



**COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 16, 2025**

PRESENT: Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon, Chair
Councillor Janet Steele, Vice Chair
Councillor Trish Purdy
Councillor Patty Cuttell
Councillor Jean St-Amand

REGRETS: Councillor Becky Kent

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor Sam Austin

STAFF: Maggie MacDonald, Executive Director of Parks and Recreation
Karen Brown, Managing Solicitor
Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, information items circulated, and video (if available) are online at halifax.ca.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 21, 2025

MOVED by Councillor Steele, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

THAT the minutes of August 21, 2025 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions: None

Deletions: None

As provided for in section 12 (5) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Councillor Steele requested that Information Item 2 – Memorandum from the Commissioner of Operations dated October 16, 2025 re: Rural Recreation Strategy -Year One Implementation Progress Report be brought forward at the next Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting.

MOVED by Councillor Steele, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence

Correspondence was received and circulated for item 13.1.1

For a detailed list of correspondence received refer to the specific agenda item.

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentations

10.3.1 Center for Art Tapes Funding Proposal

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation request dated July 29, 2025

- Presentation dated October 16, 2025

Cat Bluemke, Executive Director of Centre for Art Tapes and Tori Fleming, Development Manager for the Atlantic International Film Festival gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Steele, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report to consider a financial contribution to The Centre For Art Tapes (CFAT) for the purchase of a building and to advance renovations of the acquired building.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.3.2 Soccer Nova Scotia Land Lease Expansion Proposal & Needs Assessment

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation request dated August 14, 2025
- Presentation dated October 16, 2025

Lindsay MacAskill, Executive Director of Soccer Nova Scotia and Rosalyn Smith, Soccer Nova Scotia Board Member gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

Maggie MacDonald, Executive Director of Parks and Recreation responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Steele, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report recommending a proposed response to the request of Soccer Nova Scotia.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

William Breckenridge, Halifax spoke about Phase 2 of the Regional Museum Strategy and made suggestions regarding funding for heritage and cultural preservation. Breckenridge proposed pursuing a decentralized museum strategy.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

13. REPORTS

13.1 STAFF

13.1.1 Phase 2 Regional Museum Strategy

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated May 2, 2025
- Staff presentation dated October 16, 2025
- Correspondence from William Breckenridge

Kellie McIvor, Manager Culture and Community gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

Maggie MacDonald, Executive Director of Parks and Recreation responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Steele

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council:

- 1. Approve the Phase 2 Regional Museum Strategy as a guiding municipal document for the implementation of a Regional Museum Model;**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to put forward the increased staffing requirements and contributions agreement costs as outlined in the financial implications section of the staff report dated May 2, 2025 for Council consideration as a service enhancement in the 2026/27 budget; and**
- 3. Direct the CAO to consider and prepare, as part of the 2026/27 Budget and Business Plan the withdrawal of \$2,395,130 from the Capital Fund Reserve (Q526), and allocate the funds to Capital Project Account CB220002 PFE – Heritage Facilities Recap and CP190001 P&R - Cultural Assets to support capital repairs to municipally owned heritage museum properties and artifact storage project, with priority given to Quaker House and Evergreen House.**

McIvor and MacDonald responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

As provided for in section 90 of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the motion was separated for voting purposes.

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Steele

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council:

- 1. Approve the Phase 2 Regional Museum Strategy as a guiding municipal document for the implementation of a Regional Museum Model;**
- 3. Direct the CAO to consider and prepare, as part of the 2026/27 Budget and Business Plan the withdrawal of \$2,395,130 from the Capital Fund Reserve (Q526), and allocate the funds to Capital Project Account CB220002 PFE – Heritage Facilities Recap and CP190001 P&R - Cultural Assets to support capital repairs to municipally owned heritage museum properties and artifact storage project, with priority given to Quaker House and Evergreen House.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Steele

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council:

- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to put forward the increased staffing requirements and contributions agreement costs as outlined in the financial implications section of the staff report dated May 2, 2025 for Council consideration as a service enhancement in the 2026/27 budget; and**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. MOTIONS – NONE

15. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

15.1 PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential Report

This matter was dealt with in public as follows:

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Private and confidential recommendation report dated October 6, 2025

MOVED by Councillor Purdy, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee:

1. **Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated October 6, 2025; and**
2. **Direct that the private and confidential report dated October 6, 2025 be maintained private and confidential.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

16. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

17. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – November 20, 2025

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Simon Ross-Siegel
Legislative Assistant