

May 6, 2019

The Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou met in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building on Monday, May 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Dist.	1	Clr. Don Butler
	2	Clr. Deborah Wadden
	3	Clr. Darla MacKeil
	4	Clr. Ronald Baillie
	5	Deputy Warden Murray
	6	Warden Robert Parker
	7	Clr. David Parker
	8	Clr. Larry Turner
	9	Clr. Peter Boyles
	11	Clr. Andy Thompson
	12	Clr. Chester Dewar

ABSENT

Dist.	10	Clr. Randy Palmer (Out of Country)
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IN ATTENDANCE

Donn Fraser, Solicitor, MacIntosh, MacDonnell & MacDonald
Brian Cullen, CAO/Municipal Clerk-Treasurer
Carolyn MacIntosh, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Karen Cornish, Deputy Municipal Treasurer
Sueann Musick, Communications Officer
Anne MacCarthy, By-Law Enforcement/Dog Control Officer
Jane Johnson, Recording Secretary

BY INVITATION

Nova Bannerman, Resident of District 1

CALL TO ORDER

Warden R. Parker called the meeting to order and requested that Councillors stand and take a moment in silence to pray or simply reflect, as may be their preference, to help Council focus and properly do the work of the Municipality.

AGENDA

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Deputy Warden Murray that the agenda be approved with the addition of a report from the REN Liaison & Oversight Committee.
Motion carried.

MINUTES

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker and seconded by Clr. Butler that the minutes of April 1, 2019 be approved as circulated.
Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING ACTION – LYME DISEASE

Warden R. Parker presented a Proclamation to Council as follows:

PROCLAMATION
LYME DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH
MAY 2019

WHEREAS Lyme disease is a serious illness caused by the bite of a black-legged tick infected with the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*; and

WHEREAS black-legged ticks carry a variety of diseases or illnesses can now be found in all parts of Nova Scotia; and

WHEREAS awareness, education and practicing preventive measures, such as daily tick checks and proper tick removal, can help reduce your chances of contracting tick borne diseases;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Warden Robert Parker, on behalf of the Municipality of the County of Pictou, do hereby proclaim May 2019 as “Lyme Disease Awareness Month.”

DATED at Pictou, Nova Scotia this 6th day of May, 2019.

(Sgd.) Robert Parker

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Dewar and seconded by Clr. Boyles that the preceding Proclamation be adopted as presented.

Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received and acknowledged from the following:

- (a) Chief Medical Officer of Health – Addressing Council’s concerns regarding available treatment for Lyme disease.
- (b) Thank You Note (uncirculated) has been received from the Dr. W. A. MacLeod School for the contribution to the purchase of musical instruments.

Clr. Wadden reported that she was disappointed with the letter from Dr. Strang and pointed out that we should have the same treatment here in Nova Scotia as in Maine. She asked that Dr. Sommers come and make a presentation to Council on Lyme disease.

RECOGNITION OF INDIVIDUALS & GROUPS – NOVA BANNERMAN 7:10 P.M.

Clr. Butler informed Council the sound of the school bell made a lasting impression on the life of young Nova Bannerman as she attended the one roomed school house in Sutherland’s River. That same bell she heard as she took her grade 11 and 12 at New Glasgow Academy and then on to the Normal College in Truro. By the age of 16 she was ringing her own bell in the one roomed school house in Marshy Hope.

Her teaching career took her to a number of rural schools finishing up at the Frank. H. MacDonald School after a 34 year career. She touched the lives of thousands of children along the way, planting in them a seed for lifelong learning.

She and her husband Donald, raised a family of 4 children, all of whom excelled in higher education.

In 1971 the Barney's River Station School built in 1875 was closed. The bell which she had rung for the past five years was to be silenced forever. A group of concerned citizens, calling themselves the Barney's River Station Community Club was formed. The first item of discussion was the fate of their former schoolhouse. Some wanted to tear it down, other thought it should be burned to the ground and still others thought it would make a nice little country store. But Nova could see the true potential of this building which had prepared so many young men and women to go out into the world and distinguish themselves in so many fields. Here was an opportunity to preserve the history not only of this schoolhouse but also the history of the community.

She picked up the bell and led the charge. In 1994 the building was officially registered as a Municipal Heritage Property – to be known as Barney's River Station School Museum. All over the past 25 years she has been the driving force behind this little museum, tucked nicely on Highway #4, just off TCH Exit 29. Its door are open from 1 to 5pm., Tuesday to Sunday during the months of July and August. Visitors have come from far corners of the world, some making this their destination as they plan an Atlantic vacation.

The museum is filled with items donated by past students and community members, all lovingly displayed to tell the rich history of the Community and the supreme sacrifice made by some in war times. It also captures the learning environment taught so many years ago in this and hundreds of other one roomed schoolhouses scattered throughout all of Nova Scotia.

For her determination, for her foresight, and for her leadership, we recognize Nova R. Bannerman this evening. She is a true teacher at heart and gives testimony to the principle of lifelong learning.

Warden R. Parker and Clr. Butler presented Nova Bannerman with a certificate of recognition on behalf of the Municipality.

DANGEROUS & UNSIGHTLY PREMISES HEARING – ADDISON UNDERWOOD (7:15 P.M.)

At 7:15 p.m. Warden R. Parker convened a hearing with respect to a dangerous and unsightly premises assessed to Addison Underwood, 4158 Little Harbour Road, Pictou County, Nova Scotia. (AAN #04708903.)

The By-Law Officer reported that Addison Underwood the owner of the property located at 4158 Little Harbour Road has been deceased since August 25, 2013. The complaint was signed on June 2014 and she was prepared to bring this matter to Council in July 2015 but she was made aware this property was on the pending tax sale list for 2016. At some point between 2015 and 2016 she was made aware of Addison Underwood's death in 2013 and his wife Lena Underwood's death in 2011. The property did not sell in the tax sale in 2016 and prior to that sale the County had the property boarded up for safety purposes. The property has continually been broken into and represents a danger to anyone who enters onto the property and believes this is a regular occurrence at this site. At the day of posting there were 2 young children approximately 9 to 12 years of age at the site on their bicycles. The property is a 1 acre lot at an assessed value of \$15,100 with outstanding taxes in the amount of \$2,619.03. The By-Law Officer informed Council that the site represents a fire hazard although it is not in close proximity to other homes.

Council viewed recent photos taken of the property.

Warden R. Parker who is responsible for the property since the owners are now deceased and the By-Law Officer replied no one has come forward at the tax sale. She pointed out the only name on the title search was Addison Underwood.

Clr. D. Parker asked once the property is cleaned up and a lien is put on the property then whose name is on the property. The Solicitor replied the property will still be in the same name unless someone buys it in a tax sale but the clean-up costs still go on the property.

The CAO explained that Council could decide at any time to write-off the lien on the property.

RESOLUTION – DEMOLITION ORDER

Clr. Boyles presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council finds that the property located at 4158 Little Harbour Road, Fraser's Mountain (Tax Account #04708903), and further described in the attached Order is dangerous and unsightly;

AND BE IT RESOLVED that Council, pursuant to Section 346 of Part 15 of Chapter 18 of the Acts of 1998, the *Municipal Government Act*, make an Order in the form attached hereto and forming part of this resolution, the said Order to be signed and issued forthwith on behalf of the Council by the Chief Administrative Officer of the Municipality or his designate.

DATED at Pictou, N. S. this 6th day of May, 2019.

(Sgd.) Peter Boyles
Larry Turner

ORDER

**MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT, STATUTES OF NOVA SCOTIA, 1998, CHAPTER 18
ORDER REQUIRING DEMOLITION**

TO: Addison Underwood
4158 Little Harbour Rd. NS
B2H 5C4

TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Section 346 of *The Municipal Government Act*, The Council of the Municipality of the County of Pictou ("the Council" and "the County") has determined that the property located at 4158 Little Harbour Road, Pictou County, Nova Scotia, associated with Tax Account Number 04708903, and PID #00868265, which lands are included in those more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto attached and forming a part hereof ("the Property") is dangerous or unsightly.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that the Council orders you to remedy these conditions by doing all of the following work, acts or things ("the work") on the property, that is to say:

Complete all required work to the property as listed below:

- (1) Demolish the house structure and two shed structures, which are in a ruinous or dilapidated condition, leaving the site in a safe condition.
- (2) Remove all debris from the property and dispose at an approved site. For greater certainty, but not limiting the generality of this obligation, all debris on the entire property must be removed.

THE WORK IS TO BE COMPLETED AND DONE WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF THE DATE OF SERVICE OF THIS ORDER.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE

THAT in the event of failure by you to comply with the requirements of this Order within Thirty (30) days after its date of service, the administrator may enter upon the property without warrant or other legal process and carry out the work specified in this Order;

THAT the cost of the work, with interest at the rate determined by the Council, from the date of the completion of the work until the date of payment:

- (a) Is the first lien on the property upon which the work was done and that the property is liable to be sold in a tax sale in accordance with *The Municipal Government Act*, and;
- (b) May at any time be sued for and recovered in an action in the name of the County.

THAT after this Order is served; any person who permits or causes a dangerous or unsightly condition, continues to permit or cause a dangerous or unsightly condition or fails to comply with the terms of the Order is liable, on summary conviction, to a penalty of not less than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars, and not more than Five Thousand (\$5000.00) Dollars, and, in default of payment, to imprisonment for not more than three (3) months;

THAT every day during which the condition is not remedied is a separate offence.

MOTION

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

Clr. Wadden commented that she drives by this property every day and is very glad it is being torn down. She thanked the By-Law Officer for all her hard work and for providing the pictures she took of the property.

Motion carried.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 11 th	Dist. 7 Millbrook Community Club, Turkey Dinner for 2 session at 4 and 5pm.
May 10 th	Dist. 9 Linacy Fire Hall, Ham Supper
May 8 th	MORE Run, 10 th Anniversary, the run will start in Pictou at 8 am.

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Clr. D. Parker presented the report of the Financial Services Committee as follows:

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

For information purposes the Financial Services Committee submits the following report on the activities of the Committee for the month of April:

1. Reviewed the reports of the Recreation Coordinator and Communications Officer for the month of March.
2. Considered several applications for financial assistance. (Resolution to follow)
3. Reviewed the final draft of a Strategic Recreation Plan. (Resolution to follow)
4. Reviewed draft policies with respect to the funding of grants. (Resolutions to follow)
5. Considered staff recommendations for tax write offs. (Resolution to follow)
6. Received a report on the training status of the Building Inspection Intern. (Resolution to follow)
7. Received a briefing on the status of the Rural Internet Project.
8. Reviewed the list of Accounts Paid for the month of March.

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 6th day of May, 2019.

(Sgd.) David Parker
Ronald Baillie

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker and seconded by Clr. Baillie that the preceding report be adopted as presented.

Motion carried.

PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Clr. Thompson presented the report of the Property Services Committee as follows:

PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

For information purposes the Property Services Committee submits the following report on the activities of the Committee for the month of April:

1. Reviewed the reports of the Building Inspector and Warden for the month of March.
2. Reviewed the status of on-going projects. Construction on the MacLellan's Brook Watermain Replacement has resumed. The remaining 350 metres of pipe are to be installed, followed by 2 – 3 weeks of testing and connection to existing services. The application of topsoil and hydroseeding is still outstanding at the site of the former Linacy School.
3. Reviewed a report on the structural, electrical and mechanical condition of the former Westville Road School building and directed staff to explore options on the marketability of the property so that the Committee has good information upon which to base a decision regarding disposition.
4. Received an update on efforts by Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal to improve traffic safety at the Trenton Connector Intersection. Improvements include an updating of light sequencing, the installation of cameras to compile traffic counts statistics and monitor traffic movement, a review of the posted speed limits, and a collision analysis for the past 10 years.

DATED at Pictou, NS this 6th day of May, 2019.

(Sgd.) Andy Thompson
Chester Dewar

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Thompson and seconded by Clr. Dewar that the preceding report be adopted as presented.

Clr. Boyles reported that the site of the former Linacy School property has been leveled out and the job was well done.

Motion carried.

REPORT - MAP COMMITTEE

Clr. Wadden reported that their last meeting was primarily a planning strategy meeting. Some issues we plan to discuss are:

Celebrate positive harm reduction action in our community such as being updated on the MADD March presentation rounds;

Have a Conversation with Pictou Landing First Nation group RE: their successes organizing drug and alcohol-free events;
List of special guests to invite in the next 6 months to have a better understanding the terrain and to forge/deepen relationships such as RCMP Rep, Local Liquor Inspector, Bar Association representative, Student Advisory Council (SAC) representative, MADD representative;
Have a timely conversation on vaping in schools;
Have a strategy to find ways to praise any harm reduction strategies to be used in next season's festivals. On this issue we are planning a conversation with the Lobster Carnival Committee.

REPORT – PARL

Clr. Wadden reported at their last Library Board Meeting they focused on the various activities happening at our libraries and it was so refreshing to hear what is being done by our staff as opposed to having finances as a focus.

Retired RCMP Constable John Kennedy, provided the following update regarding the Adopt-a-Library's WOW! Reading Challenge.

Participating: Number of schools: 32, Number of students: 5,792 Number of books read: 440,287 at the elementary school level; Number of pages read: 355,291 Pages at the Middle and High School Level; Number of Schools in Pictou and Antigonish Counties: 17; Number of students in Pictou and Antigonish Counties: 2,455; Number of books read in Pictou and Antigonish Counties: 195,332; Number of Pages read in Pictou and Antigonish Counties at the Middle School Level: 9,200; Number of schools in Pictou and Antigonish Counties that participated in the Reading Challenge: 17; Winning Schools: Elementary Level: Salt Springs Elementary; Middle School: Donkin-Gowrie Complex Middle School; High School: Baddeck Academy. Approximate Number of Books given to schools in Pictou and Antigonish Counties = 13,160 with an estimated value of \$131,600.00. Books are estimated at \$10.00 each. Funding to obtain these new books, which would have otherwise been recycled, comes from local businesses, community groups, and individuals.

Overview of recent @NS funded community technology projects: Melanie Pauls.

With grant funding provided by @NS (formerly the CAP Program) several advanced LEGO robotics kits were purchased. These kits resemble LEGO but can be programmed (coded) to move and speak. These kits are used by children in the library, alone or in groups, aided by library staff or volunteers. These kits will be available through any branch of the regional library (not for loan – in library use) and are typically of interest to children and youth age 6+. They are useful for teaching Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) skills.

Memorable kits initiative: Trecia Schell.

With grant funding from local health boards these books and kits will be available to those (and their caregivers) with cognitive illnesses such as dementia and Alzheimer's. The books are recent publications, designed to provide a reading experience by presenting short focused stories with images and large print. The kits will contain items to spur discussion around long terms memories such as music, movies, news, etc. The books and kits are designed to spark memories and discussion and to assist caregivers. They will be available through all branch libraries and Books by Mail.

Emerging Technology Position: Greg Hayward.

New Glasgow Library has recently hired Matt Kenny as Emerging Technology Clerk. This new position was re-designed after another position became vacant recently. Antigonish has a similar position. Matt will be working to introduce technology to users of any age in all branches in Pictou County, although his main place of work will be New Glasgow. Not only will he provide one-on-one assistance but he will design and carry out afterschool

programs, learning cafes for older adults, and assist with new technologies such as 3D printing.

Online programs pilot: Kristel Fleuren-Hunter.

The focus of Heritage Day celebrations this year was Maud Lewis. With a grant from Community, Culture, and Heritage we were able to celebrate her life in art with many creative programs across the Regional Library. One in particular was a first for us. Anne Camozzi, an Antigonish based artist was asked to provide a biographical but “hands-on” workshop focused on Maud Lewis. Anne, however, is restricted much of the time to her home and studio due to a serious illness. Library staff assisted Anne in broadcasting live from her home via Facebook for a 90 minute session. People attended online from the Antigonish Branch Library as well as many locations around the world. You can also view the program anytime on the People’s Place Library Facebook page. A great success, we will be looking to use this method of reaching out beyond the library walls in the future.

Partnerships Project Update: Sarah O’Toole

With funding from the Culture Innovation Fund, Sarah O’Toole was hired as Partnerships Coordinator for the region. This two year project aims to increase usage in our regional library by 10%. This will be achieved several ways but the two central themes are to work closely with our community partners to bring their clients and customers into the library, and second, to ensure these new clients have the best experience possible through well-trained and motivated staff members. The grant will pay for lunch and learns, staff training, and enhanced promotions. Lunch and learns will be coming up in both Antigonish and Pictou Counties in June and staff training is already underway.

It was great to sit back and listen as each staff member spoke on their project. The enthusiasm and love for their work shone through loud and clear. If any further clarification is required to learn more about these initiatives please do not hesitate to contact me.

REPORT – REN

Clr. Turner informed Council that last week the Liaison and Oversight Committee met with Sara Wiseman, CEO of the REN and the Board Chairman, Graham MacNeil. Ms. Wiseman gave a report on her activities since she was hired. She informed the Committee she now has a place set up to do business in the old Zellers building on Provost Street. She also gave a report on her activities and he will forward to Councillors.

Clr. Butler informed Council that the REN in Port Hawkesbury is no longer in existence so hopefully we can learn from them and not make similar mistakes.

Warden R. Parker reported he was aware of that and hopefully we will learn from it as well.

RESOLUTION – MUNICIPAL GRANTS

Clr. Wadden presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council approve the payment of the following Municipal Grants:

Municipal Services:

D02 Woodburn Cemetery	\$ 2,000.00	Extension of Deadline to spent Grant Amount to Mar. 31/20
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D04 West Branch & Area Community Assoc.	3,000.00	Extension of Deadline to spend Grant amount to Mar. 31/20
D04 Residents of River John	5,376.00	Partial release of funds reserved in 1989 for Sidewalk Construction to fund current projects

Council

Marathon of Respect & Equality	\$ 500.00	Event Donation
Tatamagouche Academy	200.00	Bursary for D4 Grad. Student
Pictou Academy	<u>200.00</u>	Bursary for Rural Grad. Student
	\$ 900.00	
Scotsburn Rec. Club	5,600.00	Extension of Deadline to Spent Grant to Mar. 31/20

Recreation

Enja George	\$ <u>100.00</u>	Travel Expenses to attend Atlantic Gymnastics Championship
	\$ 100.00	
Riverview Home Vol. Assoc.	\$ 3,527.42	Extension of Deadline to spend balance of funds to Mar. 31/20
French River Cemetery Society of Pictou County NS	\$ 150.00	Re-issuance of D01 Clr. Allotment originally approved for French River Community Centre to carry out cemetery improvements (original cheque has been returned for voiding)

GRAND TOTAL **\$ 1,000.00**

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 6th day of May, 2019.

(Sgd.) Deborah Wadden
Ronald Baillie

MOTION

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION – RECREATION STRATEGIC PLAN

Clr. Butler presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS Municipal Council identified the need for a recreation strategy as one of its priorities and established an Ad Hoc Committee to work towards achieving that priority;

WHEREAS Phase 1 of this work involved a situation analysis and comprehensive research that identified demographics, statistics, asset investment, current trends, and best practices in recreation which would form the basis of moving forward;

WHEREAS Phase 2 of the work focused on community and stakeholder consultation which identified the need for enhanced communications with and engagement of communities, increased capacity of Pictou County Recreation to support communities in the provision of opportunities, and enhanced community & transportation infrastructure;

WHEREAS this information was used to plot a course for moving forward towards a population that is more engaged, more active and less sedentary living in communities that have greater capacity for engaging their residents through the provision of opportunities and infrastructure;

WHEREAS a comprehensive plan entitled "Making a Move", a strategic recreation plan has been developed to align with the Provincial Framework – A Shared Strategy for Advancing Recreation in Nova Scotia (2015) which identifies goals for active living, inclusion & access, connecting people & nature, supportive environments, and recreation capacity;

WHEREAS Council, in committee, has reviewed this document which will shape how recreation services are delivered to meet the needs of our residents over the next five years and is supportive of implementing the strategies that have been identified;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council adopt the aforementioned strategic plan and allocate funding on an annual basis to advance the implementation strategy.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that, having fulfilled its mandate with the delivery of this report, the Ad Hoc Recreation Strategy Committee be and is hereby dissolved.

DATED at Pictou, NS this 6th day of May, 2019.

(Sgd.) Don Butler
Deborah Wadden

MOTION

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION – MUNICIPAL GRANTS POLICY

Clr. D. Parker presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council adopt the following policy with respect to Municipal Grants:



**MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF PICTOU
MUNICIPAL GRANTS PROGRAM POLICY**

1) **PURPOSE**

- a) To establish equitable guidelines for Council Members and Municipal Staff 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, 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.
- c) To identify criteria upon which grant applications will be evaluated.

4) **GENERAL POLICY STATEMENTS**

- a) The Grants Program is limited in its ability to respond to large requests with short notice, therefore Council considers it is essential for an organization planning an expensive multi-year project to give the Municipality as much notice as possible (usually at least one year) so that it can be considered within the Municipality's fiscal framework well in advance.
- b) The Municipal Council shall determine annually as part of its budget deliberations the amount of funds to be provided to support the various grant programs and subsidies.
- c) Grants shall not be awarded to individuals, businesses, industry or sole proprietorship.
- d) Only one application can be submitted by an organization per fiscal year.
- e) 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.
- f) Letters shall be sent to all grant recipients, noting program reporting requirements and any restrictions.
 - i) Awards may be issued in full or can be paid in installments.
- g) Letters shall be sent to any unsuccessful applicants of grant applications.
- h) The Municipality shall publish at least annually a list of all grants paid on its website. The notice shall include the organization name, amount of the grant and the purpose of the funding.

- i) The applicant shall be in good standing with the County of Pictou and shall not have a debt or legal claim outstanding.
- j) All grant applications shall be submitted on a form specified by the Municipality. The form may include but not limited to a request to disclose financial statements of the organization, organizational structure, proposed budget and sources funding.

5) **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;
- 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;

- Board of Directors must consist of three or more members.

b) The applicant must provide a service to residents of the Municipality of the County of Pictou or that the residents may access.

6) **FUNDING AGREEMENTS**

a) The Municipal Council may enter into special funding agreements with groups or organizations to provide multi-year commitments.

- i) The agreement will be ratified by Municipal Council by way of motion.
- ii) The agreement shall define the base level of funding to be provided for in each of the fiscal years.
- iii) No agreement shall exceed a term that extends beyond the subsequent council term.

b) Once an agreement is in executed the organization will not need to apply for funding during the term of the agreement and the funding will be processed through the annual budget process not the grant program.

7) **GRANTS**

a) The Municipal Council may grant funds to community organizations from its annual operating fund for:

- i) Annual Operating Fund Grant: Assists with the general operating expenses of an organization or a specific program.
 - The grant shall not be used to fund a deficit or funding shortfall.
 - The grant shall not be used to fund debt of the organization.
- ii) Community Events Grant: To support hosting and or delivering an event within the Municipality of the County of Pictou or proximity that are significant to the Municipality.

- iii) Major Community Capital: to assist with the creation expansion or improvement of a community facility generally in excess of \$10,000.
 - Manses are not eligible for this grant.
 - Fire halls or church halls may be considered for funding if the hall:
 - operates primarily for community, culture and diversity benefit;
 - provides programs that serve a broader community and not strictly the organization's membership.
 - Applicants must demonstrate the use of these types of spaces through demonstrated calendar bookings, event flyers, etc.
 - The Municipality may provide up to 40 percent of the project cost, which do not include in-kind.
 - If the organization has not received funding in the previous three (3) years.
- b) Community Economic Development: To assist a community organization with the promotion of the area and foster community development.
- c) The intent is to invest local resources in local initiatives and build residents' organizational capacity, not to supplement campaigns developed and delivered into the region through international, national or provincial organizations.
- d) The grant program will not consider requests received as part of general (mass) mailing or telemarketing campaigns.
- e) The grant program will not consider requests received that serves primarily the membership or purpose of religious or political organizations.

8) **REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

- a) All grant recipients have until January 31st to submit their reporting form and documentation to demonstrate the grant was spent and in accordance the terms of funding.
- b) The applicant will keep accounting records for all receipts and expenditures relating to the grant allocation.
- c) The applicant will make available for inspection by the Municipality or its Auditors all records and books of accounts of the applicant upon request of the Municipality.
- d) In the event that 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.
- e) Failure to report may result in ineligibility for further grant funding.
- f) In rare circumstances, an applicant's eligibility may be suspended for a specified time period for misappropriation of funds, failure to report, or misrepresentation.

9) **APPLICATION and REVIEW PROCESS**

- a) **The deadline for applications for the April 1st to March 31st fiscal year is the last working day of February of the preceding fiscal year.**
- b) In January of each year, the Municipality shall advertise in a local newspaper the Grants Program, indicating details of the program and the deadline for applications to be submitted for consideration.
- c) Additional information may be requested by the Grants Review Committee or the Financial Services Committee, if the application is incomplete, an incomplete application shall not be considered late.
- d) The Grants Review Committee shall submit a report to the Financial Services Committee explaining the rationale for the recommendations.
- e) The Grants Review Committee shall consist of the Warden and Deputy Warden and four additional members of Council.
- f) All Grants shall be approved by the Municipal Council by way of resolution at a duly called meeting of Council.

10) **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

- a) The Grants Review Committee shall review each application against the following:
 - i) Application is consistent with Council's Strategic Priorities, Recreation Master Plan, Capital Improvement Plan or other formal documents approved by Council.
 - ii) Promote and enhance the wellbeing of the Municipality and its citizens
 - iii) Ensures that the service, activity of program is open to the community.
 - iv) Encourage more active involvement in the community organization, programs and activities
 - v) Ensures that the funds will be administered by a competent body and that there is an adequate administrative system of review and oversight implemented with groups and activities.
 - vi) Actively seeking additional sources of funding.
 - vii) Quality of management (established track record)
 - viii) Evidence of financial need.
 - ix) Evidence of clear goals and expected outcomes.
 - x) Demonstrated need to the community.
 - xi) Demonstrated uniqueness of the service or program.

11) **REPEAL**

- a) All former policies with respect to municipal grants, including Policy #2018-09-27, are hereby repealed.

DATED at Pictou, NS this 6th day of May, 2019.

(Sgd.) David Parker
Darla MacKeil

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. D. Parker and seconded by Clr. MacKeil that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented.

Deputy Warden Murray referred to Section 7) iii) and informed Council that he could not agree with fire halls being eligible for major community capital funding because they have the ability to levy an area rate to meet their expenses and suggested they be removed from the policy.

AMENDMENT

It was moved by Deputy Warden Murray and seconded by Clr. Baillie that the preceding motion be amended to delete fire halls from section 7 (iii) of the Municipal Grants Program Policy.

Clr. Baillie agreed that leaving fire halls in the policy will put too much of a burden on our Council Grants.

Clr. Boyles reported that there is no community hall in his area so the only place for residents to go for meetings and events is the fire hall.

Clr. D. Parker pointed out the Municipality does not have enough money to keep all the halls going and we are missing the opportunity to modernize.

Clr. Thompson pointed out that he does not see any movement on trying to get more operating funding for the small fire departments.

Warden R. Parker reported the issue with the smaller departments will be a budget discussion to try and help them but that is a different issue than the discussion we are having this evening on Municipal Grants and specifically major community capital funding eligibility.

Clr. Boyles informed Council that the Linacy Fire Department's application for capital funding was not presented to the Community Grant Review Committee and therefore he did not have an opportunity to make a case to the Committee or Council on behalf of the department.

The CAO explained that under the terms of the current policy fire departments are not eligible for funding and that is why the application was screened out as ineligible by Administration.

The motion to amend carried. (Nay Votes: Clrs. Wadden & Boyles)

The motion, as amended, carried. (Nay Votes: Clrs. Wadden & Boyles)

RESOLUTION – MUNICIPAL SERVICES GRANT POLICY

Clr. Turner presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council adopt the following policy with respect to Municipal Services Grants:

POLICY #2019-05-51



MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF PICTOU MUNICIPAL SERVICES GRANT POLICY

1) **PURPOSE**

- a) To establish equitable guidelines for Council Members and Municipal Staff for the distribution of funds to the not-for-profit sector and charitable organizations in the community for Municipal Services Grants.

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) **APPLICATIONS AND ELIGIBILITY**

- a) Applications for a Municipal Services Grant shall be received by the Municipal Councillor at any time throughout the fiscal year.
- b) Church manses or glebe houses are not eligible for funding.

5) **FUNDING**

- a) The Municipal Council shall distribute an amount of Municipal Services Grant to each district in accordance with the funding formula approved by Municipal Council.

6) **RATEPAYERS MEETING**

- a) The Municipal Councilor shall hold a rate-payers meeting to review Municipal Service Grant applications received and to recommend allocations to the Financial Services Committee.
- b) The Municipal Councilor shall determine the time and place for the ratepayers meeting.
- c) The Municipal Councilor shall provide at least 7 days advance notice of the meeting. Notice may be provided by posters located within the community, an advertisement in a newspaper circulating in the municipality, notice in a community newsletter or bulletin; or a notice on the Municipality's webpage or social media sites.
- d) The Municipal Councilor at the ratepayers meeting shall inform the ratepayers of the requirements and rules of this policy including but not limited to:
 - i) The Requirement for the applicant to submit to the Municipality a copy of its most recent financial statements;
 - ii) That an applicant cannot receive Municipal Services Grant funding if they have received funding from the Council Grants Program for the same fiscal period;
 - iii) Decisions of the ratepayers meeting are recommendations only and that the Municipal Council is the only body that can authorize the expenditure of funds in accordance with the Municipal Government Act;
 - iv) The Financial Services Committee will review recommendations from the rate-payers meetings and determine if funding shall be recommended to Council.

7) **APPLICATION PROCESS**

- a) Prior to the Financial Services Committee reviewing the recommendations of the ratepayers meeting, the applicant shall submit to the Municipality a copy of their most recent financial statements, which shall include a reporting on investments held and balances in all bank accounts.
- b) Any application for a Municipal Services Grant shall be declared null and void if the applicant has received funding from the Council Grants Program pursuant to this policy for the same

fiscal period, or any applications for a Council Grant shall be declared null and void if a Municipal Services Grant has been approved for the same fiscal period.

8) **REPORTING AND ACCOUNTIBILITY**

- a) All grant recipients have until January 31st to submit their reporting form and documentation to demonstrate the grant was spent and in accordance the terms of funding.
- b) The applicant will keep accounting records for all receipts and expenditures relating to the grant allocation.
- c) The applicant will make available for inspection by the Municipality or its Auditors all records and books of accounts of the applicant upon request of the Municipality.
- d) 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.
- e) Failure to report may result in ineligibility for further grant funding.
- f) In rare circumstances, an applicant's eligibility may be suspended for a specified time period for misappropriation of funds, failure to report, or misrepresentation.
- g) Grants approved below \$1000 will not be required to report on how the money was spent in accordance with this section. It shall be the responsibility of the Municipal Councilor to ensure compliance with the policy.

9) **REPEAL**

- a) All former policies with respect to municipal services grants are hereby repealed.

DATED at Pictou, NS this 6th day of May, 2019.

(Sgd.) Larry Turner
Peter Boyles

MOTION

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION – RECREATION GRANTS POLICY

Clr. MacKeil presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council adopt the following policy with respect to Recreation Grants:



MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF PICTOU RECREATION GRANT POLICY

1) PURPOSE

- a) To establish equitable guidelines for Council Members and Municipal Staff for the distribution of funds to the not-for-profit sector and charitable organizations in the community for recreation purposes.

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.
- c) To identify criteria upon which grant applications will be evaluated.

4) FUNDING AGREEMENTS

- a) The Municipal Council may enter into special funding agreements with groups or organizations to provide multi-year commitments.
 - i) The agreement will be ratified by municipal council by way of motion.
 - ii) The agreement shall define the base level of funding to be provided for in each of the fiscal years.
 - iii) No agreement shall exceed a term that extends beyond the subsequent council term.
- b) Once an agreement is in executed the organization will not need to apply for funding during the term of the agreement and the funding will be processed through the annual budget process not the grant program.

5) GRANTS

- a) The Municipal Council may grant funds to community organizations/individuals from its annual operating fund for:
 - i) **Community Recreation Program Operating Grant:** To assist community organization in development or delivery of recreation programming or leadership development.
 - **Start-up Grants:** A community group may receive on a one-time basis up to \$350 to assist a new community organization with expenses relating to the establishment of the organization.

- Community Recreation Program Grant: The Municipal Council may grant up to \$750 to a community organization that provides summer recreation programming for the residents of Pictou County.
 - In order to qualify for funding the organization must provide summer staff for their programs.
 - Leadership: The Municipality recognizes the value that volunteers, and community leaders play in our communities and that building their capacity builds strong and viable communities. This grant may be used to pay for training individuals or community groups that develops leadership.
 - Applicants are eligible for up to 50 percent of the cost of training to a maximum of \$300
 - Annual Operating Assistance: Assists with the general operating expenses of an organization or a specific recreation program.
- ii) **District Grants:** District grants must be awarded by March 31st of the fiscal year in which the funds are allocated.
- iii) **Major Community Recreation Capital:** to assist with the creation expansion or improvement of a community facility generally in excess of \$10,000.
- Manses are not eligible for this grant.
 - Fire halls or church halls may be considered for funding if the hall:
 - operates primarily for community, culture and diversity benefit;
 - provides programs that serve a broader community and not strictly the organization's membership.
 - Applicants must demonstrate the use of these types of spaces through demonstrated calendar bookings, event flyers, etc.
 - The municipality may provide up to 40 percent of the project cost, which do not include in-kind.
 - Organization has not received funding in the previous three (3) years.
 - The deadline for applications for the April 1st to March 31st fiscal year is the last working day of February of the preceding fiscal year.
- iv) **Community Recreation Capital:** The Municipal Council may allocate a portion of its recreation programming grants to provide funding to assist groups who wish to construct or renovate their facilities, which will enhance programs or services for the residents of Pictou County. Consideration will also be given to requests to purchase machinery and or equipment not normally purchased through operating funds;
- The maximum allotment for the grant is 50 percent of the cost of the project, up to a maximum of \$1000
 - Organizations may only receive funding once every three years.

- v) **Youth Travel:** The Municipality offers a youth travel grant to assist individuals or teams or groups with travel to National Competitions or competitions outside of the province in sport or cultural or educational events.
- Youth is defined as an individual who is attending elementary or secondary educational institutions and is a resident of the Municipality of the County of Pictou.
 - The grant shall be for \$100 per person to a maximum of \$1000 per team.
 - Applications for youth travel shall be approved by the Chief Administrative Officer or designate and the Recreation Director.
 - At a least once per quarter, the Council shall be informed of awards under this portion of the grants program.
 - No approval in excess of the budgeted amount shall be approved administratively without the consent of the Municipal Council.
- vi) **Sponsorship:** The Municipality will offer advertising or fundraising to local, not for profit organizations for the promotion of events, programs that offer a direct benefit to the residents of the Municipality.
- Requests are processed on a first come first serve basis.
 - Requests in the amount of \$300 or less shall be approved by the Chief Administrative Officer or designate.
 - Requests in excess of \$300 shall be referred to the Financial Services Committee. Prior to a decision being made by the Financial Services Committee, staff shall prepare a report on the status of the budget remaining in the program.
 - Maximum funding that any group may receive is \$500 per fiscal year.
- vii) **Tournament Sponsorship:** The Municipal Council may provide funding to tournaments in accordance with the terms
- For sponsoring groups to host a Provincial Tournament in Pictou County a grant of \$250 may be made payable to assist with tournament expenses, where one or more players from the Municipality is a member of the host team;
 - For sponsoring groups to host a National or International Tournament in Pictou County, a grant of \$500 may be made payable to assist with tournament expenses where one or more players from the Municipality is/are a member of the host team;
 - For greater certainty a Provincial, National, or International Tournament referenced in Section 4(h)(ii) and 4(h)(iii) shall be defined as a tournament that determines the overall position of a champion, teams or individuals in a sport or event for the given year or season.
- viii) **Participant funding High Cost Programs:** The Municipal Council may subsidize the cost of Recreation programming provided by sports organization who use major

recreation facilities (**High Cost Funding**) and provide recreation programs to the residents of the County of Pictou.

- High Cost Funding for the high cost programs will be calculated at a rate of \$20.00 per County participant;
 - The minimum grant allotment to any organization will be \$100.
 - Applications for High Cost Funding shall be approved by the Chief Administrative Officer or designate and the Recreation Director.
 - At a least once per quarter, the Council shall be informed of awards under this portion of the grants program.
 - No approval in excess of the budgeted amount shall be approved administratively without the consent of the Municipal Council.
 - A group shall only receive funding once per fiscal year.
- ix) **Participant Funding Low Cost Programs:** The Municipal Council may subsidize the costs of recreation programming provided by sports organizations that provide low costs programs to the residents of Pictou County.
- Funding for low costs programs (i.e. soccer, baseball, etc.) will be calculated at the rate of \$7.50 per County participant;
 - The minimum grant allotment to any organization will be \$100.00
 - Applications for Low Cost Funding shall be approved by the Chief Administrative Officer or designate and the Recreation Director.
 - At a least once per quarter, the Council shall be informed of awards under this portion of the grants program.
 - No approval in excess of the budgeted amount shall be approved administratively without the consent of the Municipal Council.
 - A group shall only receive funding once per fiscal year.

DATED at Pictou, NS this 6th day of May, 2019.

(Sgd.) Darla MacKeil
Ronald Baillie

MOTION

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

Clr. Butler reported that as we move forward he anticipates there will be an increase in money towards recreation and it would be nice to know what those changes will be as we consider this new policy.

Warden R. Parker commented that we need the policy regardless of how much money we put into the budget and that decision will be made on a yearly basis at budget time.

Deputy Warden Murray questioned whether fire departments should be included in this policy or should the same apply as the Municipal Grants Policy.

AMENDMENT

It was moved by Clr. Thompson and seconded by Deputy Warden Murray that the preceding motion be amended to delete fire halls from section 5 (iii) of the policy.

Clr. Boyles asked if fire halls identified as a community hub would be eligible for recreation funding and Warden R. Parker replied that the fire departments would not be eligible for this particular policy.

Clr. Boyles pointed out that we are not sending a good message to our fire departments because they are one of the most important services we have.

Clr. D. Parker reported fire departments are the only group that has the right to tax so if they really need to do something, they have that avenue available to them to raise money.

The motion to amend carried. (Nay Vote: Clr. Boyles)

The motion, as amended, carried. (Nay Vote: Clr. Boyles)

RESOLUTION – TAX ADJUSTMENTS

Deputy Warden Murray presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council approve the following write-off on taxes, the same having been reviewed and approved by the Financial Services Committee:

<u>ACCOUNT #</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>REASON</u>
130230.00	Patricia Duggan	\$ 25.24	Water charges; billed in error
02968347	MacPherson’s Mills Community Hall	98.70	Taxes; billed in error for St. Lights

DATED at Pictou, N.S. this 6th day of May, 2019.

(Sgd.) Wayne Murray
Don Butler

MOTION

It was moved by Deputy Warden Murray and seconded by Clr. Butler that the preceding resolution be adopted as presented.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION – BUILDING OFFICIAL STATUS

Clr. Thompson presented a resolution to Council as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS Travis Spears has successfully achieved his Residential Qualification from the Nova Scotia Building Code Training & Certification Board;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou that Council approve a change in employment status for Travis Spears from a Building Official Intern to a Residential Building Official for the Municipality;

DATED at Pictou, N. S. this 6th day of May, 2019.

(Sgd.) Andy Thompson
Chester Dewar

MOTION

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

Motion carried.

RURAL INTERNET PROJECT

The CAO made a presentation to Council as follows:

The image shows a slide titled "Broadband: The Key Ingredient For Rural Economic Development". The title is in a bold, black font on a green background. Below the title, there is a small paragraph of text: "Cooking up an economic development plan for rural and near-rural counties? Be sure to sit in broadband if the area is underserved - but be aware that the existing economic base will influence broadband's impact." and the author "By Steven A. Ray | Broadband Communities | November/December 2013". To the right of the text is a small photograph of a person in a field with a cow. Below the photograph is a red box with the word "ANALYSIS" and the text "Signs of a rural renaissance as Canadian cities overheat Don Pittis".

- Broadband: the path of *relevance* for your community
- 25-50% of all rural job loss is due to lack of broadband
- Agriculture, property value, arts...a networked economy
- Job mobility faster in broadband-ready rural areas than cities
- The value is "in" the network...who owns it, owns the future

Today's Situation

- The Province commissioned two studies by Brightstar Canada in 2017 and 2018. These studies confirmed that there is a market failure (costs exceed potential revenues) which prevents the private sector from meeting the high-speed Internet service needs of unserved and underserved rural Nova Scotian citizens, businesses, and public institutions. (Develop Nova Scotia)
- The studies identified a need for an investment in the range of \$300–\$500M to address this market failure
- In response, the Province established, charged, and funded (currently \$193M) an independent, arms length trust called The Nova Scotia Internet Funding Trust—to support implementation of high-speed Internet throughout rural Nova Scotia.

Develop Nova Scotia

- Develop Nova Scotia is the crown corporation responsible for leading sustainable development of high-potential property and infrastructure across Nova Scotia.
- Develop Nova Scotia has been engaged by the Nova Scotia Internet Funding Trust to plan, design, and manage the implementation of the Internet for Nova Scotia Initiative.
- This Initiative defines a reliable, robust, high-speed Internet network that will reach more than 95% of rural Nova Scotians.
- Formerly Waterfront Development Corporation, our mandate has expanded from managing the development of strategic waterfront properties to high potential property and infrastructure throughout the province

Setting the Bar- DNS

- We expect high-speed Internet to reach more than 95% of rural households. We anticipate that we can connect a minimum of 95% of rural households to fibre, cable or fixed wireless service.
- Most, but not all, of the remaining rural households will be connected via satellite service. All of these services will be provided at minimum speeds of 50 mbps for wired and 25 mbps for wireless and satellite.

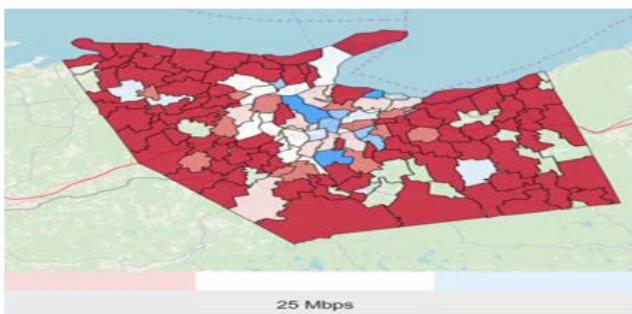
Vision Statement

- To facilitate for the residents of the Municipality of the County of Pictou an accountable, affordable and high quality telecommunications network, that serves anticipated residential and commercial needs. This essential service will be fundamental to the future economic prosperity, social development and educational needs

Goal and Objectives

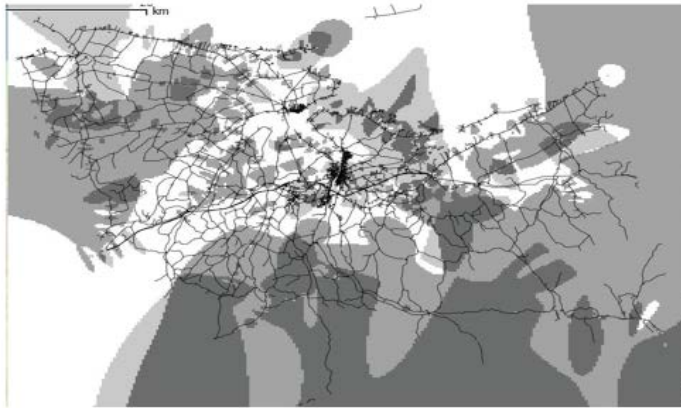
- Define our problem with evidence based data
 - Map Broadband and cell service
- Identify Priority Communities
- Inventory Existing Assets
- Provide high level design routes, with costing
- Create RFP's for contractors.
- Apply for funding from Province of Nova Scotia or Federal Sources

Initial Condition Assessment

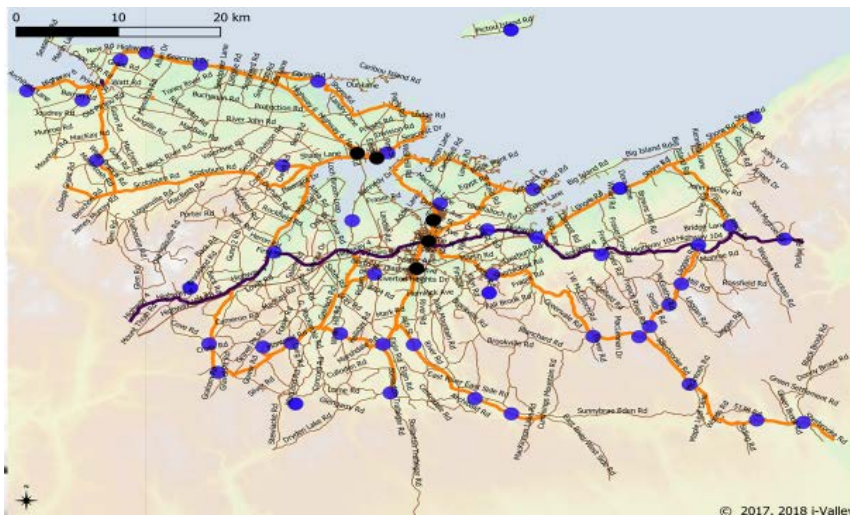
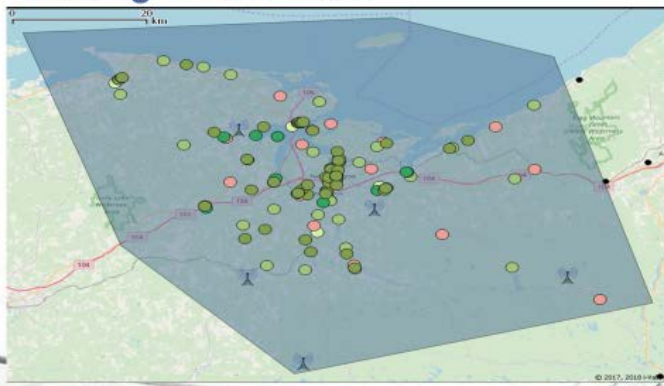


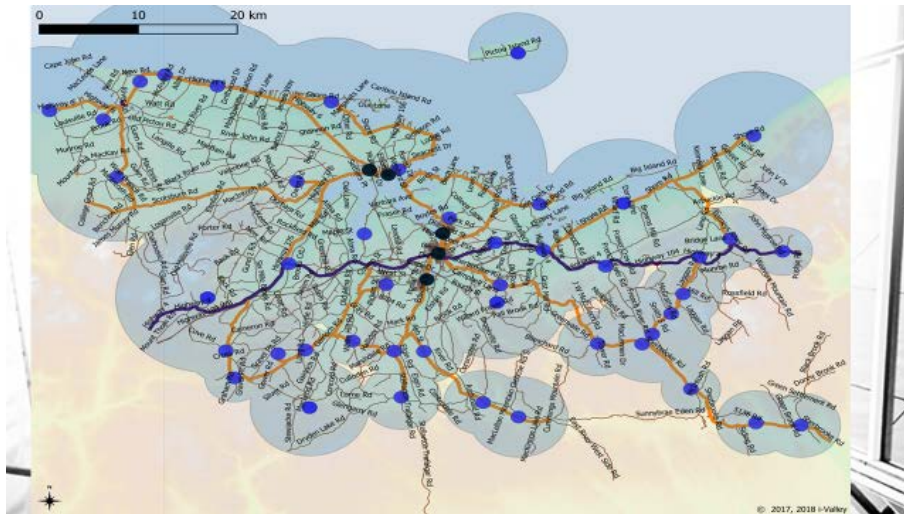
4,693 Tests Run in Pictou

Cell Service



Existing Infrastructure





Request for Information Process

- In October, the Municipality issued a Request for Information with the goals of:
 - Through this Request for Information, the Municipality of the County of Pictou will seek to specify the terms and conditions that may govern any resulting submission for work through a Request for Submission process; and
 - Select the successful Proponent(s), if any to further discussions on collaboration and partnership opportunities.
- One addendum was issued through the process to extend the original closing date from November 22, 2018 to December 6, 2018 and to allow for electronic submissions
- There were four submissions received.

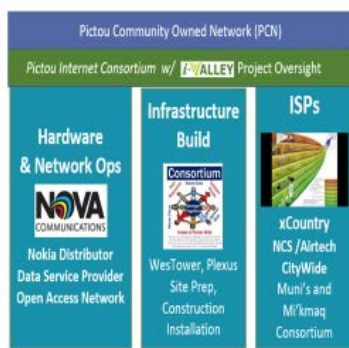
Funding Opportunity

- Develop Nova Scotia has opened a process that will lead to the provision of High Speed Internet Infrastructure and Service in order to provide better service to communities and rural residents, open more opportunities for small business owners and improve access for services like telehealth and distance education. The Rural Internet Strategy is intended to provide service to 95% of the population.
- Ideally successful applications will leverage a provincial investment of \$193-million with funds from the private sector, the federal government and municipalities.
- Pictou has prepared a strategy that centres on municipal involvement, combined with the technological prowess of Internet Service Providers for the technical and service delivery elements. This strategy is now accepted by Develop Nova Scotia as a legitimate contending approach for Internet provision. It has the advantage for the municipality of allowing a measure of control of its future in a Digital Age, and of providing revenues from service delivery for municipal use and continuing network expansion.

Develop NS Application

- On March 12, 2019 the Municipality successfully submitted its application to Develop Nova Scotia
- Develop Nova Scotia issued one request for clarification on the submission around insurance
 - The Municipality responded with proof of overall insurability

Community Access Network



Description

- i-Valley Project Oversight
- Pictou as Lead Proponent (DNS RFSQ)
- Meets financial assurances from gov't to ensure performance
- 5G and Quality Tech Solution (IP/MPLS with wireless)
- Technology Transfer Plans can become part of the proposal
- Includes Operation and Project Management
- Nokia product prime in network core, access and aggregation plus software (OSS/BSS and SMA) and possible finance vehicles

Co-Op and Consortium Partners

- Municipality of Pictou: Finance
- i-Valley: Municipal 'Agent' for Oversight
- Nova: Prime Contractor
- Nokia: Equipment and Fibre (5G-capable)
- Plexus: Data Network Supplier
- NCS: ISP
- Citywide: ISP
- AirTech: ISP
- WesTower: ISP
- (Others TBD in Co-Op: First Nations, Credit Unions, Banks...)

Value of a Network

- A *core asset* to development...having a 5G-capable network is a huge magnet for business and development
- Property tax increase alone due to property value rise of 3% due to broadband would be \$420,000
- IRU asset could bring income from services like Online Tourism, and add value to municipal communications, education, healthcare...
- Generally accepted figure for impact to broadband on property value

Other Notable Work and Progress

- **5G for Rural Communities Executive Workshop; Friday, February 15th**
 - 5G – the fifth generation of wireless networks - is more than just another "G".
 - *5G provides wireless Internet broadband performance that is almost equivalent to wireline service:*
 - real-world speeds of hundreds of megabits per second.
- **Shawn Sparling, VP Enterprise and Public Sector NOKIA Canada**
- NOKIA is one of the world's leading providers of 5G, and is well able to answer that question. Nokia has recently been awarded a Federal \$40-million research fund to help telecom networks meet the needs of 5G technology. NOKIA has 2,000 employees in Canada working on \$214-million in projects in Canada.

What is 5G

- 5G wireless signals operate all bands however in each range bring different benefits and speeds. For example, in an extremely high-frequency band that offers high data speeds *but* has a short range.
- It will not be a universal solution to all rural connectivity. Given the short range of 5G in the high frequencies, the trick in rural applications is to find those places that have enough people to justify the service - a balance between technology and funding.
- The benefits are potentially enormous.
 - At peak speeds in ideal conditions, 5G networks are expected to reach up to 20Gbps download speeds...roughly 20 times what's possible with LTE-Advanced
 - It will also lower the time it takes to begin accessing content from the network (otherwise known as latency) to about a millisecond.
 - In fact, a major revolution from 5G will be the shift in emphasis from connecting millions of people, to connecting billions of *things* - a development called the Internet of Things (IoT), in which all the devices around the world from pills to planes have their own unique digital identifier, connected via the Internet.

Financial Analysis

• Potential Revenues (40 percent)	\$105,002,212
• Capital Cost	\$24,900,000
• Borrowing Costs \$5,723,415	\$30,623,524
• Operating Costs	\$11,550,243
• Cost Share Agreements	\$52,501,106
• Net Gain	\$10,427,339

Develop Nova Scotia

- *The proposed DNS RFP strategy is as follows:*
 - *RFP1 will be issued mid to late April which will encompass 2019 and Q1/Q2 2020 deliverables. RFP1 will remain open for 45 days followed by 90 days of evaluation and contract negotiation. We anticipate contracts will be awarded on or before the end of August for this phase.*
- *RFP 1 the priorities are:*
 - *Establish as many new connections as possible in 2019;*
 - *Maintain strong momentum into 2020; and*
 - *Ensure a consistent flow of connections throughout the life of the project*

Federal Funding

- On March 29, 2018 at the announcement of Additional Federal Gas Tax Dollars, we had the opportunity to discuss our project at a very high level with Sean Fraser, MP Central Nova
- On the Thursday April 18, 2019 the Warden, CAO and chair of the Adhoc Communications Committee will present our project concept in more detail to Sean Fraser
 - To outline project
 - Identify key contact within the Federal Departments to access program and funding opportunities

Work To Be Completed

- Application to CRTC : Non-Dominant Carrier \$4,300
- Development of Detailed Engineering Project \$3,000
- Canadian Internet Registry License \$3,100
- Development of Funding Applications (Technical) \$15,000
 - DNS RFP
 - Federal Applications
 - Detailed Analysis of Data Collected
- Meeting with Consortium (May 13, 2019)

Develop Nova Scotia

- Ten organizations have been qualified and include a mix of small and large companies, as well as municipalities. They Include:
 1. Bell Canada
 2. Cross Country TV Limited
 3. Eastlink
 4. ISM Canada (IBM Canada)
 5. Mainland Telecom
 6. Municipality of Kings
 7. Municipality of Pictou County (with Nova Communications)
 8. Seaside Communications
 9. TNC Wireless Ltd.
 10. Xplornet

Next Steps Funding RFP

- Issue Date of RFP 5/2/2019
- Pre-Qualified Proponents' (only) Conference 5/14/2019 - Details to be provided to Pre-Qualified Proponents
- Deadline for Questions 6/11/2019
- Submission Deadline Date and Time 6/28/2019 @ 2:00 PM ADT
- Rectification Period 5 Days
- 7/18/2019 Anticipated Ranking of Proponents
- Contract Negotiation Period 60 Days

Warden R. Parker thanked the CAO for all the hard work he has put into this project. The main demand from electors at the last municipal election was better highspeed internet throughout the County. We should be able to do this with no cost to the taxpayers and it should eventually open up a revenue stream for the County. There are a lot of positive signs but we still have a lot of work to do.

Clr. D. Parker asked for more information on the estimates and the CAO replied that on the revenue side those numbers are based on industry standard. On the capital side the numbers come from the experts working on the file with us, request for information, potential partners and a number of companies submitted a willingness to do projects in Pictou County. The operating costs are the industry standard on what a network costs to run.

Clr. D. Parker asked if we have sufficient manpower in-house to start to put this thing together and the CAO responded that on the technical side, they will require additional work from i-Valley. As we are developing the project some of the key partners are putting resource to it as well.

Clr. D. Parker asked the purpose of the meeting with the Consortium and the CAO replied that the purpose is to meet the primary players of the consortium. Council will get a firsthand account of what they do, who they are, what value they are bringing to the project and to the Municipality.

Clr. Wadden asked the percentage of 5G that would be in the County and the CAO replied that it would be unrealistic to say the entire Municipality would have access to 5G because it really is based on concentration. He reported that the areas that you would look to have 5G are the areas that already have main line fiber run. He pointed out that the requirements for 5G and the inter-connectability is short distance so that will be depended on fiber. The current project is anywhere from 400 to 450 km of fiber to be installed in higher density areas.

Clr. Wadden pointed out that whatever we do we have to do it right.

Clr. Baillie reported the \$99 is the industry standard for homeowners to pay but asked if that amount would be reduced if the we are successful in receiving funding from other levels of government.

The CAO pointed out that charge is regulated by the CRTC so it could be less.

Warden R. Parker reported that we want it to be available as many people as possible, affordable and good quality for the residents of the County. He indicated this is a very exciting project for Council and the County and next week we will have a chance to talk to the experts at our Committee of Council meeting.

HOSPITAL ER WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

Clr. Boyles informed Council that when he arrived at the Aberdeen Hospital recently with a resident there were no wheelchairs available. He had to walk the resident into the hospital to be treated and the Dr. told him that person was on the verge of a stroke. Clr. Boyles reported that he called the hospital to make a report and they assured him wheelchairs would be available. He checked on several occasions and found that the availability of wheelchairs was sporadic.

MOTION

It was moved by Clr. Boyles and seconded by Clr. Butler that a letter be sent to the NSHA and the Aberdeen Hospital asking that wheelchairs be available at all time in the Emergency Room area for patient arrivals.

Motion carried.

2019 50 OVER 50 AWARDS

Clr. Boyles reported the 50 over 50 awards are recognizing and celebrating people who started a business over 50. This year submissions must be received by June 30, 2019 and he pointed out that Council sponsored this event last year. He asked that promotion of this opportunity be done using our social media platforms.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

There were no emergency resolutions.

REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES & NOTICES OF MOTION

Clr. Turner reported that he received numerous calls regarding the procedure required for sewer hook-ups in both Springfield Estates and in Abercrombie. He would like to have a review of that process so he asked that it put on the next Property Services Committee agenda.

Clr. Turner informed Council that he received complaints of speeders from NRHS on the Green Hill Road so he would like to have a further discussion on this issue.

Clr. Boyles reported that he sits on the Advisory Committee with NSP and at the last meeting they were told they have a kit to treat tick bites. He will get the price and name of the product because it may be something the County would like to invest in for our summer programs and our employees.

Clr. Boyles reported that he was under the impression that the honor wall in the main lobby of the Administration Building was for historical events and asked why the Volunteer of the Year picture was hung there too. He would like to have a discussion on this issue at a future meeting.

Clr. Wadden reported that she attended a Critical Incident presentation for firefighters and she would like to add this to the next Property Services Committee agenda.

Clr. Wadden reported that she would also like to add EAP coverage for firefighters to the next meeting.

Clr. Wadden asked that the lights in the Council Chambers be cleaned.

The CAO reported that a recommendation from the Fire Liaison Committee will be forthcoming during the budget meeting with respect to EAP coverage for firefighters.

Deputy Warden Murray informed Council that his district has one of the worst roads in Atlantic Canada so he would like to send a letter to the Minister of TIR on that issue as well as a community mailbox that he would like moved.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Clr. MacKeil and seconded by Clr. D. Parker that the meeting adjourn.

Motion carried. (9:13 p.m.)

Robert Parker
Warden

Brian Cullen
Municipal Clerk