

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Save Our Old Forests (SOOF) – Nina Newington

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Council Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2025

4.2 Special Council Meeting Minutes – March 3, 2025

5. ANYTHING BY CITIZENS

Procedure: A thirty-minute period will be provided for members of the public to address Council regarding questions, concerns and/or ideas. Each person will have a maximum of two minutes to address Council with a second two-minute period provided there is time remaining within the thirty-minute "Anything by Citizens" period.

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. REPORTS

7.1 Management Report

7.2 Middleton Fire Department Dispatch Report for February

7.3 Valley REN LOC Feb 3/25 DRAFT Minutes

7.4 IDEA Governance Committee Feb 14/25 DRAFT Minutes

7.5 IMSA Board Feb 19/25 Meeting Minutes

7.6 Annapolis County Joint Police Advisory Board Feb 20/25 DRAFT Minutes

7.7 Annapolis County Inter-Municipal Working Group Feb 27/25 DRAFT Minutes

7.8 Mayor's Report

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Update on Municipal Disaster Financial Assistance Claims

8.2 Correspondence from the Office of the Attorney General and Minister of Justice

MIDDLETON TOWN COUNCIL
Town Hall – Council Chambers & Facebook Live
Monday, March 17, 2025
7:00 p.m.



9. **ANYTHING BY MEMBERS**

10. **ADJOURNMENT**



Save Our Old Forests Association

Protecting 20% of Nova Scotia by 2030

- The Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act was passed by the Nova Scotia Legislature in October 2021.

It includes a commitment “to conserve at least 20% of the total land and water mass of the Province by 2030 as protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures”.



How are we doing?

- October 2021: 20% x 2030 enacted – 13% protected
- November 2022: Goldsmith Lake Wilderness Area proposed
- October 2023: Canada-Nova Scotia Nature Agreement signed
- December 2023: Collaborative Protected Areas Strategy released
- December 31, 2024: 13.68% protected
- March 31, 2026: deadline for protecting 15% in \$28.5 million agreement

72,000 ha must be added to Protected Areas in the next year

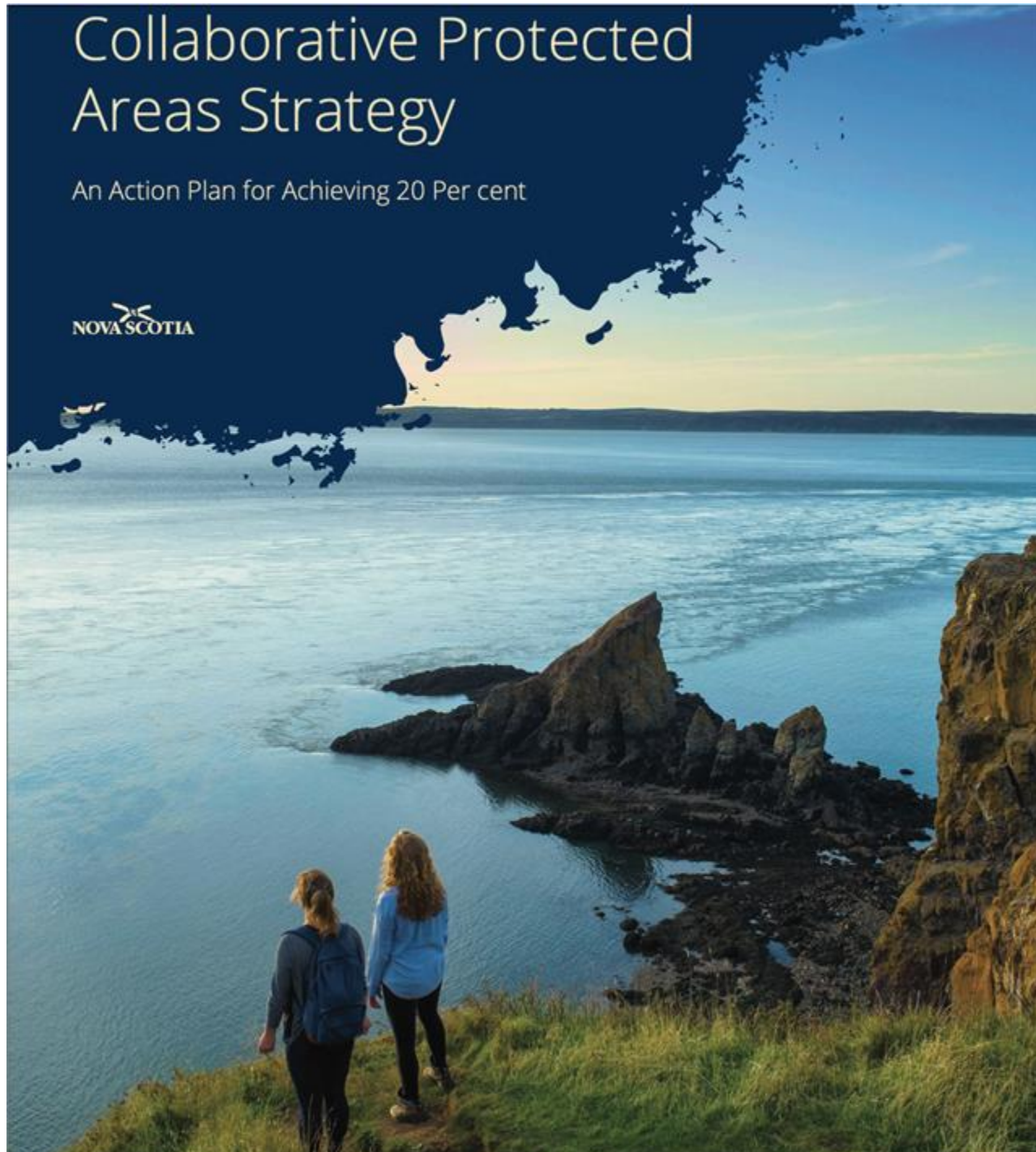


So which forests
should we protect?

Collaborative Protected Areas Strategy

An Action Plan for Achieving 20 Per cent


NOVA SCOTIA



Selection of sites on provincially administered lands will be guided by the following foundational ecological priorities.

Relatively Intact – areas in a mostly natural state with relatively few human impacts compared to other lands in the surrounding landscape. Larger areas are preferred but smaller intact areas are also important for biodiversity conservation.

Representative – examples of the full range of Nova Scotia's diverse natural landscapes.

Rich and/or Rare – areas rich in biodiversity as well as rare or unique landscapes, such as old-growth forests, salt marshes, and habitats that support species at risk.

Ecological Connectivity – lands that provide connections, allowing species to move across the landscape, including between protected areas.

Watershed and Water Protection – areas maintaining aquatic habitat, water flows, and water quality.

Restoration – areas important for protecting nature in the long term but which require time to restore to a more natural condition.

Additional priorities that will be considered in selecting candidate sites for protection include the following.

Expansions or Improvement of existing sites – lands that expand existing protected areas to better protect nature, simplify boundaries, and improve management or enhance public access.

Climate Adaptation and Mitigation – lands that enable species movements as our climate changes, that can moderate climate impacts such as flooding, storm surges, and extreme heat, or can store large amounts of carbon.

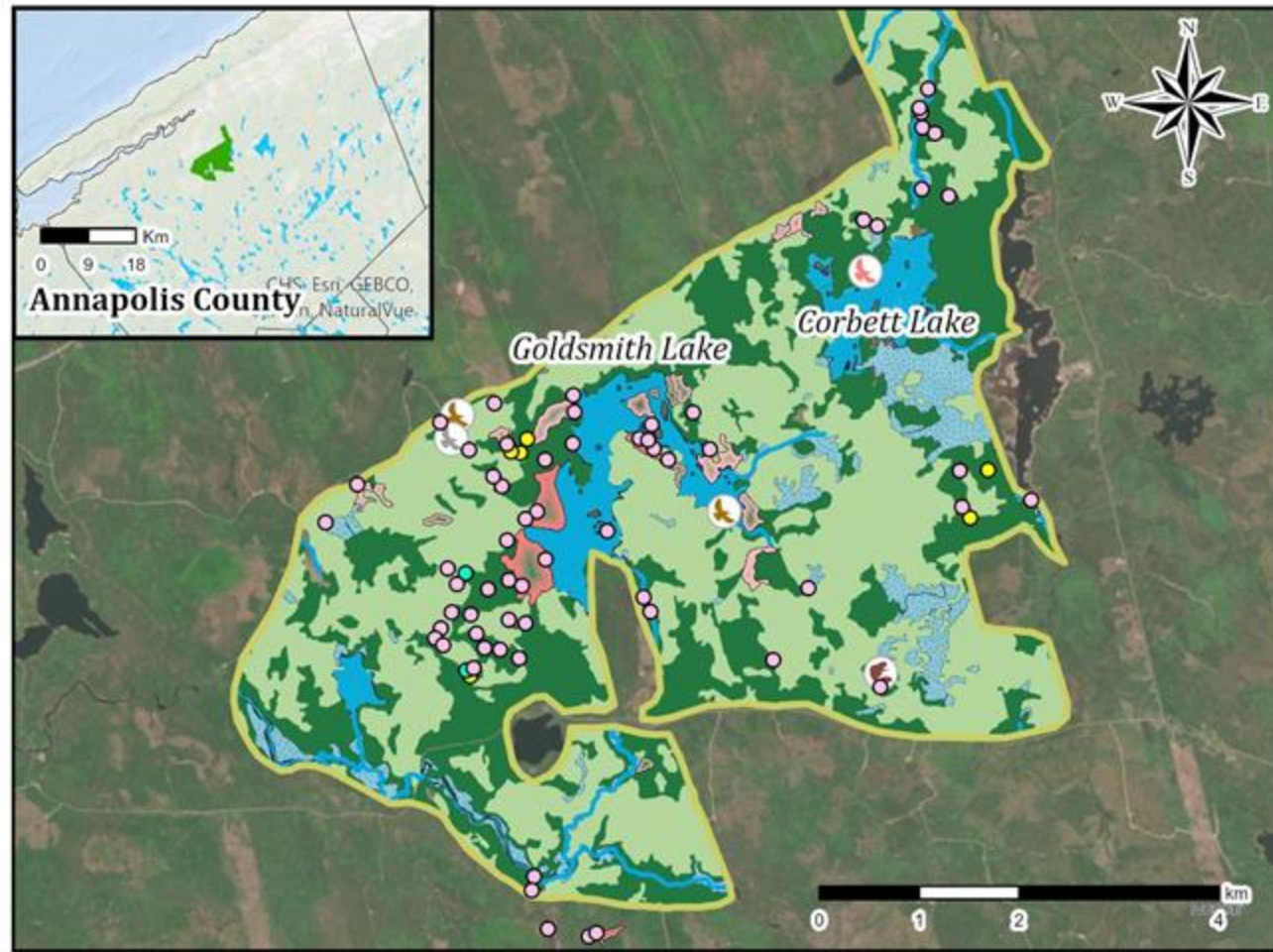
Advancing Reconciliation – lands that support Mi'kmaq areas of interest.

Resource and Renewable Impacts – site selection will attempt to minimize impacts to rural resource industries and clean energy developments.

Healthy Communities – lands that provide important ecological services, such as protection of drinking water, or spaces for outdoor recreation and access to nature.



Goldsmith Lake Wilderness Area - Annapolis County, NS



SAR observations

- Wisqoq (Black Ash)
- Blue Felt Lichen
- Frosted Glass Whisker Lichen

-  Common Nighthawk
-  Olive-sided flycatcher
-  Chimney Swift
-  Pine Marten

Forest features

-  Official Old-Growth Forest
-  Old-growth forest

Stand height (m)

- 0 - 11
- 12 - 21

Water features

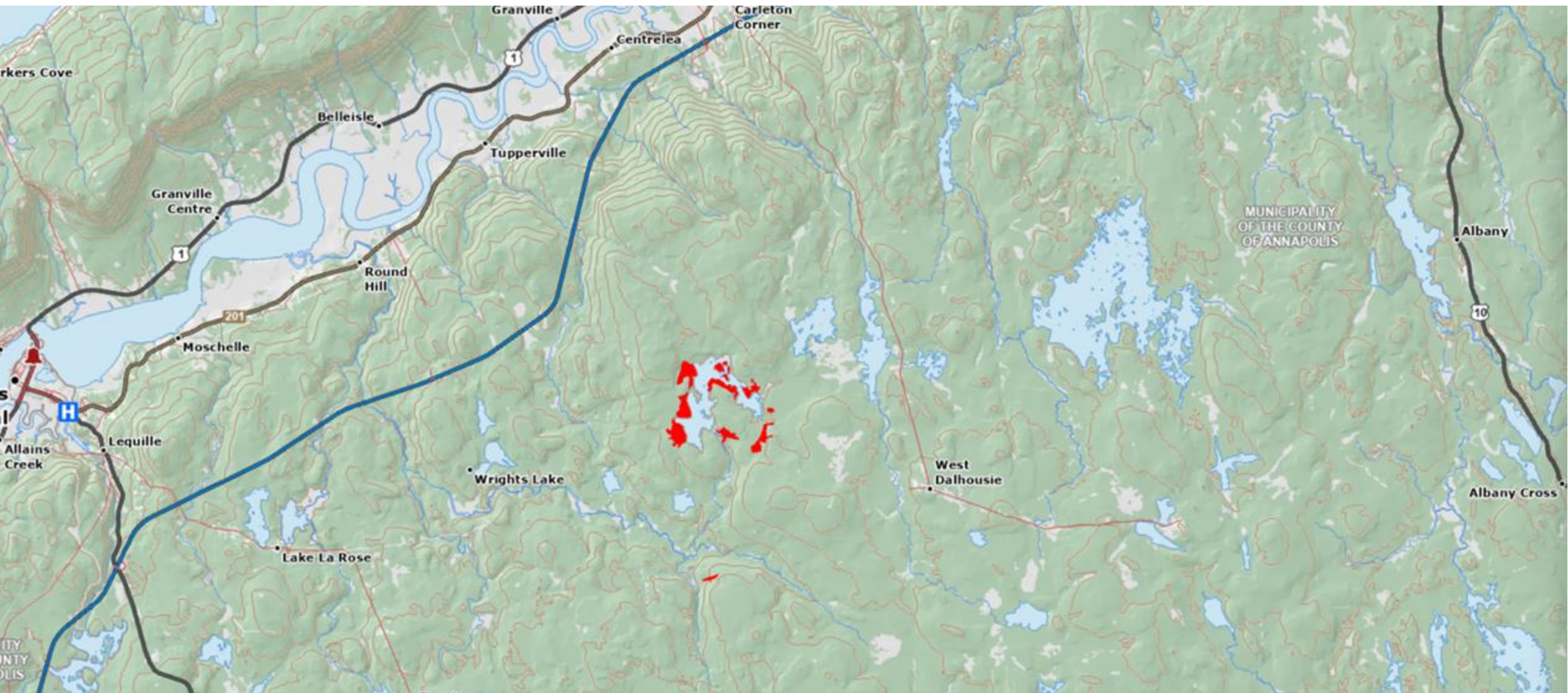
-  Lake
-  Wetland
-  River



Green patch in inset map shows the full extent of the proposed Goldsmith Lake Wilderness Area.

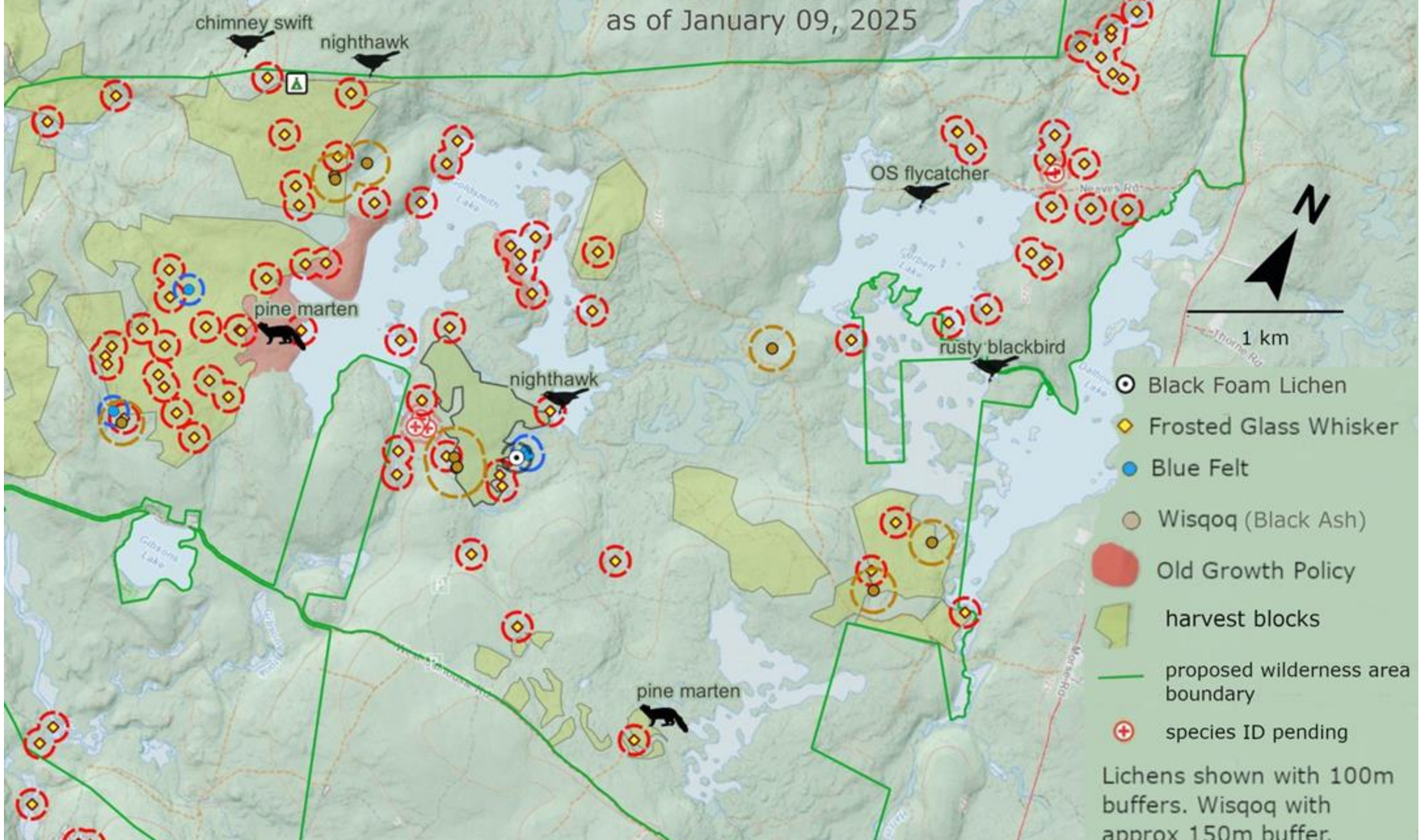
*SAR (species-at-risk) observations up to September 2024

Map produced by Shanni Bale. Drone shot by Malachi Warr.



Species at Risk in Goldsmith Lake Wilderness Area

as of January 09, 2025



- Black Foam Lichen
- ◇ Frosted Glass Whisker
- Blue Felt
- Wisqoq (Black Ash)
- Old Growth Policy
- harvest blocks
- proposed wilderness area boundary
- ⊕ species ID pending

Lichens shown with 100m buffers. Wisqoq with approx 150m buffer.







Drone shot, west shore of Goldsmith Lake, 2023. Richard Bennett

SOOF's request

For the Mayor to write a letter to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change requesting that the Goldsmith Lake Wilderness Area be advanced as a candidate area for permanent protection as part of the 15% interim target established by the Canada-Nova Scotia Nature Agreement.

A regular monthly meeting of Middleton Town Council was held in-person at the Town Hall, via Facebook Live on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, starting at 7:00pm.

PRESENT

Chairing the meeting, Mayor Gail Smith; Deputy Mayor Gary Marshall, Councillors Sandra Fournier, Bernadette Knapp, John Bartlett and Dan Smith; Director of Finance, Brigitte Stennett, Director of Public Works, Adam Verran, (arrived at 7:20pm); and Recording Secretary, Sara Marceau.

Regrets: Councillor Jonathan Archibald, Chief Administrative Officer, Ashley Crocker

Also in Attendance: Claire Grazette, Patricia Leslie, Joanne Hightower, David Hankinson, Bill Linley, Mrs. Linley.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

250218.01 It was moved and seconded that Council approve the agenda as amended.
Motion carried.

3. **PRESENTATIONS**

3.1 MacDonald Museum

Claire Grazette from the Macdonald Museum gave an overview of the 2023-2024 year at the museum: special events, workshops, music, and more. She further gave an overview of some of the plans for the coming year.

3.2 Middleton Railway Museum Society

Dave Hankinson and Bill Linley provided Council with an overview of their most recent major project:

- Restoring the exterior of the historic station that deteriorated significantly after its closure in 1990 and transferred to the Province of Nova Scotia. A persistent drainage problem was resolved, and new wood shingles and stains were applied to the station in a cream and brown pattern of the early 1950s.

David Hankinson and Bill Linley asked Council to help with ongoing operating costs. Any funding support raised would be helpful. Council members thanked Mr. Hankinson and Mr. Linley for the presentation.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

2025.01.20 Council Meeting Minutes
2025.02.03 Special Council Meeting Minutes

No errors or omissions were noted, and the minutes were considered approved.

5. ANYTHING BY CITIZENS

Citizen Joanne Hightower mentioned that Main Street is difficult to navigate due to the potholes.

DPW Verran stated that due to the current weather conditions, it's challenging to apply cold patches to repair the potholes.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1a RFD 007-2025 Reservoir Project Management, Change Order #1

DPW Verran gave a brief overview of Change Order #1, QA Testing Proposal from CBCL.

250218.02 It was moved and seconded That Town Council authorize and approve the QA Testing Proposal from CBCL for an amount not exceeding \$19,480 plus HST. **Motion carried.**

6.1b RFD 008-2025 Reservoir Construction, Change Order #1

DPW Verran gave a brief overview of the Reservoir Construction, Change Order #1.

250218.03 It was moved and seconded that Town Council authorize and approve the list of Change Orders for the New Reservoir Project as presented, totaling \$7,495.00 plus HST. **Motion carried.**

250218.04 It was moved and seconded that Town Council authorize up to \$20,000 plus HST with no single change order exceeding \$5,000 plus HST. **Motion carried.**

6.2 RFD 010-2025 Temporary Borrowing Resolution, Public Works Truck

DOF Stennett gave an overview of the Temporary Borrowing Resolution for the Public Works Truck.

250120.05 It was moved and seconded that Council approve the included Town of Middleton's temporary borrowing resolution in the amount of up to, but not exceeding, fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to finance the purchase of the public works truck. **Motion carried.**

6.3 Financial Forecast for Town General and Water Utility

DOF Stennett gave an overview of the Financial Forecast for Town General and Water Utility.

7 REPORTS

7.1 Management Report

7.2 Middleton Fire Department Dispatch Report for January

7.3 IMSA Board Jan 15/25 Meeting Minutes

7.4 Accessibility Advisory Committee Jan 14/25 DRAFT Minutes

7.5 Accessibility Advisory Committee Jan 28/25 DRAFT Minutes

7.6 Police Advisory Board Jan 16/25 DRAFT Minutes

7.7 Annapolis County Inter-Municipal Working Group Jan 30/25 DRAFT Minutes

7.8 IDEA Governance Committee Jan 23/25 DRAFT Minutes

7.9 IDEA Committee Feb 4/25 DRAFT Minutes

7.10 Mayor's Report

Mayor Smith noted that the above reports were circulated to Council members with the agenda package and called for questions/discussion. No comments or questions were made by Council members.

8 CORRESPONDENCE

Three (3) notices of correspondence were distributed to Council members.

8.1 Correspondence from Minister John Lohr

DOF Stennett inquired whether the Council would be interested in sending a letter to Minister Lohr in response to his correspondence.

All Councillors were in favor of sending a letter to Minister Lohr, except for Councillor Fournier.

8.2 Department of Justice Policing Service Recipient Update, February 2025

8.3 What's Happening, Valley REN Newsletter

9 ANYTHING BY MEMBERS

Councillor Bartlett mentioned that the new Meeting Owl is quite blurry.

Councillor Smith acknowledged that Public Works has been doing an excellent job during the recent snowfalls.

Councillor Knapp stated that "Inn from the Cold" is still in need of volunteers.

Middleton Arena is participating in the 2025 Kraft Hockeyville competition, aiming to win \$250,000 for arena upgrades and the opportunity to host an NHL pre-season game. To support Middleton & District Arena, you can submit stories and photos on their official website.

10 ADJOURNMENT

250218.06 It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm. **Motion carried.**

Mayor

Recording Secretary

A Special Town of Middleton Council Meeting was held at the Town Hall, via Zoom and Facebook Live on Monday, March 3, 2025, immediately following the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

PRESENT

Chairing the meeting, Mayor Gail Smith; Deputy Mayor Gary Marshall, Councillors Jonathan Archibald, John Bartlett, Sandra Fournier, Bernadette Knapp, and Dan Smith; Chief Administrative Officer, Ashley Crocker and Recording Secretary, Sara Marceau.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 8:31pm.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

250303.01 It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda, as circulated. **Motion carried.**

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 RFD 011-2025 Middleton Water Utility Rate Study

CAO Crocker gave a brief overview of the Middleton Water Utility Rate Study.

250203.02 That the Town of Middleton apply to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for changes in its rates for water and water service, fire protection to the Town of Middleton and Annapolis County and changes to its rules and regulations for customer served by the Middleton Water Utility, as set out in the water rate study prepared by G.A. Isenor Consulting Limited in association with Blaine S. Rooney Consulting Limited. **Motion carried.**

3.2 RFD 012-2025 Dangerous and Unsightly 50 School Street

CAO Crocker gave a brief overview of Dangerous and Unsightly of 50 School Street.

250303.03 It was moved and seconded that Council, authorize the cleanup of 50 School Street in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act Part XV: Dangerous or Unsightly Premises* costing approximately \$52,000 plus HST. **Motion carried.**

4. ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

MAYOR

RECORDING SECRETARY

Management Report

March 17, 2025



COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

#	STRATEGIC INITIATIVE	UPDATE
1	Community Centre & Fire Hall To build a new accessible and inclusive Community Centre & Fire Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff have explored three different grant programs to help fund the new Community Centre Fill Hall• The CCFHC instructed staff to explore a phased approach with JOST and the low bidder.• Received phased approach. Exploring funding options.
2	New Reservoir To build a new reservoir to serve the customers of the Middleton Water Utility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two grant applications were submitted. One was through the DMAF program on July 19/23 and the Town was not successful. The second was through the provincial MCGP program on December 13/23, and the Town received \$3.1 million• A land swap was completed – the new reservoir will be constructed on Junction Road• An application was made to the UARB and the project was approved on August 2/24• A public tender was posted for the reservoir project and the contract was awarded to Roscoe Construction on Aug 6/24• Site preparation has begun• Construction of the pump house has begun
3	Economic Development Initiatives To concentrate on economic development initiatives that support business park growth, brand awareness and small business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• COMPLETE – the final plan document on the Business Park Expansion Study was received and presented to Council on Nov 21st
4	Public Safety To address public safety concerns in the downtown and public spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concerns that are brought forward by Mayor and Council during COTW and Council meetings continue to be communicated to public works for investigation. Many of these concerns relate to safety of sidewalks, crosswalks, and roads.
5	Infrastructure Maintenance To develop an asset management plan focused on improving the maintenance of town infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final Asset Management Report was received from AIM in 2020• Staff have completed 3/5 courses through AIM• The Asset Management Plan is being updated as the courses are taken, and the Working Group is meeting to review the updates that were made• A maintenance plan is in the process of being drafted and will be finalized after the AMP is complete

Management Report

March 17, 2025



OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

#	STRATEGIC INITIATIVE	UPDATE
1	Boundary Review Prepare RFP and Award RFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• COMPLETE: the UARB have approved Council's request to maintain the Council size at 7, with 6 Councillors and 1 Mayor, all elected at large
2	Secondary Plan Finalize scope of work and award work to third party	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Land swap has been executed with the developer• Developer submitted a request to amend the MPS/LUB via a Secondary Planning Strategy• Staff have applied to the Housing Accelerator Fund – this was unsuccessful, and no grant money was awarded• Jan 9th - Kick-off meeting• Feb. 1st – Public Workshops• Feb 20th – presentation to Council• May 28th – draft final plan presented to staff• Jun 26th – draft final plan presented to Council and PAC• Jul 15th – draft final plan presented to landowners• Planner working with main landowner on implications for construction – deadline was given for feedback of Dec 13/24• Plan still needs to be approved by Council, and MPS/LUB amendments approved
3	Main Street/Taylor Drive Crosswalk Move crosswalk	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• COMPLETE: The Crosswalk Light has been installed, and the overhead light is now working.
4	Second Lake Agree on key points for partnership agreement with AEA Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No further update - staff have met with the AEA Club to further build the draft of the new lease agreement

Management Report

March 17, 2025



OPERATIONAL UPDATES

ADMINISTRATION

Completed	In Progress	Issues
<p>Staffing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Communications and Events Coordinator, Gina Pearson, started on March 5th• Took Procurement 101 training with Director of Public Works and Planning Services Coordinator• Probationary reviews for staff• Staff teambuilding event for Q1	<p>Staffing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting managers with HR related items• Supporting Finance department on Water Rate Study, Interim Audit, and year-end procedures	<p>Staffing:</p>
<p>Project Work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to meet with other CAOs on VWRM and KTA regarding funding options• Applied for multiple grant applications for recreation and upgrading of roads	<p>Project Work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Options for Town Hall• Council Strategic Planning Sessions are now complete. Creation of the 2025-2028 Strategic Plan and Operating Plan is underway.• Communications Coordinator is working on new website with AMANS rep• Communications Coordinator working on Communications Strategy for the Town	<p>Project Work:</p>
<p>Other Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council meetings with the RCMP and DOJ	<p>Other Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Management team reviewing priorities, policies, by-laws• Need to update REMO training for staff, delegate positions to new staff and prepare training for next year• Exploring policing contracts locally	<p>Other Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Affordability Study of keeping certain assets and services should be completed

Management Report

March 17, 2025



FINANCE

Completed	In Progress	Issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joint Insurance services RFP with Annapolis County and Town of Annapolis Royal• Interim Audit – most items have been sent to the auditors Mar 14/25. Waiting for IT related items.• Audit Planning Meeting scheduled for Apr 28/25• Water Rate Study was submitted to the UARB on Mar 7/25• Reserve Accounts are now caught up and reconciled to the end of February 2025• Due to/from accounts are now caught up and reconciled to the end of January 2025• Employee T4s were completed by the deadline of Feb 28th• T4As are completed• Quarter 3 Council and CAO expense report is complete and posted on the website• Tax and Water Utility Arrears Letters have been sent out to encourage collection prior to year end March 31, 2025• Pension contributions are up to date as of end February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Billing processes are being reviewed, and modifications are being implemented• Initiated process of participating in the Municipal Finance Spring Debenture to secure debt for new Public Works vehicle• Operating and Capital budgeting process for 2025-26 fiscal year has commenced• Planning and preparation for year-end cut off procedures for March 31, 2025• Water billing work orders for new meters are being completed for meter reading that will happen the week of March 17th• Ownership updates are complete in preparation for tax bills that will go out in April• Annual Information Return for the Town's pension funds are in process (not due until June)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finance staff are continuing to balance duties and responsibilities of their positions while working under time constraints to meet deadlines

Management Report

March 17, 2025



RECREATION & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Completed	In Progress	Issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Skate is still ongoing every Saturday at the Middleton Rink, which is funded through the Active Community Fund (Facility Access) • Porta-potty in Riverside Park has been moved to Centennial Park for the winter • Holiday House Decorating contest was a success! • New Learn to Run Program has started in January and will graduate Mar 15th • Open Gym started again at Annapolis East Elementary in January • Winter equipment loans (snowshoes, skis, etc.) are very busy! • Recreation/Parks survey is complete (89 responses) • The Activate Your Neighbourhood Winter Art Challenge ended on February 28th and had great participation. Another challenge will take place soon. • Para Hockey Try it sessions have finished in Middleton and continue in Lawrencetown and Bridgetown as part of the partnership with Annapolis County Recreation and Active Kids Health Kids. The Middleton sessions were fantastic, we had 8 sessions with requests to do the program again. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland Official Opening – waiting on a date from CARP • The Accessibility Committee budget of \$5,000 is almost complete. The front counter at Town Hall has been renovated, the paths to the basketball court and tennis court have been completed. • CORAH Indoor Walking program has over 45 people registered. This continues until Mid-April. • Two new weekly fitness classes have started, both Zumba and Core Connections are well attended with great feedback • Learn 2 Run finishes March 22nd • A Shad Derby is being planned for May 24th at Riverside Park • June is Recreation Month: there is a Bike Repair and Safety Workshop planned for Jun 3rd and a guided walk with CARP at the Wetlands planned for Jun 17th a town wide scavenger hunt will be on the last week of June. • A Multi-Cultural Festival is being planned for June 28th • Planning has begun for the Heart Run (Aug 10th) and Century Ride (Aug 9th) • Grants for multiple projects have been applied for to help boost Recreation Services in the Town of Middleton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vandalism still an ongoing issue

Management Report

March 17, 2025



PLANNING

Completed	In Progress	Issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0 Building Permits Issued• 8 Building Inspections Conducted• 5 Fire Inspections conducted, and letters sent• 8 Fire Inspections were closed this month	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IF Holdings DA – application for a development on Commercial Street which will add one commercial unit and 6 residential units to an existing building was approved by Council on Jul 17th and no appeals were lodged• Revised agreements have been approved by Planner and solicitor and sent to our lawyer.• Waiting on an affidavit to be signed by applicant.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicant submitted application for LUB Text Amendment. No appeals were received by the UARB. The applicant is eligible to apply for a permit to proceed with the craft brewery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The closing date for the Province’s Property Opportunity Notices was Mar 30th• Met with proposed Developers• Working on a proposal for the Development Agreement for a higher density multi-unit	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development Agreement for 438 Main Street is now registered with the land registration office (LRO)• Applicant is ready to apply for a building and development permit.		

Management Report

March 17, 2025



PUBLIC WORKS

Completed	In Progress	Issues
<p><u>General Public Works:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed cameras at Library and Rotary Park barn • Plowed Rotary Track 	<p><u>General Public Works:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snow Removal • Clearing out hydrants • Servicing and checking mowers and trimmers 	<p><u>General Public Works:</u></p>
<p><u>Public Works Equipment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White dodge Safety and Repairs complete • New Cutting Edge installed on Backhoe and F250 	<p><u>Public Works Equipment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair Transmission Oil Cooler on Loader • Repair Chute on Tractor Snow Blower • Replace cutting edge on loader 	<p><u>Public Works Equipment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trackless Alarm going off, needs to be investigated
<p><u>Roads, Streets, Sidewalks:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cold Patch arrived – attempted to fix some potholes but cold patch didn’t hold • Replaced lights on Sunset 	<p><u>Roads, Streets, Sidewalks:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snow Removal and Salting 	<p><u>Roads, Streets, Sidewalks:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to fix potholes
<p><u>Water & Equipment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repaired water break on Connaught and on Reagh • Repaired Water Break at Duke and Main • Installed 6 new meters 	<p><u>Water & Equipment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair water meters • New Reservoir construction is on-going. • Install flow meter at well field • Pumping out hydrants 	<p><u>Water & Equipment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean well 3 in 2025-2026 • Old saddles from 20 or so years ago that are very low quality have been the reason for 3 of the last 4 water main repairs
<p><u>Wastewater & Equipment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaned UV Lights 	<p><u>Wastewater & Equipment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace aerators and fix broken ones • Pull and Clean UV lights • Suction line repair at Hospital LS 	<p><u>Wastewater & Equipment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need new UV sensor for UV system 2025-2026 \$4,000

Management Report

March 17, 2025



FIRE DEPARTMENT

Completed	In Progress	Issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monthly truck inspections• Training on ropes and knots• Had four (4) new members join• Held our banquet and awards night• Completed operating budget numbers• Received our Ready Rack Stalls• Completed in-house training on outdoor survival and rescue in the cold weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We will be holding a Medical First Responder course at the end of March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Had another rusted valve come apart on the pump of the 91 Pumper

Incident Summary
From Feb 1 25 to Feb 28 25

Date/No.	Address/Type	Minutes	Responders	Injuries	Fatalities
Feb 4 25 05:50:58 25-00905	241 Main St, MIDDLETON MVA - No Entrapment	24	0		
Feb 4 25 15:05:16 25-00914	259 Main St, MIDDLETON Commercial Fire Alarm	0	0		
Feb 5 25 10:13:06 25-00937	462 Main St, MIDDLETON Passenger vehicle fire - car, van	30	0		
Feb 6 25 06:32:45 25-00961	50 School St, MIDDLETON Structure - Commercial	627	0		
Feb 6 25 19:03:09 25-00984	443 Main St, MIDDLETON Medical	0	0		
Feb 10 25 08:52:25 25-01085	462 Main St, MIDDLETON Commercial Fire Alarm	14	0		
Feb 13 25 12:59:13 25-01179	686 Brooklyn Rd, BROOKLYN MVA - Confirmed Entrapment / Unknown	73	0		
Feb 15 25 14:49:40 25-01241d	9403 Highway 10, NICTAUX Mutual Aid to the Scene	159	0	Assistance to 25-01241	
Feb 17 25 14:09:57 25-01301	394 Main St, MIDDLETON Commercial Fire Alarm	0	0		
Feb 18 25 17:10:51 25-01354a	Highway 101 Dm 147, CARLETON CORNER MVA - No Entrapment	0	0	Assistance to 25-01354	
Feb 19 25 23:39:33 25-01387	691 Brooklyn Rd, BROOKLYN Power Lines Down, Arcing	34	0		
Feb 20 25 05:22:31 25-01394	463 Main St, MIDDLETON CO GAS - Carbon monoxide	38	0		
Feb 26 25 15:35:39 25-01576	12160 Shore Rd E, COTTAGE COVE Residential Fire Alarm	0	0		
Feb 26 25 18:47:54 25-01581	1 North St, MIDDLETON Power pole on fire	76	0		
Feb 28 25 09:47:24 25-01624	141 Sunset Cres, MIDDLETON Commercial Fire Alarm	0	0		

15 incidents for Middleton 17 hrs 55 mins 0

17 hrs 55 mins 0

February 3, 2025

Call to Order: 10:02 AM
The meeting met quorum.

Attendance:

Chrystal Remme	Councillor, Voting Member (VM)	West Hants
Mark Phillips	CAO	West Hants (<i>virtual</i>)
Michael Peters	Senior Staff, VM	Glooscap First Nation
Dave Corkum	Mayor, VM	County of Kings (<i>arrive 10:15am</i>)
Rob Frost	Deputy CAO	County of Kings (<i>virtual</i>)
Mike Trinacty	Mayor, VM	Berwick
Derrick Jamieson	Councillor, Alternate	Berwick (<i>virtual</i>)
Jen Boyd	CAO	Berwick
John Andrew	Councillor, VM	Kentville
Deb Crowell	Councillor, Alternate	Kentville (<i>virtual</i>)
Jeff Lawrence	CAO	Kentville
John Bartlett,	Chair, Councillor, VM	Middleton
Jodi MacKay	Mayor, VM	Wolfville (<i>virtual</i>)
Glenn Horne	CAO	Wolfville (<i>virtual</i>)
Evan Williams	Growth & Development, VM	Nova Scotia (<i>virtual, arrive 11:14am</i>)
Donald Ferguson	Business Consultant VM	Nova Scotia (<i>virtual</i>)
James Clouthier	Board Chair	Valley REN (<i>virtual</i>)
Emily Boucher	CEO	Valley REN
Jennifer Tufts	COO	Valley REN

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Councillor Bartlett at 10:02am.

2) Approval of the Agenda – February 3, 2025

It was recommended that the Introductions and Review of Terms of Reference be moved to item 4 (after the approval of the agenda and minutes).

Councillor Remme moved to approve the Valley REN Liaison and Oversight Committee Meeting Agenda for February 3, 2025 as amended, seconded by Mayor Trinacty. Motion Carried.

3) Approval of the Minutes

a. October 15, 2024

Councillor Remme moved to approve the Valley REN Liaison and Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes from October 15, 2024 as circulated, seconded by Mayor Trinacty. Motion Carried.

b. October 2, 2024

Mayor Trinacty moved to approve the Valley REN Liaison and Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes from October 2, 2024 as circulated, seconded by Councillor Remme. Motion Carried.

4) Introductions and Review of LOC Terms of Reference

Round table introductions were completed. Emily Boucher presented the latest version of the LOC Terms of Reference. The highlights in yellow are potential revisions. No further revisions or questions were noted.

5) Business Arising

a. Approval of Updated LOC Chair Role and Responsibilities

Councillor Remme moved to approve the LOC Chair Role and Responsibilities as circulated, seconded by Councillor Andrew. Motion Carried.

b. Approval of Updated LOC Vice Chair Role and Responsibilities

It was noted that the yellow highlights remove the Recruitment Committee responsibility from LOC as per the new IMSA which moves that responsibility to the Board of Directors. LOC does still formally approve the members to the Board.

Mayor Trinacty moved to approve the LOC Vice Chair Role and Responsibilities as circulated, seconded by Councillor Remme. Motion Carried.

6) Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Emily Boucher noted that the LOC consists of mostly new members. She also noted that Councillor Bartlett is currently the Vice Chair and that it may be useful to have him move into the Chair role given his experience with LOC.

Councillor Bartlett called for nominations from the floor for the role of Chair. Mayor Trinacty nominated Councillor Bartlett for the role of Chair. Councillor Bartlett accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations from the floor after the call for nominations was completed.

Councillor Bartlett called for nominations from the floor for the role of Vice Chair. Councillor Andrew nominated Councillor Remme. Councillor Remme accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations from the floor after the call for nominations was completed.

Councillor Bartlett formally approved as LOC Chair and Councillor Remme formally approved as LOC Vice Chair.

7) New Business

a. Approval of Letter of Intent for Annapolis County

Emily Boucher read the letter of intent drafted. The letter was developed based on initial conversations with previous LOC members and after she was approached by CAO McNeill at the end of December looking for next steps for Annapolis County to potentially become a member of the Valley REN. Annapolis County requested a letter of intent if there is interest from the other parties to have them join. She noted the caveat that the Valley REN would need to see additional funds from the Province to meet additional capacity demands by adding Annapolis County. Due to the amount of variables, it was decided that Boucher would refine the letter to be less specific until clarity could be gained from the Province and a short virtual meeting will take place to approve the letter.

b. Valley REN Draft 2025-2026 Budget and Business Plan Overview

Emily Boucher presented the draft business plan which is based off the new strategic plan approved in the Fall. She presented key activities for the upcoming fiscal year. Jennifer Tufts presented the draft budget that has been reviewed by the Board at the January Board Meeting. CAO Boyd recommended moving the amount for Transfer from General Surplus for Funded Projects to the Revenue side as an alternative way to present the budget. Boucher and Tufts will make further revisions and present to the Board. The final approved budget will be shared with LOC prior to March 1, 2025.

8) Valley REN Operations and Activity Update

Emily Boucher presented an overview of the CEO Activity Report as circulated.

11:28am – Mayor Trinacty and CAO Lawrence exit the meeting.

9) Board of Directors Chair Update

Board Chair Clouthier noted that there is not a lot to update. There is movement on the tourism sector work with an Annapolis Valley Tourism Network event at NSCC Kingstec on the evening of February 11, 2025.

10) Meeting Schedule: TBD

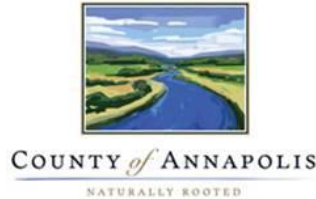
Councillor Bartlett recommended meeting every 3 months (quarterly meetings) on the second Monday of every 3rd month. The next meeting will take place on April 14, 2025 from 10am to 12noon at the Valley REN office.

11) Adjournment Adjourn at 11:35am

It was regularly moved and seconded that the February 11, 2025 meeting of the Valley REN Liaison and Oversight Committee be adjourned at 11:35am.

Action Items

Action Item	Responsible	Due Date
1. Request clarity from the Province on budget, timing and adjustments to the contribution agreement	Emily Boucher	After Budget Lockdown
2. Revise letter of intent for Annapolis County	Emily Boucher	As soon as possible
3. Circulate revised letter for feedback and approval to LOC	Emily Boucher	As soon as possible
4. Set up a virtual LOC meeting to approve letter	Emily Boucher/Jennifer Tufts	Upon letter completion
5. Research an e-vote policy to be created for LOC	Emily Boucher	April 14, 2025



**IDEA Governance Committee
MEETING #2
Friday, February 14, 2025, 9:00am
Online Teams Meeting**

Present: Mayor Gail Smith, Town of Middleton
Deputy Mayor Gary Marshall, Town of Middleton
Ashley Crocker, CAO, Town of Middleton
Mayor Amery Boyer, Town of Annapolis Royal
Deputy Mayor Sybil Skinner-Robertson, Town of Annapolis Royal
Sandi Millett-Campbell, CAO, Town of Annapolis Royal
Warden Dianne Leblanc, Municipality of the County of Annapolis
Deputy Warden Dustin Enslow, Municipality of the County of Annapolis
Chris McNeill, CAO, Municipality of the County of Annapolis
Vice Chair Jane Baskwill, Village of Lawrencetown Commission

Regrets: Chair Brian Reid, Village of Lawrencetown Commission
Melissa Roscoe, Clerk, Village of Lawrencetown

1. WELCOME

The meeting started at 9:37am. CAO Ashley Crocker welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF January 23, 2025

Approved by unanimous consent.

3. **DISCUSSION: HONORARIUMS AND MILEAGE FOR IDEA COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

CAO Crocker briefed the Governance Committee on questions that were brought forward from IDEA Committee members on whether honorariums and/or mileage would be paid to IDEA Committee members. Currently, the Town of Middleton, Town of Annapolis Royal and Village of Lawrencetown do not pay honorariums or mileage to members of any of their committees. The County of Annapolis pays mileage and honorariums.

The committee discussed the topic of honorariums, and agreed that because this is a joint committee, honorariums should not be paid. However, given that the meetings will be held in different locations, and members are required to travel, mileage should be paid to committee members. Vice Chair Baskwill expressed concern that the Village Commission would have to approve paying mileage.

The County of Annapolis offered to cover the mileage for all IDEA Committee members in the first year, estimated at approximately \$1,000 to \$1,500. The two Towns agreed that they should be paying for their respective members, and not the County. Although the Village does not currently have a representative on the IDEA Committee, the County offered to cover the mileage for the first year in the event they are able to find a representative. The CAOs will discuss which committee members will submit claims to each municipal unit, based on representation.

It was moved and seconded that mileage be paid to IDEA Committee members, based on the corresponding policies for each municipal unit for which they will submit claims to, up to March 31, 2026.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30am.

Adopted by Committee:

Date

Chairperson

INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD

“MEETING MINUTE” BASED ON BOARD MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 19, 2025

The February regular monthly meeting of the Interim Intermunicipal Services Agreement Board of Directors was held on February 19, 2025, beginning at 10:00 a.m., based in the Valley Waste-Resource Management Boardroom with a virtual attendance option, in keeping with the normal meeting schedule.

KINGS TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Under the leadership of Acting General Manager Dwight Whynot, activity levels remain high with a focus on the following key topics :

- The Request for Proposals for the Provision of Battery Electric Buses will close February 21, 2025. One submission has already been received. The evaluation of proposals will begin immediately after the closing and a Request for Decision to award the work will be brought before the Board during an upcoming meeting.
- Two submissions have been received for Project Management Services and a Request for Decision to award this work will be brought before the Board for consideration when the evaluation process is complete.
- Financials: The 2024-2025 Budget continues to remain on track with some minor variances related to specific expenses such as maintenance and staff benefit costs.
- The graphs below show comparative fuel and ridership key performance indicators.

Diesel Average Cost

Includes Taxes Expensed (not posted price)

FY 2025	\$1.36
FY 2024	\$1.39
FY 2023	\$1.59
FY 2022	\$0.97
FY 2021	\$0.64

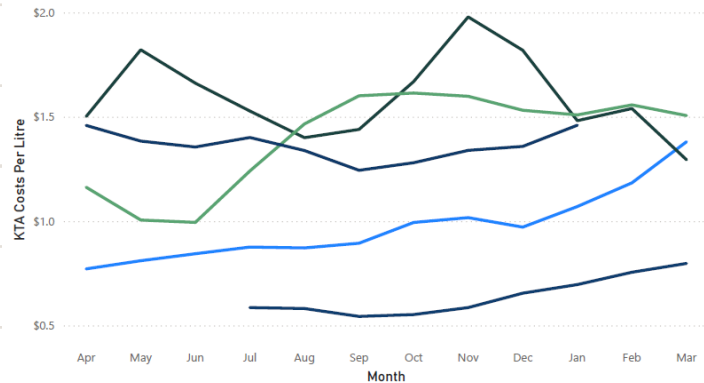
Total Diesel Cost

Includes Taxes Expensed

FY 2025	\$437,325
FY 2024	\$566,538
FY 2023	\$672,054
FY 2022	\$411,623
FY 2021	\$176,598

KTA Costs Per Litre by Month and Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year ● FY 2021 ● FY 2022 ● FY 2023 ● FY 2024 ● FY 2025

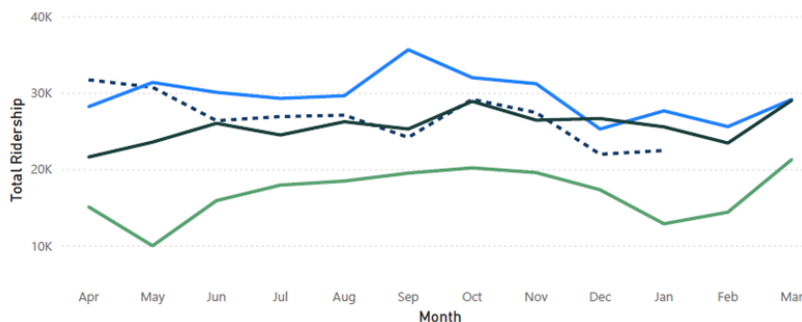


Fiscal Year Total Ridership

Fiscal Year	Total Ridership
FY 2025	267,949
FY 2024	355,008
FY 2023	307,115
FY 2022	202,409
FY 2021	130,829
FY 2020	349,024
FY 2019	345,038
FY 2018	347,299
FY 2017	349,352
FY 2016	360,848
FY 2015	392,035
FY 2014	406,196
FY 2013	31,950
Total	3,845,052

Multi-year View of KTA Ridership

Fiscal Year ● FY 2025 ● FY 2024 ● FY 2023 ● FY 2022



Notes:

KTA stopped providing service to West Hantz in 2015
 COVID had a significant impact on ridership for a couple of years including and after 2021
 As of May 21, 2024, transfers are no longer counted as riders



MEETING MINUTE





VALLEY WASTE –RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Under the leadership of Interim General Manager, Andrew Garrett, several key projects are in progress including the following:

- Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging and Printed Paper—Staff have informed Circular Materials of the Authority’s intent to opt-in to the service model as approved during the January Board meeting. The contracts, as proposed by Circular Materials, are under review in consultation with legal and it is anticipated that the contracts will be executed soon.
- Ground and Surface Water Monitoring—Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change have issued new industrial approvals for the Authority’s two Transfer Stations and associated Construction and Demolition Debris management areas with additional details regarding the expectations around water monitoring to include further monitoring to determine if sedimentation ponds may be necessary.
- Engineering Projects—Palmer and Doherty Consulting Inc., has been awarded the contract for the provision of engineering services for the expansion of the Eastern Management Centre Transfer Station. Roach Engineering will soon finish their work to develop the plans for the expansion of the construction and demolition debris yard in Kentville.
- Canadian Housing Infrastructure Fund—staff have applied to the Canadian Housing Infrastructure Fund to offset costs for the expansion of the Eastern Management Centre building and the construction and demolition debris yard. The application has now made it through 2 phases and staff are awaiting further word.
- 2024-2025 Budget—remains on track with staff anticipating a minor surplus at year end barring any unforeseen circumstances.

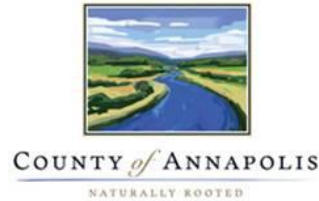
DIVERSION CREDITS

DivertNS has provided the Authority with the final diversion credit payment for the current fiscal year which is approximately \$100,000.00 higher than originally anticipated. The Authority’s operations are performing very well, and in fact have achieved the highest diversion rate in the Province based on a disposal rate of 375kgs per person compared to the provincial average of 491kgs per person. The Regional Chairs will be working with Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change to ensure that consultations are held before any changes to the Diversion Credit funding program are made as the funds are critical to the success of waste-resource management operations across the Province.

	F2024	F2025	Variance	
Incoming Curbside Materials				
Curbside	18,660	18,897	237	1.27%
Clean-up	2,290	2,578	288	12.56%
	20,950	21,475	525	2.50%
Incoming Customer Materials				
Garbage	12,429	10,925	-1504	-12.10%
Recycling	958	1,529	571	59.60%
Organics	608	448	-160	-26.32%
Sorted C&D	2,559	2,619	60	2.34%
Mixed C&D	4,524	4,532	8	0.18%
Metals	117	129	12	10.26%
Yard Waste	247	713	466	188.66%
	21,442	20,895	- 547	-2.55%
Outgoing Materials				
Garbage	24,842	23,809	-1033	-4.16%
Organics	9,104	9,168	64	0.70%
Recycling	4,772	5,045	273	5.72%
Sorted C&D	1,382	7,352	5970	431.98%
Metals	675	656	-19	-2.81%
Yard Waste	66	211	145	221.01%
	40,841	46,241	5,400	13.22%

NEXT MEETING

The March regular monthly meeting of the Interim Intermunicipal Services Agreement Board will be held on **Tuesday, March 25, 2025** beginning at **3:00 p.m.** based in the Valley Waste Boardroom with the virtual attendance option. Please note that this is a deviation from the normal meeting date.



A regular meeting of Joint Police Advisory Board was held at the Middleton Town Hall on Thursday, February 20, 2025, starting at 6:30pm.

PRESENT

Chairing the meeting, CAO Crocker, Warden, Diane LeBlanc, Councillors Nile Harding, John Bartlett and Sandra Fournier. Citizens Patricia Leslie, John Thompson, Carole Greentree, William Street and Staff Sargent Mike Maxwell and Recording Secretary, Sara Marceau.

Regrets: Chris McNeill

Also in attendance: Tina Halliday, Rebecca Grinstead

1. WELCOME

At 6:30pm, CAO Crocker welcomed everyone to the new Joint Police Advisory Board.

2. SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Tina Halliday from Annapolis County facilitated the Swearing In Ceremony as a Commissioner of Oaths.

- Citizen John Thompson was sworn in and then signed the Oath of Office.
- Citizen Patricia Leslie was sworn in and then signed the Oath of Office.
- Citizen Carole Greentree was sworn in and then signed the Oath of Office.
- Citizen William Street was sworn in and then signed the Oath of Office.
- Councillor John Bartlett was sworn in and then signed the Oath of Office.
- Councillor Sandra Fournier was sworn in and then signed the Oath of Office.
- Councillor Nile Harding was sworn in and then signed the Oath of Office.
- Warden Diane LeBlanc was sworn in and then signed the Oath of Office.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR

CAO Crocker called for nominations and Nile Harding was nominated and accepted the nomination.

- CAO Crocker called for nominations a 2nd time and there were no nominations
- CAO Crocker called for nominations a 3rd time and there were no nominations

- Nile Harding was acclaimed as Chair of the Joint Police Advisory Board

Chair Harding asked everyone to introduce themselves, and introductions took place.

4. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Chair Harding called for nominations and John Bartlett was nominated and accepted the nomination.

- Chair called for nominations a 2nd time and there were no nominations
- Chair called for nominations a 3rd time and there were no nominations
- John Bartlett was acclaimed as Vice Chair of the Joint Police Advisory Board

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

250220.01 It was moved and seconded to accept the agenda as amended. **Motion carried.**

6. MINUTES

6.1 Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

2024.09.26 Annapolis County PAB Minutes

2025.01.16 Town of Middleton PAB Minutes

No errors or omissions were noted, and the minutes were considered approved.

7. NEW BUSINESS

New RCMP Community Orientation Project

There was a discussion around the RCMP Community Orientation Project

- Members stated that this project was around creating an orientation package that the RCMP could provide to new members to educate them about our Town and County.
- One member suggested reaching out to the Nova Scotia Community College, COGS who have done mapping of roads, etc..
- **ACTION:** Staff will bring a table of contents for the next PAB meeting for a potential orientation package, which will be reviewed with the RCMP prior to the meeting.

8. RCMP REPORTS

8.1 DOJ Policing Service Recipient Update, February 2025

Chair Harding stated that report was circulated to the board.

The Board currently does not have a member appointed by the Department of Justice. Members should encourage people to apply for the provincial position.

ACTION: Find the DOJ application form and post to Town of Middleton website.

8.2 2025-26 Policing Priorities

There was a lengthy discussion around the 2025-26 Policing Priorities. The top four (4) policing priorities for 2025-26 are:

1. Intelligence led policing (including Speed Signs, Crime Stopper Tips, Community Groups and Online Reporting Systems)
2. Reduction of property crime
3. Road safety
4. Police visibility and public engagement

A question was asked: “What can we do to help Sgt. Maxwell?”

- Report everything, don’t just complain to your neighbors.
- Engage in constructive conversations to help maintain focus during meetings.
- Support crime reporting efforts through Crime Stoppers or online reporting platforms.

250220.02 It was moved and seconded to implement the four (4) policies carried over from last year. Motion carried.

9. NEXT MEETING

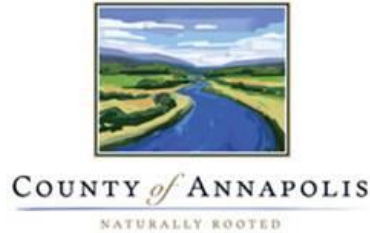
The next meeting will take place on Thursday April 17 at 11:00am, in the Municipality of the County of Annapolis Council Chambers.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm.

Chair

Recording Secretary



**Annapolis County Inter-Municipal Working Group
Committee Meeting #16
Thursday, February 27, 2025, 6:30 pm
Council Chambers, Town of Middleton**

Present: Mayor Amery Boyer, Town of Annapolis Royal, Chairperson
Deputy Mayor Sybil Skinner-Robertson, Town of Annapolis Royal
Warden Diane Le Blanc, Municipality of the County of Annapolis
Deputy Warden Dustin Enslow, Municipality of the County of Annapolis
Mayor Gail Smith, Town of Middleton
Deputy Mayor Gary Marshall, Town of Middleton
Sandi Millett-Campbell, CAO, Town of Annapolis Royal
Chris McNeill, CAO, Municipality of the County of Annapolis

Guest: Cassidy Walker and Logan Horrocks, Clean Foundation

Regrets: Ashley Crocker, CAO, Town of Middleton

1. WELCOME

Chairperson Mayor Amery Boyer called to meeting to order at 6:36 pm. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF January 30, 2025

Approved by unanimous consent with the correction on page 3, fourth paragraph "...that in his previous working relationship...."

3. PRESENTATION BY SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS: Joint Climate Change Action Plan Year One Update

a. Clean Foundation – Cassidy Walker & Logan Horrocks

Cassidy Walker reviewed the PowerPoint presentation and answered questions throughout the presentation, highlighting the projects to date and the projects going forward.

Public consultation will be key for the climate action plan. How do we reach the average person and how can the units help to reach as many people as possible. Members are willing to use as many options as possible: Natal Day, Middleton Heart of the Valley Days, Riverfest, Community Halls, Fire Departments, CORAH weekly meetings, Legions, NSCC, high schools, etc. The names of participants could even be entered for a draw in the next survey uptake.

Cassidy Walker is asking for any information on what works and what doesn't work from the municipal units to be passed onto her. The current survey period ends March 15, 2025.

5. DISCUSSION OF SUBSTANTIAL INFORMATION LEARNED AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTER-MUNICIPAL COOPERATION

This is currently a joint collaboration between all the units and it is working well. This project is available to the units for another two years.

6. REVIEW OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DISCUSSIONS AND FOLLOW-UP WORK BY STAFF

Nothing further to report. Letter signed and will be sent to Minister this week.

7. LETTER OF RESPONSE FROM MINISTER OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT re: Impactful Emergency Response

Mayor Boyer reviewed the recent letter, and Brian Orde's suggested response. All members agreed to sign the letter, and it will be sent this week.

8. DISCUSSION OF NEXT SPEAKERS AND QUESTIONS OR ISSUES THAT THE COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO SEE BE ADDRESSED TO SPEAKER'S BEFOREHAND

The next meeting topic is Human Resources. Options for working together on group benefits, pension, hiring, salary administration, onboarding, etc. CAO McNeill requested a switch in meeting location to the Annapolis County office for March with Annapolis Royal taking the April 24, 2025, meeting.

9. **NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is:

Thursday, March 27, 2025, at County of Annapolis

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Adopted by Working Group:

Date

Chairperson

DRAFT



MAYORS REPORT

March 2025

I had the honor of attending the annual Firefighter's Banquet, where we celebrated the courage, dedication, and service of our local volunteer firefighting teams. Our firefighters are often the first responders in emergencies, and they do so selflessly and without hesitation. It was inspiring to hear from both current and retired members of the force about the challenges they face and the strides they continue to make in ensuring the safety of our community.

I want to personally thank every member of our fire department for their tireless efforts. The banquet was a beautiful reminder of how lucky we are to have such a strong, committed team standing ready to protect us.

It's always a privilege to hear directly from you, the residents, about your thoughts, concerns, and ideas on the issues that matter most to our town.

As your Mayor, I am deeply grateful for the engagement and passion demonstrated by our community members. Whether it's attending a banquet, meeting with residents, or discussing important projects, it's clear that together we are shaping a brighter future for our town. I encourage everyone to continue participating in these discussions, as your insights are invaluable in ensuring we make decisions that reflect our collective vision.

Please feel free to reach out to my office with any questions or additional feedback. Together, we can continue to build a vibrant, sustainable, and inclusive community.

Thank you for your ongoing support and involvement.



**Emergency Management
Office of the Minister**

One Government Place, 1700 Granville Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 1X5 • Telephone 902-424-5550 Fax 902-424-0581 • Minister.EmergencyManagement@novascotia.ca

March 13, 2025

VIA EMAIL

To: Mayors, CAOs and Wardens

RE: Update on Municipal Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) Claims

I am writing to provide an update regarding the processing of Municipal Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) claims. As you know, Nova Scotia has been through an unprecedented series of emergency events in recent years, both in their number and scale. Unfortunately, this trend can be observed across Canada. We received a large volume of claims for these events, and prioritized processing those from individuals. Now that we are nearing completion of those requests, we can shift our focus to municipal claims. We understand these claims are currently in various stages of completion and submission to the province.

To help advance this important work, the Department of Emergency Management will contract an external accounting agency to assist municipalities to complete both the compilation of claims, our review of them and their submission to the federal government. Working with you, we plan to compile and review DFA claims your municipality has during the upcoming 2025-26 fiscal year including those arising from the February 2024 snow event which impacted large areas of Cape Breton Island and northern Nova Scotia.

We believe that by working together, and supported by external resources, we can complete the tasks required to submit the municipal DFA claims to the federal government for payment. We recognize that awaiting final settlement of these claims can become a financial pressure for your municipalities. As we have done in several cases, we can meet to review the claims and determine, with ministerial approval, if a portion of the funding can be advanced pending final settlement.

We will remain in contact on this matter as part of our regular emergency management discussions and please contact us in the interim to discuss questions you may have.

Sincerely,

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

Hon. Kim Masland
Minister of Emergency Management



**Attorney General
Justice
Office of the Minister**

PO Box 7, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 1T0 • Telephone 902 424-4044 Fax 902 424-0510 • novascotia.ca

February 24, 2025

Via Email: acrocker@town.middleton.ns.ca

Ashley Crocker
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Middleton
131 Commercial Street, PO Box 340
Middleton, NS B0S 1P0

Dear Ashley,

Re: Joint Police Advisory Board in Annapolis County

Thank you for your email dated January 21, 2025. I acknowledge receipt of the Terms of Reference for the proposed Joint Police Advisory Board for oversight of policing services provided by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police through a District Model in your area.

I am pleased to inform you that this letter serves as both acknowledgement and approval under Section 57 (5A) of the Nova Scotia *Police Act*, to establish a joint advisory board. The establishment of a Joint Police Advisory Board is a significant step towards enhancing the collaboration and effectiveness of law enforcement services in both the Town of Middleton and the Municipality of the County of Annapolis. I commend the efforts of both municipal units in working together in service of the community.

Thank you for your cooperation and dedication to improving public safety in your region.

Sincerely,

Becky Druhan,
Attorney General and Minister of Justice

cc: Chris McNeill, Chief Administrative Officer, Municipality of the County of Annapolis
Hayley Crichton, Executive Director, Public Safety and Security Division
Charcy Marchand, Director, Public Safety and Policing
Kristina King, Senior Director, Governance and Corporate Services