

**MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF**  
**ANTIGONISH**

**COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**

Tuesday, February 11, 2025, 7:30pm

Council Chambers  
Municipal Administration Building  
285 Beech Hill Road  
Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4

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1. Call to Order – Chair Nicholas MacInnis
  2. Approval of Agenda
  3. Approval of January 14, 2025 Municipal Council Minutes
  4. Approval of January 28, 2025 Special Council Minutes
  5. Business Arising from the Minutes
  6. Delegations
    - a. Hugh MacKay, Rural Communities Foundation
    - b. Speireag Hendra, A Roof Over Your Head
  7. Correspondence
    - a. Municipality of Chester – Feedback on Code of Conduct
    - b. Minister of Emergency Management - Moving towards Consistent and Impactful Emergency Response
  8. Committee Reports
    - a. January 31, 2025 Asset Management Committee e-Poll Report
    - b. February 11, 2025 Committee of the Whole Report
  9. Reports from Individual Council Members on Outside Boards, Conferences, and Community Activities
  10. Motions
  11. Miscellaneous Business
    - a. Change of Meeting Times and Special Council Meeting for February 26, 2025
  12. Adjournment

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF  
**ANTIGONISH**

**Municipal Council Meeting- Minutes**

**Tuesday January 14, 2025**

**7:30pm**

**Council Chambers**

**Municipal Administration Building**

**285 Beech Hill Road**

**Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4**

**Councillors Present:**

Warden Nicholas MacInnis

Deputy Warden John Dunbar

Councillor Mary MacLellan

Councillor Adam Baden-Clay

Councillor Richelle MacLaughlin

Councillor Shawn Brophy

Councillor Wayne Melanson

Councillor Gary Mattie

Councillor Harris McNamara

Councillor Sterling Garvie

**Regrets:**

None

**Staff Present:**

Shirlyn Donovan, CAO

Megan MacInnis, Strategic Initiatives  
Coordinator

Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk

**Others Present:**

Gallery (in person and by Zoom)

Corey LeBlanc (by Zoom)

Matt Draper, XFM

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**Call to Order- Warden MacInnis**

Warden MacInnis called the meeting to order at 7:34pm

**Approval of Agenda**

Warden MacInnis called for approval of the Council meeting agenda.

**Min # 2025-004**

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as presented.

**Motion Carried**

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**Approval of December 10, 2024 Municipal Council Minutes**

Warden MacInnis called for any errors or omissions in the minutes of December 10, 2024, included in the agenda package. Hearing none, the minutes were considered approved.

**Approval of January 7, 2025 Municipal Council Minutes**

Warden MacInnis called for any errors or omissions in the minutes of January 7, 2025, included in the agenda package. Hearing none, the minutes were considered approved.

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**Delegations**

There were no scheduled delegations.

**Correspondence**

Mrs. Donovan spoke to the correspondence included in the agenda package, which was in response to a letter sent by Council in the fall following a presentation by residents in District 7 about the twinning of Highway 104. Deputy Warden Dunbar shared his thanks to Council for sending the letter to the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works in response to concerns by residents in his district

**Committee Reports**

**January 14, 2025 Committee of the Whole Report**

**Min # 2025-005**

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council take over ownership of a 900m portion of Seabright Road and develop a maintenance agreement with the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works for ongoing winter and summer maintenance.

**Motion Carried**

**Min # 2025-006**

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council approves the installation of a streetlight at the intersection of Bayfield Road and Summerside Road.

**Motion Carried**

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**Min # 2025-007**

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council approves the installation of a streetlight at the intersection of Pleasant Valley Road and Murphy Road.

**Motion Carried**

**Reports from Councillors**

- Councillor Garvie shared that he attended an Eastern Region Solid Waste Management committee meeting on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Extended Producer Responsibility was discussed in detail. A budget was reviewed and will be sent to the CAOs. Illegal dumping was discussed, and a part time educator will be working remotely while travelling through the area.
- Councillor Baden-Clay attended the EDPC Board meeting on January 9<sup>th</sup>. The Chair is Mayor Chisholm-Beaton from Port Hawkesbury, and the Vice-Chair is Councillor Leon MacLellan from the Town of Antigonish.
- Councillor Brophy noted that the RK Board would be meeting next week.
- Deputy Warden Dunbar shared that he met with representatives from the Naomi Society, with information about the Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser being planned for February. He also attended the New Years Levy, as well as the Museum Board meeting on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Planning Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for January 20<sup>th</sup>, and a Recreation Department information session is scheduled to take place on Tuesday January 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Councillor McNamara attended a RK Board Executive meeting. He also attended the EDPC Board meeting on January 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Councillor Mattie has a Antigonish Community Transit meeting next week.
- Councillor MacLellan attended the New Years Levy.
- Warden MacInnis attended a Antigonish Physician Recruitment meeting in December.

**Miscellaneous Business**

Warden MacInnis read out the proposed proclamation of January as Alzheimer's Awareness Month.

**Min # 2025-008**

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council proclaims January 2025 as Alzheimer's Awareness Month.

**Motion Carried**

**Motions**

There were no further motions.

**Adjournment**

**Min # 2025-009**

Moved

That the Council meeting adjourns at 7:51 pm.

**Motion Carried**

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Warden Nicholas MacInnis

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Shirlyn Donovan, CAO

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF  
**ANTIGONISH**

**Municipal Council Meeting- Minutes**

**Tuesday January 28, 2025**

**Following the Committee of the Whole Meeting**

**Council Chambers**

**Municipal Administration Building**

**285 Beech Hill Road**

**Beech Hill, NS B2G 0B4**

**Councillors Present:**

Warden Nicholas MacInnis

Deputy Warden John Dunbar

Councillor Mary MacLellan

Councillor Adam Baden-Clay

Councillor Richelle MacLaughlin

Councillor Shawn Brophy

Councillor Wayne Melanson

Councillor Sterling Garvie

**Regrets:**

Councillor Harris McNamara

Councillor Gary Mattie

**Staff Present:**

Shirlyn Donovan, CAO

Megan MacInnis, Strategic Initiatives

Coordinator

Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk

**Others Present:**

Gallery (by Zoom)

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**Call to Order- Warden MacInnis**

Warden MacInnis called the meeting to order at 8:38pm

**Approval of Agenda**

Warden MacInnis called for approval of the Council meeting agenda.

**Min # 2025-010**

Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as presented.

**Motion Carried**

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**Committee Reports**

January 20, 2025 Planning Advisory Committee Report

**Min # 2025-011**

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council gives First Reading and set a Statutory Public Hearing date for the proposed amendment to the East Antigonish Land Use By-law to rezone a portion of 385 East Tracadie Road, PID 01252956, East Tracadie from Rural (R-1) to Residential Multi-Unit (R-2) as per the rezoning map.

**Motion Carried**

**Min # 2025-012**

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council give First Reading and set a Public Hearing date for the redesignation of the property identified as PID01212117 from Rural Development to Commercial Designation on the West River Antigonish Harbour Municipal Planning Strategy Generalized Future Land Use Map, and for the rezoning of the same property from Local Commercial (C-1) Zone to the General Commercial (C-2) zone on the West River Antigonish Harbour Land Use By-law Zoning Map, and for the addition of small-scale automobile sales as a permitted use in the General Commercial (C-2) Zone in the West River Antigonish Harbour Land Use By-law.

**Motion Carried**

**Min # 2025-013**

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council give First Reading and set a Public Hearing date for the rezoning of PID10137115 from the Residential (R-1) Zone to the Residential Multi-Unit (R-2) Zone of the West River Antigonish Harbour Plan Area to allow for the construction of a fourplex, and for the rezoning PID10137131 from Residential Multi-Unit (R-2) Zone to the Residential (R-1) Zone.

**Motion Carried**

**Min # 2025-014**

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council give First Reading and set a Public Hearing date for the rezoning of 1648 Addington Forks Road, Addington Forks, Antigonish County (PID 01210582) from the Local Commercial (C-1) and Rural General (RG-1) Zone to the Residential (R-1) Zone.

**Motion Carried**

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January 28, 2025 Asset Management Committee Report

**Min # 2025-015**

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council appoints Deputy Warden John Dunbar as the Chair of the Asset Management Committee.

**Motion Carried**

January 28, 2025 Committee of the Whole Report

**Min # 2025-016**

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council appoint Rozalyn Tobin to the R.K. MacDonald Board as the County representative for a three-year term.

**Motion Carried**

**Min # 2025-017**

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council re-adopt the Policy on Municipal Council and CAO Expense Reimbursement and the Municipal Hospitality Policy as required by Section 23(7) of the Municipal Government Act, subject to the per diem information in the Policy on Municipal Council and CAO Expense Reimbursement being updated, if necessary, following the completion of the compensation review currently underway.

**Motion Carried**

**Min # 2025-018**

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council approve write-offs in the amount of \$1,831.51.

**Motion Carried**

**Min # 2025-019**

Moved and Seconded

That Municipal Council direct staff to undertake a review of the Council Special District Grants and provide a presentation to the Committee in early 2027.

**Motion Carried**



**Adjournment**

**Min # 2025-020**

Moved

That the Council meeting adjourns at 8:45 pm.

**Motion Carried**

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Warden Nicholas MacInnis

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Shirlyn Donovan, CAO

# Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia Dave Gunning Zero Hunger



Hugh MacKay  
Rural Communities Foundation  
of Nova Scotia

2025

# Agenda

- Who we are
- What we do
- Dave Gunning Zero Hunger Fund
- Ask for Consideration
- Q&A



# Who we are

- A community foundation supporting rural Nova Scotia, through convening, fund development and granting.
- We have a proven track record, with more than 20 years of developing and delivering grant programs.
- We are a federally registered charity, accountable to community members, donors & grantees.
- We are a member of the Community Foundations of Canada and the Nova Scotia Not-for-Profit Coalition.

# What we do

- We support community-based local improvement initiatives in rural Nova Scotia.
- We convene local people to find local solutions to problems and challenges.
- We fundraise to provide grants to community organizations.
- We provide tax receipts for donations.
- We administer trust funds on behalf of individuals and organizations.

# What we do

## Some of our current projects:

- **Ukrainian Nova Scotia Resettlement Fund**
- **Joan Feynman Climate Change Fund**
- **Housing For Health**
- **Soaring Eagle Fine Arts Grants**
- **Community Impact Conferences**



# What we do

## Some of our current projects:

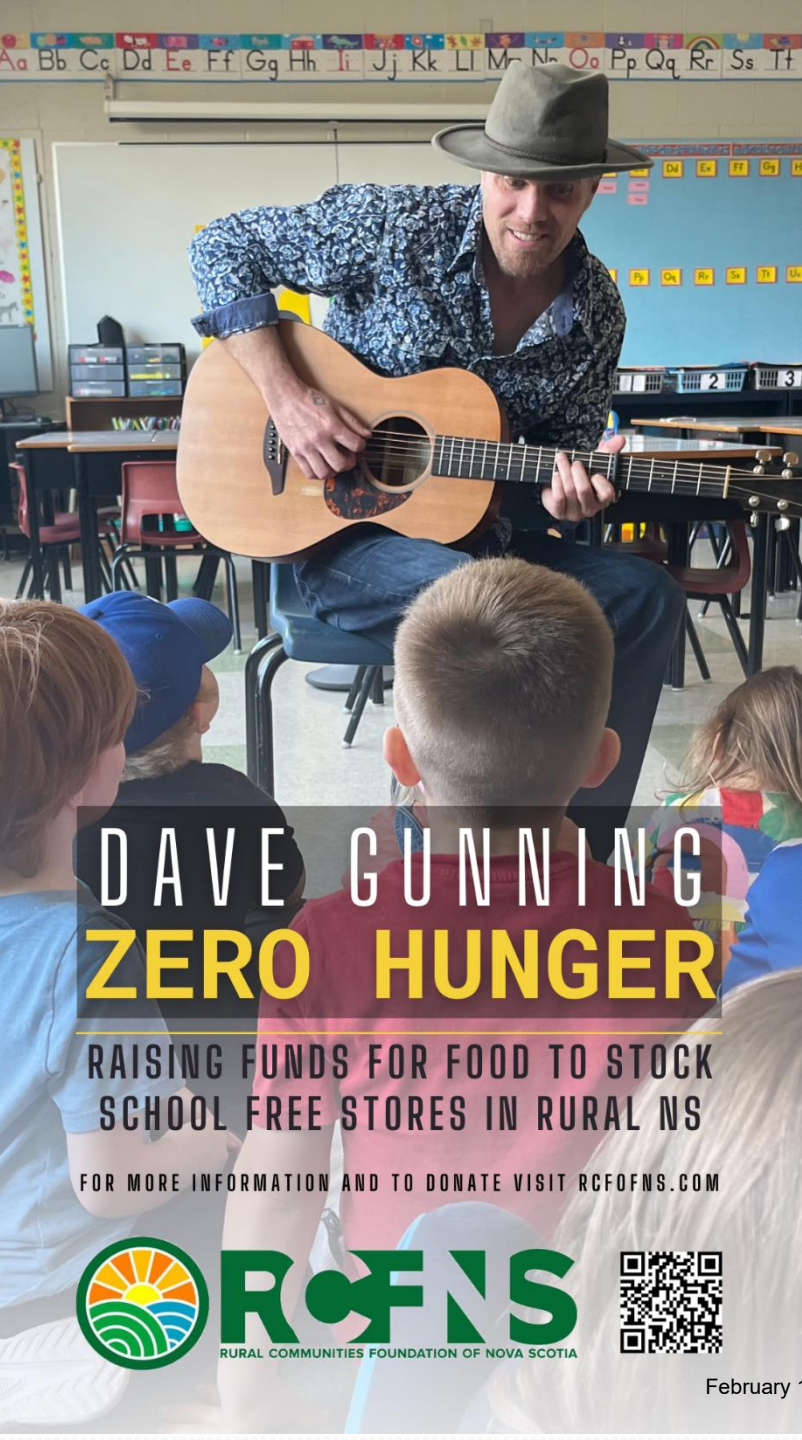
- Ukrainian Nova Scotia Resettlement Fund
- Joan Feynman Climate Change Fund
- Housing For Health
- Soaring Eagle Fine Arts Grants
- Community Impact Conferences
- **Dave Gunning Zero Hunger Fund**



# Dave Gunning Zero Hunger Fund

- Acclaimed Nova Scotia musician Dave Gunning has teamed up with RCFNS to launch the Dave Gunning Zero Hunger Fund.
- The campaign is aimed at supporting 'Free Stores' in rural Nova Scotia schools.
- Free Stores provide food for students to take home for their families who are struggling to provide adequate nutrition.





# Antigonish County

Thank you for your  
generous support of the  
program in 2024.

DAVE GUNNING  
**ZERO HUNGER**

RAISING FUNDS FOR FOOD TO STOCK  
SCHOOL FREE STORES IN RURAL NS

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO DONATE VISIT [RCFOFNS.COM](http://RCFOFNS.COM)



**RCFNS**  
RURAL COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION OF NOVA SCOTIA



# Dave Gunning Zero Hunger Fund

- In December 2024 we distributed \$100,000 in grants to Free Stores in schools across Nova Scotia, including two schools in Antigonish County.



**Dr. John Hugh Gillis School**



**École acadienne de Pomquet**

# Dave Gunning Zero Hunger Fund

- Our 2025 goal is to raise \$200,000 to provide grants to additional rural schools.
- We have raised 10% of the 2025 goal through public and corporate donations.
- Funds raised locally will be granted to local schools.

# Dave Gunning Zero Hunger Fund

## Our ask:

- Provide individual and corporate awareness and support for the campaign



# Dave Gunning Zero Hunger Fund

## Our ask:

- Provide individual and corporate awareness and support for the campaign
- Consider providing a donation to the campaign



# Dave Gunning Zero Hunger Fund

## Our ask:

- Provide individual and corporate awareness and support for the campaign
- Consider providing a donation to the campaign
- Consider us for a Community Grant



# Dave Gunning Zero Hunger Fund

## Our ask:

- Provide individual and corporate awareness and support for the campaign
- Consider providing a donation to the campaign
- Consider us for a Community Grant
- Support a Dave Gunning Zero Hunger fundraising concert in Antigonish County



# Dave Gunning Zero Hunger Fund

**Thank you  
for your time and consideration!**

**QUESTIONS?**







# A Roof Over Your Head

325 Main Street, suite 202

Antigonish, Nova Scotia

B2G 2C3

Phone: 902-870-9919

Email: [support@aroyh.ca](mailto:support@aroyh.ca)



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# Who We Are

- **Mission.** A Roof Over Your Head Society (AROYH) is a non-profit organization that uses a client-centered approach to provide individuals and families in Guysborough and Antigonish town and county with emergency housing supports and services that can include funding, navigation, advocacy, and education.
- **Vision.** Our vision is to develop homelessness prevention programming for individuals and families seeking emergency supports and services. To offer individuals and families transitional housing opportunities as a stepping -stone to secure reliable, long-term housing.



# Programs and Services



## 3 Main Areas of Focus

Crisis/Emergency  
Management/ Outreach

Eviction Prevention

Poverty Alleviation

## Current Programs and Services

1. Emergency/crisis management- outreach work(supporting individuals where they are), navigating temporary, safe accommodations/placement, providing food and/or supplies, connecting to resources
2. Eviction prevention-advocating for clients, navigating tenant/landlord issues, providing funding for rental fees, arrears associated with housing costs, connecting to resources
3. Poverty reduction-addressing food insecurity, assisting with funding opportunities (e.g. rent supplements, grants, various applications), connecting to resources.

# Community Initiatives



In Antigonish, meal boards are available at The Tall and Small Café, Myers Tea Room, and The Justamere Café & Bakery. These boards have prepaid meals for anyone in need.



Stocking the community fridges/pantries located at the Antigonish Library and the Antigonish Farmers' Market

# Who We Support Client Demographic

Since the beginning of the new fiscal year (April 1,24) to present AROYH has supported 205 new clients (65 new files).

County of Antigonish (19 files) 62 individuals

Town of Antigonish (32 files) 105 individuals

Guysborough (14 files) 38 individuals



# Stats on Unhoused Individuals

- Currently 15 clients are unhoused and accessing support via our outreach worker
- Currently 3 individuals are being supported through hotel stays
- Currently 5 individuals are being supported while sleeping in vehicles and outdoors.
- Current homelessness count. Homelessness on the rise.



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# Shelter Options Across the Province



- Antigonish and Guysborough counties do not have a shelter
- Nearest option is Viola's Place in New Glasgow
- Barriers to accessing out of town shelters, public housing, and rental units in a University town

# CBRM Pallet Village



- New Dawn, in partnership with the Ally Centre of Cape Breton, operate the CBRM Pallet Village, with funding from the Province of Nova Scotia.
- Consists of 35 pallet shelters
- This project offers shelter, stability, wrap-around services, and help in securing permanent housing
- Each unit meets the interim needs of an individual and includes heat/AC, a single bed and table, storage, and a locking door.
- Support services in the Village include daily hot meals, healthcare, mental health and addictions supports, employment services, and case management by trained staff. The Village has staff and security on-site 24/7



# Identifying Gaps and Goals

## What is needed

- Emergency and transitional housing
- Wrap around supports and services
- Facility/land/pallet homes
- Collaboration
- Funding



## Goals

- Antigonish County recognizes housing as a human right
- The County sets a target to eliminate homelessness in our community by 2030
- The County establishes a taskforce comprised of local government, corporate, and housing- and poverty-focused organizations to work together towards achieving that target including the establishment of emergency and transitional housing.
- Municipal representation on AROYH Board of Directors

Homelessness isn't just an individual issue; it's a community issue. When one person sleeps on the street, the ripple effects touch all of us, revealing the gaps in our collective compassion and the strength of our social fabric.

Thank You!



THE MUNICIPALITY OF  
**CHESTER**

**Office of the Warden**  
The Municipality of Chester  
151 King St, PO Box 369  
Chester, NS B0J 1J0

Phone: (902) 275-3554  
Fax: (902) 275-4771  
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f /ChesterMunicipality  
t @chestermun

January 17, 2024

Minister John Lohr  
Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
14th Floor North, Maritime Centre  
1505 Barrington Street  
P.O. Box 216  
Halifax NS B3J 2M4

Dear Minister Lohr:

On behalf of the Municipality of the District of Chester, I am writing to seek further clarification regarding Clause 14(2) of the Model Code of Conduct for Municipalities, which states:

*A Council member must not give special consideration, treatment or advantage to an organization or group due to the Council member, or person closely connected to the Council member, being involved with the organization or group.*

This clause raises questions regarding the permissible extent of involvement or membership that Council members may have with local organizations or groups, as well as the practical implications for their role in municipal decision-making.

Based on our current understanding a Council member must declare a conflict of interest and recuse themselves from deliberation and decision-making if they are involved with or a member of an organization or group that could benefit from Council decisions. Alternatively, they could choose to refrain from involvement or membership with such organizations or groups altogether to avoid potential conflicts of interest.

While we have adopted the Code of Conduct as required by the legislation, our concerns with the implication of this clause remain. We feel it is imperative that we express our objection to the restriction. The implications of this requirement are significant, particularly in small communities where Council members often play vital roles in local organizations, whether as volunteers or active members. These connections are often integral to maintaining close ties with the community and supporting its growth and development. The perceived restriction on membership or involvement with local organizations could discourage Council members from maintaining valuable community connections.

Additionally, we strongly disagree with the notion that Council members should be unable to participate in discussions related to community groups to which they belong. These discussions are often critical in representing community interests and ensuring informed

**NOVA SCOTIA'S TREASURE**

decision-making. Excluding Council members from such discussions could inadvertently limit their ability to fulfill their duties effectively and to advocate for the needs of their communities.

The requirement to declare a conflict of interest and recuse oneself from deliberations was seen as potentially limiting elected officials' ability to represent community interests effectively.

While the principles of transparency, fairness, and avoiding improper influence are essential, we respectfully request further clarification on the definition of “involvement” and the scope of recusal required under the clause to ensure proper interpretation and application of Clause 14(2).

We appreciate the province’s commitment to ensuring accountability and integrity among elected officials and fully support the principles underlying the Code of Conduct. However, greater clarity on this clause will help ensure its consistent application and prevent unintended barriers to community engagement by elected officials.

We kindly request your response at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your guidance and further clarification.

Sincerely,



Allen Webber  
Warden

CC NS Municipal Units (via email)  
MLA Danielle Barkhouse





**Emergency Management  
Office of the Minister**

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PO Box 216, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2M4 • Telephone 902-424-5550 Fax 902-424-0581 • novascotia.ca

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January 17, 2025

**VIA EMAIL**

To: Mayors, CAOs and Wardens

**Re: Moving towards Consistent and Impactful Emergency Response**

Over the last few years Nova Scotia has endured generational hurricanes, wildfires and floods that have had a devastating impact on our communities and the residents we serve. That is why in the Spring 2024 the Government established the Department of Emergency Management and the Nova Scotia Guard.

In the short time I have been in the role as Minister for the Department of Emergency Management, there have been two activations of the Provincial Coordination Centre (PCC). I have witnessed how important our emergency management planning and response is to the safety of our citizens. I also know the importance of reflecting on lessons learned after each event. To this end, I am requesting that municipalities put the following protocols in place during an emergency response.

**Activation of Emergency Operations Centres**

Effective emergency management requires a common tiered response across all levels of government to ensure roles and accountabilities are clear. With that in mind, I felt it would be helpful to highlight how the PCC supports its various emergency management partners through its different levels of activation.

- At level 1, the PCC is **monitoring** an emergency or developing situation that may move beyond the ability of local responders to address at the municipal level. We have key staff and partners engaged so that if needed we can respond to an emergency.
- At level 2, the PCC is at **partial activation** when there is a moderate event expected, or if a current situation escalates to the point where it involves more communities or a greater risk to the public.
- At level 3, the PCC enters **full activation** when a major event involving multiple locations is happening or anticipated. At this point, many agency and government representatives are involved.

To ensure a consistent response across the Province we are requesting the following:

**When the PCC activates to a level 2; municipalities in the affected area(s) also activate their local Emergency Operations Centres.**

- By doing so, we can ensure that municipalities and the province are well positioned to respond rapidly and effectively to unfolding events. Recent experience has demonstrated that cell



## Emergency Management Office of the Minister

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PO Box 216, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2M4 • Telephone 902-424-5550 Fax 902-424-0581 • [novascotia.ca](http://novascotia.ca)

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phones and other means of communication can be interrupted during emergency events necessitating use of the redundant communications systems found in our emergency operations centres. Best practice dictates that activation at Level 2 cannot be virtual.

### **When the EOC is activated, a monitored phone number is available to citizens for the duration of the activation**

- When a level 2 activations occurs, it means residents may be in greater need of support that is of an important but non-urgent nature. This may include requests for help with snow removal, receiving medications or checking in on loved ones. To support residents with these types of requests it is important that they have access to a 24-hour local municipal phone number during an emergency. Any requests that cannot be met at the local level can be elevated through a Request for Assistance through the PCC. The municipal emergency contact number will be shared with our partners at 211 Nova Scotia, in the event they receive requests, and can redirect them accordingly.
- Urgent requests for immediate threat to life and property (fire/police/medical) should continue to be directed to the provincial 911 system.

Over the coming months, the department will be opening Regional Emergency Operation Centres which will support municipal REMOs through collaborative planning, training, exercising and community outreach. By introducing the protocols above, we take a step forward in building a collaborative and enhanced emergency management response across the province. My staff are available to discuss the above points with you should you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kim Masland".

Kim Masland  
Minister of Emergency Management

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF  
**ANTIGONISH**

**TO:** MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
**FROM:** Deputy Warden John Dunbar  
**SUBJECT:** **January 31, 2025 Asset Management Committee E-poll Report**  
**DATE:** February 11, 2025

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The Asset Management Committee was queried by e-poll on January 31, 2025. The following Councillors participated:

Warden MacInnis  
Deputy Warden Dunbar  
Councillor MacLellan  
Councillor Baden-Clay  
Councillor MacLaughlin  
Councillor Brophy  
Councillor Melanson  
Councillor Mattie  
Councillor McNamara  
Councillor Garvie

**The following recommendation was made:**

*The Asset Management Committee recommends that Municipal Council award the tender for a Tandem Axle Open Top Walking Floor Trailer Including a Hydraulic Flip Open Tarp from Deloupe Inc. for a price of \$164,000 plus HST.*