

From: A.R. Dunfield
To: [Bob Morton](#); [Bonnie Smith](#); [Chrystal Remme](#); [Debbie Francis](#); [Jim Ivey](#); [John Smith](#); [Kayla Leary-Pinch](#); [Paul Morton](#); [Paul Wheadon](#); [Rupert Jannasch](#); [Scott McLean](#); [Abraham Zebian](#); [Mark Phillips](#); [Deanna Snair](#)
Subject: WHRM Windsor CSOs Silenced For Speaking Up
Date: March 25, 2025 9:07:56 AM
Attachments: [2025.03.24 WHRM Windsor CSOs Silenced for Speaking up.pdf](#)

Caution [External Email]

This email comes from an outside sender. Verify the sender and use caution with any requests, links or attachments.

Good morning,

Please see attached.

It may be Council is aware the following suggestions are being made amongst the community, but thought it prudent to pass along regardless in case any wish to seek clarity for general awareness purposes.

- An Albert Street property owner suggested one or more sanitary connections from Albert were or are still currently tied into infrastructure in Elmcroft Park somewhere in the vicinity of the larger of the two covered structures near the back boundary of the park.
- A Windsor Township community member claimed infrastructure (indicated to be manhole covers and/or stormwater grates) located between Water Street and the waterfront was witnessed overflowing during one or more 2024 overflow events.

Cheers,
Amanda Dunfield

Amanda R. Dunfield



March 24, 2025

West Hants Regional Municipality
ATTN. WHRM Council
76 Morison Drive
Windsor, NS
B0N 2T0

Good afternoon Council,

I am writing again today to bring a situation in Ingonish to your attention. It sounds as if an Ingonish community member was assaulted and threatened by a municipal representative and has now been threatened with legal action.

Indeed, threats against those who are seeking transparency and accountability in matters of public impact are not new business. And, if one were seeking to reduce avenues for citizen voice, undertakings such as legal action against community members would be the ultimate power move.

Learning of this individual's experience has me remembering some of my own involving municipal representatives.

This leads me to relay to you all one such situation involving a representative of our Municipality. On the night of July 11, 2024 during the combined sewer overflow event in Windsor, N.S. a municipal representative felt the need to take me aside from the others for a conversation. In a time of extreme distress and trauma, I was told, among other things, to cease and desist. Perhaps not quite that politely, and certainly not worded quite as kindly, but the exact conversation is not as important as the intended message. Fortunately, one member of the group I had been standing near had the foresight to step back from the conversation he was engaged in, so he could listen in on ours. He later told me he undertook to do this intentionally, as he felt he had a good read on that individual's non-public persona. Having lived with domestic abuse for many years, I too

recognized the non-public persona. I am confident, if I were a man, this exchange would not have occurred, and certainly not in this manner.

Later that same evening, the same individual approached some area homeowners who were in the street. The specific conversation with me was pertaining to buyouts – I was asked if the municipality was agreeable to purchase the home I live in, would we be open to selling it. I was told name your price, I will pay whatever it is you want.

I find it interesting situations like these, which occur much more frequently than some may think, aren't more concerning. I do hope this council will take action to ensure taxpayers, deserving of transparency and accountability, are not subjected to intimidation tactics when they are simply seeking truth, or seeking to bring truth to situations that have been improperly portrayed to the public.

I have more to share on this, but I will end my letter here for today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Amanda', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Amanda Dunfield



Bessie MacPherson

23h · 🌐



SILENCED FOR SPEAKING UP?



Last week, my daughter Kathy asked critical questions at a public meeting in Ingonish about a municipal project funded by both municipal and provincial funds. Days later, she received the attached letter from Victoria County's legal counsel, demanding that she cease certain public remarks and indicating that legal action would follow if she did not comply.

If asking questions results in legal threats, what does that mean for transparency and accountability?

Many of you know that my daughters have been strong advocates for this community for years, fearlessly speaking out against matters that have the potential to detrimentally affect residents, especially seniors and those on fixed incomes.

Though my girls weren't raised in Ingonish, it's always been their "second home"—a place full of memories at the "Center," days at the beach, and time spent with their Grampy. When Kathy was diagnosed with stage 3 cancer, Ingonish became her mental refuge.

She promised herself that if she made it through, she'd return to heal—and she did.

But that peace was shattered as the girls learned about troubling decisions being made – or proposed – for the residents of Ingonish. They couldn't sit back and ignore it. They researched municipal policies, reviewed provincial regulations, spoke up at meetings, and took action to hold the municipality accountable.

At a public meeting last week about the sewer project – a meeting designed to inform, not consult – Kathy spoke up once again. As she was leaving, a municipal staff member grabbed her arm and told her not to use those big words. When Kathy asked if that was a threat, the staff member smiled and highly encouraged Kathy not to speak like that again.

A week later, Kathy received a letter from Victoria County's legal counsel demanding that she cease certain public remarks. The letter indicated that legal action would follow if she did not comply.

This seems like an attempt to silence critical voices and raises serious concerns about transparency and accountability.

Let me be clear: This is not just about Kathy. It's about all of us. If they can threaten Kathy—someone who always grounds her statements in fact and reason—what's stopping them from threatening anyone else who speaks up?

This is a dangerous precedent. If you criticize the municipality or ask questions about public money, will you get a lawyer's letter? That's not leadership.

They don't know Kathy. She has faced bigger challenges in her life—including fighting for her own life—and has met them all with strength, purpose, and unwavering determination.

She will not be bullied into silence.

And neither should the rest of us.

Ingonish is made up of strong, community-minded residents who continue to fight for the best interests of all residents. It has come to my attention that Kyla Dunphy-Williams, a dedicated advocate for this community, has faced challenges in recent months related to her business. While I cannot speak to the specifics, it is concerning to hear of such difficulties.

The community needs to come together before decisions are made that can't be undone or before people have to deal with the consequences of choices from which they were excluded.

👉 Contact your councillor today and let them know that this kind of intimidation will not stand. Let them know this community deserves transparency and accountability—not legal threats.

BURCHELL WICKWIRE BRYSON ^{LLP}

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File: 20457-1086382

March 18, 2025

Via Courier

Kathy MacPherson
 

Dear Ms. MacPherson:

Re: Defamatory Comments Made During March 11, 2025, Community Meeting

We are legal counsel for the Municipality of Victoria County ("Victoria County"). We write to address defamatory statements made with respect to Chief Administrative Officer Leanne MacEachen ("CAO MacEachen") during a community meeting of March 11, 2025, convened to discuss a potential sewage collection and treatment system. At this meeting, you publicly accused CAO MacEachen of colluding with a private developer for them to benefit under the Commercial Development District Improvement By-law ("CDDI By-law").

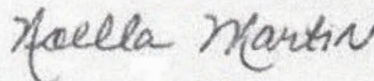
Categorically false remarks of this nature risk injuring the reputation of CAO MacEachen and the Council of Victoria County in the opinion of the public and are unacceptable. Victoria County respects your right to engage with municipal decision-making but you cannot defame anyone in the process.

The Municipality of Victoria County hereby demands that you cease and desist from making false public remarks, comments, or statements designed to malign CAO MacEachen, as well as Victoria County staff and Victoria County Councillors. If you persist, Victoria County has instructed us to pursue remedies available at law.

We trust you will appreciate the seriousness of this matter and thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Yours truly,

BURCHELL WICKWIRE BRYSON ^{LLP}
lawyers | avocats



Noella Martin, K.C.

NMM/pjb