

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2016  
1:30 PM**

A meeting of Municipal Council of the County of Inverness was held on Monday, December 5, 2016, at 1:30 pm at the Municipal Building in Port Hood with the following in attendance:

Warden Betty Ann MacQuarrie  
Deputy Warden Alfred Poirier  
Councillor Laurie Cranton  
Councillor Jim Mustard  
Councillor John MacLennan  
Councillor John Dowling

Staff: Joe O'Connor, CAO  
Eveylena Gillis, Council Recorder  
Garett Beaton, Dir/Public Works  
Damian MacInnis, Econ. Dev. Officer  
Harold MacIsaac, Solicitor

Media: Rankin MacDonald, Inverness Oran  
Grant McDaniel, Reporter

**CALL TO ORDER**

Warden Betty Ann MacQuarrie called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NOVEMBER 17, 2016**

**Moved by: Councillor Jim Mustard**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Laurie Cranton**  
**Carried.**

**That the Minutes of the Municipal Council meeting of November 17, 2016, be approved.**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**Page 8 – Committee Report** – Joe O'Connor is an Advisory member on the EDPC Board not an alternate. There was also a question as to whether the Pitu'paq Partnership, Food Security and the Energy Committees are committees of Council. Mr. O'Connor will review these committee structures.

**PRESENTATION BY MICHELLE SMITH – MABOU FARMERS MARKET**

Warden MacQuarrie welcomed Michelle Smith who provided an update on the Mabou Farmers Market which has completed its 10<sup>th</sup> season in operation. The maximum number of vendors that

can be accommodated is 58 and many more have applied. Primary producers have preference with a 60-40 split between producers and crafters. They had 20,500 customers with an estimated total sales of \$290,000 for the 2016 season. There is a problem with lack of adequate parking as well as poor drainage in the upper parking area. Mr. O'Connor advised that the drainage issue will be addressed by the Public Works Dept. in the near future. Ms. Smith reviewed the many challenges ahead which will be discussed at the board level over the next several months.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### STRAIT AREA TRANSIT

Councillor Mustard advised that SAT is moving forward with a review to evaluate the transit system in January or February and is hoping that municipal staff will review the financials to cut costs.

**Moved by:** Councillor Jim Mustard  
**Seconded by:** Councillor John Dowling  
**Carried.**

**That interim funding be provided to the SAT for December and January with funding to come out of the operating reserves.**

### APPOINTMENT OF GEORGE GODDALL TO THE MUNICIPAL PLANNING & ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Moved by:** Deputy Warden Alfred Poirier  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Jim Mustard  
**Carried.**

**That George Goddall be appointed to the Municipal Planning & Advisory Committee.**

## CORRESPONDENCE

### TAX WRITE-OFF

**Moved by:** Councillor Laurie Cranton  
**Seconded by:** Councillor John Dowling  
**Carried.**

**That taxes in the amount of \$552.64 be written off for the Port Hastings & District Recreation.**

## GUY CARON, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT RE TAXATION ON FAMILY BUSINESS TRANSFERS

Correspondence was received from Member of Parliament, Guy Caron, asking for support of Bill C-274, Transfer of Small Business, Family Farm or Fishing Operation. It was agreed to review this information for further discussion at the January meeting.

## PETITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

### Councillor John Dowling -

**TIR - Snow Plowing** – Councillor Dowling has already received complaints with respect to snow plowing in his district.

**Garbage on Troy Beach** – The “No Dumping” sign has been placed on the Troy Beach but people are still dumping garbage on the beach. If residents could provide vehicle or license information then the County could enforce the “Garbage Disposal By-Law #17”.

**Mountain View Road** – On question from Councillor Dowling, Joe O’Connor advised that TIR will be plowing Mountain View Road and the County will continue to plow Justin Road.

### Councillor Jim Mustard –

**Inverness Water Update** – A number of lines have been flushed and it seems to be resolving some of the issues. Councillor Mustard would like the county to look at a new water source for Inverness in 2017.

**Inverside Residents** – Councillor Mustard will try to set up a meeting with the residents of Inverside.

## REVISED RESOLUTION RE MUNICIPAL EARLY YEARS COALITION

Councillor Mustard provided the following resolution:

### **Revised Motion to form a Municipal Early Years Coalition: Initially Passed 2/11/2015**

**Whereas:** Attracting retaining young people and families is critical to our regions vibrancy, resilience and prosperity.

**Whereas:** Making our region the best place for families and communities to raise our children needs to be part of our value proposition in being open for business and supporting the health and development of citizens who are born across our region each year.

**Whereas:** Research has proven that early childhood or “the early years” is the most important phase of human life in which genetic expression and the neural pathways in the brain are particularly sensitive to the environments experienced. During this period (first 2000 days) –and even before birth - the quality of the environments influence health (physical, mental), behaviour, education and economic prospects throughout life. What a human experiences in these first 5 years provides the foundation and sets trajectories for our physical, social and cognitive life course, in a positive or a negative way.

**Whereas:** Provincially 25% of children entering the school system are vulnerable socially, emotionally, physically and/or cognitively and in Inverness County it is 32%.

**Whereas:** The Province has begun to move forward on an early years strategy by initially providing resources for a community-based early years centre in each of the 8 school board districts.

**Whereas:** In order to provide universal coverage across our Province it will entail having more than 250 early years centres - based on the coverage represented by the present Elementary school system.

**Whereas:** In Inverness County, this would mean 6 Early Years centres and does this meet the needs of all families, communities and service providers and what is the timeline to have them in place?

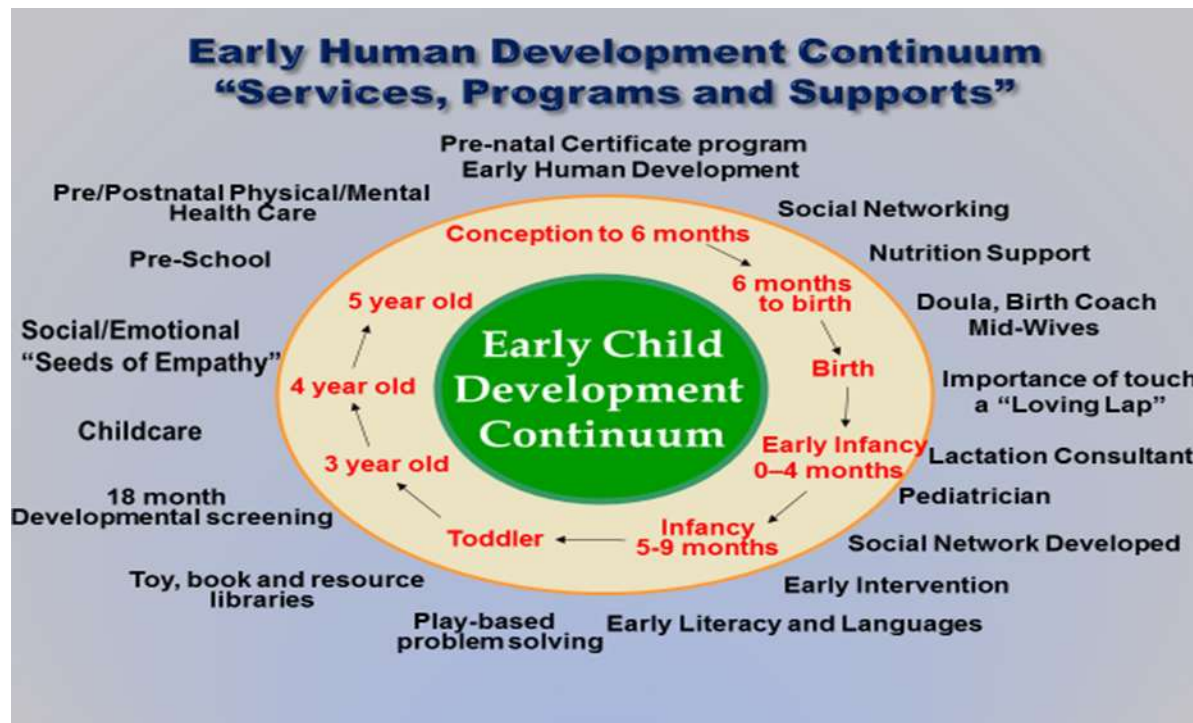
**Whereas:** There is a Provincial Call to Action with the One NS Coalition recognizing the Early Years as the first of its 7 priority focus areas in its recommendations. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GKiHvpqnQ6g>

**Whereas:** in “One NS, We Choose Now, playbook for Nova Scotians,” <http://www.wechoosenow.ca/> the recommendation is to follow a collective Impact process to guide the collaborative process.

**Whereas:** Presently there is a patchwork of services providing support for our youngest citizens to grow and develop including: pre-natal support, home visitation, informal socialization, school readiness, playgrounds and recreation, playgroups, childcare, local food, social/cultural activities, transportation, etc ...

**Whereas:** Local Community leadership and expertise can play an instrumental role in shaping what an integrated early years system needs in terms of:

- a welcoming environment for our families, care givers and youngest citizens - to grow, play and learn from the pre-natal period onwards,
- coordinated services and programs (pre-natal, nutrition support, well baby clinics, breast feeding, early intervention, speech and language, home visitation, paediatrician ... etc)



**Whereas:** In Alberta and Manitoba, Provincially supported regional coalitions, have helped develop the local understanding, planning, actions and monitoring needed to support a seem-less universal approach to early child development from the pre-natal period onwards through:

- A call to action for local Community coalitions of business, not-for profit and public sectors.
- Having the collaborative process guided by dedicated facilitative team.
- Providing access to Data – EDI (early development Instrument), 18 month screening, birth data,
- Working from an approach of upstream universality versus downstream targeting,

- Sharing the knowledge of critical importance of ECD to all our bottom lines in and across communities to ensure we get to planning, action and investment



**Therefore be it resolved:** That the Municipality of the County of Inverness, take the lead forming a coalition that includes Victoria County, the town of Port Hawkesbury, We’komaq and Wagmatcook first nations and representing all sectors - including primary health, family doctors, families, education, early intervention, libraries, recreation, business, politicians, municipal staff - to ensure that our region has the leadership and partnerships needed to create a welcoming environment in each community that supports the optimum development for every one of our citizens born across our region each and every year.

**Moved by:** Councillor Jim Mustard  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Laurie Cranton  
**Carried.**

**That the resolution as presented be accepted.**

**Terms of Reference – Inverness County District Planning Advisory Committee -** Councillor Mustard provided a draft Terms of Reference for an Inverness County District Planning Advisory Committee for review and discussion by Council in the New Year.

**Councillor Laurie Cranton –**

**Bridge in Portree –** Councillor Cranton is looking forward to the meeting with the Minister of Transportation to discuss the Portree Bridge issue.

**Housing –** Councillor Cranton met with seniors in the Margaree area to discuss housing needs. He would like to meet with Conrad Taves to review his report.

**Office Space** – Councillor Cranton asked that office space for Councillors within their districts be discussed at a policy meeting.

#### **ROAD NAME CHANGE**

**Moved by:** Councillor Laurie Cranton  
**Seconded by:** Deputy Warden Alfred Poirier  
**Carried.**

**That the request from the residents of “Unnamed Private Lane” located in Belle Cote for road to be named “Marsh Hawk Lane” be approved.**

**Councillor John MacLennan** –

#### **NOVA SCOTIA SCHOOL CLOSURES**

Councillor MacLennan advised that residents in his district do not agree with the fact that the Minister of Education closed the schools due to safety concerns of students. It was felt that parents and communities are not going to leave any student stranded at any of the schools in the County.

**Moved by:** Councillor Jim Mustard  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Laurie Cranton  
**Carried.**

**That a letter be forwarded to Premier Stephen MacNeil and Minister Karen Casey with respect to the closure of the schools due to the work to rule of the Teachers Union.**

#### **PROVINCIAL PARK – WHYCOCOMAGH**

**Moved by:** Councillor John MacLennan  
**Seconded by:** Deputy Warden Alfred Poirier  
**Carried.**

**That the Minister of Natural Resources be invited to meet with Council to discuss the Provincial Park in Whycocomagh.**

#### **SCHOOL BUSES – WHYCOCOMAGH**

**Moved by:** Councillor John MacLennan  
**Seconded by:** Councillor John Dowling  
**Carried.**

**That a letter be forwarded to the Strait Regional School Board requesting extra signage or lights where the school busses turn off the TCH at Whycocomagh Village Road and Reservations Road in Waycobah.**

Deputy Warden Alfred Poirier –

**Participaper** – Deputy Warden Poirier apologized for the omission of the community of Meat Cove in his Christmas address in the Participaper.

**Senior Home – Cheticamp** – Deputy Warden Poirier updated Council on the repair work carried out at the Foyer Pere Fiset and the proposed expansion.

**J ROADS – CHETICAMP**

**Moved by:** Deputy Warden Alfred Poirier

**Seconded by:** Councillor John Dowling

**Carried.**

**That a letter be forwarded to the Minister of Transportation with a copy to Steve MacDonald requesting funding for repair work on the J Roads in the Cheticamp area.**

**Cheticamp Island Crown Provincial Land** – Deputy Warden Poirier provided information on the land at the tip of Cheticamp Island which is leased to farmers in the northern part of the County and the rumor that someone is looking to purchase this land. Councillor Mustard will discuss this at the next Land Planning and the Federation of Agriculture meetings.

**Fibre Optic & Cell Service** – Deputy Warden Poirier is going to set up a meeting with Damian MacInnis and those involved in communication with regard to cell phone service in Pleasant Bay and fibre optic service.

**Immigration** – Deputy Warden Poirier is meeting with businesses in the Cheticamp area that use seasonal immigrant workers and he will also invite Damian MacInnis to this meeting as well.

**Day Care – Cheticamp** – There is a problem in the Cheticamp area with the lack of day care service.

**Raymond Deveau – Housing** – Deputy Warden Poirier updated Council on the housing project by Raymond Deveau.

Warden Betty Ann MacQuarrie –

**Microphone System** – Warden MacQuarrie asked for a cost estimate for a microphone system for the Council Chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business to discuss a motion was made by Deputy Warden Poirier, seconded by Councillor MacLennan that meeting adjourn.**

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**CLERK**

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**WARDEN**