



## **TOWN OF STELLARTON**

Council

September 8, 2025

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

### **1. Approval of Agenda**

**2. Approval of Minutes:** July 14, 2025 Regular Council

### **3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

### **4. Reports from Staff: July and August**

- a. Chief Mark Hobeck- Stellarton Police Service
- b. Fire Chief Mike O'Sullivan – Fire Department
- c. Paige Draper- Marketing & Communications
- d. Blaine Murray – Town Engineer

### **5. Growth and Renewal for Infrastructure Development Program (GRID) Funding Application**

### **6. Correspondence**

- a. **Pictou County Partnership** Re: Activity Report for Q1
- b. **Provincial Capital Assistance Program** Re: Funding
- c. **Healthy Pictou County** Re: July and August 2025 Report
- d. **People First Disability** Re: Thank You
- e. **Honourable John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs** Re: Letter, NS Firefighters School
- f. **Nova Scotia Emergency Management** Re: Letter, Homeless Encampments and Wildfires
- g. **Department of Natural Resources and the Office of the Fire Marshal** Re: Restriction of travel and activities in the woods
- h. **Pictou Antigonish Regional Library** Re: Library Funding
- i. **Greg MacDonald, Patterson Law** Re: Thank You

### **7. Pictou County Prostate Cancer Support Association**

### **8. Open Forum**

**9. Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 @ 5:30 PM**

### **10. Adjourn**

**JULY 14, 2025**  
**STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

**MEETING**

A meeting of the Stellarton Town Council was held on Monday, July 14, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**PRESENT**

Mayor Darren Stroud, Couns. Sandra Eis, Mark Fortune and Garry Pentz. Also present was Fire Chief Mike O'Sullivan, and Marketing and Communications Paige Draper. Regrets Coun. S. Campbell.

**1. AGENDA**

The Agenda was approved on motion by Coun. S. Eis, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz.  
**Motion Carried.**

**2. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from June 9, 2025 Regular Council were approved on motion by Coun. G. Pentz seconded by Coun. M. Fortune. **Motion Carried.**

**3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**4. Audited Financial Statement Presentation:** Doane Grant Thornton Town Accountant Brenda MacKay presented the Draft Consolidated Financial Statements highlighting:

- the Audit for the fiscal year March 31, 2025 has a clean audit opinion
- the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
- Total Financial assets for the Town are \$6.1 million plus \$2 million debenture bumping Town back up to \$8 million; increasing debt by same amount
- Total financial liabilities \$10.7 million
- Overall net financial debt \$1.9 million last year; up to \$4.68 million this year
- Capital asset net increased by \$3.6 million
- Consolidated surplus for Stellarton is \$33.2 million
- Total Revenue is \$13.1 million
- Total Expenditures \$12.2 million
- Net surplus \$900,000
- Net financial debt
- Cash flows
- Consolidated schedules to support income statements
- No issues noted by the auditors

Mayor D. Stroud thanked B. Mackay and asked for a motion to accept report. Coun. G. Pentz made motion to accept report, seconded by Coun. S. Eis.

Mayor D. Stroud commented that the report was reviewed and discussed by the Audit Committee.

**Motion Carried.**

**5. Reports from Staff: June (Attached and available online)**

- a. Chief Mark Hobeck – Stellarton Police Service  
P. Draper highlighted report for June; 228 Calls for Services; several community events – Sgt. Sutherland attended GR Saunders Elementary School and spent lunch hour with a grade 5 student; Sgt. Veenhuis, Sgt. Sutherland and Cst. MacAdam attended the 911 Ride Opening Night at the Soccer Complex; Sgt. Veenhuis and Cst. Smith participated in the two day 911 Ride Event; Chief Hobeck, Inspector Pond and Sgt. Sutherland attended the William Davis Miners' Memorial Day Service; Cst. Vandergrift attended the Town of Stellarton Pride Flag Raising Ceremony; and Sgt. Veenhuis and Cst. Holland participated in the Towns of Stellarton and New Glasgow Ice Cream Ride. There were 20 hours of Foot/Bike Patrol; 102 hours of Traffic Enforcement and 15 hours of Community Relations.  
Coun. G. Pentz made motion to accept Police Service Report, seconded by Coun. M. Fortune. **Motion Carried.**
- b. Fire Chief Mike O'Sullivan – Fire Department  
Chief O'Sullivan reported that the Stellarton Fire Department responded to 9 calls in June, on average 10 members attended each call; Reminder to residents to check the burn ban on a daily basis; practices were held every Thursday evening with an average of 10 members attending; Equipment checks were completed weekly with individual crews. Firefighter's Competition will be held during Homecoming Week July 24 at 6 p.m.  
Coun. G. Pentz motioned to accept Fire Department's report for June 2025, seconded by Coun. S. Eis. **Motion Carried.**
- c. Paige Draper – Marketing and Communications  
P. Draper commented that software has been upgraded for our Live-Stream; Report highlights: Davis Day Service; Mental Health First Aid; Summer Day Camp registration continues; Verbal De-Escalation & Harm Reduction Training; Homecoming July 23 to 27, looking for volunteers.  
Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve the Marketing and Communications report, seconded by Coun. M. Fortune.  
Mayor D. Stroud re Day Camp schedule. P. Draper responded that the last week of Day Camp is August 22.  
Mayor D. Stroud re volunteers for Homecoming. P. Draper put request for volunteers on Town's social media page as well as the Homecoming Committee members / organizations.

Coun. S. Eis asked about age restrictions for volunteers. Paige stated that there are opportunities for ages 12 to 16; no restrictions other than the 19 plus events.

**Motion Carried.**

- d. Blaine Murray – Town Engineer, absent.

Reports presented to Council.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Town Engineer's Reports, seconded by Coun. S. Eis.

Coun. G. Pentz commented on the excellent job Public Works is doing especially with beautification of the Town.

Coun. S. Eis commented on the new flare mower.

**Motion Carried.**

**6. Committee of the Whole Report**

The following recommendation is for Council's consideration from the Special Committee of the Whole meeting held on July 4, 2025:

**Recommendation # 1**

On recommendation of Committee of the Whole Council approve the proposed mural received from MacGillivray Law to be painted on the wall at 247 Foord Street.

Coun. S. Eis made motion to approve Recommendations from the Committee of the Whole, seconded by Coun. M. Fortune. **Motion Carried.**

**7. Open Forum**

No one spoke during the Open Forum.

**8. Next Council Meeting:** September 8, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

**9. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned on motion by Coun. G. Pentz.



## STELLARTON POLICE SERVICE

Report up to July 31st, 2025

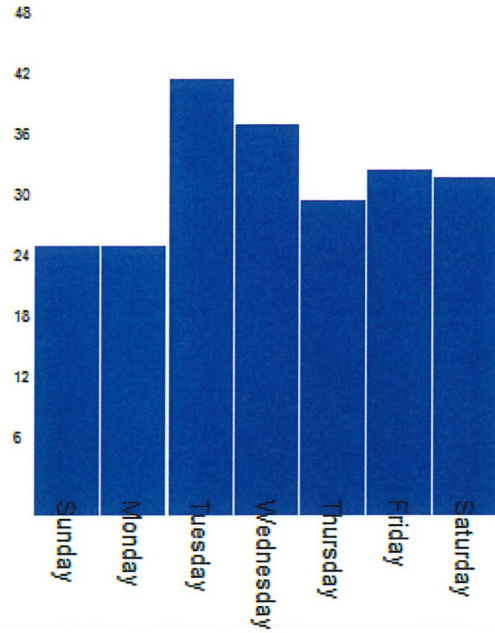
Calls for Service : 217 (2024 calls: 280)

Calls	Type
2	911 Act-Other Activities
3	Animal
4	Assaults
3	Assists to the General Public
13	Assist other Police Agency
1	Break and Enter
7	Checkpoint
6	Causing a disturbance
4	Disobeying a court order
3	False Alarms
4	Family Relations Act
2	Fraud under \$5,000
1	Fail to remain MVA
2	Fail to comply with conditions
8	Information Files
7	Item Lost/Found
5	Mental Health Act
3	Mischief

<b>23</b>	Motor Vehicle Act Violations
<b>8</b>	Municipal Bylaw
<b>5</b>	No pursuit flight from police
<b>3</b>	Offender Management
<b>4</b>	Operation while impaired (alcohol)
<b>10</b>	Thefts
<b>7</b>	Property check
<b>4</b>	S.T.E.P.
<b>28</b>	Suspicious Persons/person/vehicle
<b>3</b>	Traffic Collision non-fatal
<b>4</b>	Trespass Act
<b>2</b>	Uttering Threats -person
<b>10</b>	Well-Being Checks

**Breakdown by day of the week:**

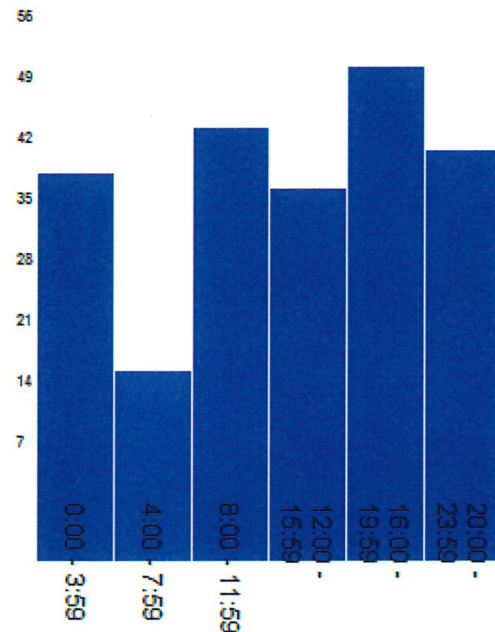
<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Number of occurrences</i>	<i>Percentage of total</i>
Sunday	24	11.1%
Monday	24	11.1%
Tuesday	41	18.9%
Wednesday	36	16.6%
Thursday	29	13.4%
Friday	32	14.7%
Saturday	31	14.3%
Unknown	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Number of occurrences per weekday**

**Breakdown by time of day:**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Number of occurrences</i>	<i>Percentage of total</i>
0:00 - 3:59	37	17.1%
4:00 - 7:59	14	6.5%
8:00 - 11:59	42	19.4%
12:00 - 15:59	35	16.1%
16:00 - 19:59	49	22.6%
20:00 - 23:59	40	18.4%
Unknown	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Number of occurrences per time of day**

## Charges

Criminal Code - 10

Motor Vehicle Act - 9

Warnings - 84

## Events

- Chief Hobeck and Cst Wheeler attended the Special Olympics torch run followed by the opening ceremony at STFX
- SPS Officers attended various Homecoming events

## Other Activities

Foot/Bike Patrol - 35 hours

Traffic Enforcement - 183 hours

Community Relations -17 hours

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Hobeck", is located in the lower right quadrant of the page.



## STELLARTON POLICE SERVICE

Report up to Aug 27th, 2025

Calls for Service : 198 (2024 calls: 207)

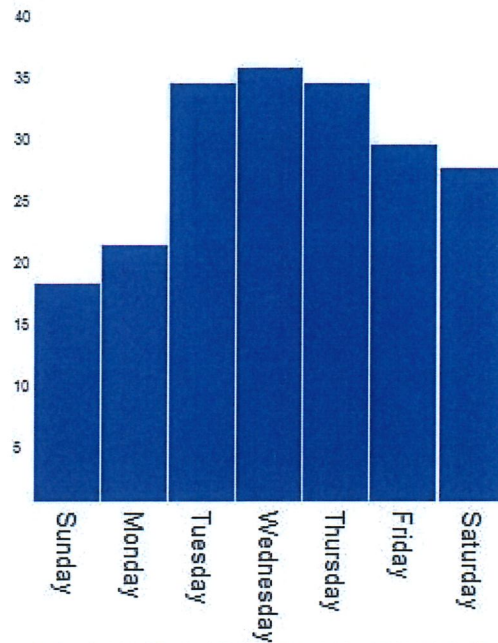
Calls	Type
2	911 Act-Other Activities
1	Animal
4	Assaults
1	Assault with a weapon
9	Assists to the General Public
10	Assist other Police Agency
3	Break and Enter
2	Being unlawfully in a dwelling
2	Breach of peace
4	Checkpoint
1	CDSA
2	Criminal Harassment
1	Causing a disturbance
1	Defamatory Libel
1	Disobeying a court order
3	Driving while disqualified
2	False Alarms
1	Fire prevention act

1	Firearms act
3	Forest Prevention Act
2	Family Relations Act
2	Fraud under \$5,000
3	Fail to comply with conditions
3	Harassing Communications
8	Information Files
6	Item Lost/Found
3	Liquor Control Act
6	Mental Health Act
5	Mischief
21	Motor Vehicle Act Violations
6	Municipal Bylaw
4	No pursuit flight from police
3	Neighbour dispute
2	Offender Management
3	Operation while impaired (alcohol)
4	Person reported missing
1	Possession of stolen property over 5,000
1	Possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose
4	Property check
1	Prov wildlife act
10	Police assistance
2	Protection of property act
1	Robbery with offensive weapon
12	Suspicious Persons/person/vehicle
10	Thefts
2	Theft of motor vehicle
1	Theft of Motorcycle

<b>3</b>	Traffic Collision non-fatal
<b>5</b>	Trespass Act
<b>1</b>	Uttering Threats -person
<b>11</b>	Well-Being Checks

**Breakdown by day of the week:**

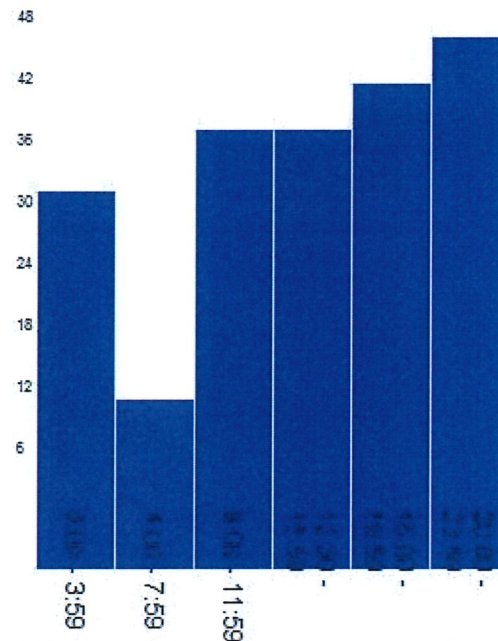
<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Number of occurrences</i>	<i>Percentage of total</i>
Sunday	18	9.1%
Monday	21	10.6%
Tuesday	34	17.2%
Wednesday	35	17.7%
Thursday	34	17.2%
Friday	29	14.6%
Saturday	27	13.6%
<i>Unknown</i>	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Number of occurrences per weekday**

**Breakdown by time of day:**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Number of occurrences</i>	<i>Percentage of total</i>
0:00 - 3:59	30	15.2%
4:00 - 7:59	10	5.1%
8:00 - 11:59	36	18.2%
12:00 - 15:59	36	18.2%
16:00 - 19:59	41	20.7%
20:00 - 23:59	45	22.7%
<i>Unknown</i>	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Number of occurrences per time of day**

## Charges

Criminal Code - 14

Motor Vehicle Act - 11

Warnings - 79

## Events

## Other Activities

Foot/Bike Patrol - 30 hours

Traffic Enforcement - 155 hours

Community Relations -12 hours

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jose C. F. ...", is located in the lower right quadrant of the page.

Stellarton Fire Department  
Monthly Report – July/August 2025

Due to scheduling of Council, July and August reports are compiled on the same report.

**CALLS:**

During the month of July, we responded to 16 calls: 4 were for motor vehicle accidents(1 came in as an iphone crash notification), 2 were structure fires, 1 was mutual aid, 1 was a tree on fire, 2 were medical calls, 1 was to investigate the smell of propane, 1 was for a report of an illegal burn, 1 was for homecoming planning and prep and the other 3 were alarm calls. An average of 10 fire fighters responded to each call with the exception of the mutual aid call.

July also was the ever popular Stellarton homecoming where we held our annual fire fighter's competition and the pancake breakfast. Our focus has shifted the last couple of years to make the fire fighter's competition more of a family event which includes a kid's obstacle course, dunk tank and a mock house on fire. Overall, the event was a huge success. On behalf of the entire Stellarton fire Department I want to thank everyone who attended. Special thanks to the Town for their continued support of our specific events but, also for their dedication to the Homecoming event as a whole. It is a wonderful week of events and we are proud to be part of it.

August saw the Fire Department respond to 8 calls. 3 were alarm calls, 2 were mutual aid(1 was stand by at our own Hall), 2 were motor vehicle accidents and 1 was a report of a sighting of smoke. An average of 8 members attended.

**PRACTICES:**

Practices were suspended for July and August. They resume in September.

**Clean-up/Equipment checks:**

Weekly clean-up and equipment checks were performed with individual crews.

## **July & August Council Report**

### **Marketing, Communications, Recreation**

#### ***Homecoming***

The majority of July was spent with Homecoming preparations, set up, and execution. The week was a great success with large crowds at all events – the dance was a sell out night, so I've been researching what is needed to increase capacity for next year.

Several aspects of 2026's Homecoming are already in the works, including adding new volunteers to the planning committee. Next year's Homecoming will take place from July 22-26.

#### ***Special Events***

Throughout the summer, Lucia has been coordinating different free events for the community (details are included in her report below). As part of her event planning, she planned for a colouring contest. I assisted her in the creation of Stellarton-themed colouring pages with images featuring highlights of Stellarton parks, departments, and events. I am now investigating ways that we can feature these colouring pages in the future.

#### ***Water Contingency***

Since before Homecoming, we have been navigating different stages of our Water Contingency Plan. Information on each stage is posted on social media, the Town's website, the TownAPP, a designated water phone line, as well as on a sign posted at the front of Town Hall.

For those that may not have access to any of the above forms of notification, I created a pamphlet that is available at the Town Hall and at several businesses along Foord Street. This pamphlet outlines all of the potential stages that we may experience as well as the reasoning behind the stages. Police also have access to this pamphlet to provide residents with information if they notice water usage outside of designated orders.

#### ***Fire Restrictions***

As a result of continuous hot and dry conditions, the province implemented a travel ban to restrict activities in the woods. Stellarton has three trails systems that have been closed since August 5. This notice was posted and pinned to the top of our Facebook page and also went out on the TownAPP.

Barricades and signage have also been posted at multiple entrances to our trails to ensure that anyone who is not online is aware of the restrictions before heading onto the trails.

#### **Report from Lucia Mason, Events & Marketing Specialist**

Since the last council report, I have been working on:

- Planning and taking part in Homecoming events like the Family Water Day, Mayor's Garden Party, Kids Foam Party, Trivia Night, Street Party and Kids Parade, Dance and Beer Garden, Concert in the Park, and the Finale Pre-Show.  
I helped set up, tear down, and pass out treats, freezies and water, as well as took lots of photos.

- Planning and executing remaining events for the month of August including a partnered event with the YMCA (August 6) to host a 3-on-3 basketball tournament at the Pleasant Street Park.

A partnered event with the Museum of Industry (August 16) which included a puppet show, craft, guided tours, as well as treats for participants.

We hosted a colouring contest which began with a colouring in the park day (August 20) which included treats, music, and a wide variety of colouring utensils for participants to use and take part in the colouring contest. Additional colouring pages have been available at Town Hall to be considered for prizing on September 3.

And we brought a travelling petting zoo and face painter to Stellarton (August 27) for a final event before school begins.

- Ensuring residents and businesses in the immediate vicinity were informed of Homecoming events that would directly impact them (Street Party, Dance, etc.).
- Providing local businesses with Water Contingency Plan pamphlets to be able to share with residents.

Respectfully submitted,

Paige Draper

Marketing & Communications Coordinator

# Town of Stellarton

## Town Engineers Report

### July-August 2025 Water Utility Report

#### Water Distribution

1. Two water breaks to note:
  - July 16 - Maple Street
  - Rutherford – multiple breaks due to construction

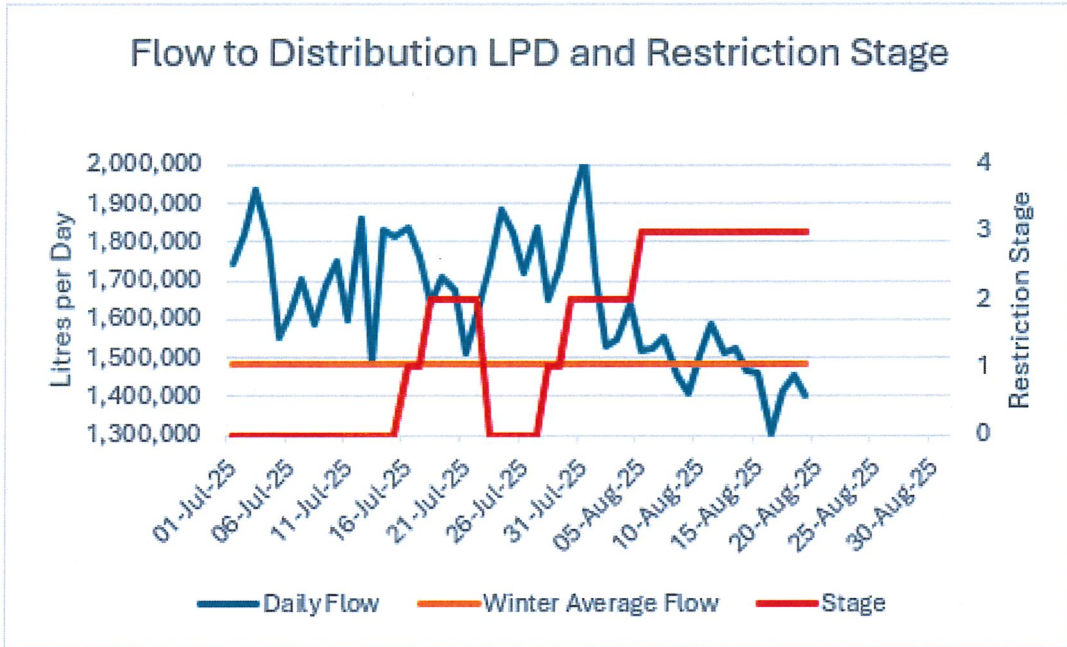
#### WTP

2. The new Membrane for the #1 Zeeweed were installed on July 18<sup>th</sup>.
3. Lead and copper samples were collected throughout the Town from individual households. Under our license to operate, the Town is required to collect twenty lead & copper samples throughout the Town. Samples are collected on a volunteer basis.
4. The total rainfall from our weather station was 69.32 mm and 52.57mm for the month of July and August 2025 respectively. This was down from 110.46 mm and 74.40 mm from 2024.

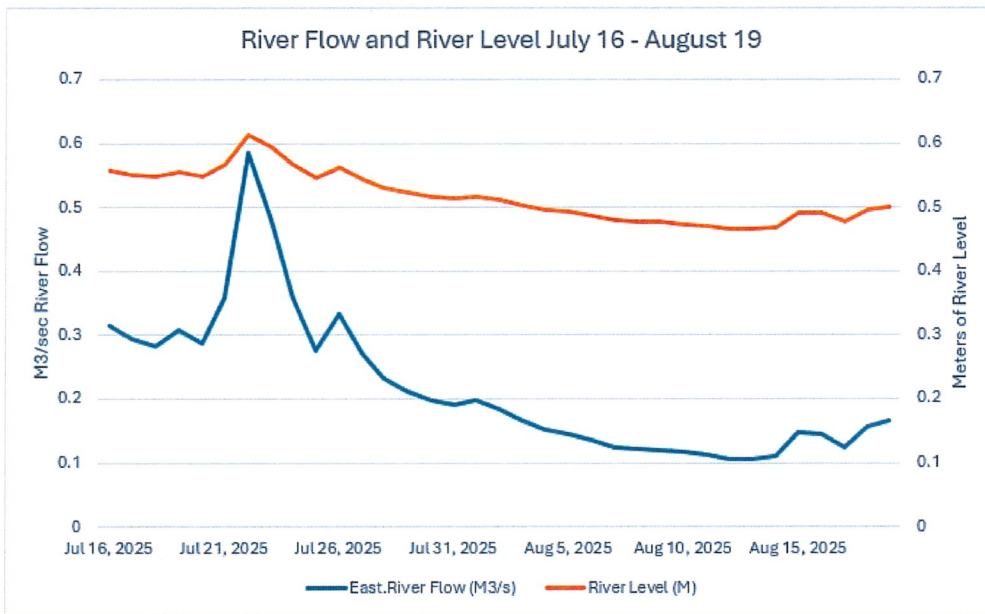
Dues to the lack of rain restrictions were placed as follows:

- July 18<sup>th</sup> = Stage 2 Water Restrictions
- July 23<sup>rd</sup> - Water Restrictions Removed
- July 28<sup>th</sup> - Stage 1 Water Restrictions
- July 30<sup>th</sup> - Stage 2 Water Restrictions
- Aug 5<sup>th</sup> - Stage 3 Water Restrictions
- Aug 27<sup>th</sup> – Reduced to Stage 1

The first graph below indicates that Stellarton residents are following the water restrictions. The blue line illustrates that the daily volume out to distribution (1,400,892 L) is lower than the winter average flow shown in orange. The winter flow average was 1,485,522 L and winter use does not typically have outdoor usage. This indicates that people may be conserving in house as well. The average treated water production for August 2025 (1,588,995 LPD) compared to August 2024 (1,872,734LPD) was -17.9% lower.



The second graph below shows the level in the river in orange and river flow in blue. There appears to be a flattening of the level/flow around August 13th. Meaning the level in the river stabilized. Then it came back up after a small rain event.




We are maintaining approximately 95-97% in both our reservoirs to ensure we have capacity in the case of fire or distribution leak

**Blaine Murray, P. Eng.**  
**Town Engineer**

# Town Engineers Report July and August 2025 Engineering & Public Works Report

## Engineering/Projects

1. See capital projects update sheet below:

CAPITAL	Project Description	Status
		
<b>Town of Stellarton Capital Projects Update Sheet</b>		
<b>Equipment</b>		
	One Ton Truck	Arriving soon
	Boom Flail Mower	Received
	Public Works Truck	
	Backhoe	Received
	Membranes	Received
	PLC Upgrade	Ordered
	Plow Truck	Developing Specifications
<b>Infrastructure</b>		
	Rutherford Infrastructure Upgrades	In construction
	South Foord Sanitary Replacement	Waiting approval from CB&CNS
	Acadia Avenue sidewalk - Scotia Bank	

2. The Town received comments on our drawings from Genesee & Wyoming Railroad Services. The Town will review, update the drawings, and resubmit. The process is not fast and may result in delaying the project until 2026. The project was approved at budget time with the expectation that the Town would receive PCAP funding for 50% of the project. The Town was not successful in that application.
3. The Rutherford Infrastructure Upgrades project has begun. The sanitary infrastructure is complete and in operation. The water main is complete, and testing is underway. Once

testing is completed, the individual services will be connected to the homes and street rehabilitation will begin.

### **Streets/Properties**

4. Line painting was completed in the Town.
5. Bleachers were repaired at the running track.
6. Potholes were repaired on gravel streets.
7. Public Works were involved in the preparation of the Stellarton Homecoming. This usually begins 1-2 weeks before and few days afterwards.
8. Infield dirt at the MacGregor ballfields was placed.
9. A catch basin was installed on Juniper to collect water at a low spot.
10. The deck at the soccer building was rotten. Public works removed the deck and installed a new concrete deck.
11. Various maintenance was done on the storm systems. Inspections were performed on various catch basins throughout the Town. Repairs and cleaning were performed as needed. This work is ongoing.
12. Various water meters were installed throughout the Town.
13. The beatification coordinator and students painted the dugouts on MacGregor and benches by the community center.
14. The beatification coordinator completed a 3-day playground inspection course. The plan is to do inspections in the coming weeks.

**Blaine Murray, P.Eng.,**  
**Town Engineer**