

## 15.0 Council Representation on Organizations

The following Boards/Committees have been appointed and/or approved by Council for reimbursement of related meeting expenses:

- Regional Police Advisory
- Strait Area Transit Board
- Heritage Committee
- Strait of Canso Superport Corporation Board
- Occupational Health & Safety Committee
- Eastern Counties Regional Library Board
- Fences Arbitration Committee
- Veterinary Assistance
- Eastern District Planning Commission Board
- Inverness Council Municipal Housing Corporation Board
- Margaree Airport Committee
- Cape Breton Regional Enterprise Network
- Local Immigration Partnership
- Allan J. MacEachen Airport Committee
- Planning & Advisory Committee
- Community Development Grant
- Emergency Management Committee
- Committee of the Whole

## 1 5.0 Council Representation on Organizations

- ↳ Conflict of Interest Challenges for Municipalities
- ↳ Recommendation:
  - ↳ Councillor to provide an outline of the board of directors that they participate on
  - ↳ Be selective with their volunteer time
  - ↳ Be cognisant of the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* (MCOIA)
  - ↳ Additional organizations can be added to the list by Council

# Am I in a conflict of interest?

- Pecuniary (monetary) Interest
  - Will I benefit financially as the result of a decision of council?
- Indirect pecuniary interest
  - Will an organization I invest in, work for, govern or am otherwise involved in benefit financially from a decision of council?
- Deemed pecuniary interest
  - Will my spouse, family member or someone I live with benefit financially from a decision of council?
- Intent to Obtain interest
  - Am I making a decision I know will benefit me in the future?

# If I suspect I am in a conflict of Interest I should...

- Disclose the interest ASAP
- Withdraw from the meeting
  - Public meeting: leave the table
  - Private meeting: leave the room
- Don't participate in consideration, debate and don't vote
- Don't try to influence the decision in any way
- If you aren't at a meeting, but you have an interest in a topic discussed, you must disclose it at the next meeting

# Perception matters

- Actual, perceived or potential – does it really matter?
- You could be taken to court to defend your position regardless of whether or not the interest is real
- It could sully your reputation and that of the municipality more broadly
- **When in doubt, sit it out**