



Council Brief – Monday, June 16, 2025

Attendance

The individual meetings for Council and Committee of the whole attendance for Monday, June 16, 2025, included, Mayor Nancy Dicks, Deputy Mayor Jocelyn Dorrington, Councillors Jim McKenna, Dawn Peters, Clyde Fraser, and Joe MacDonald. Chief Administrative Officer, Lisa MacDonald, Deputy Clerk Alison Tait, and Town Solicitor Frank DeMont.

Regrets: Councillor Jessica MacDonald

The following Senior Staff Members were also in attendance, Kim Livingston, Earl MacKenzie, Michelle Ward, Rebecca Lewis-MacNeil, Ross White, Ryan Leil, Audrey Buchannon and Kim Dickson.

Petitions/Delegations/Presentations

Presentations

Mayor and Council were delighted to welcome Carissa Ainslie, Executive Director of Creative Pictou County, to present on the organization and its exciting path forward. Highlights include the launch of their new studio space at the deCoste Centre, along with a variety of upcoming collective art exhibitions, workshops, artist residencies, and more. A full list of events and exhibitions can be found at creativepictoucounty.ca.

Proclamations

Pride Week, June 15-21, 2025

Mayor and Council recognize June 15–21, 2025, as Pride Week to honour the diversity, resilience, and valuable contributions of the 2SLGBTQ+ community. By proclaiming this week, the Town affirms its commitment to fostering a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment where everyone can live authentically and with dignity.

Pollinator Week June 15-21. 2025

The Town of New Glasgow proudly proclaims June 15–21, 2025, as Pollinator Week to recognize the vital role pollinators play in supporting biodiversity, food security, and ecosystem resilience. As Nova Scotia's first Bee City, New Glasgow is committed to creating pollinator habitats, promoting education, and leading by example in environmental stewardship.

National Garden Day June 16, 2025

June 16, 2025, is recognized as National Garden Day to celebrate the rich contributions of Canada's horticulture sector and the vital role gardens play in creating vibrant, healthy communities. As a proud Bee City and Garden Friendly Town, New Glasgow is committed



to protecting pollinators, fostering local gardening culture, and encouraging community engagement through environmental stewardship.

Longest Day of Smiles, June 20, 2025

The Town of New Glasgow proclaims June 20, 2025, as the Longest Day of SMILES® to support Operation Smile Canada’s mission of providing life-changing surgeries to children born with cleft conditions. By raising awareness and encouraging community participation, New Glasgow stands in solidarity with this global effort to ensure every child receives the care they deserve.

Multiculturalism Day, June 27, 2025

Multiculturalism is a fundamental characteristic of the Canadian heritage; reflecting our commitment to diversity, inclusion, and mutual respect. It enriches communities like the Town of New Glasgow by fostering cultural understanding, celebrating differences, and strengthening social cohesion. The Mayor and Council are proud to recognize June 27, 2025, as Multiculturalism Day.

Indigenous Survivors Day, June 30, 2025

The Town of New Glasgow recognizes Indigenous Survivors Day on June 30 to honour the strength, resilience, and enduring spirit of Indigenous peoples who have survived the harmful impacts of colonialism, including residential schools and systemic discrimination. This day is an opportunity to reflect, listen, and stand in solidarity with Indigenous communities as we continue the journey toward truth, healing, and reconciliation.

Disability Pride Month, July 2025

Disability Pride Month is a time to celebrate the achievements, identities, and contributions of people with disabilities. It is also an opportunity to raise awareness, challenge stigma, and promote inclusion and accessibility in all areas of community life. By acknowledging July Disability Pride Month, we affirm our commitment to building a more equitable and respectful society for everyone.

Canada Day, July 1, 2025

The Town of New Glasgow proudly proclaims July 1, 2025, as Canada Day, a time to celebrate our nation’s confederation and the shared values that unite us. This year holds special significance as we also mark New Glasgow’s 150th Anniversary—a milestone honouring the town’s rich history, growth, and community spirit. As we gather in celebration, we also reflect on our commitment to truth and reconciliation, recognizing that we live on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi’kmaq people.



Town Council Reports

Committee of the Whole Report

The Council approved the following recommendations in the Committee of the Whole report:

- Recommendation to approve the Municipal Fees Policy for 2025 as presented.
- Recommendation for the approval and endorsement of the key infrastructure initiatives priority projects for upcoming funding applications: 1) Little Harbour Road Watermain Extension, 2) Trenton Road Watermain Rehabilitation, 3) Forbes Lake Dam and Spillway Upgrades.
- The recommendation to support the Pictou County Shared Services Authority – East River Environmental Control Centre application for the installation of two emergency standby/backup power generators to the Provincial Capital Assistance Program as New Glasgow’s top priority.
- Recommendation of the approval of the citizen appointments for Committees of Council for 2025 – 2028 be approved as presented:
 - Accessibility Advisory Committee – John Carter (Ward 3)
 - Audit Committee – John Lewis (Ward 3)
 - Business Advisory Committee – Brittany Reid (East River Road Corridor) and Robert Burrows (Downtown Business)
 - Community Climate Change Committee – Sai Krishna (Ward 1), Janet Wallace (Ward 2), Adam Cochrane (Ward 3), and Mary Henderson (Youth)
 - New Glasgow Regional Police Commission – Crystal States (Eastside NG)
 - Planning Advisory Committee – Amanda Knight (At large member)

Engineering and Public Works Department Report

As of May 31, 2025, Engineering and Public Works provided an update on the major projects and/or initiatives, which include but are not limited to:

- The 8th Street Sanitary Sewer Expansion Project commenced on April 28th; the work is progressing well with contractor, B.D. Clifton. The project is currently 50% complete.
- HVAC Energy Upgrades are currently underway at the Town’s Fire Hall, with work expected to begin at Town Hall in late June, with completion in late August/September. The Contractor for the project is Bird Mechanical Ltd.
- The Wastewater Capacity Study is currently underway and is being overseen by Dillion Consulting Ltd.



- The contract for the Library Renovation Project has been awarded to PCL Constructors. Fathom Studio has completed the “Issued for Construction” drawings based on the finalized scope of work, and work is expected to commence July 1, 2025.
- The contract for the Westside Water Pressure Study has been awarded to the sole bidder, Dillion Consulting Ltd. The validation hydraulic model is now complete and work continues on the water model.
- The Forbes Lake Dam and Spillway Upgrades project has been awarded to MECO Engineering and design work is currently underway.
- The waterline replacement for Little Harbour Road is currently in design phase and nearing 95% completion, the project is expected to be issued for tender in 2026.
- The RFP for a Design-Build contract for the Ward One Accessible Ramp closed on May 29, 2025. The award of contract has been recommended to Council for approval to sole bidder I. Matheson & Co. The work is expected to take 14 weeks to complete from the date of the award.
- Work is progressing on the Southend Sewer Separation. Storm and sanitary sewer work is mostly complete, waterline work is approximately 60% complete, with the overall project being over halfway complete. The work is being overseen by S.W. Weeks.
- The Asphalt Tender closed on June 12, 2025 and has been recommended for award to Webster Brothers Paving and Concrete Limited.
- A tender is currently being prepared for the Capital Paving Project.
- The reconstruct of accessible spaces in the Downtown area is underway, with two new spaces constructed on MacLean Street. The Town is currently awaiting meter installation.

Council also expressed their appreciation to the Public Works team for their efforts this spring in refreshing roadway line markings throughout the community.

Solid Waste (PC Shared Services Authority – PC Solid Waste)

A total of 108.08 tons of organics was collected during the month of May 2025, as compared to 113.30 tons of organics collected for the month of May 2024. 65.91 tons of garbage was collected during the month of May 2025, as compared to 79.50 tons of garbage collected for the month of May 2024, a total of 38.20 tons of recycling was collected during the month of May 2025, as compared to 40.37 tons of recycling collected for the month of May 2024. A total of 7.70 tons of leaves were collected during the month of May 2025, as compared to 13.96 tons of leaves collected for the month of May 2024.



New Glasgow Regional Police

A 29-year-old male has been charged following an incident in which he failed to stop for police. Charges include Flight from Police, Dangerous Operation of a Motor Vehicle, Operating a Motor Vehicle without Insurance, and Driving while Revoked. He is scheduled to appear in Pictou Provincial Court on August 24, 2025.

Throughout May, the New Glasgow Regional Police participated in several community events from both a public safety and community engagement perspective. These events included Art at Night, the Miss Miles Running Event, Joe Earl Road Races (Trenton), the Community Policing Open House, and Coffee with a Cop.

In May, the New Glasgow Regional Police responded to a total of 632 occurrences, resulting in 33 arrests. Notable call drivers included 82 suspicious person/property/vehicle, 74 motor vehicle, 44 mental health, 34 protection of property, 23 alarms, 20 failure to comply, 11 assault, 5 criminal harassment, 4 threats, 3 missing persons, 3 assault with weapon and 1 robbery.

Ongoing monthly reporting for the Community Response Officer (CRO) has been implemented. Throughout May, the CRO addressed various incidents in the Downtown area, including those under the Mental Health Act, Trespass Act, break and enters, disturbances, and assaults. While on patrol, the CRO regularly engages with business owners, employees, and visitors to the Downtown, fostering positive relationships and supporting a safe and welcoming environment.

Department of Community Development Report

May was a busy month as preparations ramped up for the summer and festival season. The Beautification and Maintenance team focused on garbage removal, dock preparation, and readying more than 50 flower beds for June planting. Additionally, the Beautification and Streetscaping team relocated from Public Works to the Marina building to support the opening of the 2025 boating season. So far, nine returning boaters have applied for seasonal docking, with three more currently on the waiting list.

We are pleased to announce that Morgan Simms will be returning to the role of Program, Culture and Events Manager in late June. Morgan's leadership and experience will be a huge asset as he and the team help bring this summer's major events to life, including the Riverfront Music Jubilee, Race on the River, and a variety of celebrations marking New Glasgow's 150th anniversary!



Active Living & Community Programs

Make Your Move New Glasgow (MYMNG) continued with successful events including Make Your Move Day, May 9th featuring a Salsation Dance Fitness class at the Northend Recreation Centre, lunch time walks for Nova Scotia Walks Day, and ongoing promotions like the MYMNG Parking Space initiative in partnership with Crombie REIT. The June schedule is online and includes Bike Month activities, community bike rides, walking groups, and more.

The Coastal Guided Hike Series drew strong participation with weekly hikes continuing through July. Community Walking Audits are underway in all three wards to gather valuable feedback for Town planning.

Events

May events included the Miss Miles Running event, Art at Night, the New Glasgow 150 Launch, and the St. Andrew's Society Lobster Dinner. June's calendar is full of events ranging from the Autism Walk and Johnny Miles Running Event to comedy shows and pre-Canada Day celebrations.

Council extended a sincere thank you to the Community Development team for their work on this year's vibrant garden beds and planters along with the beautiful New Glasgow 150 Banners throughout the Town.

Environment & Sustainability

The Environment & Sustainability Lead was active in numerous meetings, workshops, and conferences, advancing projects such as the District Energy Project, the Green Municipal Fund building retrofits, and Low Carbon Communities initiatives. The Town has submitted a proposal to improve the efficiency of the aging Atlantic Orient Company Wind Turbine at the Water Treatment Plant.

Community Resiliency Hubs policy communications are ongoing with local community centres. Volunteers participated in the 'Climate Quest' exhibition at the Museum of Industry and engaged in local environmental initiatives like the Fish Friends program. Collaborations with Flourishing Enterprises and Simon Fraser University are progressing on a Low Carbon Resilience Pilot Project to integrate climate mitigation and adaptation into Town planning.

Carbon Run's limestone doser installation proposal for the East River is advancing with positive local support, with a public open house planned for June 19, 2025, at the Museum of Industry.



Business Development Report

The East River Business Park is progressing with key development activities, which includes but is not limited to:

- The drafting of a Purchase and Sale Agreement for lot 5C.
- Board approval the updated purchase agreement on May 14,2025 for Lot A-1. Construction on the two properties must adhere to the agreed upon timelines within the sale agreement of construction to commence within 12 months of the date of closing.
- Work is currently underway with consulting services in relation to lot 10A and civil design.

Department of Fire and Fire Inspection Reports

The New Glasgow Fire Department responded to a total of 23 calls during the month of May. Major call drivers included three medical, three MVC, one bush and one grass fire. The department also responded to an encampment fire along the flood plain of the Pioneer Trail, where a tarp ignited and the flames were intensified by a large accumulation of surrounding garbage. Firefighters successfully contained the blaze; however, due to the location and limited accessibility of the area, the incident posed a potentially serious risk to the community.

With warmer temperatures and dry foliage along the trails and wooded areas in town, residents are reminded to exercise caution and be mindful of their activities in these spaces. In 2022, the Town adopted the Fires and Burning of Material By-law, which outlines the proper and safe ways to enjoy outdoor fires. Residents are also encouraged to check the provincial burn restrictions, updated daily at 2 p.m., for the most current information on when burning is permitted.

The By-law can be accessed at: <https://www.newglasgow.ca/town-hall/council/by-laws.html>

In addition, a total of seven fire inspections and follow-up visits were conducted throughout the month of May. The department also participated in two training sessions over the course of the month.

Building Permits Report

Throughout the month of May, the Town received requests for 6 Building Permits. Permit requests included residential and commercial developments. Permits issued throughout the month of May equate to an estimated value of \$1,596,312 in local building and



renovation costs. Accumulated permits from January 1, 2025, to May 31, 2025, equate to \$9,092,339. In comparison, permits generated from January 1 to May 31, 2024, amounted to \$10,042,603.

Information Technology Department Report

Departmental activities and projects include but are not limited to:

Asset Management: Continued improvements in tracking IT equipment with vandal-proof asset tags linked to inventory and replacement schedules.

Police Support: Ongoing support for video systems, with body-worn and in-vehicle camera replacements underway.

Water Utility Upgrades: Network infrastructure and swipe card access control systems are being prepared for deployment, with one facility upgrade planned this fiscal year.

Public Wi-Fi Repairs: Damaged downtown Wi-Fi equipment (Flourish zones) identified and replaced after winter failures.

Data Centre Project: Final phase of a 3-year capital project nearing completion, involving infrastructure upgrades and improved power/cabling systems.

Video Library Support: Continued assistance with managing and retrieving police video footage for legal use.

CCTV & SafeWatch: Ongoing management of surveillance systems, with plans to expand SafeWatch coverage around the Farmers Market, Community Garden, and key downtown intersections.

Human Resources and Corporate Communications Department Report

In May, recruitment efforts were focused on the hiring and placement of an Executive Assistant for the New Glasgow Regional Police, an Environmental Maintenance Worker, Seasonal Maintenance Workers, and a Manager of Programs, Culture and Events for the Town of New Glasgow/Glasgow Square. Recruitment continues for several key roles, including a Communications Specialist, Operator III, Dispatch Communications Officer, and Court Operations Administrator.

Employee Relations

Work continued in support of collective bargaining with the Atlantic Police Association. Additional focus was placed on union-related urgent performance management matters.

Learning & Development

A Lunch and Learn session titled “Autism 101” was offered to employees, providing valuable insight and support resources. Seven summer students participated in onboarding orientation, receiving training on Town policies and workplace protocols.



Marketing & Communications

Communications efforts in May focused on promoting New Glasgow 150 through event materials, historical content, and launch coverage. A public pamphlet was developed for the Deer Management Strategy, and preparations were made for the Business Wall of Fame ceremony. Community awareness was supported through Accessibility Advisory Week and key health-related recognition days. Ongoing updates and support continued across platforms for Town services, events, and public notices.

Strategic Initiatives & Projects Department Report

Over the past month, work on New Glasgow 150 initiatives has progressed through strong collaboration among town leadership, community partners, and volunteers. The Town continues to expand branding efforts, strengthen partnerships, and successfully engage sponsors—surpassing budget targets. Key developments include event planning for a tribute to Henderson Paris and the Run Against Racism, production of house flags and commemorative swag, and the launch of historical storytelling through partnerships with The Advocate and local historians. Artistic and cultural initiatives, such as the Heritage Painting Series and exploratory meetings with creative groups, are underway. Community enthusiasm remains high, with committee meetings generating new ideas and strong public engagement.

Recommendations from In-Camera Meetings

During the regular scheduled Council Meeting in May, Council approved the purchase of Watershed Land PID 00897306, located within the primary and secondary watersheds.

During the regular scheduled Council Meeting in May, Council approved the motion to proceed with facilitating the demolition of 154 Alexander Street, PID 00946640, through a contractor and apply the costs to the tax account for the property. The demolition occurred on May 29, 2025 and was completed by Verhagen Demolition Ltd.

Committee of the Whole

Recommendation - Usage of Carmichael Park, Director of Community Development

Council approved the updated adoption of the updated Carmichael Park Policy. The policy replaces three policies for Carmichael Park and will formally establish the rules and expectations for the respectful use of Carmichael Park in New Glasgow. It emphasizes the park's role as a place of remembrance for military service and ensures all activities align with that purpose. The policy sets clear guidelines for events, prohibits disruptive or disrespectful activities, and outlines responsibilities for Town staff and event organizers. It also ensures collaboration with the Royal Canadian Legion and includes regular policy reviews to maintain relevance and respect.



Recommendation - New Credit Card and Purchasing Card Policy, Director of Corporate Services.

Council approved the recommendation to adopt the new Credit Card and Purchasing Card Policy. This policy sets clear rules for how Town of New Glasgow employees may use municipal credit cards. It aims to streamline low-dollar purchases, reduce administrative costs, and maintain accountability by outlining strict usage limits, documentation requirements, and prohibited purchases. It also establishes clear responsibilities for both cardholders and directors, with consequences for misuse. Ultimately, the policy ensures responsible stewardship of public funds while supporting efficient operations.

Recommendation - Construction of Accessible Stairs and Ramp at Ward One Recreation Center, Director of Engineering and Public Works.

Council approved the recommendation to award sole proponent (bidder), I. Matheson and Company Ltd. (IMCO) of New Glasgow the Design-Build contract. IMCO are required to design the accessible stairs and ramp, fabricate the components, and assemble and erect the exterior entrance features. All work is to meet current accessibility requirements. Total price is \$142,970 plus HST and it will take 14 weeks to complete.

Recommendation - Adoption of Children Playing Sign Policy, Chief of Police

Council approved the adoption of a new policy for processing requests related to “Children Playing” traffic awareness signs. This policy provides a standardized, evidence-based approach for evaluating such requests. While often submitted with the best intentions, research shows these signs have limited impact on improving safety. The policy encourages more effective measures such as traffic calming initiatives and public education, and it aligns with provincial legislation.

Recommendation - Adoption of Safewatch-Public Safety Camera System Policy, Chief of Police

Council also approved the Safewatch – Public Safety Camera System Policy. This new framework outlines the appropriate use, management, and oversight of public safety cameras in the Town of New Glasgow. Developed in consultation with legal counsel and the Privacy Commissioner for Nova Scotia, the policy includes key safeguards: no audio recording, no facial recognition, restricted access to footage, and regular audits. The policy supports public safety and emergency response while ensuring transparency and protection of privacy rights.



Recommendation - Asphalt Patching Tender, Director of Engineering and Public Works

Council has approved the awarding of the 2025/26 Asphalt Patching Contract to the lowest bidder, Webster Brothers Paving and Concrete Limited. The total cost of the work is estimated to be \$156,500.

Unfinished Business

Town of Trenton - Sale of Service Police Contract Update

The Town of New Glasgow was formally notified on June 10, 2025, that the Town of Trenton will not be renewing the NGRP Sale of Service Agreement. Policing services from NGRP will officially conclude on March 31, 2026. To ensure a smooth transition, it was recommended that Trenton assume full responsibility for their crosswalk guards, including payroll and operations, effective September 1, 2025. NGRP and Town Management will begin assessing the operational impact and bring forward recommendations to Council to help guide next steps.

Citizen Appointments to Committees of Council

Council approved the citizen appointments who submitted expressions of interest regarding volunteer committee opportunities. Several vacancies remain open on some committees and the Town will continue to advertise the opportunities at:

<https://www.newglasgow.ca/town-of-new-glasgow-call-for-citizen-applications.html>

Municipal Corporation and Committee Reports

Council received an update from the Pictou County Wellness Centre Building Authority Inc, regarding a special budget meeting held on May 26, 2025, to review and approve the draft operating budget for Fiscal Year 2025–2026. The budget was approved, including a \$65,000 allocation for the Pictou Pool's operating costs.

New Business

Mayor Dicks and Council received electronic correspondence from the Jubilee Board of Directors, requesting a temporary exemption from the Town's non-smoking bylaw for the 2025 Jubilee Weekend (August 1–3) to allow for a designated smoking area within the licensed festival grounds. The proposed designated smoking area for 2025 will follow the same model as last year, with proper maintenance, waste management, and a nightly wash-down coordinated with the fire department. The no re-entry policy remains critical to festival safety, making an on-site smoking solution necessary.