

August 8, 2023

The Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building by videoconference and teleconference on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Dist: 1 Clr. Don Butler
2 Clr. Deborah Wadden
3 Clr. Darla MacKeil
4 Clr. Mary Elliott
5 Deputy Warden Wayne Murray
6 Warden Robert Parker
7 Clr. David Parker
8 Clr. Larry Turner
9 Clr. Peter Boyles
10 Clr. Randy Palmer
11 Clr. Andy Thompson
12 Clr. Chester Dewar

IN ATTENDANCE

Brian Cullen, CAO, Municipal Clerk-Treasurer
Karen Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer
Sueann Musick, Director of Corporate Services/Deputy Clerk
Adam MacInnis, Communications Officer
Shellie Pettipas, Administrative Assistant

ABSENT

Logan McDowell, Director of Public Works & Development
Evan Hale, Director of Emergency Services

CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Warden Parker called the meeting to order and invited Councilors to pray or reflect, as may be their preference, to help Council focus and properly do the Municipality's work and remember our indigenous communities. He acknowledges that we are on the ancestral territorial lands of the Mikmaq people and would like to thank the Mikmaq people today for their ancestors sharing these precious lands with all our ancestors, whether they arrived here 400 years ago or four years ago. May we all live in peace and harmony together.

Warden Parker announced the loss of two Pictou County residents and asked for a moment of silence in their honour. Meghan Bragg, first-term Councilor from the Town of Westville had succumbed to cancer very rapidly and former MLA Clyde Fraser's son Brock, died drowning. The Warden said both individuals were young and competent people who were just starting with their lives.

AGENDA

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. Parker that the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

An addition was made to the agenda by Clr. Parker to send a letter of condolence to the Municipality of West Hants due to the recent circumstances following the flooding.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

There were no emergency resolutions brought forward.

ERRORS AND OMISSIONS/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Clr. Wadden corrected the minutes of the meeting of July 4, 2023. In the Watershed Member Reduction motion, there is a misspelling of Clr. Wadden.

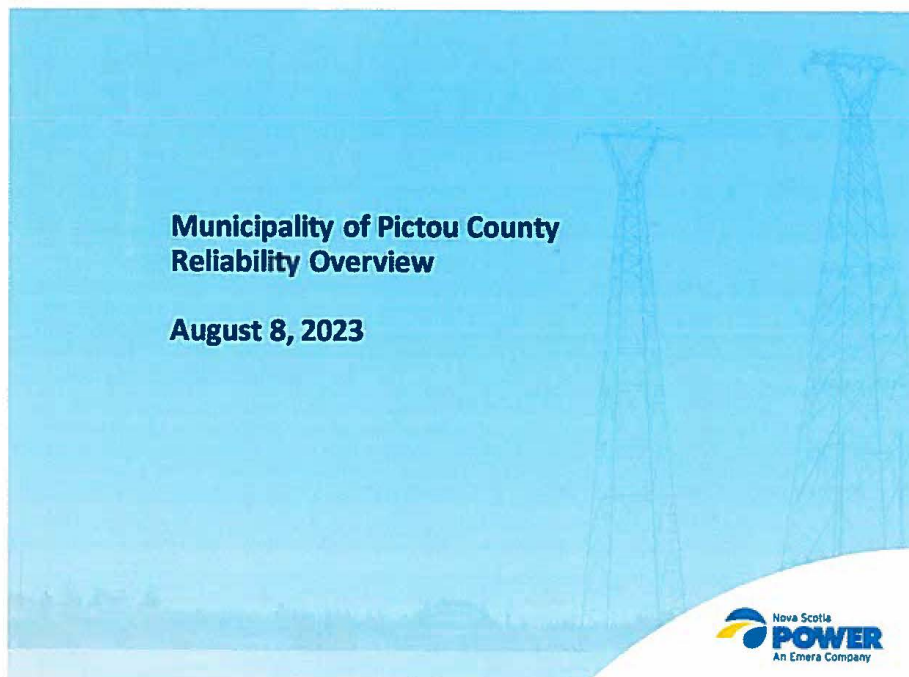
The minutes of the July 4, 2023, Council Meeting were reviewed by the Municipal Council. There were no further additions, omissions, or corrections entered by members of Council. The Warden proclaimed the minutes of the meeting of July 4, 2023, as the official record of the meeting.

PRESENTATION BY NOVA SCOTIA POWER ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

A presentation was given to Council by Nova Scotia Power on emergency preparedness.

Nova Scotia Power provides electric service to over 530,000 customers and approximately 500,000 power poles across the province. Nova Scotia Power plans to invest approximately \$200 million in its transmission and distribution system this year. This will include equipment replacement, vegetation management and upgrading equipment on the system to storm harden it.

The causes of power outages and interruptions are adverse weather, vegetation, animal interference, equipment failure and vehicle accidents. Since 2018, adverse weather and tree contacts combined have been the most significant contributor to customer interruptions. A Nova Scotia Power representative stated that for vegetation management since 2015, approximately \$16.7 million has been invested in Pictou County to remove vegetation along 570+ km of distribution lines and nearly 1,000 acres for the transmission lines. This was a combination of mowing, aerial trimming, and ground trimming. The plan for 2023 includes the removal of vegetation along 110km of distribution line, removing 170 hectares of vegetation from the transmission right of ways and through various inspection programs, and identifying and prioritizing high-risk circuits. Nova Scotia Power said there are two feeders out of Tatamagouche, one in Haliburton and one out of Bridge Avenue, all being monitored.



NS Power's Investment in Reliability

- NS Power is planning to invest approximately **\$200 million** in its **transmission and distribution system** this year. This includes the replacement of deteriorated equipment, vegetation management and upgrading equipment on our system to storm harden it in the face of climate change.
- For context, NS Power's average annual investment in its transmission and distribution system for the 2016-2021 period was approximately \$180 million.
- NS Power is planning to invest an incremental **\$150 million to \$160 million** over the next five years in system upgrades and vegetation management. Together, these investments will aid in improving reliability in communities across the province.
- Vegetation management (tree trimming) is an area we invest a significant amount each year. This aligns with trees contacting power lines being the primary reason for outages.
- We have been spending an average of \$20-\$25 million each year on tree trimming. Moving forward, we'll be increasing our tree trimming investment year over year and nearly doubling it over the next five years.
- This year, our investment in tree trimming will be about \$32 million, increasing to almost \$45M next year.

About NS Power and our Power System



We provide electric service to over **530,000** customers across the province.



The energy our customers depend on is delivered over **32,000 Km** of transmission and distribution lines. There are approximately **500,000** power poles across the province.



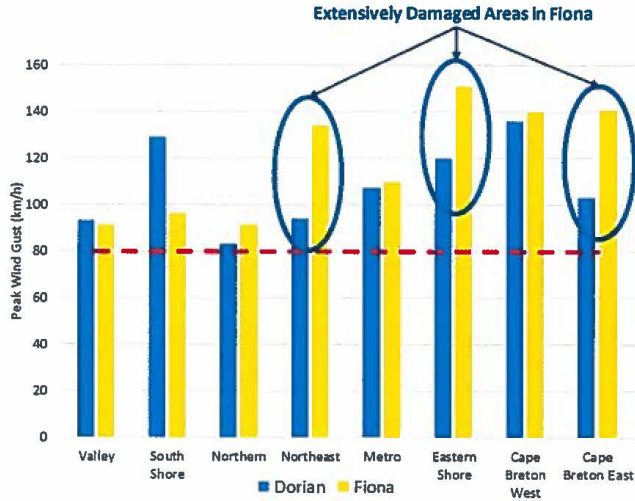
Our **2,200+** dedicated and safety-focused employees support the generation, transmission and distribution of energy to communities in NS, including those they live and work in.



Causes of Power Outages and Interruptions

Peak Wind Gusts

- Except for Western and Metro Regions, peak wind gusts in NS were significantly higher during Fiona than Dorian
- In areas with the highest damage, peak winds were in excess of 130km/hr to 140km/hr.
- Areas along the Atlantic Coast (Eastern Shore) and Northumberland Strait (Northeast) experienced extreme prolonged winds. As a result, unprecedented damage was incurred to the power system in these areas.

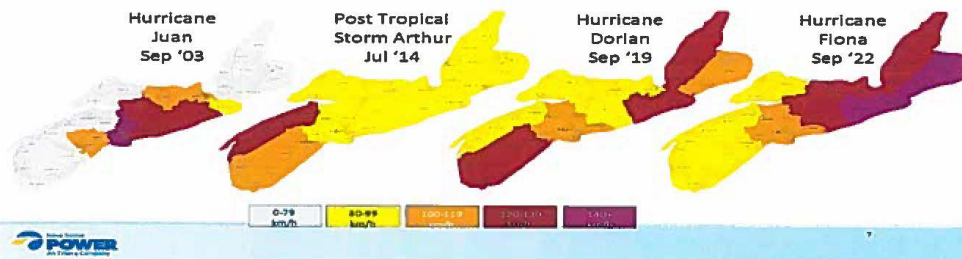


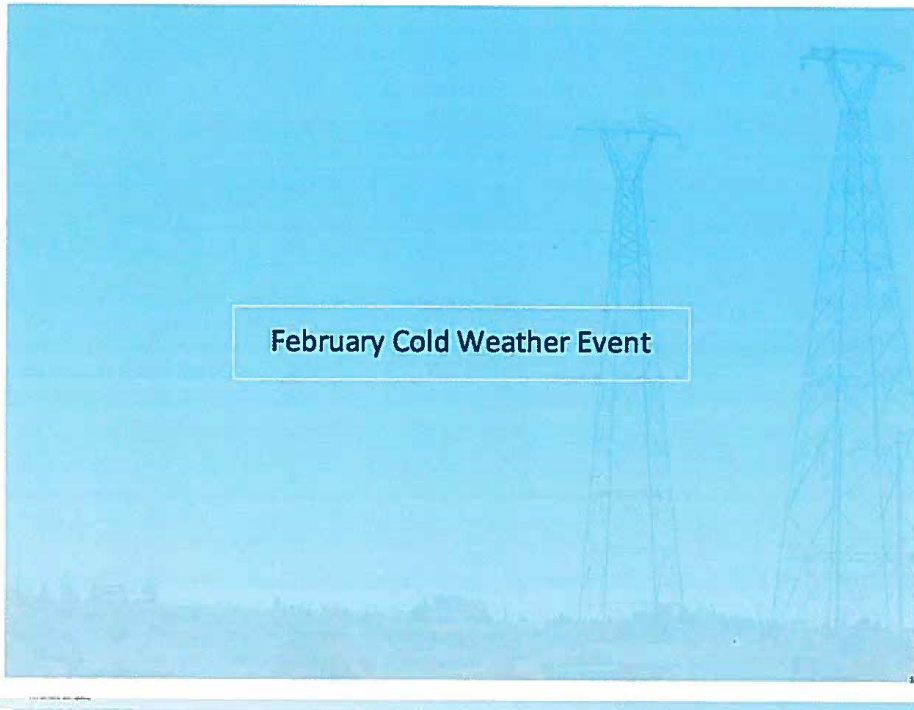
*Gust values are taken from the representative Environment Canada stations in each of the eight weather regions. Some additional stations reported even higher gusts than noted above.

Hurricane Fiona

How does it compare to other major storm events?

- The maps below highlight the maximum wind gusts experienced in each area of the province for Juan, Arthur, Dorian and Fiona
- Similar to Dorian, we experienced gusts over 100km/h for large areas of the province due to the size of the storm, compared with smaller impacted areas in Juan and Arthur
- Several conditions coincided during Fiona which led to the **most significant impact in Nova Scotia Power's history**: the overall size of the storm, the peak wind speeds in excess of 140km/h, duration of wind speeds, leaves on trees and unfrozen ground



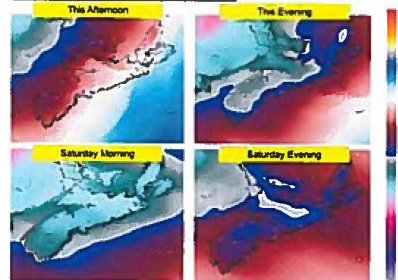


Advance Preparation & Operational Response

- A cross-functional team from all areas of the business planned the response over the preceding week to ensure that generation, transmission, and distribution systems were prepared to respond
- Weather forecasts consistently predicted strong winds and temperatures reaching lows of -24C to -27C
- In advance of the event, an Operations Coordination Centre was established at the Control Centre (similar to a storm EOC)
- Business units from Power Production, Regional Operations, Control Centre Operations, Customer Care, RMC, Engineering, and more had additional staffing on a 24x7 basis.

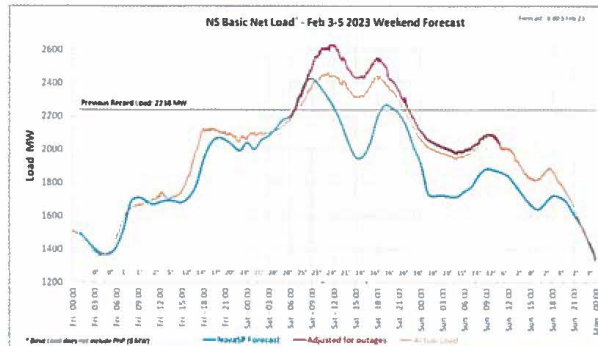


Air Temperature Maps (deg C)



System Load

- NS Power served a record hourly peak load of 2455MW, 217MW (10%) over the previous all-time peak (2238MW in Jan. 2004)
- The Maritimes region reached a new all-time peak of ~6300MW, exceeding the previous record by ~600MW
- Quebec system also exceeded previous record peak by ~5%, hitting 42,700MW
- This peak exceeds NS Power's current firm planning peak by ~400MW



A Significant Company-Wide Response



Cold Weather Event Key Points

LOAD

- NS Power served a record hourly peak load of 2,455MW, 217MW or 10% over the previous all-time peak (2,238MW in 2004)
- The Maritimes region reached a new all-time peak of approximately 6,300MW, exceeding previous record by 600MW

GENERATION ASSET PERFORMANCE

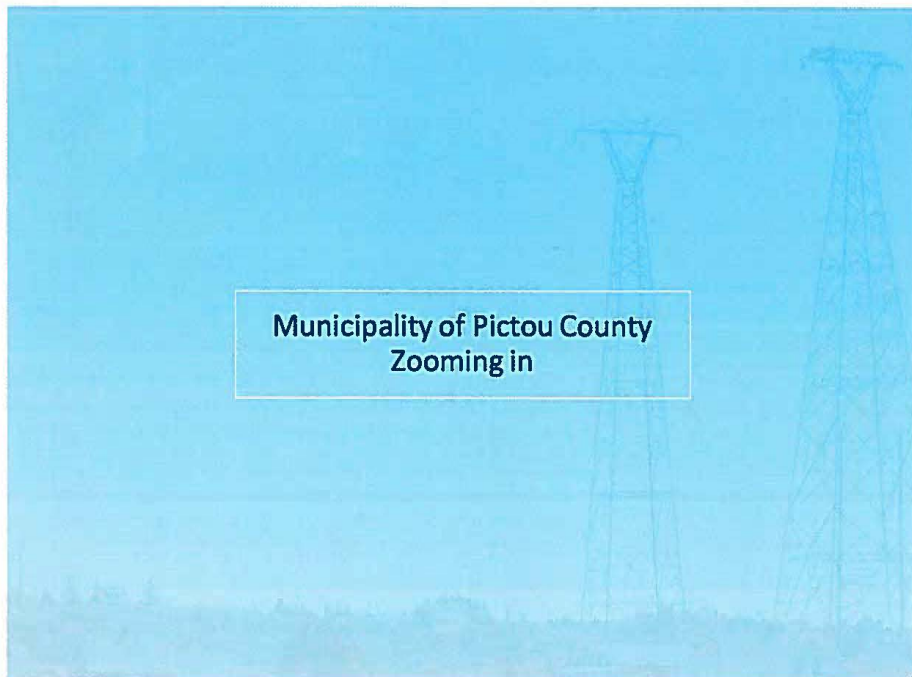
- Thermal, Hydro, Wind, and import resources all performed well
- The NS Power System had sufficient generation and import capability available to serve firm load throughout the event

T&D ASSET PERFORMANCE

- The Bulk Power Transmission System performed well – no significant events and all elements were available throughout
- Distribution feeders generally operated within limits, in some cases due to pre-staging and mitigation work prior to the event
- Some local-area T&D equipment became overloaded due to the extreme loads resulting from extremely cold temperatures; engineering mitigations developed where possible

OPERATIONAL RESPONSE

- A cross-functional team from all areas of the business planned the response over the week preceding the event
- An Operations Coordination Centre was established at the Control Centre to support operations (similar to a storm EOC)
- Business units from Power Production, Regional Operations, Customer Care, RMC, Engineering, and more were staffed 24x7
- Event data will be used to design and implement T&D system upgrades, prioritizing areas that experienced local loading issues



Notable Municipality Feeders



Legend - Notable Feeders:

| |
|---------|
| 4N-313 |
| 4N-312 |
| 56N-414 |
| 62N-413 |

Notable Municipality Feeders

62N-413: Fed from a substation on Bridge Ave and serves 2,419 customers extending towards Woodfield, Brookville and Churchville. This feeder is currently being monitored as a problem feeder, however is currently on track to meet all performance standard targets this year.

56N-414: Fed from a substation on Haliburton Rd, serving 3,124 customers. This feeder extends along the Northumberland Strait, including Caribou Island. The feeder also covers west of Pictou as far as West Branch, Millville, Four Mile Brook and Alma. This feeder, particularly the section between Scotsburn and Poplar Hill has experienced several issues resulting from the devastation of Hurricane Fiona.

4N-312 & 4N-313: Fed from a substation in Tatamagouche, this feeder has sections which extend to Pictou County. The areas of Marshville, Cape John, River John and Loganville are covered by these feeders. These feeders are being monitored as potential problem feeders, however, are not among the worst performing feeders in the province this year.

Vegetation Management Plan

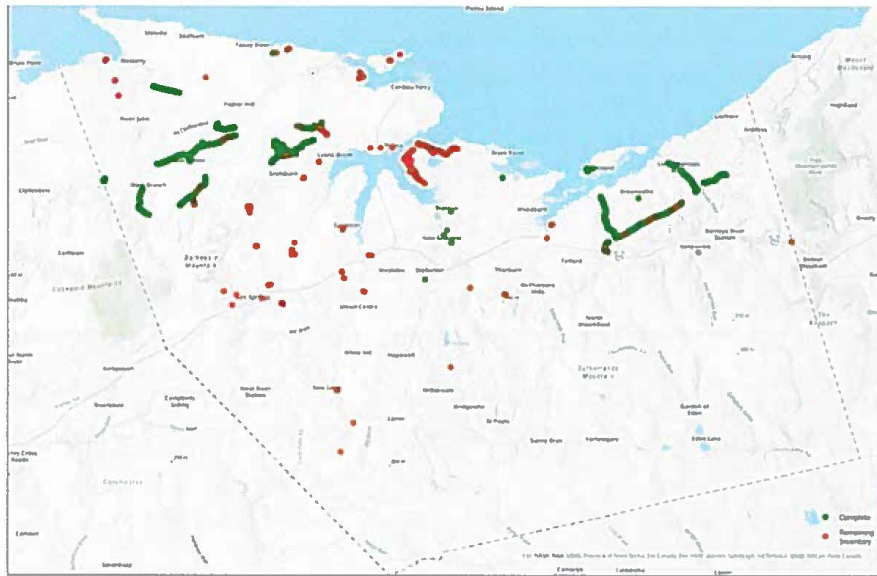
- Since 2015, approximately **\$16.7 million** has been invested in Pictou County to remove vegetation along 570+ km of distribution lines and nearly 1,000 acres for our transmission lines.
- The plan for 2023 includes:
 - Removal of vegetation along 110 km of distribution line. Approximately 55 km remains to be trimmed in 2023.
 - Removing 170 hectares (420 acres) of vegetation from our transmission right of ways. 150 hectares (370 acres) has been removed so far this year.
- High risk circuits are identified through various inspection programs and prioritized.



Vegetation Management Plan – 2016 to 2022



Vegetation Management Plan - 2023



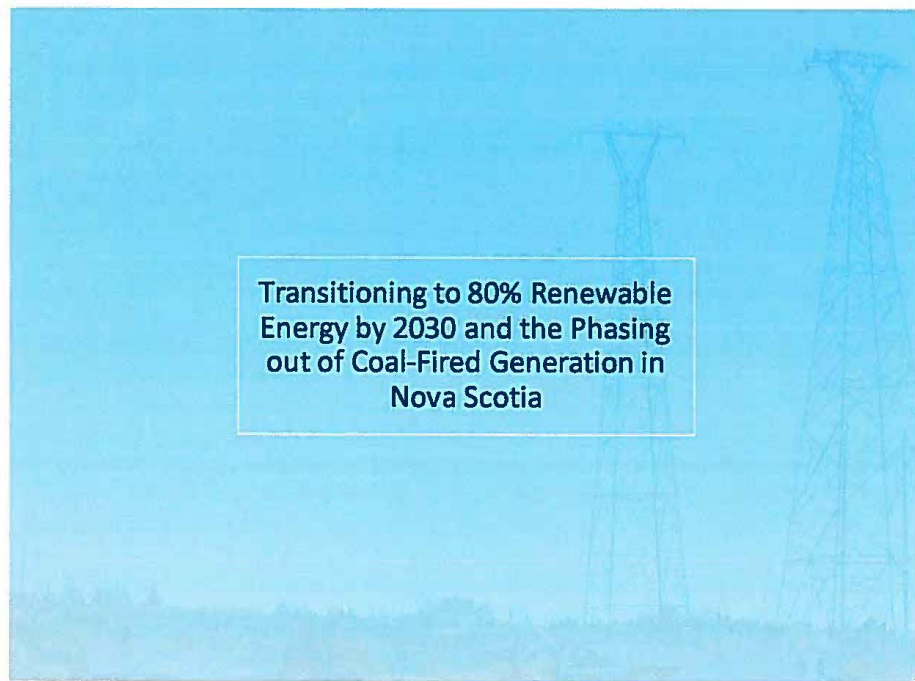
Reliability Performance for Municipality of Pictou



- Despite the local impacts of Hurricane Fiona on the system, the **frequency of outages** during non-severe weather days for the Municipality of Pictou has **not increased** since 2020. Our investments in reliability are aimed at decreasing the **frequency of outages** for the Municipality.
- Increasing intensity and frequency of adverse weather events that result in tree contacts, loss of supply and lightning strikes have historically caused outages in the area.
- Circuits in the area are both urban and rural, with all substations being in the urban areas.
- Coastal circuits are more likely to experience extreme weather conditions. Storm hardening standards have been used to improve durability of the power lines.
- **62N-413** historically has been a top contributor to outages for the area.
- There are no feeders in the area that fall within the top 10% worst feeders in the province.

Reliability Programs and Investment

- **Execution of Vegetation Management Plan:** Trimming along 113 km of line in 2023 with 55km remaining this year.
- **Distribution Line Inspection Programs** aimed at finding equipment deficiencies before failure. Equipment naturally deteriorates over time and inspecting equipment on a regular basis improves overall reliability and ensures the safe operation of equipment.
- **Targeted replacement of equipment** such as insulators and cutouts to improve reliability of those assets.



Trenton Generating Station Overview



- Trenton Generating Station provides firm capacity to the Nova Scotia Grid and is an important source of base load energy as well as backing up variable renewable generation when the wind is not blowing.
- The station currently provides approximately 10 percent of the firm generation capacity in the province and is required to meet system requirements today.

| Unit | MW (gross) | Boiler | Turbine / Generator | Fuel Type | Fuel Source | Environmental Controls |
|------|------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------|--|--|
| TRE5 | 155 | Front Fired | Parsons / Mitsubishi | Coal | Low Sulphur – Offshore Mid Sulphur – Offshore | Electrostatic Precipitator Baghouse Mercury Capture |
| TRE6 | 165 | Front Fired | Hitachi | Coal | Low Sulphur – Local Low/Mid Sulfur – Offshore | Electrostatic Precipitator Low NO _x Burners Mercury Capture |



Future of the Trenton Generating Station

- As per the current federal and provincial legislation, coal-fired generation is required to be phased out by 2030.
- NS Power has modeled the impact of this requirement through the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Process which is used to create a directional, long-term electricity strategy for Nova Scotia Power.
- NS Power recently presented one of the most likely scenarios from the IRP in its 2023 10-Year System Outlook Report. This report is updated annually and can change in response to ongoing changes in the electricity planning environment.

Trenton Unit 5

- As outlined in Nova Scotia Power's 10 Year System Outlook, Trenton Unit 5 is forecast to be phased out in 2027/2028 when alternative sources of firm capacity are added to the system. This replacement capacity is anticipated to include fast acting generation in the form of combustion turbines and grid scale batteries.

Trenton Unit 6

- Trenton Unit 6 is forecast to be phased out in 2028/2029 when additional fast acting generation becomes available to replace the firm capacity and grid reliability services of this unit.

Potential Future Options:

- The Trenton site is viewed favourably for future fast-acting generation. In addition to fast acting generation, it's viewed as a potential site for renewable integration and grid support assets.
- We are working closely with employees as we evaluate opportunities for transitioning to new technologies that will need to be added to our system to replace traditional coal generation.
- Decommissioning efforts will provide significant job opportunities for employees as we transition to a greener future.



• The Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) is a comprehensive planning exercise that evaluates supply and demand side resource options against a series of input assumptions (e.g. load, fuel prices, GHG emissions profiles, and capital costs) to develop a directional, long-term electricity strategy for Nova Scotia Power

Warden Parker thanked the Nova Scotia Power representatives for the presentation and said that the Council is here to work with them. The Warden said the main concern is how to keep the same thing from happening again to the same degree that it did following Hurricane Fiona.

Clr. Butler said that one main frustration from residents was the reliability of the information that they were receiving when calling Nova Scotia Power for updates. NSP said that there were many factors that were preventing reliable information: the Telecom systems were down for the first few days. Once more people got out into the field, there was a better idea of where the damage was, and then the call centre resources could access that information. The goal is to get information out to customers that is as reliable as possible.

Clr. Parker asked what was done to triage the damage in the first few days following the hurricane. Nova Scotia Power representative said the first part is getting the transmission system up and running. There were crews in those areas so the substations could be restarted, then would be the water stations and then the communities. Pictou County was a hard-hit area and because of that, it took crews longer to restore services.

Clr. Parker said that people felt Pictou County was left until the end, and by that time, people were frustrated. Clr. Parker said there is a need to end the monopoly of Nova Scotia Power. The Councillor said that his recommendations would be not to use yellow pine poles from the U.S. and to work on improving triage, and there is a need to get more crews in sooner. Nova Scotia Power said they take the feedback seriously and are increasing the class of poles. Triage is also taken very seriously; when NSP crews were not seen in the first few days, it was during that time that the military was going in and clearing the way to get in to do some clearing.

Clr. Wadden said that District 2 was extremely hard hit by Hurricane Fiona. One of the frustrations was the lack of communication between Nova Scotia Power and REMO. The crews were desperate to work, yet no one was sending them anywhere. Halifax Fire Dept sent a group up, and they spent one full day sitting in the parking lot. It is Clr. Wadden's hope to see better communication.

Nova Scotia Power said they have resources in the Provincial Coordination Centre and communicate with REMO. They are going to be hiring four liability officers across the province. There will be a focus on the areas where we can communicate better. There will be one Liability Officer in each part of the province and that will increase the level not only during storms but for day-to-day business.

Clr. Boyles said that following Hurricane Fiona they did an excellent job clearing the lines in Chance Harbour, but it is starting to grow back. Clr. Boyles asked NSP if they did any preventative work. NSP said they like to get the trees before getting the bucket trucks. They are pushing close to 20 feet back now and have been working with property owners to get some of the trees cut before the next time.

Clr. Boyles asked when the plant will close in 2030, will it be closing completely, or will it be turning over to something else? Nova Scotia Power responded that the Trenton generating station provides 10% of the generating capacity in the province, which is required to meet the system requirements. The Federal and Provincial legislation will be phased out by 2023; they are working within that current legislation to do so.

Trenton is forecast to be phased out in 2027-2028. There are alternative sources of firm capacity to be added to the system. It could be fueled by natural gas or light oil. They are working closely with employees to transition to new technologies and will provide significant job opportunities to transition to a greener future.

Warden Parker said regarding transitioning to heavy oil, it is a no. Knowing that these storms are partially caused by climate change, they should not be replaced by something just as wrong. The Warden said these jobs are needed but not in the form that it should be as bad as coal.

Clr. Boyles said residents were hopeful this would be the end of fly ash, and this could be getting into a worse situation in some respects. Trenton has been put up with enough, and Clr. Boyles hopes they reconsider or close the substation there.

Clr. MacKeil said the Northumberland Shore was extremely hard hit, and driving by is still a mess. Clr. MacKeil received phone calls with frustration; people were upset, and some residents were 13 days without power on the main road and didn't see a Nova Scotia Power truck; the first help was from New Hampshire. Clr. MacKeil stated that vegetation management has been a problem in this county for a while, and the lines haven't been well maintained for over 20 years. She asked when the push started to tackle vegetation management, and said with this data, there needs to be a new protocol.

Nova Scotia Power responded that they will be improving liability as a whole and investing more in liability. Vegetation is the number one cause of power interruptions and NSP does not own any of the trees in the province; they must have permission to cut them. Vegetation management has been done ever since Hurricane Juan.

Clr. MacKeil asked if there were any changes to the protocol. Nova Scotia Power said that one of the things that changed is the intensity of the weather, and the frequency of the storms has worsened. They do look at the use of technology and the ways it could be used to advance. Satellite imagery is one example of innovative technology being explored. NSP said they are increasing investment, bringing in more contractors, adding supporting resources to help the program run smoother and identifying trees that need to be cut. They are spending more on assets to storm harden systems, poles and insulators that can withstand trees and looking at wooded areas and moving them out to the roadside and investing millions more on the assets.

Clr. Dewar said residents in his area were hit hard; some were to 16 days without power. He said every tree that they cut down, there are now ten suckers that came up around them. Clr. Dewar asked if a spray could be used when they are little. The biggest thing that showed up in this disaster was neighbors helping neighbors. Clr. Dewar stressed the idea if this had taken place in January. Clr. Dewar also stated that crews were sitting in that parking lot because no dispatcher told them where to go. Nova Scotia Power said spraying herbicides is a small part of the program. It is approved by Health Canada and used very selectively. They try to leave that species that will not get tall enough and there is a lot of backlash for herbicides.

Clr. Turner asked about the future of the Trenton Generating Station, in terms of the alternate sources of firm capacity, where does using a battery fit? Nova Scotia Power said that a lot of the renewable energy will be from wind power, and having a source of energy that can back that up is essential. Clr. Turner is the technology there to store large amounts of power. NSP said it is being adopted across North America.

Clr. Thompson said some residents in District 11 were out for about 18 days and were lucky it wasn't cold. A lot of people weren't prepared for that long. A lot of people dusted off power saws, and there were a lot of injuries. He asked if there were many workplace injuries when dealing with the devastation. NSP said they take safety very seriously and many people were on the ground. There were no serious injuries during Fiona. Some near misses were corrected.

Deputy Warden Murray said that communication is the keyword here. Deputy Warden Murray stated there needs to be another meeting about the internet project and said there is a commitment to do whatever can be done.

Clr. Palmer said that trees on private property caused much damage, and it is good to know NSP is approaching property owners. and said this is great

forward-thinking. The crews did a tremendous job and did what they could. Like any national disaster, you can learn from it, and communication is one.

Warden Parker said that people do not want to go through this again, so today's effort is to get the message loud and clear to make improvements. The Warden said there is frustration with getting high-speed internet in and getting the permits. Things seem to improve following a meeting, and then it goes backwards.

The Warden said the key to all of this must be that it is knowledge that more is coming and being ready is essential. The Warden told NSP that Council is here to work with them.

NSP said they take the commitment to the internet project very seriously and can look at other ways to do that.

CORRESPONDENCE

Northumberland Regional High School sent a thank you letter for the bursary contribution from the County Council.

Tatamagouche Regional High School sent a thank you letter for the bursary contribution from the County Council.

A letter was received from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change regarding the Coastal Protection Act. The provincial government has decided not to move ahead with this legislation. There will be no regulations in the foreseeable future. They are going to study it further. Warden Parker said one possibility is considering moving ahead with a coastal protection act in Pictou County. Clr. Wadden suggested looking into what other municipalities are doing, which has to be taken very seriously. Warden Parker said having a Coastal Protection Act and no regulations is disappointing.

MUNICIPAL SERVICE GRANTS

Clr. Turner presented the following resolution to Council.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou adopt the following resolution for municipal service grants:

District 6

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| a. Loch Broom Log Church Committee | \$2,000.00 | Maintenance |
| b. Salem Presbyterian Church Hall | \$6,000.00 | New Ramp and Door at Hall |
| c. West River Fire Department | \$8,000.00 | Assist with Gen. Purchase |
| d. West River Presbyterian Church | \$3,466.00 | Painting at Church |
| Total | \$19,466.10 | |

District 11

| | | |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| a. Blue Mountain Fire Depart | \$3,563.00 | Contrib to Gen Project |
| b. East River St. Mary's Fire Dept. | \$3,500.00 | Contrib. to Gen Project |
| c. Garden of Eden Comm. Centre | \$4,000.00 | Operating Costs/Generator Project |
| d. Green's Brook Cemetery | \$400.00 | Operating Costs |
| e. Churchville Hall | \$1,750.00 | Operating Costs |
| f. East River Valley Fire Department | \$1,500.00 | Equipment Purchase |
| g.ERV Community Development Assoc. | \$1,500.00 | Newsletter Expenses |
| h.East River Valley Recreation Assoc. | \$2,000.00 | Operating Costs |
| i. Glenco Community Hall | \$950.00 | Operating Costs |
| j. Plymouth Community and Rec Assoc. | \$3000.00 | Landscaping Costs |
| k.Plymouth FD Ladies Aux | \$950.00 | Equipment Purchase |
| l.Springville Cemetery | \$400.00 | Cemetery Maintenance |
| m.Trustees of Springville Pres. Church | \$2,000.00 | Contribution to Gen Project |
| Total | \$25,513.00 | |

District 12

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| a. Lorne Hall | \$6,000.00 | Operating Costs |
| b. Friends of Iona Park | \$2,000.00 | Operating Costs |
| c. Hopewell First Presbyterian Church | \$750.00 | War Memorial Upkeep |
| d. MacLean Cemetery | \$1,000.00 | Maintenance Costs |
| e. Marshdale Cemetery | \$1,000.00 | Maintenance Costs |
| f. Hopewell 4H | \$1,750.00 | 4H Expense/Kiosk Maint. |
| g. ERV Comm. Development Assoc. | \$6,000.00 | Riverton Hall Operations and Newsletter |
| h. East River Valley Recreation | \$2,000.00 | Recreation Program Costs |
| Total | \$20,500.00 | |

DATED at Pictou, N. S. on this 8th day of August 2023.

(Sgd.)

Original Signed by Clr. Larry Turner Clr. Deboarh Wadden

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Turner and seconded by Clr. Wadden that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented. **Motion Carried**

RECREATION GRANTS

Clr. Palmer presented the following resolution to Council:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou adopt the following resolution for recreation grants:

| | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------|
| a. PC Trap and Skeet Club | \$350.00 | Start-Up Grant |
| b. PC Arts Society | \$350.00 | Start-Up Grant |
| | Total \$700.00 | |
| c. Union Pres. Church Youth Group | \$1,500.00 | Operating Grant |
| d. Lismore, Plymouth, River John and Thorburn Summer Program (\$750.00 each) | \$3,000.00 | Operating Grant |
| | Total \$4,500.00 | |

DATED at Pictou, N. S. on this 8th day of August 2023.

(Sgd.) _____

Original Signed by Clr. Randy Palmer; Deputy Warden Wayne Murray

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Palmer and seconded by Deputy Warden Murray that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented. **Motion Carried**

COMMUNITY GENERATOR FUND GRANTS

Clr. Thompson presented the following resolution to Council:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou adopt the following resolution for grants for the Community Generator Fund:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| a. ERV St. Mary's Fire Depart. | \$ 3,410.00 | MOPC Contribution |
| b. MARSHA | \$ 3,557.00 | MOPC Contribution |
| c. Lismore and Dist Rec Centre | \$ 3,448.00 | MOPC Contribution |
| d. Toney River Comm. Centre | \$ 4 567.00 | MOPC Contribution |
| Total | \$14,982.00 | |

DATED at Pictou, N. S. on this 8th day of August 2023.

(Sgd.)

Original Signed by Clr. Andy Thompson; Clr. Don Butler

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Thompson and seconded by Clr. Butler that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented. **Motion Carried**

VEHICLE SALE TENDERS APPROVAL

Clr. Wadden presented the following resolution to Council:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Municipality for the County of Pictou issued a tender for selling three municipally owned vehicles now considered surplus.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou accept the following bids for the sale of the vehicles:

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------|
| a. Dan Fortune | 2014 Dodge Ram 2500 | \$2,501.00 |
| b. Colin Chislet | 2014 Ford F150 | \$4,325.00 |
| c. Janet Pettipas | 2009 Chevrolet 1500 | \$3,000.00 |

DATED at Pictou, N. S. on this 8th day of August 2023.

(Sgd.)

Original Signed by Clr. Deborah Wadden; Clr. Larry Turner

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. Turner that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented.

Motion Carried

COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY EVENT POLICY

Clr. Wadden presented the following resolution to Council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Pictou adopt the following policy:



**MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF PICTOU
COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY EVENT GRANT PROGRAM**

POLICY # - 2023-07-17

1) PURPOSE

- a) To establish equitable guidelines for the distribution of funds to the not-for-profit sector and charitable organizations in the community.
- b) For the Municipality to recognize and support the efforts of community organizations to provide cultural, social, environmental, heritage, economic, recreation programs, facilities, and events to the benefit of municipal residents.

2) AUTHORITY

- a) Authority is provided under Section 65, Municipal Government Act, as amended.

3) OBJECTIVES

- a) To identify on an annual basis the amount of funding that the Municipality will provide in grants.
- b) To establish a process for applying for grant money which is fair and consistently applied, as well as a process by which the Municipality will consider grant requests.

4) GENERAL POLICY STATEMENTS

- a) The Municipal Council shall determine annually as part of its budget deliberations the amount of funds to be provided to support the various events.

- i) For Fiscal year 2023/24 the amount shall be \$18,000
- ii) Each of the Council Districts shall receive \$1500.
- b) Grants shall not be awarded to individuals, businesses, industry, or sole proprietorship.
- c) Only one application can be submitted by an organization per fiscal year.
- d) Applicants must agree to recognize the Municipality for its contribution. This may include a banner, public statement, sign, or other method agreed to by the Municipality.
- e) Letters shall be sent to all grant recipients, noting program reporting requirements and any restrictions.
- f) The applicant shall be in good standing with the County of Pictou and shall not have a debt or legal claim outstanding.

2) **ELIGIBILITY**

- a) The applicant must be:
 - i) a federally registered charity.
 - ii) non-profit society registered and active with the Nova Scotia Registry of Joint Stocks.
 - iii) A society within the meaning of the Children and Family Services Act.
 - iv) A mental health clinic in receipt of financial assistance from the Province of Nova Scotia.
 - v) An exhibition held by an educational institution in the Municipality.
 - vi) A club, association or exhibition within the meaning of the Agriculture and Marketing Act.
 - vii) Any charitable, nursing, medical, athletic, educational, environmental, cultural, community, fraternal, recreational, religious, sporting or social organization within the Province of Nova Scotia.
 - viii) The applicant must provide a service to residents of the Municipality of the County of Pictou or that the residents may access.

3) **GRANTS**

- a) The Municipal Council may grant funds to community organizations from the Community Connectivity Event Fund:
 - i) To assist with an event or activity that brings people together for a social gathering such as a supper, welcoming event, community recreation event, or fundraising event that supports community infrastructure.
 - ii) The event must be held within the Municipality of the County of Pictou

4) **REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

- a) All grant recipients have until January 31st to submit their reporting form and documentation to demonstrate the grant was spent in accordance with the terms of funding, if the amount granted is more than \$1000.00.
- b) The applicant will keep accounting records for all receipts and expenditures relating to the grant allocation.
- c) If the project is completed without requiring the full use of the grant allocated by the Municipality, then the unspent portion shall be returned to the Municipality.
- d) Failure to report may result in ineligibility for further grant funding.
- e) In rare circumstances, an applicant's eligibility may be suspended for a specified period for misappropriation of funds, failure to report, or misrepresentation.

5) **APPLICATION and REVIEW PROCESS**

- a) A Municipal Councilor may receive a request to contribute to the event at any point throughout the fiscal year.
- b) The Municipal Councilor shall request payment of a grant on a form approved by the Administration.
- c) If the grant request meets the terms of the policy, then payment shall be approved by the Administration and the Administration shall report to the Financial Services the amount of the grant paid.

d) Grant requests more than \$1000 shall be approved by the Municipal Council by way of resolution at a duly called meeting of Council.

(Sgd.) _____

Original Signed by Clr. Deborah Wadden Clr. Larry Turner

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. Turner that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented. **Motion Carried**

MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN BRFD AND ACFD

Clr. Butler presented the following resolution to Council:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Antigonish County Volunteer Fire Department and the Barney's River Fire Department have requested that they enter into a Mutual Aid Agreement to improve response times to motor vehicle accidents, fires and medical emergencies along the TransCanada Highway between Exit 30 at James River to Exit 29 at Barneys River.

WHEREAS the Financial Services Committee reviewed the agreement and authorized Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou to enter the agreement.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Barneys River Fire Department enter into a Mutual Aid Agreement with the Antigonish County Volunteer Fire Department and that the agreement is signed by the Barneys River Fire Department, Antigonish Fire Department as well as a representative from the Municipality of the County of Pictou and the Municipality of the County of Antigonish.

DATED at Pictou, N. S. on this 8th day of August 2023.

(Sgd.) _____

Original Signed by Clr. Don Butler; Clr. Andy Thompson

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Butler and seconded by Clr. Thompson that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented. **Motion Carried**

SHEEP VALUER APPOINTMENT

Clr. Dewar presented the following resolution to Council:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS Section 9(1) of the Sheep Protection Act provides for the annual appointment of Sheep Valuers;

WHEREAS appointments to this office have been made throughout the various districts of the County of Pictou;

WHEREAS in accordance with the aforementioned Statutes of Nova Scotia, these appointments require the approval of Council;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council approve the appointment of the following Sheep Valuers for 2023/24:

DIST. #12 Willard MacDonald

DATED at Pictou, NS. this 8th day of August 2023

(Sgd.) _____

Original Signed by Clr. Chester Dewar; Clr. Andy Thompson

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Dewar and seconded by Clr. Thompson that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented. **Motion Carried**

DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

Clr. MacKeil presented the following resolution to Council:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou has adopted a adopt a by-law which provides for the destruction of any documents or records after they are no longer required for municipal purposes;

WHEREAS the aforementioned by-law has been approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs;

WHEREAS administrative staff has undertaken a process of reviewing obsolete files with a view to seeking the necessary approval to destroy those which are no longer required, in accordance with the Destruction of Documents By-Law;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council authorize the destruction of the documents described in the attached affidavit of the Municipal Clerk which indicates that he has personally examined each document or record and confirms that there is nothing of value therein.

DATED at Pictou, N. S. this 8^h day of August 2023.

(Sgd.) _____

Original Signed by Clr. Darla MacKeil; Clr. Don Butler

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. MacKeil and seconded by Clr. Butler that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented. **Motion Carried**

NOVA SCOTIA POWER – FUTURE OF COAL BURNING PLANTS

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. Dewar to send a letter to Nova Scotia Power stating that Council does not want them switching from burning coal to bunker C or burning anything that would cause more harm to the atmosphere than already done by burning coal. **Motion Carried**

**DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS: SERVICE EXCHANGE IMPACT
MUNICIPALITY OF PICTOU COUNTY**

CAO Cullen said there are six categories to the Provincial-Municipal Service Exchange Agreement:

1. Municipal Financial Capacity Grant (MFCG) – There will be a new funding formula put in place. The municipalities that see a decrease in funding will receive top up funding for five years.
2. Obsolete Schools – The Province will assume ownership of all schools that predate 1981.
3. Corrections – The Province will absorb the costs associated with contributions to corrections.
4. Housing – The Province will absorb the annual costs associated with public housing losses.
5. Infrastructure Funding – Municipalities will be able to leverage a new application-based infrastructure program. The details are still being set but will focus on provincial priorities.
6. Roads – The Province will create two application-based funding programs for roads. There will be \$6M available for 50-50 cost sharing for repaving municipally owned trunks and routes. There will be \$10M available for any G, H, I, and J class roads that municipalities have an interest in maintaining.

Clr. Palmer said the correspondence was vague but felt once the Municipality cost shares from that point they are responsible to maintain the road. Clr. Parker said this would bankrupt the Municipality in no time and asked Clr. Palmer to forward a list of the roads in the County.

Warden Parker said there are steps to follow, and opinions need to be made known. The Warden requested that Councillors attend the sessions regarding this.

DONATION TO MEGHAN'S PLACE

Clr. Wadden said that Pictou County lost Westville Town Councillor, Meghan Bragg. Clr. Wadden said that Meghan was an ambitious and energetic individual who saw being involved in Municipal Government as her opportunity to make a difference in her community. Meghan was a loving mother to her daughter Arley. Equity and accessibility were Meghan's passions. The request was to contribute to Meghan's Place, a recreation space that is inclusive and accessible to all.

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. Thompson to donate \$1,000.00 to Meghan's Place in honor of Meghan. **Motion Carried**

Warden Parker said Meghan was a very special person whose smile put everybody at ease. Meghan had a way of dealing with people and she thought a lot before she spoke. The Warden fully agreed with this motion and said that Meghan knew about this request ahead of time and was in full support of it.

CONDOLENCES TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF WEST HANTS

It was moved by Clr. Parker and seconded by Clr. Thompson to send a letter of condolence to the Municipality of West Hants to state that The Municipality of Pictou County shares in their grief and wish for the recovery from the recent circumstances with the loss of four residents and the damage to their communities. **Motion Carried**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clr. Palmer said that the East Pictou Rural Fair is returning after 21 years. Events will be held between August 16 and August 20, 2023. Clr. Palmer said there was a great group of volunteers working at this and a lot of people are very enthusiastic. Some of the activities that will be held are a Pickleball tournament, a children's parade, children's dance, as well as a teen and adult dances. There will be games and entertainment, fireworks, a dunk tank (with District 10's Councillor), and a street parade.

Clr. Wadden said the Little Harbour Fire Department will be having their Salmon Dinner on Sunday, August 20, 2023, at the Little Harbour Community Centre. There will be eat in or take out available and the cost will be \$25.00.

Clr. Parker said the fundraiser dance held on August 5, 2023, at the Fraser event barn, was a success. Clr. Parker said there are plans to do something in September that will be more oriented towards children and younger families. The tentative date for this is September 17, 2023.

Clr. Thompson said that last week Sean Fraser came to Sunnybrae and gave good news to the community. The only public gathering spot left is the Macdonald Rebekah Lodge and Sean Fraser announced \$100,000.00 contribution. Clr. Thompson said that with the contribution from the Municipality there is now about \$150,000.00 going to be invested in Sunnybrae. The residents are excited and happy to have a little bit of attention and Clr. Thompson is looking forward to the work beginning soon.

Warden Parker said this will be a difficult year for the exhibition without the involvement of Elwood Fraser. The Warden asked that they be kept in mind to do things within the communities to help agriculture and 4-H.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the Warden declared the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

WARDEN

MUNICIPAL CLERK