



**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT
APRIL 2023**

The Committee met on April 11, 2023.

The Committee discussed the L'Ardoise Acadian Heritage Society grant request for Type 2- Start-up Activity Grant Funds in the amount of \$500.

I move that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that the L'Ardoise Acadian Heritage Society grant request for Type 2- Start-up Activity Grant Funds in the amount of \$500 for the purpose of supporting the costs of equipment and supplies, be approved and allocated as follows: \$ 500 from District 5 Funds.

The Committee discussed the St. Peter's Grand River Loch Lomond Pastoral Charge grant request for Type 4 - Regional/Health/General Grant Funds in the amount of \$5000.

I move that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that the St. Peter's Grand River Loch Lomond Pastoral Charge grant request for Type 4 - Regional/Health/General Grant Funds for the purpose of supporting the costs of building repairs, be approved in the amount of \$3,000 and allocated as follows: \$3,000 from the General Grant Funds.

The Committee discussed the Strait Area Mutual Aid Association funding request for purchasing equipment in the amount of \$5,000.

I move that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to have the CAO inquire with the CFO regarding whether or not the Strait Area Mutual Aid Association funding request meets the criteria for the grant application process and FURTHER MOVE that the request be referred to budget deliberations if the Association does not qualify for the grant application process.

The Committee discussed the correspondence from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities regarding retroactive RCMP costs.

I move that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to support the Federation of Canadian Municipalities resolution opposing the decision of the Federal Government to not absorb retroactive RCMP costs and FURTHER MOVE that the Warden issue a press release. The resolution is as follows:



Prioritizing Municipal Input in Future RCMP Contract Policing Decisions

WHEREAS, The Government of Canada has made the decision in Budget 2023 to make municipalities responsible for all retroactive costs stemming from the latest RCMP collective bargaining agreement; and

WHEREAS, These extraordinary one-time costs, which in some jurisdictions amount to millions of dollars, will cause significant hardship for communities and residents across the country, and were negotiated without meaningful consultation or a seat at the table for the municipalities responsible for paying the bill; and

WHEREAS, Municipal governments are already paying a growing share of policing costs, but unlike other orders of government, cannot run deficits to spread out the impact of these extraordinary one-time sums, and have limited revenue tools; and

WHEREAS, Local governments will now be forced to make difficult decisions that will impact residents, such as cutting essential services, reducing policing levels, raising property taxes significantly, and/or cancelling work on local infrastructure, at a time when Canadians' concerns about community safety and the cost of living are already rising; and

WHEREAS, Going forward, it is critical that municipalities be proactively engaged in any forthcoming processes related to contract policing to prevent this occurring again; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Municipality of the County of Richmond joins the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in calling on the federal government to commit to ensuring that local governments are meaningfully consulted, fully informed, and at the table on issues related to policing costs given the municipal role in keeping our communities safe; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Municipality of the County of Richmond conveys this support in writing to local Members of Parliament.

The Committee discussed the correspondence from the Landrie Lake Water Utility Board regarding the letter to the Minister of Public Works regarding Green Hydrogen Development Support.

I move that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to support the letter drafted by the Landrie Lake Water Utility Board to the Minister of Public Works requesting that the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works work with the utility to reestablish water transfer from the Little River Reservoir to Landrie Lake.

The Committee discussed the correspondence from Mayor Brenda Chisholm-Beaton regarding the request to meet with Council to discuss shared municipal files.

I move that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to have staff organize and coordinate a meeting with the Port Hawkesbury Town Council to discuss shared files.



The Committee discussed the Cape Breton Regional Enterprise Network Event and Doug Griffiths, President and CEO of 13 Ways Incorporated.

I move that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to have the CAO and staff pursue a community focused event with Doug Griffiths.

This concludes the Committee of the Whole Report for the month of April 2023 and I move its adoption.