

A meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was held in Council Chambers at Baddeck on September 12, 2023, at 5:00pm with Warden Morrison in the Chair.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT

District #1- Paul MacNeil

District #2- Perla MacLeod

District #3- Bruce Morrison, Warden

District #4- Barbara Longva

District #6 – Larry Dauphinee, Deputy Warden

District #7- Jackie Organ

District #8- Norman MacDonald

STAFF PRESENT

Steff MacLeod, Recorder

Allan Bragg, Manager of Finance

Jennifer Dagsvik, Communications and Marketing Coordinator

ABSENT

District #5- Fraser Patterson

Leanne MacEachen, CAO

Warden Morrison welcomed everyone and acknowledged that this meeting is being held in Unama'ki, one of seven traditional districts of Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaw People.

The discussion on the Local Improvement Charge public hearing was taken off the agenda.

CALL TO ORDER

Warden Morrison called the meeting to order and presented the agenda for approval.

On Motion of Deputy Warden Dauphinee seconded by Councillor Organ that the Agenda for September 12, 2023, be approved.

Motion Carried.

Warden Morrison acknowledged the passing of local resident Lloyd Stone and Minister Lloyd Hines.

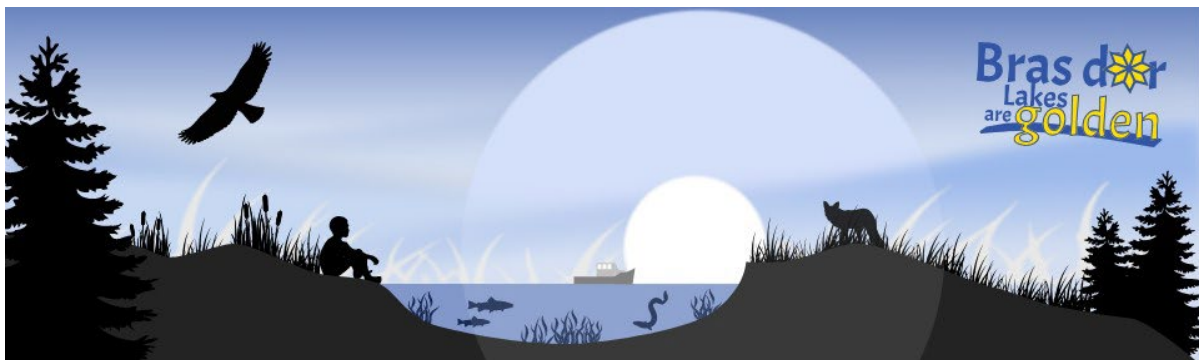
CEPI PRESENTATION – STAN JOHNSON

Mr. Johnson went over two short PowerPoint presentations.

Bras d’Or Lakes CEPI

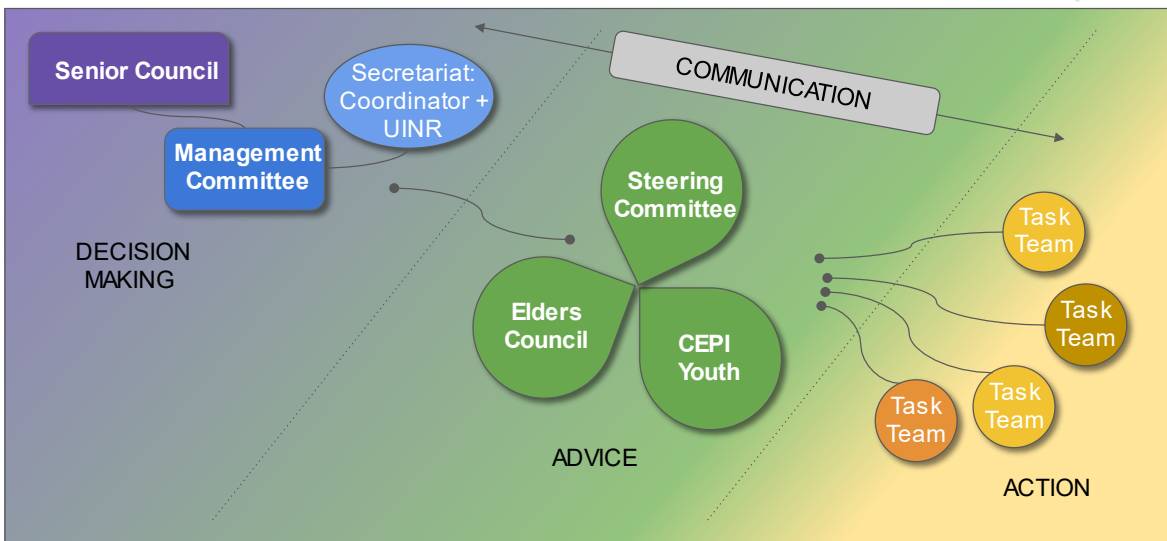


WHO ARE WE?





Who sits at the CEPI table?



VISION



“To lead a unique collaboration of partners that incorporate both traditional and western perspectives in order to foster a healthy and productive Bras d’Or Lakes watershed ecosystem.”

PURPOSE



“To develop an overall management plan for the ecosystem of the Bras d’Or lakes and watershed lands and to facilitate its implementation by governments and other relevant stakeholders.”

OBJECTIVES



- **Institutional**
- **Social/Cultural**
- **Environmental**
- **Economic**

GUIDING PRINCIPLES



- 1) **We are part of Nature, not owners of her.**
- 2) **We will assist in healing previous damages.**
- 3) **We will consider the impact of our present actions on future generations.**
- 4) **We will pay attention.**
- 5) **We will cause no net loss of habitat.**
- 6) **We will work together.**
- 7) **We are accountable.**

Etuaptmumk/Two-Eyed Seeing



Value



What value does the CEPI Table give to each individual member?


Value



What value does the CEPI Table give to each individual member?

Support



		Budget			
REVENUE	Budget	Received	Balance	%	
Parks Canada	10,000		10,000		
Dept. of Fisheries & Oceans	25,000		25,000		
Prov of NS - Natural Resources & Enviro	10,000		10,000		
Prov of NS - Aboriginal Affairs	10,000		10,000		
Prov of NS - Environment	10,000		10,000		
Prov of NS - Fish & Aquaculture	10,000		10,000		
Environment and Climate Change Canada	15,000		15,000		
AANDC (INAC)	50,000		50,000		
Unama'ki Communities	25,000		25,000		
Cape Breton Municipalities	12,500		12,500		
Oceans North - CEPI Youth	25,000		25,000		
Oceans North - CEPI Forestry	25,000		25,000		
Deferred Revenue 20-21	24,444		24,444		
UINR bridge funding	4,000		4,000		
CIHR project funds	2,000		2,000		
TOTAL REVENUE	257,944		257,944		



Bras d'Or Lakes
CEPI
Collaborative
Environmental
Planning Initiative

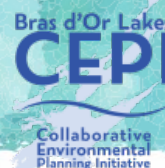
Muiwاتمnej Etuaptmumk (Honouring Twoeyed Seeing)
CEPI Conference 2023

Theme: Moving Twoeyed seeing from vision to action

Date: November 13th– 15th, 2023

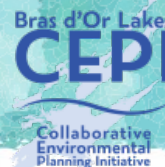
Location: Membertou Cape Breton / Unama'ki

Program Highlights



- **Engaging Panels and Discussions:** Meet experts and thought leaders in two-eyed seeing, Indigenous knowledge, environmental management, and cultural preservation.
- **Cultural Excursions:** Immerse yourself in the rich heritage of Mi'kma'ki through guided tours and cultural experiences (limited space).
- **Keynote Address:** Experience an inspiring address by a special guest speaker.
- **Gala Night:** Enjoy an evening of celebration with cultural performances and entertainment

Opportunities to get involved



- **Attend Conference as a presenter on Two Eyed Seeing**
 - Come to conference to showcase how your group or organization has adopted Two-Eyed Seeing into their work and projects
- **Attend conference as a participant (Registration opening up soon)**
 - Come to the conference to find out how you can utilize Two Eyed Seeing into your daily work and projects that you or your group is working on.
- **Sponsorship opportunities**
 - There are levels of opportunities for Groups/Organizations/Communities/Municipalities/First Nations to get involved in the conference with many sponsorship levels available.



Your financial assistance would be immensely helpful in making this a terrific event.

Options for sponsorship include general support for the conference or sponsoring a specific portion of the event such as a meal or nutrition break. A list of specific event segments to sponsor is available upon request. If you choose to sponsor a specific event segment, we will identify that both in the program and during that particular part of the conference.

For more information please contact Tel: 902-317-0760 • Email: noelle@riseresults.com



Mawio'mi/Gathering Sponsor (\$25,000 +)

- Full page ad in program
- Full page message from the sponsor in program
- Four free registrations to attend the conference
- Top logo placement in all material
- Prominent placement of supplied banner within conference
- Prominent placement of supplied banner within conference
- Opportunity for a video to be played at conference
- Recognition in media releases
- Recognition on social media platforms



Kitpu/Eagle Sponsor (\$10,000 to \$24,999)

- 1/2 page ad in conference program
- Second ranked logo placement in material
- Acknowledgement on tables
- Two free registrations to attend the conference
- Recognition in media releases
- Recognition on social media platforms



Muin/Bear Sponsor (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

- 1/4 page ad in conference program
- Logo placement in award show material
- Acknowledgement on tables
- Recognition in media releases
- Recognition on social media platforms



Katew/Eel Sponsor (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

- 1/4 page ad in conference program
- Logo placement in award show material
- Acknowledgement on tables
- Recognition in media releases
- Recognition on social media platforms



Ala'suinu/ Traveler Sponsor (\$5,000)

- 1/4 page ad in conference program
- Logo placement in award show material
- Acknowledgement on tables
- Recognition in media releases
- Recognition on social media platforms



Elder & Youth Support Sponsor (\$5,000)

- 1/4 page ad in conference program
- Logo placement in award show material
- Acknowledgement on tables
- Recognition in media releases
- Recognition on social media platforms

Sponsorship Form

SPONSORSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Company/Organization:

Address:

Sponsorship Package Selected:

<input type="checkbox"/> Mawio/mi/Gathering Sponsor	(\$25,000+)	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Kitpu/Eagle	(\$10,000 to \$24,999)	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Muin/Bear	(\$5,000 to \$9,999)	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Katew/Eel	(\$2,500 to \$4,999)	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ala'suinu/ Traveller Sponsor	(\$5,000)	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Elder & Youth Support Sponsor	(\$5,000)	\$	

Telephone: Fax: E-mail:

Contact Name: Title:

Payment Type: Invoice (will contact for details) EFT



Muiwatmnej Etuaptmunk Conference: Honouring Two-Eyed Seeing

Mon, Nov 13, 2023 4:00 PM - Wed, Nov 15, 2023 1:00 PM AST

Early Bird Registration	- 0 +
CA\$427.33 incl. CA\$27.33 Fee Sales end on Sep 30, 2023	
General Admission	- 0 +
CA\$480.58 incl. CA\$30.58 Fee Sales end on Nov 10, 2023	



QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Councillor Longva asked if accommodation is included in the registration fee and Mr. Johnson said no, accommodation is not included.

Councillor MacNeil mentioned that Victoria County would probably be a sponsor for this successful event, they have been very well attended over the last few years when they have been held in the County.

Warden Morrison said after Council reviews the sponsorship levels, we will get back to Mr. Johnson.

EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES (EHS) DISCUSSION – ELDEN MACDONALD

Warden Morrison said the EHS issues ARE a common discussion around this council table, it is a concern for us especially with the closing of our ER in Baddeck.

Deputy Warden said the province needs to take over this service, we have waited too long for these changes, and this is a for profit company and it's not working. I will be speaking to provincial representatives about this as well.

Mr. MacDonald said our regulator is the Province, EHS is paid a fee for the system, we do not collect fees per call. EHS has spent a lot of money on recruitment, overtime, and worker gaps. Deputy Warden appreciates what has been done so far in north of Smokey but more needs to be done.

Councillor Organ asked if the workers issue is a safety issue, if those paramedics are working too long is that considered a safety issue and Mr. MacDonald said it absolutely is a safety issue and we are changing our safety regulations. There is a stop rate of 16 hours, but we do have 24-hour crews north of Smokey.

Councillor Organ read an email she received from a resident, and it addressed the issue of having ambulances in the area but no crew. It gives residents a false sense of hope, she said when they see the ambulances and scary knowing there are no crews.

Mr. MacDonald asked Council if they wanted him to communicate with Council when a static truck is put in place north of Smokey and Council said yes. Mr. MacDonald will communicate that with Ms. MacLeod, to let Council know.

Councillor MacNeil mentioned that when ambulance calls are placed in Wagmatcook they need to wait for RCMP, and he asked why. Mr. MacDonald said there are staging policies that they need to follow but couldn't communicate further beyond that for legal reasons.

Councillor MacNeil confirmed that it is not all calls to Wagmatcook and Mr. MacDonald said no, it is not every call that RCMP have to come.

Councillor MacLeod asked about the new aircraft and if they see a difference and Mr. MacDonald said yes, we are, it takes an enormous amount of pressure off.

Mr. MacDonald said they added a Low Ambulatory Transport unit in Baddeck as well.

Councillor MacDonald thanked Mr. MacDonald for his correspondence in the last month is very much appreciated. Councillor MacDonald asked Mr. MacDonald to explain the depletion of rural trucks for the mainland, and wondered how can the province and service justify that?

Mr. MacDonald said it is the provincial SSP who makes that call but we are working hard to make alterations to that system.

Councillor MacDonald said the system is broken.

Councillor MacDonald asked why north of Smokey is the only area that has 24-hour trucks? Mr. MacDonald said we are working hard to make changes in this area, but I do believe if it's used properly, it works north of Smokey because most of the paramedics live there.

Warden Morrison said paramedics are held in high regard. Our issue is with EHS, not paramedics. My concern is our aging population, tourism and there are no ambulances here, I feel abandoned by EHS. Residents should know when there are no ambulances in our areas, why are we not being told, and I know it could cause panic, but it is still scary not knowing.

Mr. MacDonald said the fear issue has been talked about a lot. His belief is there are more problems created if people are told there are no ambulances, the fear could potentially bring on perceived illness. For the same reason, we don't let callers know when the ambulance will arrive.

Warden Morrison asked how do we, as a government lobby EHS? I don't think EHS is meeting the need. Mr. MacDonald said you need to complain if you don't complain it will stay status quo.

Warden Morrison thanked Mr. MacDonald for his time and said that we look forward to welcoming you back to Council in another few months for an update.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the August 23, 2023, meeting of Victoria County Municipal Council was presented for approval.

On Motion of Councillor MacLeod, seconded by Deputy Warden Dauphinee that the Victoria County Municipal Council Minutes of August 23, 2023, be approved.

Motion Carried.

CAO REPORT

- Channel Dredging - Had a meeting with DNRR, and DFO - DFO only fund fish at risk and permitting of ocean projects. Looking for next steps.

Following Council discussion, Ms. MacLeod was asked to contact MLA Bain to inquire about funding availabilities for this.

- Sustainable Funding Grant - \$557,000.

On Motion of Deputy Warden Dauphinee seconded by Councillor MacNeil that the Sustainable Funding Grant of \$557,000 should be used toward the Ingonish Waterline Extension project.

Motion Carried.

- We are in the final stages of conveyance of the Provincial land to us for the New Haven Property and will look at new steps. However, EPR changes are coming up, and we will need guidance from Council on what we should do with our Capital Budget.
- We heard back from Department of Environment and Climate Change to request them to attend Council to discuss disposal of treated wood. Ms. MacLeod will be booking them into a Council session.
- Englishtown Community Hall received a late approval for a generator and are seeking the same 20% we gave to the other Community halls. Cost would be \$6,302.00 to the Municipality for the 20% funding. Motion/Agreement?

It was requested the CAO check on the other applications for generators and see where they are at.

- Other Municipalities have been sending requests to the Provincial Gov't, to ask for an exemption for Volunteer Emergency Service providers for their emergency vehicles, from the new GHG Fuel Surcharge. Are we interested in making a similar request? See Letter from Council package.

On Motion of Deputy Warden Dauphinee seconded by Councillor Organ to write a letter to the Provincial Government to request an exemption for Volunteer Emergency Service providers for their emergency vehicles, from the new GHG Fuel Surcharge

Motion Carried.

- Other Municipalities have been discussing concerns over the SERMGAR Road options. They feel similar to us, that we need the complete costing of what this could potentially cost us to take over roads. They have sent a letter to the Minister, wondering if we would like to draft one as well? Refer to letter from Council Package.

On Motion of Councillor Longva seconded by Councillor MacNeil to write a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing addressing concerns over the SERMGAR Road options.

Motion Carried.

- The old Courthouse sign will be taken down to allow the painters to paint and Council decided to get a new sign that is similar to the old one, but it is an accurate description of a municipal building and not a courthouse, "Victoria County Municipal Building, Established 1889".

On Motion of Councillor MacNeil seconded by Councillor Organ to grant the subdivided land on Tower road to Destination Cape Breton for an amount less than Fair Market Value for housing development. This motion is on the condition that the County's lawyer draft a first right of refusal section in the sale documents. This will allow the County to have first right of refusal in the event that Destination Cape Breton decides to sell the property.

Motion Carried.

- The stairs leading down to the beach in Neil's Harbour will be removed and stored away from the beach until next spring to help preserve them from the winter weather.

DISTRICT CONCERNS

DISTRICT 1

- Thank You to NS Public works for the patching done in Washabuck area although more needs to be done.
- Shoulders of the roads need to be addressed.
- Patching in Grass Cove and Barra Glen area
- Calls for dog Catcher south of Smokey. Former Dog Catcher receiving phone calls from people wondering what to do with stray dogs. It is time we look at getting new Dog Catcher for South.

On Motion of Councillor MacNeil seconded by Deputy Warden Dauphinee for the County to be a silver sponsor of \$1,000.00 for the Nova Scotia Museum Conference being hosted in Baddeck.

Motion Carried.

On Motion of Councillor MacNeil seconded by Councillor MacLeod to take \$2000.00 from my District 1 Budget to the Washabuck Community Center for maintenance.

Motion Carried.

- Update on water bills, when are they going out?

Water bills have been sent out at this time.

DISTRICT 2

On Motion of Councillor MacLeod seconded by Councillor Longva to take the following amounts out of District 2:

\$1000.00 for Baddeck Forks Hall

\$1000.00 Middle River Hall

\$500.00 4H Baddeck

Motion Carried.

- The 93rd annual Victoria County Community Fair was held in Big Baddeck last week and it was well attended and a great event.

DISTRICT 3

- Nice to see the painting done on the Municipal Building.
- A new doctor started in Baddeck, and Council welcomes Dr. Bonnar to the County.
- Deputy Warden Dauphinee's name needs to be submitted to the NSFM for the long service award, he has more than 15 years of service.
- Warden Morrison asked Council if they would like to sponsor \$2,500.00 for the Two Eyed Seeing Conference and Council agreed.
- Warden Morrison also mentioned that any Councillor wishing to attend this conference, can do so and to contact Ms. MacLeod and conference fess and accommodations would be paid for by the County.

DISTRICT 4

- There is concern by constituents about the tax sales held by the County that is enabling people both in and out of province to buy up land and then turn around and resell it for a huge profit and setting the price so high that local people can't afford it. Is there a policy to prevent this or implement a tax in these cases.

Warden Morrison asked CAO to look into this further.

- The streetlight requested for a driveway on the highway is not the responsibility of the provincial Department of Public Works.

Councillor Longva will resend this request to Steff as Council approved this request.

- There is a green/outdoor space now at Indian Brook Fire Hall, is there funding available to help with maintenance of that space.

Warden Morrison suggested to ask the Manager or Tourism and Recreation or go through the municipal grant's procedure in January when that funding opportunity opens up again.

- There will be a public meeting with Nova Scotia Power/Emera at the Indian Brook Fire Hall on September 19th at 7:00pm to inform the community of the ongoing project at Wreck Cove Hydro Project, as well as informing the community on what the Emergency Action Plan would be in the event that there was an emergency such as a dam breaking.
- Attended a board meeting with Cape Breton Regional Library (CBRL) and they have an opportunity to move to a 5,000sq foot space would meet accessibility and programming needs. The rental cost is \$5000.00/month at fair market value rental prices, and they are asking the County to pay for this.

Warden Morrison said there is a meeting coming up about this and Warden and CAO met with the library board, and it was said that the library's current rental allowance of \$1,200 can be doubled but that's it. However, we will see how the conversation goes at the upcoming meeting. But at this point the County is not committing to \$5,000/month.

- What is our policy on mileage when we are appointed to boards?

Warden Morrison said if the board has a policy to pay mileage, they should pay, not the County, if they don't have a mileage policy, the County will pay.

- Complaints on the state of the rear Barrachois Rd. It is full of ruts and washouts and there is never a grader there. I don't know if one can go over the new Bailey Bridge that was put there, but the regular snowplows cannot.
- Complaints from residents on the New Campbellton Road. The road is full of potholes and needs to see the grader.
- The Oregon Road has had some washouts as well as there are culverts showing as gravel has washed out.
- Requested an update on the progress of the "NO EXIT" sign on Kelly's Lane.
- Requested a meeting with Ecology Action Center to discuss coastal erosion and a tiered building code that the Federal Government is implementing, one of their representatives had requested to come and give a presentation.

Councillor Longva will send the contact information to Ms. MacLeod to book them into a Council meeting.

DISTRICT 5

On behalf of Councillor Patterson, Steff read the below concerns:

- A request for a streetlight at 8039 Kempt Head Road. The guide wire on the pole is marked with orange tape.
- Requested a review of public roads for collection pickup.

DISTRICT 6

- Good to see some road work being done.
- Requested updates regarding the bridge on Barron Road in Ingonish Harbour.

DISTRICT 7

- Receiving calls about the water bills being higher.
- Requested an update on the water meter being replaced at 45 Birch Road, the resident has not received a new water meter.

Staff will inquire.

- The land on the White Point Road that the County is currently looking at purchasing, has become a dumping site, can a gate be installed there?
- Will the Local Improvement Charge Public Hearing be advertised.

It is currently on the municipal calendar for October 10, 2023, at 5pm at the Keltic Lodge, Ingonish in the Ceilidh Hall.

- Councillor Organ's office hours will be October 4th from 10:00am-12:00pm.

DISTRICT 8

- Thanked provincial Department of Public Works for the patch work done on Courtney Road.

MOTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

On Motion of Councillor MacNeil seconded by Councillor Longva for the County to be a sponsor of \$2,500.00 for the Two Eyed Seeing Conference.

Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

All forwarded.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councillor MacLeod commented that Victoria County Transit met prior to Council.

OTHER

Councillor Longva asked about black garbage bags being dropped off in resident's bins, and Warden said this should be referred to the Public Works Department. The Deputy Warden said that was happening in his district too and residents started putting locks on their garbage bins.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

No questions from the Public.

NEXT MEETINGS

Council Meeting: October 10, 2023, at 2pm in Ingonish.

ADJOURN

Councillor MacNeil made a motion to adjourn at 7:20pm