

June 3, 2024

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, Monday, June 3, 2024 at 7:00 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
- 10 Clr. Randy Palmer
- 11 Clr. Andy Thompson
- 12 Clr. Chester Dewar

ABSENT

- 9 Clr. Peter Boyles

IN ATTENDANCE

Sueann Musick, Director of Corporate Services/Deputy Clerk
Karen Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer
Logan McDowell, Director of Public Works & Development
Evan Hale, Director of Emergency Services
Shellie Pettipas, Administrative Assistant
Adam MacInnis, Communications Officer

ABSENT

Brian Cullen, CAO, Municipal Clerk-Treasurer

CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Warden Parker called the meeting to order and invited Councillors to pray or reflect, as may be their preference, to help Council focus and properly do the work of the Municipality and to 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.

AGENDA

It was moved by Clr. Butler and seconded by Clr. MacKeil that the agenda be approved as presented. **Motion Carried**

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

There were no emergency resolutions brought forward.

ERRORS AND OMISSIONS/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Warden Parker asked if there were any errors, omissions, or corrections in the minutes for the May 6, 2024 Council Meeting. The minutes of the April 2, 2024, Council Meeting were reviewed by the Municipal Council. Warden Parker proclaimed the minutes of the meeting of May 6, 2024, as the official record of the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

a. Letter from Chignecto Central Centre for Education regarding school buses.

Clr. Wadden expressed disappointment in the response letter from the Minister of Education.

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. Palmer to write another letter to the Minister asking what would be done to improve this situation with the shortage of school bus drivers. **Motion Carried**

b. Letter from Duane Stewart regarding the Internet Project.

Warden Parker asked Deputy Warden Murray to take the chair as this discussion directly involved the Warden. Clr. Wadden asked what prompted Mr. Stewart to take this issue further, as he was satisfied with the initial response. Clr. Wadden said that as members of Council, caution should be used with what is being said and written and asked if an apology should be given to Mr. Stewart.

Warden Parker stated that the issue appeared to be settled in the fall and was unsure what prompted Mr. Stewart to take this further. The Warden said that having been an elected official for 29 years and running a business in the County for 50 years, the Warden always treated everybody with respect, and on each call with Mr. Stewart, the Warden treated him with respect.

Warden Parker expressed that there are varying types of individuals with different personalities. This is not a bad thing, but with the different personalities, some are easier to deal with, and some are more challenging or insistent, which is not a bad thing.

The Warden said the main thing is to solve problems and have success for people, and in this case, there was success. The Warden did not believe anything wrong was said, believed in warning staff if there was any reason for concern, and stood by the decisions made. Warden Parker did not have the answer as to why this was a FOIPOP (Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy) request after it was resolved in October and stands by decisions made and will continue to do that if people do not see him fit to be the Warden, it is quite easy to remove if there is more than 50% + 1 that want the Warden out of that seat, that can happen.

PRESENTATION: SHIP HECTOR SOCIETY

Ralph Heighton and Vern Shea from the Ship Hector Society gave a presentation to Council to update them on the Ship Hector project. Mr. Heighton is on the Board of Directors and the Community Liaison for the Capital Campaign, trying to secure funding to rebuild the Ship Hector. Mr. Shea is the Project Manager for the ship's rebuild and renovations at the Quay.

SAILS SET FOR SUCCESS



THE HECTOR
HERITAGE QUAY
CHARTING OUR COURSE

PRESENTATION

- Capital Campaign Update
- Our Commitment to financial sustainability
- Building A Destination
- 2024 Season Update
- July 2025 Relaunch
- Ship Construction Update
- Next Steps To Launch



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Donations & Pledges
To Date

\$1,770,000



Funding Campaign

The Hector Heritage Quay project encompasses two components, the Interpretive Centre and the Ship Hector restoration. We are seeking funding from our extended community, town, municipal, federal and provincial government, corporate and major gift donations for the restoration project

Cost Projections:

Ship Restoration Budget:

Removals/Restoration	\$658,784.00
New Construction	\$488,433.00
Masts/Rigging/Sails/Ship outfitting	\$572,165.00
Electrical/Electronics/Safety	\$266,080.00
Machinery/Ship Systems (propulsion)	\$961,406.00
Admin/Operational/Sub-Contractors	\$327,870.00
Launch	\$195,000.00
Paint/Others/Services	\$96,500.00
Total	\$3,566,238.00

Total Ship Cost \$3,566,238.00

Donations & Pledges (Dec 31/23) \$1,770,000.00

Goal to SAIL **\$1,796,238.00**

Interpretive Centre Budget:

Total Renovation budget	\$1,617,354.00
Total Interpretive Budget	\$1,912,601.00
Design Consultants/Marketing and Admin	\$737,390.00
Total	\$4,267,345.00

Total Interpretive Centre Cost \$4,267,345.00

Government Funding (Dec 31/23): \$4,276,345.00



BUDGET INCREASE

+40%  September 2023: \$3,566,238
November 2019: \$2,542,287

- Material cost increase. Examples:
 - Resin +300%
 - Plywood +164%
 - Petroleum +64%
 - Lumber +128%
- Additional removals and restorative work on hull and decking prior to commencing reconstruction.
- Decision to work through winter incurred additional operational expenses.
- Supply chain and equipment availability challenges.
- Hurricane Fiona 2022 impact
- Frequent rainfall and high wind during 2023 winter-summer reducing exterior work and requiring shelter repairs



OUR COMMITMENT

The Ship Hector Society is committed to becoming financially sustainable through diversified programs, both dockside and shipboard. This strategic expansion of revenue streams will sustain ship maintenance and operational costs, as well as ongoing programs and site facilities.

By enhancing attractions and developing innovative experiences, we will create a provincial tourist destination that will benefit the entire region and celebrate our identity as the Birthplace of New Scotland.



Ship Hector transitions from a dockside visitor attraction to a fully operational passenger sailing vessel:

- Public daytime and sunset sails, bus tours and student sails accommodating 60 passengers.
- Special event and corporate charters providing a one-of-a-kind back drop for private celebrations.
- Experiential learning tourism that provides opportunities to learn and actively engage in crewing.
- A comprehensive five-month sailing school with a recognized curriculum, immersing participants in the study and practice of ship maintenance and sailing procedures.

65%
of revenue



Hector Heritage Quay Boatbuilding School offering government recognized apprenticeship programs:

- Six-month traditional wooden boat building program for marine trade careers; fourteen-week ship cabinetry and furniture making apprenticeship; traditional blacksmithing workshops. Capacity for 200 students per season.
- School curriculum including small crafts, construction design courses, and experiential tourism workshops in woodworking and boat building.

15%
of revenue



Modernization of the Hector Heritage Quay Interpretive Centre:

- Increased visitation through captivating and innovative interactive displays that offer a comprehensive narrative of the Scottish settlers' partnership with the Indigenous people of Pik'tuk.
- Integration of curriculum into middle and high school education programs, fostering a deeper understanding of the rich historical context.

15%
of revenue

Fundraising will generate remaining 5% of Revenue.

CMAP: The Community Museum Assistance Program

- The Ship Hector Society has been invited to participate in the CMAP program, and is currently undergoing the application process.
- The CMAP Program can provide museums and cultural destinations with funding for up to 50% of their operational budget.
- This will be the first time the Society has received any provincial operational funding.



BUILDING A DESTINATION

- **6,000** additional the region the first year the Ship Hector provides boat tours in Pictou Harbour.
- This number is expected to grow by **10%** per year for the next **5 years**.
- Anticipated bus tour operator business will **double** in the next **5 years** benefitting the region as a whole

TOURISM NOVA SCOTIA

The tourism industry suggests that visitors require at least 6 to 8 hours of planned activities to consider an overnight stay. With support from Tourism Nova Scotia, The Ship Hector Society will collaborate with other local tourism operators to effectively market a variety of activities, aiming to establish Pictou and surrounding area as a desirable overnight destination.



2024 SEASON

- Creating local Ambassadors with **season pass program** whereby visitors can pay a one-time fee to come and visit the site as many times as they like over the course of the season.
- Encouraging **Inclusiveness and accessibility** with **free passes** made available at various locations.
- **Online ticket purchasing** integration services for visitors to service a broader market.
- **Online booking** integration for tour operators.
- Participation in **EXPORT Travel Trade program**, which aims to help Nova Scotia tourism businesses develop partnerships with tour operators and travel agents to increase national and international sales.
- Weekend accessibility to the Ship Hector for visitors to board ship and view restoration progress.

1773, approximately
aboard the Ship
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perseverance as t

SHIP RELAUNCH

JULY 2025

- The Ship Hector will help kick off Pictou Lobster Carnival in July 2025 with a re-launch into Pictou Harbour, the same method it did in 2000, via side-launch.
- Planning is underway for “**The Big Splash**” for Friday of Carnival and will include entertainment, pipe bands, deck tours of the Ship Hector, a visit from the Bluenose II, live launch video feed and more.



SHIP PROGRESS

- ✓ All rotten structural members removed and replaced.
- ✓ All rotten inner and outer hull planks removed and replaced.
- ✓ Composite and wood materials fitted to the hull above and below the waterline ensuring longevity and ease of maintenance.
- ✓ All salvageable existing decks have been repaired, fibreglassed and sheathed in Douglas fir.
- ✓ The five watertight bulkheads fitted below main deck. Below deck display area completed as per 1773.

Masts yards and their associated components will be refurbished/replaced as required.

Existing standing and running rigging will be assessed and supplemented with new as per original.

The ship will be outfitted with synthetic sails that look and feel like canvas, and so rigged to be safely and efficiently operated by the crew and by passengers if so desired.



NEXT STEPS TO LAUNCH

- Installation of electric motors and shafting.
- Installation of steering gear components,
- Installation of all thru hull fittings below the waterline.
- Completion of new upper decks.
- Fitting of refurbished deck equipment.
- Fitting of secondary joiner bulkheads.

\$500,000

THANK YOU



THE HECTOR
HERITAGE QUAY

CHARTING OUR COURSE

Clr. Turner asked what range the boat could go. Mr. Heighton said that a different ticket would be required from Transport Canada, but it could go anywhere. Clr. Turner asked if it would still be sail-capable, and Mr. Heighton said absolutely. The plan is to do this daily.

Clr. Parker asked how long it takes from when it goes into the water until it is fully operational. It is expected that it will be the latter part of 2026; there will be a lot of trials and inspections from Transport Canada. The first operating season will probably be 2027. Clr. Parker asked if the operating season would be from June to September. Mr. Heighton said it would be operating seven days a week.

Clr. Palmer asked how long the tour would be and the cost. Mr. Heighton said the tour would last between 2-2.5 hours, and the cost would be around \$95.00. The business plan is being worked on to determine the costs, but they want it to be accessible.

Clr. Palmer asked if the funding request was for this fiscal year or next fiscal year. Mr. Heighton said that they would accept funding for this, and next year, they will continue working until the goal is reached. They want the project self-sustained but cannot get there until the boat is in the water. Clr. Palmer asked if other towns were approached looking for funding. Mr. Heighton said they have not during this capital campaign. The Town of Pictou supported the project a few years ago but didn't this or last year.

BUSINESS ITEMS OR ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

MUNICIPAL SERVICE GRANTS

District 1

It was moved by Clr. Butler and seconded by Clr. Dewar to approve the following District 1 Municipal Service Grants: **Motion Carried**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Pictou approve the following Municipal Service Grants:

District 1

Lismore Community Hall	\$2000.00	Hall Maintenance
Lismore Dist. Recreation Committee	\$2000.00	Summer Rec Program
Kenzieville District Comm. Centre	\$2000.00	Operating Expenses
Kenzieville Cemetery	\$2000.00	Monument Restoration]
Kenzieville Comm. Action Group	\$1500.00	Start-Up Funds for Kick-off
MARSA	\$2500.00	Install Basement Emerg Door
Merigomish Cemetery Company	\$2300.00	Maintenance
District One Development Society	\$1700.00	Newsletter Expenses
Barney's River Fire Department	\$750.00	Install AED at LBR Gas Bar
Barney's River Station School Mus.	\$1500.00	Replace Ramp at Museum

Sutherland's River Comm. Centre	\$960.00	Design of Centre's Addition
Sutherland's River Pioneer Cem.	\$975.00	Maintenance
Telford Cemetery Assoc.	\$300.00	Maintenance
St. Andrew's Cemetery, Egerton	\$1200.00	Maintenance
French River Cemetery Society	\$2500.00	Maintenance
Old School Cooperative Merchants	\$2000.00	Market Set Up & Maint.
Thorburn War Memorial	\$500.00	Maintenance Memorial
Merigomish School House St. Light	\$40.00	Yearly Cost
Total	\$26,725.00	

Dated at Pictou, NS, this 3rd day of June 2024

(Sgd)

Clr. Don Butler
Clr. Chester Dewar
Motion Carried

District 3

It was moved by Clr. Turner and seconded by Clr. Elliott to approve the following District 3 Municipal Service Grants: **Motion Carried**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Pictou approve the following Municipal Service Grants:

District 3:

Bayview Community Hall	\$40.00	Yearly Cost of Street Light at Hall
Caribou River Community Hall	\$2800.00	Maintenance and Hall Expenses
Caribou River Upper Cemetery	\$2500.00	Maintenance
Central Caribou Cemetery	\$5000.00	Maintenance
Caribou Island Cemetery	\$500.00	Maintenance
Waterside Cemetery	\$2000.00	Maintenance
Seaboard Cemetery	\$2000.00	Maintenance
St. James Mill Dam Cemetery	\$3600.00	Maintenance
Haliburton- Pictou Cem. Company	\$2000.00	Maintenance
Total	\$20,440.00	

Dated at Pictou, NS, this 3rd day of June 2024

Clr. Larry Turner
Clr. Mary Elliott
Motion Carried

District 7

It was moved by Clr. Parker and seconded by Clr. Elliott to approve the following District 7 Municipal Service Grants: **Motion Carried**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Pictou approve the following Municipal Service Grants:

District 7

Union Centre Community Hall	\$3000.00	Fix Well or Dig New Well
Forest Hill Cemetery	\$3000.00	Maintenance
Friends of the Caledonia Cemetery	\$1000.00	Maintenance
Middle River – Birch Hill Cemetery	\$2000.00	Maintenance
Mill Brook Cemetery	\$2600.00	Maintenance
Mill Brook and Area Comm. Centre	\$4294.00	New Stairs, Exterior Drain, Sign
Carpool Lot Street Light	\$450.00	Yearly Cost

Total \$16,344.00

Dated at Pictou, NS, this 3rd day of June 2024

Clr. David Parker
Clr. Mary Elliott
Motion Carried

District 10

It was moved by Clr. Dewar and seconded by Clr. Thompson to approve the following District 10 Municipal Service Grants: **Motion Carried**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Pictou approve the following Municipal Service Grants:

District 10

Thorburn & Dist. War Vet Assoc.	\$1500.00	Cenotaph Maintenance
MacPhersons Mills Community Hall	\$4000.00	Hall Maintenance
District 13 Rec. and Planning Comm.	\$4000.00	Facility Maintenance
Union Presbyterian Church	\$2500.00	New Siding and Paint Foundation
Thorburn & District Fire Dept.	\$3000.00	Construct Training Structure
Thorburn Cemetery Assoc.	\$2500.00	Cemetery Maintenance
The Mountain Cem. (McLellan's Mtn)	\$3000.00	Cemetery Maintenance
MacPhersons Mills Cemetery	\$2000.00	Cemetery Maintenance

Total \$22,500.00

Dated at Pictou, NS, this 3rd day of June 2024

Clr. Chester Dewar
Clr. Andy Thompson
Motion Carried

MSG TRANSFER OF FUNDS

It was moved by Clr. Thompson and seconded by Clr. Dewar to approve the following transfer of funds from the operating reserve: **Motion Carried**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Pictou transfer \$300,000 from the operating reserve to allow for the payment of municipal service grants before the approval of the 2024-2025 operating budget.

Dated at Pictou, NS, this 3rd day of June 2024

Clr. Andy Thompson
Clr. Chester Dewar
Motion Carried

TAX WRITE OFFS

It was moved by Clr. Wadden and seconded by Clr. Elliott to approve the following tax write offs: **Motion Carried**

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Pictou approve the following Tax Write Offs:

a. Arlene Robertson Et Al	\$154.40	10862965	Land Hwy 4
b. Mary J and Edward Rankin	\$515.33	02916339	Land Thorburn
c. Allen Peter Dunn	\$9.94	01339044	Land Little Hbr.Rd
d. Beverly MacMillan	\$457.17	02916029	Land West Branch
e. Helen Fraser	\$4.88	02807998	Sherbrooke Rd
Total	\$1.141.72		

Dated at Pictou, NS, this 3rd day of June 2024

Clr. Deborah Wadden
Clr. Mary Elliott
Motion Carried

DRUG CONCERNS IN PICTOU COUNTY

Clr. Wadden said that former Pictou Landing First Nations Chief Andrea Paul requested an update on the discussions concerning drug use in Pictou County and wanted to remain in the loop to continue receiving information.

Warden Parker attended a session on May 22, 2024, at the Pictou County Wellness Centre. The Warden said there were a lot of people there from the healthcare field for discussions about trying to help individuals with drug addictions. Warden Parker said that a young man offered to come to a Council meeting or the Mayors and Warden's meeting to speak. The Warden said that stigma is a massive problem in the county, and drug use affects a lot of citizens' lives.

Clr. Wadden asked if there had been any discussions about the drug trans blue. Warden Parker said that different drugs were discussed at the meeting, and the Warden would forward any information from that meeting to Council members.

CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

There was no deferred business.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Warden Parker said that on Saturday, June 8, 2024 there would be a flea market at SARA (former Salem ball field) from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. This flea market will be to support the community with the recreational field.

Clr. Butler said on Saturday, June 8, 2024 there will be a speaker in Lismore followed by beach clean-up from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. in recognition of Ocean Day.

Warden Parker said that Thursday, June 6, 2024, is the anniversary of D-Day. The Warden said that many citizens from this county were affected by this and asked all to keep veterans in our hearts and minds this Thursday. The Warden said it is a blessing to live in a free country.

MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION

There were no motions of reconsideration.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the Warden declared the meeting adjourned at 8.16 p.m.

WARDEN



MUNICIPAL CLERK