Q11: How do we pay for a national income-tested livable BIG?

The program could be paid for by harmonizing the provincial/territorial social transfer with the new national basic income program and by replacing federal refundable and non-refundable tax credits. There are other ways to pay for a basic income program no matter how it is designed. However, the data needed to model ways to finance a basic income program are available only for modeling based on the income tax code only. Therefore, other options, such as new taxes (e.g., wealth, inheritance, financial transaction, robotics and AI productivity taxes), or resource licensing or dividend payments could not be modeled in any of the studies. They could potentially be additional or alternative resources for financing a livable BIG but they are not required.

Basic Income: Frequently Asked Questions

SOURCES

There are many evidence-based sources for the information contained in these FAQs. Only a few are provided below. Most of the sources we list contain references to still more sources for the material.

Q1: What is a basic income?

Coalition Canada [What Is Basic Income?](#)

Coalition Canada [UBI vs. BIG](#)

Q2: What program do we propose for Canada?

Aldridge, H. (2017). [Backgrounder: How do we measure poverty?](#) Maytree.

Boadway, R., Cuff, K., & Koebel, K. (2018). [Can Self-Financing Redeem the Basic Income Guarantee? Disincentives, Efficiency Costs, Tax Burdens, and Attitudes: A Rejoinder](#). *Canadian Public Policy*, 44(4), 447-457. <https://doi.org/10.3138/cpp.2018-044>

Forget E. (2020). [Basic Income for Canadians: From the COVID-19 Emergency to Financial Security for All](#). Lorimer.

Segal, H., Forget, E., & Banting, K. (2020). [A Federal Basic Income Within the Post COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan](#). Royal Society of Canada.

Q3: How high should a livable BIG be set?

Coalition Canada – [The basic income we want](#)

LICO – [Low Income Cut-offs](#)

LIM – [Low Income Measure](#)

MBM – [Market Basket Measure](#)

Q4: What existing income support programs should be replaced by a national livable BIG?

Boadway, R., Cuff, K., & Koebel, K. (2018). [Implementing a Basic Income Guarantee in Canada: Prospects and Problems](#). Collaborative Applied Research in Economics Initiative.

Forget E. (2020). [Basic Income for Canadians: From the COVID-19 Emergency to Financial Security for All](#). Lorimer.

Q5: What existing income support programs should be retained with a livable BIG?

Boadway, R., Cuff, K., & Koebel, K. (2018). [Implementing a Basic Income Guarantee in Canada: Prospects and Problems](#). Collaborative Applied Research in Economics Initiative.

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COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH
For the Twelve Months Ending March
31, 2024

2023-2024	2022-2023	2022-2023
BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET

REVENUE

RATED CUSTOMERS

Water Rates	\$1,175,000	\$1,125,815	\$1,092,000
Water Interest Revenue	\$7,700	\$6,836	\$4,900

OTHER OPERATING REVENUE

Public Fire Protection Rates	\$472,190	\$472,190	\$472,190
Private Firy Hydrants UARB	\$6,201	\$6,201	\$7,000
Permit Revenue	\$17,000	\$16,450	\$18,000

Other Oper Revenue Sub-total	\$495,391	\$494,841	\$497,190
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Total Revenues	\$1,678,091	\$1,627,612	\$1,594,090
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	2023-2024	2022-2023	2022-2023
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
EXPENDITURES			
<u>SOURCE OF SUPPLY</u>			
Fringe Water Purchased - Town	\$230,000	\$222,240	\$218,000
Mtr Chrgs Fringe (bulk) Town	\$140,000	\$134,423	\$136,200
Fringe Repairs & Maintenance	\$2,000	\$624	\$2,000
LSR Repairs & Maintenance	\$4,000	\$396	\$4,000
Gaspereau Lake Repairs & Maintenance	\$5,000	\$119	\$5,000
Gaspereau lake Electric (1/3 Well)	\$3,000	\$3,453	\$3,000
LSR Sampling	\$10,000	\$2,329	\$10,000
Gaspereau Lake Sampling	\$4,000	\$1,165	\$4,000
Fringe Sampling	\$1,500	\$1,736	\$1,500
Source of Supply revenue Sub-total	\$399,500	\$366,485	\$383,700
<u>POWER & PUMPING</u>			
LSR Electricity - WELLS 3,4,6 &7	\$23,000	\$19,189	\$20,000
<u>TRANSMISSION & DISTRIB.</u>			
S alary Full Time	\$207,637	\$214,219	\$229,697
Overtime	\$10,714	\$15,176	\$14,464
Benefits	\$40,168	\$44,362	\$39,239
Fringe - Water Meter R & M	\$5,000	\$4,740	\$5,000
LSR Water Meter R & M	\$1,500	\$5,578	\$1,500
LSR R & M	\$7,000	\$19,430	\$7,000
St. Andrews R & M	\$6,000	\$11,950	\$6,000
Gaspreau Lake R & M	\$5,000	\$2,675	\$5,000
Water Meter Inventory	\$50,000	\$18,799	\$50,000
Repairs & Mtce Wright's River	\$7,500	\$19,441	\$7,500
R & M Lochaber Rd	\$20,000	\$6,863	\$20,000
R & M North Grant waterline	\$2,000	\$2,665	\$2,000
R & M Church Street	\$5,000	\$796	\$5,000
R & M Sylvan Valley	\$500	\$0	\$500
R & M St Andrews Street	\$500	\$2,178	\$500
R & M Arbor Drive	\$500	\$0	\$500
R & M Cloverville Rd	\$11,000	\$0	\$11,000
R & M Post Rd	\$1,000	\$1,271	\$1,000
R & M Brierly Brook	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000

	2023-2024	2022-2023	2022-2023
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
R & M Mount Cameron	\$7,000	\$2,014	\$7,000
R & M Mkt St Water Tower	\$10,000	\$3,461	\$10,000
R & M V MacDonald Hill	\$500	\$0	\$500
R & M Highland Drive	\$500	\$0	\$500
R & M Beechhill Rd	\$500	\$0	\$500
Fringe Hydrant Repairs & Mtce	\$0	\$0	\$0
LSR Hydrant R & M	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fringe Well/ Wrights River Electricity	\$5,000	\$3,821	\$5,000
St. Andrew's Electricity Trans & Distrib	\$4,200	\$3,677	\$4,000
Gaspereau Electricity Trans & Distrib	\$3,500	\$2,949	\$3,000
Lochaber Rd Booster Elec	\$7,000	\$3,709	\$7,000
Mkt St Water Tower Electricity	\$2,500	\$2,470	\$2,500
Mkt St Water Tower Sampling	\$2,000	\$161	\$2,000
Cameron Kinney Hill Booster Elec	\$3,000	\$437	\$3,000
Post Road Electricity	\$2,500	\$3,018	\$2,500
Br.Brk Pump & Boost Elec	\$2,500	\$2,211	\$2,500
B.Stn Old # 4 Br.Brk.Elec	\$2,000	\$1,917	\$2,000
Fringe Sampling	\$5,000	\$4,302	\$5,000
LSR Sampling	\$7,500	\$6,753	\$7,500
Gaspereau Sampling	\$4,000	\$3,181	\$4,000

Trans & Distrib. Sub-total	\$452,219	\$414,223	\$476,400
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WATER TREATMENT

Gaspereau Electricity Water Treatment	\$3,000	\$2,949	\$3,000
Gaspereau R & M	\$8,000	\$5,794	\$8,000
LSR Repairs & Maintenance	\$5,000	\$16,885	\$5,000
LSR Chemicals	\$11,000	\$8,666	\$11,000
Gaspereau Chemicals	\$5,000	\$4,859	\$5,000
LSR Sampling	\$4,500	\$2,428	\$4,500
Gaspereau Sampling	\$3,000	\$2,390	\$3,000

Vehicle R & M	\$8,000	\$5,430	\$8,000
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Vehicle Fuel	\$15,000	\$17,098	\$15,000
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Registration-Vehicle	\$300	\$333	\$300
Mkt St. Tower Chemicals	\$500	\$784	\$500
Fringe Chemicals	\$2,000	\$536	\$2,000
Fringe Sampling	\$25,000	\$634	\$25,000
Fringe Repairs & Maintenance	\$5,000	\$6,626	\$5,000

Water Treatment Sub-total	\$95,300	\$75,412	\$95,300
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2023-2024	2022-2023	2022-2023
BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET

WTR ADMIN & GENERAL EXPEN

Office and Administrative Fee	\$190,000	\$230,000	\$180,000
Training & Development	\$5,000	\$2,080	\$1,500
Conventions & Conferences	\$500	\$0	\$0
Membership Fees	\$100	\$93	\$0
Auditing & Rate Study	\$25,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
Clothing Allowance	\$1,000	\$867	\$1,000
Insurance Admin Wtr	\$21,445	\$18,987	\$18,987
Utility & Review Board	\$3,000	\$1,640	\$3,000
Miscellaneous	\$6,000	\$6,461	\$5,000
Tools & Supplies	\$50,000	\$32,503	\$50,000
Telephones	\$3,000	\$2,730	\$3,000
Legal	\$12,500	\$5,788	\$12,300
Engineering	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000

General & Admin Sub-total	\$322,545	\$313,149	\$291,787
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Depreciation Expense	\$169,000	\$282,000	\$156,500
Property Taxes	\$37,163	\$37,388	\$37,388

DEBT REPAYMENT & INTEREST CHARGES

Internal .Princ. Repayment	\$30,000	\$27,293	\$29,000
Internal .Interst Payment	\$15,500	\$16,194	\$16,000
Principal Debenture Repayment	\$108,880	\$56,880	\$57,000
Interest Debenture Repayment	\$25,000	\$18,428	\$31,000

Debt & Interest Expense Sub-total	\$179,380	\$118,795	\$133,000
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Total Expenditures	\$1,678,107	\$1,626,641	\$1,594,075
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Revenue -Expenditures	(\$16)	\$971	\$15
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MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

TOPIC:	Community Partnership Grants Policy
POLICY NUMBER:	36
DATE APPROVED:	January 21, 2014 (#2014-005) (As “Grants for Community Non-Profit Organizations Policy”)
DATES REVISED:	February 16, 2016 (#2016-020) (As “Community Partnerships Grants Policy”) February 19, 2019 (#2019-018)

TITLE:

This Policy may be cited as the “Community Partnership Grants Policy” of the Municipality of the County of Antigonish.

PREAMBLE:

The Municipal Government Act (1998), Part IV, Section 65, provides the broad framework within which policies authorizing the expenditure of public monies are developed. The Municipality of the County of Antigonish has created the Community Partnership Grants Policy to inform the intake, consideration and awarding of public funds to community organizations that apply to the Municipality of the County of Antigonish for financial assistance under any established grant categories. This policy is designed to encourage involvement in community groups and civic events, while creating a framework for the fair and transparent disbursement of public funds.

This policy is intended to direct members of Council and staff in the appropriate expenditure, record-keeping and reporting of expenses related to Grants.

POLICY:

1. Definitions

- 1.1. **‘Application’** shall mean the formal application form developed by the Municipality, specific to the grant program from which funds are being sought.
- 1.2. **‘Community organization’** shall mean an organization that is either incorporated as non-profit or a registered charity as defined by the Canada Revenue Agency, or is a group that is not incorporated but has an executive, membership and a proven reputation.
- 1.3. **‘Grant’** shall mean an award of financial or in kind assistance by the Municipality to an eligible organization provided all criteria is met.
- 1.4. **‘Municipality’** shall mean the Municipality of the County of Antigonish
- 1.5. **‘Municipal Council’** shall mean the Council of the Municipality of the County of Antigonish

2. General

- 2.1. It is the policy of the Municipality of the County of Antigonish to consider, within its financial capacity, financial support to community organizations that provide programs, services or activities that enhance the quality of life for residents of the Municipality.
- 2.2. In general, grant applicants should not expect the Municipality to be the sole source of project funding. The Municipality is interested in ensuring that groups have other sources of funding or external partners to support the project. In certain cases the Municipality may make Municipal contributions contingent on other levels of government support or partnerships.

3. Budget and Allocation of Grants

- 3.1. All grant applications shall be considered as part of Council's annual budget process and allocations shall be included in the Municipality's annual operating budget.
- 3.2. On an annual basis, Municipal Council shall identify an amount to be allocated for community grants & sponsorships.
- 3.3. Funding requests for grants are considered for one fiscal year at a time.
- 3.4. Approvals for Capital and Operating Grants under this policy shall be given by Municipal Council.

4. Funding Conditions

- 4.1. Any funding approval that is contingent on certain terms and conditions shall be communicated to the applicant in writing with an associated timeline to satisfy said terms and conditions.
- 4.2. Funding may be revoked for failure to comply with the terms and conditions stipulated.
- 4.3. Funding may be revoked should there be a misappropriation of funds, failure to report when requested, or misrepresentation by the receiving organization.
- 4.4. Any community organization that receives grant funding from the Municipality shall recognize the Municipality as a partner (where applicable).

5. Criteria

- 5.1. Basic eligibility requirements for all grants
 - 5.1.1. Applications will be accepted from groups that:
 - Have submitted a complete application by the deadline;
 - Have fulfilled any obligations outstanding from previous grant awards;
 - Have provided proof of non-profit status, **OR**

- Consideration may be given if the group is not incorporated, a list of the executive, membership and a brief history of the organization must be submitted.

5.1.2. Applications will not be accepted from:

- Individuals;
- For-profit organizations;
- Organizations with political affiliations;
- Faith organizations where services/activities include the promotion and/or required adherence to a faith;
- Hospitals, clinic-based services or medical treatment programs;
- School boards and other education institutions;
- Provincial/national organizations unless a local chapter exists to service the residents of Antigonish County;
- Organizations seeking assistance in funding deficits.

5.2. Priority will be given to community organizations that provide programs or services within the Municipality, or to a significant number of residents of the Municipality.

5.3. All grant applicants shall demonstrate financial need to receive funding and show other revenue sources (such as other partners, membership dues fundraising etc.)

6. Accountability

6.1. Council reserves the right to grant or reject any application for funding that may or may not qualify in accordance with the provisions set out in this policy.

6.2. The objectives and criteria specific to each grant program shall identify the purpose of the grant program. See schedules A and B.

7. Post Grant Reporting

7.1. The Municipality may require any recipient of grant funding to confirm that the funds received were used as described in the grant request that was approved by Municipal Council by requesting a follow-up report.

8. Publishing of Grant Recipients

8.1. The Municipality shall publish annually a list of grants or contributions made to community organizations as required under Section 65 (au) of the Municipal Government Act.

9. Application Process for Capital and Operating Grants

9.1. The deadline for grant applications shall be identified annually.

9.2. Only one application per community organization may be submitted in each fiscal year.

9.3. All applications for grant funding must include:

9.3.1. Completed application form

- 9.3.2. Proof of current registration as a non-profit or charitable organization;
- 9.3.3. If the group is not incorporated, a list of the executive, membership and a brief history of the organization must be submitted with the application.
- 9.3.4. Most recent financial statements
- 9.3.5. Annual operating budget
- 9.4. All operating and capital grant applications received throughout a current year will be referred to the budget process of the next fiscal year.
- 9.5. Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding.
- 9.6. Municipal staff may request further information as required.
- 9.7. Municipal Council may wish to schedule a meeting to hear from grant applicants.
- 9.8. Applicants shall be notified in writing of Municipal Council's decision. There shall be no appeal process.

10. Previous Policies

- 10.1. Any previous policy of the Municipality concerning the allocation of grants to community based non-profit groups is hereby repealed.

11. Community Partnership Grant Categories

- | | | |
|-------|------------------|------------|
| 11.1. | Operating Grants | Schedule A |
| 11.2. | Capital Grants | Schedule B |

- 12.** Details of the Community Partnership Grants Program can be found in the:
[Community Partnership Grant Program Guidelines](#)

SCHEDULE A – OPERATING GRANTS

OBJECTIVE

1. To provide grants to community groups and organizations that have a mandate to deliver an ongoing service or program that is generally delivered by a municipality, or complements a service being offered by the Municipality of the County of Antigonish.

CRITERIA:

Basic Eligibility Requirements for All Grants

Applications will be accepted from groups that:

- Have submitted a complete application by the deadline;
- Have fulfilled any obligations outstanding from previous grant awards;
- Have provided proof of non-profit status, OR
- If the group is not incorporated, a list of the executive, membership and a brief history of the organization must be submitted.

Applications will not be accepted from:

- Individuals;
- For-profit organizations;
- Organizations with political affiliations;
- Faith organizations where services/activities include the promotion and/or required adherence to a faith;
- Hospitals, clinic-based services or medical treatment programs;
- School boards;
- Provincial/national organizations unless a local chapter exists to service the residents of Antigonish County;
- Organizations seeking assistance in funding deficits.

Priority will be given to community organizations that provide programs or services within the County, or to a significant number of County residents.

All grant applicants shall demonstrate financial need to receive funding and show other revenue sources (such as other partners, membership dues, fundraising etc.)

Operating grants are not intended to support permanent full-time staff salaries or wages.

SCHEDULE B – CAPITAL GRANTS

OBJECTIVE

1. To provide one-time support for the purchase of property, the construction of a facility, remodeling, expansion of a facility; or purchase of equipment.
2. Council may consider a multi-year funding option for a capital grant

CRITERIA:

Basic Eligibility Requirements for All Grants

Applications will be accepted from groups that:

- Have submitted a complete application by the deadline;
- Have fulfilled any obligations outstanding from previous grant awards;
- Have provided proof of non-profit status, OR
- If the group is not incorporated, a list of the executive, membership and a brief history of the organization must be submitted.

Applications will not be accepted from:

- Individuals;
- For-profit organizations;
- Organizations with political affiliations;
- Faith organizations where services/activities include the promotion and/or required adherence to a faith;
- Hospitals, clinic-based services or medical treatment programs;
- School boards;
- Provincial/national organizations unless a local chapter exists to service the residents of Antigonish County;
- Organizations seeking assistance in funding deficits.

Priority will be given to community organizations that provide programs or services within the County, or to a significant number of County residents.

All grant applicants shall demonstrate financial need to receive funding and show other revenue sources (such as other partners, membership dues, fundraising etc.)

Applicants are required to submit quotes for capital improvements for projects that exceed \$5,000.

Applicants must hold the deed/lease to the property/facility or acceptable alternative (if relevant).