

**Committee of the Whole  
Committee Report/Updates  
February 15/2022  
By: Mayor Chisholm-Beaton**

**One Cape Breton: Gateway Project**

We are in the process of arranging a meeting of Council, our Economic Development Officer, and acting CEO of the Cape Breton Partnership. When we have an available date fleshed out we will be able to discuss this project and others. (Next steps TBD)

**Housing Advisory Committee (Port Hawkesbury)**

Housing meeting was held January 19<sup>th</sup>, I was unable to attend, Deputy Mayor Aucoin can provide the report to Council.  
(Chair – John Ouellette)

**One Nova Scotia – REAP Project**

Our last workshop was held February 11<sup>th</sup>, and our team has essentially graduated from MIT REAP – however – the work we’ve set out as a team has just really begun. We will continue to meet as a team to ensure work continues.

If you’d like to watch the video that outlines our work – and that we prepared for the final workshop, you can watch by clicking this link:

[https://www.canva.com/design/DAE3efUizws/NV5pUX9MjGIMtxWkTa5QEQ/watch?utm\\_content=DAE3efUizws&utm\\_campaign=designshare&utm\\_medium=link&utm\\_source=sharebutton](https://www.canva.com/design/DAE3efUizws/NV5pUX9MjGIMtxWkTa5QEQ/watch?utm_content=DAE3efUizws&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=sharebutton)

(Chair/Team Champion Brenda Chisholm-Beaton)

**Allan J MacEachen Regional Airport.**

We are currently working on finalizing the design for the strategic planning session to be held virtually on February 25<sup>th</sup>. (You should have all gotten the invitation by now – I encourage all of council to attend). We’ve been able to secure Bob MacEachern to facilitate the session, We have a small planning committee that includes members of the airport committee (elected and staff), as well as Carly Appleton and Jeremy Martell (and some others) from the Cape

Breton Partnership. Dave from Celtic Air is also helping where he can as well with the design of the session.

The CBP will have staff attending and will support the hosting and minute taking of the strategic planning session. Registration is well underway. By the next Cow I'll be able to report on the outcomes of the planning session. (Chair: Brenda Chisholm-Beaton, Vice Chair: Amanda Mombourquette)

### **NSFM Executive Board Meetings**

We have had several board meetings, including a few Provincial Code of Conduct working committee meetings.

The work occurring currently is around the restructuring of NSFM. Elected Council members across the Province were invited to a session to outline the proposed NSFM restructuring/changes on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. I will also be chairing a session on behalf of President McDougall on February 25<sup>th</sup> to review the proposed structural changes to AMANS members.

Some of the key ideas that have prompted these changes are to ensure we are more impactful in bringing about the needed changes on behalf of Municipalities and to figure out a better way to work with the Province and align our priorities to theirs so we can achieve more successes. Over the past 6 or so years we've limited our NSFM work to half a dozen resolutions; however, with the changing landscape of government and shifting priorities, this strategy hasn't been effective. Rather than using resolutions, we are proposing using Committees that are inclusive to all of the needs of our members/customers (who will be councils going forward), and these committees can be much more nimble in identifying priorities that we can move the needle on, be it EPR or Municipal Financing, or the CAP or more. Continuing to do things the same way and expecting a different result isn't doing justice to NSFM or its membership. If Council would like to learn more, I am happy to make myself available to discuss in more detail, and or add it to our next COW agenda for discussion. Note: before any restructuring changes to NSFM can be implemented – it will need to be voted on by NSFM member municipalities (including ours). Also, the NSFM board hopes that in the future, we can be more engaged with councils on a regular basis, and that as new challenges/opportunities present themselves, Councils can have these discussions locally – and move these forward to the NSFM board for

consideration to add to committees work (if it is something impacting more than one member council).

There was also a Province wide session/call on EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

(Chair/President – Mayor Amanda McDougall – CBRM Vice-chair/Vice-President Mayor Brenda Chisholm-Beaton, Town of Port Hawkesbury).

### **Government FOCUS (Female Objectives Cape Breton Unama’ki Strait)**

We have continued meetings and have planned a series of events that focus on mentorship. One that we will run for the month of March is “Mentorship March” that will see 25 or more matches for women supporting other women through mentorship. This project is well on its way, and we’ve partnered with YReach on this, as well as for a Newcomers mentorship session (for this upcoming Feb 27). Work is well underway for an Indigenous Mentorship “toolkit” and a “first of its kind” “Awakening the Matriarch” Grandmother mentorship weekend retreat/session will be held in March. Additionally, we are planning a few virtual sessions with a focus on leadership/mentorship sessions. We have a few other in-person events taking shape – some for youth, and some with a focus on Truth and Reconciliation and Inclusive Allyship in February and March. All in, we will likely engage in excess of 300 women engaged between all programs/events. The project will end the first of April 2022.

(Co-chairs Karen Bernard & Brenda Chisholm-Beaton)

### **Cape Breton South Recruiting for Health**

We had a virtual meeting January 20<sup>th</sup>, and heard a fantastic report from the new navigator Gina MacDonald, who seems very keen to continue in her predecessors shoes (I’ve attached it to this report in case council would like to read it).

I also had the opportunity to meet with Gina MacDoanld – to discuss her new CBSRH navigator role and to share ideas about hat 2022 might look like. Our next meeting is scheduled for February 24<sup>th</sup>, and I will report any outcomes as a result of this meeting.

(Chair – Juanita Mombourquette, co-chair – Amanda Mombourquette)

### **Waterfront Advisory Committee**

Our waterfront meeting scheduled for January 17<sup>th</sup> was re-scheduled to February 28<sup>th</sup>. Outcomes will be reported on next month's COW report to Council.

(Chair – Vicki Persig; co-chair - Mark MacIver)

### **Accessibility Advisory Meeting**

Like in the last COW report, working sessions continue weekly (Monday evenings) to complete work and review research in preparation for our draft Accessibility plan. The survey yielded 90+ responses, we have 10 one-on-one interviews, 15 stakeholder groups engaged to provide feedback, and a huge wealth of feedback (thanks to co-chair Matthew Higgings) from our social media page.

Last week we reviewed the survey results and this week we reviewed the data/feedback on outdoor and indoor built environments.

We hope we are able to stay on track for the goal that we've set to present the first draft of our accessibility plan to Council at next Month's COW meeting. It is an ambitious goal for sure – which is why we are all working so hard as a committee to get this done – and if all goes well, and accessibility plan to present for adoption by Council at April's Public Meeting.

(Co-chairs: Matthew Higgins and Brenda Chisholm-Beaton).

### **Economic Development Advisory Meeting**

We have not yet had a meeting in February; however, I'd like to ask Council their feedback on potential directions they'd like to see this committee to go in for 2022 and beyond.

(Chair) Kevin MacEachern (vice chair) Ashley Taylor

### **Cape Breton Regional Enterprise Network**

Next meeting is yet to be determined. Any reports will follow.

(Chair – Bruce Morrison)

### **Strait Area Chiefs Mayors and Wardens of the Strait**

Meeting date is still yet to be determined.

(Chair – Mayor Laurie Boucher – Town of Antigonish)

### **Unity Drive: Joint Industrial Park Commission**

It was a very positive meeting – held virtually on January 27. Terry and Jason both presented a staff report on the current conditions of Unity Drive, zoning, and a review of the legislation regarding meeting, governance, and work that can be done by this group. Some development ideas were discussed, and the need to look at having the Cape Breton Partnership staff/EDO work with us on a professional development strategy was suggested. More will be reported at subsequent meetings. The new chair of this committee, nominated by Mayor Brenda Chisholm-Beaton, is Councillor Mark MacIver; and the vice chair from Richmond County Council, nominated by Warden Amanda Mombourquette, was Councillor Mike Diggdon.

(Chair, Councillor Mark MacIver, Vice Chair; Councillor Mike Diggdon).

### **Other work:**

**Offshore wind file:** The task force continues to learn more about offshore wind, and connect with key stakeholders. I participate in calls or meetings when my schedule allowed for it. Of these meetings, I was able to participate on calls with MP Mike Kelloway, Senators Coyle, Kutcher, and Deacon, representatives from Natural Resources Canada, as well as some industry leaders in offshore wind.

**Developer Meeting:** We have a meeting set for 2pm on Feb 15<sup>th</sup> (will report on this for next COW as it did not occur prior to the completion of this report). As always, we are open to meet with any developers about new housing projects.

**REAP Presentations:** We have a series of post-MIT completion presentations we plan to make to our team's funding partners. I presented with Chad Munro the morning of February 15<sup>th</sup> to the Strait Area Chamber of Commerce, and hope to meet with others in the coming weeks.

**Strait Area Transit "Catch up" Meeting:** Terry and I took the time to meet virtually on January 27<sup>th</sup> with the SAT Director, Amber, to share updates and discuss issues and opportunities. Of these, we worked with Amber on a plan to have the derelict bus parked at the waterfront to be removed and discussed SAT's needs and how the Town might be able to help, as well as how SAT has been managing/navigating the Covid 19 pandemic.

## (Appendices) Navigator Report by Gina MacDonald (CBSRH)



### Monthly Navigator's Report

December-January

#### **NEW HIRE ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRESS**

##### Initial setup/housekeeping tasks

- Orientation work
  - transfer of all committee documents and credentials
  - introductory meetings/communications with committee members, colleagues within CBP, provincial navigators, other relevant parties
  - established schedule of meetings and other commitments of the position
  - document review – all minutes, reports, presentations, literature, etc...
- Created communication log to track contacts
- Created various templates, outlines, and other documents, with CBSRH branding
- Secured CBSRH document backup on OneDrive

##### Ongoing tasks

- Plan regroup – logic model updated to revisit and refocus direction of position, goals, and progress of committee. Ongoing work being done to complete action items.
- Update contact lists
- Continue meetings with stakeholders
- Updating website and Facebook page
- Researching funding sources/streams
- Goal setting/project development

##### Future tasks

- Review of Google Analytics
- Review/update/possibly standardize welcome literature/baskets
- Explore Facebook ads/post boosting to drive views and promotion

## **IMPORTANT UPDATES/MEETINGS/NETWORKING**

*(Complete communication/meeting log available for review)*

- Community of Care Awards Gala
  - Postponed in December due to weather
  - Rescheduled date and revised guest list pending Covid protocols, but planning is complete.
  
- Housing for Healthcare committee meeting
  - December 13 @ SRH
  - discussion with Dr. Kevin Orrell, CEO of DHW's new Office of Health Care Recruitment and Retention
  - Outlook for recruitment numbers to plan and optimize housing solutions was main topic of discussion
  - Amanda to deliver detailed report about meeting on behalf of HfH committee
  
- NS Government DHW Recruitment campaign launch
  - Concentrating on healthcare and skilled trades
  - Hiring a group of provincial navigators to connect health care professionals with jobs in the province
  - Unclear at this point how relationships between provincial navigators, NSH recruiters, and community navigators will work
  - Community navigator from Annapolis Valley hired to manage that department, which is very encouraging
  - No news about funding
  
- January 6th meeting with Dr. Kevin Orrell, CEO of Nova Scotia's new Office of Health Care Professionals Recruitment
  - Dr. Orrell recognizes the importance of community-based groups with respect to retention efforts and is very receptive to further discussion about the role of CBSRH in that process.
  - Asked for endorsement of his new office for navigator/CBSRH, to increase our credibility with partners/sponsors/community and funding for retention activities; conversations will be ongoing once more decisions have been finalized and details are available.
  - Full summary of meeting available for review

## PROJECTS

### Completed projects

- “New navigator” updates
  - Updated website – pictures and contact info
  - Updated Facebook page – contact info and introduction post
  - News release written and distributed
- Sarah Touesnard
  - recently accepted to Dal NP program
  - congratulatory \$50 gift card from CBSRH – presentation posted on FB group
  - expressed her desire to stay and practice in our area, offered ongoing support with those efforts
  - working with her to identify pockets of funding to aide in training costs (DHW, NSNU)
- Recognition of ER doctors (Hanspal & Tehrani)
  - Facebook post with profiles for each doctor, inviting public to comment with their thanks and appreciation for their work at SRH
  - Comments printed and will be presented to each doctor, along with a \$100 gift card
- Culture/Innovation Healthy Communities funding stream application
  - “Welcome Home to Cape Breton South” guide
  - Partnership between CBSRH and Cape Breton Welcome Network, in an effort to get grant approval
  - Submission complete, no word on timeline for approval

### Current/ongoing projects

- McDonald’s free coffee promotion for health care workers/emergency services
  - Coordinating with Courtney from CBP to arrange drop offs to local workers (this week and next)
- CBSRH public engagement campaign
  - Increase social media/website exposure/engagement
  - Contest post for sharing site with friends?
  - Video for uploading?
  - Use broadened network to establish more effective information procurement strategy
    - Housing
    - childcare
    - spousal employment
    - events
    - recruitment leads



- sponsors and other supports
- various useful directories and master contact lists
- Eventually replace Island Wide Housing List and Island Wide Commitment Repository donation drive with CBS-exclusive resources (avoid getting absorbed by CBRM)

### Future/upcoming projects

- Present to town/county councils (March/April)
- Doctors NS application for \$5000 community fund (late April) – Dr. Okeke to be approached to sponsor
- “Welcome Home to Cape Breton South” guide (pending grant approval) (April)
- Campaign of information – who/what is a social worker? What can you go see them for? What services can your pharmacists provide? (April/May)
- Present to potential funders (Port Hawkesbury Chamber of Commerce, Strait Richmond Hospital Foundation, Port Hawkesbury Knights of Columbus, Port Hawkesbury Rotary Club, St. Peter’s/Louisdale Lions Club, etc...) (April/May)
- Present to NSCC/CBU/SAERC – surveys afterward (September)
- Regular quarterly newsletter vs. annual (September)

### RECRUITMENT LEADS

- **Dr. Mathieu Doiron**
  - 1st year resident in NB
  - Interested in practice opportunities in Arichat, L’Ardoise, and Port Hawkesbury and referred to me/Victoria by Dr. Chiasson (physician liaison) for future communications – Dr. Chiasson recommended this area and indicated to Dr. Doiron what a good fit it would be for him
  - Initial contact has been made and will continue in the coming weeks, with intentions of an area visit this March
- **Baylee Meyers**
  - Medical Lab Assistant from HRM, has applied for F/T permanent job at SRH (closing date Jan. 4)
  - Requested assistance with housing, several options provided
  - As of January 18<sup>th</sup>, has not yet heard from HR, but offer of settlement assistance and support was made if she is awarded the position

- 2 RNs (Port Hawkesbury Nursing Home employees)
  - Inquiring about permanent residency
  - Per Jason Aucoin (PH town councillor), both willing to sign 3yr return of service agreements in exchange for financial assistance
  - Awaiting further information from Mr. Aucoin re: contact info but have passed mine along

### RECRUITMENT ITEMS

- Arichat clinic approved to support PRAP – 6 family medicine residents making virtual appearance in the spring, Victoria to keep me updated
- NSH Interprofessional Practice & Learning committee – attempts to contact ongoing, to follow up to meeting re: nursing shortages and how NPs are to be utilized by NSH

### RETENTION ITEMS

- Dr. Kading – discussed at length his experiences as a locum physician at SRH. He was very appreciative that someone reached out to hear his concerns, and further conversations will take place after I am able to get clarification from NSH recruitment team on the issues he has brought forward. I offered ongoing support and assistance should he decide to return to SRH in the future.
- Dr. Okeke – discussed the onboarding process, and what challenges he has encountered in setting up his practice here. He identified affordable temporary housing and school curriculum as the two biggest concerns, as well as several other issues that could be improved upon and investigated for future physicians coming to our area. Conversations will be ongoing to address these issues and ensure our organization is doing all it can to facilitate a comfortable transition for new HCPs to the area.
- Dr. Pilon – attempts to contact ongoing, to discuss his experience with locum opportunities at SRH

### ACTION ITEMS

- Establish an official executive board for CBSRH?
- Possible change in name of my position, for clarity?
- Revisit membership (representative) composition?
- Tentative reschedule date for gala?