



TOWN OF STELLARTON

Council

November 10, 2025

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

1. Approval of Agenda

2. Approval of Minutes: October 14, 2025 Regular Council

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

4. Reports from Staff: September

- 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. Correspondence

- a. Engage Nova Scotia** Re: Quality of Life Survey
- b. News Release Premier Houston's Office** Re: New Cabinet
- c. Letter, Minister of Municipal Affairs, John MacDonald**
- d. Letter, Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library Board**
- e. Pictou County Partnership - Q2 Report**
- f. Healthy Pictou County - October 2025 Report**

6. Committee of the Whole Report

7. Resolution, Deputy Mayor Signing Authority

8. Open Forum

9. Next Council Meeting: Monday, December 8, 2025 @ 5:30 PM

10. Adjourn

**OCTOBER 14, 2025
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

MEETING

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

PRESENT

Mayor Darren Stroud, Couns. Sandra Eis, Mark Fortune, Susan Campbell and Garry Pentz. Also present was CAO Alanna Grover, Fire Chief Mike O'Sullivan, Town Engineer Blaine Murray and Marketing and Communications Paige Draper.

1. AGENDA

The Agenda was approved as amended to include under Committee of the Whole Report, Salt Hauling Tender recommendation, on motion by Coun. G. Pentz, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from September 8, 2025 Regular Council were approved on motion by Coun. S. Eis seconded by Coun. M. Fortune, with typo corrected. **Motion Carried.**

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

Mayor D. Stroud re update on GRID application. CAO A. Grover replied that notice was received from the province, that due to timing, we aren't eligible for that application. Mayor D. Stroud re follow up on water break on Maple Street; took approximately 7 hours to repair; estimated cost \$1,600 including materials.

4. Reports from Staff: September (Attached and available online)

- a. Chief Mark Hobeck – Stellarton Police Service
CAO A. Grover highlighted: September Calls for Service was 211; Events included – Chief Hobeck and Insp. Pond attended the 85th Annual Battle of Britain Ceremony.
Coun. G. Pentz made motion to accept Police Service Report, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**
- b. Fire Chief Mike O'Sullivan – Fire Department
Fire Chief M. O'Sullivan presented Monthly Report for September; responded to 9 calls; practices held every Thursday. M. O'Sullivan also gave an update on the Fire School.
Coun. M. Fortune motioned to accept Fire Department's report for September 2025, seconded by Coun. G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**
- c. Paige Draper – Marketing and Communications

Paige Draper presented the September Report; adding that the Newsletters have been printed since postal services are back; Trick or Trail event will be October 30 in Trenton Park at 5:30 p.m.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve the Marketing and Communications report, seconded by Coun. S. Eis.

Coun. S. Eis re volunteers for the Trick or Trail event. Coun. M. Fortune asked if the NSCC is having event in the Allan Park. P. Draper has not heard yet.

Coun. G. Pentz asked about "Play Finder". P. Draper explained that Play Finder is a Hub for facilities, sport organizations, recreation activities, etc. Mayor D. Stroud re "Harm Reduction" checklist for major events. P. Draper provided some general information, responsible alcohol practices, first aid available, etc.; still in draft form. **Motion Carried.**

d. Blaine Murray – Town Engineer

B. Murray presented reports to Council; update on Rutherford project. Water Report – no longer on water restrictions; continue to monitor.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve Town Engineer's Reports, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. Coun. G. Pentz thankful that the residents followed the restrictions. **Motion Carried.**

5. Correspondence

a. Pictou Antigonish Regional Library Re: Letter to Minister Dave Ritcy, Dept. of CCTH – CAO A. Grover re for Council's information.

b. Healthy Pictou County Re: September 2025 Report – Nicol LeBlance, Project Navigator with Healthy Pictou County, for information only.

6. Committee of the Whole Report

The following recommendations are for Council's consideration from the Committee of the Whole meeting held on September 9, 2025:

Recommendation #1

On the recommendation of Committee of the Whole Council approve the request received from Jackie Pratt for the purchase of a memorial bench and tree to be located at the Stellarton Dog Park with work to be completed by the Public Works Department.

Recommendation #2

On recommendation of Committee of the Whole Council approve the donation of \$200.00 to the Nova Scotia Building Officials Association to fund a seminar on October 14, 2025 to educate contractors in our area on building officials in their communities and significant updates to the Building Code.

Recommendation #3

On recommendation of Committee of the Whole Council approve the tender received from Bruce Leasing Ltd for the purchase of a new half ton truck in the amount of \$55,238.50 plus HST as it was the lowest tender received.

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

Salt Hauling Tender

CAO A. Grover provided Council with tenders received for Salt Hauling for the upcoming season; the recommendation is to award the tender to low bidder Michael Cameron Trucking Ltd; the cost is \$16.37 per ton.

Coun. G. Pentz made motion to approve recommendation for Salt Hauling Tender, seconded by S. Eis. **Motion Carried.**

7. Open Forum

No one spoke during the Open Forum.

8. Next Council Meeting: Monday, November 10, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

9. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned on motion by Coun. G. Pentz.

MAYOR

CAO



STELLARTON POLICE SERVICE

Report October, 2025

Calls for Service : 252 (2024 calls: 196)

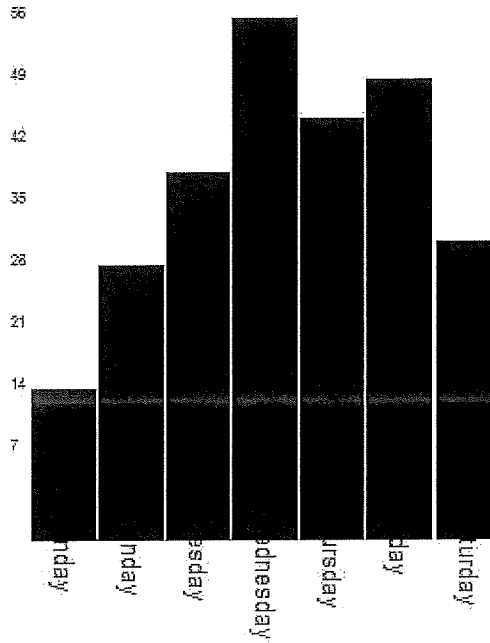
Calls	Type
3	911 Act
3	Animal complaints
5	Assaults
1	Assault on Police
10	Assists to the General Public
3	Assist RCMP
6	Assist other Police Agency
7	Assist other non Police Agency
2	Breach of peace
4	Cannabis Act
4	Checkpoint
2	Coroners Act
2	Corrections and Conditional Release Act
2	Crime Prevention
2	Criminal Harassment
1	Distribute intimate image without consent
2	Causing a disturbance
3	Driving while disqualified
5	Fail to comply with conditions

3	False Alarms
1	Family Relations Act
1	Firearms act
2	Fraud over \$5,000
2	Harassing Communications
1	Identity Fraud
10	Information Files
5	Item Lost/Found
5	Liquor Control Act
14	Mental Health Act
2	Mischief
38	Motor Vehicle Act Violations
12	Municipal Bylaw
5	No pursuit flight from police
2	Operation while impaired (alcohol)
3	Parking Offences
1	Person reported missing
7	Police assistance
1	Sexual Assault
6	S.T.E.P
20	Suspicious Persons/person/vehicle
21	Thefts
8	Traffic Collision non-fatal
6	Trespass Act
5	Uttering Threats -person
9	Well-Being Checks

October Occs

Breakdown by day of the week:

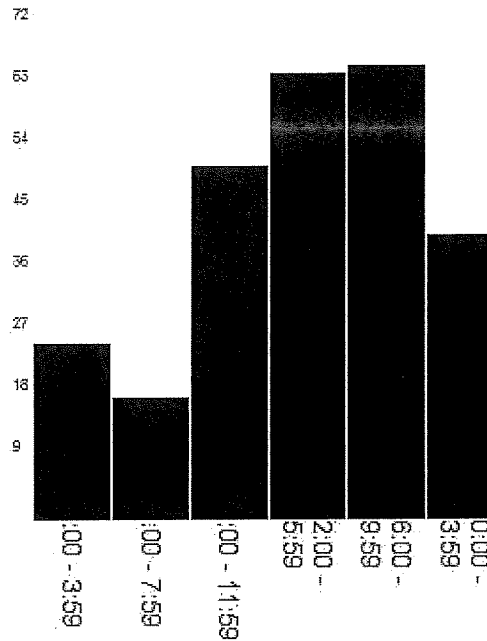
<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Number of occurrences</i>	<i>Percentage of total</i>
Sunday	13	5.2%
Monday	27	10.7%
Tuesday	37	14.7%
Wednesday	55	21.8%
Thursday	43	17.1%
Friday	48	19.0%
Saturday	29	11.5%
Unknown	0	0.0%
Total	252	100%



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	23	9.1%
4:00 - 7:59	15	6.0%
8:00 - 11:59	49	19.4%
12:00 - 15:59	62	24.6%
16:00 - 19:59	64	25.4%
20:00 - 23:59	39	15.5%
Unknown	0	0.0%
Total	252	100%

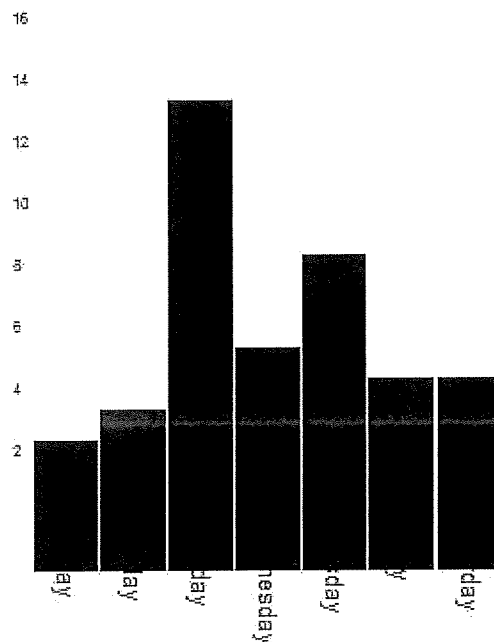


Number of occurrences per time of day

Roots House relates Occs

Breakdown by day of the week:

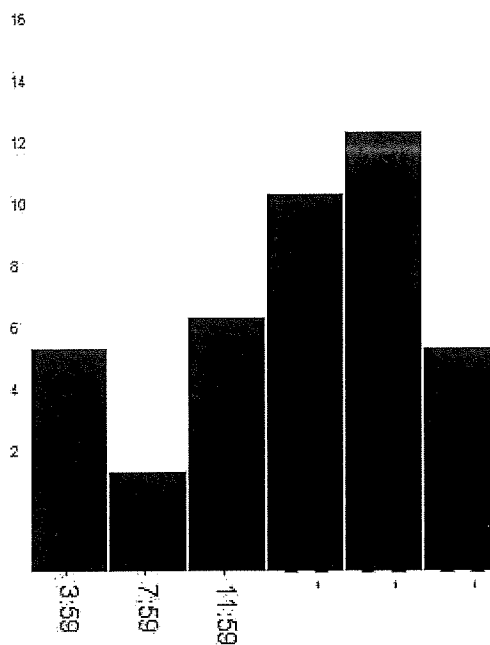
<u>Weekday</u>	<u>Number of occurrences</u>	<u>Percentage of total</u>
Sunday	2	5.1%
Monday	3	7.7%
Tuesday	13	33.3%
Wednesday	5	12.8%
Thursday	8	20.5%
Friday	4	10.3%
Saturday	4	10.3%
Unknown	0	0.0%
Total	39	100%



Number of occurrences per weekday

Breakdown by time of day:

<u>Time</u>	<u>Number of occurrences</u>	<u>Percentage of total</u>
0:00 - 3:59	5	12.8%
4:00 - 7:59	1	2.6%
8:00 - 11:59	6	15.4%
12:00 - 15:59	10	25.6%
16:00 - 19:59	12	30.8%
20:00 - 23:59	5	12.8%
Unknown	0	0.0%
Total	39	100%



Number of occurrences per time of day

Charges

Criminal Code - 11

Motor Vehicle Act - 21

Warnings - 62

Events

Take back the Night Walk

Trick or Trail Trenton

Halloween

Other Activities

Foot/Bike Patrol - 23 hours

Traffic Enforcement - 195 hours

Community Relations - 20 hours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. J. Ford" or similar, located at the bottom right of the page.

Stellarton Fire Department
Monthly Report – October 2025

Overall, the month of October was fairly quiet around the Fire Department. We participated in the annual Fire Prevention Parade that runs throughout the County, conducted several Fire Drills for various school and businesses within the Town. Also, the Department hosted an Open House as part of Fire Prevention Week.

CALLS:

During the Month of October, the Fire Department responded to 10 calls. 7 were alarm calls, 1 was for power lines on fire, 1 was an Iphone crash notification and the other was for a car vrs. Pedestrian. An average of 9 members attended each call.

PRACTICES:

Practices were held weekly with an average of 12 members participating. If you are wondering what we might do at practice, we review fire fighting tactics, medical responses, entry tactics, response protocols and tool use. All of which is done so we are better prepared for any emergency.

CLEAN-UP/EQUIPMENT CHECKS:

Individual crews complete a hall clean-up as well as an equipment check each week.

October Council Report
Marketing, Communications, Recreation

Deer Survey:

In the Town's Strategic Plan (2025-2028), it was highlighted that the deer population is an ongoing issue across Pictou County and this is a priority that Council wishes to focus on. As an action item to address this issue, a community survey was developed to allow residents an opportunity to give their input on the deer situation. This survey was recreated using surveys shared in surrounding municipalities and is available for submissions until November 28.

The survey is available online via our website, social media, and TownAPP. Those who may need assistance are encouraged to reach out to Town Staff or their respective Councillor.

Trick or Trail

On October 30, the Town took part in the Trick or Trail event that was hosted at Trenton Park. All of the municipalities and Pictou Landing First Nations were a part of this event that provided attendees with an opportunity to trick-or-treat at stations along a 1km loop on the trail. Councillor Sandra Eis and Constable Grant MacAdam joined me in representing Stellarton to hand out treat bags.

There were an estimated 2000 attendees for this event – approximately 600 trick-or-treaters and their grown-ups.

REMO

The REMO Communications team, on which I serve as a Public Information Officer for, met this past month to develop a plan to tighten and improve our overall communications – with a particular focus on our social media channels and website. The team is now working to implement these changes.

Remembrance Day

To recognize Remembrance Day and honour veterans, we have been working to paint a tribute on the sidewalk near the cenotaph. I assisted in making the stencil for the project and the Public Works crew is working to have this complete prior to Remembrance Day.

Council Meet & Greet

I have been continuing to plan and coordinate the details required for the Council Meet and Greet scheduled for later this month. On November 17 from 6-7pm, residents will have a chance to meet and get to know the individuals that represent Stellarton. This event is taking place at the Stellarton Fire Hall.

Details have been shared online and will continue to be promoted until the event.

Annual Tree Lighting

Plans are in the works for our annual tree lighting event that will be taking place on Friday, November 28 beginning at 6pm. This annual event takes place at the Town Square and includes a musical performance, hot chocolate, a visit from Santa, and participation with special treats from a number of community groups from across the town.

Respectfully submitted,

Paige Draper

Marketing & Communications Coordinator

**Town of Stellarton
Town Engineers Report
October 2025 Water Utility Report**

Water Distribution

1. No water breaks to report for the month.
2. Fall hydrant flushing occurred during the last week of October.

WTP

3. Average treated water Production for October 2025 (1,500,743 LPD) compared to October 2024 (1,808,457 LPD) was -20.5% lower.
4. The total rainfall from our weather station was 62.22 mm for the month of October compared to 177.77 mm of rainfall in October of 2024.
5. A trapper was called in to remove a beaver from the bypass channel and fish ladder. One beaver was removed to date.

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

Town Engineers Report October 2025 Engineering & Public Works Report

Engineering/Projects

1. See capital projects update sheet below:



**Town of Stellarton
Capital Projects Update Sheet**

CAPITAL	Project Description	Status
Equipment		
	One Ton Truck	Received
	Boom Flail Mower	Received
	Public Works Truck	Ordered
	Backhoe	Received
	Membranes	Received
	PLC Upgrade	Ordered
	Plow Truck	Developing Specifications
Infrastructure		
	Rutherford Infrastructure Upgrades	85% complete
	South Foord Sanitary Reaplacement	Waiting approval from CB&CNS
	Acadia Avenue sidewalk - Scotia Bank	95% Complete

2. Street rehabilitation has begun on Rutherford along with curb preparation. The sanitary main has been installed on Rutherford Ext from Kirk to Bunker Hill sewer is complete.

Streets/Properties

3. A section of sidewalk settled on South Foord Street. This was due to a collapsed pipe and catch basin. It was replaced in October and the sidewalk reinstated.

4. A catch basin was replaced on the corner of Cambey and Belmont Street.
5. The Town assisted the Legion with installing Remembrance Day banners along Foord Street. Veteran banners are community initiatives that publicly recognize and pay tribute to local veterans, active-duty service members, or fallen soldiers.
6. Public Works did maintenance work at Olympic Park adding gravel to the trail and topsoil in holes around the pond.

Blaine Murray, P.Eng.,
Town Engineer



Engage Nova Scotia Quality of Life Municipal Investment Plan



Engage Nova Scotia (<https://engagenovascotia.ca>) is an independent registered charity that has, with its many partners, created a ground-breaking approach to improving quality of life for all.

Almost 13,000 Nova Scotians responded to a 230-question survey administered by Engage in cooperation with the Canadian Index of Wellbeing (University of Waterloo) in 2019, making it one of the largest single quality of life data sets anywhere.

With Dalhousie University, they have also built ground-breaking new tools to easily extract the findings of the survey at hyper-local (<https://www.nsqualityoflife.ca>) and demographically intersectional levels (<https://engagenovascotia.ca/wellbeing-analysis-tool>).

Partners at the local, provincial, national and international levels are recognizing this approach (broad and deep data, plus nimble and compelling tools) as a break-through for making more effective strategy, policy, evaluation and budget decisions.

What's ahead

The potential for this approach to, over time, improve the lives of all Nova Scotians is significant. The applicability of this approach to municipalities is limitless. A next comprehensive quality of life survey is planned for fiscal 2024/25. The breadth and depth of the data will give municipalities a "pre and post-pandemic" body of comparative information. Data will be available in the tools within just months of survey completion.

Doing the survey thoroughly, and in every corner of the province, requires a collaboration with municipalities to promote resident-awareness when the survey is in the field. This is especially important for under-represented and marginalized communities that continue to face barriers to participating in surveys of this type. It also involves meticulous design and administration of the survey itself, including, for example, mailouts to 100,000 randomly selected Nova Scotia households on multiple occasions. Total costs for outreach, design, promotion, administration, mailing, and data integrity are approximately \$1,000,000.

Support

Support for Engage has come from many sectors. It has productive working relationships with the governments of Nova Scotia and Canada, with whom it has multi-year funding agreements. In a December 4, 2023, workshop for mayors, wardens and CAOs Engage set out the value proposition of the survey to municipalities, highlighted a "use case" where CBRM is already using the data to advance policy and actions, and **invited municipalities to contribute 50 cents a resident toward the cost of administering the survey in 2024/25**. Mayors, wardens and CAOs of municipalities of all sizes, and from all regions of the province, have already signaled their intention to support Engage in their upcoming budgets.

By supporting Engage, Nova Scotia municipalities set themselves up for five years of accessible evidence-based decision making that leaves fewer residents behind.

Testimonial

"If you look at the Strategic Vision before Engage Nova Scotia started working with CBRM Council, compared to now, you can see what a long way we've come to making social inclusion a major part of our plan going forward. It really shows the impact of having the depth and breadth of data that Engage is able to provide. I am grateful to Engage for this. It really feels like we are heading in a direction where no one will be left behind when making municipal decisions." – **Mayor Amanda McDougall, Cape Breton Regional Municipality.**

To learn more: contact Matthew Knezacek at admin@engagenovascotia.ca or Danny Graham at dgraham@engagenovascotia.ca

[Draft] PREMIER'S OFFICE--New Cabinet Will Drive Development

From alanna.grover@stellarton.ca
Draft saved Wed 2025-10-29 8:22 AM

From: NSGovRelease <release@gov.ns.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 2:42 PM
To: Haughn, Jason M <Jason.Haughn@novascotia.ca>
Subject: PREMIER'S OFFICE--New Cabinet Will Drive Development

PREMIER'S OFFICE--New Cabinet Will Drive Development

NOTE TO EDITORS: A swearing-in ceremony will take place later today. The event is not open to media.

Today, October 21, Premier Tim Houston announced cabinet changes that will enable the government to stay focused on energy and resource development.

Premier Houston will take over as Minister of Energy. He will continue as President of the Executive Council, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, and Minister of Trade.

"I want to turn Nova Scotia into an energy superpower," said Premier Houston. "Responsible resource development will power our economy for generations, combat poverty and help Nova Scotians earn more money."

Kim Masland, Minister of Emergency Management, will also take on the role of Minister of Natural Resources.

Barbara Adams will become Minister of Opportunities and Social Development and also maintain her current portfolios.

Scott Armstrong will be the new Attorney General, Minister of Justice, and Minister of Equity and Anti-Racism.

Two members of the legislative assembly will become ministers.

John A. MacDonald will be the Minister of Municipal Affairs while John Lohr will continue as Minister of Finance and Treasury Board.

John White will become the Minister of Housing. Colton LeBlanc will remain Minister of Growth and Development.

Premier Houston thanked outgoing ministers Tory Rushton, Becky Druhan and Trevor Boudreau for their ongoing commitment to the people of Nova Scotia. They will continue to sit as MLAs.

"I am grateful to have such a strong cabinet and caucus. Nova Scotians chose us to lead this province," said Premier Houston. "We will lead this province to a more prosperous future."



**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

October 23, 2025

Dear Mayors, Wardens, and Councillors:

I am honoured to serve as Nova Scotia's Minister of Municipal Affairs. As I begin this role, I want to express my deep appreciation for the vital work municipalities do every day to support our communities.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the upcoming Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) conference. This will be a valuable opportunity to listen, learn, and begin building strong working relationships grounded in collaboration and mutual respect.

Municipalities are key partners in shaping the future of our province. I am committed to working with you to advance shared priorities and ensure our communities continue to thrive.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office if there is anything you would like to discuss ahead of NSFM. I look forward to connecting with you soon.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John A. MacDonald".

Honourable John A. MacDonald
Minister of Municipal Affairs



October 24, 2025

Hon. Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia and MLA for Pictou East
2042-2 Queen Street
Westville, NS B0K 2A0

Dear Premier Houston.

I am writing on behalf of the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library Board to request a meeting to discuss provincial funding to our region.

Word has come to us, from Communities, Culture, Tourism, and Heritage (CCTH), to expect tight fiscal conditions ahead. The Board hoped the government would approve the *Public Library Funding Review Committee* recommendations, but we acknowledge the current uncertain times.

With the understanding the *Funding Formula* recommendations will not go ahead, we are asking for your support to stabilize the public library funding situation in our region. The current "base" funding to PARL is \$1,383,800. Over the past two years, CCTH has provided extra "bridge" funding to help the board cover costs such as mandatory minimum wage increases. A significant number of our staff, despite their training and qualifications, are paid at minimum wage levels. This bridge funding totals \$134,600 and is greatly appreciated. But, as we now depend on this funding to pay wages, we ask this be added to the base funding from the province. This gives us clarity and the ability to plan.

However, we have a second request. We understand the mandatory minimum wage will increase to \$17 per hour April 1st. The board supports this but the increase will cost an extra \$56,000 in salaries. We ask this be added to the base grant as well.

If the board cannot achieve stability, service to the public will be impacted in several ways.

- We will have to cut library open hours, which means laying off staff across the region.
- Some of our award-winning services, such as support for Virtual Care access will be eliminated.
- Programming to support newcomers, the unhoused, seniors, children, and families will be reduced or cease altogether.

- Planned community partnership opportunities to support population health, worth over \$250,000, will be cancelled as current staffing levels are needed to carry out programming. These focus on combating isolation among rural seniors, enabling the visually impaired to take part in meaningful workshops, supporting healthy breakfasts and reading for children, and retaining newcomers in our community. Many community organizations rely on the public library and our goal is to support them and their services.

Our staff are professional, well-trained, and creative. They are here to help government and our community weather the current storm. Libraries are community hubs and people use our services much more during tough economic times. Our ask is not large, but it will do a world of good.

Thank you and we look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,



Clyde Fraser, Chair

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library
PO Box 276, New Glasgow, NS B2H 5E3

cc. Hon. Michelle Thompson
MLA Marco MacLeod
MLA Danny MacGillivray
Hon. Dave Ritcey
Municipality of the County of Antigonish; Municipality of Pictou County; Town of Antigonish; Town of New Glasgow; Town of Pictou; Town of Stellarton; Town of Trenton; Town of Westville

SEPTEMBER 2025 HPC REPORT

NOTE FROM NICOLE, PROJECT NAVIGATOR

Hello and happy fall!

In September we had a successful launch of our Professional Development program, thanks to our program funding from the Sobey Foundation. This funding enabled us to open the portal for our medical staff and residents to apply for funding for a variety of funding opportunities. We're in the process of finalizing the applications and sending out the results, and excited to share more about that in our October report.

We continue to work closely with our NSH colleagues supporting locums (short-term appointments) who work to provide continuity of care in our community.

September is not only back-to-school season but a new month to welcome medical learners - including physician assistant (PA) students through the Dalhousie Masters programs. We are working to continue to understand the role of PAs and how we can work to support their recruitment and retention, as the role is increasingly integrated into our healthcare system.

We have our ongoing retention events and continue to welcome our new providers and their families - when our organization started in 2018 there were approximately 60 physicians on staff, and now we are closer to 100 which is impressive.

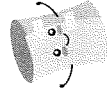
Thank you for the ongoing support to allow us to provide this vital work in our community.

RESOURCE HIGHLIGHT: MEDICAL LEARNERS THANK YOU CARDS

We recognize how big of an impact preceptors can have, so we created cute thank you cards to be included in medical learner welcome packages for them to write their preceptor a little note of thanks at the end of their placement.



Thanks for seeing me through!



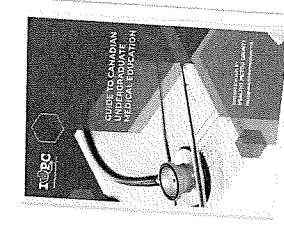
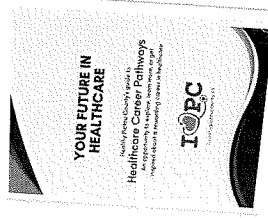
Thanks for rolling with me!

QUICK HIGHLIGHTS

- Attended the Dalhousie Family Medicine Education Weekend annual job fair (more coming in October's report)
- Ongoing support for the Professional Development for medical staff
- Launch of Preceptor 101 resources and tools
- Launch of our Monthly Resources Round-up
- Ongoing responsive retention events to providers and their families to connect, take time for themselves, and explore the local offerings
- Continued work on our EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) regional strategy
- Regular planning meetings and work on our enhanced 360 Virtual Hub
- Work to prepare for a website refresh to better support our 360 hub functionality

RESOURCE REMINDER:

We've had a ton of great feedback on our [Guide to Healthcare Career Pathways](#), and updated our [Guide to Canadian Undergraduate Medical Education](#) (launched Summer 2024). They're meant to be shared widely, and of use to all!



Thank you to those who shared the tools, and a special thanks to the Pictou-Antigonish Library for including them in their local offerings.

Local radio station 98.9 XFM featured our new health care career resource - [click here](#).

YOUR HPC TEAM



Nicole LeBlanc
Project Navigator



Bonnie Fraser
Event Manager and
Admin Support



Heather Head
Executive
Assistant



Shae McIntyre
Marketing & Events
Coordinator

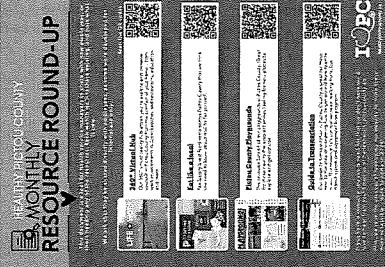
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT – SUPPORTING OUR HEALTHCARE TEAMS WITH LOCAL TOOLS

Since we started in 2018, we've worked to develop local resources – working with municipal units, community partners, and more to easily put resources at people's fingertips. From videos, to one pagers, booklets and more – we've proudly developed several resources to help people make the right decision to relocate or help with resources once they've moved here.

While we use our resources internally extensively, we wanted to ensure that we're bringing that capacity to others as well.

With that, we've placed a variety of our resources on the backend of our website, and are working on monthly updates for the healthcare field and beyond to access those. Resources such as an extensive list of where to find coffee and ideas for new parents to get out with their kiddos, we're working to ensure that those are easily accessible to healthcare managers and leaders to share with employees.

These resources aren't just for those new to Pictou County – we've even received feedback that those who have been here all their lives learned something new – which is such a testament to the need of resources like these. We're also working to consolidate the resources into one booklet, and we continue to coordinate with our community partners to avoid duplication and to explore how we can continue to work together.



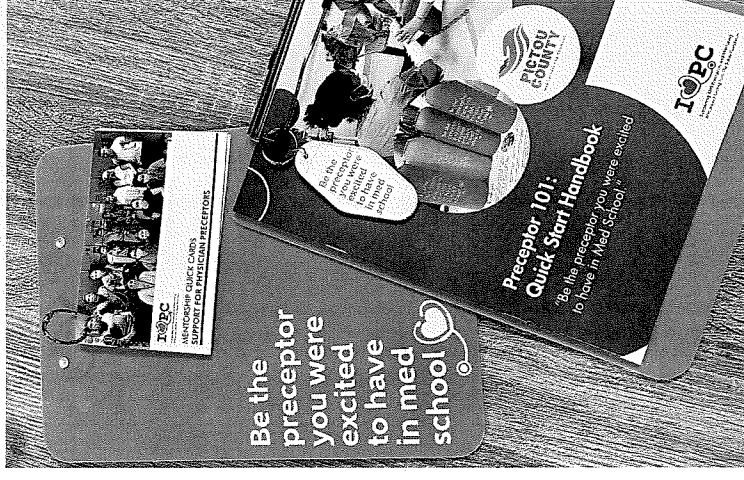
LAUNCH OF PRECEPTOR RESOURCES

We're excited to share the launch of Preceptor 101 Resources – a new initiative from Healthy Pictou County, developed with support from the Sobey Foundation, to empower clinical teachers and enrich the experience of medical learners in our region.

For long-time preceptors, those just starting out, or considering taking on learners, the resources offer practical, easy-to-use tools to support, including:

- **Quick Cards:** At-a-glance tips for real-time teaching moments, giving feedback, and building strong mentorship habits.
- **Preceptor 101 Handbook:** A deeper dive into structuring learning, navigating common teaching scenarios, and helping learners feel confident and supported
- A small practical gift delivered to clinics and hospital mailboxes – preceptor keychains and clipboards

Created with local preceptors in mind, these tools are designed to fit seamlessly into busy clinical days and strengthen the supportive learning environments already present in our community.



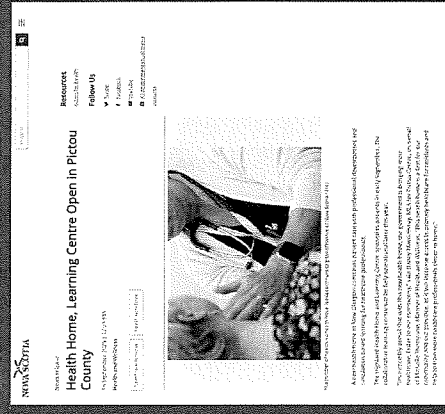
HIGHLAND HEALTH HOME GRAND OPENING

This month marked the exciting opening of Pictou County's newest health clinic, the Highland Health Home and Learning Centre. We are proud to welcome the first health home of its kind in Nova Scotia to Pictou County.



You will see more of this exciting and beautiful space in our virtual hub. You can view our existing platform [HERE](#), – as it continues to be an incredible recruitment tool and one we use not only for prospective healthcare providers, but people already here as well!

To read the press release, [click here](#).



SEPTEMBER AT A GLANCE

WELCOMING THE TEAM AT HIGHLAND HEALTH

This month has been a busy and exciting one for HPC with several activities to support and connect with our providers. A big highlight was the opening of Highland Health – we were pleased to help welcome the Westville team to our newest health home on their first day. The HPC team dropped off goodies, treats, and HPC mugs to mark the occasion and to support this new chapter, new team members, and medical learners as they settled in.

FLOWER WORKSHOP

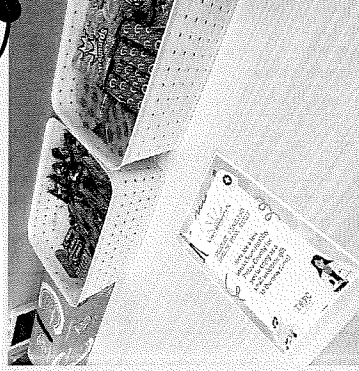
We also had the chance to connect our providers outside of the clinic through a flower workshop, hosted by Marshdale Farms and one of our providers. Everyone created their own arrangement, and we provided food and snacks for the group. The workshop was well-received, and we are already planning the next session.

CRUSHERS SEASON BEGINS

Crushers season is here and with it, the return of our HPC VIP sky box. Providers and their families can enjoy the home games together with food, snacks, and a curated family-friendly space. It's a fun way to bring providers into the local hockey community and create memorable and fun experiences. This year we added some fun – including the game of 'Operation' to hone in on those medical skills while they wait for the puck drop.

We also continued to offer boat days this month, giving everyone the chance to enjoy the last weeks of summer and our beautiful September weather here in Pictou County.

Looking ahead, we're already in full planning mode for fall and winter events, with more opportunities to connect and unwind (and maybe be a little competitive)



ABOUT HEALTHY PICTOU COUNTY

HOW WE STARTED

In spring of 2018 local physicians called upon the community for support as we prepared for the well-deserved retirement of five large family practices. In the Fall of 2018, Nicole LeBlanc started as our full-time staff. Since then, we've grown to four full-time staff, and for the past three years welcomed a summer student to the team.

WHO IS HPC?

Healthy Pictou County is a physician-led effort focused on the attraction and retention of healthcare providers and students in Pictou County. The organization is managed through the Citizens for a Healthy Pictou County, who also led the fundraising for the Pictou County Wellness Centre, the community portion of the Emergency Room redevelopment at the Aberdeen Hospital, and also fundraised for the two new schools in the early 2000s. The organization is guided by governance from the Recruitment and Retention Committee, which is currently chaired by Dr. Andrew Hayward and has representation from our hospital foundations, Nova Scotia Health, our physicians, and local community members.

HOW WE ARE FUNDED

Healthy Pictou County is currently entering Year 7 of our renewed 5-year term (so 10 total) and has operational funding from our six municipal units, our two hospital foundations, local businesses and is one of the only organizations like ours in the province that has dedicated annual funding from the medical staff. In the summer of 2024, the Sobey Foundation announced that it was investing over \$2.7 million over five years for project-based efforts to support Healthy Pictou County. Our organization also continues to seek and leverage project funding where possible, including the Doctors Nova Scotia Hospitality Fund, and the Office of Healthcare Professionals Community Fund.

WHAT DO WE DO?

Healthy Pictou County focuses on 3 key strategic pillars:

- Attraction
- Retention
- Medical learners

You'll see the work supporting each of these pillars outlined in our monthly reports, and also some on our website www.healthypictoucounty.ca

OUR STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2029

In the spring of 2024, through our Office of Healthcare Professionals Community Fund project funding, we worked with a consulting firm to develop a strategic plan to guide us through to 2029. We consulted with a variety of stakeholders, reviewed external plans and had participation from our internal groups. You'll see these priorities and outcomes continue to be outlined in our reports, and below we're delighted to share our mission, vision and purpose, which we hope will provide clarity and reassurance on the activities and outcomes:

Mission:

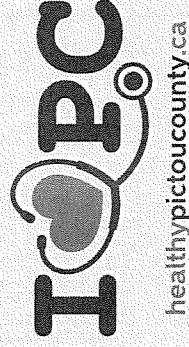
To support NSH's efforts to recruit and retain physicians, supporting allied health professionals and medical learners in Pictou County by showcasing our county as the best place to live and practice and by supporting the settlement and integration of physicians, supporting allied professionals and medical learners into our welcoming community.

Purpose:

Supporting enhanced access to healthcare through the attraction and retention of physicians, supporting allied health professionals and medical learners in Pictou County.

Vision:

To create robust systems, policies and practices to support our Mission and Purpose that will ensure a long-term and sustainable community-based commitment to enhancing access to healthcare in Pictou County.





TOWN OF STELLARTON

PO Box 2200 Stellarton, NS B0K 1S0
Phone (902) 752-2114 Fax(902) 752-4105
susan.higdon@stellarton.ca

Committee Report

Date: November 10, 2025
To: Mayor and Council
From: Alanna Grover, Chief Administrative Officer

The following recommendations are for Council's consideration from the Committee of the Whole meeting held on October 27, 2025:

Recommendation # 1

On recommendation of Committee of the Whole Council, approve the request received from Highland District Soccer Association to continue with a Tax Assistance Grant for a further 4 years from June 2025 until June 2029.

Recommendation # 2

On recommendation of Committee of the Whole Council amend the current Water Collection Policy to update language to state that any Town of Stellarton Water Utility account that is two (2) or more water billings in arrears is in position for water disconnection.

**RESOLUTION
DEPUTY MAYOR & SIGNING AUTHORITY**

BE IT RESOLVED the appointment of Deputy Mayor of the Town of Stellarton and adopted under authority of Section 16(2) of the Municipal Government Act, that Deputy Mayor Garry Pentz be authorized to sign cheques and other legal documents in the absence of the Mayor from November 1, 2025 until October 31st, 2026 for the Town of Stellarton.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution duly passed by the Town Council of the Town of Stellarton at a duly called meeting held on the 10^h day of November, A.D. 2025.

GIVEN under the hand of the Chief Administrative Officer and under the seal of the said Town this 10th day of November, A.D. 2025.

Alanna Grover CAO