

**JOINT COUNCIL OF CONCEPTION BAY NORTH
MEETING HELD NORTH RIVER TOWN HALL
MAY 25TH, 2016**

NAME	REPRESENTING
Gordon Power, Chair	Town of Cupids
Betty Moore, Vice-Chair	Town of Clarke's Beach
Joan Wilcox, Acting Secretary	Town Clerk, Clarke's Beach
Hon. Al Hawkins, Minister	Department Transportation/Works
Hon. Eddie Joyce, Minister	Dept. Municipal Affairs
Betty Parsley, MHA	Harbour Main District
Pam Parsons, MHA	Port De Grave District
Graham Letto	Parl. Secretary Minister Municipal Affairs
Andrew Robinson	Compass Newspaper
Paul Brazil	Town of Spaniards Bay
Lewis Sheppard	Town of Spaniards Bay
Brenda Seymour	Town of Spaniards Bay
Tony Dominix	Town of Spaniards Bay
Tony Menchions	Town of Spaniards Bay
Kathy Tetford	Town of Harbour Grace
Gordon Stone	Town of Harbour Grace
Pat Haire	Town of Harbour Grace
Terry Barnes	Town of Harbour Grace
Ralph Trickett	Town of Brigus

Lorne J. Youden	Town of Brigus
Wayne Rose, Town Manager	Town of Brigus
Scott Rose	Town of South River
Marjorie Dawson, Town Clerk	Town of South River
Joyce Petten	Town of South River
Brian Hurley	Town of North River
Elsie Morrissey	Town of North River
Dwight Snow	Town of North River
Pat Mackey	Town of North River
Walter Yetman	Town of Bay Roberts
Philip Wood	Town of Bay Roberts
Charlene Roach Dawe	Town of Bay Roberts
Dean Franey	Town of Bay Roberts
George Janes	Town of Clarke's Beach
Kevin Connolly	Town of Cupids
George Adams	Town of Upper Island Cove
Linda Bourgeois Fraser	CA to Betty Parsley, MHA

WELCOME

Meeting opened at 7:30 p.m. with a warm welcome extended by Councillor Elsie Morrissey, Town of North River. Councillor Morrissey brought regrets from Mayor Blair Hurley who could not be in attendance.

Chairperson Gordon Power also extended a welcome to all in attendance with special welcome to Minister Al Hawkins, Minister Eddie Joyce and the MHA's in attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Gordon Stone, Harbour Grace

Seconded by Tony Dominix, Spaniards Bay

That the agenda be adopted. Motion Carried

ADOPTION OF MINUTES - April 28th, 2016 meeting

Moved by Ralph Trickett, Town of Brigus

Seconded by Paul Brazil, Town of Spaniards Bay

That the minutes of April 28th, 2016 meeting be adopted as circulated.

Motion Carried

FINANCIAL REPORT

Gordon Power, Chair/Treasurer provided Bank Balance as of April 29th, 2016
Balance : \$4376.73

Moved by Paul Brazil, Town of Spaniards Bay

Seconded by Gordon Stone, Town of Harbour Grace

That the financial report be adopted. Motion Carried

BUSINESS ARISING:

Gordon Stone, Town of Harbour Grace distributed copies of proposal for the project to promote Conception Bay North region. It is hoped that each Town will review the proposal at its next meeting and have it approved.

GREETINGS EXTENDED BY MHA'S

MHA Betty Parsley and Pam Parsons addressed group noting that they were both pleased to be in attendance. Ms. Parsley introduced Minister of Municipal Affairs to the group and Ms. Parsons did likewise for Minister of Transportation & Works. Both MHA's noted that there will be many topics of interest tonight with both Ministers in attendance.

Also, welcome extended to Graham Letto, Parliamentary Assistant to Minister Eddie Joyce

Hon. Minister Hawkins and Hon. Minister Joyce addressed the meeting. Both gave a most informative talk noting many areas of interest. Some topics discussed included the following:

- 2016 Budget - challenge dealing with the massive debt, noting that the province is on the brink of bankruptcy if changes not made.

Province is now spending more on debt servicing than education. The budget is certainly not a popular one with taxpayers, this budget is certainly not one introduced to ensure re-election, it is about doing what the Province has to do to get the financial situation under control.

The changes made to the levy today will help alleviate some concern for those affected.

It was noted that infrastructure spending will create approximately 1000 jobs in the Province, tenders went out early. Municipal road works needs next area to be assessed. Minister Hawkins added that his department has received 1500 requests for road work, this would cost approximately \$1 billion. He advised that it is the policy of his Department to take the politics out of funding roadwork. He has met with regional directors in his department to assess road work needs. It is his intention to develop a 5-year plan. He encouraged Towns to make the regional director in Conception North aware of their respective road work needs. Pam Parsons advised that the Regional Director is Gary Spencer.

Several Town representatives brought forward concerns with condition of roads in their respective communities

Pat Mackay and Elsie Morrissey, North River says that culverts in their community were on the priority list to be replaced three years ago, engineers had accessed and marked the area where replacement necessary. To date, nothing has been done. Town of North River would also like some action to be taken on its request to Department of Municipal Affairs to extend its municipal boundary. The request was made in 2008. Minister Joyce gave assurance that he would review it and it would not take 5 years to do so.

Terry Barnes, Harbour Grace noted that Harvey Street is in a deplorable state. The Town of Harbour Grace upgraded Water Street last year and now

because of the heavy equipment driving over Water Street rather than using Harvey Street, their new road work is being damaged.

Kevin Connolly, Cupids talked about the quality of the asphalt and the manner in which the pavement is being laid, quite possibly, in his opinion, that this is why the pavement is not lasting as it did years ago. He spoke on the work done on South River Hill. Gordon Power, Cupids also wondered if the asphalt is the required standard which should be used in road work.

Minister Hawkins noted that the Provincial Government is hoping to access some funds from the Building Canada Fund for provincial road work.

Terry Barnes, Harbour Grace advised that his Town Council is very frustrated with the lack of progress obtaining necessary documentation etc for the Marine Industrial Park. He noted that this park would generate employment for about 500 people year around. He is asking that the Government speed up the process so this project can move forward. Mr. Barnes also spoke on the closure of the Harbour Grace Court House. It is the wish of Harbour Grace Council that this proposal be re-considered by Government.

Philip Wood, Bay Roberts is very disappointed with the communication experienced between the three levels of government. His Town has asked to meet with a Minister and was refused. In his opinion, this does not demonstrate respect for the municipality. Both Ministers Hawkins and Joyce noted that they are both willing to meet with Town representatives when scheduling allows ...

Mr. Wood also spoke on the Local Service Districts and unincorporated areas. Minister Joyce advised that Department of Municipal Affairs in conjunction with Municipalities NL is doing a complete review on LSD's and unincorporated areas. Regionalization will also be part of this review.

Bay Roberts Council also very concerned about the in-action taken on the Coleys Point School. He acknowledged the effort put forward by Pam Parsons, MHA on this issue. Minister Joyce & Minister Hawkins noted that the engineering work had not been done under the previous Government. Conceptual drawings were done but not the engineering

design required for tendering. Philip Wood said well now is the time to do what needs to be done and begin the process. Coleys Point School has to be considered a priority.

Tony Menchions, Spaniards Bay is seeking support from the Joint Council for the Veterans Power Centre. He read aloud a letter from his Town seeking this support. He expressed his disappointment to Minister's Joyce and Hawkins on the progress so far re Coley's Point School and the condition of the roads in Conception Bay North. Also, concerned with the closure of Harbour Grace Court house.

Paul Brazil, Spaniards Bay asked the Ministers to please expediate the process in having the permits issued Spaniards Bay so the Veterans Power Centre can move forward.

George Adams, Upper Island Cove spoke on the need for passing lanes on the Veterans Memorial Highway. Minister Hawkins would not commit to any changes in the Highway but will take the suggestion into consideration. Councillor Adams also asked if Municipal Affairs had funding allocated for Canada 150. Yes, says Minister Joyce some has funding been set aside!

Scott Rose, South River advised the Minister of Municipal Affairs that his Town has made application for water & sewer funding. The Town has the funds available to cover its share of the cost. Minister Joyce acknowledged that his department has received the application. Mr. Rose asked that the department please give consideration to approval of this application.

Wayne Rose, Brigus spoke on the Wastewater Regulations. He pointed out that Town's are spending approximately \$10,000.(ten thousand) dollars annually to have monitoring done even when Town's know the need is evident for sewage treatment. Minister Joyce noted that the monitoring should not continue year after year, once a year of monitoring has been done, Town's can then make application for a permit. Mr. Rose also spoke on the closure of Brigus Library. The Town would like to know what criteria was used in determining which libraries would close. Wayne also inquired as to whether any consultation has taken place in regard to Municipal Property Assessments. Minister Joyce advised that

he has met with Sean Martin and Dean Ball, Municipal Assessment Agency to begin some discussion on this subject.

Kevin Connolly, Cupids had given written correspondence to the Joint Council asking for support in moving forward with amalgamating and/or regionalization of Towns in area. Minister Joyce noted that if Town's were interested, Municipal Affairs would do assessment. Regarding amalgamation, Government will not be forcing it on Towns but certainly support Town's sharing services.

Betty Moore, Clarke's Beach has concerns about changes in hours for snowclearing operations. Minister Hawkins noted that the hours will now be 4:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. If snow in forecast, the Department will have crew on through the night. The decision to have crew prepared for overnight shift will be left with the shift supervisor.

Gordon Stone, Harbour Grace pointed out the amount of activity around Conception Bay North which needs help from Government to get moving. The potential is there for job creation. He spoke on the Harbour Grace Marine Industrial park which could see 200 job opportunities.

Philip Wood, Bay Roberts advised group that the Bay Arena Board will be dissolved. Correspondence was given to each Town represented in Joint Council regarding this decision.

Chairperson Power thanked the Ministers for attending noting it was a great meeting! Both Ministers, in turn, thanked the Joint Council for the opportunity to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Betty Moore, Seconded by Gordon Power

Meeting now adjourn. Motion Carried. Time: 9:30 p.m.

JOAN WILCOX

Recording Secretary