

Committee of the Whole
Committee Report/Updates
May 10/2022

By: Mayor Chisholm-Beaton

One Nova Scotia – REAP Project

Our team continues to meet bi-weekly and as needed. We are currently working on a joint proposal to submit a project to Onside for the “rising tIDE” fund creation and Apaq’t Place (Innovation Centre) (still in progress). Our next meeting is Thursday May 12th.

(Chair/Team Champion Brenda Chisholm-Beaton)

Allan J MacEachen Regional Airport.

We did not have any meetings in April – however the work on the draft review for the Strategy Session has been completed and will be shared with the Airport Committee. It will also be shared with Council at the next Public Meeting in June.

(Chair: Brenda Chisholm-Beaton, Vice Chair: Amanda Mombourquette)

NSFM Executive Board Meetings

Provincial Code of Conduct working committee meetings continues – we have a draft we are currently planning to exercise with Code of Conduct non-descript examples provided by NSFM membership during the Spring Convention in White Point.

We had an NSFM meeting on April 27 to discuss the non-resident deed transfer and property tax (which resulted in a letter from NSFM sent to the Province).

The Spring NSFM Conference was held on May 4-6 (White Point). I attended the conference with Deputy Mayor – Jason Aucoin – representing the Town. It was a great conference with excellent workshops and networking. Minister Lohr attended May 5th to address the NSFM members. The Town received a compliment on our social media presence during the “To Tweet or not to Tweet” session as being 1 of 5 Municipalities with well-connected social media platforms. The Town Caucus meeting was also well attended and policing costs was a hot topic and its impact on towns.

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

Cape Breton South Recruiting for Health

I attended a meeting with Co-chair Amanda Mombourquette and NSHA representative Michelle DePodesta on April 27th with regard to our CBSRH regional health care proposal. We are planning a follow up meeting for May 19th. We also had a meeting on April 28th for which our director Gina MacDonald provided her monthly report and we discussed recruiting and retention opportunities. I also met as an executive with NS Recruiter/Navigator Victoria MacAulay to discuss joint projects for retention/recruitment.

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

Accessibility Advisory Meeting

As a committee we've designated the first Monday of each month as our regular meeting for PHAAC. Due to budget meeting needs, we decided to hold our next meeting of PHAAC on Monday June 6th.

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

Unity Drive: Joint Industrial Park Commission

The meeting scheduled to April 28th, 2022 will be rescheduled – date yet to be determined.

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

Other work:

Brezo Energy File:

Ivan continues to work on his project and I've asked him to provide an update I can share with Council when he's made significant progress and/or wants to update Council. We had a great in-person meeting on May 2nd in my office.

Offshore wind file: The task force continues to learn more about offshore wind, and connect with key stakeholders. We hold regular meeting times for the task force (each first and third Tuesdays of every month). We are continuing to prepare a proposal to establish an offshore wind research centre here in the Strait Region. We've attended multiple meetings with stakeholders (when needed) and will be presenting on the OSW opportunity to Pitu'paq and Potlotek First Nation Community later this month.

Pitu'paq: I attended the monthly meeting held on April 21st – virtually.

Everwind Fuels: I have had the opportunity to keep in regular contact with David Hart and with Trent Vichie with regard to Everwind Fuels and their ongoing development. This is an important energy opportunity for the Town and for our region.

Smart Energy Conference (April 25/26): I attended a virtual conference which discussed the future of Nova Scotia and Canada with regard to the changing energy needs and the green energy opportunities that will get us closer to a net zero energy transition.

Destination Cape Breton: I attended the monthly meeting (virtually) April 28th. A strong tourism season is being projected as the demand grows.

Mentorship Project/Gender Equity: On April 28th, I participated in a project review session with other project partners on the invitation of the Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia.

Ribbon Cutting: I participated in a ribbon cutting ceremony for Cutting Edge Studios with the Strait Area Chamber of Commerce on May 7th – to celebrate Ashley Taylor’s grand re-opening and to celebrate the amazing renovations. Ashley is an amazing entrepreneur and we are fortunate to have her and her business here in Port Hawkesbury.

PHP Meeting and Tour: I was grateful to meet and lunch with Mr. Eddy and MLA Trevor Boudreau May 10th and we also were fortunate to get a 3-hour tour of Port Hawkesbury Paper facilities and learn a lot more about the company.