

WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
Committee of the Whole - Meeting Agenda

June 10, 2025 - 6:00 p.m.

In-person Sanford Council Chambers, 76 Morison Dr, Windsor, NS

Virtual via Zoom (also YouTube Livestream)

Agenda is subject to change due to additions that may not be able to be reflected until after the meeting.



West Hants
something inspiring awaits

- MØ Call to Order
- HØ Attendance
- OØ Approval of the Agenda, including additions or deletions
 - I·Ú Dashboard Action Items – Information Log
 - ÖÚ Dashboard Action Items – Dangerous or Unsightly Premises
- ΠØ Declaration(s) of Conflict of Interest
- pØ Announcements
- cØ Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
 - I·Ú 2025-05-12 Committee of the Whole Minutes
- TØ Presentations
 - I·Ú NS Public Health Fluoride Presentation – Catherine Brown and Dr. Kevin Walsh
 - ÖÚ Windsor Township Business Association Quarterly Update – Karen Cooper
 - ŒÚ Mineral Extraction in West Hants- Sarah Trask
- yØ Unfinished Business/Postponed Motions π b2yŜ
- φφ Reports
 - I·Ú CAO Activity Update - Information ReportŰ
- MЛØ Correspondence
 - I·Ú Information
 - MØ Correspondence Received Ledger as of June 6th, 2025
 - λØ Mineral/Uranium Extraction
 - Letter from Department of Natural Resources to WHRM
 - Barry Spearns
 - Lynn and Ron Moore
 - Minister of Municipal Affairs Additional Information Re Resource Development in WHRM
 - Natalie Lane

Karen Beazley (WHRM copied)
Andrew Glencross
Carol and Doug Dahr
Garett Lane
Janet Morrell
Karen Beazley Letter to WHRM Re RFPs for uranium exploration in West Hants
Karen F. Beazley (WHRM copied)
Chris Shields (WHRM copied)
Kimberley & Stuart Hawker (WHRM copied)
Claudia Herchan

ii. Everwind
Karen Wallace

11. New Business
 - a) Mineral Resource Extraction Recommendation Report – Mayor Zebian
 - b) Outside Operations Facility – Councillor Ivey
 - c) 2025 Grants and Contributions Recommendation Report – Manager Roberts
 - d) Accessibility Advisory Citizen Member Recommendation Report – Clerk Snair
12. Public Comment Period
13. In-Camera
14. Next Meeting Date / Adjournment – June 24th, 2025 Council Meeting at 6 p.m.

<u>Matter</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Deadline / Update</u>	<u>Status/Progress Updates</u>	<u>Resp.</u>
Pedestrian Signage and Barriers - Have consistent and align with Branding outcomes. Staff prepare report for 2021/22 Capital & Operating budgets. (These items should be incorporated into our growth centres). Staff report back.	2020-09-22	On-going	Ongoing	PW/Comm. Dev
Glooscap First Nation & WHRM Council Meeting - Send formal invite for a meeting to discuss many topics including reconciliation.	2021-06-22		Ongoing, Item remains on the Dashboard, Awaiting mtg dates from Glooscap	Mayor
Request to Meet with Avon Causeway Gate Stakeholders - Send letter to Glooscap First Nation requesting immediate joint council mtg. to discuss Avon River Causeway/Aboiteau Gate System and Ministerial Order.	2021-06-22	Unknown	Item remains on the Dashboard, Mayor will follow up.	Mayor/CAO
Noise By-Law/Peace and Good Order - staff revisit the Noise By-Law/Peace and Good Order.	2023-09-12	2025	First Reading held May 27, 2025. PH & SR scheduled fro June 24, 2025	CAO
Fresh Water Resources/Explore Ownership of the pond - staff determine if the property known as Town Pond is or was ever a public resource, further if it was a public resource but is no longer, then when and how did it transition from public to private ownership.	2023-10-10	2025	Verbal update provided. Will remain on the agenda until follow up completed.	PW/PLAN/CAO
Industrial/Commercial Lands - Staff report back on potential future industrial/commercial lands for future discussion.	2024-03-26	2025	Ongoing	Plan
Payzant Wentworth Connection - Lights - Staff to provide a Class D estimate on installing street lights at the intersection of Payzant and Wentworth	2024-04-09	2025	Ongoing	PW

<u>Matter</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Deadline / Update</u>	<u>Status/Progress Updates</u>	<u>Resp.</u>
Municipal Complex - 1. staff look at a rough class D estimate cost on an new build for a municipal complex looking at using existing municipal land or buying, estimates on rental options and/or purchases within the market. 2. staff bring back a report on costing of asbestos abatement at 100 King Street and an accessibility study and approximate costs of renovations at 100 King making it a functional and safe space.	2024-05-28	On-going	Ongoing	CAO/PW
Reserve Policy - staff bring back a report on developing policy to create 3 Reserve accounts from a) Landfill Tipping fees, b) deed transfer tax and c) windfarm revenues with the purpose of allocating a percentage of revenues from these sources to projects and expenditures decided upon by Council beginning in the 2025-26 budget year	2024-05-27	2025	Ongoing	Fin
CSO Sewer Charge Credit – For CSO Events on and into Private Properties - staff to prepare a report outlining the criteria and process for the issuance of a no-fault credit, equal to but not to exceed the annual sewer charges for each year an affected property has been impacted by a CSO event (over-the-curb /onto the property), from July 2021 to date and for future CSO events that may occur.	2024-07-09	2025	Ongoing	Fin

<u>Matter</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Deadline / Update</u>	<u>Status/Progress Updates</u>	<u>Resp.</u>
CSO Buyout Program Information - 1. undertake expedited property appraisals of the homes involved for the purposes of determining a cost estimate for their inclusion in the CSO residential buyout program as discussed at the July 24/24 meeting & further fund these through the operating reserve. 2. undertake an expedited estimate of additional costs expected to be involved & include as part of the cost estimate for the CSO residential program as discussed at the July 24/24 meeting. 3. undertake on an expedited basis the development of a CSO residential buyout program as originally directed at the July 9th COTW meeting with input from the council meeting on July 24 taken into account. 4. present results of the costs and program not later than the September 10, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting or sooner through a special meeting of council.	2024-07-24	On-going	Ongoing	CAO
Cole Drive Flood Mitigation FRIIP Application - Approve the Cole Drive Flood Mitigation project for submittal under the Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment program.	2025-05-13	2025-05-27	Approved	PW/Finance
Hants Shore Childcare Association Request - Bring back a report with a recommendation on PID 45285103 to support the request from the Hants Shore Child Care Centre.	2025-05-13	2025-05-27	Approved	CD/CAO

<u>Matter</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Deadline / Update</u>	<u>Status/Progress Updates</u>	<u>Resp.</u>
Headworks Connection Preliminary Design			Approved	
RFP - Approve the award of RFP WHRMPW25-02 — Headworks connection preliminary design — to CBCL LTD. for the price of \$61,100.00 before applicable taxes. Approve a design contingency amount of \$11,112.59 before applicable taxes.	2025-05-13	2025-05-27		PW
Meeting and Committee Procedural Policy Amendments - CAO to engage staff to make the necessary changes to the Meeting and Committee Procedural Policy RCOGE-003.00 following the discussion of Council at the May 13th, 2025 COTW meeting.	2025-05-13	2025-05-27	Approved	CAO
2025 Provincial Representative Volunteer Recommendation - Approves the nomination of Rob Davies for the 2025 provincial representative volunteer award for the West Hants Regional Municipality.	2025-05-27	2025-05-27	Approved	CD
Rail Trail Corridor – Culvert Replacement - 1. Approves the award of tender WHRMCD25-01 RFP to United Structures Ltd. for the culvert replacement on the Mantua to Stanley trail in the amount of \$456,675.00 plus applicable taxes. 2. Approves a contingency amount of \$91,335 for the project plus applicable taxes.	2025-05-27	2025-05-27	Approved	CD

West Hants Regional Municipality Dangerous or Unsightly Dashboard (Action List)

June 10, 2025

Green - Complete
Yellow - In-progress
Red - Not started

[illegible]

Public Health Package:

Supporting Community Water Fluoridation in West Hants Regional Municipality

Contents:

- 1** Letter of Introduction
- 2** Presentation: *Why Public Health, Nova Scotia Dental Association, and Partners Recommend Community Water Fluoridation* – presented to West Hants Regional Municipal Council on June 10, 2025
- 3** FAQ: Key questions and answers on community water fluoridation and health
- 4** Infographic: Community Water Fluoridation
- 5** Letter: College of Dental Hygienists of Nova Scotia (Stacy Bryan, Registrar)
- 6** Letter: Nova Scotia Dental Association (Dr. Claire Karst, President)
- 7** Letter: Dentists practicing in the Municipality of West Hants (Dr. Kevin Walsh; Dr. Miranda Walsh; Dr. Gillian Delaney; Dr. Joanne Carson; Dr. Charanpal Ahluwalia; Dr. Krista Underhill; Dr. Ashfaq Jiwani; Dr. Shannon Fitzpatrick)



June 10, 2025

West Hants Regional Municipality
76 Morison Dr., P.O. Box 3000
Windsor, NS B0N 2T0

RE: Supporting the Introduction of Water Fluoridation in West Hants Regional Municipality

Dear West Hants Regional Municipal Council,

Central Zone Public Health was invited to present to West Hants Regional Municipal Council on the benefits of community water fluoridation. Public Health strongly supports the use of fluoride in municipal water systems to help prevent tooth decay and promote oral health in residents. It is our hope that tonight's presentation opens a conversation about community water fluoridation as an opportunity to create significant and lasting health benefits for residents in West Hants.

Community water fluoridation is an important, safe and effective measure to improve oral health, which is essential to overall health and well-being at every age and stage of life. Adding fluoride to water is one of the most cost-effective and equitable public health interventions available, reaching everyone in a community regardless of their age, income or access to dental care services or supplies.

We recognize that water fluoridation is a complex issue, and you may have questions or concerns. We invite you to review the supporting documents provided in this package to inform and support potential future discussions on community water fluoridation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this package and show how community water fluoridation remains instrumental for Nova Scotians. If there is interest from Council to explore community water fluoridation further, Public Health would welcome continued collaboration and partnership with West Hants Regional Municipality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "CRL Brown".

Dr. Catherine Brown
Regional Medical Officer of Health, Central Zone Public Health
Nova Scotia Health

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shadford".

Shelley Radford
Director, Central Zone Public Health
Nova Scotia Health

West Hants Regional Municipal Council| June 10, 2025

Why Public Health, Nova Scotia Dental Association, and Partners Recommend Community Water Fluoridation

Dr Catherine Brown, MD MSc CCFP FRCPC

Regional Medical Officer of Health, Central Zone Public Health

Dr Kevin Walsh, DDS, B.Sc.

Past President, Nova Scotia Dental Association

Dr. Kevin Walsh Dentistry Inc, Windsor, NS



Purpose

- To highlight the individual health, population health, and health equity benefits of community water fluoridation (CWF)
- To start a conversation about CWF as an opportunity to create significant and lasting health impacts for residents of West Hants

What is community water fluoridation?

Community water fluoridation (CWF) is the process of monitoring and adjusting the fluoride level in drinking water to the optimal level **for prevention of dental decay**

CWF is:

- Considered **one of the ten greatest public health achievements** of the 20th century
- Endorsed by major public health bodies around the world
- The **most cost effective and equitable method to deliver fluoride** to the population
- Contributing to oral health equity by overcoming common social determinants of health including age, education, income, and access to professional dental care
- Associated with an **approximate 25% reduction in tooth decay** in children and adults

Learn more:

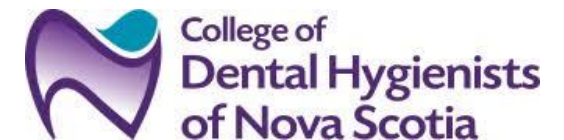
[The State of Community Water Fluoridation across Canada - Canada.ca](https://canada.ca/en/health-services/public-health/fluoridation)

Organizations who endorse CWF

CWF is endorsed by more than 90 provincial, national, and international professional organizations, associations, and governments

In Nova Scotia, this includes:

- IWK Health – Department of Dentistry
- Dalhousie University – Faculty of Dentistry
- Nova Scotia Health – Public Health
- Department of Health & Wellness – Public Health Branch
- Nova Scotia Dental Association
- College of Dental Hygienists of Nova Scotia



Learn more:

[The State of Community Water Fluoridation across Canada - Canada.ca](https://canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/fluoridation)



Public Health

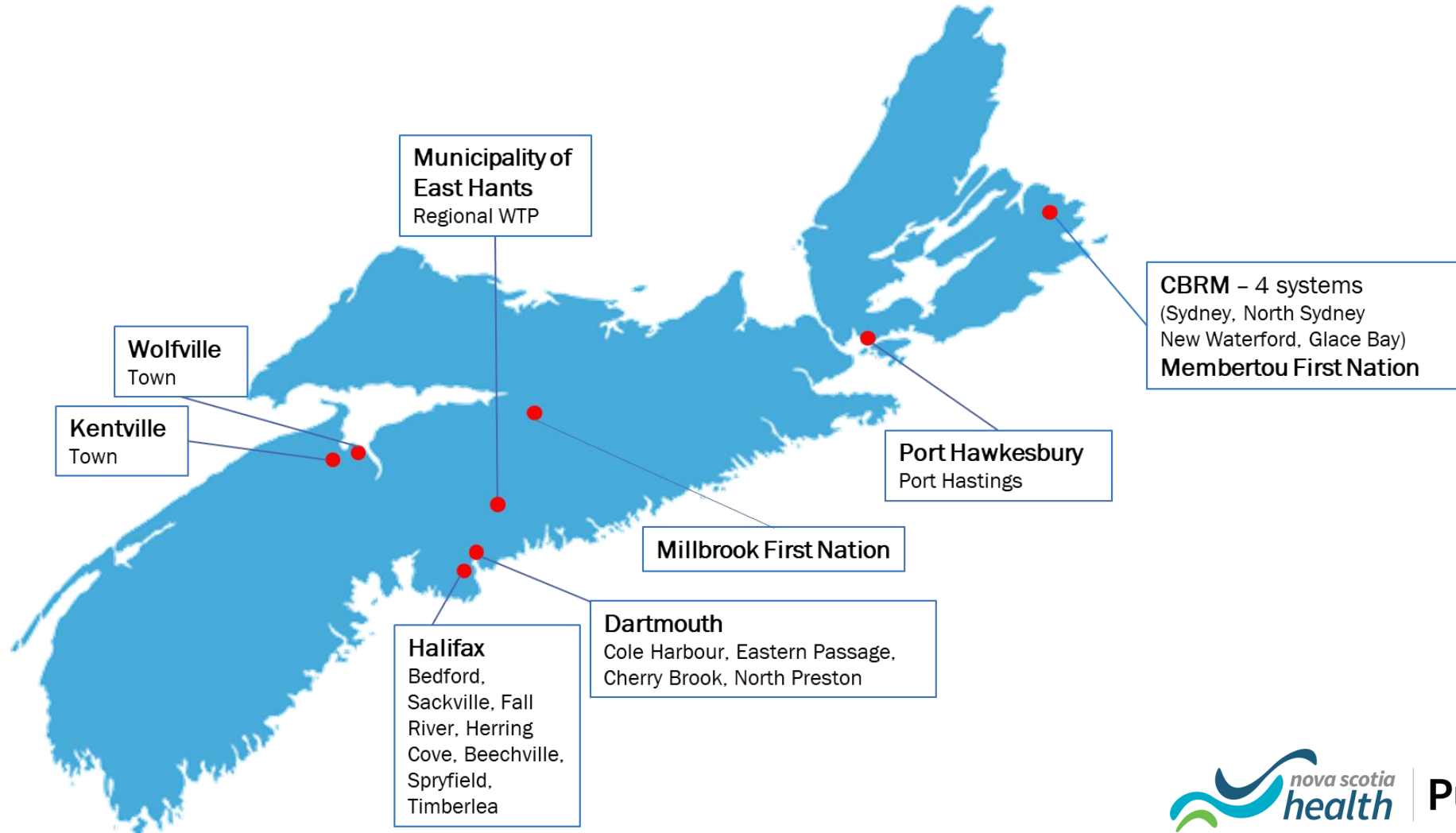
Municipalities and health

Health is the result of social and economic factors and conditions that influence the daily environments in which we live, work, play, learn, and grow

West Hants Regional Municipality plays an important role in supporting community health through municipal planning, programs, and services:

- The Inspire Fund
- Hants Country Exhibition Arena transformation
- Switch West Hants
- Active Transportation Policy
- Community Milestone Recognition Policy

CWF offered in many communities across NS



West Hants Water Utility

West Hants Water Utility includes **3 Water Treatment Plants:**

- **Windsor Water Treatment Plant** –serves Three Miles Plains, Garlands Crossing, Curry's Corner and Wentworth Road
 - CWF discontinued in 2002 when agent to remove iron from drinking water prioritized
- **Falmouth Water Treatment Plant** – serves Falmouth and Upper Falmouth
- **Hantsport Water Treatment Plant** – serves Hantsport, Hants Borden and Gloucecap First Nations

Approximately 1/3 of West Hants population is supplied by West Hants Water Utility

Learn more:

[Water Treatment Plants](#) | [GovernmentThe Regional Municipality of Windsor-West Hants](#)

Why Community Water Fluoridation?

- **Preventative Approach:** It's the most impactful tool to prevent tooth decay before treatment is required
- **Equitable:** It improves oral health for everyone, regardless of age, income, or access to dental care services & supplies
- **Regulated and Monitored:** To ensure optimal fluoride levels always maintained
- **Safe:** Decades of research support safety
- **Cost-Effective:** Every dollar spent on CWF saves \$5.49 to \$93.19

Learn more:

[The State of Community Water Fluoridation across Canada - Canada.ca](https://canada.ca/en/health-services/public-health/fluoridation)

The Shocking Statistics...

- Dental caries is the most common chronic childhood disease
- Dental procedures are the **most common reason** preschool children require general anesthesia
- **Over 30% of pediatric day surgical time** in Canada is consumed by dental treatment

Learn more:
[CIHI | Treatment of Preventable Dental Cavities in Preschoolers](#)

Consequences of Dental Decay

Dental decay can be invasive in a person and their family's daily life due to:

- Pain
- Infection
- Sleep disturbances – cascading impacts on growth and development
- Lost time at work & school
- Damage to developing adult teeth structure/alignment



Dental decay impacts all ages and stages across the life span

Learn more:

[Oral health for adults - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/health-services/minister-of-health/2018/05/oral-health-for-adults.html)

[Oral health for children - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/health-services/minister-of-health/2018/05/oral-health-for-children.html)

[Canadian Dental Association](https://www.cda.ca/)

How does fluoride prevent dental decay?

Fluoride is a mineral that is found naturally in water, soil, plants, and food, and is added to various dental products. **It strengthens teeth and prevents tooth decay.**

Community water fluoridation delivers two kinds of fluoride protection against tooth decay:

- 1. Topically:** When the outside of teeth come in direct contact with the fluoride in drinking water
- 2. Systemically:** When fluoridated water is consumed, fluoride is made available inside the body to become part of tooth's structure while it is still developing

Evidence shows that receiving fluoride in both ways leads to greater benefits in reducing tooth decay

Learn more:

[Fluoride: Topical and Systemic Supplements | American Dental Association Infographic Community Water Fluoridation Dec 11 2024.pdf](#)

Consequences of CWF removal in Windsor

- Dr. Walsh started practicing in Windsor in 1994
- It was remarkable how many fewer cavities the children in Windsor had in comparison to surrounding communities
- This observation was shared by his predecessor, Dr. Alan Stewart who retired in 1994
- Several years after CWF was removed in 2002 this discrepancy levelled out
- Currently there is no difference between cavity rates in Windsor vs surrounding communities

CWF is equitable

- Canadians living with low-income are almost **twice as likely** to suffer from poor oral health compared to high income Canadians
- Water fluoridation is a **cost-effective measure** to narrow the gap when it comes to oral health and tooth decay
- CWF **benefits all residents in a community**, regardless of age, socioeconomic status, education, oral hygiene practices, employment or access to routine dental care, making it a truly equitable public health practice

Learn more:

[Position statement on Community Water Fluoridation - Canada.ca](#)

[The State of Community Water Fluoridation across Canada - Canada.ca](#)

Observations from a Public Health Dental Hygienist

- Typically, PH sees about a 70-80% participation rate for the FVP at West Hants schools
- Students present with a **high quantity of caps and fillings**
 - About 5-20 students per school have untreated decay and require dental treatment
- **Accessibility and transportation seem to be the biggest barriers** to access dental care
- Many are on are wait lists for sedation and dental surgery
- The schools are very supportive of the FVP

What is the Fluoride Varnish Program (FVP)?

The FVP is a Public Health program that offers two extra applications of fluoride to teeth for students in pre-primary to grade 6 in selected elementary schools in communities who would benefit most from additional opportunities to receive fluoride

For more information:

[Oral Health | Nova Scotia Health](#)

Challenges in rural communities

- **Affordability** – choosing to feed a family rather than pay for dental visits has become a reality in many households
- **Rural residents face barriers to accessing dental services** due to distance, lack of public transportation, and fewer dental offices in their areas adding to costs
 - Within West Hants most dentists aren't taking on new patients, even if they qualify for the Canadian Dental Care Plan
- **Limited access to care can lead to delayed diagnosis and treatment** of dental problems, resulting in more severe and costly issues later on
- Access to fluoridated water can significantly reduce the risk of dental decay

Learn more:

[Children's Oral Health and Barriers to Seeking Care: Perspectives of Caregivers Seeking Pediatric Hospital Dental Treatment - PMC](#)

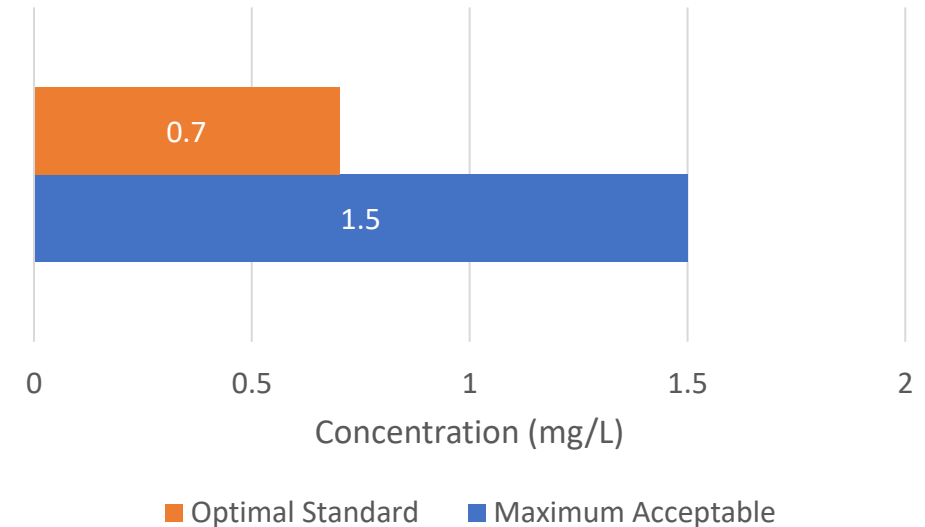
[NSDA Oral Health Report 2024](#)

[Rural-urban differences in dental service utilization and dental service procedures received among US Adults: Results from the 2016 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey - PMC](#)

CWF is regulated and monitored

- The Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality has established the maximum acceptable concentration of fluoride in drinking water at 1.5 mg/L
- Health Canada set optimal standard for CWF at 0.7mg/L, less than half of the maximum level
 - This accounts for fluoride coming from other sources (e.g., access to dental treatments, toothpaste, mouth rinses, etc.)
- **In NS, municipal water supply plants that offer CWF test drinking water daily to ensure optimal fluoride levels are maintained**

Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines for Fluoride



Learn more:

[Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality: Fluoride Guideline Technical Document](#)
[NS Treatment Standards for Municipal Drinking Water Systems](#)

CWF is safe

- **Decades of extensive research has shown that CWF is safe** when optimal fluoride concentrations (0.7 mg/L), less than half of the regulated level, are maintained
- Repeated exposure to fluoride at higher levels than Canada's regulated maximum (1.5 mg/L) has been associated with potential risks. Daily monitoring prevents this from occurring in Nova Scotia
- NSH Public Health and many others (including Health Canada) closely monitor new research on water fluoridation to inform recommendations
 - Emerging evidence is not strong enough to change water fluoridation guidelines

Learn more:

[Fluoride and Oral Health - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/fluoride-and-oral-health.html)

CWF is cost-effective

Dental services are expensive

- In 2018, the cost of dental services was estimated to be approximately \$17 billion in Canada, about \$461 per Canadian

CWF has a high return on investment

- Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH) estimates on average, introduction of CWF generates net savings at societal level annually of \$34.49 per person per year for "average" small urban municipalities (pop 4,857)

Learn more:

Community Water Fluoridation Programs: A Health Technology Assessment — Budget Impact Analysis.
Ottawa: CADTH; 2019 Feb. (CADTH technology review; no. 13).

Cautionary Tale of CWF Cessation in Calgary

City of Calgary ceased CWF in 2011 after the previous fluoride infrastructure reached the end of its lifecycle and was decommissioned and removed. At the same time, CWF continued in Edmonton

Multiple comparison studies between Calgary and Edmonton have shown:

- Fluoride cessation negatively impacted children's dental health in Calgary
- At least 25% more tooth decay was seen, with more burden in kids living in families with low-income
- Significant increase in dental cost and surgery under general anesthetic

In light of these outcomes, and with public support, the City of Calgary will be reintroducing fluoride to its water supply on June 30, 2025

Learn more:

[Fluoride in Calgary's water](#)

Key Takeaways

- Community water fluoridation **improves oral health** and supports the overall health of a community
- CWF remains a **safe, cost effective, and equitable** public health practice and an important tool in protecting and maintaining the health and well-being of Nova Scotians
- West Hants Regional Municipality has an **opportunity to create significant and lasting impacts** through investment in CWF systems, creating generations of healthier residents
- If there is interest from council to explore CWF further, Public Health and dental partners would welcome the opportunity to continue the conversation

Thank you!

We welcome any questions and discussion

Dr. Catherine Brown – Public Health
CatherineR.brown@nshealth.ca

Dr. Kevin Walsh – Dentist
drkevin@eastlink.ca



CWF in Nova Scotia

Kentville Water Commission

875 West Main Street

Kentville, NS

902-679-2520

[Kentville Water Commission |
Nova Scotia Utility and Review
Board](#)

Wolfville Water Utility

200 Dykeland Street

Wolfville NS

902-542-3294

[Town of Wolfville Water
Utility | Nova Scotia Utility
and Review Board](#)

CBRM Water Utility

Suite 302, 320

Esplanade

Sydney, NS

[Water Utility](#)

Halifax Water Commission

450 Cowie Hill Road

Halifax, NS

902-420-9287

[Welcome to Halifax Water |
Halifax Water](#)

Town of Port Hawkesbury Water Utility

606 Reeves Street,

Port Hawkesbury, NS

902-625- 1975

[Town of Port Hawkesbury
Water Utility | Nova Scotia
Utility and Review Board](#)

East Hants Water Utility

170-15 Commerce Court

Elmsdale, NS

902-883-2299

[Water Utility Information -
Municipality of East Hants](#)

Additional Resources on CWF

Nova Scotia

- [Oral Health | Nova Scotia Health](#)
- [Oral Health for Providers | Information and Wellness Portal](#)
- [NS Treatment Standards for Municipal Drinking Water Systems](#)
- [Oral Health Reports – Nova Scotia Dental Association](#)

Canadian Dental & Dental Hygienist Association

- [Canadian Dental Association – Position on Water Fluoridation](#)
- [CDHA Advocacy – Community Water Fluoridation](#)
- [Canadian Dental Association – Your Oral Health](#)

Additional Resources on CWF

Government of Canada – Public Resources on Oral Health & Fluoride

- [Fluoride and Oral Health - Canada.ca](#)
- [Oral health for adults - Canada.ca](#)
- [Oral health for children - Canada.ca](#)
- [Fact sheet - Community water fluoridation - Canada.ca](#)

Government of Canada – Guidelines & Reports

- [Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality: Fluoride Guideline Technical Document](#)
- [Position statement on Community Water Fluoridation - Canada.ca](#)
- [State of Community Water Fluoridation across Canada](#)
- [Expert panel meeting on the health effects of fluoride in drinking water: Summary report - Canada.ca](#)

Additional Resources on CWF

International Organizations

- [World Health Organization - Fluoride in drinking-water](#)
- [Community Water Fluoridation Recommendations | Fluoridation | CDC](#)
- [Community Water Fluoridation Frequently Asked Questions | Fluoridation | CDC](#)
- [Cavities: Community Water Fluoridation | The Community Guide](#)

CADTH & CIHI Reports

- Community Water Fluoridation Programs: A Health Technology Assessment — Budget Impact Analysis. Ottawa: CADTH; 2019 Feb. (CADTH technology review; no. 13).
- [Treatment of Preventable Dental Cavities in Preschoolers: A Focus on Day Surgery Under General Anesthesia](#)

Fluoride and Community Water Fluoridation

These Frequently Asked Questions help to address common concerns and questions regarding fluoride and community water fluoridation in Nova Scotia.

Why is oral health important?

Oral health is important to overall health and well-being at every age and stage of life. A healthy mouth allows a person to eat, speak, learn and socialize without discomfort or embarrassment.

Tooth decay is the most common childhood chronic disease in Canada that can be prevented. 57% of Canadian children have cavities, which can lead to unnecessary infection, pain, and tooth loss. This can impact children's growth and development, behaviour, and ability to learn, socialize and play.

What is fluoride?

Fluoride is a mineral that strengthens teeth, making them more resistant to decay. Fluoride is naturally occurring in water, soil, plants and food, and is added to various dental products.

How does fluoride prevent tooth decay?

Fluoride can prevent tooth decay in two ways:

- When fluoride in drinking water is consumed it becomes part of the tooth's structure as it develops. Fluoride strengthens all layers of the tooth, creating stronger teeth for life.
- When teeth come in contact with fluoride in drinking water, the tooth enamel is strengthened on the surface. This type of fluoride protection is also available through dental products such as fluoride toothpaste and mouth rinse as well as fluoride treatments, such as fluoride varnish.

Evidence shows that receiving different types of fluoride is safe and offers the greatest benefits for oral health.

What is water fluoridation?

Almost all water contains some naturally occurring level of fluoride. Community water fluoridation is the process of adjusting that amount of fluoride in our drinking water to a level recommended for preventing cavities.

What are the benefits of water fluoridation?

Studies continue to show the importance of water fluoridation in preventing and reducing tooth decay. This is true even with improvements in access to dental care, personal dental practices and increased availability of fluoride through other sources, such as fluoride toothpaste.

While water fluoridation benefits everyone in a community, it is especially important for children and groups that experience higher rates of tooth decay and poorer oral health.

Why does Nova Scotia Health Public Health support water fluoridation?

Water fluoridation is one of the most effective public health measures that can be taken to reduce tooth decay because it reaches everyone in a community regardless of their age, income or access to dental care.

Nova Scotia Health (NSH) Public Health recommends community water fluoridation alongside more than 90 other provincial, national, and international professional organizations, associations and governments because it is supported by evidence to be an important, safe, and effective measure to improve the oral health of Nova Scotians.

Do all communities in Nova Scotia have access to water fluoridation?

In 2022, about 50.4% of people in Nova Scotia had access to water with the recommended level of fluoride through a community water system. While all water contains some fluoride naturally, most water supplies in Nova Scotia do not have enough to help prevent tooth decay. Food is also not a major source of fluoride in Canada.

What amount of fluoride in water is considered optimal for oral health?

Health Canada recommends that communities fluoridate water to 0.7 milligrams per litre (mg/L) to achieve the benefits of cavity prevention. This level considers the other ways that people commonly receive fluoride, such as through fluoride toothpaste and treatments received at the dentist.

The level set for water fluoridation in Canada of 0.7mg/L is less than half the maximum level of 1.5mg/L that has been established by Health Canada and the World Health Organization.

What about recent reports on water fluoridation and IQ in children?

Recent reports have been published that look at fluoride levels above the maximum 1.5 mg/L and developmental outcomes in children, including IQ scores.

The evidence in the reports is not conclusive and does not show high fluoride causes lower IQs in children. In these studies, high fluoride levels are defined as greater than 1.5 mg/L, which is about double the standard for drinking water in Canada and Nova Scotia of 0.7 mg/L.

NSH Public Health continues to monitor ongoing scientific research on fluoride, community water fluoridation and health.

What is dental fluorosis?

Repeat exposure to high levels of fluoride (above the maximum level of 1.5 mg/L) has been shown to increase risk for dental fluorosis. Dental fluorosis is a cosmetic issue that affects the tooth enamel, and makes teeth appear to have white flecks or brown pitting.

Dental fluorosis is very uncommon in Canada and not a concern for most children. Some children have mild cases of fluorosis that often go unnoticed and present no long-term health problems.

How do we know that the fluoride in drinking water in Nova Scotia municipalities remains below 1.5 mg/L?

Municipalities that adjust the fluoride in drinking water are required to test their water supply daily to make sure recommended levels are maintained at 0.7 mg/L, or half the maximum level set by Health Canada of 1.5 mg/L.

Why does NSH Public Health offer a school-based fluoride varnish program?

High levels of early childhood cavities and limited access to dental care are major concerns in our province.

School-based fluoride programs are offered in many areas across Canada because they are a safe and effective way to deliver additional topical fluoride to children to help prevent tooth decay. NSH Public Health offers a Fluoride Varnish Program in pre-primary to grade 6 students in select communities that would benefit most from an additional layer of protection.

School-based fluoride programs compliment other ways children receive fluoride, such as through their dental provider and water fluoridation. Children benefit from access to multiple sources and applications of fluoride and can safely receive up to six applications of fluoride varnish a year.

Community Water Fluoridation

Community water fluoridation is recommended as an important, safe and effective measure to improve the oral health of Nova Scotians.

The Facts

- **Oral health** is essential to overall health and well-being at every age and stage of life. A healthy mouth allows a person to eat, speak, learn and socialize without discomfort or embarrassment.
- **Tooth decay** is the most common chronic condition of childhood. It can lead to unnecessary pain or suffering, infection, tooth loss, or costly restorative treatment. In school-aged children, poor oral health outcomes are associated with lower school attendance and performance.
- **Populations** that experience the most tooth decay are also those who have the greatest difficulty accessing oral health care.
- **Fluoride** is a mineral that strengthens teeth, making them more resistant to decay. It is naturally occurring in water, soil, plants and food, and is added to various dental products.
- **Community water fluoridation** is the process of adjusting the amount of naturally occurring fluoride in drinking water supplies to achieve a level that is optimal for oral health.
- **Communities** with access to fluoridated water report lower rates of tooth decay.
- **NSH Public Health** recommends water fluoridation based on a collection of credible science, expert knowledge, and community experience.

How It Works

Community water fluoridation delivers two kinds of fluoride protection against tooth decay:

- 1) **Topical:** when the outside of teeth come in direct contact with the fluoride in drinking water.
- 2) **Systemic:** when fluoridated water is consumed, fluoride is made available inside the body to become part of the tooth's structure while it is still developing.

Community water fluoridation is endorsed by more than 90 provincial, national and international professional organizations, associations and governments.

NSH Public Health Supports Community Water Fluoridation

It is universal
and accessible.

1

Community water fluoridation reaches everyone in a community regardless of their age, income or access to dental care services or supplies.

It improves
oral health for
everyone.

2

Community water fluoridation improves oral health outcomes across populations and age groups. It is especially beneficial for those that experience greater rates of tooth decay.

It is a
preventative
approach.

3

Community water fluoridation delivers fluoride protection to the entire community, helping to prevent tooth decay before treatment is required. Investing in prevention is beneficial for individuals, communities, and the health care system.

It is regulated
and monitored.

4

Drinking water supplies are regularly tested to ensure that optimal fluoride levels are always maintained. This level is set by Health Canada and accounts for exposure to fluoride from other common sources.

It contributes to
healthy, vibrant
communities.

5

Improving oral health contributes to the overall health of a community. Community water fluoridation is part of creating places where people live, learn, work and play that support and promote health - now and into the future.

Additional Resources

Nova Scotia Health - [Oral Health | Nova Scotia Health \(nshealth.ca\)](https://www.nshealth.ca/oral-health)

Health Canada – [Community Water Fluoridation](https://www.healthcanada.ca/community-water-fluoridation)

Public Health Agency of Canada – [Position Statement on Community Water Fluoridation](https://www.canada.ca/public-health/position-statement-community-water-fluoridation)

Nova Scotia Dental Association – [Understanding Fluoride](https://www.nsda.ca/understanding-fluoride)

**Please contact your local Public Health office
for more information.**

www.nshealth.ca/public-health



May 30, 2025

West Hants Regional Council Members
West Hants Regional Municipality
76 Morison Dr., P.O. Box 3000
Windsor, NS B0N 2T0

Dear West Hants Regional Council Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the importance of community water fluoridation (CWF) as a public health measure.

The **Nova Scotia Regulator of Dental Hygiene, Dental Technology, and Denturism (NSRDHDTD)** is the regulatory body responsible for licensing and regulating dental hygienists, dental technologists, and denturists across the province. All three professions are regulated, licenced health professionals who are united in their committed to improving oral health for all Nova Scotians. While each of these three oral health professions has a distinct scope of practice and focus, dental hygienists have a primary focus on oral disease prevention.

As a regulator, the NSRDHDTD is committed to advancing safe, effective, and evidence-based, public health measures that improve oral health outcomes. With this in mind, we strongly support **community water fluoridation programs** throughout Nova Scotia. We encourage the **West Hants Regional Municipality** council to contemplate implementation and maintenance of community water fluoridation in your community.

Oral health is important to overall health and well-being at every age and stage of life. A healthy mouth allows a person to eat, speak, learn and socialize. It can also impact a person's self-esteem, confidence, and quality of life. Oral health professionals see firsthand the impact of tooth decay on children and adults, including seniors, in their communities.

Tooth decay continues to be the most common childhood preventable chronic disease in Canada, and it remains a significant oral health problem worldwide for both children and adults. In Canada, approximately 96% of adults have a history of dental caries, and nearly 57% of children aged 6 to 11 have experienced dental caries in their primary teeth.¹ This can impact children's growth and development, behaviour, and ability to learn, socialize and play.

Extensive scientific research and decades of practical application have demonstrated that community water fluoridation is a safe, effective, and equitable method to reduce the prevalence of dental caries. Numerous studies show that fluoridation reduces dental decay by approximately 25% in children and adults, regardless of age, socioeconomic status, or access to dental care.²

From a public health perspective, water fluoridation is cost-effective, saving communities money by reducing the need for restorative dental care. Furthermore, community water fluoridation promotes oral health equity by providing widespread protection against tooth decay, especially in underserved populations who may lack access to regular oral health care.³

As a regulatory body, we uphold the responsibility to advocate for scientifically validated practices that protect and improve public health. In this capacity, we encourage community leaders, policymakers, and other interested parties, to prioritize water fluoridation efforts to safeguard the oral health of current and future generations.

We welcome the opportunity to collaborate with you to further educate the public about the benefits of water fluoridation and to address any concerns based on misinformation or misconceptions. Please feel free to contact us at registrar@oralhealthns.ca

Thank you for your dedication to fostering healthier Nova Scotian communities. We stand ready to support and advocate for initiatives that enhance public oral health through proven preventive measures such as community water fluoridation.

Sincerely,



Stacy Bryan

NSRDHDTD Registrar

Footnotes

¹ Canadian Health Measures Survey (CHMS). (2007–2009). *Oral Health Statistics in Canada*. Statistics Canada.

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2018). *Community Water Fluoridation: Fluoridation Basics*. <https://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/index.html>; and Griffin, S. O., Regnier, E., Griffin, P. M., & Huntley, V. (2007). *Effectiveness of fluoride in preventing caries in adults*. *Journal of Dental Research*, 86(5), 410-415. <https://doi.org/10.1177/154405910708600504>

³ National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR). (2020). *Oral Health Disparities in the United States: The Need for Action*. <https://www.nidcr.nih.gov/>; and McLaren, L., & Singhal, S. (2016). *Does cessation of community water fluoridation lead to an increase in tooth decay? A systematic review*. *BMC Oral Health*, 16, 43. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12903-016-0203-z>



Mayor Abraham Zebian
Members of the West Hants Council
West Hants Regional Municipality
76 Morison Dr., P.O. Box 3000
Windsor, NS
B0N 2T0

June 3, 2025

Re: Support for Community Water Fluoridation

Dear Mayor and Councilors,

As both president of the Nova Scotia Dental Association and a practicing dentist, I regularly see the impacts of early childhood dental decay. Toothache pain is one of the most common reasons children miss school, and the number #1 reason for day surgery among preschoolers. While research on early childhood dental decay is limited in Nova Scotia, a Dalhousie study in 2006/7 found that well over half of children aged 7 – 8 had cavities. In Calgary, less than a decade after the cessation of fluoride being added to the city's water there was a 700% increase in the need for IV antibiotics in children. This represented potentially life-threatening infections associated with advancing pediatric dental disease.

For over 75 years, fluoride water has been proven again and again as a powerful defense against tooth decay, reducing it by 25% - 30% in both children and adults. The Centre for Disease Control & Prevention has named community water fluoridation as one of the 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century.

The Nova Scotia Dental Association, representing its 600+ member dentists, is firmly behind community water fluoridation. We urge Nova Scotia's municipalities to consider adding fluoride at recommended levels where water is currently not fluoridated, and for the municipalities with existing fluoride programs, to continue fluoridation.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Claire Karst". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Claire Karst, DDS
President
Nova Scotia Dental Association

From the Dentists practicing in the Municipality of West Hants:

Subject: Support for Community Water Fluoridation in West Hants

Dear Council Members of the West Hants Regional Municipality:

We are writing to express our strong support for the addition of fluoride to our local water supply. As practicing dentists in our community, we witness firsthand the impact of oral health on overall well-being. Community water fluoridation is a safe and effective public health measure, supported by extensive scientific research, and endorsed by the Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness.

Fluoride plays a crucial role in preventing tooth decay, reducing dental costs, and promoting lifelong oral health. Studies have consistently shown that fluoridated water significantly lowers the incidence of cavities in children and adults alike. Moreover, its benefits extend across all socioeconomic backgrounds, ensuring equitable access to oral health protection for every resident.

The decision to re-introduce fluoride into our water supply falls under municipal authority. Given its proven safety and effectiveness, we urge the council to consider this measure as dental caries is the number one chronic childhood disease. The long-term benefits of improved dental health and reduced healthcare costs far outweigh any initial concerns. Numerous municipalities across the country have already implemented this policy with great success, improving the health of their residents of all ages but especially children.

We sincerely hope the council will consider the overwhelming scientific evidence and expert recommendations in favor of fluoridation. We are happy to provide further information or discuss this matter in greater detail at your convenience.

Thank you for your time and commitment to the well-being of our community.

Sincerely,

Dr Kevin Walsh



Dr. Shannon Fitzpatrick



Dr. Miranda Walsh



Dr. Gillian Delaney



Dr. Joanne Carson



Dr. Charanpal Ahluwalia

Dr. Krista Underhill



Dr. Ashfaq Jiwani





Karen Cooper, Program Coordinator
Ezra Edelstein, Board Chair
June 10, 2025

On the Agenda Tonight

1. Recap November 2024 to May 2025
2. Environics Report
3. June 2025 to March 2026 Plans
4. Questions?

November – December 2024



January to March 2025



January to March 2025



April – May 2025



On-going activities



1. Meeting with businesses one-to-one

- Of 151 known unique organization, I have met or had a significant interaction with 94 of those (64%)
- Continuing on to find other ways to connect – via phone, via email, different times of day/evening, etc. for the remaining organizations

2. Newsletter

- average of 2 newsletters per month, open rate of 65%
- Audience is the members and support organizations
- Current list is 142 active emails – will grow to 175+ contacts covering 151 organizations in the next three months
- Looking at a community focused newsletter/flyer in partnership with the Avon Chamber of Commerce



On-going activities



3. Façade Improvement Program

- This is a re-imbursement program for façade improvements that fit within the program guidelines, up to 40% to maximum of \$2000.00. Once every 5 years.
- Most recent have been Mermaid Theatre, Madison Clover and Cedar Centre
- Upcoming are Todie Bogles and Studio Twenty Two
- We will be promoting these improvements on social media and encouraging those who meet the criteria to make applications and use up the funding

On-going activities

4. West Hants Economic Development Quarterly meeting with WHRM, CBDC, Avon Chamber of Commerce, Valley REN, Nova Scotia Works, Community Inc, MLA Office, WTBA, Glooscap*
 - Started in August 2024 and began quarterly in January 2025
 - Share our upcoming program and events – find collaboration or partnership opportunities and limit overlap of work
 - Share trends that are being identified in the area
4. Attending community and other business events

Environics Report

- Report covers May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024
- Data gives
 - Unique visitors
 - Total visitors
 - Average visits per visitor
 - Summary Day of the week, time of day
 - Demographics – Household income, age, household composition/size, education level, diversity level
 - Geographic Summary by postal code
 - Segment Summaries



June 2025 to March 2026

June

- Downtown Tidy Up
- Summer position (Green Team) starts (goes to end of August)

July & August

- Canada Day and Pride Parades/Events
- Summer Music Series, potentially three larger events rather than the Friday Night events
- Summer Bingo
- Participation at other events – Farmers' Market, Avon River Days

June 2025 to March 2026

September

- Garlic Fest (participant)
- WinterThing Planning starts now

October

- Downtown Tidy Up
- Small Business Week event(s)



June 2025 to March 2026

November / December

- Holiday Decorating Contest
- Avon Chamber of Commerce Gala

March

- Third Annual WinterThing!
- International Women's Day

Dates TBC

- Quarterly events (these are open to all businesses for networking and making new connections)
- Other community events in Windsor and out of Windsor that we can participate in as they are identified

Behind the Scenes

- Focusing on defined social media campaigns
 - Did You Know...
 - Weekly Segment Profiles
 - Weekly event listings
 - Profiles on local service groups
- Completing the Member survey
- Exploring how to potentially expand the Online Directory to include West Hants based businesses to give the visitor the best opportunity to find the shop/service they are looking for
- Completing the Legacy Binder Project
- Exploring the potential for a West Hants Gift Card program



Questions?

How to reach the WTBA

Karen Cooper

Info@windsortownship.ca

Cell: 902-579-7652

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/windsortownshipNS>

IG: <https://www.instagram.com/windsortownship/>

Website: <https://windsortownship.ca/contact/>



**Proposed
Uranium
Mining in
Millet Brook,
Vaughan, Nova
Scotia**



Overview

- History of Uranium Mining in NS
- Request for Proposed Sites in NS
- Timeline (why this pause is so important)
- Location, the Avon River Watershed
- Landowner Letters from DNR
- CAPE: Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment Fact Sheet
- Motions for WHRM Council

History of Uranium Mining

Nova Scotia was explored by mining companies in the 1970's. They took core samples from different areas, but did not proceed with mining. We already know how much uranium is here, and the quality of it.

1981 a Moratorium was put in place, which was later followed by a complete ban in 2009 on uranium mining and exploration, due to environmental concerns, such as groundwater contamination and radioactive waste.

March 26, 2025, the 1981 Moratorium was lifted without any public, community or First Nations consultation, and the call from many experts for protecting our waters, lands, air, our health, was ignored.

May 14, 2025 a Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued and a call for prospectors was initiated. It closes June 11, 2025.

TOMORROW

Cost of doing business...

In NS, there are 69 abandoned mine sites that the province has identified, with 67 requiring assessment and remediation, and 60 sites needing cleanup, according to the Halifax Examiner and CBC. The provincial government has identified 127 potentially contaminated sites on Crown Land.

The following article shows tax payers are responsible for \$148 million just to clean up abandoned mines. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/novascotia/cleanup-historical-mines-next-year-1.7295465>

Uranium mining is one of the most dangerous types of mining, due to risk of cancer causing radiation. (CAPE)

“At the end of it’s life, the province will be left with a tailings pile or pond containing radioactive materials which will remain dangerous for the next 10,000 years or more.” (David Maxwell, MD, MCFP(EM), FACEP)

Request for Proposal (RFP)

The Request for Proposal (RFP) was released to the Public May 14, 2025 Naming Millet Brook and our beautiful Community of

- Millet Brook, Vaughan, Hants County
- 2300 hectare area (equivalent to 5683 acres)

Here is the link to the RFP

www.novascotia.ca/uranium-exploration-request-for-proposals/docs/uranium-exploration-rfp-millet-brook-en.pdf

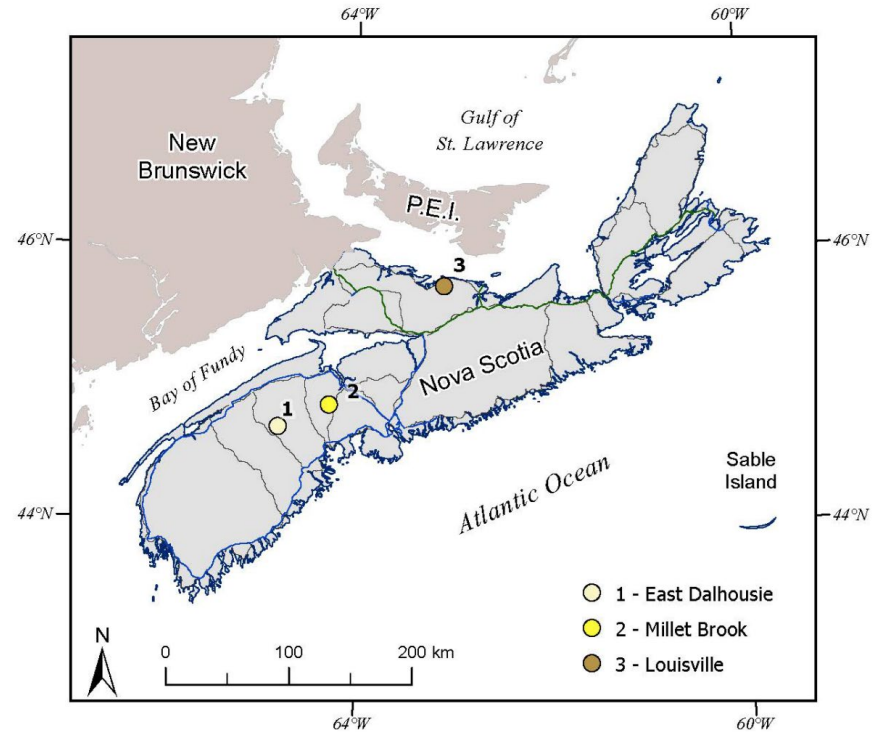
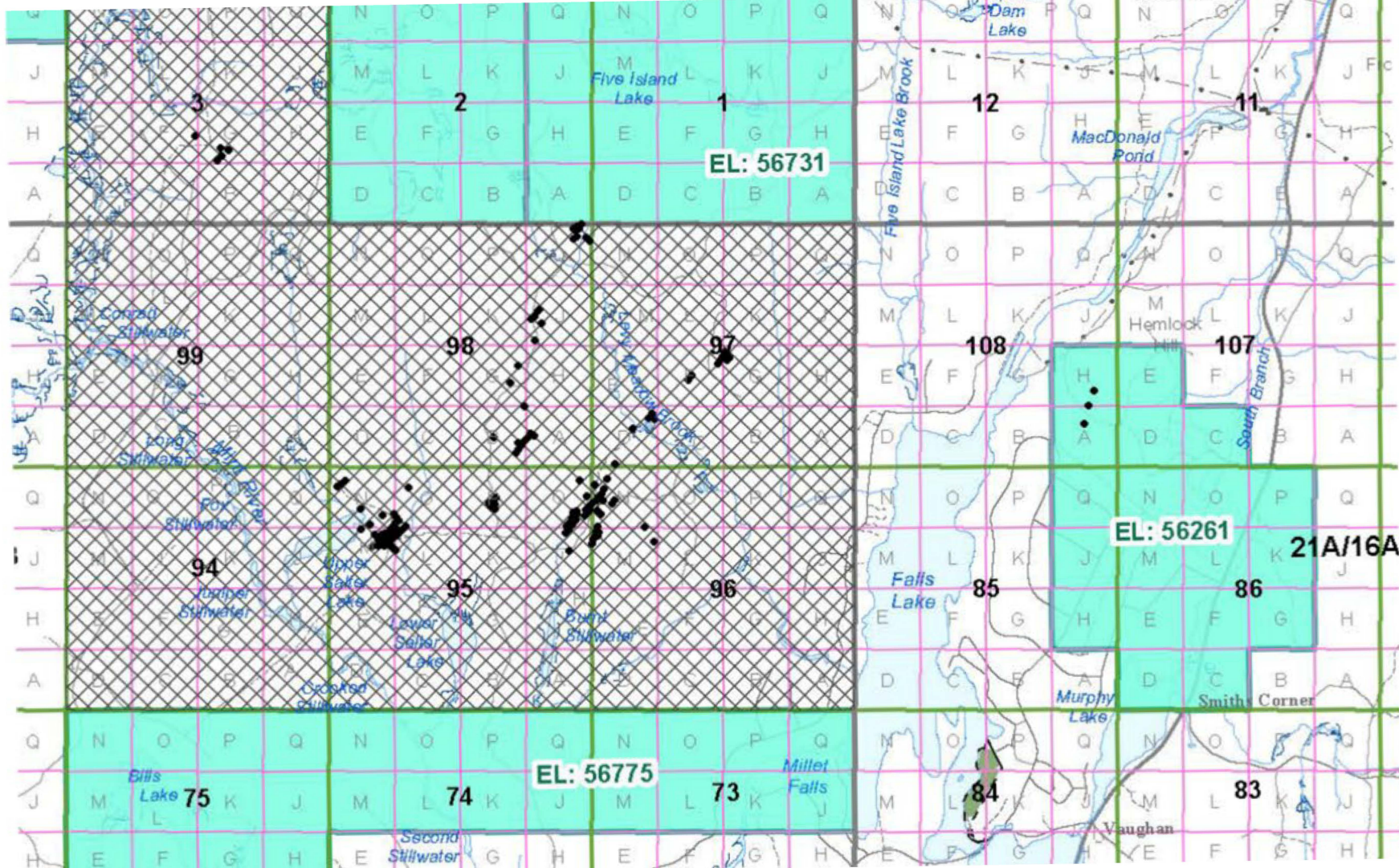


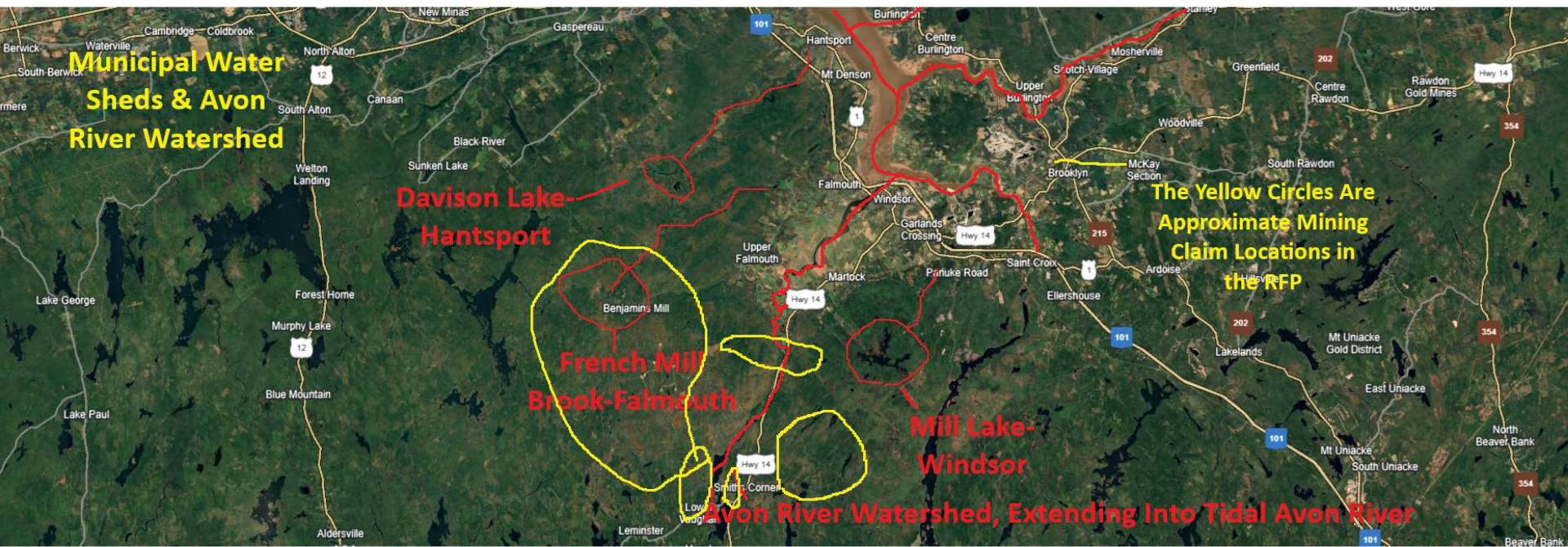
Figure 1 - Location of the Millet Brook Project Area.

Timeline

- March 26th: Ban Lifted on Uranium exploration and Mining in NS (Houston's government passed Bill 6, repealing the legislated ban)
- May 14th: Uranium added to Critical Minerals List
- May 14th Request for Proposal Announced (RFPs)
- June 11th: Bidding Concludes Tomorrow
- June 12-26th: Prospectors Decided
- July 7th: Prospectors Announced
- July 11th: Exploration License Granted for 2 years

Figure 2 – Millet Brook Project Area.





The Avon River Watershed

Our Lakes, Ponds, Rivers, Streams all around the proposed site in Millet Brook is included within the Avon River Watershed including:

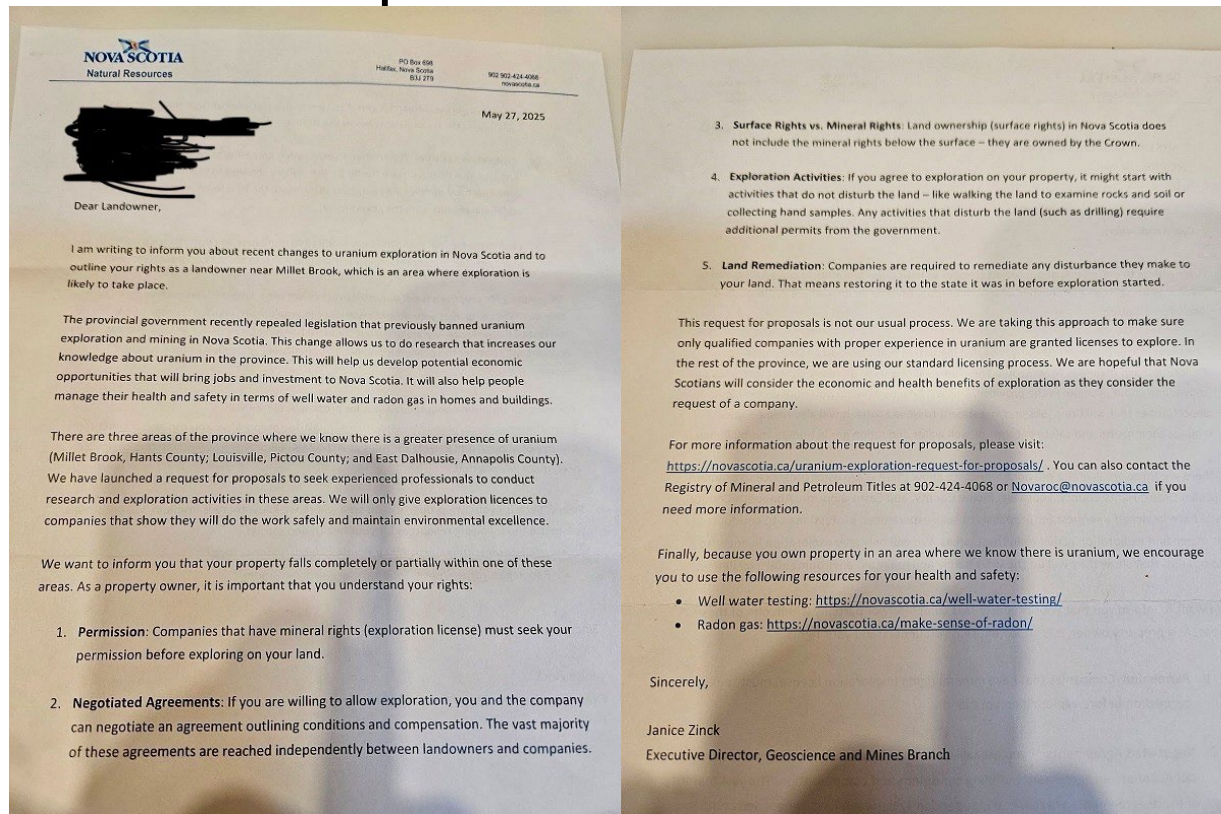
Falls Lake, Mockingee Lake, Lake Pisiquid, Avon River and Southwest branch of Avon River

Other bodies of water affected: Lower Salter Lake, Upper Salter Lake, Murphy Lake, North Canoe Lake, South Canoe Lake, Chain Lake, Upper Chain Lake, Half Moon Lake, Burnt Lake, Bennett Lake, Five Island Lake, Stillwater Lake, Lewis Lake and many more.

The Avon River watershed flows into the Tidal Avon River which feeds into the Minas Basin. Our municipal water systems are within 100km of this proposed mining site and from the CAPE research, uranium travels by air and water 100km minimum up to a maximum of 400km radius.

The unique climate we have here in NS lends itself for extensive travel with our winds, heavy rainfall and

Landowners in our area have already received notices from the Department of Natural Resources



CAPE- Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment

We are currently working on factsheets which will summarize health concerns of uranium mining. We join you in your concerns - a "sacrifice zone" in Millet Brook, Hants County would potentially spread radon as far away as 400 km. This means that a large number of Nova Scotians would face the risk of additional lung cancer diagnoses as radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer. 85% of the mine's radioactivity is left in the tailings pile and would continue to be radioactive for hundreds of thousands of years. Meanwhile wind and water would distribute it around. It would most likely leak into wells and eventually the Avon River and beyond. The province would have to take over looking after it after the mining company left, butlet us prevent all that.

Uranium Mining Factsheet

Here is a link to infographics on uranium mining: downloadable and free.

<https://www.nuclear-free.com/uranium-atlas.html>

What we are requesting of West Hants Regional Municipality Councilors

- Motion 1: WHRM Council formally requests that the provincial government pause before granting any leases for uranium exploration in our County, to allow time for Council and communities to become informed and give input about the potential impacts of uranium exploration on the community and allow sufficient time for the Province to conduct meaningful consultations with the public and First Nations, and weigh potential risks as well as benefits.
- Motion 2: WHRM Council affirms the importance of safe drinking water for all county residents, both those living in centralized areas serviced by our municipal water systems and those living outside those areas who rely on wells. Council states our intention to investigate how the County might improve the protection of water supplies of residents relying on wells and our municipal water supply. As we undertake this process, we formally request that the province pause before granting any uranium exploration licenses.

Correspondence Received

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Correspondence Date</u>	<u>Meeting / logged</u>
Letter from Department of Natural Resources to WHRM	Re Landowner near Millet Brook	2025-05-27	2025-06-10 COTW
Barry Spearns	Re Opposition to RFP for Uranium Mineral	2025-05-28	2025-06-10 COTW
Lynn and Ron Moore	Re Opposition To Proposed Uranium Mining-Millet Brook	2025-05-30	2025-06-10 COTW
Minister of Municipal Affairs	Response Re Inquiry for Additional Information Re Resource Development in WHRM	2025-05-30	2025-06-10 COTW
Natalie Lane	Re Opposition To Proposed Uranium Mining-Millet Brook	2025-05-30	2025-06-10 COTW
Karen Beazley	Re Uranium exploration in Hants West and NS	2025-05-31	2025-06-10 COTW
Andrew Glencross	Re No Uranium Mining in West Hants	2025-06-02	2025-06-10 COTW
Carol and Doug Dahr	Re Petition letter Uranium 2025	2025-06-02	2025-06-10 COTW
Garett Lane	Re CHESTER GRANT AND AREA URANIUM MINE. REQUEST FOR PERMANENT BAN ON URANIUM MINING IN OUR SMALL PROVINCE!!	2025-06-02	2025-06-10 COTW
Janet Morrell	Re Contact Your Mayor and Council Re Government, The Regional Municipality of Windsor-West Hants	2025-06-02	2025-06-10 COTW
Karen Beazley	Letter to WHRM Re RFPs for uranium exploration in West Hants	2025-06-02	2025-06-10 COTW
Karen F. Beazley	Re Uranium RFPs and exploration in NS (WHRM copied)	2025-06-02	2025-06-10 COTW
Chris Shields	Re Uranium Mining and Economic Progress (WHRM copied)	2025-06-03	2025-06-10 COTW
Claudia Herchan	Re Uranium Exploration in Nova Scotia	2025-06-03	2025-06-10 COTW
Kimberley & Stuart Hawker	Re Uranium Mining in Nova Scotia (WHRM copied)	2025-06-03	2025-06-10 COTW
Sarah Trask, Chad Pothier and Community of Vaughan	Re Uranium mining in NS	2025-06-04	2025-06-10 COTW
Glenn Whittman	Re Uranium mining in NS - voice of opposition	2025-06-04	2025-06-10 COTW
Anita Crosby	Re Uranium Mining	2025-06-05	2025-06-10 COTW
Chad Pothier	Re An Urgent Request-Uranium Exploration and Mining	2025-06-05	2025-06-10 COTW

May 27, 2025

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF HANTS WEST

PO BOX 3000

WINDSOR NS B0N2T0

Dear Landowner,

I am writing to inform you about recent changes to uranium exploration in Nova Scotia and to outline your rights as a landowner near Millet Brook, which is an area where exploration is likely to take place.

The provincial government recently repealed legislation that previously banned uranium exploration and mining in Nova Scotia. This change allows us to do research that increases our knowledge about uranium in the province. This will help us develop potential economic opportunities that will bring jobs and investment to Nova Scotia. It will also help people manage their health and safety in terms of well water and radon gas in homes and buildings.

There are three areas of the province where we know there is a greater presence of uranium (Millet Brook, Hants County; Louisville, Pictou County; and East Dalhousie, Annapolis County). We have launched a request for proposals to seek experienced professionals to conduct research and exploration activities in these areas. We will only give exploration licences to companies that show they will do the work safely and maintain environmental excellence.

We want to inform you that your property falls completely or partially within one of these areas. As a property owner, it is important that you understand your rights:

1. **Permission:** Companies that have mineral rights (exploration license) must seek your permission before exploring on your land.
2. **Negotiated Agreements:** If you are willing to allow exploration, you and the company can negotiate an agreement outlining conditions and compensation. The vast majority of these agreements are reached independently between landowners and companies.

3. **Surface Rights vs. Mineral Rights:** Land ownership (surface rights) in Nova Scotia does not include the mineral rights below the surface – they are owned by the Crown.
4. **Exploration Activities:** If you agree to exploration on your property, it might start with activities that do not disturb the land – like walking the land to examine rocks and soil or collecting hand samples. Any activities that disturb the land (such as drilling) require additional permits from the government.
5. **Land Remediation:** Companies are required to remediate any disturbance they make to your land. That means restoring it to the state it was in before exploration started.

This request for proposals is not our usual process. We are taking this approach to make sure only qualified companies with proper experience in uranium are granted licenses to explore. In the rest of the province, we are using our standard licensing process. We are hopeful that Nova Scotians will consider the economic and health benefits of exploration as they consider the request of a company.

For more information about the request for proposals, please visit:

<https://novascotia.ca/uranium-exploration-request-for-proposals/>. You can also contact the Registry of Mineral and Petroleum Titles at 902-424-4068 or Novaroc@novascotia.ca if you need more information.

Finally, because you own property in an area where we know there is uranium, we encourage you to use the following resources for your health and safety:

- Well water testing: <https://novascotia.ca/well-water-testing/>
- Radon gas: <https://novascotia.ca/make-sense-of-radon/>

Sincerely,

Janice Zinck

Executive Director, Geoscience and Mines Branch

From: [Abraham Zebian](#)
To: Barry Spearns; [Deanna Snair](#)
Subject: Re: Opposition to RFP for Uranium Mineral Exploration in Millet Brook
Date: May 28, 2025 4:44:36 AM

On May 28, 2025, at 2:13 AM, Barry Spearns wrote:

Caution [External Email]

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

Attention: Premier Tim Houston, Resource Minister Tory Rushton, Hants West MLA Melissa Sheehy-Richard and Mayor Abraham Zebian

I am writing to express my concern about the Request for Proposal issued by the Province for Uranium Mineral Exploration in Millet Brook. I am a long time resident of Nova Scotia and a new property owner in West Hants where our family has recently built a new home on Falls Lake, which Millett Brook flows into. Our home uses well water.

I am concerned about the environmental impacts that uranium mining would pose on the surrounding area and the impacts this would have on my family's health and the enjoyment of our property. There are many other families living in the area in a similar boat, and many other Nova Scotians that enjoy the Falls Lake Provincial park for recreational purposes.

As I am sure you are well aware, uranium is a valuable mineral for a reason. Uranium mining has proven significant negative impacts on its surrounding environment and the health of its residents. I am concerned about uranium exploration anywhere in our province, but if uranium exploration is part of this government's plan it's reasonable to expect that it should only be considered for unpopulated areas where it may have less direct impact on Nova Scotians.

I am opposed to uranium mining in our community and will be joining other Nova Scotians that are also opposed to this government's decision to lift the uranium ban with the intent to tender exploration licences for Millet Brook by July 11.

Please reconsider your plan to make it happen for uranium exploration at Millet Brook. Common sense dictates that uranium mining should not be conducted near communities.

Very Concerned Nova Scotian,
Barry Spearns

From: Karen Wallace
To: [Abraham Zebian](#); [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#); Protect Vaughans Community
Subject: Everwind
Date: May 28, 2025 10:50:26 AM

Caution [External Email]

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

Hi there,

Having had time to allow council meeting and Chalet Hamlet- Everwind meeting to sink in, I want to share my opinion. After obtaining a better map then what was shown in council I would question the secondary egress route. It would depend on the what and the where. Considering Everwind is their own increased fire threat, Armstrong Lake East Road is their egress route.

Note: 1 in 1700 - 2000 windmills catch fire. After watching numerous videos and scanning photos, I never saw windmills in forested areas.

6 to 7 part time positions. Construction jobs for who? All the other windmill companies brought crews in from out of province.

For me the final equation comes down to dollars and sense.

Our government thinks it is acceptable that for 840,000 dollars that the people of this community can face: Increased threat of uranium and well poisonings; increased threat of fire; allow potential blasting damages to homes, cottages, camps; increase noise; increase traffic; destroy miles of land and wetland; create havoc on the environment. 840,000 for the next twenty five years.

This is not Deja vu for me, it's tres vu, first it was oil rigs, then sable offshore gas, now our own wind as a commodity. We, Nova Scotians and Newfoundlanders have gained very little. The winners in this are the private owners, comprised of American and German companies, as well as layers of wealth management. Same ol, same ol.

This company has divided our community: say no, don't know, don't care ("They" are gonna do what they want) and what is in it for me. Joni Mitchell now sings in my head "Sell paradise put in a pickleball court".

I do not know if you have a team of lawyers, but after all the research I have done on this company and it's partners, be aware of loopholes.

I thank you all for what you do, I know it must be difficult at times. Wishing you well.

Sincerely
Karen Wallace

From: [Abraham Zebian](#)
To: Lynn Moore; [Deanna Snair](#)
Subject: Re: Opposition To Proposed Uranium Mining- Millet Brook
Date: May 30, 2025 5:06:38 PM

> On May 30, 2025, at 9:20 PM, Lynn Moore wrote: >

> Caution [External Email]

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

> _____

>

> Importance: High

>

> Att: Honourable Tim Houston, MLA Melissa Richard, Resource Minister Tory Rushton and Mayor Abraham Zebian,

>

> I am writing this letter in strong opposition to the proposed development of Uranium Mines in the Millet Brook area. I am a strong advocate for resource development in the province, but it needs to be done in areas with low impact to established communities. My family and I are year round residents of Lake Front on Falls Lake connected to this watershed and travel the roads daily in which this mining will be completed. Millet Brook is an extensive river that eventually culminates in a beautiful waterfall for which our lake is named after (Falls Lake). This is a popular swimming hole for the entire community of West Hants. The lake contains a provincial park, several municipal beach/launch areas, a DND camp, and eventually flows into Pisiquid lake in the Windsor Downtown area. The lakes around Millet Brook are home to many full-time residents and cottage owners, and has seen substantial growth in the last few years with many high-end properties. Not to mention the diverse wildlife in this area.

>

> Uranium exploration is done primarily through hydraulic fracturing or open pit mines. Both of these options will severely contaminate ground water with cancer-causing agents and threaten the health and safety of the local residents. Based on geological reports I have reviewed I understand this is one of the more substantial deposits in the province. The risks to the local population however far outweigh the benefits. The entire area around this picturesque community has already been ravaged by the development of 3 separate wind farms. It is not fair to ask us to further sacrifice our health and property values. Please reconsider the request for proposals in this area and focus on resource opportunities in less developed areas.

>

> Please stop this development

>

> Concerned Falls Lake Property Owners

> Lynn and Ron Moore

>

>



**Municipal Affairs
Office of the Minister**

PO Box 216, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2M4 • Telephone 902 424-5550 Fax 902 424-0581 • novascotia.ca

May 30, 2025

Your Worship Abraham Zebian
Mayor of West Hants Regional Municipality
Via Email: azebian@westhants.ca

Dear Mayor Zebian:

Thank you for your letter of March 18, 2025, regarding your request for more information with respect to the Province's plans regarding resource extraction and water quality in the West Hants Regional Municipality. I sincerely apologize for the delay in getting back to you.

All levels of government must work together to ensure that Nova Scotians can benefit from our abundant natural resources in a sustainable manner. Municipalities and the Province have the same interest in identifying economic development opportunities that will ensure long-term prosperity for our residents. Further development of our resource sectors generates more revenue for governments that will be used to enhance the programs, services and infrastructure we all depend on.

We also share the responsibility of protecting the environment. Nova Scotians can be confident that any development opportunities will be carefully considered for their environmental impact and that our strong environmental laws and regulations will ensure that the environment remains protected, while allowing sustainable development to proceed.

The world is demanding critical minerals to help with the transition to net zero by 2050. Everyone wants a reliable supply from places where mining is ethical and responsible. Nova Scotia can be that source, creating jobs and other economic benefits for Nova Scotians.

The transition to a carbon-neutral, clean-energy world relies on a wide range of minerals to power renewable technologies and low-emission energy systems. Critical minerals like lithium, cobalt, nickel, and rare earth elements are essential for batteries, wind turbines, and solar panels, while copper and aluminum support electrical grids and energy efficiency. Additionally, uranium plays a key role in nuclear energy, providing a stable, low-carbon power source to complement renewables and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

Uranium exists in Nova Scotia, but because of restrictions since the 1980s, we have been prevented from even researching it. We don't know exactly where it is, how much there is, or what it means for Nova Scotians. That is why on March 26, 2025, we repealed the *Uranium Exploration and Mining Prohibition Act*. This will allow us to better understand the uranium present in Nova Scotia.

Any mine would need to get licenses and permits for exploration from the Department of Natural Resources to confirm the availability of minerals before they can seek an environmental assessment for extraction from the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Climate Change.

When a company is ready to move from exploration to developing a mine, including uranium mining, the project must undergo the Class I environmental assessment process, which is a rigorous regulatory process that carefully considers the benefits and potential environmental impacts of a project, along with how such impacts will be mitigated to ensure the environment and human health remain protected. Decisions are based on science, evidence and consultation with the Mi'kmaq and public. For more information on our modernized environmental assessment process, visit: <https://novascotia.ca/environmental-assessment-getting-started/>.

Uranium mining is also heavily regulated federally by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. Uranium mines in Canada that produce over 2,500 tonnes a day also require a federal impact assessment. You can find out more about federal regulations at: <https://www.cnsccsn.gc.ca/eng/>.

Onshore oil and gas activities are regulated under the *Petroleum Resources Act* and the *Environment Act* to ensure any operations are done safely, following good oilfield practice. All the natural gas currently used for homes and businesses in Nova Scotia flows from or through the United States. Our government is taking the time to learn from our Canadian counterparts to make sure any future applications are held to the highest standard.

Nova Scotia has high environmental standards, and no projects will be approved unless we know they can be done safely and responsibly. This isn't a choice – we can protect our environment and have a strong economy. The Nova Scotia *Environment Act* was designed to allow for both the safeguarding of our environment and development to co-exist. It recognizes that a strong economy depends upon sound environmental management and that effective environmental protection depends on a strong economy. It provides for sustainable projects that benefit society in a way that protects the environment and human health. We can do both and do both well.

We understand that all of this work will require close collaboration with our municipal partners and with the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities to determine how to move forward in a sustainable way, while supporting our economy for the benefit of all Nova Scotians. We look forward to working with you in this regard.

Sincerely,



Honourable John A. Lohr
Minister of Municipal Affairs

c: Honourable Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia
Honourable Tory Rushton, Minister of Natural Resources
Honourable Trevor Boudreau, Minister of Energy

From: [Abraham Zebian](#)
To: Natalie Lane
Cc: [Deanna Snair](#)
Subject: Re: Opposition To Proposed Uranium Mining- Millet Brook
Date: May 30, 2025 11:51:13 AM

> On May 30, 2025, at 2:26 PM, Natalie Lane wrote: >

> Caution [External Email]

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

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> Att: Honourable Tim Houston, MLA Melissa Richard, Resource Minister Tory Rushton and Mayor Abraham Zebian,

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>

> I am writing this letter in strong opposition to the proposed development of Uranium Mines in the Millet Brook area. I am a strong advocate for resource development in the province, but it needs to be done in areas with low impact to established communities. I own a property connected to this watershed and regularly travel the area in which this mining will be completed. Millet Brook is an extensive river that eventually culminates in a beautiful waterfall for which our lake is named after (Falls Lake). This is a popular swimming hole for the entire community of West Hants. The lake contains a provincial park, several municipal beach/launch areas, a DND camp, and eventually flows into Pisiqid lake in the Windsor Downtown area. The lakes around Millet Brook are home to many full-time residents and cottage owners, and has seen substantial growth in the last few years with many high-end properties. Uranium exploration is done primarily through hydraulic fracturing or open pit mines. Both of these options will severely contaminate ground water with cancer-causing agents and threaten the health and safety of the local residents. Based on geological reports I have reviewed I understand this is one of the more substantial deposits in the province. The risks to the local population however far outweigh the benefits. The entire area around this picturesque community has already been ravaged by the development of 3 separate wind farms. It is not fair to ask us to further sacrifice our health and property values. Please reconsider the request for proposals in this area and focus on resource opportunities in less developed areas.

>

> Natalie Lane

> Vaughan

>

From: Andrew Glencross
To: [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Subject: No Uranium Mining in West Hants
Date: June 2, 2025 10:55:24 PM

Caution [External Email]

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

Dear Mayor Zebian and councillors,

I'm writing as a local voice against uranium exploration and mining in Nova Scotia. In particular, I'm alarmed by the speed with which our provincial government is trying to rush through approvals of such projects, immediately after overturning the ban against them that Nova Scotians fought so hard for.

The Progressive Conservatives' rushing of the entire process—from lifting the ban to issuing the RFP to anticipating contracts—appears designed to minimize public awareness and avoid public opposition. This lack of respect for democratic process, constituents, First Nations, protected areas, and the environment is unacceptable.

Uranium exploration and mining have been banned not only in British Columbia and Quebec, but also in New Zealand, Spain, Sweden, Kyrgyzstan, Virginia, and parts of Arizona, Ireland, and Australia. Significant environmental, health, and safety risks will be directly caused by these proposed projects, and they will last for thousands of years. All of our local waterways would become untrustworthy as soon as mining begins. And dust from an open-pit mine would contaminate the air in a 400-km radius, poisoning everyone in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and PEI. This is not the way we want to be economically independent.

As well, the main reasons anyone would want to buy uranium in the first place are to produce nuclear weapons or nuclear power, both of which doom future generations to interminable radiation and war, rather than creating a sustainable green economy for their health and prosperity. In short, uranium is dangerous to have around at all, it is incredibly destructive to get out of the ground, and there is no morally legitimate need for it.

The province seems set on pushing this work through as quickly as possible, against the wishes of the citizens whose lives it will impact the most. That means it will fall on municipal governments to put the brakes on. I call on you to represent the people of West Hants by opposing this recent turn of events and helping us demand an immediate province-wide reinstatement of the ban on uranium extraction.

Respectfully yours,
Andrew Glencross
Windsor

From: Doug and Carol Dahr
Sent: May 31, 2025 10:45 AM

To: melissa.mlaoffice@gmail.com; premier@novascotia.ca; Abraham Zebian
<Mayor.Zebian@westhants.ca>; mindnr@novascotia.ca

Subject: Opposition To Proposed Uranium Mining- Millet Brook
HIGH PRIORITY

Att: Honourable Tim Houston, MLA Melissa Richard, Resource Minister Tory Rushton and Mayor Abraham Zebian,

I am writing this letter in strong opposition to the proposed development of Uranium Mines in the Millet Brook area. I believe in developing resources in the province, however, it needs to be done in areas with low impact to established communities. I own a property connected to this watershed (as does Melissa) and regularly travel the area in which this mining will be completed. Millet Brook is an extensive river that eventually culminates in a beautiful waterfall for which our lake is named after (Falls Lake). This is a popular swimming hole for the entire community of West Hants. The lake contains a provincial park, several municipal beach/launch areas, a DND camp, and eventually flows into Pisiquid lake in the Windsor Downtown area.

The lakes around Millet Brook are home to many full-time residents and cottage owners, and has seen substantial growth in the last few years with many high-end properties. Uranium exploration is done primarily through hydraulic fracturing or open pit mines. Both of these options will severely contaminate ground water with cancer-causing agents and threaten the health and safety of the local residents.

We retired 14 years ago and moved to a property on Falls Lake. We enjoy swimming, fishing and the relaxing atmosphere. We are not alone. We have seen the area row in leaps and bounds.

Based on geological reports I understand this is one of the more substantial deposits in the province. The risks to the local population however far outweigh the benefits. The entire area around this picturesque community has already been ravaged by the development of 3 separate wind farms. It is not fair to ask us to further sacrifice our health and property values.

Please reconsider the request for proposals in this area and focus on resource opportunities in less developed areas.

Regards

Doug and Carol Dahr, Vaughan, NS

From: [Abraham Zebian](#)
To: Garrett Lane; [Deanna Snair](#)
Subject: Re: CHESTER GRANT AND AREA URANIUM MINE. REQUEST FOR PERMANENT BAN ON URANIUM MINING IN OUR SMALL PROVINCE!!
Date: June 1, 2025 11:13:28 PM

On Jun 2, 2025, at 2:10 AM, Garrett Lane wrote:

Caution [External Email]

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Hello Mr.Houston, and attached parties.

I am a resident of the upper Vaughn area and would like to email you concerning the potential uranium mine about to enter into operation June 12th. I have major concerns regarding this mine and I have yet to meet or hear any type of approval from any local residents or my neighbors. Nova Scotia has more rivers, streams ponds's, lakes and oceans packed into a very small footprint. I have zero issues with exploration for new and potential natural resources however after researching uranium mining I am disappointed our province and federal government would even consider this type of mining in our extremely small province. If there are complications it very well could be disastrous not only for residents of Hants and Lunenburg counties but HRM as well. Our waterways are precious. Please take into serious consideration to fight for your voters to eliminate this project and axe uranium mining in any of our province. Leave it to northern Saskatchewan.

Thank you and Best Regards

Garrett Lane

From: Jan
To: [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Subject: Contact Your Mayor and Council | GovernmentThe Regional Municipality of Windsor-West Hants
Date: June 2, 2025 3:35:52 PM

Caution [External Email]

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Monday, June 2, 2025

Dear Mayor Zebian and Council Members,

Saturday at Vaughns I attended an information meeting regarding the Provincial government's proposed exploration and uranium mining in the province. The presentations, questions and comments added to my knowledge, answered some of my questions and provided sources to find out more. I am very thankful to the organizers of the event. I also particularly appreciated the contributions of the Indigenous Water Keepers along with the useful "history" lesson of centuries of resistance to this disrespect for the land, water and all creatures living therein.

Among the overflow crowd I noted also with much appreciation the presence of several municipal councillors. Knowing that these councillors made the effort to become more informed and hear first hand the concerns of constituents is encouraging and as it should be in a democracy. That said I wish there had been more councillors present because this issue is not just a Falls Lake concern and not just a West Hants concern but because of the small size of the province it endangers virtually all inland waters and land as well as all waters surrounding Nova Scotia. This ore body is under most of Hants County and is of particular concern to African Nova Scotian and Indigenous communities who continue to experience environmental racism.

Yet more disturbing news in this regard was announced on Thursday. Three years ago this PC government, with great fanfare, commissioned a panel to study the extent and effects of environmental racism in Nova Scotia and make recommendations to government. On Thursday Justice Minister Becky Druhan admitted that the government has had the report for a year but will not make it public... a report paid for with our tax dollars and which should be made public as part of our democratic rights! Trust in this government is wearing thin.

In an earlier letter this spring I asked that council refuse to support Minister John Lohr's request to "signaling your support for the province's plans for more resource development". It is obvious that much has happened while you have been silent. Your silence ignores decades of past history, resistance, hearings, rulings in the municipality and the continued concerns of the citizens you have been elected to represent. Silence does not support your constituents it supports the government's ask and gives the appearance that all is well with the issue.

Added to the silence from, and lack of access to our MLA, so many of us are feeling unrepresented if not ignored.

I urge once again that you publicly oppose any resource development in West Hants that does not take into consideration council recommendations including exploration and mining and further that you show respect the racialized communities in West Hants and demand that the Provincial government the findings and recommendations of the Environmental Racism Panel be released to the public. This information should be vital to council considerations.

Sincerely,
Janet Morrell,
Falmouth

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.westhants.ca_mayor-2Dand-2Dcouncil-2Dcontacts.html&d=DwIFaQ&c=euGZstcaTDllvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-v5A_CdpnVfiiMM&r=nDu7_VUx9v3FGWgd7R8lsF-7xopAr2UoTSCG-FtRybQ&m=mYIHIN_qZzRE4eXK8f9RAvargPuU7nvKIT3pLDUa9PNlvFZvCuq1WgsEI4kCeAKH&s=RF6POCbRmfEoPRV6MQDCHutELaaj96n2PRXdriPgPeA&e=

Sent from my iPad

From: Karen Beazley
To: [Abraham Zebian](#); [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Cc: melissa.mlaoffice@gmail.com; [lisalachancemla](#)
Subject: RFPs for uranium exploration in West Hants
Date: June 2, 2025 9:00:42 AM

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Honorable Abraham Zebian, Mayor, and All Council;

I have grave concerns and several questions about the uranium exploration and mining initiatives in Nova Scotia. I live in Windsor, Hants County, not far from the so-called Millet Brook site identified in the Request for Proposals (RFP). This is a more widespread issue, however, as the negative impacts and health hazards from uranium mining can extend for hundreds of kilometers, through air, water, and dust particles. Please stand with your constituents and our municipality and push back against the uranium initiatives here and in all of NS. Below are some of my concerns and questions. I urge you to consider these for yourself and among council; discuss them with other municipalities' mayors, wardens and representatives; and raise them to our MLA, the Premier, and other responsible Ministers.

- Nova Scotia is a small province with the second highest population density in Canada. Would you be comfortable with uranium mining in or near our community or near your home? Where in NS would this be acceptable?
- Why didn't the Provincial Government "engage or consult with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia prior to introducing significant changes in the mining sector that will directly impact the Mi'kmaq's section 35 rights"? (This question was also included in a letter to Tim Houston from the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs dated March 4, 2025).
- How will Nova Scotia's freshwater be protected if uranium mining goes forward? "Nearly half of all Nova Scotians (440,000) depend on well water, especially in rural communities. Leftover tailings (radioactive sediment and/or toxic fluid) must be stored in tailings ponds or in underground caverns" and risk groundwater contamination that leads to serious health issues. Drinking water is a municipal issue. I worry about our municipality being left with contaminated water.
- I am concerned about the health of my family and community. CAPE NS (Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment) has shared an [open letter](#) to Tim Houston that outlines health risks of uranium mining. For example, they stated that uranium mining includes "health risks from radon gas, radioactive dust, and potential water contamination". Further details are provided, below. Exploration also entails many such risks. How would these health risks be avoided or mitigated, and monitored?
- Is it fiscally responsible to have to pay to manage toxic radioactive waste with a half-life

of 10,000+ years? What would be the environmental and health implications be if this toxic waste contaminates ground and well water? “Uranium mining and milling wastes will constitute an everlasting health hazard and will have to be monitored and managed in perpetuity at public expense” ([CAPE NS](#)).

- I do not support how Bill 6 was passed. Large changes in mandate need consultation from the public and the Mi’kmaw before proceeding. As the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi’kmaw Chiefs pointed out in their letter to the premier ([March 4, 2025](#)): “None of the announcements on fracking, uranium mineral exploration or lithium mining development were included in the Progressive Conservative party of Nova Scotia’s campaign platform during the past election. It is very concerning that our provincial government is proposing such dramatic changes in sectors for which they did not receive a mandate from the people of this province.”
- Why would NS consider uranium mining if precipitation and rainfall events exclude it from being able to be done safely, as determined by the US Supreme Court and scientists? The US Supreme Court has banned uranium mining in Virginia since 2019 because of Virginia’s high rainfall and intense storms. Nova Scotia has “higher precipitation than Virginia (1,300 mm a year as opposed to 1,000) and has had extreme rainfall events (notably 860 mm in July 2023) far exceeding those noted in Virginia”. Dr. Steven Emerman, a mining consultant and scientist, told the Halifax Examiner that the ban on uranium mining in Nova Scotia should stay in place, and that among many other things, the high precipitation in the province alone should preclude safe uranium exploration or mining. “I would support keeping that ban,” said Emerman. “I would not recommend uranium mining under any circumstances.” (from Halifax Examiner, March 13th, 2025).
- Why should we have faith in the NS Environmental Assessment (EA) process to protect the environment and human health when it approves virtually all projects submitted and doesn’t prevent industry from breaking laws and polluting the environment? The EAC highlight this in their [fact sheet](#) with the Touquoy open gold pit mine, which, for over 6 years, broke 23 provincial and 3 federal environmental protection laws and is currently in a law suit to avoid the costs of mine remediation to the site. [From the EAC](#): “under the current assessment process, projects have been approved with little scrutiny, enabling corporations to break laws and threaten the safety of the environment. “In recent years we’ve witnessed big industrial projects go through the existing assessment process and get approved with little to no meaningful conditions,” says O’Handley. “Then, project owners break environmental laws with almost no consequences.” [Recent changes](#) in May 2025 to speed up the EA process could further exacerbate environmental consequences.
- The changes in May 2025 to the Environmental Assessment (EA) process did not incorporate public feedback during consultation in 2023 about changes the public

would like to see to the EA process. How can the EA system be the avenue to provide feedback on uranium mining and fracking projects when the government disregards what is communicated to them? “The public wants better transparency in the EA process — specifically regarding the justification for approving projects — and accountability to the input provided in consultations. This is not reflected, or even mentioned, in the changes.” ([EAC statement](#)). It also does not include considerations for cumulative impacts, independent review, diversity, and the Mi’kmaw concept of Netukulimk, which are all important for new energy projects (EAC).

To elaborate on the health risks mentioned above, uranium mining poses health hazards related to radiation exposure from radioactive materials released into air and water and elevated levels of toxic metals. As already noted, historical evidence from uranium mining regions shows dramatically increased rates of lung cancer and other respiratory diseases among miners and nearby residents. While modern safety practices have improved, workers and those living in nearby communities face increased health risks from radon gas, radioactive dust, and potential water contamination. Such hazards extend to non-human animals, as well, many of whom are species at risk in the province.

The long-term environmental impacts of uranium mining is equally concerning. It leaves a toxic legacy of radioactive waste with a half-life of tens of thousands of years. Eighty-five percent of the radioactivity in the uranium ore is left behind as tailings, including many radioactive poisons (such as radium, polonium, and radioactive lead-210) that are far more toxic than uranium itself. These uranium mining and milling wastes will constitute an everlasting health hazard and will have to be monitored and managed in perpetuity at public expense. The Church Rock uranium tailing spill in New Mexico, which released 94 million gallons of such radioactive waste, remains largely unremediated more than 40 years later. A power outage at a uranium mine in Elliot Lake, Ontario, resulted in the spill of two million liters of contaminated water from a tailings site.

Accordingly, I urge you to express to the Premier and relevant Ministers that you/we:

- Do not want uranium exploration or mining in our municipality, and
- Would like the ban on uranium mining to be reinstated.

Further, I urge the Municipality and the Province to:

- Meaningfully consult with Mi’kmaw First Nation early in processes that affect unceded Mi’kmaw territory.
- Prioritize protection of drinking water sources and ecologically sensitive areas.
- Respect UNDRIP: engage in meaningful consultation with Mi’kmaw communities, and ensure there is free, prior, and informed consent for any activities impacting Mi’kmaw territory.
- Engage in meaningful consultation with rural communities and work collaboratively with

them to find shared solutions.

- Respect the UN declaration on the human right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.

Times are tough, but the health of people and the environment are paramount. Please leave the uranium in the ground, where it is safest.

Karen F. Beazley, PhD
Windsor, NS B0N 2T0

Professor Emerita | [School for Resource and Environmental Studies](#) | [Faculty of Science](#)
Adjunct | [Faculty of Graduate Studies](#)
Pronouns: her/she

Dalhousie University
6299 South Street | PO Box 15000 | Halifax, NS B3H 4R2 Canada

Dalhousie sits on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq nation. We are all Treaty people.

We acknowledge the histories, contributions, and legacies of the African Nova Scotian people and communities who have been here for over 400 years.

From: Karen Beazley
To: [Premier](#)
Cc: [MLA Office](#); [Abraham Zebian](#); [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#); [Kody Blois](#); [lisalachancemla](#)
Subject: Uranium RFPs and exploration in NS
Date: June 2, 2025 9:00:40 AM

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Honorable Tim Huston, Premier;

I have grave concerns and several questions about the uranium exploration and mining initiatives in Nova Scotia. I live in Hants County, near the so-called Millet Brook site identified in the Request for Proposals (RFP). This is a more widespread issue, however, as the negative impacts and health hazards from uranium mining can extend for hundreds of kilometers, through air, water, and dust particles.

- Nova Scotia is a small province with the second highest population density in Canada. Would you be comfortable with uranium mining in or near your community or home? Where in NS would this be acceptable?
- Why didn't the Government "engage or consult with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia prior to introducing significant changes in the mining sector that will directly impact the Mi'kmaq's section 35 rights"? (This question was also included in a letter to Tim Houston from the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs dated March 4, 2025).
- How will Nova Scotia's freshwater be protected if uranium mining goes forward? "Nearly half of all Nova Scotians (440,000) depend on well water, especially in rural communities. Leftover tailings (radioactive sediment and/or toxic fluid) must be stored in tailings ponds or in underground caverns" and risk groundwater contamination that leads to serious health issues.
- I am concerned about the health of my family and community. CAPE NS (Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment) has shared an [open letter](#) to Tim Houston that outlines health risks of uranium mining. For example, they stated that uranium mining includes "health risks from radon gas, radioactive dust, and potential water contamination". Further details are provided, below. How would these health risks be avoided or mitigated, and monitored?
- Is it fiscally responsible to have to pay to manage toxic radioactive waste with a half-life of 10,000+ years? What would be the environmental and health implications be if this toxic waste contaminates ground and well water? "Uranium mining and milling wastes will constitute an everlasting health hazard and will have to be monitored and managed in perpetuity at public expense" ([CAPE NS](#)).
- I do not support how Bill 6 was passed. Large changes in mandate need consultation

from the public and the Mi'kmaw before proceeding. As the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs pointed out in their letter to the premier ([March 4, 2025](#)): "None of the announcements on fracking, uranium mineral exploration or lithium mining development were included in the Progressive Conservative party of Nova Scotia's campaign platform during the past election. It is very concerning that our provincial government is proposing such dramatic changes in sectors for which they did not receive a mandate from the people of this province."

- Why would NS consider uranium mining if precipitation and rainfall events exclude it from being able to be done safely, as determined by the US Supreme Court and scientists? The US Supreme Court has banned uranium mining in Virginia since 2019 because of Virginia's high rainfall and intense storms. Nova Scotia has "higher precipitation than Virginia (1,300 mm a year as opposed to 1,000) and has had extreme rainfall events (notably 860 mm in July 2023) far exceeding those noted in Virginia". Dr. Steven Emerman, a mining consultant and scientist, told the Halifax Examiner that the ban on uranium mining in Nova Scotia should stay in place, and that among many other things, the high precipitation in the province alone should preclude safe uranium exploration or mining. "I would support keeping that ban," said Emerman. "I would not recommend uranium mining under any circumstances." (from Halifax Examiner, March 13th, 2025).
- Why should I have faith in the NS Environmental Assessment (EA) process to protect the environment and human health when it approves virtually all projects submitted and doesn't prevent industry from breaking laws and polluting the environment? The EAC highlight this in their [fact sheet](#) with the Touquoy open gold pit mine, which, for over 6 years, broke 23 provincial and 3 federal environmental protection laws and is currently in a law suit to avoid the costs of mine remediation to the site. [From the EAC](#): "under the current assessment process, projects have been approved with little scrutiny, enabling corporations to break laws and threaten the safety of the environment. "In recent years we've witnessed big industrial projects go through the existing assessment process and get approved with little to no meaningful conditions," says O'Handley. "Then, project owners break environmental laws with almost no consequences." [Recent changes](#) in May 2025 to speed up the EA process could further exacerbate environmental consequences.
- The changes in May 2025 to the Environmental Assessment (EA) process did not incorporate public feedback during consultation in 2023 about changes the public would like to see to the EA process. How can the EA system be the avenue to provide feedback on uranium mining and fracking projects when the government disregards what is communicated to them? "The public wants better transparency in the EA process — specifically regarding the justification for approving projects — and accountability to the input provided in consultations. This is not reflected, or even

mentioned, in the changes.” ([EAC statement](#)). It also does not include considerations for cumulative impacts, independent review, diversity, and the Mi’kmaw concept of Netukulimk, which are all important for new energy projects (EAC).

To elaborate on the health risks mentioned above, uranium mining poses health hazards related to radiation exposure from radioactive materials released into air and water and elevated levels of toxic metals. As already noted, historical evidence from uranium mining regions shows dramatically increased rates of lung cancer and other respiratory diseases among miners and nearby residents. While modern safety practices have improved, workers and those living in nearby communities face increased health risks from radon gas, radioactive dust, and potential water contamination. Such hazards extend to non-human animals, as well, many of whom are species at risk in the province.

The long-term environmental impacts of uranium mining is equally concerning. It leaves a toxic legacy of radioactive waste with a half-life of tens of thousands of years. Eighty-five percent of the radioactivity in the uranium ore is left behind as tailings, including many radioactive poisons (such as radium, polonium, and radioactive lead-210) that are far more toxic than uranium itself. These uranium mining and milling wastes will constitute an everlasting health hazard and will have to be monitored and managed in perpetuity at public expense. The Church Rock uranium tailing spill in New Mexico, which released 94 million gallons of such radioactive waste, remains largely unremediated more than 40 years later. A power outage at a uranium mine in Elliot Lake, Ontario, resulted in the spill of two million liters of contaminated water from a tailings site.

Accordingly, I urge you to **reinstate the ban on uranium mining**. Leave uranium in the ground.

Further,

- Meaningfully consult with Mi’kmaw First Nation early in processes that affect unceded Mi’kmaw territory.
- Prioritize protection of drinking water sources and ecologically sensitive areas.
- Respect UNDRIP: engage in meaningful consultation with Mi’kmaw communities, and ensure there is free, prior, and informed consent for any activities impacting Mi’kmaw territory.
- Engage in meaningful consultation with rural communities and work collaboratively with them to find shared solutions.
- Respect the UN declaration on the human right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.

Times are tough, but the health of people and the environment are paramount. Please reinstate the ban on uranium mining.

Karen F. Beazley, PhD

Windsor, NS B0N 2T0

Professor Emerita | [School for Resource and Environmental Studies](#) | [Faculty of Science](#)

Adjunct | [Faculty of Graduate Studies](#)

Pronouns: her/she

Dalhousie University

6299 South Street | PO Box 15000 | Halifax, NS B3H 4R2 Canada

Dalhousie sits on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq nation. We are all Treaty people.

We acknowledge the histories, contributions, and legacies of the African Nova Scotian people and communities who have been here for over 400 years.

From: [Abraham Zebian](#)
To: [Deanna Snair](#)
Subject: Fwd: Uranium Mining and Economic "Progress"
Date: June 3, 2025 2:17:39 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

:

From: Chris Shields
Date: June 3, 2025 at 12:43:42 PM ADT
To: melissa.mlaoffice@gmail.com
Cc: Abraham Zebian <Mayor.Zebian@westhants.ca>, info@mombourquette.ca, claudiachender@nsmla.ca
Subject: Uranium Mining and Economic "Progress"

Caution [External Email]

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Hi Melissa,

I am writing to let you (and others CCd on this message) know that as a resident of West Hants I oppose the proposed exploration of uranium mining in Nova Scotia and in particular, in Hants county. More broadly I am concerned with the approach the current Nova Scotia government has used in lifting the mining ban through Bill 6 and worry that this pushing bills through and an over-emphasis of economic development may lead us down a similar path to the Conservative party of Ontario with their unconscionable Bill 5.

Please bring forward the opposition to uranium mining exploration in the area expressed by your constituents as you represent the residents of West Hants in the legislature.

Sincerely,

Christopher Shields (he/him)

acadiau.ca

487-5Acadia Athletics Complex
550 Main Street
Wolfville, Nova Scotia, B4P 2R6



LIKE NOWHERE ELSE

*Acadia University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral
and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaw nation.*

In an effort to maintain a work-life balance I do not prioritize responding to business e-mail after 4:30pm on weekdays or on weekends.

From:
To: [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Subject: Fwd: Uranium Mining in Nova Scotia
Date: June 3, 2025 9:44:53 AM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kimberley Hawker
Date: June 3, 2025 at 7:45:27 AM ADT
To: premier@novascotia.ca
Cc: Abraham Zebian <Mayor.Zebian@westhants.ca>, melissa.mlaoffice@gmail.com, Kayla Leary-Pinch <Councillor.Leary-Pinch@westhants.ca>
Subject: Uranium Mining in Nova Scotia

Caution [External Email]

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Dear Premier Houston,

We are writing to express our concern regarding discussions about lifting Nova Scotia's longstanding ban on uranium mining. This region, particularly the Vaughan / Windsor area, is not an industrial zone—it is home to families, seniors, children, and vibrant lake communities that rely on clean air, safe water, and the long-term integrity of their environment.

Sean Kirby, the Executive Director of the Mining Association of Nova Scotia, recently said in a CBC interview that “*most*” uranium operations today do not use tailings ponds, and that “*some*” are mechanized to the point where workers are not directly exposed to radioactive materials. While these developments may be promising from a technological standpoint, “*most*” and “*some*” are not good enough for Nova Scotians—especially not for communities that would bear the brunt of the risk.

We are being asked to gamble with people's health, property values, and the ecosystems of our lakes based on industry assurances that are not universally applicable. Even with advances in mining technology, the uranium industry is still known for significant health and environmental risks—especially for surrounding communities. Any mining activity near where people live must be approached with the utmost caution, rigorous oversight, and transparency.

We are not opposed to responsible development or increasing the province's GDP. However, if the time ever comes to move forward with uranium mining in

this area, it must be done **safely, ethically, and with full community involvement**. Furthermore, the communities closest to the mining operations—those who are shouldering the risks to health, environment, and property—should be entitled to **greater shares of the benefits**, whether through direct financial compensation, infrastructure investment, or enhanced public services.

We urge you and your government to:

1. **Maintain the ban** on uranium mining until truly independent health, environmental, and economic impact assessments are conducted with full public consultation.
2. **Guarantee** that any future decision-making process will prioritize **public health and environmental protection** over corporate interests.
3. **Ensure** that communities affected by any future mining operations receive a **fair share of the economic benefits** and are **not left to bear the consequences alone**.

Nova Scotia has a chance to lead—not just in economic growth, but in responsible, community-centered governance. Please don't let short-term industry gains compromise the long-term health and integrity of our communities.

Thank you,

Kimberley & Stuart Hawker

From: Claudia Herchan
To: [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Subject: Uranium Exploration in Nova Scotia
Date: June 3, 2025 1:24:16 PM

Caution [External Email]

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Honorable Council Members,

As a resident of Vaughan, Hants County,

I hereby request that Council send a letter to the province asking for an immediate pause to the Uranium Exploration.

We all know what is at stake!
OUR HEALTH!

Sincerely
Claudia Herchan
Vaughan, Nova Scotia B0N 2T0

June 4th, 2025

Dear Mayor Zebian, and Councillors of the Municipality of the District of West Hants,

We are writing to ask for the Council's help in protecting the communities of Millet Brook, Vaughan, and the Avon River watershed from uranium exploration. We are asking that while Council and the community educate themselves about the potential impacts of uranium exploration in our area, Council adopt two motions that could help protect the community and the Avon River watershed before any harm is done.

Motion 1: WHRM Council formally requests that the provincial government pause before granting any leases for uranium exploration in our County, to allow time for Council and communities to become informed and give input about the potential impacts of uranium exploration on the community, and allow sufficient time for the Province to conduct meaningful consultations with the public and First Nations, and weigh potential risks as well as benefits.

Motion 2: WHRM Council affirms the importance of safe drinking water for all county residents, both those living in centralized areas serviced by our municipal water systems and those living outside those areas who rely on wells. Council states our intention to investigate how the County might improve the protection of water supplies of residents relying on wells and our municipal water supply. As we undertake this process, we formally request that the province pause before granting any uranium exploration licenses.

We need to better understand how residents in both areas will be affected by uranium exploration in the 2300-hectare site proposed by the provincial government for uranium exploration, and the approximately 6400 hectares of mineral exploration claims surrounding this site.

The site is a 2300-hectare area located in the Avon River watershed in Millet Brook, Vaughan, Hants County. It is less than 8km from Windsor's designated water supply area and less than 5km from Falmouth's designated water supply area. The province has opened a Request for Proposal for these areas, which will close on June 11, and has stated that they plan to award leases at the end of June 2025. Exploration activities could begin after that date. Exploration for uranium is unlike exploration for other minerals. Uranium becomes hazardous when it is disturbed. Disturbed uranium is highly mobile and soluble. This means that once uranium is disturbed, it dissolves easily in water and can be carried long distances in water and in air.

Environment Canada stated in a brief presented to the McCleave Commission in 1985,

*"The release of radioactive matter into the environment presents a **special class of environmental protection problems** because radiation cannot, in any known practical way, be neutralized or altered from its natural decay sequence, and it can cause **permanent cumulative or delayed but irreversible harmful effects** in all living organisms. Therefore, radioactive materials would require containment during their hazardous lifetime to allay health and environmental concerns." (McCleave Final Report, January 30 1985 (p 142) (Emphasis added)*

The brief also stated,

“In Nova Scotia, the wet climate, high water table and generally acidic waters may pose special problems for radioactive waste management.”

A statement from the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (March 2025) notes,

“Uranium mining and exploration ... pose grave risks. They release radon and radioactive toxic particles that can contaminate soil, water, crops, and wildlife. These contaminants can enter the food chain and jeopardize our drinking water supplies. Nova Scotia is the second most densely populated province in Canada. No matter where you live in the province, your health could be at risk.”

The attached map shows that the proposed uranium lease area is in the Avon River watershed, which could also affect our protected water supplies. It is in an area with many surface water sources, such as lakes, streams, and ponds, and can have potential implications on our water supply in Windsor and Falmouth. It is in a populated area, with full-time residents and cottage owners. Water flow from the proposed lease area would flow through hundreds of properties before reaching the Avon River and the Minas Basin. Exploration for uranium was already done in Millet Brook beginning in the summer of 1976 with radiometric and stream sediment surveys. This was followed by trenching and at least 26 Diamond Drill Holes. We understand from a source familiar with mining exploration practices that the next stage of exploration to further evaluate the resource by duplicating this drilling could involve significant disturbance of uranium. The provincial government is moving fast to open the province to uranium exploration. Although the ban on uranium exploration was arrived at through broad public consultation and thorough scientific evidence, the Provincial government is proceeding without evaluation of general or site-specific risks and without consultation with communities, the public, or First Nations. It appears that this government has not evaluated potential risks to drinking water, fisheries, farmland, property values, or public health. There is still a lot for people to learn about the potential impacts of uranium exploration in our area. There is also a lot to learn about how to protect our watershed and municipal water supply. We believe it is more than reasonable to ask the government to pause before granting any leases for uranium exploration in Hants County, and for the Council to take steps to protect the Avon River watershed before harm is done that cannot be reversed. Thank you for considering our request. We hope the Council will adopt these motions as a first step in dealing with this issue.

Sarah Trask Duggan and Chad Pothier, with our community, Concerned Citizens from Vaughan, NS

From: Lisa Whittingham
To: [Abraham Zebian](#); [Deanna Snair](#)
Subject: Re: Uranium mining in NS - voice of opposition
Date: June 4, 2025 8:11:20 PM

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On Jun 4, 2025, at 5:55 PM, Lisa Whittingham wrote:

To Honourable A Zebian, Mayor Windsor

Dear Mr Zebian

I've recently been made more aware of the potential risks of uranium exploration and mining in Nova Scotia.

The means by which the provincial government has rushed the process of lifting the ban, issued the RFP and is anticipating contract award has all appearances of minimizing the degree of public awareness and avoiding public opposition. This form of action is a clear exhibit of the complete absence of respect for the democratic process, the constituents, the First Nations, protected areas, and the environment.

Uranium exploration and mining has been banned not only in British Columbia and Quebec, but also in New Zealand, Spain, Sweden, Virginia, and parts of Arizona, Ireland, and Australia. Significant environmental, health, and safety risks undeniably exist.

I am voicing my strongest concerns about the recent action of lifting the ban on uranium exploration and mining in Nova Scotia and respectfully request this message of opposition be voiced to advocate for the reinstatement of the moratorium which was recently repealed.

Respectfully yours,
Glenn Whittingham
Resident Hants West

From: Anita Crosby
To: [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Subject: Uranium Mining
Date: June 5, 2025 10:03:27 AM

Caution [External Email]

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Dear Council,

It is with great concern that I reach out to you, regarding potential Uranium mining in Nova Scotia.

I have recently retired and moved to the beautiful Falls Lake area, where I purchased a little home on an acre of land, to find peace and live year round.

Knowing that there is no safe way to mine Uranium, especially 3 populated areas, is devastating.

I ask that you please support your communities, and keep the air, water, and soil safe.

Sincerely concerned,
Anita Crosby
Vaughan, NS

Sent from my iPhone

From: Chad Pothier
To: councillors@countyofkings.ca; [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#); allcouncil@halifax.ca; joe.macdonald@munpict.ca; deborah.wadden@munpict.ca; darla.mackeil@munpict.ca; ronald.baillie@munpict.ca; wayne.murray@munpict.ca; robert.parker@munpict.ca; donald.parker@munpict.ca; larry.turner@munpict.ca; peter.boyles@munpict.ca; randy.palmer@munpict.ca; andy.thompson@munpict.ca; chester.dewar@munpict.ca
Cc: Sarah Trask; Yolan Pothier
Subject: An Urgent Request-Uranium Exploration and Mining
Date: June 5, 2025 3:33:02 PM
Attachments: [Uranium Mythbusting-CAPE NS factsheet-june4.pdf](#)
[Uranium Pamphlet.pdf](#)
[Solterra.png](#)
Importance: High

Caution [External Email]

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Councillors of the Municipalities of West Hants, Kings County, Halifax County, and Pictou County,

I am writing this email with an urgent request for help and collaboration. Many of you in West Hants and Kings have known me for years. For those of you who don't I am a concerned citizen, business owner, and resident of Hants County. I want to start this by saying I am not an environmentalist or activist. In fact, I am a card-carrying conservative who actually helped Tim Houston on his campaign. I believe that we need investment and growth in this province as long as it is done responsibly and addresses all stake holders, and I am all for resource projects that meet these criteria.

The reality we are facing with uranium mining and exploration however is a much different story. The Houston Government has pushed this project through at lightning speed after the moratorium/ban was lifted- the RFP for these projects was announced May 14th, the bidding concludes June 11th (next Wednesday) and the prospectors are decided June 12th-26th. The names of the mining locations were seemingly chosen to obscure their locations- I have a home directly across from "Millet Brook" but it is not referred to that locally. It is directly adjacent to the beautiful community of Falls Lake. I assume it is a similar story at the "Louisville" location as it is a stones throw away from River John. The Provincial Government did not consult with Municipalities, First Nations, or land owners. Land owners have no rights to prevent this on their property- the province can force them to allow access to the mining companies. I have stood in front of this issue and have had a flood of calls, emails, texts, and messages from people asking for help. There has been zero transparency around this project, and the Houston Government is letting mining companies dictate the policy. Oddly enough a company named Solterra Geo-Resources announced a claim to the project before the RFP was even awarded, raising a number of other ethical questions about this project. After we released this at our meeting and they received questions about it they deleted their entire Linkedin account (screen shot attached).

The environmental, economic, and societal impacts of this project will be catastrophic to our regions. We have partnered with the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE) and geological experts. They have informed us that the radiation from these projects will directly affect an area of up to 100 kms from the mining sites, with residual effects reaching as far as 400 kms. The 100 km radius impacts the entire Annapolis Valley, much of HRM, and an extensive area around River John. The 400 km radius impacts the entire province of Nova Scotia, NB, and PEI. The projects release large amounts of Radon, a colourless odorless gas which is carried by the wind and settles on plants, water, and whatever else it touches. It can then move around through rivers and water systems and pollute areas far removed from the mining locations. The mining operations results in large tailing ponds. After the mining is finished 85% of the radioactivity of the uranium remains in these ponds, and needs to be managed virtually forever (by the Province with tax-payers dollars). It can remain radioactive for more than 10,000 years. The exploratory drilling and mining will contaminate watersheds, and all of the citizens around the Millet Brook and East Dalhousie sites rely on well water. The mining sites in our area are in extremely close proximity to **all 3** of our municipal water sheds (Mill Lake, French Mill Brook, and Davison Lake, see attached map). We had 2 tragic rain events in our county in the last few years in which lives were lost. An event such as this would breach these tailing ponds and devastate the entire region. All three mining sites are on major river systems that lead into the Lahave River watershed, the Avon River watershed, and the Northumberland Strait. The fishery operations in these areas sustain a sizeable portion of our province.

The economic impacts of this project could devastate our entire region. No one wants to buy radioactive apples, lobster, wine, or oysters. No one wants to live in in a radioactive area. About the only industry that will benefit is the film industry, the movie they make about this will blow Erin Brokovich out of the water. It will far outweigh the economic benefits and will persist in perpetuity.

I have a 12-year-old boy to look out for and do not want to see his future or the future of our province compromised. There is **NO safe way** to mine Uranium in close proximity to established communities. This is not Northern Saskatchewan hundreds of km away from the closest town- our province is 130 kms wide.

I have written this plea to all of you to request collaboration to **put a stop-order** in the same valiant manner as Pictou County's council did 2 days ago. Even though Municipalities do not have jurisdiction it sends a powerful message that all stakeholders need to be involved in policy and basic democratic principles must be upheld. It also tells the community members in your ridings that you are looking out for their best interest. Virtually **NO ONE** wants this to go through, we have proven this through the huge outpouring of support we have received. I beg you to please put all of your differences aside and do what is right. This affects all of us, and

what happens now could forever shape our collective future.

I have attached the link for an interview I did with 95.7 Talk Radio below and several fact sheets outlaying the concerns mentioned. I beg you to read and listen to them and follow your hearts on what is right, for all of our sakes!

Interview: <https://youtu.be/nZhQNnVUhQ4>

Thanks!

Chad Pothier, BBA
Owner/Dealer Principal



Pothier Motors Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram Fiat
Old Hickory Buildings Of Nova Scotia
Canada Trailer Atlantic
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Nova Scotia Shipping Containers

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“Safe uranium mining?” Nova Scotia physicians respond to industry claims

June 4, 2025

Does the uranium ban make us less safe?

Proponents of uranium mining, such as the Mining Association of Nova Scotia (MANS), would have us believe we need more uranium exploration to understand the location of deposits in Nova Scotia,¹ precisely because uranium and the carcinogenic radioactive gas it emits, radon, are so dangerous – present as they are in some drinking water and in some homes in Nova Scotia.²

In fact, the government of Nova Scotia knows a great deal about the uranium deposits in the province, and has published numerous reports and maps in recent years detailing both uranium and radon risks. Large multinational companies did extensive exploration for uranium in Nova Scotia in the 1970s and 1980s.³ The recent requests for proposals issued by Nova Scotia’s Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for uranium exploration in East Dalhousie, Millet Brook, and Louisville,⁴ and numerous DNR reports, show there is already a great deal known about uranium deposits in the province.

The ban on uranium exploration and mining was not a ban on research and data collection, as MANS would have us believe. Rather, it was a crucially important ban on activities that would disturb uranium deposits, which could very well increase the already dangerous levels of uranium in drilled wells in Nova Scotia.

Can uranium exploration and mining be done safely?

¹[“Take the ‘no’ out of Nova Scotia: End the uranium ban,”](#) Mining Association of Nova Scotia (MANS), January 2021

² [Potential for Radon in Indoor Air, Nova Scotia](#)

³ [A Background Summary for the Uranium Inquiry, Nova Scotia](#)

⁴ [Uranium exploration: request for proposals, Nova Scotia](#)

Mineral exploration and mining activities that disturb the land can change groundwater flow and cause fissures that mobilize uranium, and release large amounts of radon.⁵ Radon gas can travel hundreds of kilometres in the air, emitting radioactive particles as it moves. When ingested or inhaled, these can damage DNA and human cells, potentially leading to cancer.⁶ The decay chain continues to produce new radioactive products that can enter water, crops, trees, soil, animals, and humans.⁷

It is not possible to take uranium out of the ground without bringing to the surface other radioactive materials, including radium, a “notorious killer.”⁸

Uranium mines have tended to be located in remote, sparsely populated areas, often on Indigenous lands. As in other extractive industries, this has led to “sacrifice zones,” with a lack of proper health monitoring of nearby populations. As a result, often the remote populations impacted by uranium mining have not been properly studied.^{9 10}

Will there be strict regulations to protect our health?

In Nova Scotia, underground mineral deposits belong to the province, not landowners. Anyone with an exploration licence can access private land to explore for minerals, including uranium. If a landowner refuses access, the Mineral Resources Act gives the Minister of Natural Resources the authority to overrule the property owner, and grant the exploration licence-holder access.¹¹ If exploration leads to a mine proposal, and the landowner refuses to sell to the mining company, the Minister can order the land expropriated, as happened in 2013.¹²

Anyone who has taken out a mineral exploration licence in Nova Scotia can simply register with DNR to undertake extremely disruptive exploration activities using powerful machines. This includes drilling, test-pits, trenching and even the excavation of up to 100 tonnes of ore-bearing materials. When the exploration is for uranium, this means massive amounts of chemically toxic and radioactive material being unearthed, without any environmental or health impact assessment.

⁵ Dr. Gordon Edwards, president and co-founder Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility

⁶ [Bill 6 submission-Dr. Nancy Covington, CAPE NS](#)

⁷ [Uranium mining and health - PMC](#)

⁸ Dr. Gordon Edwards

⁹ Dr. Dale Dewar, physician who has worked in northern Saskatchewan serving a population of Cree, Metis and Dene peoples, member CAPE and International Committee of the Society of Rural Physicians of Canada, former Executive Director of Physicians for Global Survival.

¹⁰ [Uranium mining and health - PMC](#)

¹¹ [Mineral Resources Act](#)

¹² [EXPROPRIATION: VESTING ORDERS | CanLII Connects](#)

DNR is solely responsible for mineral exploration. There are few regulations for this, and DNR is conflicted as a regulator because of its role working with industry to promote uranium exploration.

The federal government's impact assessment and regulatory framework for uranium mining is required only if a mine is planned. So far, no uranium mines have been proposed in Nova Scotia, but mining is the obvious goal of uranium exploration.

The Nova Scotia Registry of Claims "NovaRoc" map shows that there has been a flurry of new exploration licences granted since the province said it was lifting the ban on uranium exploration and mining. The door has been opened for widespread uranium exploration in Nova Scotia.

It's important to remember that while some of the risks to human health and the environment can be reduced through strict regulation and technologies, they cannot be eliminated.¹³

It's going okay in Saskatchewan, isn't it?

There are only two uranium mines in operation in Canada.¹⁴ Both are in Saskatchewan. The Mining Association of Nova Scotia (MANS) claims that Saskatchewan shows us uranium mining can be done "safely and environmentally responsibly."¹⁵ Its claim is not supported by medical and scientific evidence.

There are many reasons why it's unwise to compare Nova Scotia to Saskatchewan when it comes to mining uranium. Saskatchewan is nearly 12 times the size of Nova Scotia, with a population density of just two people per square kilometre (km²).¹⁶ The Saskatchewan mines are located more than 600 km from any towns or cities.¹⁷ Nova Scotia, by contrast, is the second most densely populated province in Canada, with 18.4 persons per km². Uranium mines in Nova Scotia would be situated much closer to towns and rural communities.

Furthermore, Nova Scotia's average annual precipitation is more than three times that in northern Saskatchewan.¹⁸ This is especially important to know as uranium is highly soluble in water, making exploration and mining riskier in areas with high precipitation.

Physicians have anecdotal evidence of health problems in Indigenous communities that appear to relate to uranium exposure in northern Saskatchewan. Yet there has never been an

¹³ [Potential Human Health Effects of Uranium Mining, Processing, and Reclamation](#)

¹⁴ [Uranium in Canada](#)

¹⁵ [Take the "no" out of Nova Scotia](#), MANS

¹⁶ [Population and dwelling counts: Canada, provinces and territories](#)

¹⁷ [Uranium mines and mills](#)

¹⁸ [Average annual precipitation, by ecoprovince, 1979 to 2016](#)

independent health study undertaken in the region to monitor for health problems associated with uranium, including cancer and kidney disease.¹⁹

What is Canada's Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)?

Canada's Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) reports to Natural Resources Canada, which promotes uranium mining. It does not report to Health Canada or Environment and Climate Change Canada, both of which are far better placed to study and protect human and environmental health.²⁰ The Canadian Environmental Law Association has criticized the CNSC for its implicit conflict of interest, and the lack of transparency and consultation in its regulatory oversight.^{21 22} Medical professionals have noted that CNSC health standards are set by physicists and those involved in the industry, "based on financial and technological convenience," and not by healthcare professionals and researchers committed to public health and safety.²³

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) claims that there are no "significant impacts to the health" of people who live around uranium mines and mills.²⁴ CNSC provides no sources for this claim. In contrast, a detailed report from the U.S. National Research Council finds that "Uranium mining and processing are associated with a wide range of potential adverse human health risks," which can also extend to the "general population."²⁵

Is Nova Scotia's uranium a valuable untapped resource?

Uranium concentration in northern Saskatchewan deposits is very high, while the concentration in Nova Scotia is very low, according to the 1995 McCleave Report.²⁶ This means very large amounts of uranium-bearing ore would have to be unearthed in Nova Scotia to recover miniscule amounts of uranium, producing a great deal of radioactive waste or mine tailings that require care and maintenance in perpetuity. When uranium is extracted from the ore body, 85% of the radioactivity remains in the waste or tailings.²⁷ These waste sites have to be monitored and maintained "virtually forever,"²⁸ as uranium tailings remain radioactive for 100,000 years.²⁹ This is the case regardless of the method of mining involved – open pit, underground, or in situ leaching.

¹⁹ Dr. Dale Dewar

²⁰ Dr. Nancy Covington, retired family physician, CAPE Nova Scotia, board member International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War Canada.

²¹ [Canadian Environmental Law submission on CNSC](#)

²² [Regulation vs promotion: Small modular nuclear reactors in Canada - ScienceDirect](#)

²³ <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC3653646/>

²⁴ [Mythbusters. CNSC](#)

²⁵ [Scientific, Technical, Environmental, Human Health and Safety, and Regulatory Aspects of Uranium Mining and Processing in Virginia - NCBI Bookshelf](#)

²⁶ [McCleave Report, 1995](#)

²⁷ [Uranium mining and health - PMC](#)

²⁸ Dr. Doug Brugge, professor and chair of the Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Connecticut, with more than three decades of professional experience working with uranium mining and contamination. Co-author of 2024 academic book, "[Dirty secrets of nuclear power in an era of climate change.](#)"

²⁹ [The health dangers of uranium mining and jurisdictional questions](#)

Is in situ leaching better for the environment?

In situ leaching is a process of injecting solvents into the earth to dissolve the uranium.³⁰ The solution is then pumped to the surface, where the uranium is extracted. In situ leaching leaves less waste rock and tailings than open pit or underground mining, but is very dangerous because there is a high risk the chemical solvents will spread underground and contaminate groundwater.

Doesn't uranium save lives?

Proponents of uranium mining and nuclear energy make many claims that are either misleading or just false. One is that uranium has to be mined because it “saves lives,” used as it is in smoke detectors. The tiny amount needed for smoke detectors is retrieved from existing nuclear waste,³¹ which is – unfortunately – very abundant. Nuclear waste “must be contained and managed for a duration longer than the age of civilization.”³²

Do we need uranium mining for medical isotopes?

When the Nova Scotia government announced that it had added uranium to its list of “critical minerals” and was lifting the decades-long ban on uranium exploration and mining, it claimed the heavy metal was needed for “medical applications.”³³ The government was repeating an industry argument that we need to mine uranium for medical isotopes used in diagnostic tests. This claim is a “red herring;” medical isotopes are produced in research reactors that don’t require uranium, and are most safely made in devices called cyclotrons.³⁴

Won't it help us address climate change?

Contrary to industry claims, nuclear power is not going to be a “significant or major contributor to addressing climate change.”³⁵ This means uranium is not a critical mineral when it comes to tackling the climate crisis. Wind, solar and batteries are much less expensive and faster to develop than nuclear power facilities, which take many years and immense amounts of money to build. Commercial small modular reactors are still in the early stages of development.³⁶ There is a need to tackle the climate crisis quickly, not slowly.

³⁰ [Radioactive Waste From Uranium Mining and Milling | US EPA.](#)

³¹ [Processing of Used Nuclear Fuel](#)

³² [Dirty Secrets of Nuclear Power in an Era of Climate Change | SpringerLink](#)

³³ [Nova Scotia Updates Critical Minerals Strategy](#)

³⁴ Dr. Tim Takaro

³⁵ Dr. Doug Brugge

³⁶ [Small Modular and Advanced Nuclear Reactors: A Reality Check | IEEE Journals & Magazine](#)

The push for nuclear power comes from the nuclear industry – which also involves military applications – trying to renew and revive itself, as detailed in the 2024 academic book, *Dirty secrets of nuclear power in an era of climate change*.³⁷ The International Energy Agency forecasts minimal future growth in nuclear energy, compared with massive growth in far safer renewable solar and wind energy.³⁸

Is there a shortage of uranium?

No, there is no shortage of uranium in Canada, and no need for a new source in a province as small and densely settled as Nova Scotia.³⁹

About CAPE

CAPE is a non-partisan, physician-led organization with over 36,000 supporters across the country. It brings an evidence-based approach to issues that intersect with health, the environment, and justice. CAPE Nova Scotia represents more than 100 physicians and other healthcare providers across the province.

For more information contact: ns@cape.ca

Media contact: Tynette Deveau, Atlantic Regional Coordinator, CAPE, tynette@cape.ca

³⁷ [Dirty Secrets of Nuclear Power in an Era of Climate Change | SpringerLink](#)

³⁸ [Executive Summary – World Energy Outlook 2024 – Analysis - IEA](#)

³⁹ [Uranium Mining Overview - World Nuclear Association](#)

Facts About Uranium Mining

Uranium mining releases radon gas, a highly carcinogenic, odorless substance that is the second leading cause of lung cancer.

- **Uranium can't be mined without inherent radiation and pollution risks.** In our small province of Nova Scotia (130 kms wide), there aren't large tracts of vacant land that are able to be safely mined. The tailings from a goldmine end up being relatively stable whereas a uranium mine does not have that chemical stability. They will remain radioactive for thousands of years.
- **Radon gas is the second leading cause of lung cancer after cigarette smoking.** The risk of lung cancer increases proportionately with increasing amounts of radon.

The Nova Scotia Government Is Moving Ahead With Plans To Mine 3 Populated Areas In Nova Scotia

The areas affected are Millet Brook (Falls Lake) Vaughan, Louisville (River John), and East Dalhousie. All three of these areas are in the middle of established communities.

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There Is No Safe Way To Mine Uranium In Populated Areas!

The Houston Government has executed this project without any consultation to land owners, First Nations, or Municipalities. The majority of the proposed sites are on privately owned land. If you deny the mining companies access the province can force you.

Contact Us!

Website-www.knowuranium.ca

facebook.com/groups/NoUraniumNS



Citizens Against Uranium Mining and Exploration In Nova Scotia



The radiation from these mines is not like other types of mining. it will persist in our rivers, lakes, and communities for over 10,000 years.

Uranium Mining & Exploration In Nova Scotia

What's the risk? Uranium mining can cause contamination of the environment including water tables, well water, road dust, soil and air. Contaminants include radioactive material, radon gas, heavy metals and hazardous chemicals (such as sulphuric acid). Contamination can be widespread and remain in the environment for decades or even 1000's of years. Tailing ponds are where mining waste is deposited, and where contaminants leach into the environment.

Facts and What Can I Do?

"Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen"-Winston Churchill

Does This Affect Me? >>>

Property values in the immediate area of mining operations will be significantly affected. You may be directly subject to radiation, radon gas and other contaminants. If you are further away from mining operations, your property value may still be affected and you are still at risk of exposure to radioactivity and contaminants. Mining companies state, without giving credible references, that there is a negligible amount of radon released with new mining techniques. Digging or drilling holes in the ground where high concentrations of uranium exist can release significant amounts of radon gas.

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Radon gas from uranium mines and tailings has been shown to enter the food chain. Radon lands on lichens and is then eaten by caribou, which in turn have significant burdens of radioactivity in their bodies.

After uranium ore is mined, the rock is ground up or milled on site to extract the uranium. This process creates toxic radioactive dust particles which can be blown around or washed away, thus distributing the radioactivity into the environment.

The waste in the tailings contain 85% of the total radioactivity removed from the mine. A continuous stream of radon gas will emanate from the tailings, as radium which produces radon directly, is in the tailings.

The tailings will remain radioactive for hundreds thousands of years. After the mining company leaves, the responsibility for looking after the tailings would fall on the province.

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Low level ionizing radiation causes disproportionate harm to children, women and especially the unborn. Women are twice and children are five times more sensitive than men, yet the "permissible" exposure levels were derived from "Reference Man" ignoring these facts. "Permissible" does not necessarily mean that the level is safe.

All uranium, once mined and processed, ends up as nuclear waste, nuclear weapons or radioactive fallout.



Act And Get Involved Today! Your Community Depends On It!

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Website-www.knowuranium.ca

What Can I Do?

**Get involved to make your opposition known!
Write your MLA, MP, and Municipal Council and be heard!
(we can help)**



Solterra Geo-Resources Ltd.

Solterra Geo-Resources Ltd.

Discover with intent. | Mine without waste.

Mining • Halifax, Nova Scotia • 212 followers • 2-10 employees

+ Follow

Message



About

Posts

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Images

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Articles

Solterra.

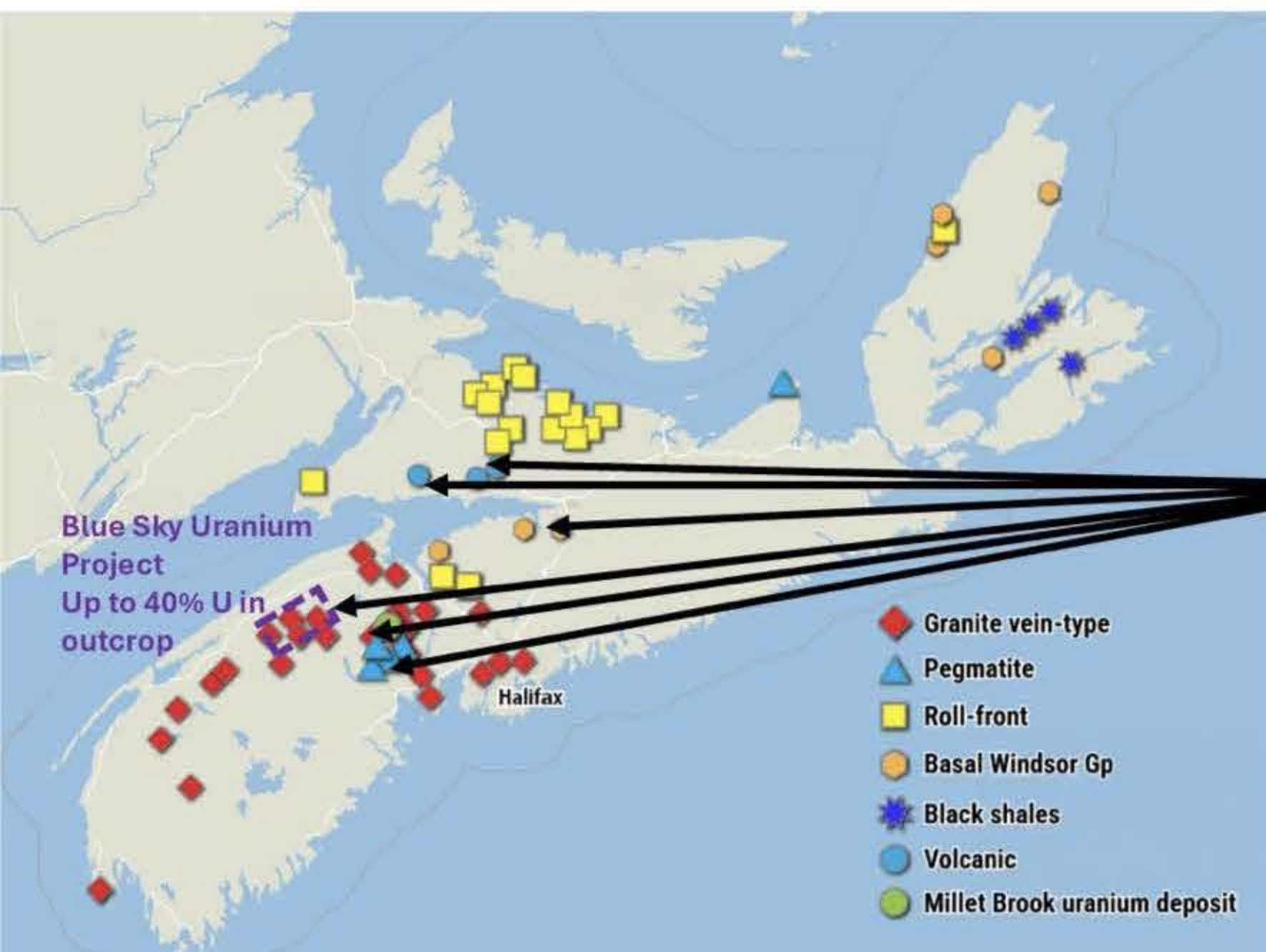
Solterra Geo-Resources... + Follow



212 followers

2w •

Where are Solterra Geo-Resources Ltd. #uranium projects?



Granite-Pegmatite-Unconformity

- Blue Sky-Cloud Lake-Palmer Lake
- Millet Brook Area
- East Dalhousie Area
- Bezanson Lake
- Regional targets – Panuke Lake, Kehoe Hill, Central SMB

Solterra Holdings.

IOCG

- Westchester
- Regional Chedabucto-Bass River Area

Roll Front, Windsor Basal

- Maitland-Kennetcook

5



Home



20+

My Network



Post



20+

Notifications



Jobs



**Municipal Water
Sheds & Avon
River Watershed**

**Davison Lake-
Hantsport**

**French Mill
Brook-Falmouth**

**Mill Lake-
Windsor**

**The Yellow Circles Are
Approximate Mining
Claim Locations in
the RFP**

Avon River Watershed, Extending Into Tidal Avon River

From: Guido G Furlani PCC
To: [Abraham Zebian](#); [Rupert Jannasch](#); [Scott McLean](#); [Chrystal Remme](#); [Paul Wheadon](#); [Debbie Francis](#); [Bob Morton](#); [Kayla Leary-Pinch](#); [Paul Morton](#); [John Smith](#); [Bonnie Smith](#); [Jim Ivey](#); [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#); [Deanna Snair](#); [Mark Phillips](#); Kody.Blois@parl.qc.ca
Cc: "Sarah Trask"; "Chad Pothier"; [Kari Fougere](#); [Alexander Dunphy](#); [Christopher Burns](#); [Will Hong](#); [Vanessa Lake](#);
Subject: Stop Uranium Mining in Nova Scotia
Date: June 5, 2025 3:53:30 PM
Attachments: [Uranium Pamphlet.pdf](#)

Caution [External Email]

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

Esteemed Mayor Zebian, Councilors, CAO and honorable MP Blois,
(FYI Staff, FYI PAC)

The imminent concession of Mining exploration rights by the Tim Houston cabinet to Solterra Geo-Resources and their affiliates, for the mining of Uranium in Nova Scotia will inflict irreversible damage and forever change life as we know in our Province.

Writing on the fly, without weighing my words too much because of the dire threat we face, I don't hesitate sharing that indeed *it won't be any more a matter of life, but a matter of death!*

– If the “rushed under the wire” Agenda of the PM is left unchallenged, in NS we will all come to know and experience death and illness in our families and circles at a rate and frequency that will bear no resemblance to what we consider normal so far.

By keeping it quiet “under the carpet” and bypassing public scrutiny, while pushing through new legislation in record time, this Government removed not only the uranium ban and moratorium of the 80s and 2000s but undermined the democratic process itself..!

But, as far as Nova Scotians are concerned this is not a political issue. This is a human issue, a survival issue!

Our County and Province as a whole are under a looming threat that knows no precedent!

Without touching on the scientific, geological and biological data that Dr. Sarah Trask will share during her presentation, I want only to remind that three beautiful and heavily populated locations of Nova Scotia, included our Millet Brook - Falls Lake residential area in Vaughan, have already been designated as uranium mines!

If that happens, the irreversible damage that uranium extraction and milling will unleash on this Province will be an irreparable ecological catastrophe which end our grandchildren won't be able to see...

On June 10 I humbly plea You to let Dr. Trask presentation convey the terrifying facts, untold truths and dystopian numbers that will become reality once this “Pandora Box” is open.

..Despite the carefully crafted and soothing “tones” of reassurance, Solterra press release hopes to convey (below), they omit to even mention the word Uranium...

<https://investnovascotia.ca/news-and-stories/solterra-geo-resources-research-funding-de-risk-innovation-and-advance-shift-low>

..So, I humbly urge You to heed carefully what Dr Trask will share with us, and then spring into action as if Your life depended on it.. because in fact it does!

The irreversible damage that radioactivity will inflict on water, air, land and all living things of Nova Scotia will seem at first negligible, ..and then, all of a sudden will be horrifying.

Financially speaking, one cannot hope to have a thriving Real Estate industry and a thriving Mining industry all in the same place. They are incompatible - Uranium mining needs hundreds of kilometers of uninhabited land surrounding the extraction site. But Nova Scotia is not Saskatchewan.

Beyond mere financial considerations, once the government on July 11 hands out those licenses and walk down that avenue, not only private property ceases to exist but the whole Province will reach a Point Of No Return -

Next Tuesday at COTW many of us will be there. We will need Your help, Your smart and all Your might to stop this now! Now we truly are in this together.

Thank you kindly and in advance,
Guido G Furlani

Guido G Furlani PCC, ECPC, TICC, MNLP

*WHRM Police Advisory Board Appointee • WHRM Planning Advisory Committee Appointee •
Trauma Informed Coach Facilitator • Mental Health First Aider • ICF Bilingual Mentor • Cert NLP Master
1-604 779 5045 - www.linkedin.com/in/guidofurlanipcc - guide@WhiteEagleCoaching.com*

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WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

Information ☐	Recommendation x	Decision Request ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
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To: West Hants Regional Municipality Council

Submitted by: Mayor Abraham Zebian

Date: June 10, 2025

Subject: Mineral Resource Extraction

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act

RECOMMENDATION or DECISION REQUEST

...Council direct staff to write a letter to the Government of Nova Scotia requesting a pause on issuing any resource exploration permits until more information on the issue can be shared with the community and Council to help inform residents.

...Council direct staff and Mayor to request a meeting with the Government of Nova Scotia and all relevant Ministers to discuss their plans for resource extraction in West Hants.

BACKGROUND

For many decades, the Province of NS has had a ban on Uranium Mining. Recently that ban has been lifted to allow for the exploration of Uranium with 3 sites being announced, including a 2300 Hectare site in Millet Brook, Lower Vaughan, West Hants.

Property ☐	Public Opinion ☐	Environment ☐	Social ☐	Economic ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
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DISCUSSION

The topic of Uranium exploration and extraction has been a much talked about item recently with the lifting of the ban by the Government of NS. Residents have been meeting and expressing their concerns with the possibility of well and water contamination and exposure to radon as a result of any future potential extraction of Uranium.

I believe Council should advocate for our residents and express our desire for the Government of NS to pause any issuing of permits until they are able to share more information on their plans and what safety precautions will be put in place to ensure our residents will not be adversely affected by any activity associated with Uranium extraction.

NEXT STEPS

Staff to undertake the direction of Council and reflect any costs during the 2025/2026 budget deliberations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications with the preparation or implementation of this report with the exception of staff time needed to prepare a letter.

ALTERNATIVES

Council may not choose to direct staff.

Council may choose to suggest something different.

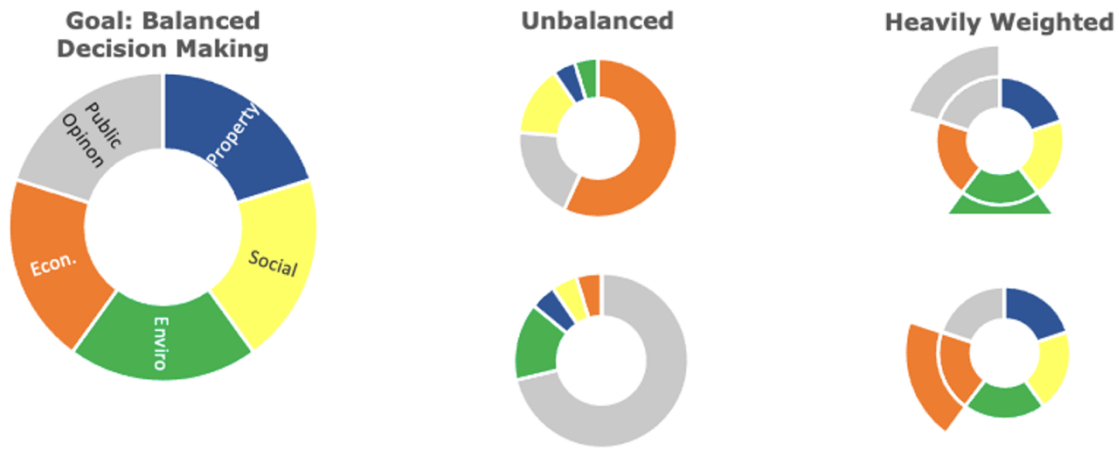
ATTACHMENTS

The following attachments are reflective of the correspondence that has occurred between the Province and the Municipality as it relates to this matter.

- February 11, 2025 Letter from Honourable John A. Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs Requesting Support for a reduction in inter-provincial trade barriers, and to resource development within our province.
- March 18, 2025 WHRM Letter to Minister Lohr Requesting Additional Information
- May 27, 2025 Letter from Department of Natural Resources to WHRM Re Landowner near Millet Brook
- May 30, 2025 Letter from Minister of Municipal Affairs Re Inquiry for Additional Information Re Resource Development in WHRM

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW

Council has been provided with a reference taken from the Meeting and Committee Procedural Policy , Appendix C “Decision Making by Council and Committee of the Whole” as a reminder of the principles highlighted for good decision making.



The Mayor has made some very valid points in relation to the lack of communications from The Province regarding this matter.

I support the recommendation pending Council’s review of the Mayor’s request for action.

Report Prepared by: Abraham Zebian, Mayor

Report Reviewed by:


Mark Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer



**Municipal Affairs
Office of the Minister**

PO Box 216, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2M4 • Telephone 902 424-5550 Fax 902 424-0581 • novascotia.ca

February 11, 2025

Dear Mayors and Wardens:

Recent events in our world are changing the landscape of our province and country. We are experiencing new fiscal challenges that will have a significant impact on our economy. It is clear we need to become more self-reliant. And, at the same time, we need to better integrate our economy with other Canadian provinces and territories.

Our Government has recently announced that Nova Scotia must say “yes” to both a reduction in inter-provincial trade barriers, and to resource development within our province. Both steps need to be taken carefully and in consultation with our communities. Resource development, in particular, is of incredible importance.

If you are supportive and agree, I am asking for you and your council to signal your support for greater resource development within our province - by letter or press release.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John A. Lohr'.

Honourable John A. Lohr
Minister of Municipal Affairs

c: Chief Administrative Officers
Juanita Spencer, NSFM



March 18, 2025

Sent electronically to: dmamin@novascotia.ca

Dear Honourable Minister John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Minister of Finance and Treasury Board

RE: Minister Lohr's February 11, 2025 Letter requesting support

Please accept the following letter on behalf of the Council for the West Hants Regional Municipality (WHRM) regarding your letter sent to all municipalities on February 11th requesting that municipalities – either in writing or by press release – support the government's recently announcement that Nova Scotia must say "yes" to both a reduction in inter-provincial trade barriers, and to resource development within our province.

Following receipt of this letter, WHRM received several pieces of correspondence from residents expressing concerns over the government's perceived plan to put forward a bill that would lift blanket bans on uranium exploration and hydraulic fracking of fossil fuels. These same residents urged West Hants Regional Municipal elected officials to reflect carefully on the request before providing unreserved support.

During the February 25, 2025 meeting, the letter received from Minister Lohr, along with the several other pieces of correspondence from residents within the Municipality, sparked a lengthy discussion among Council members. Throughout the discussion, Council emphasized the importance and need for more information around the request made by Minister Lohr as it did not provide any specific details or plans.

To better understand this matter, we would appreciate it if you could provide information on the Province's plan and benefits regarding resource extraction and plans to address public safety and water quality in West Hants.

To formally express the current position of the Council who met on February 25, 2025, to discuss this matter the following motion was ratified:

"the Municipality respond to Minister Lohr's letter by asking for more details about the Province's plans concerning resource extraction in West Hants, how the Municipality might be involved in the

development of resources, how the Province anticipates this resource development might benefit West Hants, and how public safety; particularly water quality will be guaranteed along the way”.

West Hants Regional Municipality thanks you for your attention to this matter and we look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,



Abraham Zebian, Mayor

ds/az

CC: Premier of Nova Scotia, The Honorable Tim Houston
Member of Parliament for Kings-Hants, Kody Blois
Melissa Sheehy-Richard, MLA Hants West
WHRM Council
Chief Administrative Officer, Mark Phillips

May 27, 2025

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF HANTS WEST
PO BOX 3000
WINDSOR NS B0N2T0

Dear Landowner,

I am writing to inform you about recent changes to uranium exploration in Nova Scotia and to outline your rights as a landowner near Millet Brook, which is an area where exploration is likely to take place.

The provincial government recently repealed legislation that previously banned uranium exploration and mining in Nova Scotia. This change allows us to do research that increases our knowledge about uranium in the province. This will help us develop potential economic opportunities that will bring jobs and investment to Nova Scotia. It will also help people manage their health and safety in terms of well water and radon gas in homes and buildings.

There are three areas of the province where we know there is a greater presence of uranium (Millet Brook, Hants County; Louisville, Pictou County; and East Dalhousie, Annapolis County). We have launched a request for proposals to seek experienced professionals to conduct research and exploration activities in these areas. We will only give exploration licences to companies that show they will do the work safely and maintain environmental excellence.

We want to inform you that your property falls completely or partially within one of these areas. As a property owner, it is important that you understand your rights:

1. **Permission:** Companies that have mineral rights (exploration license) must seek your permission before exploring on your land.
2. **Negotiated Agreements:** If you are willing to allow exploration, you and the company can negotiate an agreement outlining conditions and compensation. The vast majority of these agreements are reached independently between landowners and companies.

3. **Surface Rights vs. Mineral Rights:** Land ownership (surface rights) in Nova Scotia does not include the mineral rights below the surface – they are owned by the Crown.
4. **Exploration Activities:** If you agree to exploration on your property, it might start with activities that do not disturb the land – like walking the land to examine rocks and soil or collecting hand samples. Any activities that disturb the land (such as drilling) require additional permits from the government.
5. **Land Remediation:** Companies are required to remediate any disturbance they make to your land. That means restoring it to the state it was in before exploration started.

This request for proposals is not our usual process. We are taking this approach to make sure only qualified companies with proper experience in uranium are granted licenses to explore. In the rest of the province, we are using our standard licensing process. We are hopeful that Nova Scotians will consider the economic and health benefits of exploration as they consider the request of a company.

For more information about the request for proposals, please visit:

<https://novascotia.ca/uranium-exploration-request-for-proposals/>. You can also contact the Registry of Mineral and Petroleum Titles at 902-424-4068 or Novaroc@novascotia.ca if you need more information.

Finally, because you own property in an area where we know there is uranium, we encourage you to use the following resources for your health and safety:

- Well water testing: <https://novascotia.ca/well-water-testing/>
- Radon gas: <https://novascotia.ca/make-sense-of-radon/>

Sincerely,

Janice Zinck

Executive Director, Geoscience and Mines Branch



**Municipal Affairs
Office of the Minister**

PO Box 216, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2M4 • Telephone 902 424-5550 Fax 902 424-0581 • novascotia.ca

May 30, 2025

Your Worship Abraham Zebian
Mayor of West Hants Regional Municipality
Via Email: azebian@westhants.ca

Dear Mayor Zebian:

Thank you for your letter of March 18, 2025, regarding your request for more information with respect to the Province's plans regarding resource extraction and water quality in the West Hants Regional Municipality. I sincerely apologize for the delay in getting back to you.

All levels of government must work together to ensure that Nova Scotians can benefit from our abundant natural resources in a sustainable manner. Municipalities and the Province have the same interest in identifying economic development opportunities that will ensure long-term prosperity for our residents. Further development of our resource sectors generates more revenue for governments that will be used to enhance the programs, services and infrastructure we all depend on.

We also share the responsibility of protecting the environment. Nova Scotians can be confident that any development opportunities will be carefully considered for their environmental impact and that our strong environmental laws and regulations will ensure that the environment remains protected, while allowing sustainable development to proceed.

The world is demanding critical minerals to help with the transition to net zero by 2050. Everyone wants a reliable supply from places where mining is ethical and responsible. Nova Scotia can be that source, creating jobs and other economic benefits for Nova Scotians.

The transition to a carbon-neutral, clean-energy world relies on a wide range of minerals to power renewable technologies and low-emission energy systems. Critical minerals like lithium, cobalt, nickel, and rare earth elements are essential for batteries, wind turbines, and solar panels, while copper and aluminum support electrical grids and energy efficiency. Additionally, uranium plays a key role in nuclear energy, providing a stable, low-carbon power source to complement renewables and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

Uranium exists in Nova Scotia, but because of restrictions since the 1980s, we have been prevented from even researching it. We don't know exactly where it is, how much there is, or what it means for Nova Scotians. That is why on March 26, 2025, we repealed the *Uranium Exploration and Mining Prohibition Act*. This will allow us to better understand the uranium present in Nova Scotia.

Any mine would need to get licenses and permits for exploration from the Department of Natural Resources to confirm the availability of minerals before they can seek an environmental assessment for extraction from the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Climate Change.

When a company is ready to move from exploration to developing a mine, including uranium mining, the project must undergo the Class I environmental assessment process, which is a rigorous regulatory process that carefully considers the benefits and potential environmental impacts of a project, along with how such impacts will be mitigated to ensure the environment and human health remain protected. Decisions are based on science, evidence and consultation with the Mi'kmaq and public. For more information on our modernized environmental assessment process, visit: <https://novascotia.ca/environmental-assessment-getting-started/>.

Uranium mining is also heavily regulated federally by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. Uranium mines in Canada that produce over 2,500 tonnes a day also require a federal impact assessment. You can find out more about federal regulations at: <https://www.cnsccsn.gc.ca/eng/>.

Onshore oil and gas activities are regulated under the *Petroleum Resources Act* and the *Environment Act* to ensure any operations are done safely, following good oilfield practice. All the natural gas currently used for homes and businesses in Nova Scotia flows from or through the United States. Our government is taking the time to learn from our Canadian counterparts to make sure any future applications are held to the highest standard.

Nova Scotia has high environmental standards, and no projects will be approved unless we know they can be done safely and responsibly. This isn't a choice – we can protect our environment and have a strong economy. The Nova Scotia *Environment Act* was designed to allow for both the safeguarding of our environment and development to co-exist. It recognizes that a strong economy depends upon sound environmental management and that effective environmental protection depends on a strong economy. It provides for sustainable projects that benefit society in a way that protects the environment and human health. We can do both and do both well.

We understand that all of this work will require close collaboration with our municipal partners and with the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities to determine how to move forward in a sustainable way, while supporting our economy for the benefit of all Nova Scotians. We look forward to working with you in this regard.

Sincerely,



Honourable John A. Lohr
Minister of Municipal Affairs

c: Honourable Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia
Honourable Tory Rushton, Minister of Natural Resources
Honourable Trevor Boudreau, Minister of Energy



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

Information ☒	Recommendation ☐	Decision Request ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
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To: Council, West Hants Regional Municipality

Submitted by: Councillor Jim Ivey, District 11, Windsor South

Date: June 10, 2025

Subject: Outside Operations Building Depot - Councillor Information Report

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

MGA: Authority to Spend 65A

Meeting and Committee Procedural Policy: Reports 7.1k, 7.2i

RECOMMENDATION or DECISION REQUEST

Information Report

BACKGROUND

During the 2025-2026 Committee of the Whole budget discussions, the “Outside Public Works Facility” (depot) was considered and reviewed by Council on 3 or 4 occasions.

In the last discussion it was determined that the facility would remain within the drafted budget but without any capital-based debenture interest expense realized until the project was completed.

As part of the preceding conversations, it was identified that it was somewhat difficult to support a \$5.4 million capital spend without any sense of what was being proposed by way of the design and scope. Staff volume and offices were referenced as part of the discussion. With this in mind, it was suggested by staff and accepted, that design illustrations/detail would be provided as applicable and when available as part of the process which was gratefully acknowledged.

Property ☒	Public Opinion ☐	Environment ☐	Social ☐	Economic ☒	Councillor Activity ☐
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DISCUSSION

I believe it is fair to say that nobody is taking issue with the sub-standard state of the building and its conditions except that it is not acceptable. The proper steps would be to have the facility addressed to make it properly safe, functional as a workspace and accessible for all. Yesterday.

The cost of the refitting, renovating and bringing the facility up to proper standards has however more than doubled the cost (2.6 times / 260%) in the last 2 budget cycles before securing a tendered quotation.

Budget Period	Construction Period	Estimated Cost	% Cost Increase
2023-24	2025-26	\$2,000,000	
2024-25	2025-26	\$3,500,000	75%
2025-26	2025-26	\$5,214,500	48%

It does not appear that the cost increase is solely due to inflationary pressure in the last year. It seems the scope of the project may have changed since the tender for design was issued and awarded June 25, 2024.

Originally planned as an extensive renovation with possible addition, it has now apparently transitioned to a new build with continued use and maintenance of the existing building.

It is understandable that needs and plans change over time. This change should however have been discussed when the scope and intent of the design changed following the award of the tender last year.

A copy of the full report as it was provided to Committee of the Whole and Council in June 2024 is attached at the end of this report.

It is almost solely focussed on renovation and repairs as was the tender release.

Snippets from the report include:

"...On February 13, 2024, a public request for proposals was released for Engineering services for the Operations Building Renovation Design. The Municipality requested proposals from qualified proponents to provide architectural, engineering and construction contract administration services for the design and construction of renovations to the existing facility. The objective of the RFP was to retain a consultant to design the addition and renovations to the Existing Operations Facility, prepare tender documents, and provide procurement and contract administration services."

...

"This is an aging facility in need of extensive repairs and upgrades. Some of those repairs are needed urgently for actual daily use and others would help with building efficiency both environmentally and overall use."

Currently, the heating system is a temporary source since the boiler went down last year. There are temporary toilets (port a potties) required on site to help accommodate the amount of staff.

The ideal facility for West Hants Regional Municipality would be able to accommodate both Public Works and Community Development operations. It was identified that renovations would be required for this facility to accommodate both departments. This will allow for better storage, ease of maintenance and repairs to equipment, and a better work environment for all staff."

"NEXT STEPS

Upon approval by Council, staff would award this proposal to TA Scott Architecture. Option analysis, renovation vs new building, would start immediately and reports will be presented within a couple of months for further review and consideration. Once an option has been established, design will take approximately five months and the project should be ready for construction tender by January 2025."

Option analysis and reports may have been prepared. They were not however provided to Council.

This report is informational for our shared understanding. It is my opinion we should all have been aware of the change in scope that occurred. This is particularly important as it relates to the increased cost associated with this project over the last 2 years, as well as the change in scope accepted through the tender process from renovation to new build.

NEXT STEPS

To Be Determined

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

To be Determined

ALTERNATIVES

ATTACHMENTS

Attached below "Award – Design Services for Operations Building"

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW

The Outside Operations Building project has spanned over a number of fiscal years. Councillor Ivey has highlighted that there may be an information gap as it relates to the decision to renovate the existing building vs a new building. Staff will continue to inform Council of the project details and costs associated with the project through the procurement process or additionally as directed by Council. As the project is a significant project in size and scale an additional workshop or dedicated time by Council may be required.

Report Prepared by: **Jim Ivey, Councillor, District 11, Windsor South**

Report Reviewed by: 
Mark Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

Information ☐	Recommendation ☒	Decision Request ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
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To: Committee of the Whole

Submitted by: _____
Todd Richard, Director, Public Works

Date: June 11, 2024

Subject: Award – Design Services for Operations Building

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Nova Scotia Municipal Government Act, Section 23 authorizes Council to make policies for municipal purposes.

RECOMMENDATION or DECISION REQUEST

Committee of the Whole to recommends to Council that:

Council approve the award of RFP WHRMPW24-01 for design services for the operations building contract to TA Scott Architecture for the price of \$214,040.00 plus applicable taxes.

BACKGROUND

Property ☒	Public Opinion ☒	Environment ☐	Social ☒	Economic ☒	Councillor Activity ☐
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The existing Operations building is an aging facility in need of extensive repairs and upgrades. Some of those repairs are needed urgently for actual daily use and others would help with building efficiency both environmentally and overall use.

Currently, the heating system is a temporary source since the boiler went down last year. There are temporary toilets (port a potties) required on site to help accommodate the amount of staff.

The ideal facility for West Hants Regional Municipality would be able to accommodate both Public Works and Community Development operations. It was identified that renovations would be required for this facility to accommodate both departments. This will allow for better storage, ease of maintenance and repairs to equipment, and a better work environment for all staff.

DISCUSSION

On February 13, 2024, a public request for proposals was released for Engineering services for the Operations Building Renovation Design. The Municipality requested proposals from qualified proponents to provide architectural, engineering and construction contract administration services for the design and construction of renovations to the existing facility. The objective of the RFP was to retain a consultant to design the addition and renovations to the Existing Operations Facility, prepare tender documents, and provide procurement and contract administration services.

The competition closed on March 21, 2024, and there were eight proposals submitted. All proposals were very detailed, and the overall quality was excellent. This was a two-part proposal submission including a technical component to be evaluated first, followed by the price component that would be scored based on relative pricing, with the lowest price receiving the highest number of points and using a linear scale to determine the points for all others.

It was very clear after evaluating the technical proposals that this project was not going to be an easy renovation. A renovation to the existing building could pose many risks that could translate to additional costs for the municipality. Some of the risks identified included:

- Possible existing soil contamination
- Increase in snow load requirements and how that would affect existing structure
- Improper site drainage
- Lack of building thermal efficiency and the extent of retrofit required

Proposals were reviewed by a team of six evaluators from Public Works and Community Development. After the first two rounds, the top two proponents were extremely close in both technical points and pricing. It was determined it would be necessary to interview the top two proponents to develop a better understanding of how each firm planned to move the project forward, their understanding of the risks associated with the project and how they would design to keep within the budget requirements.

The interview evaluation team consisted of three staff members, two from Public Works and one from Community Development. There were a series of questions asked to each of the final two teams. The evaluators scored the answers with an overall judgement for various categories.

Each member of the Evaluation team placed TA Scott Architecture as number one after the interview process. This firm has extensive relatable experience, a very knowledgeable team, a history working on similar projects, an excellent reputation in the industry, the ability to handle the work, the ingenuity to think outside the box, and the personable skills required to work with establish the actual needs of the municipality. TA Scott Architecture plans to fully explore the renovation option and the financial implications as their first step in the development of this facility.

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval by Council, staff would award this proposal to TA Scott Architecture. Option analysis, renovation vs new building, would start immediately and reports will be presented within a couple of months for further review and consideration. Once an option has been established, design will take approximately five months and the project should be ready for construction tender by January 2025.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Tendering Timeline:

Posted to Procurement	February 13, 2024
Closing Date	March 21, 2024
Price Expiry Date	May 20, 2024
Days Remaining	0 Days*

* Firms have received communication from the project team and were aware that the awarding of this tender would potentially occur after the 60-day price mark.

2024-25 Capital Budget – Outside Operations Facility - Design

Tender Pricing	\$214,040.00
Non-Recoverable Tax (4.29%)	<u>\$9,182.32</u>
Tender Total	\$223,222.32
2024-25 Budget Value	\$234,653.00
Variance (over budget)	\$11,430.68

Within the 2024-25 Capital Budget, the design of the Outside Operations Facility for Community Development and Public Works is scheduled to be funded through the operating reserve. Should Council approve awarding this contract to TA Scott Architecture, it would result in \$11,430 less of a draw on the operating reserve for 2024-25.

ALTERNATIVES

n/a

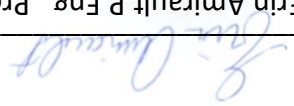
ATTACHMENTS

(List any attachment to the report, if anything.)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW

(For use if report is from a Councilor. CAO to provide additional comments on background, department/staff responsible and workload, budget, options, preferred strategy. State "Not Applicable" if report is from staff which already incorporates CAO review.)

Report Prepared by:


Erin Amirault P.Eng., Project Engineer

Report Reviewed by:

Todd Richard, Director of Public Works

Report Approved by:

(Name and Title)



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

Information ☐	Recommendation ☒	Decision Request ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
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To: West Hants Municipal Council

Submitted by: VanEssa Roberts, Manager Community Economic Development

Date: June 2, 2025

Subject: Grants and Contributions Recommendation Report

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act sections 65 and 273

RECOMMENDATION

Committee of the Whole recommends that:

Council adopts the attached summary, as presented, recommending grant funding to the listed recipients and authorizing staff to release funds once all requirements, as outlined under the Grant and Contribution Policy, have been met.

Further, it is recommended the following grants be approved from the Canada Community Building Fund:

- a. **Belmont Community Hall** – to assist with the cost of the hall kitchen renovation - \$3,000
- b. **Falmouth Community Hall** – to assist with the electrical upgrade - \$2,000
- c. **Hants Shore Karate Club** – to assist with the costs associated with a new roof, steeple removal, new heating source, electrical upgrade, and new signage - \$10,000
- d. **Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia** – to assist with capital upgrades to the 400-seat theatre and rehearsal space - \$16,000
- e. **Mount Denson Community Hall** – To assist with costs associated with insulation and siding for the hall \$3,000
- f. **Windsor Elementary School Home & School Committee** – to assist with the costs associated with the Community Pump Track Development Project – \$6,000

Further

...it be recommended to Council, to approve from the 5% Reserve Fund

- a. **Haliburton Garden Club/Nova Scotia Garden Club** - to assist with the expansion and improvements to a small playground project at the Ardoise Community Park to purchase fall arrest material (woodchips) and materials to make the space safe. - \$2,500
- b. **Brooklyn Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary** – to assist with the cost associated in upgrading a 300-meter section of the trail to make the trail more accessible to people with mobility issues. - \$2,420

BACKGROUND

Property ☐	Public Opinion ☐	Environment ☐	Social ☒	Economic ☒	Councillor Activity ☐
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Each year, the Municipality receives numerous requests for funding from worthwhile not-for-profit or charitable community organizations who, through volunteer efforts provide services to the community. Staff have reviewed the requests and coordinated the funding recommendations within the approved budgeted allotments and in keeping with the Grants and Contributions Policy. Funding requests were received from seventy-three different organizations and, of those applications four were received after the advertised deadline. Staff have not recommended funding for reasons including organizations that: who were not in good standing with the Registry of Joint Stock Companies; that did not demonstrate they had the financial resources to contribute 50% of the project cost; did not meet the Canada Community Building fund eligibility criteria; or late applications from organizations, all based on the Grants and Contributions Policy.

The objective of this policy is to treat all organizations fairly, equitably, and reasonably, within the parameters established by Council as follows: a) Youth development b) Senior support and services c) Public safety d) Provincial events e) Heritage and Culture on an annual basis. Council will determine the amount of funding during the budget process.

Grants and contributions are recommended based on the understanding they are for services or activities which council has or is likely to deem required by the municipality and within the Municipality's legislative mandate.

According to the rules around expending Canada Community Building Fund monies to third parties, Council must, by separate motion, authorize each expenditure.

In the MGA Section 273 (5A) (a) – Council may transfer funds to a non-profit organization that is providing parks, playgrounds, or other recreational facilities in the municipality to be used for

the acquisition of and capital improvements to those parks, playgrounds or recreation facilities or other recreational facilities; and;

(b) the interest on the funds referred to in subsections (5) and (13) to a village or non-profit organization that is providing parks, playgrounds, or other recreational facilities in the municipality to be used for the operation or maintenance of those parks, playgrounds, or other recreational facilities.

Currently WHRM has a total of \$16,647.01 in interest accumulated from the 5% Reserve Fund in the 2024/25 fiscal year.

DISCUSSION

Grants are generally provided in the form of funds, while contributions may be through in-kind support using municipal resources, both tied to a specific outcome. Both sources of support must be reported annually by the Municipality, as is required by legislation.

Through the ***West Hants Grants and Contributions Policy RCOFN-012.00*** the total amount paid for grants in a fiscal years' operating budget will not normally exceed 1.5% of the taxes for the general municipal purposes levied by the municipality. For the 2025/26 fiscal year 1.5% of the taxes levied equates to **\$254,300.**

With \$16,647.01 accumulated in interest from the West Hants 5% Reserve Fund in the 2024/25 fiscal year which Council may transfer to a qualifying non-profit organization.

The following annual grant types have been identified by the municipality:

1. Operating grant – Maximum contribution \$1,500
2. Community Capital Project grant Maximum contribution \$2,500
3. Public Safety Grants – Maximum contribution of \$7,500
4. Community Recreation Program grant – Maximum contribution \$1,000
5. Community Event grant – Maximum contribution \$1,000
6. Special Events Operations & Promotion grant – Maximum contribution \$5,000
7. Leadership grant – Maximum contribution - \$1,000
8. Sponsorship Advertising/Donation of Prizes Requests – Maximum contribution per organization per year \$100.
9. Youth Travel Assistance – Maximum Contribution Limits apply.
11. Community Trail Funding Program – Maximum contribution - \$2,500
12. Major Capital Project grant - Depending on the funding source identified by staff, additional requirements may be necessary to maintain eligibility.
Gas Tax funding requirements:
 - a. Agreement to abide by the Municipal agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia
 - b. Community Energy Systems - \$2,500 limit

- c. Cultural Infrastructure - \$5,000 limit
 - d. Tourism Infrastructure - \$5,000 limit
 - e. Recreational Infrastructure - \$5,000 limit
 - f. Broadband Connectivity - \$5,000 limit
 - g. Trails - \$2,500 limit
12. Recreation Facility Capital Investment Project Grants – Maximum Contribution \$50,000 with no greater than 50% of the funds being contributed by WHRM; projects must be for the betterment of the entire community and accessible by all residents and be Parks, Recreation and Culture related.
13. In-kind Contributions

Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF), formerly Federal Gas Tax Grants: CCBF grant requests are reviewed during the grants and contributions process for validation and suitability. If they meet the qualifying criteria for use of the Canada Community Building Fund the Municipality is permitted to offer capital funding to third party, not-for profit organizations. But all contributions are still subject to the stacking limitations imposed by the federal government.

Council has received requests for funding of an eligible capital nature from:

Through Recreation Facility Capital Investment Project

- a. **Belmont Community Hall** – to assist with the cost of the hall kitchen renovation - \$3,000
- b. **Falmouth Community Hall** – to assist with the electrical upgrade - \$2,000
- c. **Hants Shore Karate Club** – to assist with the costs associated with a new roof, steeple removal, new heating source, electrical upgrade, and new signage - \$10,000
- d. **Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia** – to assist with capital upgrades to the 400-seat theatre and rehearsal space - \$16,000
- e. **Mount Denson Community Hall** – To assist with costs associated with insulation and siding for the hall \$3,000
- f. **Windsor Elementary School Home & School Committee** – to assist with the costs associated with the Community Pump Track Development Project – \$6,000

Further

...it be recommended to Council, to approve from the 5% Reserve Fund

- a. **Haliburton Garden Club/Nova Scotia Garden Club** - to assist with the expansion and improvements to a small playground project at the Ardoise Community Park to purchase fall arrest material (woodchips) and materials to make the space safe. - \$2,500

- b. **Brooklyn Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary** – to assist with the cost associated in upgrading a 300-meter section of the trail to make the trail more accessible to people with mobility issues. - \$2,420

As per Canada Community Building Fund agreement, should Council approve the motions stated above, the Municipality will enter into an agreement with the groups based on the terms and conditions required under the CCBF agreement. This includes ensuring the organizations continue to operate the facility for the same purpose as stated in the application for up to 10 years. Failing to do this will require the organizations to reimburse the Municipality for the funds at a prorated rate, based on years of use.

Attached you will find the Grants & Contributions requests and staff recommendations.

NEXT STEPS

If approved, staff will notify groups and organizations of the decision of Council and will process the grants as approved.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Grants and Contribution funding was approved in the 2025/26 budget, in the amount of \$100,0000 with the grants to be finalized upon budget approval. Based on the proposed summary, \$162,067.50 is being recommended, with \$117,147 being funded through the operating budget.

The remaining is proposed from the West Hants 5% Reserve Fund and the Canada Community Building Fund.

Council approved a maximum of \$50,000 in total grants to be funded through the Canada Community Building Fund.

Sufficient Canada Community Building Funding exists for the eligible projects. It should be noted that financial support from this fund must be approved by West Hants Regional Council annually for eligible projects.

For the 2025/26 fiscal year 1.5% of the taxes levied equates to \$254,300.

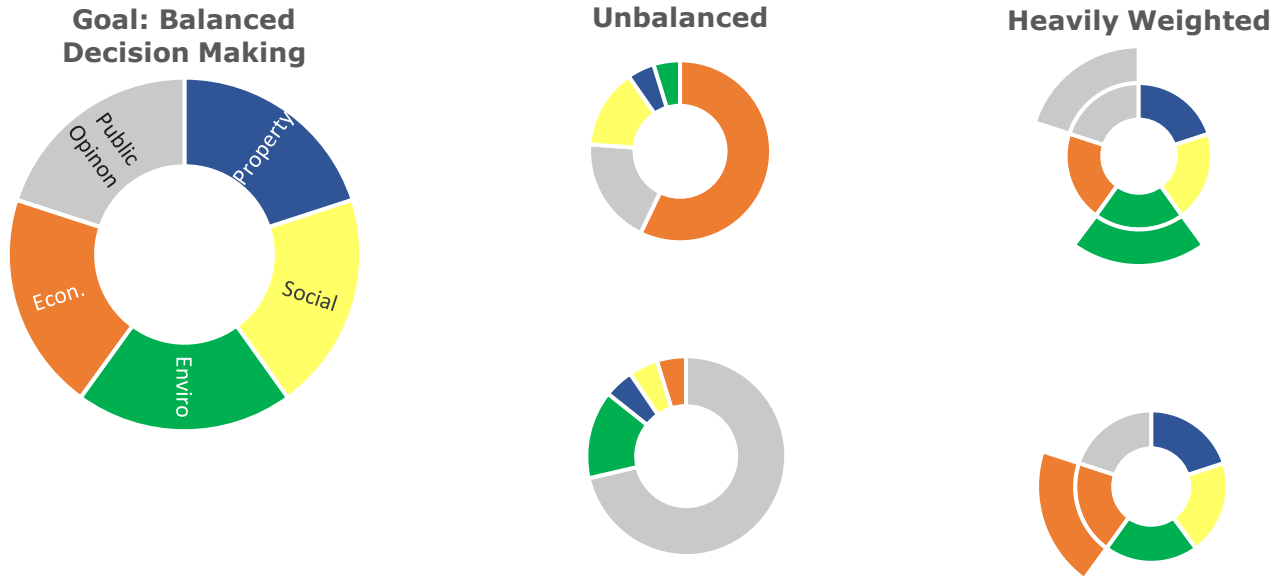
ALTERNATIVES

Council can approve, amend, or change any recommendation presented by staff with the understanding these decisions may fall outside of the established policy. This is not the course of action recommended by staff.

ATTACHMENTS

- West Hants Regional Municipality Grants and Contributions Policy RCOFN-012.00
- 2025/26 Grant Summary & Grants & Contributions Requests with Staff Recommendations per policy

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW



(For use if report is from a Councillor. CAO to provide additional comments on background, department/staff responsible and workload, budget, options, preferred strategy. State “Not Applicable” if report is from staff which already incorporates CAO review.)

Report Prepared by: _____

VanEssa Roberts, Manager Community Economic Development

Report Prepared by: _____

Kathy Kehoe, Director Community Development

Report Reviewed by: _____

Carlee Rochon, Directo Financial Services

Report Approved by: _____

Mark Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer



1.0 PURPOSE

The West Hants Regional Municipality wishes to recognize the valuable contributions provided through the volunteer efforts of community organizations and agencies on behalf of its residents. This policy demonstrates and formalizes Council's commitment to assist organizations which provide beneficial programs, services, or projects to the community while, at the same time, recognizing the financial constraints affecting the Municipality's ability to provide funding to these groups.

This policy will establish eligibility requirements, identify types of funding available, explain how this is established each year, and outline application, monitoring, and reporting requirements. Application forms and guidelines will be developed by the Administration in support of the policy intent.

2.0 POLICY OBJECTIVE

The objective of this policy is to treat all organizations fairly, equitably, and reasonably, within the parameters established by Council as follows:

- a) Youth development
- b) Senior support and services
- c) Public safety
- d) Provincial events
- e) Heritage and Culture

On an annual basis Council will determine the amount of funding during the budget process.

3.0 AUTHORITY

Authority is provided under Section 65, Municipal Government Act, as amended. The total of the amounts paid for grants in a fiscal years' operating budget will not normally exceed 1.5% of the taxes for general municipal purposes levied by the municipality.

4.0 ORGANIZATIONAL ELIGIBILITY



Pursuant to Section 65 of the *Municipal Government Act*, grants or contributions may be expended where required by the Municipality to a:

- Society within the meaning of the Children and Family Services Act.
- Mental health clinic in receipt of financial assistance from the province.
- Exhibition held by an educational institution in the Municipality.
- Club, association, or exhibition within the meaning of the Agriculture and Marketing Act.
- Charitable, nursing, medical, athletic, educational, environmental, cultural, community, fraternal, recreational, religious, sporting, or social organization within the province.
- Daycare licensed under the Day Care Act.
- Registered Canadian charitable organization.
- Volunteer fire and emergency services providers, as defined in Municipal Government Act, who are registered with the Municipality

Heritage Property Act

Heritage designated properties within the boundaries of the West Hants Regional Municipality may be eligible for municipal grants and contributions not included within this policy.

5.0 TYPES OF GRANTS OR CONTRIBUTIONS AND MAXIMUM FUNDING ALLOCATION

Grants are generally provided in the form of funds, while contributions may be through in-kind support using municipal resources, both tied to a specific outcome. Both sources of support must be reported annually by the Municipality, as is required by legislation. In the case of an urgent community need, Council has the authority to fund projects outside of this Policy and the maximum approved funding allocations stated in this Policy. An urgent community need refers to a sudden issue that significantly affects the well-being, accessibility or sustainability of a community space. This need requires immediate attention and funding to prevent negative consequences. Examples of urgent community need include structural or safety concerns, disaster recovery, accessibility compliance or health and safety repairs.

5.1 Operating Grants

- Maximum Contribution \$1,500

- Operating funding for not-for-profit community groups to assist with general operating expenses, including administrative or insurance costs and program related expenses.

5.2 Community Capital Project Grants

- Maximum Contribution \$2,500
- To assist in the expansion or improvement of an indoor or outdoor cultural, social, heritage, and recreation facilities and/or equipment for projects under \$2,500. *Funding will not be granted to purchasing recreation equipment that the Municipality can reasonably expect individuals or groups to buy for themselves.*
- A separate agreement may be required depending on the nature and value of the asset for which the funds are provided.

5.3 Public Safety Grants

- Maximum Contribution \$7,500, up to the amount set in the fiscal operating budget.
- Grants under this category are for non-profit organizations registered with the Municipality that provided or ensure public or community safety.

5.4 Community Recreation Program Grants

- Maximum Contribution \$1,000
- Recurring community recreation programs which Council has determined provide significant benefit to the broad community and are open to all members of the public.
- Assistance provided to groups interested in the creation, expansion and improvement or recreational opportunities in their communities.

5.5 Community Event Grants

- Maximum Contribution \$1,000
- Community Events that are of a cultural, social, or recreational significance to the community.

5.6 Special Events Operations & Promotion Grants

- Maximum Contribution \$5,000

- To provide assistance for special events operations and promotions that will see participants and spectators attend from outside the West Hants Regional Municipality. This funding will support events that foster good community relations, support culture, develop the local economy and tourism industry and enrich the quality of life for residents and visitors.

5.7 Leadership Grants

- Maximum Contribution \$1,000
- Grants available for recreation groups seeking help to provide supervision and leadership to implement a program.
- Wanting to have representatives attend leadership training that will improve the function of the group or the quality of leadership.

5.8 Sponsorship Advertising/Donation of Prizes Requests

- Maximum contribution per organization per year \$100. Grants will only be awarded to the extent the current fiscal budget permits.
- To provide assistance for advertising to local not-for-profit organizations for projects, events or initiatives that benefit residents and are within the mandate of the Municipality.

5.9 Youth Travel Assistance

- Maximum Contribution Limits apply – Grants will only be awarded to the extent that the current fiscal budget permits.
- The Youth Travel Assistance Grant Program applies to residents of the West Hants Regional Municipality, 22 years of age or under, involved in non-profit minor sports or cultural activities, who have qualified to compete in sport championships/cultural events.

5.10 Community Trail Funding Program

- Maximum contribution - \$2,500
- The trail funding program supports community organizations in the maintenance and development of trails for public use.

5.11 Major Capital Project Grants

- To assist with the expansion or improvement of an indoor or outdoor cultural, social, heritage and recreation facilities and/or equipment for capital projects

- A separate agreement may be required depending on the nature and value of the asset for which the funds are provided.
- Depending on the funding source identified by staff, additional requirements may be necessary to maintain eligibility.
 - Canadian Community Building Fund requirements:
 - Agreement to abide by the Municipal agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia, which includes having the ability to pay for the project before reimbursement from the Municipality
 - Community Energy Systems - \$2,500 limit
 - Cultural Infrastructure - \$5,000 limit
 - Tourism Infrastructure - \$5,000 limit
 - Recreational Infrastructure - \$5,000 limit
 - Broadband Connectivity - \$5,000 limit
 - Trails - \$2,500 limit

5.12 Recreation Facility Capital Investment Project Grants

- Maximum Contribution –\$50,000
- To aid with expansion or improvement of indoor or outdoor not-for-profit community recreation facilities.
- Funding request is defined as a capital project partnered with the West Hants Regional Municipality with no greater than fifty percent (50%) of the funds being contributed by the Regional Municipality.
- In exceptional circumstances, Council may choose to contribute more than fifty percent (50%) of the cost of the project but will only do so when the need is clear and urgent, and all other sources of funding have been investigated.
- Projects must be completed during the fiscal year in which the funds are being requested. No carry-over of funds will be permitted.
- Projects must be for the betterment of the entire community and accessible by all residents and be Parks, Recreation and Culture related.
- Projects must follow the West Hants Regional Municipality Procurement and Tendering Policy RCOFN-003.00 or a procurement process approved by the West Hants Regional Municipality.
- The total amount funded through the Recreation Facility Investment Projects grant program will be determined by West Hants Regional Council

on a case-by-case basis.

- Depending on the funding source identified by staff, additional requirements may be necessary to maintain eligibility.
 - Canadian Community Building Fund requirements:
 - Agreement to abide by the Municipal agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia, which includes having the ability to pay for the project before reimbursement from the Municipality.
 - Under special request the Municipality can extend up to 75% of the approved grant value in advance of the project being completed.
 - A written request with project quotes must be provided to receive a grant advance.
 - Receipt of payments made to vendor must be provided to the Municipality for filing with the Province.

5.13 In-kind Contributions

- The provision of Municipal property/facilities, materials, or resources to support a service, program, project, or event.

6.0 FUNDING ELIGIBILITY

An applicant organization must meet the following criteria to be considered for a Grant or Contribution.

- 6.1 There can only be maximum of two applications per organization per fiscal year.
- 6.2 Grant applicants should be able to demonstrate active fundraising efforts to support the continuation of a program, project, or service. The West Hants Regional Municipality should not be considered as a primary source of funding for the organization. (This Section 6.2 is not applicable to those applicants who provide volunteer services on behalf of the Municipality in lieu of the Municipality providing the services directly, e.g., Volunteer Fire Societies.)
- 6.3 Funding requests can be defined as events/projects/programs which support, sustain, promote, inform, educate, celebrate, preserve, and/or provide access to

the arts, culture, environment, heritage, safety and/or health activities for a specific or general demographic or geographic group.

- 6.4 Requests for financial assistance for events of a Municipal, Provincial or National significance which would be expected to bring economic and/or public relations benefit to the Municipality.
- 6.5 The applicant must demonstrate a commitment to all the following principles:
 - a) Accessibility (open to all Municipal residents)
 - b) Effectiveness (funding supports specific Municipal goals or objectives)
 - c) Accountability (through sound management and financial practices)
- 6.6 Requests for financial assistance for the Recreation Facility Capital Investment Project must submit audited financial statements for three consecutive years prior to the application year. Requests for financial assistance under this category must also submit details of all funding sources.

7.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

- 7.1 Municipal Council sets the funding limits and annual budget allotments within this Grants and Contributions Policy.
- 7.2 Applicants will complete the appropriate Municipal application form and supply the requested documentation.
- 7.3 Application deadlines and expiry periods may apply.
- 7.4 All applications except for youth travel and sponsorship/donations are approved by Council and applicants will be notified by letter of approval or denial. The letter will state any terms and conditions that apply to the grant approvals. In-kind donations may be considered outside of this policy if the organization has not received municipal support in the fiscal year. These donations must be approved by either the Chief Administrative Officer or the Director of Community Development and would not exceed an in-kind value of \$300 per organization.
- 7.5 Applications for youth travel and sponsorship/donations are reviewed and approved by either the Director of Community Development or the Chief Administrative Officer.

-
- 7.6 Applicants should demonstrate community support, fundraising efforts, and efficient use of resources, sound business practices, and development of volunteers.
- 7.7 A financial statement and pertinent documentation must be filed with the Municipality annually.
- 7.8 The Municipality reserves the right to deny any application it deems not within its mandate.
- 7.9 All proposed work must comply with Municipal, Provincial and Federal regulations.
- 7.10 The following are the evaluation criteria that will be applied when reviewing grant applications:
- a. Project/program fits within the mandate (vision/mission) of the Municipality.
 - b. The organization is a not-for-profit and in good standing with the Registry of Joint Stock Companies.
 - c. The application is for a program, event, facility is for public community purpose.
 - d. A financial need is demonstrated.
 - e. The organization is sourcing other funding partners.
 - f. The project is economical.
 - g. The project/program brings value to the residents of the Municipality.
 - h. The funding provided by the Municipality will enable the organization to leverage dollars from other funding agencies.
 - i. The facility, program or event provides a good return on investment.
 - j. The applicant has demonstrated that they will recognize the Municipality's contribution.
 - k. The organization has demonstrated long-term sustainability.
 - l. The applicant has demonstrated its own commitment to the project (i.e., In-kind donations, financial contribution etc.)
- 7.11 Individuals are not eligible for funding under the Grants and Contributions Policy except with written authorization through recognized organizations or where legislation allows the Municipality to do so.

- 7.12 Funding will not be provided to offset accumulated deficits or funding shortfalls. Funding consideration is based only on budgeted revenues and expenditures in the year for which the assistance is requested.
- 7.13 The applicant organization must spend or allocate grant funding within the current fiscal year for which it has been approved and for the sole purpose under which it has been granted unless approved by the Municipality.
- 7.14 Requests received under the urgent community need must complete an application form and include all necessary budget and financial statements. Requests of this nature must be approved by the Chief Administrative Officer to be submitted to Municipal Council and accompanied with a staff report.

8.0 APPLICATION PROCESS

- 8.1 Requests for funding under this program must be submitted on or before the third Thursday in February annually. Public notification will be provided of the submission date and requirements for all grant programs.
- 8.2 All applications must be accompanied by the required documentation to be considered complete when received.
- 8.3 Incomplete applications may not be processed.
- 8.4 Late applications received after the deadline set by Administration will not be processed unless approved by the Chief Administrative Officer to be an Urgent Community Need.
- 8.5 Applicants receiving a grant or contribution under the Grants and Contributions Policy will not be eligible to receive a grant or contribution under any other grant program established by Council in the same fiscal year. This does not apply to organizations exempted under the Property Tax Exemption policy.

9.0 GENERAL TERMS

- 9.1 Granting of assistance in any one year or over several years is not a commitment to future funding.



- 9.2 Applications for in-kind support will be forwarded to the respective department for review and a separate report to Council will be prepared for consideration and approval during the approval process.

10.0 THE ROLE OF ADMINISTRATION

- 10.1 The Administration of West Hants Regional Municipality receive, and process written and complete submissions by applying established parameters, within the budget approved by Council.
- 10.2 Grant applicants determined to be ineligible for funding will be notified, in writing as soon as is practically possible.
- 10.3 The Chief Administrative Officer will provide a written report to Council on the recommended disposition of funds, annually.
- 10.4 Requests for grants and contributions received outside of the established grant application period will not be considered unless it is deemed by the Chief Administrative Officer to be an urgent community need.
- 10.5 Successful applicants will be notified with an official letter with instructions and reporting requirements.
- 10.6 Pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, Section (65C), a list of grants approved by West Hants Regional Municipality to community organizations will be published annually on the municipal website. The information will include the name of the applicant, name of the organization and grant funding approved.

11.0 RELATED PROGRAMS & INFORMATION

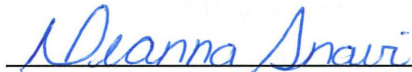
- 11.1 Youth Travel Assistance Program Guidelines
- 11.2 Community Trail Funding Program Guidelines
- 11.3 Community Development In-kind Contribution Grant
- 11.4 Grants to Recognized Fire Services

11.5 Registered Heritage Properties Grant

12.0 REPEAL

- 12.1 The Grants and Contribution Policy, RCOFN-012.00, dated January 24, 2023, is hereby repealed.

I, Deanna Snair, Municipal Clerk of the West Hants Regional Municipality, in the Province of Nova Scotia, do hereby certify that this is a true copy of the Policy as adopted by the Council of the West Hants Regional Municipality at a meeting duly called and held on the **22nd** day of **April**, **2025**.


Deanna Snair
Municipal Clerk

<i>Adoption</i>	
<i>Notice to Council:</i>	<i>Date: November 10, 2020</i>

Approval:	Date: November 24, 2020
Description: Initial approval of the Grants and Contribution Policy, RCOFN-012.00.	
Adoption	
Notice to Council:	Date: October 11, 2022
Approval:	Date: October 25, 2022
Description First Amendment to include the Recreation Facility Capital Investment Project Grant with a maximum of up to \$50,000 per qualifying organization per calendar year.	
Adoption	
Notice to Council:	Date: January 10, 2023
Approval:	Date: January 24, 2023
Description: Second Amendment - Section 5.2 remove “provide assistance for” and replace with “assist with” - Section 5.6 remove “provide assistance for” and replace with “assist with” - Section 5.8 remove “provide assistance for” and replace with “assist with” - Section 5.11 remove “provide assistance for” and replace with “assist with”, remove Agreement to abide by the Municipal agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia, which includes having the ability to pay for the project before reimbursement from the Municipality” and add “Agreement to abide by the Municipal agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia, which includes ensuring all costs of the project are eligible, Municipal and Provincial procurement practices are followed, and final report submission is made to the Municipality by March 31st of the fiscal year the grant was approved. Under special request the Municipality can extend up to 75% of the approved grant value in advance of the project being completed. ○ A written request with project quotes must be provided	

- to receive a grant advance.
 - Receipt of payments made to vendor must be provided to the Municipality for filing with the Province.
- Section 5.12, Canadian Community Building Fund Requirements: remove “having the ability to pay for the project before reimbursement from the Municipality” to now read as “Agreement to abide by the Municipal agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia, which includes ensuring all costs of the project are eligible, Municipal and Provincial procurement practices are followed, and final report submission is made to the Municipality by March 31st of the fiscal year the grant was approved.” Add Under special request the Municipality can extend up to 75% of the approved grant value in advance of the project being completed.
 - A written request with project quotes must be provided to receive a grant advance.
 - Receipt of payments made to vendor must be provided to the Municipality for filing with the Province.

Adoption

Notice to Council:

Date: April 8, 2025

Approval:

Date: April 22, 2025

Description: Third Amendment

- Grant Funding will only be considered during the annual application review period OR in the case of an Urgent Community Need. An urgent community need refers to a sudden issue that significantly affects the well-being, accessibility or sustainability of a community space. This need requires immediate attention and funding to prevent negative consequences. Examples of urgent community need include structural or safety concerns, disaster recovery, accessibility compliance or health and safety repairs.
- Expand the ability for support to organizations to apply for in-kind contribution if they have not received grant support from West Hants Regional Municipality in the current fiscal year. These donations would be approved by the Chief Administrative Officer

or the Director Community Development and would not exceed an in-kind value of \$300.

- Organizations that are Canadian Charitable organizations are permitted to be considered for grant funding.
- Funding requests received outside of the established application period will not be considered unless deemed by the Chief Administrative Officer to be an Urgent Community Need. Organizations making these requests will be required to complete an application and submit the necessary budget and financial statements and would be presented to Council with a staff report.
- Evaluation criteria to be applied will include that the program/project fits within the objectives of the Municipality noted in section 2.0 as opposed to the vision/mandate of the municipality.

2025-26 Grant Summary

TOTAL GRANT REQUEST \$ 773,022.00

GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS	Budget	Recommendation	Budget Remaining	Page
Operating Grant		\$ 70,000.00		
Community Recreation Program		\$ -		
Community Events	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ -	
Special Events		\$ 21,500.00		
Leadership		\$ 3,000.00		
CCBF	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	
Public Safety	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -	
Community Trail Fund	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	
In-Kind	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 6,147.50	\$ 3,852.50	
5% Reserve		\$ 4,920.00	\$ -	
TOTAL	\$ 172,500.00	\$ 162,067.50	\$ 15,352.50	

Operating Breakdown

	Recommendation
Regular Operating	\$ 44,750.00
Communtiy Capital Project	\$ 15,500.00
Major Capital Project	\$ 9,750.00
Recreation Facility Capital Investment Projects Recommendation	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 70,000.00

CCBF Breakdown

	Recommendation
Communtiy Capital Project	\$ -
Major Capital Project	\$ -
Recreation Facility Capital Investment Projects Recommendation	\$ 40,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 40,000.00

5% Reserve Breakdown

	Recommendation
Community Trail Fund	\$ 2,420.00
Communtiy Capital Project	\$ 2,500.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,920.00

Community Capital Project Breakdown

	Recommendation
Operating	\$ 15,500.00
CCBF	\$ -
5% Reserve	\$ 2,500.00
TOTAL	\$ 18,000.00

Major Capital Project Breakdown

	Recommendation
Operating	\$ 9,750.00
CCBF	\$ -
5% Reserve	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 9,750.00

Recreation Facility Capital Investment Project Breakdown

	Recommendation
Operating	\$ -
CCBF	\$ 40,000.00
5% Reserve	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 40,000.00

Avon River Heritage Society	Special Events	\$	2,000.00	To assist with the costs associated with the planning, marketing, and hosting of regular annual public cultural, and social events and activities including the Great Little Art Show, the 10th annual Honey Harvest Festival, workshops, lunch and learn talks, and Morning Coffee drop in sessions.	\$	-	\$	2,000.00
Avondale Community Club	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with community hall operations and maintenance and contribution to ongoing projects.	\$	1,500.00	\$	-
Avondale Community Club	Community Event Grant	\$	1,000.00	To assist with costs associated with hosting the Avondale Wharf Day 2025.	\$	1,000.00	\$	-
Belmont Hall Association	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated to work on the upkeep of the washroom and for a new hot water tank, both required to keep the hall running properly.	\$	1,500.00	\$	-
Bluenose Rugby Football Club (BNRFC)	Special Events	\$	5,000.00	To assist with the costs associated with hosting the Bluenose Rugby Tournament and Atlantic U19 & Senior Rugby Championships at Kings Edgehill and Avon Valley School fields.	\$	2,750.00	\$	2,250.00
Bluenose Rugby Football Club (BNRFC)	In-Kind	\$	15,000.00	To assist with the costs associated with field use and rentals, community supports, use of West Hants field house for provincial coaching and refereeing course work. Support for mobile washroom facilities onsite, associated municipal staff support for refuse removal, security and tourist support.	\$	-	\$	15,000.00
Brooklyn District Home & School Association	Operating	\$	500.00	To assist with costs associated with program materials.	\$	-	\$	500.00
Brooklyn Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary	Community Trail Fund	\$	2,420.00	To assist with costs associated in upgrading a 300 meter section of trail with steep grades to meet trail standards and make the trail more accessible to people with mobility issues.	\$	2,420.00	\$	-
Burlington & District Activity Club/Centre Burlington Hall	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with the costs associated with insurance for the hall for 2025-2026.	\$	1,500.00	\$	-
C.B.H.C.N.S. Cemeteries Society	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with repairing damaged headstones.	\$	1,000.00	\$	500.00
Christmas Angels	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with the web-a-thon such as phone lines, equipment rentals and production costs.	\$	1,500.00	\$	-
Christmas Angels	In-Kind	\$	647.50	To assist with costs associated with rental of the Community Centre.	\$	647.50	\$	-

Downeast Bluegrass and Old-time Music Society	Special Events	\$	5,000.00	To assist with the costs associated with with the promotion of the Annual Nova Scotia Bluegrass & Oldtime Music Festival within the West Hants area and beyond.	\$	-	\$	5,000.00
Downeast Bluegrass and Oldtime Music Society	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with operating costs for the organization.	\$	500.00	\$	1,000.00
Ellershouse Community Hall	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with the costs associated with the Comfort Zone Station.	\$	1,500.00	\$	-
Falmouth Community Association	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated work on the water leakage in the main entrance of the hall.	\$	1,500.00	\$	-
Full Circle Festival Society	Special Events	\$	5,000.00	To assist with costs associated with promotion and operations of their festival.	\$	750.00	\$	4,250.00
Full Circle Festival Society	In-Kind			To assist with costs associated to use the Newport Landing Park for three days and to use picnic tables and garbage bins.			\$	-
Glooscap Heritage Archers Association	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with insurance for the archery building.	\$	1,000.00	\$	500.00
Gordon Hughes Tennis Club - Windsor	Leadership	\$	1,000.00	To assist with costs associated with three coaching seminars.			\$	1,000.00
Grace United Church Walton	Community Event Grant	\$	1,000.00	To assist with costs associated with hosting special community events during the summer and into the fall to generate and increase in tourism and awareness of the community.	\$	500.00	\$	500.00
Grace United Church, Walton	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with operational costs of church and hall.	\$	-	\$	1,500.00
Haliburton Garden Club/Nova Scotia Garden Club	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with insurance, membership fees and general administrative, programming costs to help with beautification projects in rural communities to assist the Municipality with their gardeninig projects.	\$	750.00	\$	750.00
Hants Learning Network Association	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with learning supports, food and transportation.	\$	750.00	\$	750.00
Hants Learning Network Association	Community Event Grant	\$	1,000.00	To assist with costs associated with the Anniversary Celebration welcoming the community on June 1st.	\$	750.00	\$	250.00
Hants Shore Childcare Association	In-Kind			To assist with costs associated reimbursement of building permit by the WHRM, once the planning department has been presented with an engineered approved drawing.			\$	-

Hants Shore Childcare Association	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated for land acquisition and lawyer fees.	\$	-		\$	1,500.00			
Hants Shore Karate Club	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with operational costs such as building insurance, attending clinics, and utilites.	\$	-			\$	1,500.00		
Hants SnoDusters Snowmobile Club	Special Events	\$	5,000.00	To assist with the costs associated with hosting the 2025 Martock Hill Drags, Snowmobile Races at Ski Martock.			\$	-		\$	5,000.00	
Hants West Wildlife Association	Operating	\$	750.00	To assist with costs associated with upgrades to interior lights, removal of old shop lighting for modern LED lights, and more security/lighting for parking lot, interior painting and upgrades.	\$	750.00				\$	-	
Hants West Wildlife Association	Community Event Grant	\$	750.00	To assist with costs associated with the Learn 2 Fish Umbrella Program.			\$	750.00			\$	-
Hantsport & Area Historical Society	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with operating.	\$	1,500.00					\$	-
Hantsport Memorial Community Centre HMCC	Special Events	\$	5,000.00	To assist with costs associated with the July 1st celebrations.			\$	5,000.00			\$	-
Hillview Cemetery	Operating	\$	750.00	To assist with costs associated with maintenance and upgrades to the cemetery.	\$	750.00					\$	-
Hospice Society of West Hants	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated to procure accounting software, as well as website domain, development and required insurance costs to run programs.	\$	-					\$	1,500.00
Hospice Society of West Hants	Community Event Grant	\$	1,000.00	To assist with costs associated with mileage, space rentals, tea and snacks for the cultural/social events (Death Cafes) held in WHRM. There are currently 20 + events for the 2025 calendar year.			\$	500.00			\$	500.00
Kempt Shore Preservation Society	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with mowing, topsoil, grass seed and gravel to level up an uneven surfaces on the graves, headstone and within the grounds. The gravel will assist with improvements, safety, and accessiblity of the grounds and headstones. Funds will also be used for the society's annual insurance costs.	\$	1,000.00					\$	500.00
Kings County Family Resource Centre & Valley Doulas	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with the facilitation of regularly scheduled prenatal classes and workshops throughout the year, as well as postpartum support for new families.	\$	750.00					\$	750.00
Loyal Hill Musgrove Rd. Cemeteries	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with mowing expenses for the two cemeteries.	\$	1,000.00					\$	500.00

Loyal Hill Musgrove Rd. Cemeteries	In-Kind			To assist with the costs associated with professional tree removal in the cemeteries.		\$ -	\$ -
Mount Denson Community Hall Association	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with operations and expenses for the hall.	\$ 1,500.00		\$ -
Newport Station Community Hall Association	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with operational costs for the hall.	\$ 1,500.00		\$ -
Nova Scotia Talent Trust	Special Events	\$	5,000.00	To assist with costs associated with the International Dance Day event, a community arts initiative serving Hantsport and surrounding communities in West Hants and Kings County.	\$ -		\$ 5,000.00
Nova Scotia Talent Trust	Community Event Grant	\$	1,000.00	To assist with costs associated with the International Dance Day event, a community arts initiative serving Hantsport and surrounding communities in West Hants and Kings County.	\$ -		\$ 1,000.00
Pembroke Chapel and Cemetery	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with mowing and maintenance and a small load of fill for the cemetery.	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 500.00
Poplar Grove Community Hall	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with upgrades to the kitchen sink, toilets, and for general maintenance and repairs.	\$ 1,500.00		\$ -
Royal Canadian Legion Hants County Branch 009	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with operations.	\$ 500.00		\$ 1,000.00
Royal Canadian Legion Hants County Branch 009	Public Safety	\$	7,500.00	To assist with costs associated with upgrades to the designated Emergency Shelter for the Hants County/Windsor area by the Red Cross.		\$ -	\$ 7,500.00
Shooting Stars Basketball	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with operating costs.	\$ 1,500.00		\$ -
Shooting Stars Basketball Association	Leadership	\$	1,000.00	To assist with costs associated with paying volunteer coaches training courses, for people involved with the program to take referee training, and training for score keepers.		\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
St. Croix Community Hall	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with upgrades needed to ensure the building is up to code.	\$ 1,500.00		\$ -

St. John the Evangelist Cemetery, Corpus Christi Parish; Saint John the Evangelist Church, Windsor in the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth	In-Kind	\$	-	Request for WHRM staff to support the maintenance of the cemetery.		\$	-	\$	-	
Sweets Corner Hall	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with operational costs for the hall.	\$	1,500.00		\$	-	
The Crossing Seniors Social Society	Community Event Grant	\$	1,000.00	To assist with costs associated with hosting various lunch and learn events.		\$	-	\$	1,000.00	
The Crossing Seniors Society	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with operational costs.	\$	-		\$	1,500.00	
The Station Learning Farm Society	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated for Meals to Heal West Hants.	\$	1,000.00		\$	500.00	
The Station Learning Farm Society	Community Trail Fund	\$	2,500.00	To assist with costs associated with purchasing gardening equipment to fix up the trails around the building and make them accessible to the community.		\$	1,000.00	\$	1,500.00	
Upper Burlington Community Hall Association	Operating	\$	1,000.00	To assist with costs associated with mowing of the youth recreation field May-September.	\$	750.00		\$	250.00	
Upper Vaughan Community Hall Association	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with general operating expenses of the community hall.	\$	1,500.00		\$	-	
Upper Vaughan Garden Club	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with club insurance, and community garden projects.	\$	750.00		\$	750.00	
Valley Child Development Association	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with the Behaviour Intervention Program to support parents in parenting their children struggling with challenging behaviour.	\$	500.00		\$	1,000.00	
Walton Shore Fire Department (WSFD)	Public Safety	\$	7,500.00	To assist with costs associated with purchasing emergency lights, sirens, supporting electrical work, necessary modifications such as a full time truck cap, and decals for the newest truck in the WSFD fleet, a used 2017 Dodge Power Wagon.		\$	7,500.00	\$	-	
West Hants Historical Society	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To support general operating costs.	\$	1,500.00		\$	-	
West Hants Historical Society	Community Event Grant	\$	1,000.00	To assist with costs associated with hosting the Second Annual Cultural Celebration to highlight a local cultural organization.		\$	500.00	\$	500.00	
West Hants Senior Games Committee	Operating	\$	875.00	To assist with costs associated with 29 hours of events during the month of May.	\$	-	\$	-	\$	875.00
West Hants Senior Games Committee	Community Event Grant	\$	810.00	To assist with costs associated with hall rentals for events in May.		\$	500.00	\$	310.00	

West Hants Trails Association	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with annual administrative costs such as insurance, membership fees, general administrative costs, and to purchase hand tools and pole saw.	\$	1,500.00												\$	-						
West Hants Trails Association (WHTA)	Community Trail Fund	\$	2,500.00	To assist with costs associated with the phase one upgrade to the Bay of Fundy Adventure Trail System on 10 km of existing trail on the section between Castle Frederick Farms and Moses Mountain - to meet safety and accessibility standards and to purchase an interpretive panel to tell the story of our rich cultural heritage.					\$	2,500.00								\$	-						
Windsor Agricultural Society	Special Events	\$	5,000.00	To assist with costs associated with hosting the Hants County Exhibition.				\$	5,000.00									\$	-						
Windsor Badminton Club	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with operational costs for the club.	\$	-												\$	1,500.00						
Windsor Badminton Club	In-Kind	\$	1,000.00	To assist with costs associated with rental fees.						\$	500.00							\$	500.00						
Windsor Bluefins Parent Association	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with rental costs for the Hants Aquatic Centre.	\$	-	\$	-										\$	1,500.00						
Windsor Bluefins Parent Association	In-Kind	\$	3,000.00	To assist with the costs associated with Hants Aquatic Centre rental fee and to help offset the registration fees for youth to participate as a Windsor Bluefin.						\$	2,500.00							\$	500.00						
Windsor Daycare Centre	In-Kind	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with rentals costs for the Hants Aquatic Centre.						\$	1,500.00							\$	-						
Windsor Jr. Hockey-Valley Maple Leafs	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with operational costs.	\$	500.00	\$	-										\$	1,000.00						
Windsor Karate Association	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated to update basement floor to eliminate dampness on mats by getting a floor covering under mats, plus replacing a major number of LED lights, and window coverings in the main hall for keeping heat in.	\$	1,500.00												\$	-						
Windsor Karate Association	Leadership	\$	1,000.00	To assist with costs associated with Sensei coming from Ontario for training on proper techniques.					\$	1,000.00								\$	-						
Windsor People First Society	Operating	\$	1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with attending the 2025 Provincial People First Nova Scotia Annual General meeting and Conference in Truro.	\$	1,500.00												\$	-						
		\$	187,202.50					\$	44,750.00	\$	5,500.00	\$	21,500.00	\$	3,000.00	\$	7,500.00	\$	3,500.00	\$	6,147.50	\$	2,420.00	\$	92,885.00

CAPITAL GRANT REQUESTS

Organization	Grant Type Requested	Grant Amount Requested	Project Description	Operating Grant	CCBF	5% Reserve Grants	Variance
4-H NS Burlington Workers 4H Club	Community Capital Project Grant	\$1,500.00	To assist with costs associated with purchasing reusable decoration materials.	\$ 1,000.00			\$500.00
Belmont Community Hall	Recreation Facility Capital Projects	\$ 10,000.00	To assist with costs associated with the hall kitchen renovation. (asked for \$10-25,000)		\$ 3,000.00		\$7,000.00
Burlington & District Activity Club/Ctr. Burlington Club	Community Capital Project Grant	\$ 2,500.00	These funds will be used toward painting the Hall's ceiling, repairs to the awning on the front entrance, new blinds, and weatherproofing. We will also build a small heritage display case.	\$ 2,000.00			\$500.00
Brooklyn District Home & School Association	Community Capital Project Grant	\$ 2,000.00	To assist with costs associated with the expansion on the onsite storage options for the school programs.	\$ -			\$2,000.00
Ellershouse Community Hall	Community Capital Project Grant	\$ 2,500.00	To assist with costs associated with mowing, flowerbed upkeep and fall clean up at the hall, the church and Park.	\$ -			\$2,500.00
Falmouth Community Hall	Recreation Facility Capital Projects	\$ 13,271.00	To assist with costs associated with upgrading electrical \$6,900 in the hall & interior hall painting \$6,371		\$ 2,000.00		\$11,271.00
Falmouth Family Park Society	Recreation Facility Capital Projects	\$ 35,000.00	To assist with costs associated with a fully accessible playground facility at the Falmouth Family Park.		\$ -		\$35,000.00
Glooscap Heritage Archers Association	Community Capital Project Grant	\$ 2,500.00	To assist with costs associated with purchasing quality targets for shoots	\$ 2,000.00			\$500.00

Haliburton Garden Club/Nova Scotia Garden Club	Community Capital Project Grant	\$	2,500.00	To assist with costs associated with the expansion and improvements of a small playground project at Ardoise Community Park to purchase fall arrest material (woodchips), topsoil to landscape around the playground to make it safe for the children.		\$	2,500.00	\$0.00
Hants Shore Karate Club	Recreation Facility Capital Projects	\$	32,100.00	To assist with costs associated with new roof; steeple removal; new heating source and to update electrical system and signage and installation.		\$	10,000.00	\$22,100.00
Hantsport & Area Historical Society	Community Capital Project Grant	\$	2,500.00	To assist with costs associated with the Hantsport School Banner Program; veterans banners; exterior lighting and security cameras.	\$	1,250.00		\$1,250.00
Kempt Shore Preservation Society	Community Capital Project Grant	\$	2,500.00	To assist with costs associated with surveying and legal costs that were incurred by the society.	\$	-		\$2,500.00
Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia	Recreation Facility Capital Projects	\$	350,000.00	To assist with costs associated with undertaking a comprehensive capital project to upgrade its 400 seat theatre and rehearsal space.		\$	16,000.00	\$334,000.00
Mount Denson Community Hall Association	Recreation Facility Capital Projects	\$	9,849.00	To assist with costs associated with insulation and siding for the hall.		\$	3,000.00	\$6,849.00
Newport Station Community Hall Society	Community Capital Project Grant	\$	2,500.00	To assist with costs associated with completing items to obtain occupancy.	\$	2,000.00		\$500.00
Southwest Hants Fire Society	Major Capital Project	\$	25,949.75	To assist with costs associated with upgrading to a digital sign. Retrofit an on site freight container into a watertight storage and refrigeration/freezer space to allow for growing events.	\$	2,250.00	\$ -	\$23,699.75

Southwest Hants Fire Society	Recreation Facility Capital Projects	\$	25,949.75	To assist with costs associated with upgrading to a digital sign. Retrofit an on site freight container into a watertight storage and refrigeration/freezer space to allow for growing events.	\$	-	\$	-	\$	25,949.75
St. Croix Community Hall	Community Capital Project Grant	\$	2,500.00	To assist with costs associated with monthly programs the hall offers such as darts, washer toss and trivia. It will also go toward updating the indoor space to provide a welcoming environment for all visitors.	\$	1,000.00				\$1,500.00
St. John the Evangelist Cemetery, Corpus Christi Parish Saint John the Evangelist Church, Windsor in the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth	Community Capital Project Grant	\$	2,500.00	To assist with costs associated to restore and preserve headstones in the historic St. John the Evangelist Cemetery.	\$	1,250.00				\$1,250.00
Sweets Corner Community Hall	Community Capital Project Grant	\$	2,500.00	To assist with costs associated with adding a roof over the wheelchair ramp.	\$	2,500.00				\$0.00
The Bramber New Horizons Association	Major Capital Project	\$	20,000.00	To assist with costs associated with purchasing tables and chairs and a heat pump.	\$	2,500.00				\$17,500.00
Upper Burlington Community Hall Association	Community Capital Project Grant	\$	2,500.00	To assist with costs associated with the conversion of electrical panel, repair of entrance door, and replacement of faucets in washroom and kitchen.	\$	2,500.00				\$0.00
Upper Vaughan Community Hall Association	Major Capital Project	\$	5,000.00	To assist with costs associated with upgrading the halls kitchen which will include new flooring, water filter, non-absorbent counter-tops with backsplash, new sinks, and faucets, associated plumbing, installing cabinet doors, replacing lighting, electrical upgrades, and paint.	\$	2,500.00				\$2,500.00
Windsor Agricultural Society	Community Capital Project Grant	\$	2,500.00	To assist with costs associated with upgrading equipment. Request is to support the purchase of a golf cart.	\$	-			\$	2,500.00

Windsor Elementary School Home & School Committee	Recreation Facility Capital Projects	\$	18,400.00	To assist with costs associated with the Community Bike Pump Track Development Project.	\$	6,000.00			\$12,400.00			
Windsor Jr. Hockey - Valley Maple Leafs	Community Capital Project Grant	\$	1,800.00	To assist with costs associated with equipment purchase for new players coming to the team as they have to be outfitted with Maple Leafs colours.	\$	-			\$1,800.00			
Windsor Legion Veterans Banner Project	Major Capital Project	\$	5,000.00	To assist with the costs associated with the Veteran Banner Program that takes place during Remembrance Day.	\$	2,500.00			\$2,500.00			
		\$	585,819.50		\$	25,250.00	\$	40,000.00	\$	2,500.00	\$	518,069.50



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

Information ☐	Recommendation ☒	Decision Request ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
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To: Mayor Zebian and Members of West Hants Regional Municipality Council

Submitted by: _____
Deanna Snair, Clerk

Date: June 10, 2025

Subject: Accessibility Advisory Committee Citizen Member Appointment

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act – Section 24 Standing, Special and Advisory Committees

RECOMMENDATION

... that Committee of the Whole recommends Council appoint Vanessa Woodworth to the Accessibility Advisory Committee beginning June 24, 2025 and ending June 24, 2027.

BACKGROUND

Property ☐	Public Opinion ☐	Environment ☐	Social X	Economic ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
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The Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) provides advice to Council on identifying, preventing and eliminating barriers to people with disabilities in municipal programs, services, initiatives and facilities and plays a pivotal role in helping to become a barrier-free community and ensuring obligations under “An Act Respecting Accessibility in Nova Scotia (2017)” are met.

The committee consists of no less than seven (7) members as follows:

- One (1) members of Council and One (1) Alternate – Two (2) year term
- No less than Four (4) Resident members – Two (2) year term
- No less than Two (2) Resident members – Three (3) year term

As identified in the Terms of Reference, at least one half of the members of the AAC must be persons with disabilities or representatives from organizations representing persons with disabilities.

DISCUSSION

Staff recently advertised all of WHRM's advisory committee opportunities in the WHRM newsletter and issued a call for interested individuals to fill current vacancies.

Ms. Woodworth has expressed a strong interest in contributing to the Accessibility Advisory Committee. She brings a wealth of both lived and professional experience, which would be a valuable asset in advancing the committee's goals and initiatives.

Her application was reviewed by the chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee, who expressed support for her appointment to the committee.

NEXT STEPS

Once approved by Council, the applicant will be contacted to notify them of whether or not they were appointed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Resident members appointed to a Committee of Council will receive remuneration in accordance with the Council Remuneration Policy, which is identified in the annual Operating Budget.

ALTERNATIVES

Council can direct staff to readvertise for expressions of interest.

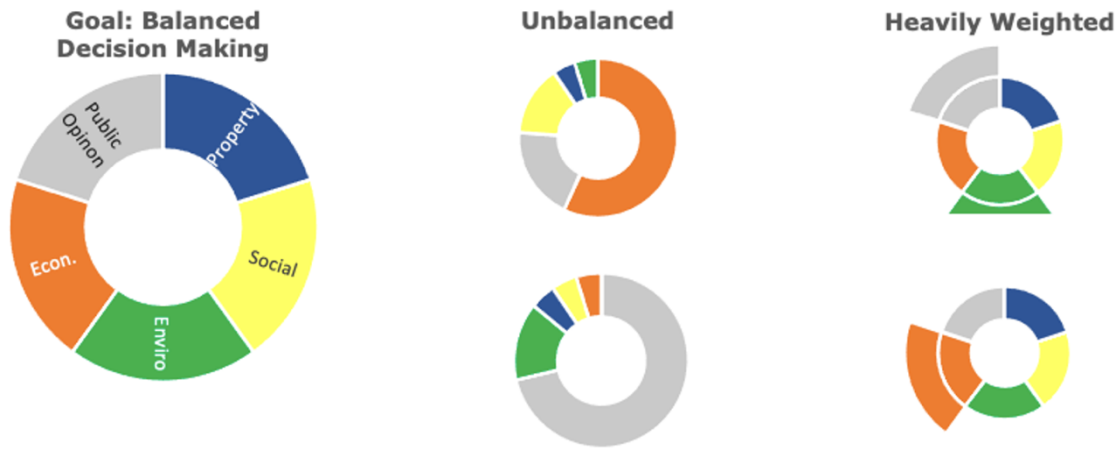
ATTACHMENTS

None

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW

I support the recommendation.

Council has been provided with a reference taken from the Meeting and Committee Procedural Policy , Appendix C “Decision Making by Council and Committee of the Whole” as a reminder of the principles highlighted for good decision making.



Report Prepared by: _____
Deanna Snair, Clerk

Report Reviewed by: _____
Deanna Snair, Clerk

Report Approved by:  _____ :
Mark Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer