

Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, December 4th, 2025
9:30 am
Council Chambers

MINUTES

Council: Warden Bonny MacIsaac
Deputy Warden Lynn Chisholm
Councillor Blair Phillips
Councillor Claude Poirier
Councillor John MacLennan
Councillor Catherine Gillis

Staff: Keith MacDonald, CAO
Erin Gillis, COO
Morgan Murray, Director of Culture and Community Development
Debbie Nicholson, Administrative Assistant to Council/CAO
Megan Wludyka, Chief Communications Officer
Siobhan Beaton, Communications & Digital Marketing Coordinator
Michelle Coffin, Governance and By-law Researcher (online)
Leah O'Donnell, Governance and By-law Intern (online)
Madeleine McCarron, Governance and By-law Intern (online)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Deputy Warden Chisholm called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and welcomed all in attendance.
Roll call was taken.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: *That the agenda be approved as presented.*
MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier
SECONDED BY: Councillor Gillis
MOTION CARRIED

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Warden MacIsaac acknowledged that the land on which we gather is located in the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people and read the enclosed message:

*Wli Eksitpu'k, Msit Wen (Welly Eksit-boog, Emsit When)
which means....*

Good Morning, Everyone...

The early relationship between the Mi'kmaw people and the French is a well known connection established likely in the early 1500's when the first wave of European settlers began to come across the Atlantic Ocean.

It is said that the Mi'kmaw established this strong relationship with the French based on the name of the French people in the Mi'kmaw language. Still today the name "Wenuj" / When-ooj " is used for the French (and the subsequently the Acadians). The name "Wenuj" when broken down in the Mi'kmaw language means "Who is that person" (as the first Mi'kmaw to meet the French explorers were likely expressing to other Mi'kmaw people, imagining a pointing of the thumb to a whole new race landing on the shores of Mi'kma'ki).

Other words that relate to the French that are still used in today's Mi'kmaw language are words like "Wenuj-tiam", (pronounced When-ooj-dee-ahm)... which is what we call the modern day "Cow" today but translated it actually means "French (Wenuj) / Moose (Tiam)".

4. PROCLAMATION: 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

The following proclamation was read by Warden MacIsaac:

WHEREAS *November 25 marks the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and the beginning of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence; and*

WHEREAS *this global campaign, which runs until December 10, International Human Rights Day, raises awareness of violence experienced by women, girls, and members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, and calls for its prevention and elimination; and*

WHEREAS *the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women was first declared in Latin America in 1980 to honour the Mirabel sisters, three political activists from the Dominican Republic who were assassinated in 1960 for standing against injustice, becoming enduring symbols of the fight for women's rights; and*

WHEREAS *in Canada, the 16 Days also encompass December 6, the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, a day to honour the 14 women murdered in the 1989 École Polytechnique massacre; and*

WHEREAS *gender-based violence, including intimate partner violence, continues to impact individuals, families, and communities across our province, and recognizing it as an epidemic is an important step in acknowledging the seriousness of this issue; and*

WHEREAS *our municipality is committed to raising awareness, supporting survivors, and taking action to help prevent all forms of gender-based violence;*

THEREFORE I, Bonny MacIsaac, Warden of the Municipality of Inverness County do hereby proclaim November 25 to December 10, 2025, as the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence in the Municipality of Inverness County.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: *That the Regular Council meeting minutes of November 13th 2025 be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier

SECONDED BY: Councillor Phillips

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of November 20th 2025 be approved as presented.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Chisholm

SECONDED BY: Councillor Gillis

MOTION CARRIED

6. RECOMMENDATION FROM NOVEMBER 20th COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

I. Community Development Grant Application: Re-Nest Furniture Society

MOTION: *That Council grant this \$1790.00 request in full with funds coming from Regional CDC funds.*

MOVED BY: Deputy Warden Chisholm

SECONDED BY: Councillor Gillis

MOTION CARRIED

7. PUBLIC INPUT AND SECOND READING: BYLAW 65 –REPEAL OF BYLAW 50, BYLAW TO AMEND BY-LAW 30: CAPITAL COST OF SEWER AND WATER CONSTRUCTION

Warden MacIsaac asked if there were any oral or written submissions regarding the repeal of Bylaw 50 –Bylaw to amend By-law 30. None were received.

MOTION: *That Bylaw 65 - A Bylaw Respecting the Repeal of Bylaw 50, By-law to amend By-Law 30 - Capital Cost of Sewer and Water Construction be adopted today by Council.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

8. ROAD NAME PETITION – CYRIAC ROAD

MOTION: *That an unnamed private lane in District 1 off Cheticamp Back Road be named Cyriac Road.*
MOVED BY: Councillor Poirier
SECONDED BY: Councillor Phillips
MOTION CARRIED

9. ROAD NAME PETITION – KILVAXTER LANE

MOTION: *That Road 5317 in Portree, District 2 be named Kilvaxter Lane.*
MOVED BY: Councillor Phillips
SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier
MOTION CARRIED

10. CHETICAMP ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL: COUNCIL SUPPORT FOR FCM INITIATIVE

Consensus of Council to support the following initiative: the following resolution was read aloud by Councillor Poirier:

Whereas, the Municipality of the County of Inverness has interest in supporting efforts to build climate resilience, particularly in areas of central economic value.

Whereas, the Cheticamp Economic Council is undertaking the project entitled Climate Resilience in Cheticamp's Coastal Zone, Nova Scotia, to support a feasibility study towards an investment in climate resilient infrastructure along the vulnerable shoreline of Cheticamp's core.

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of the County of Inverness acknowledges that the Cheticamp Economic Council is applying for a funding opportunity from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation initiative for Climate Resilience in Cheticamp's Coastal Zone, Nova Scotia, in partnership with the Municipality of the County of Inverness.

11. HEALTH CARE AWARDS UPDATE (Morgan Murray)

The awards for excellence in health care is an initiative created to celebrate the exceptional dedication and contributions of our local healthcare professionals. The second annual awards gala will take place on April 22nd at the Place des arts Père-Anselme-Chiasson in Cheticamp. In early 2026 residents will be invited to nominate individuals in the following healthcare categories: Outstanding Doctor, Outstanding Nurse or Nurse Practitioner, Outstanding Long-Term or Palliative Care Professional, Outstanding Mental Health Care Professional, Outstanding Allied Health Professional, Outstanding Young Healthcare Professional, Outstanding Support Services

Professional, Outstanding Direct Patient Care Professional, and Excellence in Community Health and Wellness (Group or Volunteer). Nominations can be made via the municipal website.

12. INVERNESS DAYCARE ANNOUNCEMENT

A new early learning and child-care centre has been announced for the community of Inverness. The 104-space project is a partnership between the Province and the Strait Regional Centre for Education. The centre will offer spaces and programs for infants, toddlers and preschoolers and will be located at the Inverness Education Centre/Academy.

Direction to staff to send a letter to the Provincial Department of Education and Early Childhood Development thanking the province for advancing this initiative and to extend support from the municipality for the centre.

13. NEXT MEETING DATE

December 11th, 2025 9:30 am: Committee of the Whole.

14. IN CAMERA

MOTION: *That Council move to “In Camera” at 10:24 am to discuss two contract items.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Gillis

SECONDED BY: Deputy Warden Chisholm

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: *That Council move out of “In Camera” at 11:42 am.*

MOVED BY: Councillor Gillis

SECONDED BY: Councillor Poirier

MOTION CARRIED

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *That Council adjourn at 11:47 am*

MOVED BY: Councillor Gillis

MOTION CARRIED