

# **MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH**

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA**

Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30pm

Council Chambers

Municipal Administration Building

285 Beech Hill Road

Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

---

1. Call to Order – Chair, Warden Owen McCarron
2. In-Camera Items
  - a. Litigation
  - b. Contract Negotiations
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of January 23, 2024 Committee of the Whole Minutes
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
6. Delegations
7. Continuing Business
  - a. Update on Municipal Boundary Review
  - b. Update on Marketing Levy By-law Engagement
8. New Business
  - a. Antigonish Arena Recreation Facility Development Grant Request
  - b. RK MacDonald Board Recruitment Policy Discussion
  - c. February 2-5 Snowstorm Debrief
9. Staff Reports
10. 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.
11. Additions to the Agenda
12. Adjournment

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES CHART** (amended October 2022)

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

# **MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH**

## **Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday January 23, 2024, following Asset Management Committee  
Council Chambers  
Municipal Administration Building  
285 Beech Hill Road  
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

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

Regrets: None

Staff Present: Glenn Horne, CAO  
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk  
Shirlyn Donovan, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator  
Tammy Feltmate, Director of Sustainability

Others Present: Gallery

### **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 6:39pm.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Warden McCarron called for any additions or deletions to the agenda. A request was made to add an item regarding an amendment to the Tax Exemption for Non-Profit Organization Policy to reflect a change in ownership for the Maryvale School Hall.

Moved and Seconded

*That the agenda be approved as amended.*

**Motion Carried**

**Approval of January 9, 2024 Committee of the Whole Minutes**

Warden McCarron called for any errors or omissions in the Committee of the Whole minutes of January 9, 2024. Councillor McNamara asked that the minutes reflect that he raised opposition to a marketing by-law on behalf of Airbnb operators in his district.

Moved and Seconded

*That the minutes of January 9, 2024 be approved as amended.*

**Motion Carried**

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**Delegations**

There were no delegations.

**Continuing Business**

Review of the Antigonish Tourism Strategy

Mrs. Donovan presented the strategy, which had been presented at the September 2023 Joint Council meeting, to provide a chance to reintroduce the strategy and outline the five strategic directions that came out of the development of that plan. Following the presentation, the floor was opened for questions.

Questions were asked about how the consultation package to send to vendors is being modified based on the discussion at the previous committee meeting, and what the long-term benefit will be of the proposed levy discussed at the previous meeting. Concerns raised by operators in the community were raised by several councillors. Questions were raised about the timing of the by-law coming forward for first reading, and clarification about hotels and motels in the County. A question was asked about whether there would be public consultation as part of the consideration of a levy by-law. Staff noted that the consultation package has been revised based on the feedback received by the committee at the last meeting and will be sent to the operators following tonight's discussion.

A question was asked at whether a set rate could be utilized instead of a percentage, and Mr. Horne noted that the legislation provided for a percentage to be charged. A comment was shared about how events over the summer months often clustered on the same weekends, with other weekends having nothing scheduled, and perhaps something could be done to coordinate spreading those events out. Concerns heard from operators regarding the additional tax being charged to their clients, the additional administrative burden for them, and the shortage of accommodations in the community

were shared. Councillors shared that they heard from operators that many are doing their own marketing, and don't feel that an additional marketing body is required.

A question was asked about whether the levy was necessary to implement the tourism strategy, and how a strategy might help to support tourism in the community without a levy. Feedback from tourists visiting facilities in the community and the efforts that community groups running tourist sites were shared. Ensuring that a strategy supports the tourism sector in the community, for all types of tourists, was expressed as being important even if the 3% levy is not pursued.

A question of clarification about how the proposed levy is being explained to operators as part of the consultation package was asked. There is an interest in hearing the responses of operators in the sector.

Mrs. Donovan was thanked for her work on the Tourism Strategy.

#### Interest in Attending the FCM Conference in Calgary, June 6-9 2024

Mr. Horne asked any Councillors who are interested in attending FCM in Calgary this year to please let staff know. Staff was asked to confirm who attended the FCM conference, where two of the past three FCM conferences were cancelled due to Covid-19. Several members of Council expressed an interest in attending. A concern was raised about a large delegation of Councillors attending. Mr. Horne noted that the number of delegates attending would ultimately be a decision of Council.

### **New Business**

#### Annual Community Partnership Grant Allocation

Mrs. Donovan shared that in the next few weeks, applications for the Community Partnership Grants will be opening. An estimation of the amount of funds available in the budget, based on the tax rate from years past, was shared for information.

### **Community Events**

- Councillor McNamara shared that there is a concert coming up in Havre Boucher. He also shared that the Aulds Cove Fire Department used their generator during a recent power outage, and it worked well. On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, residents are encouraged to wear red in memory of Teddie DeCoste and to support those with CHD.
- Councillor Deveau shared that the Carnivale in Pomquet will take place in February.
- Councillor Mattie shared some updates following discussions with A Roof Over Their Head following their announcement about an emergency shelter being set up at the Monastery.

- Warden McCarron shared that Chase the Act has started in St. Andrews and is building. It takes place every Thursday night from 7-9pm. Pickleball takes place at the school in St. Andrews.

### **Reports from Inter-Municipal Boards, Committees, and Commissions**

#### Antigonish Heritage Museum Board

- Board last met on January 8<sup>th</sup> and will be meeting on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Staff is working with the Heritage Museum Board to facilitate new resident appointments from the County to fill several vacancies.

#### Antigonish Arena Association

- A valve in the sprinkler system at the arena failed this past weekend, and cause some flooding damage to the equipment room, locker room below it, and throughout the building. The arena staff and many parents at the building on Sunday expedited cleaning and no ice time was missed due to their assistance. Repair work and system upgrades are being planned.

#### Eastern District Planning Commission

- The Board met earlier in the month.

#### Eastern Regional Solid Waste Management Committee

- The new truck arrived in December. EPR update: all five municipalities have opted in, and details are expected in a future update. On January 22<sup>nd</sup> Ashley Lansley has joined the ERSWM team as a Regional Educator. The next Board meeting is planned to take place on the February 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### Pictou Antigonish Regional Library

- A meeting is planned for Thursday November 25<sup>th</sup>.

#### RK MacDonald Nursing Home

- The Board is meeting on Thursday January 25<sup>th</sup>.

#### County Paqtnkek Joint Steering Committee

- Nothing to report. Warden McCarron read through the results from the recent election at Paqtnkek and asked that letters of congratulations be sent to the Chief and each member of Council from Municipal Council.

#### Consolidation Steering Committee

- Nothing to report.

#### Community Navigation and Physician Retention Services Association

- Nothing to report.

---

### **Additions to the Agenda**

#### **Amendment to the Tax Exemption for Non-Profit Organization Policy to reflect a change in ownership for the Maryvale School Hall**

Councillor MacLellan shared that the property listed as the school (hall) in Maryvale in the Tax Exemption for Non-Profit organizations policy, has changed ownership to a new non-profit organization. The listing in the policy will need to be updated to reflect this change.

Moved and Seconded

*That the Committee recommends that Municipal Council amends Part 1 of the Tax Exemption for Non-Profit Organization Policy to change the name listed for AAN00695491 from the Catholic Episcopal Corp of Antigonish to Maryvale Schoolhouse Hall Society.*

**Motion Carried**

### **In-Camera Items**

Moved and Seconded

*That the Committee of the Whole adjourn to an in-camera session to discuss Litigation and Personnel Matters at 7:43 pm.*

**Motion Carried**

Moved and Seconded

*That the in-camera session adjourns at 7:57 pm.*

**Motion Carried**

Moved and Seconded

*The Committee recommends to Municipal Council that the CAO be authorized to sign the Housing Accelerator Fund Contribution Agreement with Canada Housing and Mortgage Corporation.*

**Motion Carried**

### **Adjournment**

Moved

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:58pm.

**Motion Carried**

---

Warden Owen McCarron

---

Glenn Horne, CAO



January 31, 2023

Bruce Kiley, Chief Clerk of the Board  
Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 1601 Lower Water Street  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3P6  
Via email: [board@novascotia.ca](mailto:board@novascotia.ca)

Dear Mr. Kiley,

**RE: M0417 - 2022 Municipal Boundary Review – Municipality of the County of Antigonish (MB-21-01)**

---

I am providing further update to the Board on the County's ongoing boundary review and consolidation processes.

On Friday, January 26, Warden McCarron received the attached letter from the Hon. John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. In this correspondence the Minister states, "The Province is seeking confirmation from the Town of Antigonish and the County of Antigonish that your position remains that you wish to consolidate your municipal units... If the position of the Town and County remains that you are requesting a consolidation of your units, the Province is prepared to introduce special legislation during the next session of the legislature, commencing on February 27."

Per my November 23, 2023, update, municipal officials have been working diligently to complete a boundary review and make application to the Board. Phase 2 public consultations were scheduled for January 29-31, 2024. Mr. Heseltine was asked to complete the sessions and provide a final report by Friday, February 2, so it could be circulated to Council to facilitate a decision and application to the Board by February 8.

As the Board is aware based on the example of consolidation in West Hants, if the Province passes special legislation to consolidate the County and Town the current boundary review exercise would have to be put aside and a new one completed for the consolidated municipality.

With this information in hand, we suspended our boundary review activities in favour of responding to Minister Lohr's request to confirm Council support for consolidation as quickly as possible. We could not good faith continue to consult the public and incur costs to the taxpayer in a process that may not move forward.



Last evening, January 30, 2024, both Town and County Councils met independently and confirmed their request to consolidate into one municipal unit through special legislation. Municipal Council approved the following motion:

*Municipal Council confirms its October 20, 2022, request that the provincial government consolidate the Municipality of the County of Antigonish and the Town of Antigonish into one municipal unit through special legislation. **Motion Carried.***

Correspondence communicating this decision has been sent to Minister Lohr.

Recognizing the County has legislated timelines associated with the 2024 municipal elections and recognizing the Minister's communicated intent, "to introduce special legislation during the next session of the legislature, commencing on February 27," which would set new municipal election timelines, we need to determine our immediate next steps as it related to our current boundary review. I respectfully request that other than activities the Board deems to be required, our boundary review activities remain suspended until the outcome of special legislation is known. If further discussion between the Board, Department and the County would be beneficial in making this determination we will make ourselves available.

We continue to be appreciative of the Board's patience and flexibility in this matter. If you or the Board has any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Glenn Horne  
CAO

Cc: Warden Owen McCarron, Municipality of the County of Antigonish  
Nick Barr, Acting Director, Strategic Policy & Planning, NS Department of  
Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Mayor Laurie Boucher, Town of Antigonish  
CAO Marvin MacDonald, Town of Antigonish  
John Heseltine, Senior Planner, Stantec

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF  
**ANTIGONISH**

**MEMO FOR INFORMATION**

**TO:** MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
**FROM:** SHIRLYN DONOVAN, STRATEGIC INITIATIVES COORDINATOR  
**SUBJECT:** ***TOURISM MARKETING LEVY BY-LAW***  
**DATE:** FEBRUARY 13, 2024

---

Following presentations of the draft marketing levy by-law and Tourism Strategy in January, staff sent out packages to all tourism operators who were listed on the Tourism Nova Scotia Accommodation Registry. Packages were mailed to 122 tourism operators to the addresses provided by Tourism Nova Scotia. These packages included a letter from the municipality stating that a marketing levy by-law was being considered by Municipal Council, a copy of the draft by-law and draft registration and remittance forms. This material has been shared with you in a separate email.

After several days, some of the mail started coming back stating there were incomplete addresses. About 35 letters in total were returned undeliverable to the Municipality as the addresses that had been provided were likely cottages and did not have mailboxes. All packages have now been sent to the proper addresses. However, the snowstorm may have also caused delayed the packages going out for several days.

In response to Council's feedback, the proposed bylaw was adjusted to eliminate any penalty if an operator does not register with the Municipality. A penalty remains in the proposed bylaw for an operator that collects the levy but does not remit it.

At this point, two requests have been made to present to Council on the proposed bylaw. If these are the only requested presentations, or there is a small number, they will both be scheduled for the February 27 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Staff suggests that we give a few weeks for operators to receive their packages and provide feedback to the municipality prior to moving forward with first reading.

## Glenn Horne

---

**From:** Brendan Doyle  
**Sent:** February 8, 2024 3:36 PM  
**To:** Laurie M. Boucher.; Owen McCarron; Glenn Horne; Marvin MacDonald  
**Subject:** recreation facility development grant

Hi everyone

I am in the final stages of the application for this years grant from the province and as with last years they request a letter of support from both municipal units showing their level of financial support

The following is what I am including in my application

1. Building of one new dressing room – approximate cost 100,000
2. Renovate 4 existing dressing rooms – approximate cost 100,000
3. Replace ice edger – cost -6125.00
4. Replace valves and sprinkler heads on fire system cost 26000.00
5. Replace exterior and interior doors –cost 33000.00

Total cost is approximately 265,000.00

Grant request from Province 150,000.00

Funding requested from each municipal unit 57,500.00

I am hopeful that the province sees this as a good investment in our facility as I am hoping you will

I have identified these items as a priority in discussions with our users as well as through my own observations over the last 18 months

The application has to be delivered by February 14<sup>th</sup>

It is my intent to deliver the application to Rae Gunns office on Monday February 12<sup>th</sup>

Any additional documentation can be delivered after that date

Any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me

Thanks

Brendan



## GENERAL

ISSUED BY: Board of Directors

NUMBER: **5 - 120**

DATE: November, 2022  
March, 2023

PAGE: 1 of 3

### **BOARD MEMBER RECRUITMENT**

Applies To: BOARD

#### **POLICY**

Required Board member expertise is identified and updated annually to ensure the recruitment process targets individuals with the specified skill sets required. The Town of Antigonish, Municipality of the County of Antigonish and the Congregation of the Sisters' of St. Martha's each appoint four (4) Board members and are made aware of required skill sets, prior to making their appointments.

Where possible, Board member expertise / skills / interests may include:

- Legal Expertise
- Finance: Investments
- Finance: Accounting / Budgeting
- Insurance
- Healthcare
- Risk Management
- Public Relations
- Governance
- Ethics
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

#### **PURPOSE**

To ensure the skills sets required to manage Board agenda items are recruited.

#### **PROCEDURE**

1. Executive Committee reviews the previous year's Board of Directors minutes and identifies areas of expertise / skills sets required to meet anticipated Board of Directors

discussion topics, and updates the Board of Directors Skills Matrix. See **Appendix A: Board of Directors Skills Matrix**, **Appendix B: Board of Directors Desired Attributes** and **Appendix C: Board of Directors Succession Process**

2. Two months prior to the Annual General Meeting, a Nomination Committee is appointed and based on identified required expertise / skills sets, develops and circulates a Call for Nominations for the Board of Directors and outlines the desired skill sets as expressed in the advertisement. The Town of Antigonish, Municipality of the County of Antigonish and the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Martha's are notified of required Board member skill sets.
3. Nominating Committee shall bring to the Annual General Meeting a slate of Officers for the coming year, fulfilling, where possible, the identified required expertise / skills sets.

File: Administration (V Drive) Admin / Board / Manual 2022 / General / Board Member Recruitment

**Appendix A: Board of Directors Skills Matrix: Updated to: March, 2023**

<b>Expertise / Skill Set</b>	<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Status</b>
Legal	Quality, Safety and Governance	No Vacancy
Finance: Investments	Finance	
Finance: Accounting / Budgeting	Finance	No Vacancy
Insurance	Quality, Safety and Governance	Vacant
Healthcare	Quality, Safety and Governance	No Vacancy
Risk Management	Quality, Safety and Governance	Vacant
Quality Management	Quality, Safety and Governance	No Vacancy
Marketing / Public Relations	Executive	Vacant
Governance	Quality, Safety and Governance	No Vacancy
Engineering	Building & Grounds	No Vacancy
Facilities Management	Building & Grounds	No Vacancy
Ethics	Quality, Safety and Governance	Vacant
Cultural Diversity	Quality, Safety and Governance	Vacant

**Appendix B: Board of Directors Desired Attributes**

1.	Common sense individual who asks “why” and “why not” questions
2.	Individual that is known to role model our core values
3.	Individual with initiative and integrity
4.	An open minded individual
5.	An individual that is trusted

### **Appendix C: Board of Directors Succession Process**

Preface: In the process, “Appointing Agencies are the Town of Antigonish, Municipality of the County of Antigonish and the Congregation of the Sisters of S. Martha. This process can be utilized as a means of addressing an unexpected resignation(s) of a Board member and/or to address replacing Board members terms that have been completed.

<b>Step</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Required Actions</b>
1.	Executive Committee	Reviews past years minutes to identify required Board level skill sets and personal attributes
2.	Executive Committee	Reviews and updates Appendix A: Board of Directors Skill Sets Matrix and Appendix B: Board of Directors Attributes
3.	Nominating Committee	Two months prior to the AGM, Executive Committee appoints a Nominating Committee and in consultation with the Appointing Agencies, establishes a pool of acceptable Board of Directors candidates
4.	Nominating Committee	Contacts each individual to secure the individuals acceptance of a nomination to the Board of Directors
5.	Board of Directors	With the nominees acceptance, Board makes recommendation to the Appointing Agencies to accept the nominations
6.	Appointing Agencies	Appointing Agencies review the Board recommendations and approve the recommendations
7.	Nominating Committee	Nominating Committee presents a slate of Officers for Board approval at the Annual General Meeting
8.	Quality, Safety & Governance	Ensures new appointees undergo an orientation session
9.	Quality, Safety & Governance	Evaluates Board performance on an annual basis

K:\Admin\board\MANUAL 2022\Policies\General\Board Member Recruitment



---

## MEMO FOR INFORMATION

**TO:** Committee of the Whole  
**FROM:** GLENN HORNE, CAO  
**SUBJECT:** FEBRUARY 2024 STAFF REPORT  
**DATE:** 13/02/2024

---

### ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

- CAO Glenn Horne has been appointed to the Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) Board of Directors and attended an orientation session and a Board meeting on January 25 & 26.
- CAO attended:
  - Provincial Policing Service Recipient update on Thursday, January 11.
  - RK MacDonald Steering Committee meetings on Monday, January 15 and Tuesday, January 30.
  - AREMO Planning Committee Tabletop Exercise on Wednesday, January 24
  - Meeting with NSDPW & Town officials re: Church Street Intersection servicing plan on Friday, February 2.
  - Meeting with CACL / RCL and AREMO officials re: Emergency Centre generator installation on Friday, February 2.
- CAO and Strategic Initiatives Coordinator Shirlyn Donovan met with Councillor MacLellan and a group of residents interested in cellular connectivity in District 1.
- The RFP for Community Service Transit Review closed on Thursday, February 1. Five proposals were received and are being reviewed by staff to provide a recommendation.
- AREMO Coordinator Blaise MacDonald liaised with provincial, county / town officials and first responders to address challenges associated with the February 2-5 snow event.
- ICIP- Net Zero for Community Buildings - Insulation RFP for attic insulation was released on February 7<sup>th</sup>, and RFP specific to Keppoch is forthcoming.
- Mural Projects- District 4- waiting on response from school principal at AEC to identify a space at the school. District 7 -Heatherton and Area Community Centre mural is complete, just waiting on a date for unveiling, aiming to include it with a celebration of the ICIP project.
- Registration of annual safety services NS safety conference opens next week, for conference at the end of March. Wellness program is ongoing, a email to staff to get wellness applications in will go out this week.
- Accessibility – Tender for Accessible Washroom released on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, closing on Feb 13<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. Recommendation to Council will follow asap.

- Construction work to replace windows at the Courthouse is complete, and the remaining interior painting is scheduled to taking place when Court is not scheduled in the building and contractors are available. Exterior siding and trim work are being coordinated with the contractor. A status report for the Beautification and Streetscaping Program funding is due to the province on February 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Generator Installation - Generator project nearing completion. Electrical shut down and switch over, and generator hook up is scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- With the planned power outage scheduled for February 20, municipal office staff will be convening at Fireloch for staff development activities.
- Solar Field at municipal office is awaiting inspection after snow this week; some damage has been reported.
- Preparations are underway for a regular Joint Town and County Joint Council meeting, to take place on Wednesday February 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

- 1,729 water bills were sent in the mail as part of the County's regular semi-monthly billing cycle.
- Property Valuation Services Corporation's 2025 assessment roll was imported into Diamond Municipal Software Property Tax Module. Once the roll is imported in our software system it is "balanced" to ensure the assessment roll is imported properly.
- February 8, 2024, was the deadline for Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) assessment appeals. PVSC will investigate the submitted appeals to determine whether any adjustments to assessments are required.
- Potential tax sale properties have been submitted to our solicitors for title searches.
- Ongoing day to day operations (collections, reconciliations, payroll, property tax and utility customer maintenance, ad hoc provincial reporting, etc.).
- The County's Low-Income Tax Exemption Program for F2023/24 ended on December 31, 2023. The program is available to anyone with a combined household income of \$36,000 or less and is eligible for up to a \$300.00 exemption on the current year property taxation billing. The County had approximately 220 households take advantage of this program which is up just over 22% from last fiscal year (approximately 180 households last fiscal year).
- Strait IT Board meetings occur monthly. Strait IT is working with the County on necessary network upgrades.
- Fiscal 2024/25 Budget planning and discussions are ongoing.
- Finance staff support the Antigonish Arena in the role of financial accounting (day to day accounting, year end audit preparation, reconciliations, etc.).
- Audit was completed in December 2023. Audit "clean-up" and working through new Auditing standards are a work in progress.

- Professional Development is ongoing.

#### **RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

- We have opened up the Mini Rec Grants, which is an opportunity to receive funding (\$600 - \$800) for community organizations.
- MYMA continues with current projects encouraging people to add a little movement to their day.
  - One highlight this month has been the gathering of video content to highlight outdoor skating.
  - Another highlight has been the indoor walking opportunities that have been created.
- Community Hubs: continuing to meet with our Hubs.
- Mini Pitch project execution ongoing.
- SportHub preparations are underway for spring/summer community sport programming and registrations.
- Staff is working to pull together new programming for underrepresented groups for summer months.
- AT design for phase 3 of the Trunk 4 corridor are well underway.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS**

- Planning for water & sewer relocates for the roundabout at Church Street/Church Street Extension and Trunk 4 is underway.
- Staff have been very busy with snow removal following the February 2-5 snowfall event.

**Antigonish County****Building Permits (January 1 - December 31)**

	<b>Permits</b>		<b>Value</b>	
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Residential</b>				
New	41	58	\$ 20,610,350	\$ 25,803,881
Mobile Homes	23	35	4,678,798	6,115,649
Additions, Alterations and Renovations	36	43	4,333,558	3,639,975
Garages and Accessory Buildings	48	66	1,729,276	3,477,400
Multiple Units	1	19	9,433,000	6,701,500
	<b>149</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>\$ 40,784,982</b>	<b>\$ 45,738,405</b>
<b>Agricultural, Commercial or Industrial</b>				
Agricultural	1	7	\$ 100,000	\$ 958,285
Commercial	18	16	4,698,421	2,320,750
Industrial	0	1	-	38,000
	<b>19</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>\$ 4,798,421</b>	<b>\$ 3,317,035</b>
<b>Institutional Buildings</b>				
New	1	0	\$ 2,300,000	\$ -
Additions and Alterations	1	0	24,000	-
	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$ 2,324,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$ 597,593</b>	<b>\$ 2,200</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>\$ 48,504,996</b>	<b>\$ 49,057,640</b>



---

## *Antigonish RCMP Monthly Report for November 2023*

---

### Occurrence and Crime Reporting- Calls for Service

Type of file	Town	County	Paqtnkek	Totals
Crime against Person	4	10	9	23
Crime against Property	12	12	2	26
Impaired Driving	3	3	0	6
Traffic Collisions	7	26	0	33
Traffic Complaints	9	30	0	39
Drug Complaints	0	0	1	1
Other Municipal	4	1	0	5
Mental Health/Wellness	12	7	3	22
Other Criminal Code	12	13	3	38
Assist Other Gov't Agency	1	3	0	4
Crime Prevention	1	3	0	4
Break and Enter	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>

Antigonish Detachment members responded to a total of 356 calls for service during the month of November including the categories noted above. A significant decrease from October 2023

### Notable Events

November brought visits to schools and community events for Remembrance Day. Members marched in the parade and also participated in various events.

The Commanding Officer of H Division met with community members from Antigonish and Guysborough at the Tracadie Hall to discuss the crafting of a meaningful apology from the RCMP to the African Nova Scotian community surrounding the use of street checks and other potentially damaging encounters that community members may have had with the RCMP in the past.

Our members attended two pancake breakfasts at local schools and served up some delicious pancakes and laughs with the students.

Local members partnered with S/Cst Pellerine with Antigonish Bylaw to do crosswalk safety for Halloween with the StFX athletes.



### Community Policing/School Resource Officer

CPO Activity – Has injured herself and was off-duty for the month of November however she attended the pancake breakfasts!







Photo credit – S/Cst John Pellerine

### Impaired Driving Charges

No charges in November

### Traffic Enforcement

November was focused on winter driving and winter road safety. No special projects completed.

Partner Agency meeting held at the RCMP Detachment to review pedestrian safety issues and determine if there is an educational piece that could be helpful in making driver and pedestrians more safety conscious while using the roadways.



### Human Resources

- 3 positions vacant including new SCEU vacancy
- 1 Soft vacancy - Maternity leave.
- 1 ODS

## Hillier, Kimberly (RCMP/GRC)

---

**From:** rcmpns-grcne  
**Sent:** November 24, 2023 8:20 AM  
**To:** rcmpns-grcne  
**Subject:** Antigonish County District RCMP is investigating a hate-motivated mischief in Antigonish, Nova Scotia / Le District du comté d'Antigonish de la GRC enquête sur un méfait motivé par la haine survenu à Antigonish, Nouvelle-Écosse

### **Antigonish County District RCMP is investigating a hate-motivated mischief in Antigonish, Nova Scotia.**

**November 23, 2023, Antigonish, Nova Scotia...** Antigonish County District RCMP is investigating a hate-motivated mischief that occurred in Antigonish.

On October 8, 2023, Antigonish County District RCMP responded to a report of vandalism on a sidewalk on Church St. in Antigonish. RCMP officers learned that someone had spray painted a racial slur and derogatory graffiti on the sidewalk. The graffiti has since been removed.

The investigation is ongoing and investigators believe that the incident was motivated by hate.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Antigonish County District RCMP at 902-863-6500. If you wish to remain anonymous, please contact Nova Scotia Crime Stoppers, toll free, at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), submit a secure web tip at [www.crimestoppers.ns.ca](http://www.crimestoppers.ns.ca), or use the P3 Tips App.

File #: 2023-1498815

-30-

Contact:  
Cpl. Chris Marshall  
Public Information Officer  
Nova Scotia RCMP  
Cell: 902-222-0154  
[rcmpns-grcne@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:rcmpns-grcne@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)

### **Le District du comté d'Antigonish de la GRC enquête sur un méfait motivé par la haine survenu à Antigonish, Nouvelle-Écosse.**

**Le 23 novembre, 2023, Antigonish, Nouvelle-Écosse...** Le District du comté d'Antigonish de la GRC enquête sur un méfait motivé par la haine survenu à Antigonish.

Le 8 octobre 2023, le District du comté d'Antigonish de la GRC s'est rendu sur les lieux d'un acte de vandalisme commis sur un trottoir de la rue Church à Antigonish. Les agents de la GRC ont appris que quelqu'un avait peint une injure raciale et des graffitis désobligeants sur le trottoir. Les graffitis ont depuis été enlevés.

L'enquête se poursuit et les enquêteurs croient que l'incident était motivé par la haine.

Toute personne ayant des renseignements est priée de communiquer avec le District du comté d'Antigonish de la GRC au 902-863-6500. Si vous souhaitez garder l'anonymat, veuillez communiquer avec Échec au crime Nouvelle-Écosse, sans frais, au 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), soumettre un message sécurisé en ligne à [www.crimestoppers.ns.ca](http://www.crimestoppers.ns.ca), ou utiliser l'application P3 Tips.

Numéro de dossier : 2023-1498815

-30-

Contact :  
Caporal Chris Marshall  
Agent d'information  
GRC Nouvelle-Écosse  
Cellulaire : 902-222-0154  
[rcmpns-grcne@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:rcmpns-grcne@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)