Town of Port Hawkesbury

Mayor's Report to Council and Community
Late May-October 2026

Presented at the Joint Council and Committee of the Whole - October 6th, 2026

Allan J MacEachen Regional Airport Committee

This committee meets to oversee the governance and ongoing operations and infrastructure needs of the Allan J Airport (Inverness, Port Hawkesbury, Richmond County). Richmond is the current chair (Amanda Mombourquette – Deputy Warden).

- June 22nd – Committee Meeting
- September 29th – Committee Meeting

CEPI (Bras d'Or Lakes) Senior Council Committee

This committee meets to oversee the advocacy and sustainability of the Bras D'or Lakes and brings together all 5 First Nation Councils, all five municipalities, provincial and federal departments as well as members of First Nation groups, and post secondary educational facilities.

- May 20th (Steering committee meeting)
- June 3rd – Senior Council Meeting

Eastern District Planning Commission

These meeting provide a venue to receive updates from the Executive Director of EDPC John Bain on governance, EDPC business continuity, board issues, and planning projects and file updates.

- September 10th – Board meeting

Everwind Community Liaison Meeting

These meeting provide a venue to receive updates from Everwind staff on progress of the Green Hydrogen and Wind projects - and - all members had an opportunity to provide updates – for example I usually provide updates from the Town of Port Hawkesbury. (like the pending New Dawn/At Home housing development for fifty-five units and the Craig MacDonald 16-unit complex - noting that the increased availability of housing will help the Everwind project success).

- May 20th - Everwind site tour and Meeting/Dinner (at the Everwind Site)
- August 19th (attended virtually) – Everwind conference room (Everwind site)

Green Hydrogen/Wind Projects Strait Regional Debrief

We continue to do monthly (when possible) calls to debrief and update on the progress in the Strait region on these two important files. This is an important opportunity to be in contact with Provincial staff on these files and offer updates regarding the participating municipalities in the Strait.

- May 8th
- August 6th
- September 3rd

Grow Port Hawkesbury Advisory Committee

Our Grow Port Hawkesbury Advisory Committee meets every month (first Wednesday of each month) dedicated to researching, exploring, and progressing potential for revenue generating opportunities for the Town of Port Hawkesbury.

Some of the critical files we discuss each meeting (and that we work on between meetings as an executive) are housing, business development, port development (including opportunities around energy, defence, offshore wind, aerospace, and more), economic partnerships with Indigenous partners, improving Town esthetics (via progressing dangerous/unsightly), marketing, and others.

- June 3rd – Grow Port Hawkesbury Committee Meeting (PHCC – PH)
- July (no meeting due to schedule conflicts)
- September 2nd - Grow Port Hawkesbury Committee Meeting (PHCC – PH)

Note: Some activities are related to joint efforts for Grow Port Hawkesbury executive Committee and Town staff re: developer meetings, presentations, etc. Also included are Grow Port Hawkesbury Executive Debrief and Planning meetings (including agenda creation for committee meetings and moving files forward), as well as Town- based developer meetings initiated by the Grow PH Committee.

- May 21st - Aerospace Developer Meeting (Town staff and Grow PH exec) (PHCC, PH)
- May 28th – Cansec Prep Meeting (Grow PH Executive)
- June 1st – Defence Developer Meeting (Town staff and Grow PH exec) (PHCC, PH)
- June 2nd – Cansec Review meeting (Grow PH Executive)
- June 2nd – ACOA (Program review) (Town Staff & GPH executive)
- June 11th – Aerospace Developer Meeting (Town staff and Grow PH exec)
- June 11th – Grow PH Executive Meeting update.
- June 12th – Cansec (next steps) (Grow PH exec)
- June 15th – Strategic Planning Session (Grow PH exec – developing a draft to take to the bigger committee for the fall)
- June 22nd – Presentation (CANSEC & WIND EUROPE) (presentations by Mayor Chisholm-Beaton and Councillor Iaian Langley). Members of the Community Development Committee invited along with others (ACOA, Invest NS, local Industry partners, Chamber of Commerce, Superport Corporation, and Town staff.
- June 29th - Planning session for Aerospace developer visit (Grow Ph exec)
- July 3rd – ACOA – Program review (Grow PH exec)
- July 3rd – Developer Meeting (ACOA Reps, Developers, Grow PH exec, Town staff)
- July 6th – Executive Meeting debriefs.
- July 10th - Port Development and program review (Invest NS, Town Staff, Grow PH executive members)
- July 13th – Grow PH planning/debrief meeting (Grow PH Exec)
- July 16th – Grow PH planning meeting (Grow PH Exec)
- Aug 3rd – Grow PH planning meeting (Grow PH Exec)
- Aug 5th – Port Development Meeting (Grow PH Exec, senior staff)
- Aug 10th - Grow PH planning meeting (Grow PH Exec)
- Aug 11th – Port Development Meeting (ACOA reps, Town staff, Grow PH exec)
- Aug 12th – Aerospace Developer Meeting (Town staff, developer, Grow PH exec)
- Aug 24th - Grow PH planning meeting (Grow PH Exec)
- Sept 2nd – Hotel Development Discussion (Town staff, developers)
- Sept 4th – NSCC & Grow PH executive Discussion – local opportunities.
- Sept 9th - Grow PH planning meeting (Grow PH Exec)

- Sept 11th – Port Development (Town staff, developer, Mayor/Deputy Mayor)
- Sept 20th - Grow PH planning meeting (Grow PH Exec)
- Sept 21st – ACOA Meeting re: waterfront development potential (Town Staff, Acoa members and Grow PH exec)

IDEA Committee (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility)

Over the past five months we have been meeting a monthly. Over the summer it was difficult to meet, due to schedule conflicts. And we were unable to meet in September due to busy schedules and illness.

Our key focuses continue to be on building back out social media engagement. This fall our plans are to:

1. (Ongoing) Complete a social media plan.
2. (Ongoing) Community engagement event in 2026
3. (Ongoing) Plan for activities for June 2027 (Pride month & Treaty Day
4. Completed) Pride Walk and Flag Raising (June 1st)
5. (Completed) Our social media context – draw was October 5th.

- May 11th (Committee Meeting)
- June 1st (Committee Meeting)
- June 1st (Pride Flag Raising/Walk)
- July/August/Sept – no meetings
- October 5th (Committee Meeting)

Pitu'paq

This is an island-wide collaborative committee that focuses on the protection of the Island of Unama'kik/Cape Breton and includes all 5 First Nation local representatives as well as all 5 Municipal representatives.

- June 25th – (attended virtually) held in Potlotek – committee meeting.
- July 23rd – (attended virtually) held at Friends United – Committee Meeting
- Sept 24th – (attended virtually) held in Membertou – Committee Meeting

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Non-Committee meetings, Conferences, Regional Meetings and Community Engagement Activities

- May 21st - State of the Strait Business Update (PHCC, Port Hawkesbury)
- May 26th – Sports Wall of Fame Planning meeting (with Senior Staff)
- June 2nd – Sports Wall of Fame Ceremony (held prior to our Public Meeting June 2nd)
- June 3rd – (Virtual) Presentation from the Province to discuss land for housing.
- June 16th – Wind Energy Panel preparation call (Superport Days Dundee)
- June 17th – Joint Development Commission Meeting (PHCC – PH)
- June 18th – Superport Days (Dundee) Conference and Dinner
- June 23rd – Reeves Street Improvements Planning Session (Staff, council, NS Public Works)
- June 24th - Meeting with property owner (with Town staff, Property owner)
- June 25th – Supportive Housing and Homelessness (virtual) NSFM policy framework
- July 27th – Meeting with Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Senior Staff and Cape Breton Partnership (PHCC, PH)
- July 29th – (Virtual) Policing Billing Model Update (all municipalities and Minister Armstrong)
- August 12th – State of the Province Address – Premier Tim Houston (PHCC – PH)
- August 21st – Department of Justice – RCMP Billing Model (virtual meeting, Town staff in attendance)
- August 27th – Joint Cape Breton REN meeting lead by Cape Breton Partnership (virtual meeting)
- Sept 3rd – Met with Staff regarding pending storm – REMO
- Sept 5th – Update with staff re: storm
- Sept 6th – Update with staff re: storm
- Sept 10th – Meeting hosted by NS Public Works re: Rotary plans (PHCC – PH)
- Sept 10th – Everwind Meeting (Town staff, Mayor/Deputy Mayor)
- Sept 10th –Meeting scheduled with Councillor MacQuarrie (he did not keep the appointment – to update him on my active files) He phoned an hour later and received some updates via phone).
- Sept 10th - Meeting with Residents impacted from the Sept 4/5 storm in their home in Tamarac (Mayor's office – attended by Brian Luciano)
- Sept 11th – Green economy meeting (program review with ACOA, Town staff)
- Sept 14th – Meeting with developer (Halifax) (attended with Councillor Langley)
- Sept 14th – Phone call with MLA re: storm relief for citizens
- Sept 14th – Meeting with Staff re: Developer opportunities.

- Sept 16th – (Virtual call) PPSA billing (CAOs Mayors/Wardens DOJ)
- Sept 22nd – Open House planning meeting with senior staff (re: impacted citizens from the Sept 4/5th storm)
- Sept 24th – Planned meeting with Impacted Resident and the former superintendent of Public Works (required a reschedule)
- Sept 25th – Open House Planning Meeting with senior staff and open to council members – those who attended were Deputy Mayor Barrett, Councillor Langley, Councillor Hart, and the mayor).
- Sept 28th – Attended the Provincial Volunteer Awards Ceremony (Halifax) with our volunteer recipient Karen Hood MacKinnon.
- Sept 28th – Attended the Open House: held at the PHCC. The Open House was well attended by residents. Feedback received (at the open house and preceding the open house) are:
    - Some residents wanted more of an open mic set-up.
    - Some residents wanted a presentation of the work completed to date and work planned for mitigation (I let those citizens know that the Strum work isn't yet completed and that we could present the final Strum report in a special council meeting form when we have it)
    - Some residents liked having access to public works staff to ask questions specific to their experiences (staff let me know in the days that followed that they had some follow up visits to residents flagging their issues).
    - We were able to get more detailed information from those who had already reported to the town – and additionally – 12 new reports were achieved - which brings our total from 73 to 85.
    - We were able to find out that citizens had more need for additional dumpsters – arranged by staff in the following days.
    - I was able to speak with several impacted citizens.
- Sept 29th – Meeting with Tamarac Resident (former Public Works superintendent had planned to attend – but he did not join) (Mayor's office – in person – attended by Jason MacMillan and Brian Luciano)
- October 1st – Developer visit (provided a presentation in the boardroom with senior staff) (staff also provided town tour.