

RICHMOND COUNTY WARDEN'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



June 1, 2026

Vol.2



SPOTLIGHT ON COMMITTEES

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee helps Council ensure that municipal finances are being managed responsibly and transparently. The Committee reviews financial reports, audit findings, and financial practices to help ensure public funds are properly accounted for and that appropriate safeguards are in place to protect municipal assets.

Richmond County's Audit Committee is made up of all five Councillors and one member of the public. It meets at least twice a year, and more often when needed, particularly during the annual audit process and review of year-end financial statements.

While there have been many important activities going on in the municipality, none are more important than passing the annual budget.

This budget balances investments in our communities with a continued focus on affordability. I am pleased that Council was able to maintain both residential and commercial tax rates for the fourth consecutive year, keeping Richmond County among the municipalities with the lowest tax rates in Nova Scotia.

This year's budget continues support for many programs and organizations that improve quality of life for residents, including healthcare, public transit, food security, seniors' services, youth programs, tourism, housing initiatives, and community grants. We have also expanded the Low-Income Property Tax Exemption Program to help more households facing financial pressures.

The budget includes important investments in infrastructure and public safety, including the Richmond Arena retrofit, road paving partnerships, water and sewer improvements, and new dry hydrants to support fire protection in rural communities. Together, these investments help ensure Richmond County remains a strong, vibrant, and welcoming place to live.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns:

Email: lois.landry@richmondcounty.ca

Phone: (902) 631-0332

DID YOU KNOW...

Richmond's 2026-2027 Budget is \$19,020,485. Of that, more than \$6 million goes back to the province in mandatory contributions for education, policing, and property assessment services.

RICHMOND COUNTY COUNCIL

MOTIONS OF COUNCIL IN MAY

Council conducts its business by making and voting on motions at Regular or Special Council meetings. Each motion clearly outlines a proposed action, and once approved by a majority vote, it becomes an official decision of Council.

MOVED AND SECONDED THAT COUNCIL ...

- Approve \$15,000 for **Canada Day events** at the D'Escouse Civic Improvement Society, Isle Madame New Horizons Club, St. Louis Parish, Riverdale Community Services Society, St. Peter's and Area Lion's Club, L'Ardoise Men's Club, Loch Lomond Heritage Association, and District 10 Volunteer Fire Department.
- Approve funding for **student bursaries** to local high schools totaling \$3,000.
- Refer **Councillor travel** and how it is presented in the budget to the Audit Committee.
- Investigate the **costs related to street lights**.
- Proclaim May 17 to 23, 2026 as **VON Week** in Richmond County.
- Direct the Warden write two **letters to the Allan J. MacEachen Regional Airport** Management Committee – one recommending emergency services representation be included on the Committee, and one asking that items raised by the Port Hastings Volunteer Fire Department Chief be placed on the agenda at an upcoming meeting.
- Amend Council's **Flag Policy** to include *Epilepsy Awareness Day*.
- Adopt a revised **Credit Card Policy**.
- Have the Warden write a letter to the Province advocating for Public Awareness Posters to be **translated and printed in the Mi'kmaw language**.
- Proclaim June 15, 2026 as **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day**.
- Award **Community Grant Funds** to the Nicolas Denys Museum, Grand River Volunteer Fire Department, Persons with Impaired Vision Group, Bras d'Or Lake Biosphere Region Association, and the L'Ardoise Acadian Festival, and sponsor the Cape Breton Partnership's *Investor Summit*.
- Add an alternate to the Superport Board and Referred **Committee Policy** to the Bylaw and Policy Committee.
- Direct the Warden to send letters to the Town of Port Hawkesbury and the Allan J. MacEachen Regional Airport about **funding contributions** in subsequent budgets.
- Pass the **2026–2027 Budget**.

... MOTION CARRIED