

**Cape Breton Regional Municipality**

**Council Meeting**

**AGENDA**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

**9:30 A.M.**

Council Chambers  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, City Hall  
320 Esplanade, Sydney, NS

# Cape Breton Regional Municipality

## Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

9:30 a.m.

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

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#### Land Acknowledgement

9:30 a.m.

#### Roll Call

#### O' Canada

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** (Motion Required)
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** (Previously Distributed)
  - **Special Council – March 7, 2023**

#### 3. **PROCLAMATIONS & RESOLUTIONS:**

9:35 a.m.

- 3.1 **World Down Syndrome Day**  
Mayor Amanda McDougall-Merrill (See page 5)
- 3.2 **Transgender Day of Visibility**  
Councillor Cyril MacDonald (See page 6)
- 3.3 **Autism Acceptance Month**  
Councillor Steve Parsons (See page 7)
- 3.4 **National Dental Hygienists Week**  
Councillor Ken Tracey (See page 8)
- 3.5 **Cape Breton Eagles Day – April 4<sup>th</sup>**  
Councillor Eldon MacDonald (See page 9)
- 3.6 **Imperial Oil Petroleum Storage Facility**  
Councillor Eldon MacDonald (See page 11)

Continued...

**Council Meeting Agenda  
March 28, 2023 (Cont'd)**

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**4. REPORT: **9:50 a.m.****

**4.1 CBRM Regional Enterprise Network Update: (See page 13)**

**Cape Breton Partnership Representatives:**

- Tyler Mattheis, President & CEO
- Denis Thibeault, Economic Development Officer
- Lan Zheng, Economic Development Officer
- Kelly MacKinnon, Labour Market & Immigration Advisor

**5. BUSINESS ARISING: **10:30 a.m.****

**5.1 Council – February 28, 2023**

- a) **Public Report: Citizen Appointments to Various Committees:** Deborah Campbell Ryan, Municipal Clerk (See page 23)

**5.2 Emergency Council – March 10, 2023**

- a) **RHI Update:** Marie Walsh, Chief Administrative Officer (See page 25)

**5.3 Council – March 14, 2023**

- a) **Mandatory Policy Update: Engagement Programs - Proposed Amendments to the Public Participation Programs Policy:** Michael Ruus, Director of Planning and Development (See page 27)

**5.4 In Camera Council – March 28, 2023**

- a) **CUPE Local 761 - Crossing Guard Negotiations:** Deanna Evely, Director Of Human Resources

**6. COUNCILLOR AGENDA REQUEST: **11:00 a.m.****

**6.1 CBRM “Grow Our Own Doctors”: Deputy Mayor James Edwards (See page 35)**

**Continued...**

**Council Meeting Agenda  
March 28, 2023 (Cont'd)**

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**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

N/A

**8. Review of Action Items from this Meeting:**  
Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill

**11:15 a.m.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

# Cape Breton Regional Municipality

## Proclamation

### World Down Syndrome Day

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**Whereas:** March 21<sup>st</sup> is World Down Syndrome Day. This is a day to raise awareness of Down Syndrome and celebrate that every person is unique and different; and

**Whereas:** World Down Syndrome Day is recognized throughout Canada as a day to raise awareness of and celebrate the many accomplishments, contributions and talents people with Down Syndrome bring to their communities; and

**Whereas:** Down Syndrome Day is a time for us to reflect on how we can better ensure individuals in our community with Down Syndrome live complete and fulfilling lives and appreciate the strengths and abilities of those with Down Syndrome; and

**Whereas:** People with Down Syndrome make significant contributions to the fabric of our communities. They participate in the workplace, run their own businesses, create art and music, excel in sports and recreation, and pursue studies in schools, community college and university within the CBRM;

**Be It Therefore Resolved:** That I, CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Council proclaim March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 as **World Down Syndrome Day** in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality, and encourage all residents of the CBRM to join together and celebrate this day and proclaim the message, “*With Us Not For Us.*” It's a call to all who work on behalf of people with Down Syndrome to do so in partnership with them, empowering them to make decisions and supporting them in having their voices heard.

*CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill*

March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

*Cape Breton Regional Municipality*

**Proclamation**

*Transgender Day of Visibility*

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**Whereas:** The Cape Breton Regional Municipality is committed to building a welcoming and inclusive community for all which strengthens and fosters mutual understanding among the transgender, non-binary and gender non-conforming community;

**And Whereas:** Every resident of The Cape Breton Regional Municipality has the right to have equal access to services, employment, and facilities without discrimination, harassment, acts of verbal or physical violence or abuse;

**And Whereas:** The transgender, non-binary and gender non-conforming community has fought tirelessly for equity and inclusivity;

**And Whereas:** The Cape Breton Regional Municipality is proud of the meaningful contributions which individuals within the transgender, non-binary and gender non-conforming community make to the region and acknowledges discrimination faced by residents due to the gender identities and/or gender expression;

**And Whereas:** Transgender Day of Visibility celebrates the accomplishments of transgender, non-binary and gender non-conforming minorities while fighting transphobia, acts of verbal and physical violence, prejudice, discrimination and abuse.

**Be It Therefore Resolved:** That the CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Council proclaim Friday March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 as Transgender Day of Visibility in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality.

*Councillor Cyril MacDonald – CBRM District #3*

March 28th, 2023

# **PROCLAMATION**

## **Autism Acceptance Month**

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**WHEREAS:** It is estimated that in Nova Scotia, data from 2017-2021 shows that 1 in 32 children between age of 0-5 years are diagnosed with autism;

**AND WHEREAS:** Many dedicated Autistic individuals/people with autism, parents, teachers, researchers, and professionals, including those at Autism Nova Scotia and other community-based organizations, work tirelessly throughout our province to make the communities where we live accessible and inclusive for Autistics/individuals with autism, and their loved ones;

**AND WHEREAS:** With the support of the autism community, the Cape Breton Region Chapter of Autism Nova Scotia builds understanding, acceptance, and inclusion for Autistics/individuals on the autism spectrum and their families through leadership, advocacy, education, training, and programming across the lifespan;

**AND WHEREAS:** April marks Autism Acceptance Month, and Saturday, April 2nd, marks World Autism Acceptance Day, when people across the globe came together as a community to celebrate autism and promote acceptance and inclusion;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:** That CBRM Mayor Amanda. M. McDougall-Merrill and Council, proclaim April 2023 as Autism Acceptance Month throughout the municipality and encourage all our citizens to recognize the individuals/people with autism, family members, caregivers, educators, and other professionals who strive to make Nova Scotia an inclusive and accessible place for us all to call home.

*Councillor Steve Parsons - CBRM District #7*

March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

# **PROCLAMATION**

## **National Dental Hygienists Week**

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**WHEREAS:** 59% of Canadian children and 96% of adults have experienced cavities, and 21% of Canadian adults have experienced periodontal (gum) issues;

**AND WHEREAS:** Research shows a direct link between oral health and overall health and well-being, such as periodontal disease being linked to several serious illnesses, including lung disease, diabetes, and heart disease;

**AND WHEREAS:** Oral health issues are easily preventable and treatable, and Canadians, especially children and seniors, can be greatly assisted through early detection and intervention;

**AND WHEREAS:** Dental hygiene is the 6th largest registered health profession in Canada, with more than 31,000 registered dental hygienists working in a variety of settings, with people of all ages, addressing issues related to oral health;

**AND WHEREAS:** Greater awareness of proper oral health practices and the need to regularly visit a dental professional is paramount to ensuring Canadians lead healthier and happier lives.

**AND WHEREAS:** Promoting the importance of the issues and celebrating the successes of the profession and contributions of dental hygienists will lead to increased public awareness;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:** That CBRM Mayor Amanda. M. McDougall-Merrill and Council proclaim the week of April 4-10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as National Dental Hygienists Week in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality.

*Councillor Ken Tracey – CBRM District #9*

March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

# PROCLAMATION

## CAPE BRETON EAGLES DAY – APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>

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**Whereas:** The Cape Breton Eagles are a major junior ice hockey team in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL). Their home rink is located at Centre 200 of Sydney, Nova Scotia;

**And Whereas:** In 1997, the franchise officially became the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles. Prior to the Eagles' arrival, Sydney played host to the American Hockey League (AHL)'s Cape Breton Oilers from 1988 to 1996. The team was founded by several local businessmen, the late Greg Lynch was instrumental in securing the teams fate and future. The team pays tribute to Greg Lynch's memory hosting an annual game with special themed Irish jerseys that are auctioned off to raise money for the Cape Breton Regional Hospital Foundation. It happens that on this same night, March 17, 2023, the Eagles officially clinched a playoff spot;

**And Whereas:** In 2019, the team was sold to Glace Bay native Irwin Simon who is the majority owner. The club has six other minority owners: namely, Robert Sabaugh, Stuart MacLeod, Aubrey Rogers & Donnie Sives, Ryan MacDonald, Troy Wilson, and Rodney Colbourne. Who are all active members and contributors to our community;

**And Whereas:**

- \* In August 2019, the team rebranded itself as the Cape Breton Eagles.
- \* In June 2022, the team drafted #1 overall Tomas Lavoie.
- \* On November 5, 2022, the Eagles Retired Chris Culligan's jersey, former captain and native of Sydney, NS.
- \* March 17, 2023, The Cape Breton Eagles clinch a playoff spot after 4-year absence;

**And Whereas:** As a result of COVID and post pandemic setbacks, the team has not reached playoffs since 2019. The Eagles proudly clinched a position for the 2023 playoffs and are looking to involve the community as much as possible. The Cape Breton Eagles are the Island's Team, and wish for the community to adopt a sense of pride in the organization and the young men representing our Island on the ice;

Continued...

**And Whereas:**

This past year the Cape Breton Eagles, for the first time in their history, embarked upon a strategic planning process. At the very heart of this plan is **COMMUNITY**. Their Mission and Vision are all about connecting with the community and providing the community with an organization they can be proud of. The Eagles' main core value is centralized around community. They are committed to using their brand and resources to build meaningful relationships and initiate important programs with social impact missions to address issues affecting local neighbourhoods and social communities. The Eagles recognize the importance of people coming together and need to be a reliable community member/partner;

**Be It Therefore Resolved:**

That CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Council proclaim April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to be **Cape Breton Eagles Day** in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality and encourage all CBRM residents to show their Eagles Pride. At 7:00pm on April 4th, the puck will drop for the first playoff game on home ice, and they need the support of the community to be their 7th skater on the ice April 4th, 5th and onward.

*Councillor Eldon MacDonald – CBRM District #5*

March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

# CBRM RESOLUTION

## Imperial Oil Petroleum Storage Facility

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**WHEREAS:** Imperial Oil’s Sydney petroleum storage and distribution facility is located adjacent to Sydney Harbour and is in close proximity to the community’s historic and residential North End;

**AND WHEREAS:** On July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 an accidental tank rupture led to a spill of an estimated 600,000 liters of gasoline at the facility;

**AND WHEREAS:** A citizen’s group, “The Future of the North End Community Group” formed after this incident, the membership of which includes residents of the affected area. During the group’s meetings, they voiced their concerns regarding Imperial Oil petroleum storage and distribution facility and how this spill event has affected them, and those concerns were provided to the Municipality;

**AND WHEREAS:** These concerns ought to be addressed by Imperial Oil, noting that the onus should be on the company for mitigation of risks and site remediation;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:** That CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Council direct that a letter be sent to Imperial Oil outlining concerns from the area residents included in Appendix “A” attached to this Resolution.

*Councillor Eldon MacDonald - District #5 - CBRM*

March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Appendix “A”**

- 1) Imperial Oil be responsible for the cost of an alternative route along Muggah Creek, at the intersection of Ferry Street and the Sydney Port Access Road, to the Imperial Oil’s petroleum storage and distribution facility which would be safer and less intrusive for residents of the area.
- 2) Imperial Oil initiate the creation of Idle-Free Zones in areas of the north end of George, Esplanade and Louisa Streets where trucks currently idle for extended periods of time while parked in front of residential homes.
- 3) Imperial Oil be responsible to obtain equipment designed to remediate oil and gas spills (i.e. foam truck).
- 4) Imperial Oil provide CBRM with a copy of the results from the water and soil samples that were taken from properties after the gas spill on July 8, 2022.
- 5) When the life expectancy of the tanks is reached and need to be replaced, an alternative plan should be considered for relocation of the tank farm.

REGIONAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK  
**UPDATE**  
Cape Breton Regional Municipality  
March 28, 2023



## Cape Breton Partnership

### VISION

A thriving Cape Breton – Unama’ki

### MISSION

To transform Cape Breton - Unama’ki into the most creative and prosperous place on earth

**PROMOTE** Our Island as a great place to live, work, and invest.

**GROW** A culture that values and celebrates creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship

**CONNECT** Entrepreneurs and companies to the resources they need to succeed



CAPE BRETON  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

# CBRM Forward: Economic Development



## Vision:

The CBRM is a hub of economic opportunity and prosperity.

## Mission:

Together, we are building community, growing economic opportunity, and fostering an environment where business and residents thrive.



CAPE BRETON  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

# CBRM Regional Enterprise Network Staff



CAPE BRETON  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

## CBRM Regional Enterprise Network Board

- Tracey Boutilier, Vibe Creative Group
- Brad Jacobs, Colbourne Auto Group
- Shaowei Xu, SW East International Trading & Consulting
- Howie Doiron, Lindsay Construction
- James Wooder, JBW Consulting
- Ron Blinkhorn, Casino Nova Scotia – Sydney



## CBRM Regional Enterprise Network LOC

- Michael Ruus, CBRM Director of Planning
- Steve Gillespie, CBRM Council
- Steve Parsons, CBRM Council
- Jennifer Campbell, CBRM Chief Financial Officer
- Joe Brown, Province of Nova Scotia
- Ross MacDonald, Province of Nova Scotia



# CBRM Regional Enterprise Network

Leveraged Investment



CAPE BRETON  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

# CBRM Regional Enterprise Network

Leveraged Investment



CAPE BRETON  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

# Supporting Cape Breton Businesses

## Cape Breton Partnership Initiatives



CAPE BRETON REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

## CBRM Regional Enterprise Network

### Local Activities & Events

- Immigration for Employers Webinar
- Business & Breakfast: Business Planning
- Louisbourg Visitor Experience Enhancement Strategy
- Micro-Loan Program for Female Entrepreneurs
- Northside Business Park
- Welcome to CB podcast
- CBRM Online Services Portal Survey
- 2023 State of the Province Address
- Cape Breton Job Board
- Charlotte St. Beautification Committee Participation
- & more!



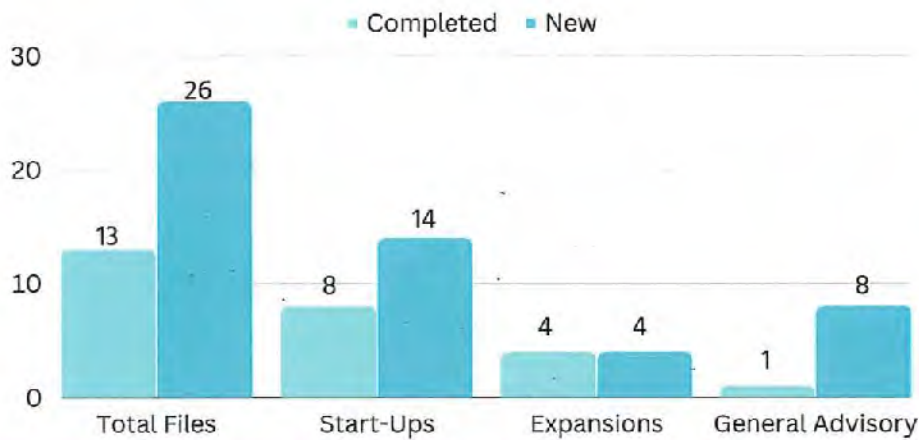
Over 140 acres available across 17 municipa- served lots at the Northside Business Park!



CAPE BRETON REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

# CBRM Regional Enterprise Network

## Local Engagement Stats



**Total Local Business Contacts Regularly Communicated With**

New: 52



Existing: 109



CAPE BRETON REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

# CBRM Regional Enterprise Network

## Business Advisory Active Files - End of H1

*Succession Planning*

*Business Planning*

*Business Advisory*

*Business Growth*

*Investment Attraction*



**New Files Created This Period**

**Files continued from Last Period**



CAPE BRETON REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

## Upcoming Events & Initiatives



CAPE BRETON  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

## CBRM Regional Enterprise Network Immigration & Labour

### Kelly MacKinnon

Labour Market & Immigration Advisor

- Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant
- Helps employers navigate the immigration system and select appropriate programs
- Can work with Atlantic Immigration Program, Provincial Nominee Program, as well as federal programs and temporary immigration
- Global Talent Stream & Global Skills Strategy referrals

### Dani Mombourquette

Immigration Engagement Coordinator

- Funded by Labour, Skills and Immigration and ACOA
- Supports employers and candidates on the Atlantic Immigration Program & the Provincial Nominee Program
- Information Sessions for employers, newcomers, international graduates on Provincial options

### Kris Kolanko

Community Navigator, Cape Breton

- Labour, Skills and Immigration position
- Located in the Cape Breton Partnership office
- Supports employers to navigate Provincial programs
- Direct contact with LSI

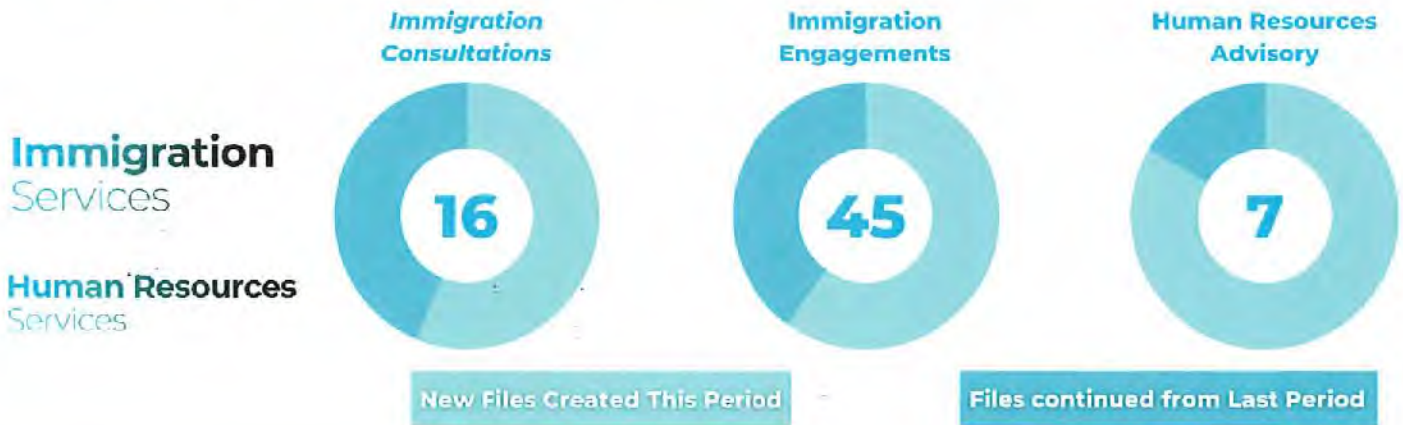
## Immigration Services



CAPE BRETON  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

# CBRM Regional Enterprise Network

## Immigration & Labour Active files - End of H1



CAPE BRETON REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

# CBRM Regional Enterprise Network

## Settlement and Retention in the CBRM



Aims to strengthen the community's capacity to welcome newcomers and improve integration.



A constellation of groups across the Island working to make our communities more welcoming to newcomers.



A regularly updated one stop shop online for people looking to live, work, or invest in Cape Breton.



Matches community leaders with local and international graduates and newcomers to broaden their networks.



CAPE BRETON REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

# New Logo for CBRM REN

Regional  
Enterprise  
Network



CAPE BRETON  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

## CBRM Forward: CBRM REN & Economic Development

The CBRM Forward Economic Development Strategy was adopted by Council on August 23rd, 2022. In accordance with recommendation 1.2 from that strategy, "Establish a minimum three-year agreement with the Cape Breton Partnership to deliver economic development services on behalf of the CBRM", a new contract has been provided to CBRM staff for review.



### Key Highlights include:

#### Term

- 5 year agreement (2023 to 2028) with a minimum 3 year termination clause
- Automatically renews for another 5 year agreement unless notice given

#### Funding

- Same funding as previous two years for 2023/24
- Starting in 2024/25, funding will increase by CPI
- CBRM may provide special project or other additional funding to the REN if circumstances arise, as agreed to by the parties.
- CBRM is not required to fulfill any provincial funding obligations should the Province of Nova Scotia decline to fund the REN program in the future.



CAPE BRETON  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

# CBRM Forward: CBRM REN & Economic Development

## Recommended Motion:

Move that CBRM staff be directed to prepare an Issue Paper to consider the proposed agreement.



-  [cbpartnership](#)
-  [cbpartnership](#)
-  [cbpartnership](#)
-  [cape-breton-partnership](#)

[capebretonpartnership.com](http://capebretonpartnership.com)



## M·E·M·O

320 Esplanade

Sydney, Nova Scotia, B1P 7B9

902-563-5010

**To:** Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Members of Council  
**From:** Deborah Campbell Ryan, Municipal Clerk  
**Date:** March 20, 2023  
**Subject:** Public Report: Citizen Appointments to various Committees

At the February 28, 2023 Council meeting, the attached motion was passed approving the recommendations of the Nominating Committee for the appointment of citizens to various Committees and Boards (with reference by number), subject to their acceptance of the positions and any required background checks to be completed.

I am pleased to advise that all successful applicants have accepted the positions and the required background checks are complete and in order.

Therefore I am now providing Council with a public report on the successful candidates, as follows:

- **Board of Police Commissioners (2-year term):**
  - Dale Deering-Bert (Candidate #P-2)
  - Helen Luedee (Candidate #P-3)
  - Tom Vickers (Candidate #P-5)
- **Audit Committee (2-year term):**
  - Mark Galley (Candidate #A-1)
- **Heritage Advisory Committee (2-year term):**
  - Thomas Ashford (Candidate #H-1)
  - Kyron Coombes (Candidate #H-2)
  - Kaleb DeLeskie (Candidate #H-3)
  - Allie MacInnis (Candidate #H-4)
  - Saul MacNeil (Candidate #H-5)
  - Susan MacNeil-Singh (Candidate #H-6)
  - Spyro Trifos (Candidate #H-7)

Continued...

- **Cape Breton Regional Library Board (2-year term):**
  - Kathy MacIntyre (Candidate #L-4)
  - Douglas MacLennan (Candidate #L-5)

This is for information purposes only.

*Original signed by:*

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**Deborah Campbell Ryan, Municipal Clerk**

Attachment

**RHI 3 Funding – Follow up with CMHC**

**Motion:**

Moved by Councillor MacMullin, seconded by Councillor Gordon MacDonald, to direct staff to submit all four applications in draft form to the CMHC submission portal by March 15, 2023.

**Discussion:**

Council members discussed the efforts by Mayor and staff to obtain the new information that was brought forward in regard to recent eligibility criteria changes by CMHC.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that from the recent meetings that took place with staff and CMHC, CMHC has changed parameters which will allow more flexibility for CBRM to consider more than one option.

**Motion Carried.**

# CBRM

## M·E·M·O

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320 Esplanade

Sydney, Nova Scotia, B1P 7B9

902-563-5009

**To:** Mayor Amanda M. McDougall & Council  
**From:** Marie Walsh, Chief Administrative Officer  
**Date:** March 23, 2023  
**Subject:** RHI update

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As requested by Council, CBRM staff have entered all four proponents from the RHI proposals into the CMHC portal as is without change. We have been in touch with CMHC who are still working their way through multiple applications including ours. They are unable to provide a firm date for a follow-up discussion but have assured us that they are moving as expeditiously as possible on this and will contact staff for a meeting date. Once we have met with CMHC we will contact eligible proponents for further discussion. Finally, Council will be required to vote on the successful proponents so that projects will be ready to begin in May.

Yours truly,

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Marie Walsh, CPA, CGA  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Excerpt – DRAFT Council Minutes – March 14, 2023**

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**Mandatory Policy Update – Engagement Programs**

**Motion:**

Moved by Councillor Parsons, seconded by Councillor Eldon MacDonald, that staff be directed to draft the required amendment to the Public Participation Programs Policy in alignment with the *Regulations Respecting the Content for Engagement Programs* for consideration at the next regular meeting of Council; and request feedback from Membertou and Eskasoni on if and how they would like to be engaged within the scope of this policy.

**Motion Carried.**



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## **MEMO**

**TO:** CBRM Council

**DATE:** March 08, 2023

**FROM:** Director, Planning and Development

**RE:** **MANDATORY POLICY UPDATE – ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS**

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### **BACKGROUND**

In 2019, the Province required that all parts of municipalities have a planning strategy and land use by-law that meet the *Regulations Respecting Minimum Planning Requirements* made under Section 214(4) of the *Municipal Government Act* (“MGA”) by the end of 2022.

In terms of the new standards for planning, the legislative amendments to the MGA require:

- Land use planning for all lands within a municipality;
- Municipal planning strategies to meet requirements set in regulation;
- Planning documents to be reviewed at least every 10 years; and
- Municipalities to engage with abutting municipalities on land use issues that impact one another.

In the April 2019 correspondence from the Provincial Director of Planning, it was expected that all municipalities would come into compliance with the new regulations by the end of 2022. With CBRM’s participation in the Regulatory Modernization Pilot, CBRM has partnered with the other island municipalities to find opportunities for alignment and reduce regulatory burden for possible investment within the communities. Final public engagement on the new plan was originally planned for the fourth quarter of 2022, but the impacts of Hurricane Fiona forced a deferral. A request for extension was granted by Provincial Municipal Affairs, and this will instead proceed this spring.

Municipal Affairs has however requested that CBRM update its policy for public engagement by the end of March 2023.

## **DISCUSSION**

While CBRM currently meets the majority of the minimum planning requirements, Council should be aware of the mandatory requirement in **Section 204A(I) of the MGA**:

Council shall adopt, by policy, *an engagement program for engaging with abutting municipalities when the council is adopting or amending a municipal planning strategy.*

This is subject to the *Regulations Respecting the Content for Engagement Programs* made under Section 204A (3) of the MGA (**APPENDIX A**). To meet this requirement, Council must:

- Adopt amendments to its existing Public Participation Programs Policy to solicit and consider comments from abutting municipalities on any proposed adoption or amendments to a Municipal Planning Strategy;
- Provide a means for Council to consider this feedback; and
- Engage with these regional partners prior to first notice of a public hearing to consider adoption of amendments to a Municipal Planning Strategy.

The amendments would require staff to circulate notice of CBRM's intent to consider adopting or amending a Municipal Planning Strategy to administrators in the abutting municipalities. As partners in the development of our region, Council may also consider soliciting feedback to the abutting First Nations communities.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Council shall:

- Direct staff to draft the required amendment to its Public Participation Programs Policy in alignment with the *Regulations Respecting the Content for Engagement Programs* for consideration at the next regular meeting of Council; and
- Request feedback from Membertou and Eskasoni on if and how they would like to be engaged within the scope of this policy.

Respectfully submitted by:

Original Signed By

Michael Ruus  
Director, Planning and Development

## APPENDIX A: ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS CONTENT REGULATIONS

Engagement Programs Content Regulations  
made under Section 204A of the  
*Municipal Government Act*  
S.N.S. 1998, c. 18  
N.S. Reg. 139/2019 (effective December 3, 2019)

### Table of Contents

Please note: this table of contents is provided for convenience of reference and does not form part of the regulations.

[Click here to go to the text of the regulations.](#)

[Citation](#)

[Definitions](#)

[Recording of policy](#)

[Mandatory content of engagement program](#)

[Limiting engagement program to areas impacted](#)

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#### **Citation**

**1** These regulations may be cited as the *Engagement Programs Content Regulations*.

#### **Definitions**

**2** In these regulations,

“Act” means the *Municipal Government Act*;

“adoption or amendment” means adoption or amendment of a municipal planning strategy;

“engagement program” means an engagement program, which a council must adopt by policy, as required by subsection 204A(1) of the Act for engaging with abutting municipalities when a council is adopting or amending a municipal planning strategy.

#### **Recording of policy**

**3** A policy adopting an engagement program must be recorded in the by-law records of the municipality.

#### **Mandatory content of engagement program**

**4** An engagement program must include all of the following:

- (a) a requirement that council solicit comments from abutting municipalities on the proposed adoption or amendment;

## APPENDIX A: ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS CONTENT REGULATIONS

- (b) provisions ensuring that engagement deals with topics associated with the statements of provincial interest;
- (c) a means for council to consider any comments received from abutting municipalities; and
- (d) a requirement that engagement with abutting municipalities be completed before the first notice for a public hearing for considering a proposed adoption or amendment.

### **Limiting engagement program to areas impacted**

- 5 An engagement program may provide that engagement with an abutting municipality be limited to the geographical area or areas or topics that are likely to be impacted by a proposed adoption or amendment.



# CBRM

*A Community of Communities*

Cape Breton Regional Municipality

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## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS POLICY

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### LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

1. This policy derives its authority from Section 204 and Section 204A of the *Municipal Government Act* of the Province of Nova Scotia

### PURPOSE

2. The purpose of this policy is to:
  - a) ~~provide~~ Provide ample opportunity for the public to actively participate in decisions concerning the adoption or amendment of a CBRM planning document as defined by the Municipal Government Act i.e. the adoption of a Municipal Planning Strategy or Subdivision Bylaw or any amendment to either of these planning documents; and
  - 2-b) Solicit comments from abutting municipalities and First Nation communities on proposed adoption of amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy to reduce land-use conflict and increase cooperative regional opportunities.

### EXCEPTION

3. This Policy does not apply to land use by-law amendments which do not also require an amendment to the Municipal Planning Strategy.

### STATEMENTS OF POLICY

4. Due to the complexity and large scale of the landscape throughout the Cape Breton Regional Municipality, the possibility planning documents or their amendments could be initiated by CBRM staff or the general public, and the range of planning documents could be site specific or have an effect throughout a neighbourhood, a community or the entire Regional Municipality, it shall be a policy of Council to consider a wide range of acceptable formats for a public participation program dependant on the type of planning document under consideration for adoption.
5. Council shall solicit comments from abutting municipalities when:
  - a) Adopting or replacing a Municipal Planning Strategy; and
  - b) Considering amendments to a Municipal Planning Strategy, which would impact lands that share a common boundary with abutting municipalities.
6. Council shall solicit comments from abutting First Nation communities when:
  - a) Adopting or replacing a Municipal Planning Strategy; and

- b) Considering amendments to a Municipal Planning Strategy, which would impact lands sharing common boundaries.

### **APPLICATION AND PROCEDURE – ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM**

7. Within 14 days of initiation of any process to adopt or amend a Municipal Planning Strategy, staff of the Planning and Development Department shall formally notify and request comments from abutting municipalities, Membertou First Nation, and Eskasoni First Nation.
8. Formal notice shall be sent to the respective Chief Administrative Officer, or equivalent, describing the proposal and requesting input within 14 days.
9. The Planning and Development Department will present the results of the public engagement program to Council prior to Council proceeding with first notice of a public hearing.

### **APPLICATION AND PROCEDURE – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROGRAM**

- 1.10. The appropriate format for each Public Participation Program will be drafted by staff of the Planning and Development Department based on the specifics of the proposed amendment. Where applicable, staff will work with the local councillor, or councillors, when a proposed planning document will not be in effect throughout the Regional Municipality.
- 2.11. Acceptable formats of public participation programs include, but are not limited to the following:
- a) Public Meeting
- Notice of such public meeting shall be by one, or a combination of, the following:
- an advertisement in the local newspaper;
  - notice mailed to surrounding land owners; or
  - notice on the CBRM website or other social media.
- Notice of the public meeting shall briefly describe the undertaking or proposed amendment, the time, date and place of the public meeting, as well as a source for obtaining background or additional information. The radius of mail notification will be determined by the Planning and Development Department based on the geography affected by the proposed planning document.
- b) Open House
- Notice of an open house shall be an advertisement in the local newspaper, notice mailed to surrounding land owners, or notice on the CBRM website and/or other social media. Notice of the open house shall briefly describe the undertaking or proposed amendment, the time, date and place of the open house, as well as a source for obtaining background or additional information. The radius of mail notification will be determined by the Planning and Development Department based on the geography affected by the proposed planning document.
- c) Notification Requesting Input
- Notice shall be mailed to land owners in the vicinity of the proposed development. The radius of this notification will be determined by the Planning and Development Department. The notice shall briefly describe the undertaking or proposed amendment, the deadline date for comments, how comments may

be submitted, as well as a source for obtaining background or additional information.

d) Survey

Surveys should be considered when the jurisdiction of the proposed amendment is too large for public notification by mail.

~~3.12.~~ The Planning and Development will present the result of the public participation program to the ~~General Committee of Council and/or~~ Council.

Approved by Council: February 6, 2018

Amended by Council: March 28, 2023

~~PASSED AND ADOPTED: by a majority of the whole Council at a duly called meeting of the Cape Breton Regional Municipal Council held on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018.~~

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK

~~*THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the attached is a true and correct copy of the Policy of the Cape Breton Regional Municipality adopted by Regional Council during a meeting held on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018.*~~

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah Campbell Ryan, CLERK



City Hall  
320 Esplanade  
Sydney, NS B1P 7B9

Item No.

Councillor Agenda Request Form – Staff Report	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Included on Agenda</b> (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by 4:30 pm seven days before the meeting)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Late Item</b> (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon the day before the meeting)
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Request from the Floor: (New Business)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Announcement</b></li> <li>- <b>Referral</b></li> <li>- <b>Submit Petition</b></li> <li>- <b>Notice of Motion</b></li> </ul>	
<b>Date of Council Meeting: March 28, 2023</b>	
<b>Subject: CBRM "Grow Our Own Doctors"</b>	
<b>Motion for Council to Consider:</b>  That staff be directed to prepare an Issue Paper exploring the feasibility of CBRM establishing a scholarship program to support one (1) local student per year to attend the Cape Breton University (CBU) Medical School. The Issue Paper should also set the parameters for eligibility. Further, as a condition of the scholarship, upon completion of their medical training the candidate will be required to work as a Medical Doctor in CBRM for at least five (5) years.	
<b>Reason:</b> To motivate residents of CBRM to pursue a career in medicine and to practice in CBRM.	
<b>Outcome Sought:</b> To be proactive in improving primary health care in CBRM.	
<i>Councillor: Deputy Mayor James Edwards</i>	<i>District: 8</i>
<i>Date: March 20, 2023</i>	<i>Received by Clerk's Department (date):</i>

**Issue has been discussed with Director of Responsible Department**

