
TO	Committee of the Whole
PREPARED BY	Rob Frost
MEETING DATE	January 21, 2025
SUBJECT	Addition to Reserve for Annapolis Valley First Nation

ORIGIN

- Letter received from Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) dated November 27, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

That Committee of the Whole recommend Municipal Council direct the Mayor to respond to the correspondence from Indigenous Services Canada, expressing the complete support of the Municipality of the County of Kings for the proposed Addition to Reserve for Annapolis Valley First Nation.

INTENT

For Committee of the Whole to consider information related to the addition to reserve as received in correspondence from Indigenous Services Canada on November 27, 2024, and provide direction on a response.

DISCUSSION

Mayor Corkum received correspondence from ISC dated November 27, 2024, regarding a proposed Addition to Reserve for Annapolis Valley First Nation.

The legislation that governs reserve land is the [Addition of Lands to Reserves and Reserve Creation Act](#), and the process for how an Addition to Reserve occurs is outlined in the [INAC - Land Management Manual, Chapter 10 – Additions to Reserve/ Reserve Creation](#).

Reserve land is a parcel of land where legal title is held by the Crown (Government of Canada), for the use and benefit of a particular First Nation. An addition to reserve is a parcel of land added to the existing reserve land of a First Nation. Land can be added adjacent to the existing reserve land (contiguous) or separated from the existing reserve land (non-contiguous). An addition to reserve can be added in rural or urban settings.

From the ISC website:

An addition to reserve:

- *contributes directly to advancing reconciliation and improving the treaty relationship*
- *can improve community access to land and resources*
- *can support community and economic development initiatives for First Nations*
- *enables Canada to fulfill legal obligations established by specific claim settlement agreements*

There are three parcels of land proposed to be added to the Annapolis Valley First Nation reserve as identified in the letter from ISC, which total 110.9 acres in size, and are currently owned by Annapolis Valley First Nation, through AVFN Development Group GP LTD. All three properties are valued as resource forestry and therefore the annual taxation for all three properties combined is \$89.00.

Request for Decision

There are 4 phases to the addition to reserve process:

1. Initiation - the First Nation submits a Band Council Resolution and an addition to reserve proposal to the ISC regional office.
2. Assessment and review - ISC reviews the proposal and advises the First Nation in writing of the results, issuing a letter of support to First Nations for successful proposals.
3. Proposal completion - ISC and the First Nation create and execute a work plan to complete all technical components (i.e., surveys, addressing third party interests, Duty to Consult, Municipal Service Agreements, Environmental Site Assessments, etc.).
4. Approval - the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs approves proposals by Ministerial Order.

While local government must be consulted in an Addition to Reserve process, they have no general or unilateral veto with respect to a reserve proposal.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- There are no financial implications.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

✓	Strong Communities	
	Environmental Stewardship	
	Economic Development	
	Good Governance	
	Financial Sustainability	
	Other	

ALTERNATIVES

- No proposed alternatives

IMPLEMENTATION

- Letter will be written in support of the Addition to Reserve

ENGAGEMENT

- N/A

APPENDICES

- Appendix A: Letter from Indigenous Services Canada dated November 27, 2024

APPROVALS

Scott Conrod, Chief Administrative Officer

January 14, 2025



November 27, 2024

Mayor Corkum
Municipality of the County of Kings
181 Coldbrook Village Park Dr.
Coldbrook, NS B4R 1B9

Dear Mayor Corkum:

RE: Proposed Addition to Reserve, Annapolis Valley First Nation

This letter is to inform you that Annapolis Valley First Nation has, by way of a Band Council Resolution, submitted a request for an addition to reserve to Indigenous Services Canada (ISC). Annapolis Valley First Nation has requested that land, located in the municipality of the County of Kings in the Province of Nova Scotia, identified as PID# 55282982, PID# 55150924 & PID# 55494215, be added to Annapolis Valley reserve No. 20 (see attached).

As you may know, reserves are land that has been set apart for the use and benefit of a First Nation. The Government of Canada has discretion to create reserves and add land to existing reserves in accordance with Canada's Addition to Reserve/Reserve Creation Policy Directive. I would like to request your input on this Addition to Reserve Proposal by February 27, 2025.

As part of the Addition to Reserve Process, the First Nation will negotiate agreements with local governments on issues such as service provisions, by-law harmonization and land-use planning. Local government(s) and the province are encouraged to work with the First Nation using the "good neighbour" approach. This approach involves good will, good faith and reasonableness in discussions between the First Nation and other governments.

We encourage municipal, provincial and First Nation governments to work together on common and shared obligations and goals. By working together, we can advance our collective work in the spirit of reconciliation and a nation-to-nation relationship. Communication among all relevant parties is encouraged when addressing issues of mutual concern.

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Canada

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Should you have any questions or wish to receive further information, please contact Jackie Qaqqasiq, Land Management Advisor, by phone at (902) 397-2365 or by e-mail at Jacqueline.Qaqqasiq@sac-isc.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista MacDonald". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista MacDonald, Manager
Land Management and Additions to Reserve
Indigenous Services Canada – Atlantic
PO BOX 160, 40 Havelock Street
AMHERST NS B4H 3Z3

Enclosures

c.c.: Council of Annapolis Valley First Nation
John McCaul, Annapolis Valley First Nation
Jackie Qaqqasiq, Land Management Advisor – ISC Atlantic

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Figure 1: Location map of PID 55282982 (highlighted in yellow) extracted from Service Nova Scotia Property Online website.

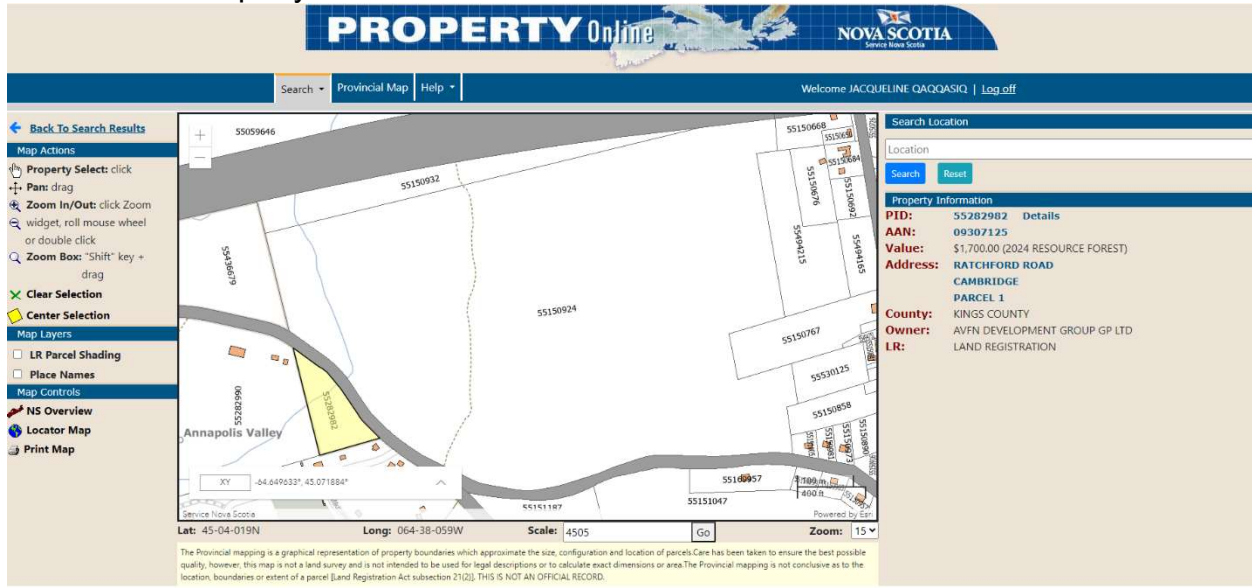


Figure 2: Location map of PID 55150924 (highlighted in yellow) extracted from Service Nova Scotia Property Online website.

