

## Cumberland Council March 3 Meeting Overview

Council of the Municipality of Cumberland met via zoom for a Public Council Meeting on March 3, 2021. As with all council meetings it was opened with a territorial acknowledgement. Representatives from In the Works provided a presentation on the background and progress of their organization.

Future delegations, presentations and petitions will be a part of the committee of the whole meetings scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month. Council directed staff to write a letter to the Municipality of Colchester to ask to partner on a review of policing services.

Council granted permission for staff to add the project scope of the rehabilitation of Junction St. in Springhill, to the RFP for the detailed design of Main St. rehabilitation in Springhill from Lisgar St. to Junction Rd. to be released in March 2021. By combining these similar projects into one RFP it should help make the completion of this design work more efficient and timelier.

Second reading was given for a development agreement which had previously been given first reading on December 16, 2020 and public hearing on January 13, 2021. The amendment for rezoning in Nappan was given second reading.

Council reviewed a memo on unused staff vacation days. The personnel policy states that employees may carry over a maximum of five vacation days into the next fiscal year. Unused vacation time currently exceeds this maximum for a

number of employees. Council instructed the CAO to permit excess vacation carry over, with the expectation that the vacation time is used in fiscal 2021/2022.

Five properties were approved for remittals. This happens when tax accounts are charged incorrectly. Council was presented with information on the federal Health Communities Initiative, intended to transform public spaces in response to COVID-19. Staff prepared multiple options for council to consider as potential projects.

Council agreed staff should put forth the Sheds & Equipment Loan Program project at a value of \$70,000 for federal consideration. The proposed project will involve sheds that will house equipment to be stored in various communities and it will be an additional way to store equipment for the municipality's lending program. This request will also include funding for additional equipment that can be stored in the sheds.

East Cumberland Lodge is owned and operated by the Cumberland Senior Care Corporation (CSCC). The CSCC was incorporated by the Municipality of Cumberland through the Municipal Housing Corporations Act. As such, any changes to the Instrument of Incorporation and By-Laws of the CSCC must be approved by council. Council approved the most recent change which included an update to the working in the By-Laws, including committee structure and duties of certain staff. The number of board

members was also adjusted from 6 or 7, to 6-8 members.

Council received a request from a resident for a letter from the Municipality of Cumberland to the Town of Amherst regarding sewer access for a property that is situated in the municipality but directly borders the town. The acting CAO was directed to continue working with the CAO of Amherst on the matter.

It was noted starting March 10, 2021, committee of the whole (COW) meetings will take place. COW meetings allow for council to dig deeper into topics which then permits council meetings to flow with more understanding of the topics presented. Council decided to hold COW meetings the second Wednesday of every month, with public council meetings the first and third Wednesdays of every month.

Minutes of the March 3 meeting are available at: <https://cumberlandcounty.ns.ca/2021-council-minutes.html> A Facebook live recording is available on the municipal Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/MunicipalityofCumberland>

## Cumberland Council March 17 Meeting Overview

Council of the Municipality of Cumberland met via zoom for a Public Council Meeting on Wednesday, March 17, 2021. The meeting opened with a territorial acknowledgement. A public hearing was held regarding an application for municipal heritage property deregistration at 2029 Gulf Shore Road. Council voted to approve the request to deregister the property from the municipal registry of heritage properties.

First reading of an amendment to the land use by-law to rezone an area in Tidnish Cross Roads. A public hearing date of April 21, 2021 was set. Public hearings allow people to respond to a proposed change prior to the change being formally decided upon.

A second reading was given to an amendment to the Land Use By-Law to rezone 746 Miller Road, which was given first reading January 13, 2021 and exposed to public hearing at the March 3, 2021 public council meeting.

Council approved a terms of reference document for a Glooscap Campground advisory committee. The mandate of the new committee is to advise the campground manager and the municipality's CAO regarding the operations, finances, staffing, and

infrastructure of the Glooscap Campground.

Seven properties were approved for remittals. This happens when tax accounts are charged incorrectly.

Council also approved a listing of in-active water accounts for write-off. Millie MacLeod was ratified as a citizen board member of the Sunset Community. Ms. MacLeod's term will run until December 31, 2024.

Two grant requests were approved by council. One was a Coyote Cupboard food pantry to address the needs of students at the Advocate District School. The second grant request was from Parrsboro

Creative to create public art pieces depicting the world as it was in the waters from the time of Pangaea to the current-day Bay of Fundy.

A council meeting was added to the month of April for budget considerations. Council will meet April 1, 2021 to view an overview of the capital budget and the operational budget. The Nomination Committee brought forward two new committees of council. The Glooscap Campground Advisory Committee will have Councillors Goodwin, McCormick and Porter.

The Fire Services Advisory Committee will see representation from Councillors Gould and Joseph with Deputy Mayor Redmond as an alternate.

Councillor Gilroy provided an update on the progress of the Shinimicas Fire Hall. A memorandum of understanding regarding the sale of land has been signed by all parties. The next step is completing the purchase and sale agreement for the land and issuing tenders for building the new hall and acquiring the vehicles.

At the Feb 3, 2021 meeting, council requested more information regarding annual income thresholds of the Low Income Tax Exemption Policy. Finance staff prepared a five-year review of the exemptions provided. The next public council meeting will be April 7, 2021 at 6 p.m. A committee of the whole meeting will be held April 14, 2021 at 6 p.m.

Formal minutes of the March 17 meeting are available at <https://cumberlandcounty.ns.ca/2021-council-minutes.html> A Facebook live recording is available on the municipal Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MunicipalityofCumberland>

**A Ditty for Smitty (Give me freedom or give me death)**

Although now we will never meet I will always remember your name For now you have a glory seat From a hero to a hero just the same	As your ashes spread to the waters below And the angels take you home I will dream of a world of peace you know
Why freedom means all	One world for all free to roam
Father is in heaven he looks just like me His father also i know that this you will see Mothers dad is there a man i barely knew	Why freedom means all From all of us to all at rest May yours be those of peace For war is not in our gods test He wants this fight to cease
All make me proud to speak aloud to be thank-ful too	Why freedom means all
Why freedom means all	So once more i thank-you from my heart
There is only one thing i ask of you And this is my request That as you are piped through the pearly gates Acknowledge that you are with heav- ens best	And i am sorry we never met But as i said you played the hero part So god bless you may you meet my father yet....!
Why freedom means all	Why freedom means all
Why freedom means all	God bless and thank-you Thomas A. Marshall (Ex-Navy)

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**Municipality of the County of Colchester  
Low Income Municipal Tax Assistance Program**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE - MAY 7, 2021**

Residential property owners may be eligible for an exemption on their 2021/2022 property taxes of **\$534.60**. To qualify, applicants must own and occupy the property as your principal residence and fall into one of the categories in the table below:

Family Size	Gross Income	Exemption
Single	Less than \$26,406	\$199.46
Family of 2	Less than \$34,877	\$265.96
Family of 3 or more	Less than \$41,852	\$332.45

**Gross Income refers to the total gross income from all sources for the calendar year ending December 31, 2020.** This must include the income of all members of the household, except full-time students. You should not include income from the following sources:

1. War Veterans Allowance Act (Canada);
2. Veterans Affairs Canada Pension;
3. Child Tax Benefit; or
4. GST/HST Rebate

**Application forms will automatically be mailed to last years eligible applicants.**  
**If you have not received your application form by April 1st, please call 902-897-3162.**  
**Late applications will not be accepted.**

Applicants must reapply annually. If you did not receive the exemption last year, you may obtain an application from the Municipal Tax Office, 1 Church Street Truro, or by calling 902-897-3162.

For income verification purposes, please bring your 2020 **INCOME TAX RETURN**, which you submit to Revenue Canada. **If you have filed via telephone through the File My Return service, please request a proof of income statement Option 'C' Print to provide as proof of income.**

**Notice of Assessments will NOT be accepted.**

Rob Simonds  
Chief Administrative Officer