



Cape Breton Regional Municipality

Council Meeting Addendum

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

Second Floor, City Hall

320 Esplanade, Sydney, Nova Scotia

2.3 Structural Fires

Councillor Dave MacKeigan (See page 3)



RESOLUTION

Structural Fires

WHEREAS:

The two major structure fires the second week of July, 2025, within 8 hours of each other, in Glace Bay, demonstrated the outstanding response capacity of the Cape Breton Regional Fire Service, volunteer and career; and

WHEREAS:

the training, professionalism and experience of all Fire & Emergency personnel and resources, first responders and CBRM staff resulted in no loss of life, impact on adjacent properties and maintained public safety; and

WHEREAS:

the Glace Bay Volunteer Fire Department led a three-year response plan in anticipation of such a large fire event utilizing limited and stretched resources; and

WHEREAS:

these fires of an undetermined nature, to date, highlight the risk of vacant and abandoned properties throughout the CBRM, especially large structures like the two in Glace Bay; and

WHEREAS:

the CBRM is under resourced to deal with the largest inventory of dangerous and unsightly premises per capita in Nova Scotia, both commercial and residential; and

WHEREAS:

the CBRM has responded with improved capital & operational supports for Fire & Emergency Services, including equipment, training and fleet, it does not address the significant impact of fire response, demolition and recovery costs; and

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WHEREAS:

the CBRM has been proactive in establishing two new By Law positions to properly identify, classify and address dangerous and unsightly premises, the municipality does not have adequate financial resources to manage improved outcomes; and

**BE IT THEREFORE
RESOLVED:**

that CBRM Council direct the Mayor to write to the Minister of Municipal Affairs outlining the severity of the position the CBRM finds itself in and to request a meeting to proactively respond and initiate a joint response plan, with resources, to address this pressing public matter.

Councillor Dave MacKeigan - District #9

July 15th, 2025

