



MUNICIPALITY *of the*
COUNTY *of* KINGS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

9:00 a.m.

AGENDA

Video Recording Times Noted in Red
Video is available here

1. Roll Call **04:27**
2. Approval of Agenda **05:35** Page 1
3. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest Issues **None**
4. Approval of Minutes **06:29**
 - a. April 15, 2025 Page 2
5. Business Arising from Minutes **None**
 - a. April 15, 2025 Page 2
6. Presentation **07:25**
 - a. Annapolis Valley Regional Library Operations & Provincial Library Funding Review Update Page 9
7. Administration
 - a. Proclamation Requests for June 2025: Pride Month, National Indigenous History Month, National Indigenous Peoples Day **19:48** Page 13
 - b. Proposed Amendments to Policy COMM-02-003: Proclamations **28:39** Page 18
 - c. Update on Regional Sewer (presentation) **32:25**
8. Board and Committee Reports **44:00**
 - a. Diversity Kings County Committee Page 25
 - b. Fire Services Advisory Committee Page 26
 - c. Committees of Council Page 27
 - d. External Boards and Committees Page 28
9. Other Business **None**
10. Comments from the Public **None**
11. Adjournment **48:07**

Accommodations are available for this meeting: please submit your request at
www.countyofkings.ca/accommodationsrequest.

**THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF KINGS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, April 15, 2025
DRAFT MINUTES**

**Meeting Date
and Time**

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers, Municipal Complex, Coldbrook, Nova Scotia.

1. Attendance

All Members of Council were in attendance. Councillor Harding attended virtually.

Results for Roll Call

For 10
Against 0

| District | Name | Results |
|------------|----------------------|---------|
| Mayor | Dave Corkum | For |
| District 1 | Everett MacPherson | For |
| District 2 | Doug Gates | For |
| District 3 | Robbie Hiltz | For |
| District 4 | Riley Peckford | For |
| District 5 | Tim Harding | For |
| District 6 | Bob Best | For |
| District 7 | Emily Lutz | For |
| District 8 | Christina Sappington | For |
| District 9 | Peter Allen | For |

Also in attendance were:

- Scott Conrod, Chief Administrative Officer
- Rob Frost, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
- Brad Carrigan, Director, Engineering & Public Works
- Trish Javorek, Director, Planning & Inspections
- Scott MacKay, Manager, Revenue & Acting Director, Finance & IT
- Laura Mosher, Manager, Planning Services
- Chad West, Manager, Information Technology
- Vicki Brooke, Policy Analyst
- Haley Hutt, Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary

2. [Approval of Agenda](#)

On motion of Councillor Allen and Councillor Sappington, that Committee of the Whole approve the April 15, 2025 agenda as circulated.

Motion Carried.

Results

For 10
Against 0

| District | Name | Results |
|------------|----------------------|---------|
| Mayor | Dave Corkum | For |
| District 1 | Everett MacPherson | For |
| District 2 | Doug Gates | For |
| District 3 | Robbie Hiltz | For |
| District 4 | Riley Peckford | For |
| District 5 | Tim Harding | For |
| District 6 | Bob Best | For |
| District 7 | Emily Lutz | For |
| District 8 | Christina Sappington | For |
| District 9 | Peter Allen | For |

3. **Disclosure of Conflict of Interest Issues** No Conflict of Interest issues were declared.
4. **Approval of Minutes**
- 4a. [March 18, 2025](#) The minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on March 18, 2025 were approved as circulated.
- 4b. [March 26, 2025](#) The minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole budget meeting held on March 26, 2025 was approved as circulated.
5. **Business Arising from Minutes**
- 5a. [March 18, 2025](#) and [March 26, 2025](#) There was no business arising from the March 18 and March 26, 2025 minutes.
6. **Presentations**
- 6a. [Swim Nova Scotia - Need for Aquatic Infrastructure](#) Martin Laycock, President, and Bette El-Hawary, Executive Director, provided a [presentation](#).

On motion of Councillor Lutz and Councillor Best, that Committee of the Whole receive for information the Swim Nova Scotia - Need for Aquatic Infrastructure presentation as provided on April 15, 2025.

Motion Carried.

Results

For 10
Against 0

| District | Name | Results |
|------------|----------------------|---------|
| Mayor | Dave Corkum | For |
| District 1 | Everett MacPherson | For |
| District 2 | Doug Gates | For |
| District 3 | Robbie Hiltz | For |
| District 4 | Riley Peckford | For |
| District 5 | Tim Harding | For |
| District 6 | Bob Best | For |
| District 7 | Emily Lutz | For |
| District 8 | Christina Sappington | For |
| District 9 | Peter Allen | For |

- 6b. [Friends of Kentville Ravine- Threat to All Hemlock Trees in Nova Scotia](#) Dr. Tom Herman, Dr. Peter Hicklenton, and Ken Harrison and provided a [presentation](#).

On motion of Deputy Mayor Peckford and Councillor Hiltz, that Committee of the Whole receive for information the Friends of Kentville Ravine - Threat to All Hemlock Trees in Nova Scotia presentation as provided on April 15, 2025.

Motion Carried.

Results

For 10
Against 0

| District | Name | Results |
|------------|--------------------|---------|
| Mayor | Dave Corkum | For |
| District 1 | Everett MacPherson | For |

| | | |
|------------|----------------------|-----|
| District 2 | Doug Gates | For |
| District 3 | Robbie Hiltz | For |
| District 4 | Riley Peckford | For |
| District 5 | Tim Harding | For |
| District 6 | Bob Best | For |
| District 7 | Emily Lutz | For |
| District 8 | Christina Sappington | For |
| District 9 | Peter Allen | For |

7. Administration

7a. [Amendments to Policy FIN-05-002: Council and Committee Remuneration](#)

Vicki Brooke, Policy Analyst, presented the Request for Decision as attached to the April 15, 2025 agenda and provided a [presentation](#).

On motion of Councillor Allen and Councillor Sappington, that Committee of the Whole recommend Municipal Council provide seven days' notice, per s.48(1) *Municipal Government Act*, to amend Policy FIN-05-002: Council and Committee Remuneration as attached to the April 15, 2025 Committee of the Whole agenda.

Motion Carried.

Results

For 10
Against 0

| District | Name | Results |
|------------|----------------------|---------|
| Mayor | Dave Corkum | For |
| District 1 | Everett MacPherson | For |
| District 2 | Doug Gates | For |
| District 3 | Robbie Hiltz | For |
| District 4 | Riley Peckford | For |
| District 5 | Tim Harding | For |
| District 6 | Bob Best | For |
| District 7 | Emily Lutz | For |
| District 8 | Christina Sappington | For |
| District 9 | Peter Allen | For |

On motion of Councillor Lutz and Councillor Gates, that Committee of the Whole recommend Municipal Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to remunerate Nicole VandenHof in accordance with Policy FIN-05-002: Council and Committee Remuneration for attending meetings of the Police Advisory Board from December 1, 2022 to March 1, 2025.

Motion Carried.

Results

For 10
Against 0

| District | Name | Results |
|------------|--------------------|---------|
| Mayor | Dave Corkum | For |
| District 1 | Everett MacPherson | For |
| District 2 | Doug Gates | For |
| District 3 | Robbie Hiltz | For |
| District 4 | Riley Peckford | For |
| District 5 | Tim Harding | For |
| District 6 | Bob Best | For |
| District 7 | Emily Lutz | For |

| | | |
|------------|----------------------|-----|
| District 8 | Christina Sappington | For |
| District 9 | Peter Allen | For |

8. Engineering & Public Works

8a. [2025/26 J-Class Road Agreement](#)

Brad Carrigan, Director of Engineering & Public Works, presented the Request for Decision as attached to the April 15, 2025 agenda and provided a [presentation](#).

On motion of Councillor Gates and Councillor MacPherson, that Committee of the Whole recommend Municipal Council accept the proposed road for repaving (Sandy Court) as detailed in the letter dated March 27, 2025 received from the Office of Minister of Public Works.

Motion Carried.

Results

For 10
Against 0

| District | Name | Results |
|------------|----------------------|---------|
| Mayor | Dave Corkum | For |
| District 1 | Everett MacPherson | For |
| District 2 | Doug Gates | For |
| District 3 | Robbie Hiltz | For |
| District 4 | Riley Peckford | For |
| District 5 | Tim Harding | For |
| District 6 | Bob Best | For |
| District 7 | Emily Lutz | For |
| District 8 | Christina Sappington | For |
| District 9 | Peter Allen | For |

On motion of Deputy Mayor Peckford and Councillor Lutz, that Committee of the Whole recommend Municipal Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to propose a replacement J-Class Program to the Province of Nova Scotia based on information provided to Municipal Council on November 19, 2024.

Motion Carried.

Results

For 10
Against 0

| District | Name | Results |
|------------|----------------------|---------|
| Mayor | Dave Corkum | For |
| District 1 | Everett MacPherson | For |
| District 2 | Doug Gates | For |
| District 3 | Robbie Hiltz | For |
| District 4 | Riley Peckford | For |
| District 5 | Tim Harding | For |
| District 6 | Bob Best | For |
| District 7 | Emily Lutz | For |
| District 8 | Christina Sappington | For |
| District 9 | Peter Allen | For |

The Committee took a brief break from 10:42 a.m. to 10:55 a.m.

9. Information Technology Services

- 9a. [Award of Contract #25-09: Permitting Software](#) Chad West, Manager of Information Technology, presented the Request for Decision as attached to the April 15, 2025 agenda and provided a [presentation](#).

On motion of Councillor MacPherson and Councillor Sappington, that Committee of the Whole recommend Municipal Council award Contract #25-09: Permitting Software to Clariti Cloud Inc. for a term of five (5) years at a total cost of \$346,518.88 (including non-recoverable HST), as described in the April 15, 2025 Request for Decision.

Motion Carried.

Results

For 10
Against 0

| District | Name | Results |
|------------|----------------------|---------|
| Mayor | Dave Corkum | For |
| District 1 | Everett MacPherson | For |
| District 2 | Doug Gates | For |
| District 3 | Robbie Hiltz | For |
| District 4 | Riley Peckford | For |
| District 5 | Tim Harding | For |
| District 6 | Bob Best | For |
| District 7 | Emily Lutz | For |
| District 8 | Christina Sappington | For |
| District 9 | Peter Allen | For |

10. Planning Services

- 10a. [Storm Water Management](#) Laura Mosher, Manager of Planning Services, presented the Request for Decision as attached to the April 15, 2025 agenda and provided a [presentation](#).

On motion of Councillor Best and Deputy Mayor Peckford, that the motion to give seven days' notice, per s. 48(1) *Municipal Government Act*, to adopt Policy DBS-03-006: Storm Water Management as detailed in the April 15, 2025 Request for Decision be tabled.

Tabling Motion Carried.

Results

For 7
Against 3

| District | Name | Results |
|------------|----------------------|---------|
| Mayor | Dave Corkum | Against |
| District 1 | Everett MacPherson | Against |
| District 2 | Doug Gates | For |
| District 3 | Robbie Hiltz | For |
| District 4 | Riley Peckford | For |
| District 5 | Tim Harding | For |
| District 6 | Bob Best | For |
| District 7 | Emily Lutz | For |
| District 8 | Christina Sappington | Against |
| District 9 | Peter Allen | For |

11. **Board and Committee Reports**

- 11a. [Greenwood Water Source Water Protection Committee](#) Deputy Mayor Peckford presented the report as attached to the April 15, 2025 Committee of the Whole agenda.
- 11b. **Valley Regional Enterprise Network Liaison & Oversight Committee** Mayor Corkum provided a brief verbal report from the April 14, 2025 meeting.
- 11c. [Committees of Council](#) For information.
- 11d. [External Boards and Committees](#) For information.

On motion of Deputy Mayor Peckford and Councillor Gates, that Committee of the Whole receive the Board and Committee Reports as attached to the April 15, 2025 agenda and as provided verbally for information.

Motion Carried.

Results

For 10
Against 0

| District | Name | Results |
|------------|----------------------|---------|
| Mayor | Dave Corkum | For |
| District 1 | Everett MacPherson | For |
| District 2 | Doug Gates | For |
| District 3 | Robbie Hiltz | For |
| District 4 | Riley Peckford | For |
| District 5 | Tim Harding | For |
| District 6 | Bob Best | For |
| District 7 | Emily Lutz | For |
| District 8 | Christina Sappington | For |
| District 9 | Peter Allen | For |

12. **Correspondence** Mayor Corkum presented the correspondence as attached to April 15, 2025 Committee of the Whole agenda.
- 12a. [Birds Canada - Sharing Bay of Fundy Beaches with Shorebirds](#) For information.
- 12b. [Adrian Johnstone, Valley Eye Photography re: Civic Signs](#) Committee of the Whole requested staff recommendations for having letters mailed with the tax newsletter, as well as making civic signs available to members of the public.
13. **Other Business** Councillor Best announced a fundraiser dinner on April 27, 2025 at the Berwick and District Lions Hall in support of the Cambridge Elementary School Playground.
14. **Comments from the Public** No members of the public were present.
15. **Adjournment** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

Approved by:

Dave Corkum
Mayor

Haley Hutt
Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary

| Results Legend | |
|----------------|---|
| - | Absent |
| COI | Conflict of interest |
| For | A vote in favour |
| Against | A vote in the negative or any Councillor who fails or refuses to vote and who is required to vote by the preceding subsection, shall be deemed as voting in the negative. |



ANNAPOLIS VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

Updates from the CEO and Board Chair

2024-25 continued to be a busy year at the Library – in fact, Summer Reading Club 2024 was our busiest ever, with over 2,000 participants and over 2 million minutes read! And over 2,500 new cardholders registered this past year, a 10% increase that means over 25,000 Valley residents are active library members.

As we look forward into the future, it's also helpful to check in with the past. From 2009-2024, book checkouts in the Valley have increased 30%, while the population has increased by 10% over the same period. It's thanks to you, the public, for continuing to make AVRL such a vibrant place. In 2025 we are looking forward to renewed funding support from the Province and municipalities so that we can continue to support our communities with improved services and programs.

Stay tuned for what comes next!

Julia Merritt, Chief Executive Officer



AVRL is a reflection of the changing times we are all experiencing. Following the provincial election in November, AVRL Board welcomed 5 new municipal appointees, all of whom bring a wealth of knowledge and interest in the issues that affect their municipalities and the role AVRL plays in the lives of the people in their communities.

Over 800 people contributed to AVRL's 2024 Community Consultation, strongly reinforcing that our libraries are community hubs where people go with hope to improve their lives; where welcoming, safe and accessible spaces bring people together; where everyone has access to reliable and accurate information, staff to help navigate questions; and where entertainment, lifelong learning opportunities, early literacy development happens. The Board looks forward to implementing a renewed strategic plan in 2025 to grow the services that our communities are asking of us.

Janet Ness, Chair

NEW USERS

3,723



ACTIVE USERS

25,529

TOTAL PROGRAMS

1,465

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

8,698





ANNAPOLIS VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025



Highlights

- Over 800 people contributed to the Community Consultation in Fall 2024. This feedback will form the basis of the Library's new strategic plan in 2025.
- Summer Reading Club was a banner year, with 2,315,459 minutes read and 2,095 registered participants, both numbers more than double the amount in 2023. Programs took place in all 11 branches equitably.
- 25,529 active members means almost 1 in 4 residents in the Annapolis Valley are actively using their library card.
- In 2024, AVRL eliminated the 5-6:30pm closures for continuous service on open days. This increased the hours at Bridgetown, Lawrencetown, Middleton, and Port Williams.
- The Wolfville Branch community fundraising kicked off with 3 sold-out performances of *Murder By The Book*, a community theatre play.

DIGITAL ITEMS BORROWED

130,397

TOTAL ITEMS BORROWED

759,399

PUBLIC COMPUTER ACCESS (HOURS)

20,820

WIRELESS USAGE (HOURS)

213,579



AVRL Backgrounder: Library Funding Formula, April 2025

Facts About AVRL Usage

- 11 locations in West Hants, Kings, and Annapolis Counties providing 375 open hours weekly.
- Between 2009 and 2024, AVRL circulation has increased by 30%; population has increased by roughly 10%. This number doesn't include other measures of use like programs, technology, or use as a community space/hub.
- In 2023-24, 1 in 5 Annapolis Valley residents has used their card in the last 2 years.
- Municipalities are investing in libraries: all 11 branches renovated or rebuilt since 2000.
- Internet connectivity is a priority: over 300,000 hours in 2023-24, a 20% increase in usage over the last 2 years.

AVRL Challenges

- The Bank of Canada calculates inflation at 43% from 2009 to 2025. AVRL funding has only increased 10%.
- Wages are extremely low; demographic and labour force changes mean that current model of staffing and salaries is unsustainable. AVRL is having significant difficulty in finding and retaining qualified staff.
- Roughly 60% of the staff has turned over since 2022; low wages are contributing to lack of retention.
- Amid the financial and labour challenges, there are continuing calls for increase in services: bigger collections in more formats, more programs, and additional duties for staff (technology and helping vulnerable people).

Service Impacts

To date, AVRL has had to make the following reductions to be able to operate within budget constraints:

- 2015 to 2024: eliminated 12 full-time jobs to meet inflation. Elimination of 5 full-time positions since 2023.
- 50% reduction in programming as of 2024; only core literacy and technology programs remain.
- Elimination of the bookmobile service, and the department in charge of programming and partnerships.
- Deficit budgeting starting 2023-24 and continuing in 2024-25 and 2025-26.

Additional Impacts 2025-26

Without its portion of the emergency \$1.6 million requested from the Province for 2025-26, the impact on AVRL will be:

- 2024-25 budgeted deficit was \$123,500. Real deficit will be \$0 due to additional staff resignations/gapping, loss of service to community.
- 2025-26 budgeted deficit is \$245,000 without any wage increases, and without adjusting for the minimum wage.
- Adjusting wages to include the increase to minimum wage will represent another \$280,000; the total potential deficit would be \$534,000. AVRL Board could operate at the current level of service for 2025-26 without further reductions. It would not be able to do so as of 2026-27.
- Continuing all cuts as above.

Library Funding Formula

Regional libraries in Nova Scotia are funded by operating grants from the Nova Scotia Government (Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage) and municipal governments. In the 8 rural regions (non-HRM), the split is 71% Provincial, 26% Municipal, 3% Library Board. The amount each pays, and the total, is determined by the provincial government in a 5-year Funding Formula. The current formula is for April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2025. The formula does not include any annual increases for inflation or other service increases. The 2020 increase was the first increase to funding since 2009. Since then, one-time relief grants have been provided in 2023, 2024 and 2025. **AVRL's base budget under the current formula is \$2,701,175.**



AVRL Backgrounder: Library Funding Formula, April 2025

Working towards a new formula:

In 2024 the province formed a Library Funding Review Committee to bring forward recommendations for an updated formula. The Committee was comprised of government officials (CCTH and Municipal Affairs), Library Board members, Municipal Councillors, Municipal CAOs, and Regional Library CEOs from across the province. Research was carried out in the top priority areas of staff salaries, collections, and technology. An independent consulting firm was hired to carry out a comparison between the job duties and education/skills of Nova Scotia library salaries to those in government and other libraries, across Nova Scotia and Canada. Below are the results for Annapolis Valley Regional Library.

| Job Category | AVRL Wage 2023-24 | | NS Library Salary 75 th Percentile 2023-24 | | Cdn Public Library Wages 75 th Percentile 2022, 2023 | |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------|---|----------|---|-----------|
| | Hourly | Annual | Hourly | Annual | Hourly | Annual |
| Library Clerk | \$19.43 | \$35,363 | \$21.98 | \$40,006 | \$29.17 | \$53,089 |
| Technician | \$21.64 | \$39,385 | \$26.36 | \$47,966 | \$32.03 | \$58,295 |
| Library Supervisor | \$27.18 | \$49,468 | \$33.69 | \$61,316 | \$59.37 | \$108,053 |
| Senior Manager | \$42.25 | \$76,895 | \$45.65 | \$83,088 | \$73.76 | \$134,243 |

The Library Funding Review Committee reported their recommendations to government in September 2024. Several options were provided but all included increases in salaries, collections, and technology. The Committee also warned of the effects of “no increase” or “status quo” in funding and how it would severely impact libraries across the province.

Provincial Budget 2025-26

There was no increase in the 2025/26 provincial budget for public libraries. We are unsure of the future of the Funding Formula recommendations. Library Boards have submitted an emergency request to Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage to reduce harm to the library systems in this fiscal year. While disappointed we are hopeful there will be a resolution that recognizes the important role libraries play in communities.

Community Uses of Libraries

Libraries are places where people go because they hope to improve their lives. Public libraries are welcoming, accessible spaces that bring people together and are important partners in supporting key determinants of health – making sure everyone has access to reliable and accurate information, staff who can help you navigate questions, entertainment, lifelong learning opportunities, early literacy development, or just a safe place to be. They are community hubs that are in high demand and we want to be able to provide the services that our communities are asking of us.

Broader Public Library Impacts

- Average ROI of public libraries is 6:1 – AVRL direct impact/efficiency in the realm of \$17 million annually.¹
- A 1% increase in adult literacy rates could become worth \$67 billion in economic output for Canada.²
- Social Impact of Libraries – in 2023 Toronto PL was able to measure emotional, intellectual, creative and social impact; showing that the library creates a strong sense of wellbeing and focus for users; provides a vital and dynamic learning environment for personal and professional growth; helps people gain new skills and acting as a catalyst for inspiration; and providing a welcoming and inclusive environment that fosters connections and helps build community.³

¹ Canadian Urban Institute, “Overdue: The Case for Canada’s Public Libraries” (2023)

² Canadian Urban Institute, “Overdue: The Case for Canada’s Public Libraries” (2023)

³ Seismonaut for Toronto Public Library, “Enabling Torontonians to grow and thrive: the social impact of public libraries” (2023)

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| TO | Committee of the Whole |
| PREPARED BY | Samuel López Matos, Inclusive Communities Intern Charissa Kleine Deters, Diversity Specialist |
| MEETING DATE | May 20, 2025 |
| SUBJECT | Proclamation Requests for the Month of June 2025 |

ORIGIN

- [Strategy for Belonging](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That Committee of the Whole recommend Municipal Council proclaim June 2025 as National Indigenous History Month in the Municipality of the County of Kings.

That Committee of the Whole recommend Municipal Council proclaim June 21, 2025 as National Indigenous Peoples Day in the Municipality of the County of Kings.

That Committee of the Whole recommend Municipal Council proclaim June 2025 as Pride Month in the Municipality of the County of Kings.

INTENT

To present the proclamation requests to Committee of the Whole for consideration and recommendation to Municipal Council for adoption.

DISCUSSION

The Municipality of the County of Kings has a vision to be “A community of communities where all people belong”. Approval of these proclamations is a step toward this vision and affirms support for diverse communities throughout the Municipality by honouring the full range of lived experiences present in the Kings Region.

June marks National Indigenous History Month, a month that honours the stories, achievements, and resilience of the Indigenous Peoples who have called Turtle Island home since time immemorial. Originally designated as National Aboriginal History Month by the House of Commons in 2009 by unanimous vote and later renamed to its current name in 2017, it recognizes the resilience and rich heritage of the Indigenous, Métis, and Inuit peoples across the country.

Concurrently with this, June 21st is National Indigenous Peoples Day, the date being chosen because of the significance of the summer solstice as the longest day of the year. This celebration originates in calls by the National Indian Brotherhood, now the Assembly of First Nations, in 1982 to establish as a date of recognition National Aboriginal Solidarity Day, with renewed calls for a date of recognition picking up in 1995. The following year, then Governor General Roméo LeBlanc would announce the government’s intention of having a national annual celebration of Indigenous peoples, which would be followed up that same year with Canada’s first annual National Aboriginal Day on June 21st, 1996, the celebration’s name being changed to its current name in 2017.

The Municipality of the County of Kings is located on Mi’kmaw territory and recognizes the contributions of Indigenous Peoples to the social, economic, and political growth of the Region. Further, through the Strategy for Belonging, the Municipality formally commits to truth, reconciliation, advocacy, and action development for the holistic wellbeing of Indigenous Peoples. Recognition of these two proclamations is an important part of our ongoing commitments to uphold these ongoing efforts.

Request for Decision

The month of June is designated as Pride Month in honour of the uprising at the Stonewall Inn in New York City on June 28th, 1969. The month celebrates and commemorates the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, highlighting the community's resilience, contributions, and talents. Having historically emerged out of large-scale protests for 2SLGBTQIA+ rights, the earliest demonstrations in Canada manifested in 1971 in Vancouver and Ottawa, with more emerging in cities such as Montréal, Toronto, Winnipeg, and Saskatoon by 1993. Here in the Valley, Valley Pride held its first Pride event in 2023 and has been hosting them annually since.

Approval of all three requested proclamations in the Municipality of the County of Kings aids in strengthening relationships with diverse communities throughout the Municipality, building trust with these communities, and contributes to the Municipality's goal of being "a community of communities where all people belong".

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- There are no financial implications.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|--|
| ✓ | Strong Communities | Aligned with the Strategy for Belonging. |
| | Environmental Stewardship | |
| | Economic Development | |
| | Good Governance | |
| | Financial Sustainability | |
| | Other | |

ALTERNATIVES

- Municipal Council may choose not to proclaim any or all of the proclamations.

IMPLEMENTATION

- Publish proclamations to the Municipality's website and/or social media platforms.
- Reading of official proclamations at relevant events.

ENGAGEMENT

- There will be community events and/or social media awareness building around all approved proclamations.

APPENDICES

- Appendix A: National Indigenous History Month Proclamation
- Appendix B: National Indigenous Peoples Day Proclamation
- Appendix C: Pride Month Proclamation

APPROVALS

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Brittany Traynor, Manager, Community Development | May 12, 2025 |
| Rob Frost, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer | May 12, 2025 |
| Scott Conrod, Chief Administrative Officer | May 15, 2025 |

Appendix A: National Indigenous History Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, the government of Canada has designated June as National Indigenous History Month to honour the history, heritage, resilience, and diversity of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis Peoples across Canada; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of the County of Kings is located in Mi'kma'ki, the territory of the Mi'kmaq People, who have lived in harmony with these lands since immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of the County of Kings is friends and neighbours with both Annapolis Valley First Nation and Glooscap First Nation, two communities which continue to enrich the culture, social, and economic fabric of the region; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the rich cultural traditions, deep spiritual connections to the land, and the significant contributions of the Mi'kmaq peoples to communities throughout the Municipality; and

WHEREAS, National Indigenous History Month is a time for all to learn more about Indigenous histories and perspectives, and to reflect on our shared responsibilities in advancing truth, reconciliation, and equity;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Dave Corkum, Mayor of the Municipality of the County of Kings,

DO HEREBY PROCLAIM June 2025, as National Indigenous History Month in the Municipality of the County of Kings.

Appendix B: National Indigenous Peoples Day Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada has designated June 21st as National Indigenous Peoples Day; and

WHEREAS, National Indigenous Peoples Day takes place during National Indigenous History Month and has been celebrated across Turtle Island since 1996; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of the County of Kings is located in Mi'kma'ki, the territory of the Mi'kmaq People, who have lived in harmony with these lands since immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of the County of Kings is friends and neighbours with both Annapolis Valley First Nation and Glooscap First Nation, two communities which continue to enrich the culture, social, and economic fabric of the region; and

WHEREAS, First Nation, Inuit and Métis people have and continue to make valuable contributions across the Municipality, the province, and all of Turtle Island; and

WHEREAS, National Indigenous Peoples Day is a time for all to learn more about Indigenous histories and perspectives, and to reflect on our shared responsibilities in advancing truth, reconciliation, and equity;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Dave Corkum, Mayor of the Municipality of the County of Kings,

DO HEREBY PROCLAIM June 21, 2025, as National Indigenous Peoples Day in the Municipality of the County of Kings.

Appendix C: Pride Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, the month of June is recognized as Pride Month in Canada, having been celebrated since 1971; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of the County of Kings strives to be a “community of communities where all people belong”, this including Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and/or questioning, intersex, and asexual (2SLGBTQIA+) individuals and all others who identify with diverse sexualities, gender identities, and gender expressions; and

WHEREAS, the recognition of Pride aids in fostering belonging and celebrates the contributions of 2SLGBTQIAA+ individuals while promoting public awareness; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of the County of Kings is committed to ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their sexuality, gender identity, or gender expression, are able to live full and meaningful lives in a safe and accepting environment;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Dave Corkum, Mayor of the Municipality of the County of Kings,

DO HEREBY PROCLAIM June 2025, as Pride Month in the Municipality of the County of Kings.

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| TO | Committee of the Whole |
| PREPARED BY | Vicki Brooke, Policy Analyst |
| MEETING DATE | April 20, 2025 |
| SUBJECT | Proposed Amendments to Policy COMM-02-003: Proclamations |

ORIGIN

- First introduction to Committee of the Whole

RECOMMENDATION

That Committee of the Whole recommend Municipal Council provide seven days' notice, per s.48(1) *Municipal Government Act*, to amend Policy COMM-02-003: Proclamations as detailed in the May 20, 2025 Request for Decision.

INTENT

For Committee of the Whole to review and recommend adoption of amendments to Policy COMM-02-003: Proclamations.

DISCUSSION

Municipality of the County of Kings Policy COMM-02-003: Proclamations was first adopted July 4, 1995.

Council has traditionally entertained proclamation requests from charitable and non-profit organizations and community groups for causes and events of significance. In 2024, Council made 30 proclamations.

Many Nova Scotia municipalities do not entertain proclamation requests¹. However, the ability to make proclamations has been seen as a meaningful option to Council and staff to recognize events, causes, and persons of significance. As such, staff are proposing amendments to the Policy to make improvements to the Policy. In addition to formatting the Policy to the new template, staff recommend the following amendments:

- Supplementing the Purpose statement (s.1);
- Clarifying the Scope (s.2);
- Adding a definition of Plain Language (s.3.1) which is also referenced in s.4.6;
- Establishing criteria for proclamation requests that may be considered for approval (s.4.3);
- Establishing criteria for applications that will not be considered (s.4.4); and
- Clarifying that the Municipality reserves the right to modify proclamations, in collaboration with the requesting organization, for compliance with the Policy (s.4.7).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- There are no anticipated financial implications to the Municipality.
- Some proclamations are accompanied by events organized by the Municipality. In these cases, events are budgeted for by the hosting department.

¹ Of the 22 Municipalities with a policy addressing proclamations, 13 have a policy stating their Council does not issue proclamations.

Request for Decision

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Strong Communities | |
| | Environmental Stewardship | |
| | Economic Development | |
| | Good Governance | |
| | Financial Sustainability | |
| ✓ | Other | Policy review and updating |

ALTERNATIVES

- The Committee may opt to not recommend adoption of the proposed amendments.
- The Committee may return the Policy to staff for further revision.
- The Committee may instruct the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a policy for discontinuing proclamations or repeal the current Policy.

IMPLEMENTATION

- Draft Policy COMM-02-003: Proclamations submitted to Municipal Council for review.
- If approved as amended, Policy COMM-02-003: Proclamations will be posted on the Municipal website and accompanying internal processes updated as required.

ENGAGEMENT

- Should Municipal Council provide notice to adopt the Policy, the seven days' notice provides an opportunity for further public comment.

APPENDICES

- Appendix A: Policy COMM-02-003: Proclamations with tracked changes
- Appendix B: Policy COMM-02-003: Proclamations with proposed changes included

APPROVALS

Janny Postema, Municipal Clerk May 12, 2025

Brittany Traynor, Manager, Community Development May 13, 2025

Scott Conrod, Chief Administrative Officer May 15, 2025



Municipality of the County of Kings

Proclamations ~~Policy~~

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Policy Category | Communications | Most Recent Amendment | August 2, 2016 |
| First Council Approval | July 4, 1995 | Future Review Date | Approval + 6 Years |

1. Purpose

~~This Policy establishes~~ To establish guidelines and procedure for the submission and consideration of requests made to Council for proclamations. s for responding to requests for proclamations The Municipality of the County of Kings (Municipality) recognizes proclamations as a meaningful way to acknowledge significant events, causes, and initiatives.

2. Scope

~~Proclamations are issued to community groups, charitable organizations and non-profit organizations to increase public awareness of their cause.~~ This Policy applies to all requests for proclamations made to Municipal Council.

3. Definitions

3.1 Plain Language: clear, concise, and well-organized writing that is easily understood by the intended audience on the first reading.

3.2 Proclamation: ~~refers to~~ a formal pronouncement issued at the discretion of ~~the~~ Council.

4. Policy Statements

4.1 It is the policy of the ~~Council-Municipality~~ to consider requests to proclaim certain causes, when such proclamation positively impacts the community and is consistent with the Municipality's Strategic Plan, Vision, Mission, and Values.

4.2 Proclamations shall be presented to ~~Municipal~~ Council for ~~approval~~ consideration.

Proclamation Criteria

4.3 Proclamations shall demonstrate relevance or relationship to the Municipality, which may include but is not limited to:

- Civic promotions or community-based promotions;
- Public awareness campaigns;
- Arts and cultural celebrations;
- Charitable and non-profit fundraising or awareness campaigns; or
- Special honours for individuals relevant to the Municipality.

4.4 Proclamations related but not limited to the following shall not be considered by Council:

- Matters that are contrary to the Municipality's Strategic Plan, Vision, Mission, and Values;
- Political parties, organizations, or campaigns;
- Businesses or commercial enterprises;
- Illegal matters, including but not limited to matters contrary to Municipal policies, by-laws, or applicable laws;
- Matters that defame the Municipality or compromise its integrity or reputation;
- Discriminatory or inflammatory matters, including hate speech or matters promoting discrimination;
- Matters designed to incite hatred or disorder; or
- Matters that are demonstrably false or misleading.

4.5 All proclamation requests from organizations external to the Municipality must include:

- Details of the applicant or organization;
- Information about the cause; and
- A draft proclamation.

4.6 To ensure clarity, accessibility, and public understanding, all proclamations shall be written in plain language to the best of the organization's ability. The Municipality reserves the right to modify requested proclamations, in collaboration with the requesting organization, to ensure alignment with the requirements of this Policy.

6.24.7 Proclamation requests from organizations external to the Municipality must be submitted not less than ~~a minimum of~~ four weeks before the ~~event~~ preferred proclamation date. The Municipality reserves the right to decline processing proclamation requests not received by the deadline.

Requests must be submitted in~~in~~ writing to the Municipal Clerk at:

Municipal Clerk
Municipality of the County of Kings
~~PO Box 100~~
~~Kentville, NS B4N 3W3~~ 181 Coldbrook Village Park Drive
~~Coldbrook, NS B4R 1B9~~
municipalclerk@countyofkings.ca

5. Responsibilities

5.1 Council will:

- 5.1.1 ensure the Municipality ~~of the County of Kings~~ has a current and comprehensive Proclamations Policy; and
- 5.1.2 review and amend this Policy as required.

5.2 The Chief Administrative Officer will:

- 5.2.1 administer and implement the Proclamations Policy; and
- 5.2.2 identify any necessary revisions to the Proclamations Policy in collaboration with Mayor.

~~5.4 The Municipal Clerk (or designated staff) will:~~

~~5.4.1 receive all proclamation requests;~~

~~5.4.2 add proclamation requests to the Committee of the Whole agenda; and~~

~~5.4.3 keep record of all proclamations made by the Municipality.~~

6. Amendments

| Date | Amendments |
|-------------------------|--|
| September 18, 2012 | Addition of objective, definitions, scope, responsibilities, and requirements for proclamation requests. |
| August 2016 | Verbiage change from Warden to Mayor. |
| <i>To be determined</i> | Migration to new template, additional criteria for approval or denial of requests. |



Municipality of the County of Kings

Proclamations

| | | | |
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| Policy Category | Communications | Most Recent Amendment | August 2, 2016 |
| First Council Approval | July 4, 1995 | Future Review Date | Approval + 6 Years |

1. Purpose

This Policy establishes guidelines for the submission and consideration of requests made to Council for proclamations. The Municipality of the County of Kings (Municipality) recognizes proclamations as a meaningful way to acknowledge significant events, causes, and initiatives.

2. Scope

This Policy applies to all requests for proclamations made to Municipal Council.

3. Definitions

3.1 **Plain Language:** clear, concise, and well-organized writing that is easily understood by the intended audience on the first reading.

3.2 **Proclamation:** a formal pronouncement issued at the discretion of Council.

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4.1 It is the policy of the Municipality to consider requests to proclaim certain causes when such proclamation positively impacts the community and is consistent with the Municipality's Strategic Plan, Vision, Mission, and Values.

4.2 Proclamations shall be presented to Council for consideration.

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- Illegal matters, including but not limited to matters contrary to Municipal policies, by-laws, or applicable laws;
- Matters that defame the Municipality or compromise its integrity or reputation;
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4.7 Proclamation requests from organizations external to the Municipality must be submitted not less than four weeks before the preferred proclamation date. The Municipality reserves the right to decline processing proclamation requests not received by the deadline.

Requests must be submitted in writing to the Municipal Clerk at:

Municipal Clerk
Municipality of the County of Kings
181 Coldbrook Village Park Drive
Coldbrook, NS B4R 1B9
municipalclerk@countyofkings.ca

5. Responsibilities

5.1 Council will:

- 5.1.1 ensure the Municipality has a current and comprehensive Proclamations Policy; and
- 5.1.2 review and amend this Policy as required.

5.2 The Chief Administrative Officer will:

- 5.2.1 administer and implement the Proclamations Policy; and
- 5.2.2 identify any necessary revisions to the Proclamations Policy in collaboration with Mayor.

6. Amendments

| Date | Amendments |
|-------------------------|--|
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| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| TO | Committee of the Whole |
| FROM | Councillor Sappington |
| COMMITTEE | Diversity Kings County Committee |
| COMMITTEE MEETING DATE | May 5, 2025 |
| COTW MEETING DATE | May 20, 2025 |

Diversity Kings County has much to be proud of. MOK Manager of Community Development, Brittany Traynor, was a speaker at the NSFM Spring conference in Truro. She spoke about the importance of Inclusivity in Municipal Policies. I must say it was the grand finale of the conference. Her presentation was especially timely, because at the NSFM Board meeting, I shared that all MOK staff takes diversity training. I also explained that Diversity Kings Citizen Member, Devon Adams, suggested that the new Council also take it and that Council agreed to do so.

Because of what I have learned from our staff and the Committee members, I was able to suggest to the NSFM Board that perhaps the NSFM membership should have been required to take diversity training as well. After all, how were leaders supposed to have put together the Anti-hate/Racism plans, required by the Province, without knowing what sort of discrimination is taking place? I share all this to show how Diversity Kings impacts far beyond the County of Kings. In fact, the MOK's Strategy for Belonging was made long before the Province required any sort of Anti-hate plan. Diversity Kings was at the forefront and deserves much respect.

The May 5 meeting had organizers of the Multicultural Fest and Holi Fest present about the excitement ahead of their festivals. We also continued our work plan discussion. Overlying themes seem to be more community engagement and continued advocacy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Councillor Christina Sappington

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| TO | Committee of the Whole |
| FROM | Deputy Mayor Peckford |
| COMMITTEE | Fire Services Advisory Committee |
| COMMITTEE MEETING DATE | May 8, 2025 |
| COTW MEETING DATE | May 20, 2025 |

The first meeting of 2025 took place on May 8th, during which elections were held for Chair and Vice Chair. Chief Jeff Skaling (Canning) was elected as Chair, and Jim Redmond (New Minas) as Vice Chair.

Craig Gibson, Emergency Services Coordinator, provided an update on future meeting dates, with the Committee voting to schedule the next two meetings for September 18th and December 11th, 2025.

Terry Brown, Manager of Inspections and Enforcement, requested an update on road closures and the responsiveness of the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works (NSDPW). The Committee reported slight improvements on secondary roads, while Highway 101 still requires attention. Mr. Brown noted that the Province is actively working on it. He also shared that the County is making progress towards finalizing Fire Service Agreements with each fire department.

The Committee's primary objectives moving forward are to continue monitoring road improvements and follow up on NSDPW's responsiveness, particularly for Highway 101, while preparations are made for the next scheduled meetings in September and December. Road conditions on Highway 101 remain a concern and require ongoing advocacy, alongside effective communication with NSDPW to maintain improvements on secondary roads.

The Committee remains committed to its objectives and continues to work towards achieving key milestones. Continued support and guidance from Council are appreciated as we address ongoing challenges and move forward with planned initiatives.

Respectfully submitted,

Deputy Mayor Peckford

Committee of Council Reports - May 20, 2025

| Board/Committee | Chair/Reporting Councillor/ Members | Last/Next Meeting | Report |
|---|---|---|---|
| Asset Management Committee | Peter Allen, Doug Gates, Tim Harding | September 3, 2024 Next: May 7, 2025 | |
| Audit & Finance Committee | Dave Corkum, Everett MacPherson (Chair), Riley Peckford (Vice-Chair), Emily Lutz | December 12, 2024 Next: May 6, 2025 | Recommendations provided December 17, 2024 |
| Diversity Kings County | Everett MacPherson (Vice- Chair) Christina Sappington (Chair) | May 5, 2025 Next: June 2, 2025 | Written report provided May 20, 2025 |
| Fences Arbitration Committee | Bob Best Alternate: Christina Sappington | No meetings | |
| Fire Services Advisory Committee | Peter Allen, Doug Gates, Riley Peckford (Reporting Councillor) | May 8, 2025 Next: September 18, 2025 | Written report provided May 20, 2025 |
| Greenwood Water Utility Source Water Protection Committee | Riley Peckford | March 20, 2025 Next: September 11, 2025 | Verbal report to be provided April 1, written report April 15, 2025 |
| Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee | Robbie Hiltz | December 11, 2024 Next: March 12, June 11, 2025 | Recommendation provided January 7, 2025 |
| Lake Monitoring Committee | Riley Peckford Alternate: Tim Harding | No recent meetings | |
| Nominating Committee | Dave Corkum (Chair), Peter Allen, Everett MacPherson, Riley Peckford | March 18, 2025 Next: TBD | Recommendations provided April 1, 2025 |
| Planning Advisory Committee | Emily Lutz (Chair), Riley Peckford (Vice-Chair), Doug Gates, Everett MacPherson | April 8, 2025 Next: May 22, 2025 | Recommendations provided May 6, 2025 |
| Police Advisory Board | Bob Best, Robbie Hiltz, Christina Sappington | February 19, 2025 Next: May 21, 2025 | Written report provided March 4, 2025 |
| Regional Sewer Committee | Tim Harding Alternate: Everett MacPherson | January 16, March 13, April 8, 2025 Next: June 19, 2025 | Verbal report provided January 21, 2025 |
| Sandy Court Source Water Protection Committee | Tim Harding | February 25, 2025 Next: TBD | Written report provided March 18, 2025 |

External Board and Committee Reports - May 20, 2025

| Board/Committee | Reporting Councillor | Last / Next Meeting | Report |
|--|---|---|---|
| Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board | Emily Lutz Alternate: Peter Allen | February 20, 2025 Next: March 17, 2025 | Written report provided March 18, 2025 |
| Annapolis Valley Trails Coalition Board | Bob Best Alternate: Robbie Hiltz | August 2024 | Verbal report provided September 3, 2024 |
| Canning Source Water Protection Committee | Everett MacPherson | | |
| Interim IMSA Board (Kings Transit & Valley Waste) | Dave Corkum (Chair) Alternate: Emily Lutz | April 16, 2025 Next: May 21, 2025 | Written report provided May 6, 2025 |
| Kentville Joint Fire Services Committee | Bob Best, Robbie Hiltz, Christina Sappington | March 20, 2025 Next: TBD | Written report provided April 1, 2025 |
| Kentville Source Water Protection Advisory Group | Doug Gates | March 26, 2025 | |
| Kentville Water Commission | Doug Gates | March 26, 2025 | |
| Kings Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee | Dave Corkum, Robbie Hiltz | April 22, 2025 Next: July 21, 2025 | Written report provided May 6, 2025 |
| Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. Member | Christina Sappington Alternate: Vacant | | |
| Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. Board | Peter Allen | September 2024 | Verbal report provided September 3, 2024 |
| New Minas Source Water Protection Committee | Christina Sappington | | |
| Port Williams Source Water Protection Committee | Doug Gates | | Verbal report provided March 18, 2025 |
| Valley Community Fibre Network (Authority) Board | Emily Lutz | Next: January 6, 2025 | Written report provided May 6, 2025 |
| Valley Regional Enterprise Network Liaison & Oversight Committee | Dave Corkum | February 3, 2025 Next: April 14, 2025 | Verbal report provided April 15, 2025 |
| Western Regional Housing Authority Board | Citizen Member only | | |
| Wolfville Source Water Protection Advisory Committee | Peter Allen | | |