



# Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Committee of The Whole (COTW) Meeting

Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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*We acknowledge that we are gathering in Mi'kma'ki the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.*

## **1. Meeting, Date & Time:**

Warden Fuller called the Committee of the Whole (COTW) Meeting of St. Mary's Municipal Council to order on Monday, July 6, 2026, at 5:05 p.m. in Council Chambers, Sherbrooke, Nova Scotia.

## **2. Attending:**

Warden James Fuller  
Deputy Warden Beulah Malloy  
Councillor Dana O'Connell  
Councillor Scott Beaver  
Councillor Emma Tibbo

## **Also Attending:**

Lesley McFarlane, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)  
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance/Treasurer  
Teddy Stevens, Director of Public Works  
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk

## **3. Additions to the Agenda:**

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 7.e. Port Bickerton Beach – Seascape Certification
- 7.f. IAAC Submission Response – 15 Mile Processing Hub Project

## **4. Approval of the Agenda:**

*On the motion of Councillor Tibbo and seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council approved the agenda as amended.*

***Motion approved.***

## **5. Approval of Minutes:**

*Warden Fuller called for any errors or omissions to the minutes of the COTW Meeting held June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026. Hearing none, the Warden declared the minutes approved.*

## **6. Business Arising from the Minutes:**

- The CAO advised that the background information relating to two items added at the June 3<sup>rd</sup> COTW meeting have been included in the July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026 COTW meeting package, so that they can be available for the public record. These are a letter regarding cell service in the Strait Region, and a letter to Sherbrooke Village Executive Director York Lethbridge about grant funding, which encourages Sherbrooke Village to share plans and progress toward continuing Old Fashioned Christmas programming, including clarification of anything needed to ensure this valuable programming goes forward.

- Warden Fuller thanked Councillor O'Connell for helping to organize the Lieutenant Governor's visit. Councillor O'Connell acknowledged Neil Black for taking the lead in organizing the event.

## 7. Other Matters of Business:

- a. Staff Report – Community Heroes Appreciation Event
  - CAO, Lesley McFarlane presented the Community Heroes Appreciation Event staff report. The report is included in distributed meeting materials.
  - Council reviewed the proposed award categories, nomination process and number of awards.
  - Council discussed that having a maximum of three awards per First Responder and Health Care organization would be appropriate, to ensure that the events are meaningful and to keep the award ceremony portion of the evening to a reasonable duration. Council discussed that many awards were given out in the last two years, so the proposed maximums should be acceptable to all organizations.

| Type of Award                                | Recognition by | Category                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Years of Service in 10-Year Increments       | Pins           | First Responders (Reported by Organization)<br>Healthcare (Reported by Organization)                                                   |
| Valour and Outstanding Service               | Award/Plaque   | First Responders (Nominated by Organization)<br>Maximum of Three Total Nominations per Organization (13 Organizations) (Max 39 awards) |
| Outstanding Service and Leadership/Mentoring | Award/Plaque   | Health care (Nominated by Organization)<br>Maximum of Three Total Nominations per Organization (4 Organizations) (Max 12 awards)       |
| Volunteer of the Year                        | Award/Plaque   | One Award                                                                                                                              |

*On recommendation of Councillor Beaver seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council approve the proposed Community Heroes Appreciation Event award categories, nomination process, and number of awards per category as outlined in the report.*

***Recommendation approved.***

- b. Staff Report – Source Water Protection Plan
  - Director of Public Works Teddy Stevens presented the Source Water Protection Plan staff report. The report is included in distributed meeting materials.
  - Council discussed appointing a Council representative to chair the committee.
  - Councillor O'Connell volunteered, noting the water utility that this plan relates to is within his district.

*On recommendation of Councillor Tibbo seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council appoint Councillor Dana O'Connell as a member and Chair of the Source Water Protection Committee for the remainder of the current Council term or until a successor is appointed by Council.*

***Recommendation approved.***

c. Staff Report – Recplex Drilled Well

- CAO, Lesley McFarlane presented the Recplex Drilled Well staff report. The report is included in distributed meeting materials.

*On recommendation of Councillor O'Connell seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council ratify the expenditure of \$6,500 plus HST to Strait Engineering for professional fees to prepare a submission to the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund, to provide water resiliency for the Recplex and a public potable water filling station, to be funded from the municipality's capital reserve.*

***Recommendation approved.***

d. Staff Report – Coastal and Watershed Planning

- CAO, Lesley McFarlane presented the Coastal and Watershed staff report. The report is included in distributed meeting materials. The report was presented For Information.

e. Staff Report – Port Bickerton Beach – Seascape Certification (added item)

- CAO, Lesley McFarlane presented the Port Bickerton Beach staff report.
- Council reviewed the Port Bickerton Beach – Seascape Certification staff report. The report outlined Tourism Guysborough County Association's proposal to promote public access to Port Bickerton Beach through the existing municipal trail as part of the SEASCAPE coastal scenery certification program, including the installation of interpretive signage at the existing trailhead parking area.
- Council discussed the proposed initiative and expressed general support. No concerns were raised regarding the proposed use of the existing trail or the installation of interpretive signage.

f. IAAC Submission Response – 15 Mile Processing Hub Project (added item)

- Council discussed the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) planning phase for the proposed 15 Mile Processing Hub Project. The project remains in the early stages and that additional opportunities for municipal input will occur as the process progresses.
- A proposed draft submission was presented for Council's consideration, outlining matters which Council may wish to ensure are addressed in the upcoming Impact Assessment. These matters included Environmental Protection, Infrastructure and Public Safety, Economic and Community Benefits, as well as a requirement for ongoing engagement with the public and the municipality's Council.
- Discussion included the importance of due diligence, and the Municipality focusing on sharing areas of municipal concern that are important not to be missed in the impact assessment.
- Councillor Beaver expressed support for requesting a formal federal assessment and noted concerns regarding potential impacts on municipal roads within his district.
- Council agreed that references suggesting Council was speaking on behalf of all residents should be removed from the proposed correspondence, as there has not been a recent direct consultation with residents on this matter.

*On the recommendation of Councillor Beaver, seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council approves that the final paragraph of the Municipality's submission to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) regarding the 15-Mile Processing Hub Project be amended by replacing the existing final paragraph with*

the following: "Based on the points raised above, we urge the IAAC to consider a formal federal impact assessment of the proposed project."

**Councillor Tibbo and Deputy Warden Malloy voted in the minority.**

**Recommendation approved.**

On the recommendation of Councillor O'Connell, seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council recommends forwarding the IAAC submission response for the proposed 15 Mile Processing Hub Project, as amended, removing the reference to residents in the final paragraph, and revising the word 'urge' to the word 'recommend.'

**Councillor Tibbo voted in the minority.**

**Recommendation approved.**

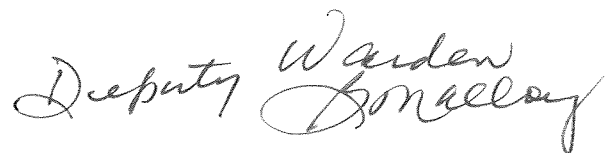
### **Adjournment**

There being no further matters of business, Warden Fuller declared the meeting adjourned at 6:04pm.

**Motion approved.**



Recorded By  
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk



Approved By  
Warden Fuller