

Mayor's Monthly Update

MAY 31

Message from Acting Mayor Peter Mosher

May has been a very busy month here at Town Hall with Mayor Risser leaving and me stepping in to take the helm. We have had far more meetings than usual, and it makes me very happy to see so many residents coming out to participate and get informed.

Thanks to our Community Development Team, we have had many more conversations with Parks Canada than ever before. As our liaison to UNESCO, we have provided them with a very comprehensive State of Conservation Report which has garnered a lot of attention. The spotlight is really on us now. I am very pleased that we have such a great team to help navigate us through this time and highlight our efforts to conserve Lunenburg's heritage. I'm very hopeful it will result in a positive outcome for all. I must also thank residents of the Town as well who the report calls "heroes of Canada's heritage movement, shouldering Old Town Lunenburg's stewardship of behalf of the world."

At one of these special meetings on May 16, the town listed 10 assets in need of maintenance that will cost an estimated \$46 million. It's a rather scary number but I'd like to remind everyone it is preliminary at this point. We felt it was very important to bring these estimated numbers to the public to help people understand what our challenges will be in the next 10 years. I hope this will be seen as an opportunity to engage and plan for a successful future. The CAO, Finance, Community Development and Communications will all be working together in the coming weeks and months to comprehensively break down these costs and share what they mean for the average taxpayer in Lunenburg.

I'd also like to remind everyone to stay safe, follow provincial regulations regarding forest activity and burning and, if you can, offer help and support to our neighbors who are experiencing the devastation of the forest fires.

In the meantime, I will do my best to steer the ship here at Town Council until we elect a new Mayor on August 12. This is a great opportunity for eligible residents to get involved in municipal politics. Let's hope for a great turn out at the virtual polls!

TOWN NEWS

Election Called!

On May 30, Council set a special election date for Saturday, August 12, 2023. This special election is being held to fill the vacancy of Mayor. In the event a sitting Council member decides to run for Mayor, they must resign their council seat. This will then be a special election for both Mayor and Council Member.

The revision period for the List of Electors is June 7 – June 21. During this period, residents can check with Town staff to confirm they are on the voters' list. Please contact Wendy Mills wmills@townoflunenburg.ca 902-634-4410 x 221.

For important dates, information on how to vote and information on how to become a candidate, please visit the Elections page on our website:
<https://townoflunenburg.ca/elections.html>

New Employees

The Town welcomes new employees Crystal Berringer, Finance Clerk-Accounting Technician and Water Resource Operator Sagar Dobariya.

Lunenburg's 270 Birthday Celebrations

Please join us at the Bandstand at 12 noon on Tuesday, June 7 to celebrate Lunenburg's 270th birthday. We will be presenting the 2023 Heritage Recognition Awards, The Town Crier will be there, we will have cake and perhaps even some live music!

Heritage Plan and By-Law Public Engagement

The Town will present multiple engagement opportunities for public input regarding the proposed new Heritage Plan and By-law. We will be gathering everyone's questions and comments along the way to present to the Heritage Advisory Committee who then, in turn, will make a recommendation to Council. We really want to hear what you have to say and want to ensure we can answer everyone's questions. A few public events to watch out for:

Thursday, June 15	Open House – Lunenburg Fire Hall 4-7PM
Monday, June 19	Online Open House 6-8PM https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87075771879
Sunday, June 25	Pop Up Information – The Bandstand 12-4PM
Monday, June 26	Heritage Advisory Committee Public Participation Meeting 6PM at Town Hall both in-person and virtually

In Memoriam

We would like to offer our sincere condolences to the family and loved ones of Pam Comeau who passed away on May 13. Pam was a part of the Town's Public Works Department for more than twenty years. She took great pride in looking after all the town's green spaces. Pam's dedication and talent have greatly contributed to making Lunenburg the town of beauty it is today. She is deeply missed by friends and co-workers.

New Crosswalk Lights

The new solar flashing crosswalk lights have been installed at four intersections in the Town. Public Works advises that they may still need a little tweaking here and there before they are fully operational. In the meantime, please continue to use sidewalks and flags as per normal and always use caution.

Destination Website for Lunenburg!

You asked for it – and we are building it! Thanks to a grant from Digital Tourism NS, we are in the preliminary stages of building a new destination website for the Town. An information package with all the details of how to secure a listing will be coming our shortly.

The newsletter is intended to be temporary until a new mayor is elected. The new mayor will decide how they would best like to communicate to residents. But if you have any feedback or suggestions, please e-mail us and let us know. We'd love to hear from you. mbest@townoflunenburg.ca