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**MEETING:** Committee of the Whole Meeting  
**DATE:** February 3, 2026  
**TIME:** 6:00 PM  
**PLACE:** Town Council Chambers

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## Agenda

1. **Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement**
2. **Approval of Agenda**
  - 2.1 Additions to the Agenda
3. **Conflict of Interest**
4. **Acceptance of Minutes**
  - 4.1 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 6, 2026
5. **Presentations/ Flag Requests**
  - 5.1 Forward Creative
  - 5.2 Antigonish Affordable Housing Society (AAHS)
6. **Business Arising from the Minutes**
  - 6.1 Good Neighbour Working Group – St. Patrick’s Day Review
  - 6.2 Planned changes to Parking on College St.
7. **New Business**
  - 7.1 GRID Modernization Update – L. Roy
  - 7.2 CWL Funeral Reception – Financial Support
  - 7.3 Sympathy & Gifts Policy
  - 7.4 Procurement Policy Review
8. **Correspondence**
  - 8.1 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Ability Banquet – CACL
  - 8.2 A Taste of Solidarity: Community Women’s Day Tea at Coady – March 8, 2026
  - 8.3 Women’s Heart Health Awareness – Illuminating Town Hall on February 13, 2026
  - 8.4 Secondary Road Access to St. Martha’s Hospital – Letters of Support
9. **Councillor Reports**
10. **Committee Reports**
11. **In Camera Session**
  - 11.1 Personnel Matters (MGA Section 22(2)(c))
12. **Adjournment**

**DRAFT**

**Committee of the Whole  
January 6, 2026  
Town Council Chambers**

**Present**

Mayor S. Cameron  
Deputy Mayor A. Murray  
Councillor L. MacLellan  
Councillor, P. McKenna  
Councillor D. Roberts  
Councillor J. Pelly  
Councillor J. Sullivan

**Also in Attendance**

R. Delorey, CAO  
M. Fougere, Municipal Clerk  
K. Meisner, P.Eng., Director of Infrastructure and Engineering

Gallery (Online)

**1. Call to Order & Land Acknowledgment**

Mayor S. Cameron called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. and provided a land acknowledgement recognizing that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people and that we are all treaty people.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**2.1 Additions/Amendments**

**Motion:** That the Agenda be approved as presented.

Moved by: Councillor Roberts

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Murray

**Motion Carried**

**3. Conflict of Interest**

Councillor McKenna declared a conflict of interest for item 8.1.

**4. Acceptance of Minutes**

**4.1 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 2, 2025**

The minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on December 2, 2025, were accepted as presented.

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## **5. Presentations/Flag Requests**

### **5.1 NSFM Recognition Presentation**

Deputy Mayor A. Murray presented Mayor Sean Cameron with a plaque of recognition on behalf of the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities, recognizing 25 years of dedicated service to municipal government in the Province of Nova Scotia.

A photo opportunity followed.

### **5.2 Pan-African Flag Request**

Council received a request from the African Culture Heritage Awareness Association Committee (ACHAAC) Zone 7 to raise the Pan-African Flag from February 1 to 28, 2026. A copy of the request was included in the Council package. Council discussed the request and will consider it at the January Regular Council meeting.

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

There was no business arising from the minutes.

## **7. New Business**

### **7.1 Capital Update 2026-2027**

Director of Infrastructure Engineering, K. Meisner, P. Eng, provided a presentation on the proposed Capital Plan for 2026 and 2027. The presentation outlined planned projects and priorities based on Council's strategic priorities and the Town's current needs.

Key projects discussed included:

- Bay Street improvements (Phase 1: Haley Road to Railway Tracks; Phase 2: Railway Tracks to Town boundary)
- West/James Street upgrades
- Sewage Treatment Plant front-end upgrades
- Public Works equipment purchases
- Source test wells
- Sidewalk installation at Greening Drive
- Electric Grid Modernization

Council asked questions regarding project timing, construction impacts, sequencing, and funding allocations. K. Meisner noted that some projects will carry over into 2026/2027 to ensure completion. Updates were provided on construction scheduling, potential night work, and public communications.

The Mayor and Council thanked K. Meisner for his presentation.

## **8. Correspondence**

### **8.1 Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY) – Feb 28, 2026**

Councillor McKenna recused himself from the table for this item as he declared a conflict.

Council received a request from the National Coldest Night of the Year event, in partnership with the local Naomi Society, to illuminate Town Hall in the event's signature

**DRAFT**

colors on Saturday, February 28, 2026. Council discussed the request and will consider a final decision at the January Regular Council meeting.

Mayor suggested forming a team to support the event, and a sign-up sheet will be circulated.

**9. Councillor Reports**

Councillor reports were circulated in the agenda package. By general consent, the reports were accepted as submitted and not read aloud.

The Mayor also noted the upcoming Public Hearing scheduled for January 13 and requested that it be widely advertised, including on the Town's website and through radio announcements.

**10. Committee Reports**

Committee reports have been submitted for inclusion in the Council's Committee of the Whole agenda package. These reports summarize recent activities, discussions, and updates from the various committees to which members of Council are appointed. Only reports received at the time of agenda preparation have been included.

**Councillor Roberts**

Councillor Roberts reported on the ACTS meeting held in December, during which Richie Conners, from Antigonish Community Transit Society (ACTS) provided an update from Happy Cities. The update included information on a proposed \$25.00 per-semester transit fee for students, intended to encourage use of the transit system.

**Councillor MacLellan**

Councillor MacLellan submitted a report, which was circulated in the agenda package.

**Council Recess and In Camera Session**

Council recessed at 8:29 p.m.  
Moved by: Councillor Roberts  
Seconded by: Councillor Sullivan

**Motion carried.**

At 8:40 p.m. Council moved to an In Camera session to discuss Contract Negotiations and Personnel matters under the Municipal Government Act.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Murray  
Seconded by: Councillor McKenna

**Motion carried.**

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**11. In-Camera**

**11.1 Contract Negotiations (MGA Section 22(2)(e))**

**11.2 Personnel Matters (MGA Section 22(2)(c))**

Moved to come out of the In-Camera at 9:28 p.m.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Murray

Seconded by: Councillor McKenna

**Motion carried.**

**12. Adjournment**

With no further business, Councillor Pelly moved for Adjournment at 9:28 p.m.

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Mayor Sean Cameron

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Randy Delorey, CAO



**Lise Roy**  
**Strategic Initiative Coordinator**  
**February 3, 2026**

# Net Zero Engagement Strategy and Implementation Plan



# Net Zero Community Engagement Strategy and Implementation Plan



Sources of Funding			
Lead Application or Partner Contributions	Description	Confirmed?	Amount (\$)
Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund	Grant	no	\$76,000
Town of Antigonish	Cash	no	\$9,500
Town of Antigonish	In-Kind	yes	\$9,500

Sources of Funding						
Please reflect your total eligible budgets sources of funding below, the amount should total: \$103,177.25						
Funder's Name	Description	In-kind/Cash	Have you received confirmation of these matching funds? (Y/N)	Date Committed DD-MM-YYYY	Amount (\$)	% of Funding
Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund	Provincial	Cash	No	TBD	\$76,000.00	73.7%
Town of Antigonish	Other (Describe)	In-kind	Yes	07-22-24	\$15,670.00	15.2%
Town of Antigonish	Other (Describe)	Cash	Yes	07-22-24	\$11,507.25	11.2%
						0.0%
						0.0%
						0.0%
<b>Total Funding:</b>					<b>\$103,177.25</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Required Contribution:</b>					<b>\$103,177.25</b>	
<b>Contribution Still Required:</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>	

# Phase 1 - Project Highlights

by Sean Kelly Consulting



## Research & review of existing data and studies done by TOA & direct engagement in Antigonish

- Limited understanding of what 'Net Zero' means outside of those actively involved in energy or climate work.
- Several towns have declared they want to be Canada's first 'Net Zero Community'.
- Unclear Federal government support for continued clean energy funding.
- Discussions on energy in Canada can be polarized and at times divisive.
- Many Canadians do not know where to get unbiased information about energy, and often distrust major institutions including government, media and the energy industry.
- Consolidation engagement fatigue/hard feelings.

### Bottom Line

- **TOA has not sufficiently told their 'Cleaner Energy Story'.**

# Communication Assets



- **A strong cultural identity** - Active volunteers and a culture of contributing
- **Support for the Electric Utility** – Reliable, deals quickly with outages and had lower rates than NSPI.
- **The 100th anniversary of Electric Utility** - Electric Utility and “pride of place” 2026 anniversary.
- **Visibility of Ellershouse Windfarm** - Windfarm is seen to be stabilizing power rates for customers.
- **Meeting clean energy targets** - Provincial mandate of 80% renewables by 2030. Currently at approximately 64%
- **Electric Vehicle Charging Stations** - Multiple charging stations installed in various community locations.
- **University with a Climate and Environment Program.** Many students choosing environmental studies.
- **TOA’s Website and Facebook** – create brand and content (story telling video)



# Town of Antigonish Net Zero Initiative Brand

## Phase 2:

# Advancing Awareness and Engagement (2025–2026)

### Key Activities Completed to Date

1

#### Staff Engagement Sessions

Internal sessions to build shared understanding and gather insights.

2

#### Two Targeted Surveys

Captured awareness levels, priorities, and readiness among staff and Council.

3

#### Brand Audit

Evaluated existing messaging, visuals, and tone to guide a refreshed communications direction.

4

#### Logo & Brand Messaging Development

Researched, tested, and developed a logo concept. As well as created brand messaging and templated assets to support public engagement and internal use.

5

#### Promotional Videos for Awareness

Developed videos to promote public awareness and communicate the goals of the Net Zero Initiative.



## Council Priority

## How Net Zero Directly Advances It

### 1. Asset (Infrastructure) Management

Grid modernization and electrification are critical **infrastructure upgrades** — not just “nice-to-have” climate projects. They improve reliability, resilience, and capacity for future growth.

### 2. Fiscal Sustainability

Renewable energy and electrification stabilize long-term costs, potential to generate new revenues through AREA, and reduce dependence on volatile global fuel markets.

### 3. Environmental Sustainability

The Net Zero roadmap is the Town’s blueprint to align with **provincial and federal regulations** while creating measurable community benefits.

### 4. Strategic Supports (Communications & Collaboration)

Net Zero is a story of **partnership and innovation** that can enhance public understanding of what the Town does and why it matters.

### 5. Social Sustainability

A cleaner, more reliable, locally controlled energy system **supports community well-being, accessibility, and economic equity.**

# Brand Core Message

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Through brand expression, the Net Zero initiative communicates the same core message:

- Key aspects of the Net Zero initiative are long-term infrastructure and asset-management strategy.
- It supports reliability, affordability, and future growth.
- It reflects Antigonish's values of independence, leadership, and community pride.
- It positions the Town as a national leader in locally driven energy innovation.



## Logo Concept

# Tradition-Informed, Forward-Looking Expression



## Logo Concept with Town

# Incorporating the Town logo concept



# How **the Brand** Serves Council Priorities

1

## **Asset & Infrastructure Management**

Frames Net Zero as proactive renewal and future-proofing.

2

## **Fiscal Responsibility**

Emphasizes long-term affordability and rate stability.

3

## **Community Trust**

Relies on clear, plain-language communication

4

## **Leadership & Identity**

Emphasizes momentum and participation; and continuity and stewardship.



## Town Notice

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## Public Notice

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Mauris nec libero eu  
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leo eget ex pretium, ut cursus leo finibus.



Improving our community's energy future through cleaner, reliable, locally controlled power.

## Who We Are

### Background

It all started with an exciting idea: Could Antigonish develop its own clean and reliable energy?

### Values

We're committed toward a cleaner, more reliable energy future for Antigonish for today and future generations.

### Goals


Our dream? To foster clean energy and create a more resilient, vibrant, and sustainable Antigonish.



Let's build a brighter tomorrow - together

### Address

(123) 456 7890  
123 Anywhere St., Any City, ST 12345  
hello@reallygreatsite.com

 (123) 456 7890



Our Community  
Our Energy




Building a **Bright Future.**


With clean, reliable, scalable energy, Antigonish is leading a global example toward a prosperous, thriving tomorrow. Empower Antigonish brings together the people and projects to make that tomorrow a reality.

**Strong Energy. Strong Community.**

Let's lead the way — together



 [www.reallygreatsite.com](http://www.reallygreatsite.com)

 [hello@reallygreatsite.com](mailto:hello@reallygreatsite.com)

 (123) 456 7890

# Brand Assets

*Come in*  
**WE'RE**  
**OPEN**

# NEXT STEPS: Community Engagement & Logo Finalization

## 1 Engage the Community

- Host a pop-up at the Farmers' Market to engage directly with residents and gather feedback on the logo.
- Provide opportunities for residents to share preferences and their thoughts on the design to enhance community buy-in.

## 2 Gather & Analyze Feedback

- Collect feedback from the Farmers' Market engagement.
- Review community input to identify key preferences and ensure the final design aligns with Antigonish's values and Net Zero vision.

## 3 Incorporate Feedback & Refine Logo

- Refine the logo options based on community and Council feedback.
- Make adjustments to ensure the logo balances heritage with a forward-thinking Net Zero identity.

## 4 Submit Final Logo

- Proceed with the development of full brand assets (visual identity, templates, and communication materials) after final logo selection.

# Thank you



[info@forwardgroup.ca](mailto:info@forwardgroup.ca)

# BUILDING HOMES...CREATING COMMUNITY



Antigonish Affordable  
Housing Society

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN





# AAHS: EXPERIENCE YOU CAN TRUST

## A Proven Track Record

- 10+ years serving Antigua
- 45 affordable homes developed
- Provided 62 families with homes they could afford. (109 people)
- Strong financial and governance practices

# WHY HOUSING MATTERS

## Housing Builds Healthy, Thriving Communities

- Stable housing improves health outcomes
- Supports workforce retention and economic vitality
- Enables educational success and family stability

*Safe, affordable housing is foundational—not optional—for strong communities.*



An infographic featuring several house models. One model in the foreground is red and orange, while others in the background are made of cardboard. The text is overlaid on the image.

**1000**

HOME SHORTAGE  
BY 2027

**1180**

HOME SHORTAGE  
BY 2032

***The people who power  
our community  
—families, seniors, and  
workers—are  
increasingly priced  
out.***

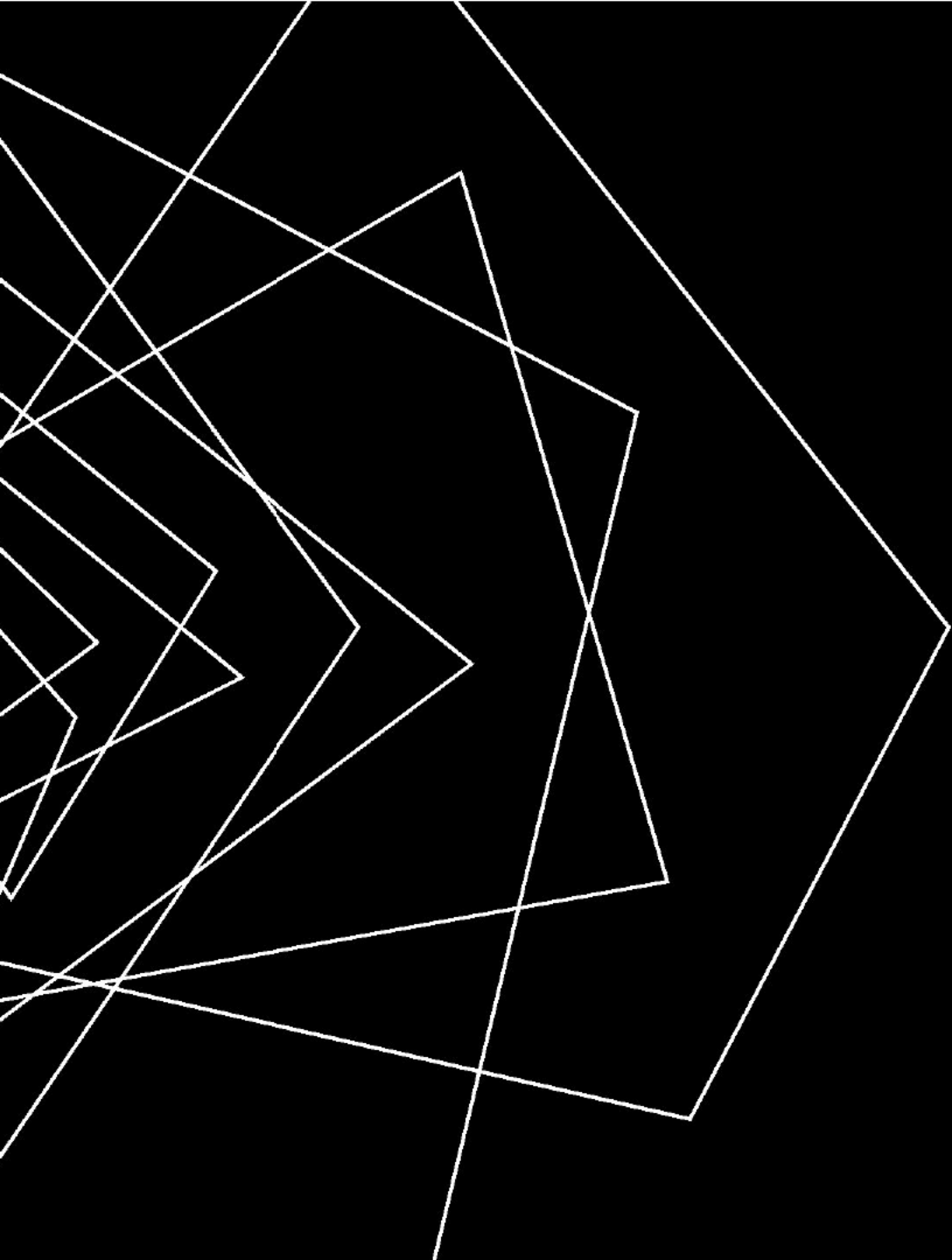
# AN UNMET HOUSING GAP

## Antigonish is at a Critical Housing Tipping Point

- Rising housing costs are outpacing local incomes
- Limited supply of affordable units
- New development skewed toward higher-end housing

### What's missing:

- Purpose-built, permanent affordable housing
- Projects of meaningful scale
- Inclusive, community-oriented design



**A SOLUTION . . .**

# INTRODUCING... SUGARLOAF

## A Transformational Community Housing Initiative

- Shovel-ready
- Designed for long-term affordability
- Built to strengthen community connection
- Will reduce the projected 2027 housing shortfall by 10%

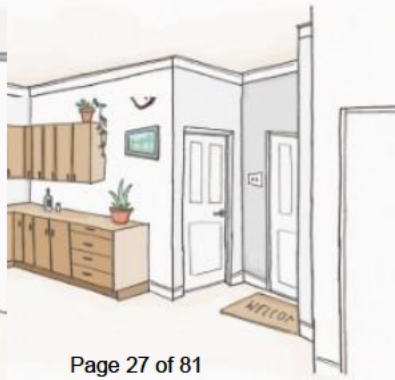
*This project has been made possible by a generous donation of 16 hectares of land by Dr. Amy Hendricks and Paul Davie which is providing a strong foundation for success.*

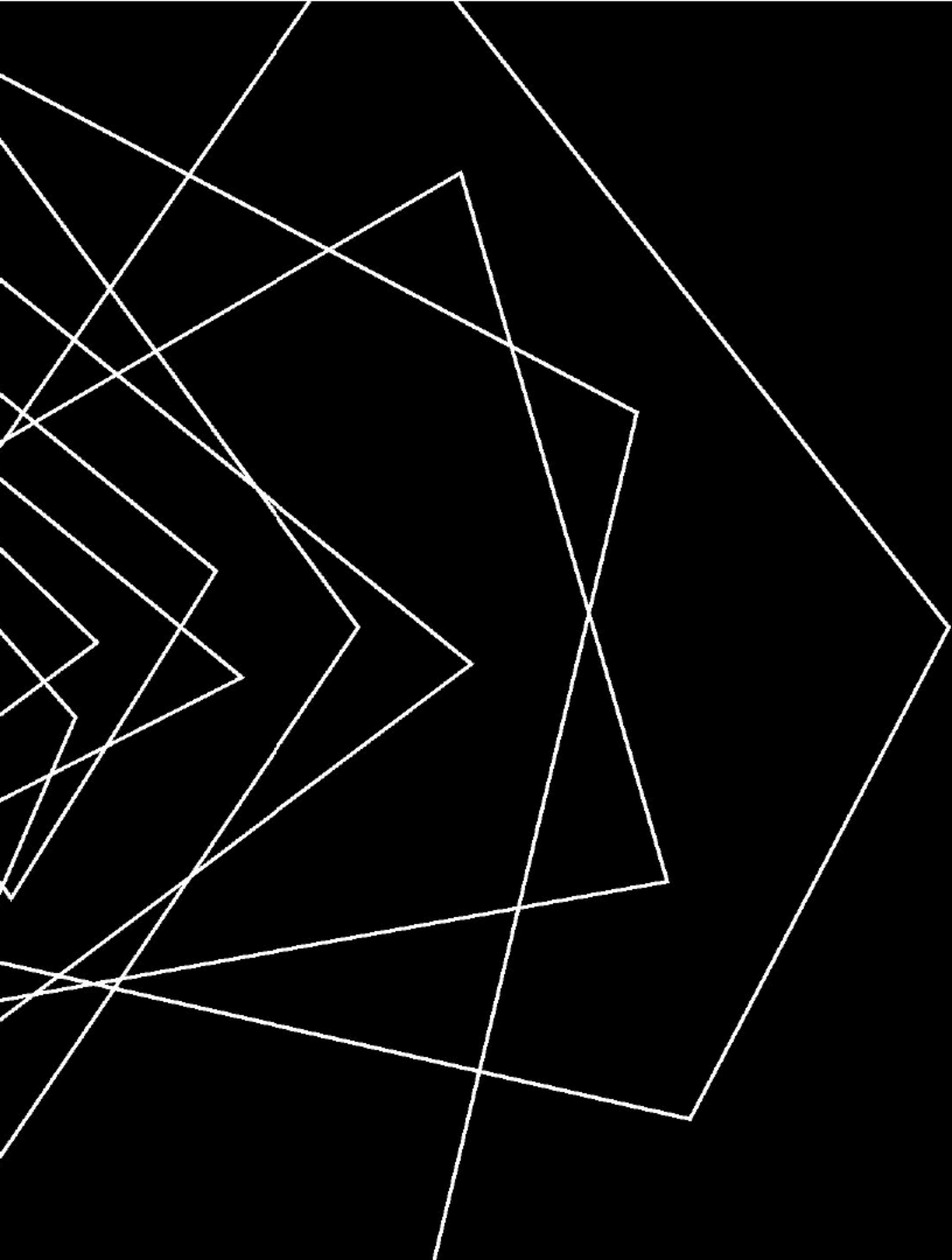


# SUGARLOAF . . . AT A GLANCE

## Homes Designed for Real Lives

- 130 total homes
- 1–4 bedroom units
- Barrier-free and accessible options
- Shared gardens, playground, and community space
- Environmentally sustainable design
- Community navigator





**THE INVESTMENT...**



***It is this  
commitment that  
builds trust, unlocks  
public funding, and  
turns housing plans  
into reality.***

# COM INVE MULTIPLIES IMPACT

## Local Leadership Unlocks 20x Government Support

- Community philanthropy is essential
- Each local dollar can leverage up to 20 dollars in public funding
- Leadership gifts unlock transformational scale
- This campaign is about partnership—between government, community, and philanthropic leaders.

# TOTAL PROJECTED COSTS

**\$65.6  
Million**

## Soft Costs

- Professional Fees
- Insurance Fees
- Contingency

**\$3M**

## Hard Costs

- Construction
- Civil Work
- Escalation & Contingency
- HST

**\*\$62M**

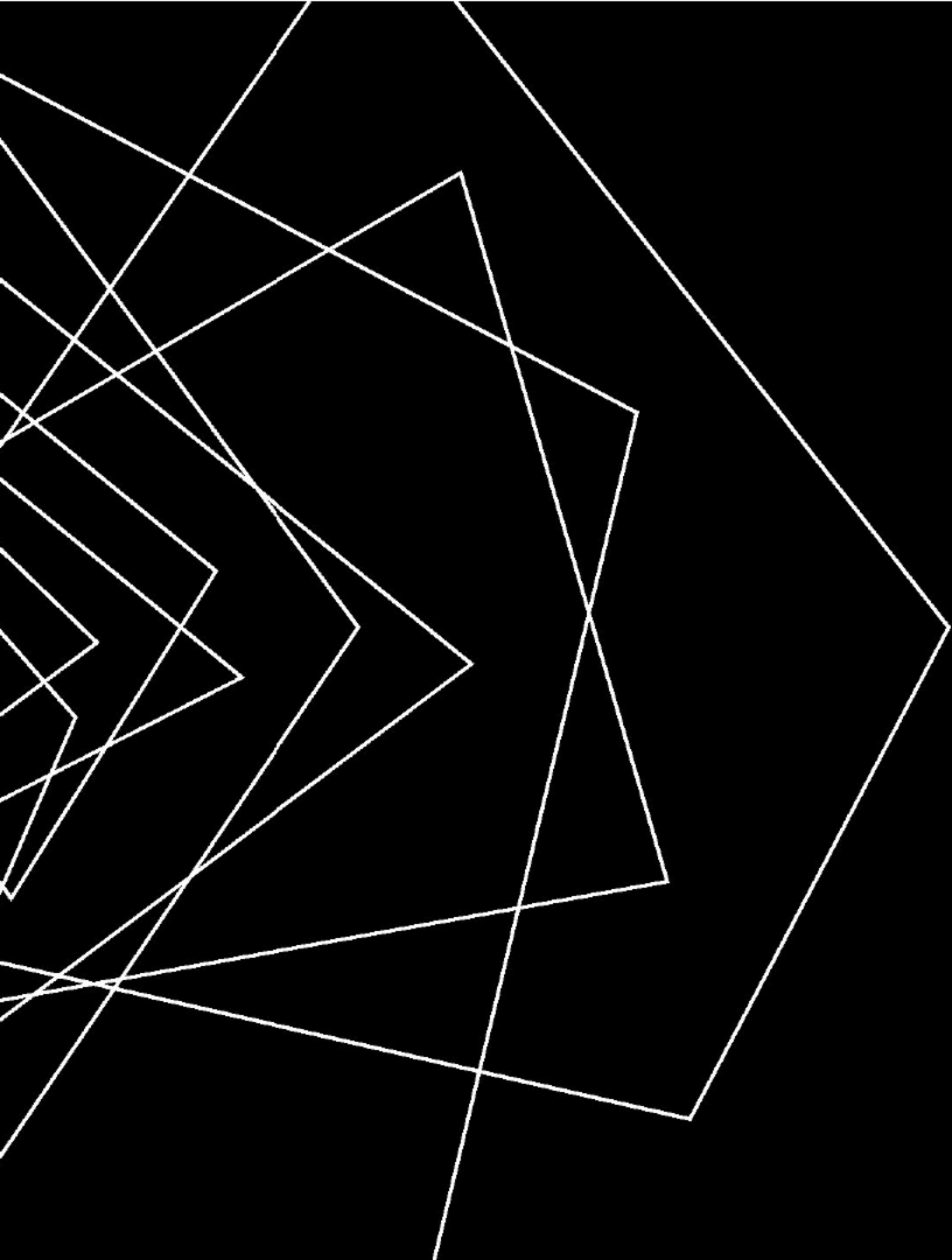
\*Supported by a Class D cost estimate

# FUNDING STACK

**\$65.6  
Million**

Land Equity		<b>\$226K</b>
Confirmed Government Funding	<b><u>NS Growth Fund:</u></b> <b><u>CMHC Seed (Federal):</u></b>	<b><u>\$75K</u></b> <b><u>\$220K</u></b>
Community Campaign (incl Town / County)		<b>\$2M</b>
Estimated Government Funding	<b><u>AHDP (Province):</u></b> <b><u>BCH (Federal):</u></b> <b><u>HST Rebate:</u></b> <b><u>HAF (Town &amp; County):</u></b>	<b><u>\$16.3M</u></b> <b><u>\$19.7M</u></b> <b><u>\$6.6M</u></b> <b><u>\$560K</u></b>
Estimated Private Equity/Loan	<b>*MLI Select:</b>	<b>\$20.4M</b>

\*Approx. \$1.5M P&I payments per annum



**JOIN US . . .**



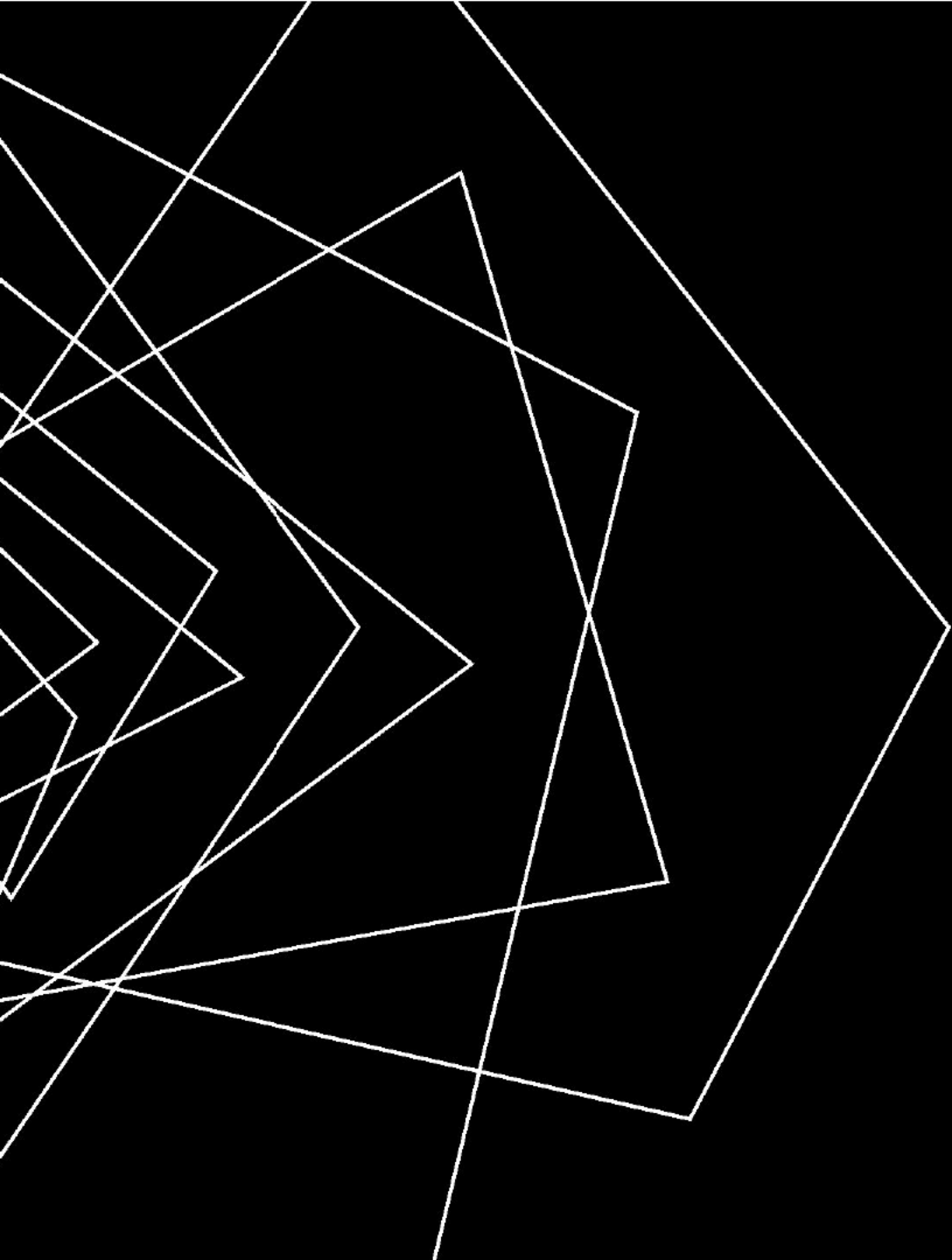
# JOIN US IN BUILDING SUGARLOAF

- A leadership role in a transformational project
- A lasting impact on Antigonish
- Homes that will serve generations

*Safe, affordable housing is essential to strong, thriving communities. When housing is available, it unlocks better health outcomes, workforce stability, educational success, and sustainable community development.*

# YOUR COMMITMENT

YOUR INVESTMENT	OUTCOME
To date, over \$300,000 for Riverside and Appleseed Court	43 New Affordable Homes
<p><b>FOR SUGARLOAF</b></p> <p><i>HAF Grant (submitted) - Federal/CMHC flow-through money</i></p> <p><i>And ...</i></p> <p><b>Town's direct investment request: \$500,000 over 5 years Community Campaign Leadership</b></p>	<p>131 ADDITIONAL new homes that people can afford</p> <p>(Addressing 10% of our community's housing need)</p>



# THANK YOU

Colleen Cameron  
Antigonish Affordable Housing  
[colleen@antigonishaffordablehousing.ca](mailto:colleen@antigonishaffordablehousing.ca)  
[www.antigonishaffordablehousing.ca](http://www.antigonishaffordablehousing.ca)

**Addressing Large Street Parties in Antigonish:  
St. Patrick's Day 2025 Review and Planning Context for  
2026  
(Good Neighbors Working Group)**

St. Patrick's Day Response and Planning Subcommittee Report  
provided to the Police and Licensing Committee for information

January 2026

## About the Good Neighbours Working Group

The Good Neighbours Working Group (GNWG) was established in 2020 as a collaborative forum between St. Francis Xavier University, the Town of Antigonish, the Municipality of the County of Antigonish, the StFX Students' Union, the Antigonish Landlords Association and public safety partners.

The group was initially formed during the COVID-19 pandemic, when StFX made the decision to host approximately 70% of classes in person while many institutions across the country remained fully remote. This context required close

coordination among the University, municipal leaders, public health, emergency services, and community partners to support student safety, community well-being, and clear communication during an unprecedented period.

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*The GNWG reflects a shared commitment to collaboration over confrontation. By bringing together municipal leaders, the University, students, and public safety partners, the group helps address complex issues in a way that balances student experience, community well-being, and public safety*

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As the immediate public health context evolved, the GNWG continued as a standing collaborative table in recognition of the value of proactive, relationship-based coordination between the University and the broader Antigonish community. Over time, the group's focus has expanded to include issues related to student–community relations, high-impact weekends and events, neighbourhood well-being, and shared approaches to communication, safety, and harm reduction. The GNWG serves as a forum for information sharing, joint planning, and reflection. It does not have decision-making authority; rather, it supports informed discussion and coordinated action, with decisions taken by the appropriate municipal, institutional, or student governance bodies.

Through ongoing collaboration, the Good Neighbours Working Group helps foster a welcoming, respectful, and safe environment for students and residents alike; while strengthening relationships between StFX and the community it calls home.

### **St. Patrick's Day Response and Planning Subcommittee – Membership**

The subcommittee included representation from:

- Town of Antigonish (administration)
- Municipality of the County of Antigonish (administration)
- St. Francis Xavier University (Student Life and Administration)
- StFX Students' Union

- Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)

## **Addressing Large Street Parties in Antigonish: St. Patrick’s Day 2025 Review and Planning Context for 2026**

### **Purpose of this Document**

The Good Neighbours Working Group was tasked with reviewing the events of St. Patrick’s Day 2025 and identifying planning considerations to inform future approaches to large, unsanctioned street gatherings in Antigonish.

This document provides background context and summarizes the range of approaches considered by the Good Neighbours Working Group. It is intended to inform discussions at the Police and Licensing Committee and Council, rather than to advance recommendations for decision at this stage.

The planning assumption for March 2026 is the continuation of the current collaborative, harm-reduction-focused model, with modest enhancements, unless Council directs otherwise.

The purpose of this document is to ensure that decision-makers are informed of the considerations and context before determining whether a change in direction is warranted.

### **Background and Context**

In response to the events surrounding St. Patrick’s Day and the associated “Ginger Run” on St. Mary’s Street, a focused subcommittee under the Good Neighbors Working Group was tasked with reviewing the events of St. Patrick’s Day 2025 and identifying planning considerations to manage St. Patrick’s Day 2026 in a safe, collaborative and community-minded manner. The subcommittee membership included representatives from StFX Student Life, the StFX Students’ Union, Antigonish Town and County, and the Landlord’s Association. The St. Patrick’s Day Response and Planning Subcommittee was asked to:

- Conduct a post-event review of the 2025 St. Patrick’s Day and related activities.
- Identify effective strategies and challenges from this year’s response.
- Research best practices from other university communities and municipalities.
- Provide practical options and planning considerations to manage St. Patrick’s Day 2026 in a safe, collaborative, and community-minded manner.

The committee met several times between May and October 2025 to conduct its work. The Student Life team coordinated the information collected and report drafting in consultation with the committee. This report is the collective work of the St. Patrick’s Day Response and Planning Subcommittee and reflects the range of perspectives and considerations discussed during that process.

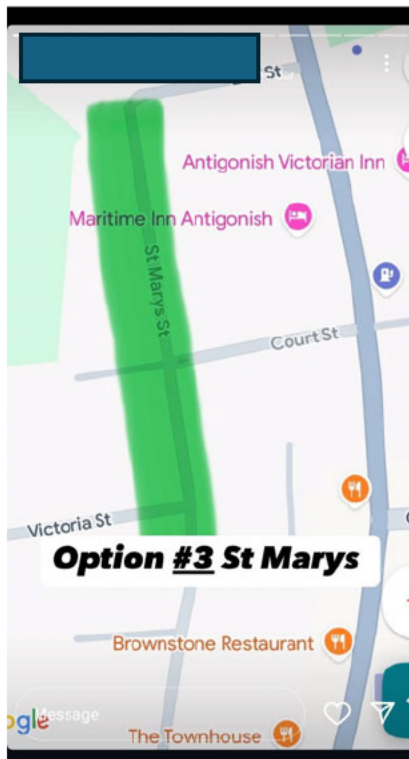
For March 2026, the Working Group’s planning assumption guided the subcommittee’s review and analysis.

### 2025 St. Patrick’s Day in Antigonish Review

Overall, coordination between Student Life, the RCMP, and municipal partners improved communication and early monitoring compared to previous years. However, despite awareness of social media promotion and some proactive messaging, the scale and rapid formation of the crowd on St. Mary’s Street limited proactive control measures and required a largely reactive safety response.

Learning from the events in 2024, when students self-organized quickly to hold a “Ginger Run” which led to a large gathering for a few hours in the afternoon and early evening on St. Mary’s street, the Good Neighbours Working Group collaborated on a multifaceted communication plan targeting students in residence, students living in the community, landlords, RCMP, and Town By-Law office. The messaging focused on respect in the community for people and property, awareness of the Nuisance Party by-law, substance use harm-reduction, and planned activities on campus and the town clean up initiative hosted by the ALPACA student society the following day.

Prior to St. Patrick’s Day 2025, Student Life and the RCMP were aware of the social media sites that were again promoting parties and the Ginger Run and followed those sites closely leading up to and on the day of March 15<sup>th</sup>, when the St. Patty’s Day parties were planned. The Ginger Run was posted by a local Instagram account, which was run anonymously, to be taking place at 2 p.m. on St. Mary’s Street. This information was shared between StFX Student Life and the RCMP. The gathering formed rapidly and informally through social media, **without a single identifiable organizer or sanctioned focal event**. The crowd formed very quickly just before 2 p.m. and RCMP were onsite.



*Figure 1. Example of anonymous social media promotion contributing to rapid crowd formation*

The size of the crowd did not allow for prevention or immediate disbursement. The RCMP responded to the gathering with a visible presence, **prioritizing public safety, de-escalation, and harm reduction while enforcing applicable bylaws as required.** RCMP on site focused on safety and addressing instances where there was localized disruption and heightened safety considerations. Two such incidents reported were people going onto a roof who complied when told to get down, and one person making lewd gestures who was arrested. Otherwise, the crowd was orderly and compliant with police direction. Police were needed to prevent traffic from entering the block on which the crowd was gathered.

While the 2025 response reflected stronger inter-agency communication and student-focused messaging, the event demonstrated the ongoing challenges associated with unsanctioned, social-media-driven gatherings in Antigonish, **while also demonstrating the value of coordinated planning, proportional policing, and harm-reduction-focused approaches in maintaining public safety.** **Feedback from Stakeholders**

There was significant feedback, both positive and negative, from the community, campus members, emergency response partners, the town and county during and following the St. Patrick's Day events.

### ***Town of Antigonish***

There was a Town Council Meeting scheduled for the Monday following the events at which St. Patrick's Day was discussed. The discussion at the meeting noted that there were more participants than the last year on St. Mary's St. (estimated approximately 40% more). The minutes from the meeting noted the observations of one Councillor:

...while many students were polite and coherent, noise levels were significantly elevated. Conversations were held with five groups of students; while some expressed disregard for local concerns, others emphasized their intent to enjoy the university experience. He also noted that some students preferred gathering in areas they were asked to avoid. (Antigonish Town Council Meeting Minutes, March 17, 2025)

At the meeting there were questions about the number of tickets issued by RCMP and whether more ticketing would be a deterrent. There were 17 reported summary offence tickets issued for open alcohol related to the day.

Other feedback from the Town included reports from social media of instances of public urination, including at sensitive sites such as a funeral home, highlighting unacceptable behavior and community disturbance.

Overall, the experience was uneventful for most of the town, but disruptive and harmful for the residents in the immediate area.

### ***Emergency Management Office***

The Emergency Management Office (EMO) raised the need for a formal risk assessment to identify hazards and implement mitigation strategies. Concerns include potential vehicle incursions into crowds, liability issues, and adequacy of safety planning.

### ***St. Martha's Emergency Room***

St. Martha's Emergency department saw a small number of substance related complications, including possible drug-spiking incidents. There was interest in further coordination between the hospital, RCMP, and SANE teams for investigation and prevention.

### ***StFX Student Life Office***

Reports to the Student Life Office highlighted a greater number of issues involving non-students, particularly in residences (including individuals from other universities in the province, high school students, and others not affiliated with StFX), than with current StFX students. High-impact events like Homecoming and St. Patrick's Day can create conditions in which young people may be more vulnerable to harm or exploitation. Guest violations and trespassing were the most frequently reported incidents in residence, followed closely by damage and vandalism. The RCMP assisted in addressing incidents involving some non-students in residence buildings. Students identified in specific reports, on and off campus, were required to meet with Student Life as the reports were reviewed under the Code of Conduct.

There were several activities hosted by Residence Life and Student Life available during the day and evening for students that were well communicated in advance. The Students' Union hosted a free breakfast which was well received. There were inquiries at the Student Life office and VP Students office about the Golden X Inn and why it was not open to students. The Inn does not normally operate on Saturdays. The concerns raised by the Students' Union Executive were that it would be difficult to staff it and that it would have low turnout, making it very expensive.

### ***Community Comments on Social Media***

Pictures and video shared on social media centered on the crowd on St. Mary's Street at the peak of the gathering. Residents of St. Mary's Street on the block where the gathering occurred, consisting of both students and non-students, experienced restricted access for the duration of the event. People were on the lawns and sometimes the porches of houses in the immediate area.

One residence had individuals on the roof, which presented serious safety concern.

In contrast, a common sentiment among town residents was relief the event didn't happen near their homes.

A small number of individuals commented online and to Town officials expressing frustration that the gathering was not more effectively contained within the campus environment.

### ***Summary of Feedback from Stakeholders***

The 2025 St. Patrick's Day events in Antigonish demonstrated both improved coordination and persistent challenges in managing large, unsanctioned, social-media-driven gatherings. Early planning and communication among StFX Student Life, the RCMP, and municipal partners led to

stronger messaging around community respect, harm reduction, and by-law awareness. Despite these proactive efforts, a crowd of several hundred people formed rapidly on St. Mary's Street following online promotion of the "Ginger Run." The speed and scale of the gathering limited opportunities for prevention and required a reactive safety response.

The RCMP maintained an on-site presence focused on safety and managing isolated incidents, with 17 summary offence tickets issued for open alcohol. While most attendees were orderly, the event caused disruption for residents in the immediate area.

Feedback from stakeholders highlighted mixed outcomes:

- **Town of Antigonish:** Town Council noted a roughly 40% increase in participation compared to 2024. While many students were polite, noise and public disturbances—including instances of public urination—were concerns. Councillors debated whether increased ticketing would serve as an effective deterrent.
- **Emergency Management Office (EMO):** Recommended a formal risk assessment process to address potential crowd hazards, vehicle incursions, and liability considerations.
- **St. Martha's Regional Hospital:** Reported a small number of substance-related incidents, including possible drug-spiking, and emphasized the need for improved coordination between healthcare and enforcement partners.
- **StFX Student Life Office:** Observed that many behavioural issues involved non-StFX individuals. The office reviewed student-related incidents under the Code of Conduct and emphasized the vulnerability of young students during high-impact events.
- **Community Feedback:** Residents of St. Mary's Street experienced property access issues and safety concerns. Residents expressed frustration with noise, crowding, impacts on access to their street, particularly in relation to emergency vehicle routing, while broader community sentiment reflected both relief that the event was contained to one area and frustration that gatherings continued to occur off campus.

In summary, the 2025 events reflected progress in communication and inter-agency coordination but also reinforced the need for continued attention to proactive risk management, event containment, and the social dynamics driving participation in unsanctioned street gatherings.

### **Key Insights and Lessons Learned**

- **Early coordination is effective but not sufficient.**  
Stronger communication among Student Life, the RCMP, and municipal partners improved readiness; however, the speed and spontaneity of online organization limited the ability to intervene pre-emptively.
- **Social media is a critical factor.**  
Platforms like Instagram continue to drive large-scale gatherings through anonymous

promotion and rapid information sharing. Monitoring and strategic use of these channels for prevention messaging are essential.

- **Non-student participation increases risk.**

Many incidents involve individuals from outside the StFX community, reinforcing the need for better crowd-management planning, clearer boundary setting, and strategies to discourage non-local participation during high-risk events.

- **Community impact remains concentrated and significant.**

While disruption was contained geographically, it caused inconvenience and safety concerns for residents in the affected area, emphasizing the need for ongoing community engagement and restorative follow-up.

- **Formalized risk management is required.**

The EMO's recommendation for structured hazard and liability assessment highlights a need for clearer operational plans, defined intervention thresholds, and shared accountability among partners.

## **Learning from Other Canadian University Communities**

Large unsanctioned street parties have emerged as a growing challenge in university communities across the country. Research in this area remains limited. However, examples from other jurisdictions provide insight into the complexity of possible approaches.

A report and recommendations from a review conducted by "Inspiring Communities for Dalhousie University" (July 2022) following Dalhousie University's Homecoming in 2022 included a scan of inquiries into street party culture associated with other universities including Queen's university (Ottawa), City of Waterloo, and University of British Columbia Okanagan. The learnings from these reviews, summarized in the Dalhousie report, provide insights relevant to the Antigonish/StFX context.

### ***Queen's***

At Queen's University, a Student Policy Innovation Lab (PIL) was launched to address the well-documented street party culture associated with Homecoming. Using a collaborative model, the PIL engaged a broad range of stakeholders to generate policy and governance recommendations.

Dalhousie's Inspiring Communities examined each of the seven recommendations from the Queens review and considered them in the context of Dalhousie and Halifax.

The review emphasized the importance of coordinated planning, stakeholder engagement, and culture change, while recognizing the limits of any single intervention.

## **City of Waterloo**

Waterloo, Ontario is home to three large institutions – University of Waterloo, Wilfred Laurier University, and Conestoga College. In Waterloo, the municipality expanded its Town and Gown Committee in 2018 to specifically examine large street gatherings. Drawing in participants from the three institutions, municipal leaders, and emergency services, the group conducted research through surveys, interviews, and community forums. Their final report in 2020 offered 12 recommendations to address four key problem areas. Each of the areas of concern were framed as key decision-making criteria to develop the recommendations.

<b>Key Problem Identified</b>	<b>Decision Making Criteria</b>
Public Safety	The approach enhances community safety & personal safety
Reputational risk	The approach creates peer-driven culture change
Cost	The approach is cost-effective, financially sustainable, and operationally feasible
Crowd Behaviour	The approach yields positive outcomes for stakeholders collectively.

*Figure 2. Waterloo Key Problems & Decision Making Criteria*

Following the report, the City explored and implemented a range of measures intended to manage public safety during large gatherings. While these measures supported operational objectives, large unsanctioned street parties have continued to occur over time.

A CTV News article published in January 2025 summarized Homecoming-related experiences in Waterloo over the past decade. Municipal officials noted that, although recent approaches have supported operational safety, the financial cost of policing and temporary infrastructure remains a concern for taxpayers. The Police Service Board similarly observed that while incidents of crime and injury have been reduced, large gatherings continue to carry inherent risk, underscoring the ongoing challenge of addressing unsanctioned events through any single approach.

## **University British Columbia Okanagan**

The experience of the University of British Columbia’s Okanagan campus offers another perspective. In the early 2000s, the campus developed a reputation for frequent unsanctioned gatherings associated with rapid enrolment growth, limited infrastructure, and a high proportion of underage students. Unlike communities where gatherings concentrate in a single location, activity at UBC Okanagan was more dispersed across residences and surrounding neighbourhoods.

Over time, the university and community explored a range of responses, including enforcement-focused approaches, which produced temporary impacts but did not result in sustained culture change. Subsequent efforts emphasized closer collaboration between the university and the students’ union, expanded alternative programming, and clearer expectations and accountability for disruptive or unsafe behaviour at unsanctioned events.

### ***Dalhousie Strategy***

The recommendations from the Dalhousie Inspiring Communities report informed us of a revised approach to managing a regularly occurring large street party associated with Homecoming. The strategy included the introduction of alternative programming and events, alongside enhanced coordination between the university, the students' union, and policing partners.

Both on- and off-campus events required significant policing and operational support. While the approach succeeded in drawing participants toward managed environments, it also introduced additional resource demands and risk considerations, including the continued presence of students and non-students moving between on- and off-campus spaces. Colleagues noted the importance of carefully weighing the scale, cost, and risk implications associated with large, sanctioned events.

### ***Acadia University Strategy***

Insights from discussions with colleagues in the Town of Wolfville emphasized the value of a coordinated, multi-pronged approach to managing high-risk community events. Similar to approaches used in Antigonish and at StFX in recent years, their strategy emphasizes proactive collaboration among the RCMP, the university, and local landlords through detailed operational planning and open communication well in advance of major gatherings. Clear thresholds for intervention are established, with Town Council defining acceptable limits for behaviour and publicly communicating expectations to residents and students alike.

Wolfville has moved away from containment-based responses—such as blocking streets—that can inadvertently signal tolerance of illegal or unsafe activity. Instead, the focus has shifted toward promoting licensed venues as safer spaces for socializing and reinforcing harm-reduction messaging related to substance use. The Town also integrates restorative justice principles and conducts post-event debriefs to reflect on outcomes and strengthen its collective response over time.

While the scale and intensity of these gatherings vary across communities, their persistence underscores a complex issue that cannot be resolved through quick fixes or single interventions. Addressing this culture requires sustained collaboration, attention to root causes, and the creation of healthier ways for students to build connection and community.

### **Social Media Drivers**

Social media continues to be both a driver and a potential mitigator of large student gatherings. Platforms such as Canadian Party Life (CPL) cultivate a competitive “party school” culture through event promotion, ambassador programs, and ranking systems that can incentivize risky behaviour. While these programs are marketed as opportunities for career development and networking, most universities prohibit formal representation of alcohol distributors or event promoters, creating challenges for students navigating these roles while enrolled.

Local social media accounts can rapidly disseminate information about gatherings to large audiences within minutes. Images and location details amplify participation while also increasing visibility for media, police, and the broader community. This pattern was evident during the 2024

and 2025 St. Patrick's Day events in Antigonish, when the "Ginger Run" gained traction through social media. Because many of these accounts operate anonymously on social media platforms, it can be difficult to identify and hold individuals accountable for the impacts of their posts. In September 2025, the StFX Student Life Office reviewed local social media promotion related to a themed event marketed nationally to post-secondary students. This review highlighted how entertainment companies may recruit individual students online to act as local promoters, contributing to rapid dissemination of event messaging outside formal institutional channels.

Public announcements were issued by the Student Life Office advising students to exercise caution and to rely on official university channels for information about sanctioned events. While some promotions appeared professional, they were organized externally using anonymous social media accounts, raising concerns about student safety and accountability. In this instance, the event was ultimately reformatted, underscoring the risks associated with unverified social media promotion. At the same time, research indicates that social media can also be leveraged as a harm-reduction tool when integrated into event planning. Universities and municipalities have used targeted social media messaging to share real-time updates, direct students toward safer, licensed spaces, and discourage participation in unregulated gatherings. Together, these examples underscore the multifaceted influence of social media on student behaviour and community safety. Addressing the challenge of large, unsanctioned street parties requires approaches that extend beyond enforcement, including culture change, digital literacy, and collaboration to use these same channels to promote safer community engagement.

### **Planning Considerations and Potential Enhancements (for discussion)**

Building on the lessons learned from the 2025 St. Patrick's Day events, stakeholder feedback, and best practices from other university communities, the following recommendations aim to balance safety, community well-being, and student experience. These strategies recognize that large, unsanctioned gatherings are driven by complex social and cultural factors, including rapid online organization and traditions of student celebration. No single intervention will eliminate these risks; instead, a coordinated, multi-pronged approach—rooted in proactive planning, harm reduction, and shared accountability—is essential. The recommendations outlined below focus on strengthening operational readiness and leveraging social media for prevention. They also explore safer alternatives and support a culture of respect and responsibility across campus and the broader Antigonish community.

The items below are offered to inform discussion and identify potential enhancements to the current approach; implementation would be subject to partner capacity, resourcing, and direction from the appropriate decision-makers.

#### **1. Strengthen Joint Operational Planning and Risk Assessment**

- Consider establishing a formal **St. Patrick's Day Operational Plan** through the Good Neighbours Working Group, including representatives from StFX, the RCMP, Town and County, and the Emergency Management Office (EMO).

- Align on clear **intervention thresholds** for when gatherings escalate beyond safe limits, ensuring consistent decision-making among all partners.

## 2. Enhance Proactive Communication and Social Media Strategy

- Develop a **unified communications campaign** led by StFX and the Town that promotes respect, safety, and community standards during high-risk weekends.
- Explore partnership with the StFX Students' Union and StFX Communications team to promote **harm-reduction messaging** and redirect social energy toward sanctioned events.
- Explore options to increase **social media monitoring and response capacity**, using verified accounts to share real-time information and counter misinformation or unsafe event promotions.
- Explore opportunities to **repurpose social media** as a harm-reduction tool. e.g., targeted posts promoting safe transportation, licensed venues, and post-event cleanup initiatives.

## 3. Reinforce On- and Off-Campus Event Alternatives

- Assess feasibility of **sanctioned programming** and licensed social options on campus and in the community, emphasizing inclusivity, safety, and collaboration with student leaders.
- Continue to work with local establishments, including the Golden X Inn, to assess feasibility of **licensed, regulated events** that offer a safer alternative to street gatherings.
- Explore opportunities to engage the StFX Students' Union and event societies in co-designing experiences that maintain student social traditions while reducing risk and neighbourhood disruption.

## 4. Strengthen Community Relations and Restorative Follow-Up

- Continue to prioritize the **Good Neighbours Working Group** as the main coordinating body for community dialogue and feedback.
- Following major events, conduct **post-event debrief sessions** involving residents, students, emergency services, and university representatives to share perspectives and inform future planning.
- Explore **restorative approaches** for addressing community impacts, such as student-led cleanup initiatives or direct outreach to affected residents.

## 5. Clarify Accountability and Enforcement Roles

- Support **consistent enforcement** of municipal by-laws and university conduct policies while maintaining a focus on education and harm reduction.
- Continue to collaborate between RCMP and Student Life for sharing relevant information and ensuring follow-up under the StFX Code of Conduct.

- Continue the use of **temporary access restrictions** or **guest policies** during high-risk periods to limit influxes of non-students.

## **6. Sustain a Culture of Shared Responsibility**

- Embed the approach to St. Patrick’s Day within a **broader year-round strategy** on student community engagement and responsible celebration, through the Good Neighbours Working Group.
- Promote the message that safety and respect are shared responsibilities between students, the university, and the broader Antigonish community.
- Support continued research and data collection on event trends, social media influence, and effective prevention models.

### **Approach for March 2026**

While the 2025 response demonstrated progress in communication and coordination, it also highlighted persistent challenges—particularly the influence of social media, the speed of crowd formation, and the concentrated impact on residential areas.

The Good Neighbours Group will continue to work collaboratively on the communications to landlords, students and community partners to communicate expectations and safety messaging in advance of March 2026. Monitoring social media closely will enable the RCMP and town Bylaw Officers to be alert to any plans for the Ginger Run and prepared to intervene.

Following St. Patrick’s Day 2026, the Good Neighbours Group will review what occurred to consider for 2027 and beyond. The Good Neighbours Group, with directions from the stakeholder decision makers, will evaluate options for future planning. For context, the Working Group considered a range of approaches at the time this review was commissioned. These are summarized below to document the scope of discussion, not to signal a recommendation to change course for 2026.

### ***Enforcement-Focused Approaches (Context Considered)***

In past years, additional police resources have been deployed for St. Patrick’s Day; however, capacity has not been sufficient to safely disperse a large crowd once it has formed. Some municipalities, such as Wolfville, have adopted a low-tolerance approach to street parties, working closely with the RCMP to establish clear thresholds for response and intervention during high-impact events.

This approach places a strong emphasis on early intervention and enforcement clarity but would require sustained policing capacity over an extended period, with significant associated costs. Experience in other jurisdictions indicates that, while enforcement-focused approaches may reduce the duration or scale of some gatherings, they do not eliminate the risk of crowd formation and can result in displacement of activity to other locations.

Implementing such an approach in Antigonish would represent a departure from the response used in recent years and would require extensive advance communication regarding expectations,

enforcement thresholds, and police response. It would also necessitate substantial resourcing to support rapid intervention before large gatherings form.

For these reasons, enforcement-focused approaches were considered as part of the Working Group's background review but are not proposed as the default approach for March 2026.

### ***Pre-Determined Location Approach (Context Considered)***

One approach considered during the review process was the identification of a pre-determined location where gatherings might be directed, supported by advanced safety planning and agreed-upon thresholds for police intervention. This concept would involve no formal entertainment or programming but would require coordination related to monitoring, traffic management, and insurance considerations for both the Town and the University.

Experience in Antigonish demonstrates that the location of the "Ginger Run" has been influenced by informal social media dynamics rather than formal planning processes. In 2025, participation coalesced on St. Mary's Street, and repetition of the same location over successive years suggests that introducing an alternative site may be challenging without broad uptake by participants.

From an operational perspective, maintaining a large crowd in a single location can support monitoring and targeted intervention when required. At the same time, efforts to disperse large gatherings carry their own safety risks and do not reliably prevent further party activity from emerging elsewhere.

Jurisdictional experience indicates that approaches involving advance identification or preparation of gathering locations involve trade-offs. While they may reduce disruption in some residential areas and simplify coordination, they can also unintentionally signal approval or endorsement of large gatherings and may not be consistently used by participants. Such approaches would require careful communication to emphasize safety rather than endorsement, as well as consideration of resource, traffic control, and liability implications.

For these reasons, the Working Group viewed this approach as illustrative of the trade-offs involved in managing unsanctioned gatherings, rather than as a recommended direction for March 2026.

### ***Large-Scale On-Campus Event Approach (Context Considered)***

Another approach discussed during the review process was the possibility of hosting a large-scale event on campus during the St. Patrick's Day period. While StFX has successfully delivered large, all-ages events at other times of the year, the context of St. Patrick's Day presents distinct challenges.

Unlike Homecoming, St. Patrick's Day celebrations are not anchored to a university-led event or alumni programming, and participation is driven more broadly by social tradition rather than institutional affiliation. As a result, an on-campus event may not attract sufficient participation to meaningfully reduce off-campus activity.

Timing is also a significant factor. The Ginger Run and associated gatherings have historically occurred during the afternoon, whereas large-scale concerts or headline performances are

typically evening-based social experiences. Hosting a major on-campus event during a March afternoon does not align well with established student social patterns and may limit its effectiveness as an alternative. Shifting such programming to the evening would not address the daytime dynamics driving street gatherings and could introduce additional operational and safety considerations.

In addition, the “Ginger Run” remains a central feature of St. Patrick’s Day celebrations and represents a high-risk activity that cannot be formally sanctioned. There is a significant risk that an unsanctioned Ginger Run could still occur off campus, potentially resulting in a large street gathering despite the presence of an on-campus event.

Operational considerations also present challenges. Large-scale on-campus events would require substantial resourcing, including event infrastructure, staffing, and coordination with emergency services. Increased policing capacity would still be required in the Town, particularly in the early years, and pedestrian movement between campus and residential areas could introduce additional traffic and safety risks.

Taken together, these factors suggest that while on-campus events can be effective in certain contexts, they are unlikely on their own to address the dynamics driving unsanctioned street gatherings associated with St. Patrick’s Day.

For these reasons, the Working Group viewed large-scale on-campus events as insufficient as a standalone strategy for addressing St. Patrick’s Day-related street gatherings.

## **Conclusion**

The persistence of large, unsanctioned gatherings in Antigonish for St. Patrick’s Day reflects broader cultural and structural dynamics seen in university towns across Canada. No single intervention will eliminate the issue. A sustained, collaborative approach—rooted in shared accountability, proactive planning, and culture change—remains essential.

For March 2026, partners will continue with the coordinated approach implemented in recent years, including joint planning through the Good Neighbours Working Group, proactive communication with students, landlords, and the broader community, harm-reduction-focused messaging, and contingency planning by the Town and the RCMP in the event of an unsanctioned gathering. This approach reflects current operational capacity and emphasizes student and public safety, community well-being, and risk mitigation.

Following St. Patrick’s Day 2026, the Good Neighbours Working Group will review outcomes, incorporate feedback from stakeholders, and assess whether adjustments are warranted for future years. Any consideration of alternative approaches would be informed by this evaluation and guided by direction from the appropriate municipal and institutional decision-makers.

By maintaining a collaborative, measured approach, partners can continue to foster a celebration environment that is both spirited and safe, while strengthening relationships between StFX, students, and the Antigonish community.

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**To:** CAO and Council  
**Submitted by:** Kyle Meisner, Director of Infrastructure and Engineering, Traffic Authority  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 28, 2026  
**Subject:** Parking Changes on College St

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## **Introduction & Background**

College St has become the topic of numerous discussions at the Committee level and beyond, regarding the curbside parking of cars in front of the new section of 4-unit apartment buildings. Historically, there has been no parking designated and signed on the east side of the street, but no equivalent signage on the west side of the street. The west side of the street has a narrow sidewalk (4') attached to the curblin with no median or grass buffer.

Due to the introduction of the noted fourplexes on College St (Civic #127 – 131), a significant increase in vehicular traffic has been seen in the area, and more cars are parking on the side of the street. This started with construction crews and has progressed to residents, despite there being parking spaces provided at the buildings for the residents to use. This concern was also raised on Malcolm Court, where 'no parking' zones were installed on both sides of the street due to the narrowness of the road surface.

## **Assessment**

The road surface of College St in the vicinity of the noted fourplexes is around 7.5m in width, which is narrow to consider 2-way traffic with parking. Of particular concern for the area is both the large amount of heavy truck traffic, and the blind corner at the intersection of College and Pleasant streets. These both add to the desire for better sight-lines and wider lanes.

The minimum single-lane travel surfaces as per the Temporary Workplace Traffic Control Manual (NS) is noted to be 3m for short-duration work. An acceptable normal lane width would be in the range of approximately 3.5 - 4m depending on traffic type and volume. Park lanes can take up significantly less width than a travel lane, but with a maximum of only 0.5m left for a park lane, this is forcing vehicles to cross the centerline of the street to swerve around the parked cars.

## **Decision**

As such, and following the meeting of the Traffic Authority and Deputy Traffic Authorities for the Town of Antigonish, we have decided to designate 'no parking' on both sides of College St from Main St to Brookland St.

This change in signage will be instituted in the spring, when new signs are able to be installed in the ground.



**Kyle Meisner, P.Eng**

Director of Infrastructure and Engineering; Traffic Authority  
Town of Antigonish  
(902) 318-1265

Dept. of Infrastructure & Engineering

February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

**Three Phases ending in March 2029**

Phase 1 - New Substation and 25kV Circuits

Phase 2 – Distribution Reconfiguration

Phase 3 – SMART Meter Deployment

**Total Project Costs = \$19,399,240.00**

**Total SREP Funding = \$9,699,620.00**



## Grid Modernization Project Update

# Phase 1 - New Substation

- Substation near completion
- Target Energization date – **July 2026**
  
- Total Claims to SREP = \$10,846,970.06
- Payments to date = **\$8,635,440.00** (less 10% HB)
- Remaining Funds = \$1,064,180.00



# Phase 2 - Distribution System Upgrades (25kVA)

- NSPI Switching Station construction has started
- First to circuits to convert 6C 301 and 302
- Approximately 350 Pole Top Transformers have been replaced to date.



# Phase 3 - Smart Meter Deployment



Atlantic Canada  
Opportunities  
Agency

Agence de  
promotion économique  
du Canada atlantique

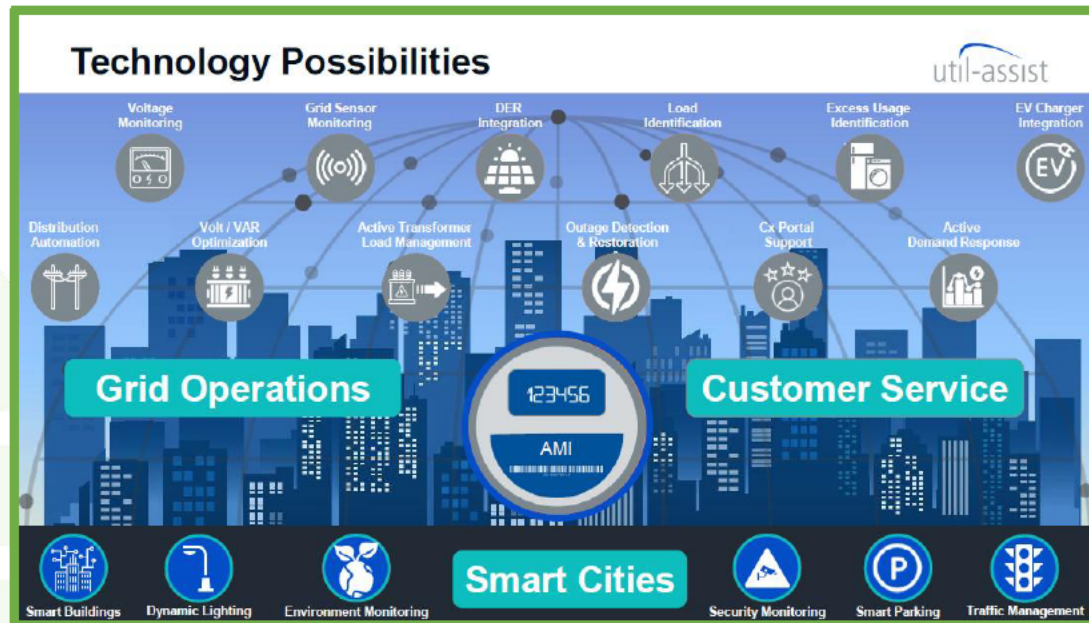


## Innovative Communities Fund

Total Cost of Study = \$33,903.00

Total Funds Received = \$23,732.10

Total Cost to TOA = \$10,170.90



## Town of Antigonish – AMI Feasibility Study Report

January 29, 2026

## Melanie Fougere

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**From:** Randy Delorey  
**Sent:** January 27, 2026 2:11 PM  
**To:** Melanie Fougere  
**Subject:** Fw: Voice Mail - Re: Liz Funeral Contribution

FYI

Randy Delorey, CAO  
Town of Antigonish

p. 902.870.6628  
e. randy.delorey@townofantigonish.ca

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**From:** Sean Cameron <Sean.Cameron@townofantigonish.ca>  
**Sent:** January 21, 2026 6:09 PM  
**To:** Randy Delorey <Randy.Delorey@townofantigonish.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: Voice Mail - Re: Liz Funeral Contribution

Thanks for the reply

A phone call request came from the CWL for a donation to assist with food after the funeral of former Town Councillor, Liz Chisholm. The funeral will be held on Saturday, January 24, 2026.

As Mayor, I had texted council members requesting support or denial of the request of \$100. Cheque payable to CWL. With a notation for Liz Chisholm.

Council members replied to support a \$100 donation.

I think the Town used to make a \$50 donation to the family's charity of choice in memory of former staff and council members.

Sincerely

Sean Cameron  
Mayor, Town of Antigonish  
902-318-6745

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**From:** Randy Delorey <Randy.Delorey@townofantigonish.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 21, 2026 4:31:06 PM  
**To:** Sean Cameron <Sean.Cameron@townofantigonish.ca>  
**Subject:** Voice Mail - Re: Liz Funeral Contribution

Sean,

Sorry I was in a meeting when you called.

There was a gap in the voice mail recording, so I missed what the exact request was - it seemed like a request for \$100 contribution to the CWL or CACL for Liz's funeral reception.

You mentioned a policy, but I'm not sure there is a policy respecting former staff / councillors' funeral contributions. I suspect this would just fall to Council discretionary fund. Recognizing the time sensitivity we can see about funding from sponsorship until Council has an opportunity to meet and consider a motion of support.

But I'll need something in writing with a request before proceeding to make sure all details are correct and we have something to tie to the payment request.

Thanks,

Randy Delorey, CAO  
Town of Antigonish

p. 902.870.6628  
e. [randy.delorey@townofantigonish.ca](mailto:randy.delorey@townofantigonish.ca)

**To:** Town Council  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Submitted by:** Melanie Fougere, Municipal Clerk

**Date:** Thursday, January 22, 2026

**Subject:** Sympathy Gifts Policy – For Council Consideration

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## **Purpose**

To inform Council of opportunities to review and align the Sympathy Gifts Policy with current market costs and expand eligibility.

## **Background**

The current Sympathy Gifts Policy permits a cash contribution, tangible personal gift, or donation not exceeding \$50.00 and applies to current and past employees and elected officials and their immediate family members. Due to inflation and increased costs, the current limit no longer reflects the market cost of appropriate sympathy gifts.

## **Staff Observations**

Current gift limit no longer aligns with typical costs of sympathy gifts. For example:

- Gift baskets: \$69.00 plus tax
- Local funeral flower arrangements: starting at \$80.00 plus tax and a \$10 delivery fee

In addition, the policy does not currently apply to contractors, many of whom maintain ongoing and long-standing working relationships with the Town.

## **Opportunities for Consideration**

Council may wish to consider:

1. Increase the maximum allowable amount from \$50.00 to \$100.00 to reflect current costs and inflation.
2. Expand eligibility under the policy to include current contractors engaged by the Town, in addition to current and past employees and elected officials and their immediate family members.



## Town of Antigonish Sympathy Gifts Policy

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### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the distribution of tangible personal gifts, as an expression of sympathy, to current and past Town of Antigonish employees, elected officials and their families.

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### Policy

#### Interpretation:

1. In this Policy:
  - 1.1. "employee" means a full-time, seasonal, or part-time employee of the Town of Antigonish;
  - 1.2. "immediate family member" means a father, mother, spouse, sister, brother, son, daughter, father-in-law, or mother-in-law;
  - 1.3. "elected official" means a member of the Town of Antigonish Town Council.

#### General:

2. It shall be the policy of the Town of Antigonish to present a tangible personal gift, such as flowers, upon the death or serious illness of an immediate family member of a past or current employee or elected official.
3. It shall be the policy of the Town of Antigonish to present a tangible personal gift, such as flowers, upon the death or serious illness of a past or current employee or elected official to the person's family.
4. As an alternative to s.2 and s.3, a cash contribution may be made to a charitable organization in lieu of a tangible personal gift. Cash contributions must be accompanied by a letter on official Town letterhead which states that the donation was made on behalf of the Town.
5. Cash contributions or gifts presented under this policy shall not exceed \$50.

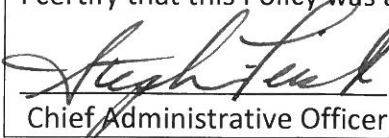
#### CAO's Annotation for Official Policy Book

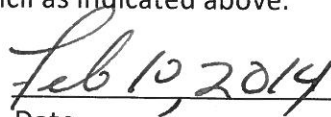
Date of Notice to Council Members of Intent: November 19, 2012

To Consider (Minimum 7 Days): November 26, 2012

Date of Passage of Current Policy: November 26, 2012

I certify that this Policy was adopted by Council as indicated above.

  
Chief Administrative Officer

  
Date



## Town of Antigonish Procurement Policy

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### Purpose

To provide guidelines for the procurement of all goods and services for the Town of Antigonish based on sound management and public procurement practices. Procurement methods shall be open, fair, transparent and consistent, while being both efficient and effective; procurement methods should reflect the need to make timely decisions and make best use of staff time to reach defensible procurement decisions.

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### 1.0 Definitions

In this policy:

- a. “alternative procurement practice” means the purchase of goods or services without a public tender or other competitive process;
- b. “best value” means evaluating bids not only on purchase price and life cycle cost considerations, but also taking into account items such as environmental and social considerations, delivery, servicing, warranty details and the capacity of the supplier to meet other criteria as stated in tender documents;
- c. “bid” means a supplier response to a public tender notice to provide goods, services, construction, or facilities;
- d. “bidder” means a person, firm or corporation who submits a bid;
- e. “construction” means the construction, reconstruction, demolition, repair, or renovation of a building, structure, road, or other engineering or architectural work, excluding professional consulting services related to the construction contract unless they are included in the procurement;
- f. “Construction Contract Guidelines” means standard instructions developed in consultation with the Construction Association of Nova Scotia;
- g. “goods” means materials, furniture, merchandise, equipment, stationary and other supplies required by the Town of Antigonish for the transaction of its business and affairs and includes services that are incidental to the provision of such supplies;
- h. “life cycle cost” means the total costs associated with a product or asset over its life span, including the cost of maintenance, repair, operation and disposal;
- i. “*Public Procurement Act*” means an Act outlining the rules related to the procurement activity of all public sector entities in the Province of Nova Scotia;
- j. “public tender” means procurement for goods, services, construction or facilities obtained through public advertisement;

- k. "request for proposals" means a formal invitation to suppliers to describe how their services, methods, equipment or products can address and/or meet the needs of the Town of Antigonish;
- l. "request for quotations" means informally obtaining price quotations from a number of different suppliers;
- m. "services" means those services required by the Town of Antigonish for the transaction of its business and affairs, excluding services provided by an employee through a personal services contract;
- n. "standing offer" means a contractual arrangement with a supplier to provide certain goods or services on an 'as required' basis, during a particular period of time, at a predetermined price or discount, generally within a pre-defined dollar limit. A standing offer does not imply a commitment on the part of the Town to acquire any minimum level of goods or services from suppliers/bidders;
- o. "traditional tender" means a formal invitation to suppliers to submit a bid to supply specified goods or services.

## **2.0 Scope**

This policy applies to the procurement by the Town of Antigonish of all goods and services, including construction and facilities, by purchase or lease, but does not apply to procurements:

- a. by the Town of Antigonish from organizations owned or controlled by the Town of Antigonish;
- b. where a construction project is managed by a third party on behalf of the Town of Antigonish, in which case the procurement for the project must be in accordance with the contract between the Town of Antigonish and the third party, and in accordance with generally accepted procurement practices.

## **3.0 Principles**

- 3.1 All procurement carried out by the Town of Antigonish must be carried out with a view to:
  - a. ensuring an equitable, open and transparent process for the acquisition of goods and services by the Town of Antigonish;
  - b. avoiding dishonesty, corruption or favouritism in the procurement of goods and services;
  - c. encouraging competitive bidding wherever possible and, in any event, minimizing the Town of Antigonish's cost of acquiring goods and services while obtaining best value;
  - d. utilizing suppliers who can be expected to provide satisfactory performance;

- e. taking into account environmental considerations in all procurement decisions and selecting environmentally beneficial goods and services where practical;
- f. complying with applicable regional, national, and international trade agreements, including the Agreement on Internal Trade and the Atlantic Procurement Agreement;
- g. complying with the *Public Procurement Act*, S.N.S. 2011, c. 12 and regulations made pursuant to the *Public Procurement Act*.

3.2 Pursuant to s. 15(1) of the *Public Procurement Act*, all employees involved in procurement on behalf of the Town of Antigonish must:

- a. ensure their procurement activities are conducted according to this policy, provincial and federal legislation, trade agreements and ethical business practices;
- b. encourage and support collaborative procurement amongst other municipalities and public sector entities such as hospitals and school boards;
- c. follow leading procurement practices;
- d. in good faith, conduct business with current and prospective suppliers and be fair in all business dealings;
- e. strive to obtain the best value for each expenditure;
- f. require suppliers provide accurate representations of goods, services and construction;
- g. encourage suppliers to consider integrating environmental, economic and social considerations in their product or service offerings;
- h. encourage the negotiation of an equitable and mutually acceptable settlement when a dispute arises;
- i. request removal from a procurement process when a personal conflict of interest is perceived.

#### 4.0 Normal Procurement Practices

4.1 For goods or services with an estimated value of **less than \$2,500**:

- a. the procurement decision must be made by the applicable Department Head or by an employee designated by the Department Head;
- b. goods and services must be procured under a standing offer if one exists for the goods or services required, and if doing so will provide best value;
- c. if the goods or services cannot be procured under subsection (b), the goods or services may be purchased based on formal or informal written quotations from a minimum of three qualified suppliers. Where three quotations are not available, documentation

demonstrating the invitation of adequate competition and the attempt to obtain best value must be maintained on file for internal and external audit purposes.

- 4.2 For goods and services with an estimated value **between \$2,500 and \$25,000**:
  - a. the procurement decision must be made by the applicable Department Head or by an employee designated by the Department Head;
  - b. goods and services must be procured under a standing offer if one exists for the goods or services required, and if doing so will provide best value;
  - c. if the goods or services can not be procured under subsection (b), the goods or services must be procured by a request for quotations.
- 4.3 For goods and services with an estimated value of **more than \$25,000, contained in the approved budget**:
  - a. the procurement decision must be made by the applicable Department Head;
  - b. goods and services must be procured by public tender.
- 4.4 For goods and services with an estimated value of **more than \$25,000, not contained in the approved budget**:
  - a. the procurement decision must be made by Council;
  - b. goods and services must be procured by public tender.

## 5.0 Alternative Procurement Practices

- 5.1 In order to balance the need for open, competitive process with the demands of urgent or specialized circumstances, alternative procurement circumstances may be followed. These practices must be used only for the purposes intended and not to avoid competition or to discriminate against specific suppliers.
- 5.2 When an alternative procurement purchase occurs, the reason for doing so must be documented and include the rationale permitting the alternative procurement circumstances. This documentation must be signed by the Chief Administrative Officer. Council shall be informed within 2 business days following the use of an Alternative Procurement Practice.
- 5.3 The Chief Administrative Officer may authorize Alternative Procurement Practices in the circumstances as described below.
  - a. Where an unforeseeable situation of urgency exists and the goods, services or construction cannot be obtained in time by means of open procurement procedures.
  - b. Where goods or consulting services regarding matters of a confidential or privileged nature are to be purchased and the disclosure of those matters through an open tendering process could reasonably be expected to compromise government

confidentiality, cause economic disruption or otherwise be contrary to the public interest.

- c. Where compliance with the open tendering provisions set out in this policy would interfere with the Town's ability to maintain security or order or to protect human, animal or plant life or health.
- d. In the absence of tenders in response to an open or selective tender, or when the tenders submitted have been collusive, or not in conformity with the essential requirements in the tender.
- e. To ensure compatibility with existing products, to recognize exclusive rights, such as exclusive licenses, copyright and patent rights, or to maintain specialized products that must be maintained by the manufacturer or its representative.
- f. Where there is an absence of competition for technical reasons and the goods or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier and no alternative or substitute exists.
- g. For the procurement of goods or services the supply of which is controlled by a supplier that is a statutory monopoly.
- h. For the purchase of goods on a commodity market.
- i. For work to be performed on or about a leased building or portions thereof that may be performed only by the lessor.
- j. For work to be performed on property by a contractor according to provisions of a warranty or guarantee held in respect of the property or the original work.
- k. For the procurement of a prototype or a first good or service to be developed in the course of and for a particular contract for research, experiment, study or original development, but not for any subsequent purchases.
- l. For the purchase of goods under exceptionally advantageous circumstances such as bankruptcy or receivership, but not for routine purchases.
- m. For the procurement of original works of art.
- n. For the procurement of subscriptions to newspapers, magazines or other periodicals.
- o. For the procurement of real property.
- p. For the procurement of goods intended for resale to the public.
- q. For procurement from philanthropic institutions, prison labour, persons with disabilities, sheltered workshop programs or through employment equity programs.
- r. For procurement from a public body or a non-profit organization.
- s. For the procurement of services of expert witnesses, specifically in anticipation of litigation or for the purpose of conducting litigation.

## 6.0 Trade Agreement Exemptions

The Town of Antigonish requires all procurement be conducted within the allowances of this policy. It should be noted that there are no requirements within trade agreements to publicly tender for:

- a. Professional services such as engineers, architects, accountants, lawyers and notaries;
- b. Services of financial analysts or the management of investments by organizations who have such functions as their primary purpose; and
- c. Financial services respecting the management of government financial assets and liabilities.

## 7.0 Cooperative Procurement

Town personnel are encouraged to look for opportunities to collaborate with other municipalities or government agencies when the arrangement may result in overall cost savings or other substantial advantages. Examples of cooperative procurement may be for commonly used and standardized goods, services, fuel oil, natural gas, telecommunications, etc.

## 8.0 Methods of Procurement

8.1 A **standing offer** includes:

- a. a standing agreement between the Town of Antigonish and a supplier in which the supplier commits to providing specified goods or services at a specific price for a specific period of time. Such standing agreements should themselves be the subject of a competitive tender process;
- b. equipment leasing programs through the Government of Nova Scotia;
- c. Nova Scotia Provincial "standing offers" administered by the Nova Scotia Government;
- d. supplies and services available from the Nova Scotia Government;
- e. a procurement program administered by the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities or the Association of Municipal Administrators;
- f. any other program available to several municipal units and other public sector entities, provided that municipal staff is satisfied that such program has been developed and conforms with the principles set out in this policy.

8.2 Request for **quotations**:

- a. Quotations must normally be sought from at least three suppliers but fewer suppliers may be used when three suppliers are not available within a reasonable distance, having regard to the value of the goods and services, the shipping or travel cost and the amount of time available before the goods and services are required to be available. If it is decided to obtain fewer than three quotations, the person responsible for that decision must document their reasons for doing so.

- b. Quotations must normally be obtained in writing, but when time does not permit the obtaining of written quotations, the quotations may be obtained verbally, except when this policy stipulates otherwise. If a quotation is obtained verbally, the person obtaining it must document the quotation, including the time, date, supplier, price and description of the goods and services, the person from whom the quotation was obtained and the name of the municipal staff obtaining the quotation.

**8.3 Public tenders can be in the form of a traditional tender (section 8.3.a) or request for proposals (section 8.3.b):**

**a. Traditional tender:**

- i. A traditional tender should be used when the procurement requirements of the Town of Antigonish can be clearly and completely specified.
- ii. Traditional tenders do not have to be opened in public, but if they are not, the name of each bidder and the amount of their bid must be made available to each bidder after the tenders are opened.
- iii. The Town of Antigonish must not negotiate with any bidders, but must award the procurement contract to the bidder that meets the tender requirements and provides best value.

**b. Request for proposals:**

- i. A request for proposals may be used when the Town of Antigonish is unable to clearly or completely specify the goods or services required, and suppliers are therefore asked to provide a solution to the problem, requirement or objective. A request for proposals may also be used for professional and consulting services.
- ii. In order to preserve confidentiality of sensitive commercial information contained in a proposal, proposals submitted in response to a request for a proposal must be opened in the presence of at least two representatives of the Town of Antigonish, and after the proposals are opened a list of the proponents must be available to the public and the proponents upon request.
- iii. Negotiations may be conducted with a proponent after proposals have been opened, subject to complying with the terms of the request for proposals which must be drafted to avoid unfair "bid-shopping" by the Town of Antigonish.
- iv. The Town of Antigonish must award the procurement contract to the supplier whose proposal is determined to provide best value to the Town of Antigonish based upon the evaluation criteria set out in the request for proposals and equitably applied to all proposals.

## 9.0 Requirements for all Public Tenders

The following requirements apply to all public tenders, whether traditional tenders, or requests for proposals:

- 9.1 The Town of Antigonish must provide reasonable notice and opportunity to respond to public tenders, and must post or place notices of public tenders as follows:
  - a. on the public website maintained and operated by the government of Nova Scotia;
  - b. on the Town of Antigonish website;
  - c. in other media, as directed by the Chief Administrative Officer, when it is determined that the cost and nature of the procurement warrants the expense of doing so.
- 9.2 Every public tender must include or have attached the terms and conditions that govern the tender. The terms and conditions of every notice of public tender must be consistent with:
  - a. the standard instructions that support public tenders issued by the four Atlantic provinces for goods and services, known as the Atlantic Standard Terms and Conditions, for the procurement of goods and services;
  - b. the standard instructions that support construction tenders issued by the government of Nova Scotia, known as the Construction Contract Guidelines, for the procurement of construction.
- 9.3 Public tenders should normally include specifications or terms as follows:
  - a. expressly or by implication outlining the issues or criteria that will be used for selection of a successful bidder or proponent;
  - b. a privilege clause stating that the lowest or any bid or proposal will not necessarily be accepted;
  - c. the location for delivery of bids or proposals;
  - d. the means of delivery of bids or proposals, e.g., whether faxes or e-mails are acceptable in addition to "hard copy" submissions;
  - e. the time and date of closing;
  - f. a warning that tender documents and bids will be open to the public, except to the extent otherwise stated in a call for tenders or a request for proposals, in which event there must be included a warning that proposals or bids are subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy provisions of the *Municipal Government Act*;
  - g. for design or architectural services, a statement that the Town of Antigonish will own the copyright in the design, plans and other intellectual property produced for the Town.

- 9.4 Public tenders should also include a form of contract that the successful bidder will be required to enter into with the Town of Antigonish, or should direct that bidders or proponents must provide the form of contract with their bid or proposal.
- 9.5 For each public tender that is awarded, the Town of Antigonish must post the name of the successful supplier and the contract amount on the public website maintained and operated by the government of Nova Scotia.
- 9.6 The terms and conditions of every public tender must state the criteria that the Town of Antigonish will use in evaluating responses. Those criteria are not limited to purchase price and life cycle cost considerations, but may also include items such as environmental and social considerations, past performance, delivery, servicing and the capacity of the supplier.
- 9.7 All bidders shall be notified in writing of the Town's decision on a public tender.

#### **10.0 Supplier Debriefing**

Pursuant to s. 17 of the *Public Procurement Act*, upon the request of a supplier submitted a rejected bid, the Town of Antigonish shall conduct a debriefing with that supplier to provide feedback on the evaluation of the public tender. The debriefing must be conducted as follows:

- a. the Chief Administrative Officer shall conduct the debriefing;
- b. the debriefing must provide reasons for the disqualification of the supplier, or in the case where evaluation scoring was used, provide an overview of the supplier's score in each category and reasons for that score;
- c. the debriefing must also provide information to the supplier on how to improve future submissions;
- d. the debriefing must not disclose any information regarding other bidders or their submissions.

#### **11.0 Contract and Risk Management**

Section 12(g) of the *Public Procurement Act* requires municipalities to adopt contract and risk-management guidelines. These guidelines shall be established by the Chief Administrative Officer.

#### **12.0 Disposal of Surplus Equipment**

- 12.1 Goods, supplies and assets which are declared surplus by the Department Head or Chief Administrative Officer shall be offered to other departments of the Town of Antigonish, or sold in the most efficient manner to obtain the highest return by trade-in (vehicles and equipment), request for quotation, public tender or public auction in accordance with this policy.
- 12.2 Elected officials and employees of the Town of Antigonish or their agents shall not be permitted to bid on the purchase of surplus material.

### **13.0 Conflicts of Interest**

If a staff member otherwise authorized to award a contract has a conflict of interest, the award must be made by the person to whom the conflicted staff member normally reports and the conflicted staff member must not participate in the procurement process related to the contract in any manner.

### **14.0 Duration of Contracts**

Contracts for goods and services that are required to be procured by public tender under this policy, including price agreements, must be re-tendered at least once every 5 years but may be re-tendered more frequently at the direction of Council.

### **15.0 Lease Arrangements**

Lease arrangements are subject to the provisions of this policy, save and except that Council's authority must be obtained for any leases required by the *Municipal Government Act* to be authorized by Council.

### **16.0 Approval of Form of Tender**

Public tendering documents are to be reviewed by the Chief Administrative Officer or his or her designate prior to issuance to ensure consistency of tendering documents and practices.

### **17.0 Fees**

The Town may charge a fee or deposit to interested parties prior to being given tender documents.

### **18.0 Posting on the Town of Antigonish Website**

A copy of this policy must be posted on the Town of Antigonish website.

### **19.0 Compliance with Policy**

All staff and Councillors must act in good faith to comply with this policy, but failure to comply with this policy does not invalidate any procurement decision or act of the Town of Antigonish, nor is the Town liable to any supplier or prospective supplier for failing to comply with this policy.

### **20.0 Reporting**

The Town of Antigonish shall submit all legislated reports to the Provincial government with respect to procurement policies and activity, as required by section 12(k) of the *Public Procurement Act*.

### **21.0 Previous Policies**

Any previous purchasing and tendering policies of the Town of Antigonish are hereby repealed.

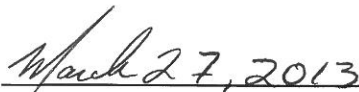
**CAO's Annotation for Official Policy Book**

Date of Notice to Council Members of Intent To Consider (Minimum 7 Days): **March 18, 2013**

Date of Passage of Current Policy: **March 25, 2013**

I certify that this Policy was adopted by Council as indicated above.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Administrative Officer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BUSINESS ABILITY BANQUET

**Keynote Speaker:**

**Clara Hughes**



**Tuesday, March 3rd at 6:00 PM  
At the MacKay Room, St. Francis Xavier University**

**Dear Friends of the CACL Antigonish,**

CACL Antigonish invites you to the 9th Annual Business Ability Banquet on Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup>, at The MacKay Room at St. Francis Xavier University. This year's Keynote Speaker is Canadian Icon Clara Hughes. Clara Hughes is a Canadian Athlete renowned for being the only Olympian to win multiple medals in both Summer and Winter Games, excelling in cycling and speed skating. During her Athletic Career she was a six-time Olympic Medalist. Clara Hughes remains an inspiring figure in Canadian Sports, not only for her athletic prowess but also her commitment to mental health advocacy and community service.

We will also hear from CACL Antigonish Participants in Employment and their employer(s). It's always a great event!

CACL Antigonish looks forward to your presence at this special event. Our participants, Board of Directors and staff request your support in one of two ways. You can choose to sponsor the Banquet at one of the levels listed in the enclosed sponsorship package. Once you determine your level of sponsorship, please identify who is attending on behalf of your organization and the number of individuals. (Please also fill in their names on the enclosed registration form). Or, if you cannot sponsor the banquet but still wish to purchase tickets, please complete the enclosed registration form.

We look forward to seeing you at the Banquet on March 3rd, 2025.

Yours truly,

Jeff Teasdale  
Executive Director



## 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BUSINESS ABILITY BANQUET SPONSORSHIP

Become a prominent supporter of the event with the following benefits:

- ✓ Gain access to a valuable network of organizations and attendees, exposing your services & products to this community.
- ✓ Establish personal contacts with the keynote speakers and event partners.
- ✓ Recognition for your initiative to support this conference amongst your colleagues.
- ✓ Organization's name and logo displayed in all promotional materials, social media and ticket/registration receipt.
- ✓ Organization's name and logo prominently displayed during the event.
- ✓ Sponsor recognition on your personal name badge.
- ✓ Sponsor recognition in the event thank you letter post this event.
- ✓ Acknowledgement of sponsorship from the podium during the event.
- ✓ Platinum Sponsor will do a welcome on behalf of their organization.
- ✓ Platinum, Gold, Silver sponsors will have an organization bio in the evening program.

Platinum Sponsor	Gold Sponsor	Silver Sponsor	Bronze Sponsor
\$5,000	\$2,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
2 Complementary Table (16)	Complementary Table (8)	Complementary Half Table (4)	2 Banquet Tickets Complementary
Welcome on behalf of your organization Tabletop, Event Signage, Log	Tabletop, Event Signage, Logo	Event Signage, Logo	Logo
500 word bio	250 word bio	100 word bio	Name only

**Interested in booking a table for your organization?**

You can choose to book a table for your business at the cost of \$500.00. Tax receipt available.

Please provide sponsorship payment with cheque by Feb 20th made payable to CACL Antigonish with a memo line, "Business Ability Banquet" and mail or drop off to CACL Antigonish, 75 St. Ninian Street, Antigonish, NS B2G 2R8.

*Discover Ability in Disability!*



## 9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BUSINESS ABILITY BANQUET REGISTRATION FORM

**Keynote Speaker:**

**Clara Hughes**

**Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM**

CACL Antigonish invites you to the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Ability Banquet on Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at The Keating Millennium Centre, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish. We are excited to announce Clara Hughes. Below is the banquet registration. We look forward to seeing you at the Business Ability Banquet on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

+++++

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Business / Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Tickets:** \_\_\_\_\_ **or** **Number of Tables:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Food sensitivities (please specify):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Banquet Cost: \$80.00 per person. Tables are \$600 for 8 persons.**

**Sponsorship: If you are a sponsor, please make a note in the “comments” section.**

Please return the registration form confirming payment via e-mail to: [REDACTED]  
or via mail to: CACL Antigonish, 75 St. Ninian Street, Antigonish, NS B2G 2R8.

**For more information about the Business Ability Banquet, please contact:**  
**Jeff Teasdale, Executive Director, CACL Antigonish;** [REDACTED]

Committee of the Whole  
February 3, 2026

Dear Friend of Coady Institute,

I hope this message finds you well. I am pleased to invite you to join Coady Institute in a joyful, community-centred celebration in honour of International Women's Day, to be held on Sunday, March 8, 2026, at Desmond Hall, Markin Complex (Coady West).

**A Taste of Solidarity: Community Women's Day Tea at Coady** is designed to be warm, inclusive, and welcoming. There will be no formal program or agenda—simply good food, meaningful conversation, opportunities for connection, and door prizes. The gathering will bring together town residents, friends of Coady Institute, and local supporters to celebrate women's leadership and the collective role we all play in building stronger, more inclusive communities.

International Women's Day is grounded in collective effort. Its impact comes from shared ownership and action—people coming together across sectors and perspectives to advance opportunity, equity, and leadership for women and girls. This spirit aligns closely with Coady Institute's longstanding commitment to women's leadership development, both locally and globally.

**To support this community celebration, we are inviting local businesses, organizations, and associations to participate as event sponsors in one of two simple ways:**

- **Sponsor a table for \$100, or**
- **Contribute a door prize**

Sponsors will be acknowledged during the event and recognized through Coady Institute's social media and event communications. Most importantly, sponsors are warmly invited to attend and enjoy the afternoon alongside community members.

We hope you will consider being part of this International Women's Day celebration in a way that is approachable, positive, and rooted in community. I would be happy to answer any questions or share additional details.

Thank you for considering being part of this special afternoon.

Warm regards,



Lynn O'Donnell  
Fund Development Executive, Coady Institute

## Melanie Fougere

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**From:** Melanie.Fougere@townofantigonish.ca  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Light up the town red for Women's Heart Health

**From:** Dunlop, Melanie [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, January 30, 2026 11:10 AM  
**To:** AT-Communications <[communications@townofantigonish.ca](mailto:communications@townofantigonish.ca)>  
**Cc:** McDonald, Alison [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: RE: Light up the town red for Women's Heart Health

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear leaders of Antigonish,

We are following up with a respectful request to consider illuminating your city hall in red on February 13th in recognition of Women's Heart Health Awareness and in alignment with the [Wear Red for Women's Heart Health](#) initiative.

My colleague, Alison, and I are health care providers who work with stroke survivors each day, and we see firsthand the profound and lasting impact of cardiovascular disease and stroke on women, their families, and their communities. In addition to our clinical roles, we are researchers in stroke rehabilitation and have witnessed the meaningful difference that dedicated research and focused attention on women's health can make; both in improving outcomes and in addressing longstanding gaps in recognition, diagnosis, and care

Heart disease remains the leading cause of death for women in Canada, yet women's heart health continues to be under-recognized, under-diagnosed, and under-researched. Lighting the city hall in red would be a powerful and visible symbol of commitment to raising awareness, honoring those affected, and encouraging conversations about prevention, early recognition, and equitable care for women across Nova Scotia.

This gesture would align with national and international efforts to highlight women's cardiovascular health and would serve as an important reminder of the need for continued advocacy, education, and action in this area.

Thank you very much for considering this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any additional information.

With sincere appreciation,

Melanie Dunlop & Alison McDonald

# Light the Town Red! Illuminons la ville de rouge!



WearRedCanada.ca  
TLMenRouge.ca



Located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.



Melanie Dunlop, MN NP, FNPAC

Interim Director of NP Enhancement Strategies

Interdisciplinary Practice & Learning (IPPL)

Administrative Assistant: Justine DuPont [REDACTED]

Nurse Practitioner: ABI Services– Outreach

Nova Scotia Rehabilitation & Arthritis Centre

**To:** Town Council  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Submitted by:** Melanie Fougere, Municipal Clerk (on behalf of Council)

**Date:** Friday, January 30, 2026

**Subject:** Councillor Reports

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### **Councillor Reports**

The following is a compilation of Councillor Reports submitted for inclusion in the Committee of the Whole Council Agenda Package. Reports reflect activities, meetings, and events attended by members of Council since the last meeting. Only reports received have been included.

#### **Councillor Diane Roberts**

##### Meetings Attended

Nomination Meeting  
Committee of the Whole Meeting  
Recreation Meeting  
Public Hearing  
Infrastructure (Attended for 15 minutes)  
Police and License Meeting  
Police Advisory Meeting  
Regular Monthly Town Council Meeting

#### **Councillor Juanita Pelly**

##### Meetings and Events Attended

January 5<sup>th</sup> Museum meeting  
January 6<sup>th</sup> Committee of the whole  
January 11<sup>th</sup>. AAHS housing workshop  
January 13<sup>th</sup> Town Council Public Hearing and Special council meeting  
January 19<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting

**Deputy Mayor Andrew Murray**

Meetings and Events Attended

Regular Council meeting  
Committee of the Whole meeting  
Special Council meeting  
Public Hearing  
Nominations meeting  
RK Executive meeting  
RK Board/ Foundation meeting  
Museum Board meeting  
ACALA Board meeting  
Beautification Committee meeting

**Councillor Patrick McKenna**

Meetings and Events Attended

Nominations committee meeting for accessibility members  
Interview with CBC on Accessibility of Town Hall  
PARL meeting; noted funding is still the largest stumbling block for PARL. A revenue committee has been struck by 3 members of the board and two staff  
Public hearing  
Police and licence meeting  
Beautification meeting  
GROW social participation announcement at StFX  
PARL Library fundraising committee  
RK MacDonald Board meeting and Finance meeting

**To:** Town Council  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Submitted by:** Melanie Fougere, Municipal Clerk (on behalf of Council)

**Date:** Friday, January 30, 2026

**Subject:** Committee Reports

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## **Committee Reports**

The following Committee Reports have been submitted for inclusion in the Councils Committee of the Whole Agenda Package. These reports summarize recent activities, discussions, and updates from the various committees to which members of Council are appointed. Only reports received have been included.

### **Councillor Jack Sullivan**

#### Infrastructure Committee

The Infrastructure committee met on Thursday evening January 29th. Kyle Meisner, P. Eng, Director of Infrastructure and Engineering provided an overview of several infrastructure projects.

Much of the discussion focused on the northern collector St. and the importance of completing a new access to our Regional Hospital from College Street cross to Bay St. The committee reached a consensus that this project should be completed before advancing further work on Bay St., particularly given that last falls traffic delays in hospital access concerns.

The sewer treatment plant also was discussed with a focus on ensuring that there are no odor issues this summer. While a new screening building may not be completed by the first of the summer staff is confident that they can manage the odor efficiently. Two new 75 horsepower aeration units are being installed.

Discussion took place on the sourced wells. We are very positive about the flow of two of our drill wells and now are waiting back for the testing of the quality of the water which we are reasonably confident that it will be of good quality.

**Councillor Diane Roberts**

Police and License Committee

Police and License Committee meeting was held on Jan 15.

Some items that came from the meeting;

Pleasant Street and Victoria Street: A three-way stop will be installed.

Accessible Parking Zones on Main Street: An assessment will be conducted before spring to determine locations for accessible parking.

College Street: No parking permitted.

College Street and Pleasant Street Intersection: Further study required to assess how traffic might be impacted by a potential four-way stop.

Portable Speed Sign – Fairview St.

Recommendation to Council:

**Motion:** Approve the purchase of the portable speed sign recommended to council that the purchase is made as soon as possible in the fiscal year, for under \$10,000.

Moved by: C. Duggan

Seconded by: P. McKenna