

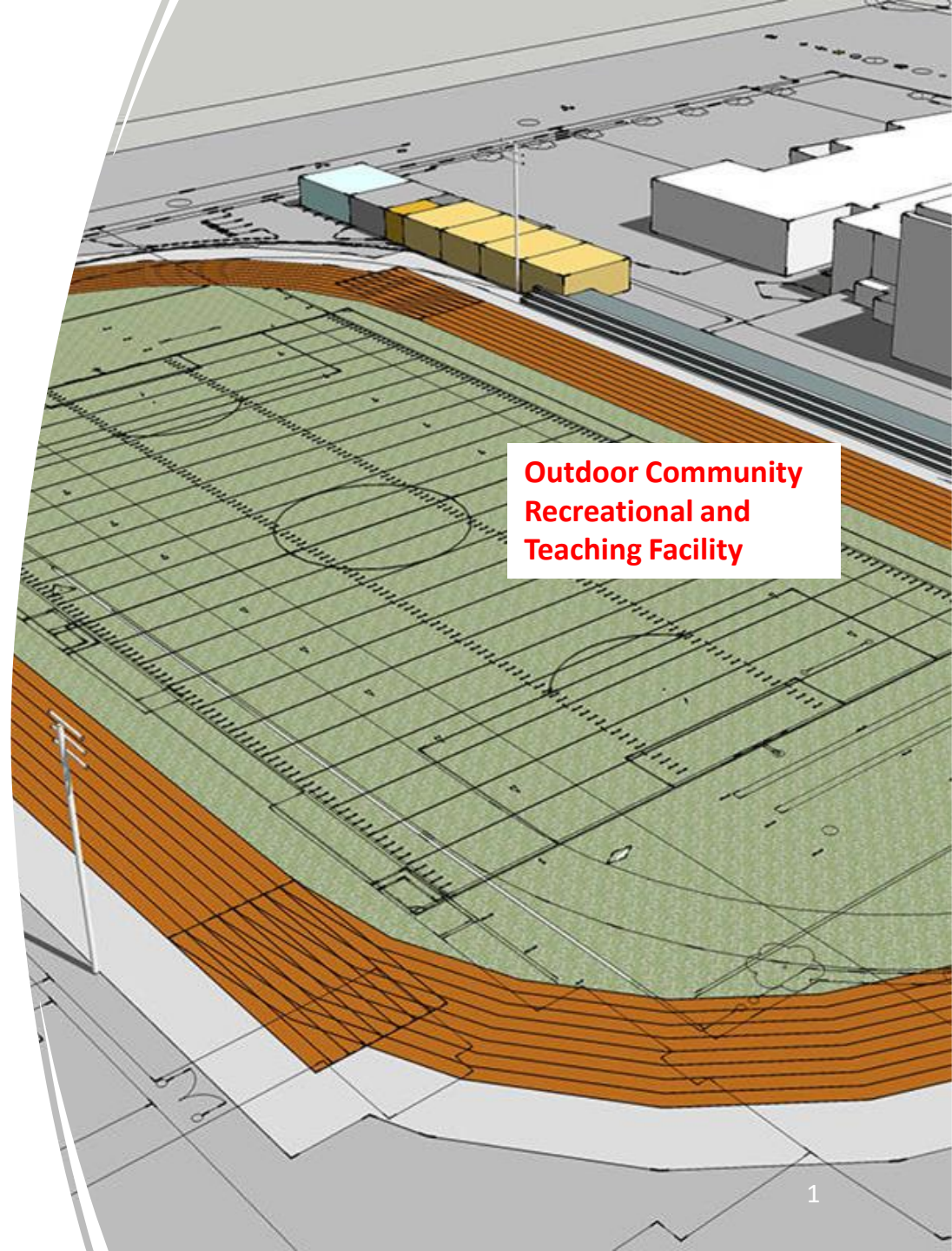
Item 10.3.1

Supporting a Healthy and Inclusive Community

HRM Northern Suburban
Area Community Turf
Committee

Non-Profit Registered
Community Organization
(Registry ID 4360095)

June 16, 2022



**Outdoor Community
Recreational and
Teaching Facility**



Land Acknowledgment

The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people.

Our committee acknowledges and celebrates this history with our work within the community.

Objectives/Goals

To promote participACTION and healthy living for all members of the community.

We are asking for Councillors' support, at the next Regional Council meeting, to have HRM take the lead and financially support 20% of the project (852K).

The project will see the building of an outdoor community recreational and teaching facility that includes:

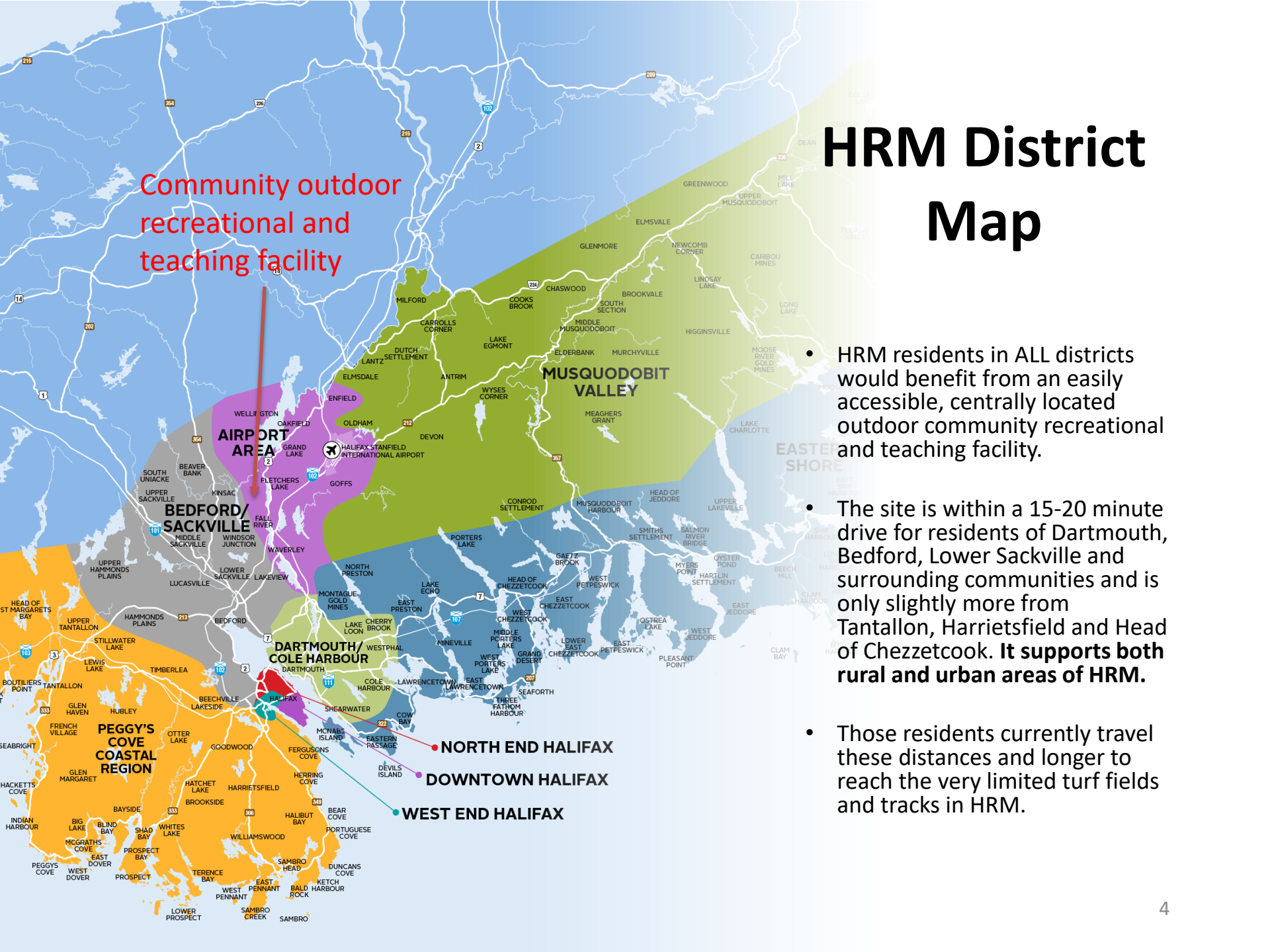
- An artificial turf field with lighting,
- training track ,
- an indigenous teaching space.

We acknowledge that HRM is preparing a Playing Field Strategy. With overwhelming support from the community and various organizations, this facility provides an early opportunity to show progress on HRM recreation goals.



HRM District Map

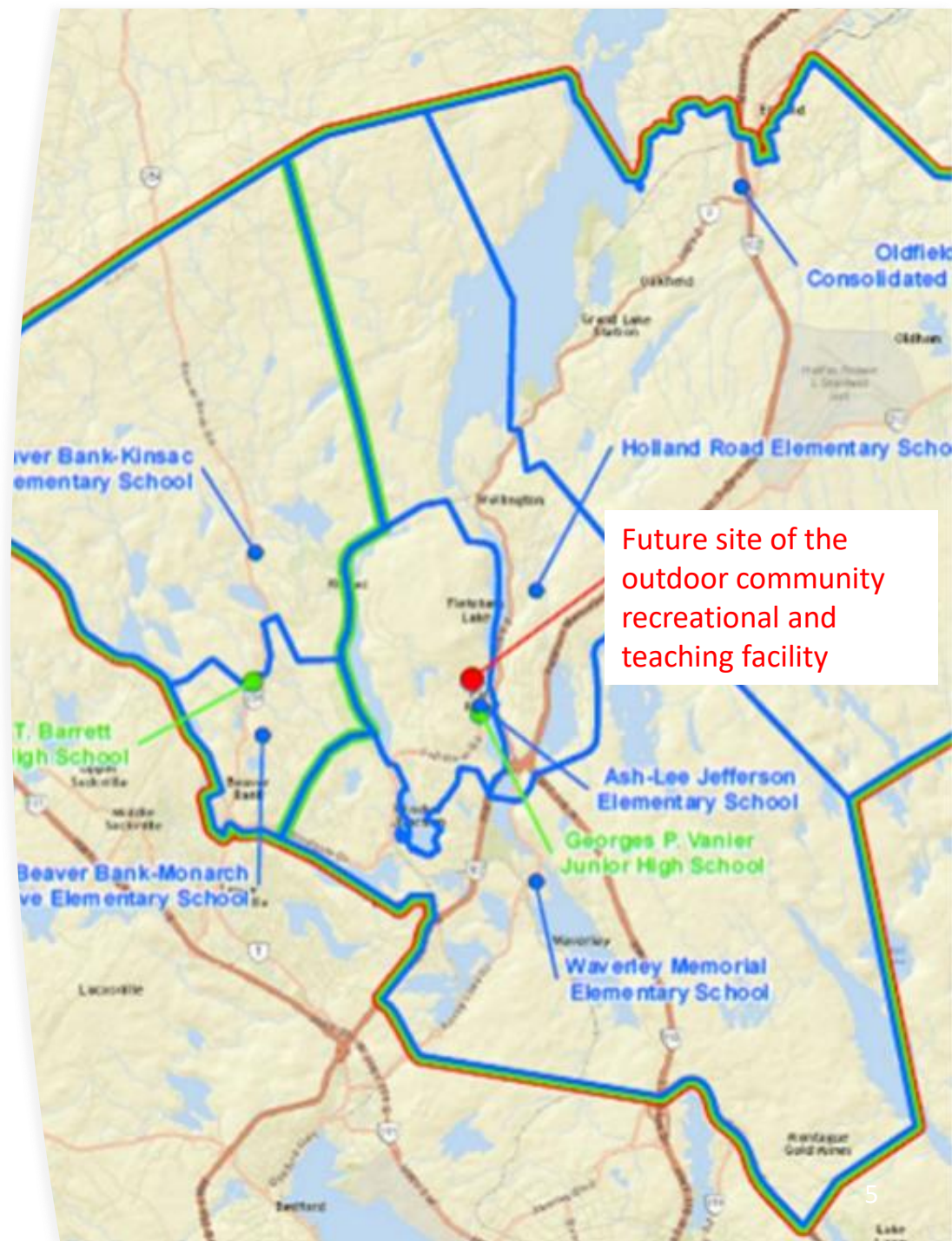
Community outdoor recreational and teaching facility



- HRM residents in ALL districts would benefit from an easily accessible, centrally located outdoor community recreational and teaching facility.
- The site is within a 15-20 minute drive for residents of Dartmouth, Bedford, Lower Sackville and surrounding communities and is only slightly more from Tantallon, Harrietsfield and Head of Chezzetcook. **It supports both rural and urban areas of HRM.**
- Those residents currently travel these distances and longer to reach the very limited turf fields and tracks in HRM.

Significant Growth in Zone

- Map shows the riding of Waverley-Fall River-Beaver Bank and several connected communities.
- 2016 census data predicted a 5 yr. growth rate of 23.3% for a total population of 25,000. Since the pandemic, there has been an influx of people to the area such that Halifax is now one of the top 2 fastest growing cities in Canada.
- There are proposals for increasing housing stock of 2000 units/ 6000 residents over the next 2 years.
- **Infrastructure is required to support this growth.**
- There is no public transit in much of this area; challenging and environmentally unfriendly to access other fields.
- The project will reduce commute times for families and **support environment and climate change action.**



Indigenous Recreation Promotion & Teaching Space

- Over 90% of residents surveyed affirmed the Indigenous project goals are crucial for past and present community engagement.
- Home to a substantial off reserve Indigenous population on lands culturally significant to the early Mi'kmaq.
- Studies show inclusive recreation is enhanced when appreciation of cultural traditions are possible.
- This innovative concept will be used by educators, community groups and participants in recreational events.
- Indigenous community members and leadership are excited by this new proposal welcoming all cultures to the field of play.





Current Field Challenges

- Original construction was outside HRM or HRCE standards under P3 contract.
- Condition degraded to point where it is not used.
- No alternate field or facilities exist for formal or unscheduled recreational activity.
- 84% of residents stated field is unsafe or unfit.



Multi Sport Artificial Turf

- COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION Plan of record is to leverage existing property and investments while upgrading field of play, amenities and install lighting.
- **Plenty of easy parking available.**
- 6 lane track for athletic training, community based running and walking clubs with an accessible activity space. One of the goals is to provide health benefits and **active senior living inclusion.**
- There is to be a transition from 2 sports fields to a multi-use playing surface available for in-demand recreational uses.
- **HRCE owns the land and supports the build of the project on the land.**

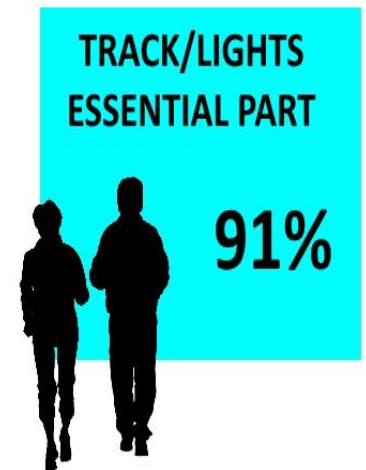
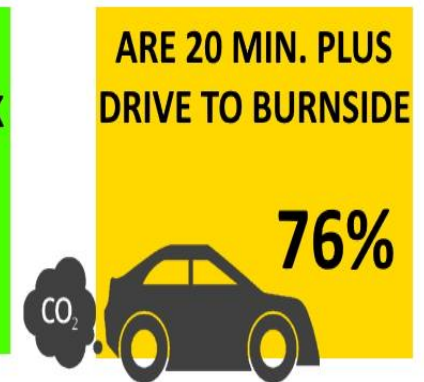
Sport & Community Support Letters



- The combined sport membership is over **25, 825** members from many areas of municipality.
- Executive Directors of several sport associations have confirmed there is a lack of available fields during peak hours.
- All three levels of government support the project (Councillors Cathy Deagle-Gammon and Lisa Blackburn, MLA Brian Wong and MP Darrell Samson).
- Dr. Robert Strang who lives in the community supports an **accessible facility** to promote physical and mental health.
- A petition has been signed by 1700 HRM residents.
- The project will support active living for all ages, genders, abilities and ethnicities.

Recent Community Survey Results

675 residents
completed survey



Financial Considerations

- **The annual cost to maintain a turf field is offset by annual revenue.***
- The Education Act provides the opportunity for HRM to fund community enhancement projects of a school to meet community needs.

*May 24, 2016 Halifax Regional Council report (Item 14.1.1)



| | |
|---|---------------|
| Class B Estimate from Lindsay Construction (10% contingency) | 4.26 M |
| Community & Corporate Funding support (5%) | 213 K |
| Municipality support (20%) | 852 K |
| Provincial support (35%) | 1.49 M |
| Federal support (40%) | 1.70 M |

Summary

This project promotes:

- Participation in physical activity for ALL ages, genders, abilities and ethnicities;
- Growth in youth and indigenous sport; and
- Community engagement and support (petition, survey and numerous letters).



Conclusions

- We are asking for Councillor support at the Halifax Regional Council for HRM to take the lead and financially support 20% of the project.
- The project is in alignment with the following Key Government Priorities:
 - Environment and Climate Change Action
 - Indigenous Learning and Recreation Promotion
 - Seniors Active Living Inclusion
 - Recreational facilities within easy driving distance of target residential densification areas
- Overwhelming Community Support!!



Volunteer Committee Members

| Committee | Advisor | Government |
|---|--|--|
| Rita Nigam, President (PhD, Clinical Research Consultant) | Cory Bell, P.Eng. President & CEO Lindsay Construction | Cathy Deagle-Gammon District 1 Councillor |
| Troy DeVenne, Vice President & Treasurer (CD) | | Lisa Blackburn District 14 Councillor |
| Barbara Maclean, Corporate Secretary (P. Eng., Realtor) | | Brian Wong, MLA |
| Barry Cox, Communication Lead (BComm, M.ScA) | | Darrell Samson, MP |
| Peter Crowe, Member (P.Eng., Vice President Stantec Consulting Ltd., President Suburban Football Club) | | Kelly Macleod, LHS Principal, HRCE |
| Sara Wood, Member (Bachelor of Recreation, EPA) | | |
| Donna Huestis, Member (Senior Territory Manager NS, Campari Group) | | |
| Tom Heighway, Fundraising Lead (BA, CSP) | | |
| Shelly Martin, Member (B.A. Hons, M.A., L.L.B.) | | |
| Steve MacLellan, Fundraising (P.Eng., Owner of Design Your Future Financial Services, President of FRABA) | | |



Thank you !

