
Committee of the Whole Meeting

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

Berwick Town Hall Council Chambers

6:30 pm

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of the Agenda**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes**
 - a. Special COTW Minutes, June 17, 2025
 - b. COTW Minutes, June 24, 2025
- 4. Review of Action Items**
- 5. Councillor Announcements**
- 6. New Business**
- 7. Department Reports**
 - a. Community Development
 - b. Public Works
 - c. Finance
 - d. CAO
- 8. Committee Reports**
 - a. AREA
 - b. Valley Regional Services (Kings Transit/Valley Waste)
 - c. Diversity Kings County Committee
 - d. REMO
 - e. REMAC
 - f. Police Services Advisory Committee
 - g. Valley REN LOC
- 9. Correspondence**
- 10. Mayor's Report**
- 11. In-Camera**
 - a. Personnel
- 12. Adjournment**

Committee of the Whole Monthly Report



Department: Community Development
Date: August 2025

Key highlights

- Our Community Connections Expo will take place September 18, 2025 in the evening and will be aligned with Berwick and District School's "Meet the Teacher" in an effort to boost participation. Staff have created a handout for community organizations attending this event on how to have their events promoted with the Town, through our website and electronic sign.
- On the first day of school, September 4th, staff will host a "Back to School Boost" event with coffee and muffins.
- The Terry Fox Run is taking place beginning at the Town Hall on Sunday, September 14th as a Town supported community event.
- Staff met with a community member about improving the beach volleyball court. Small improvements have been made already, with plans to apply for grant funding to make this a usable space for programming for next spring.
- Congratulations to Aidan Peach who attended the Canada Games in St John's Newfoundland as a member of Team Nova Scotia Volleyball.
- Staff are working with the Valley Wildcats to align our events with their schedule and create opportunities for players to actively volunteer and engage in the community.
- All summer student terms end as of August 29. This year we received grant funding to support nine positions, and all had a successful summer in their roles!
- Nine summer concerts have been held in Centennial Park, with the tenth taking place on Thursday, August 28th. The new format for expressions of interest has led to many new performers, offering a greater variety of music and entertainment for the community to enjoy.
- Our summer intern promoted the Town Wide Yard Sale (another busy day in Berwick!), held pop-up play events and worked closely with the Kings County Family Resource Centre to offer programs three days a week through the summer.
- Tennis court light timers have been adjusted to align with earlier sunsets as we move into fall.
- This year's Volunteer of the Year is Tara LeBlanc who was nominated (multiple times!) for her volunteer work with 2nd Berwick Scouts and Berwick Gala Days. Tara will be honoured at the provincial volunteer ceremony in September, and at our event in early October.
- Staff are preparing for the launch of the Community Voices Circle, which will act as an advisory body for equity, anti-racism and accessibility. Funding of \$1500 to support this initiative was secured from the Office of Equity and Anti-Racism at the Province of Nova Scotia.

- Staff have applied to grants to support an upcoming multicultural event.
- Staff are working on the Town float for the Gala Days parade, which will focus on the parade theme of "80 years of Gala Days".
- The Memory Cafe Series secured funding for the 2026 season, which will begin in December and again be held in partnership with the Evangeline Hub.
- The new trail through Centennial and Rainforth Park was completed and has been used regularly since being finished.
- Forms are being sent to parents for each week of camp so they can provide feedback on their experience. Not many responses thus far but the feedback we do have has been generally positive.
- Donated bikes from "Recycle your Bicycle" week were fixed and are now operational. Bikes were being loaned in July, trail closures have slowed down rentals.
- Active for Life will be returning to Berwick in September, the Spring session was popular filling 21 of 25 available spots.
- Summer Staff hosted two Pop Up Plays throughout the Summer, one taking place at Chute Park where staff had snacks and free bike helmets to hand out.
- The Ovarian Cancer Walk of Hope will be taking place on September 7th, Berwick will be one of the host locations. Berwick will be the first host location outside of Halifax in Nova Scotia.
- Our Summer Intern Emma has been working on putting 3 on 3 adult basketball tournament together for August 23rd.
- Pickleball will be moving back indoors for their fall season in mid-late September and registration will open soon.
- New equipment has been purchased for the Town Hall Gym to support a Drop in Gym program to start in the fall.
- Alongside Adam Kemp from the Valley REN, staff visited businesses along Main Street to share more about the Valley REN and services they offer.
- Staff are working through several quotes provided to support signage replacement and are seeking grant funds to offset these expenses.
- With repairs to the boxcar doors nearly complete, staff are now reviewing options for replacing the flooring. Once all planned work is finished, the Town will host a launch event.
- A grant to support our local crossing guards, provided by the County of Kings, has been secured for a three year term.

Next Month Priorities:

- Launch the Community Voices Circle
- Finalize SOP for Vandalism Reporting
- School year programming and events

Upcoming Dates of Significance:

Date	Day/Month of Significance
September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Committee of the Whole Monthly Report



Department: Public Works
Date: August 2025

Operations Highlights:

- Traffic line painting underway.
- Grates for the storm culvert near Eden Valley installed.
- Worked with property owners to construct a swale between civics 134, 136 Foster St to manage storm runoff from street.
- Walking trail installed in Centennial / Rainforth Park.
- Ongoing issue with the activator switch for the Splash Pad has been repaired (short in wire).
- Mowing in town suspended in August due to dry conditions.
- Paving operations started 15 August (Cottage St Sidewalk). Paving priorities:
 - Main St from (approx.) Bezanson to Eden Valley
 - Sidewalk section along Union Street near Centennial Park
 - Sidewalk section along Main Street between Maple Ave and Cottage St.
 - Curb sections along Gravenstein Dr, Spartan Ave
 - Patch Paving throughout town
 - Macintosh deferred to next fiscal year
- Preparations for Gala Days underway.
- WW Treatment:
 - Developing a wastewater training and development program for existing unionized staff.
 - Upgrades to wastewater pre-treatment at Eden Valley complete; process improvement still underway.
 - New aeration installed in Lagoon 2; air distribution optimized to mitigate odours.
 - Blower 1 repairs underway (to ensure we have a backup blower)
- WW Collection:
 - Commercial Street gravity line repair to being the week of Aug 25 (5 day operation).
 - Pump stations to be cleaned this fall.
- Solar Garden:
 - Started grounds work in May; ongoing.
 - Site visit for Rayleigh Solartech planned for Sept 10.

Capital Highlights:

Accessible Customer Service

- Substantial Completion met July 14.

Asset Management

- Brightly Software configuration began 23 April (ongoing).
- Software is still being populated, and this process is going well.
- Next Steps:
 - Approximately 8 more weeks to implement Brightly Software.
 - Receive training on QGIS from AIM Network.

Storm Water Management

- Providing support to CBCL as needed for the stormwater management plan.
- Surveyor in town during May, June, and July for field measurements.
- Project was planned to be completed by September; looking like it will be late October.

WWTP Upgrades – Aeration & Blowers

- New aeration equipment has been installed in Lagoon 2.
- New Blower pad completed; blowers on order; estimated arrival mid-November (delayed).
- Next Steps:
 - Repair the motor for existing Blower 1 so that it can serve as a backup (needed now that the new blowers are delayed).
 - Upgrade electrical service to the Blower Building in preparation for the new blowers.
 - Install new blowers once they've arrived.

WWTP Upgrades – Tertiary Filtration

- Veolia design work is complete.
- New building design work underway.
- Next Steps:
 - Draft tender for construction.

Next Priorities:

- Traffic Line Painting.
- Paving Work.
- Stats Canada Infrastructure Survey.
- Compile data for Asset Management Software.
- RFP for WWT Laboratory Testing.
- RFP for Solar Garden Construction Electrician.
- WWTP upgrades progression.

Department: Finance
Date: August 2025

Key Highlights

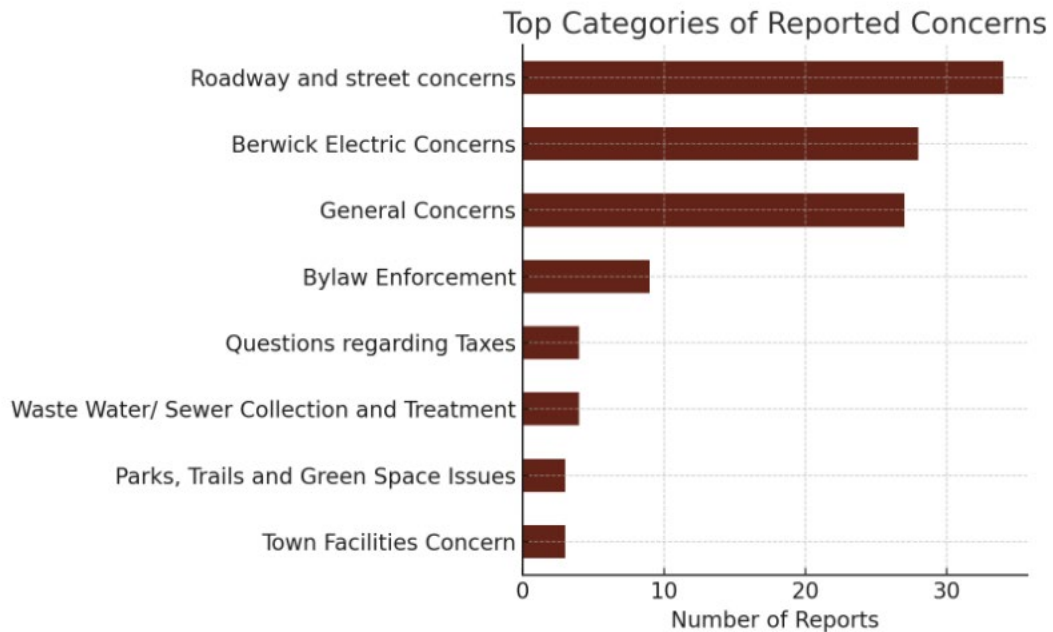
Berwick Electric Commission (BEC)

- **AMI Smart Grid Project:** Attended a planning workshop with Saint John Energy (SJE) on July 9th and 10th, where the team hosted the meter vendor and worked through various option selection and programming criteria for the new meters.
- **NRCAN EIF:** All grant claims and reporting will be processed in Berwick. We attended a meeting with the NRCAN team on July 30th, to review the claims form and discuss the process to submit and receive the funds.
- **NRCAN SREP:** Unfortunately, we were not successful in our grant application advancing to the next round of the process. We have engaged NRCAN for feedback on our application and will continue to source out grant opportunities to support our capital budget.
- **NRCAN:** Met with NRCAN to share about the challenges for a municipal electric utility and the structure of a Town owned electric utility.
- **MMEAU:** Summerside Electric hosted the MMEAU group during the week of August 5th. Over a day was dedicated to completing the initial stage of the benchmarking exercise, which will build the baseline of how our utility is performing in comparison to other utilities nationally. This will be an excellent means to identify opportunities for our utility and gain valuable knowledge from others to support improving our utility.
- **Factorydale Turbine:** Our Owner's Engineer is currently evaluating the submissions for the hydro refurbishment project and the dismantling of the turbine.
- **2025/26 Budget Preparation:** Work has continued with the BEC budgets. The solar garden reconciliation is required to adequately inform the budget due to its significant impact on the bottom line.

Town of Berwick

- **2024/25 Audit Preparation:** Our team continues to work through audit preparation. We have received many invoices from AREA relating to 2024/25 expenses, which we are in the process of validating. At present, there are several invoices in dispute with AREA. The reconciliation of the Solar Garden project continues, which is critical to ensure proper bookkeeping and accountability.
- **Required Financial Reporting:** The Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF)-Annual Expenditure Report (AER) has been prepared and submitted to the province. This report provides an update on capital expenditures that were funded by CCBF, which occurred in the previous fiscal year.

- **Finance System:** We attended a meeting with finance staff from Kentville and Wolfville to discuss their scope for a new financial system. We continue to engage with municipalities looking to transition from Microsoft GP prior to its expiration.
- **Report a Concern:** This communication tool has been in place for a year and is very effective in ensuring concerns are resolved and communicated back to residents in a timely manner. The following is a brief summary of statistics from the past year:
 - 122 concerns received
 - 55% closed
 - Average days to close 3.32



- **Berwick Electric Concerns (28 reports)**
 - *power outages, streetlights, tree limbs*
- **Roadway & Street Concerns (34 reports)**
 - *potholes, traffic, signage, water, winter maintenance*
- **General Concerns (27 reports)**
 - *garbage, noise, website, property*
- **Bylaw Enforcement (9 reports)**
 - *unsightly property, dogs, noise, neighbors*
- **Taxes (4 reports)**
 - *tax bill, assessment*
- **Parks/Trails/Green Space (3 reports)**
 - *trails, parks, trees, garbage*
- **Other: Building Permits, Wastewater (2-4 reports each)**

Next Month Priorities:

- **Audit Preparation**
- **Capital Investment Plan:** Prepare and submit to the province
- **BEC Budget Finalization**
- **BEC Commission Meeting:** September 2025
- **MMEAU:** Attend AMI Planning workshop July 9th and 10th
- **HST Recovery:** Meet to review preliminary findings
- **AMANS Fall Conference:** September 22nd

Department: CAO and Administration
Date: July 2025

Key Highlights

Berwick Electric

- **NRCan EIP Smart Meters** – BEC, Mahone Bay and AREA attended a planning workshop at Saint John Energy on July 9 and 10. BEC is taking the administrative and financial lead on the Nova Scotia MEU’s project. Terms of engagement have been drafted for approval to ensure proper invoicing and cost sharing between the partners to the funding agreement: BEC, Town of Mahone Bay, Riverport Electric & Light Commission and AREA.
- **Maritime Municipal Electric Utility Alliance (MMEUA)** – Summerside hosted the bi-annual meeting of the MMEUA. The group approved Governing Bylaws, completed utility benchmarking exercise with SGIN, met with Eric Christmas regarding building First Nations relationships and energy projects and identified future collaboration and capacity building initiatives. There are four major projects the MMEUA are working:
 - **Strategic Roadmap** – develop and implement an Asset Management Program and Lifecycle and Grid Modernization Planning.
 - **Cyber-Security Penetration Test and Roadmap** – execute internal and external vulnerability assessments, penetration tests, and phishing campaigns, as well as a cyber-security roadmap based on outcome.
 - **Utility Benchmarking** – Assess the operational readiness of utilities for clean energy, modernized grid, customers and society.
 - **Electrification Business Plan** – Focus on market entry and expansion, revenue diversification, capacity building, operational readiness and stakeholder value.
- **NRCan** – met with staff from NRCan’s demonstration and innovation department to answer questions on structure, governance, challenges and successes of our electric utility to contribute to a Canada wide database.
- **NRCan SREP** – BEC was notified on August 7 that our funding application for the factorydale turbine, physical smart meters and substation upgrade has not been approved to move forward. Staff have reached out for feedback related to the decision. The application with FCM for the turbine upgrade has proceeded to the next step.
- **Solar Garden Capital Application** – The paper hearing for the solar garden application is complete. We are now waiting for a decision from the Nova Scotia Energy Board.

- **Solar Garden** – The transformer that was out of service for 10 months is now back online and the solar garden is now operating at full production potential.

Town

- **AREA Board Meeting** - Attended the AREA Board meeting on July 16 in Ellershouse. AREA hosted the Minister of Energy and staff for a tour of the wind farm, including a follow up discussion on potential regulatory changes to streamline processes that result in a high level of administrative burden to execute.
- **CUPE bargaining** – Conciliation is scheduled for October.
- **Council Coffee Chat** – The second Council Coffee Chat, Let's Talk Energy is scheduled for September 9 at the Fire Hall. Representatives from BEC, AREA, Maritime Municipal Electric Utility Alliance, and our owners engineer for the hydro facility will be present.
- **Fire Department** – The Fire Department has purchased fitness equipment to create a gym for their members. Staff have been working with the insurer and legal to develop a user waiver. The fire department is responsible for covering the additional insurance coverage for the gym
- **Minister of Justice, Policing Review** – The Mayor and CAO met with the Minister of Justice, Minister Druhan and staff, along with the Mayor of the County of Kings and Deputy Mayor of Wolfville and senior staff to receive a briefing on the results of the policing review. The six foundational changes were discussed. Although it was mentioned that the unified records management system and funding model may be the first changes to be addressed, there are no timelines regarding the implementation of the six changes and what those impacts may be for municipalities. It was mentioned that costs will not go down, but level of service could change.
- **Association of Municipal Administrators of Nova Scotia (AMANS) Board Meeting** – Attend the August Board meeting virtually on August 22. The Board discussed the proposed NSFM Bylaw changes, Department of Emergency Management correspondence, upcoming AMANS professional development opportunities and the fall conference.
- **Marketing Levy** – the CAO's of Valley REN members met with the Tourism Strategy Manager and CEO on August 20 to provide feedback regarding the joint council session on September 17 at the Old Orchard Inn.
- **Valley Regional Enterprise Network (REN) Liaison and Oversight Committee** – Attended the LOC meeting on July 14.
- **Strategic Planning** – a scope has been drafted based on an update provided by the Mayor in July. Three companies/individuals have been identified to request quotes.

- **109 Marsters Avenue** – the derelict vehicles have been moved out of sight from the road. However, additional structures have been erected to conceal the vehicles. This is now a development compliance issue, and our development officer has visited the site and preparing options for consideration.
- **HR Needs Assessment** – The Municipal Innovation Program funding was approved for this project. A kickoff meeting has been held and an initial sharing of current documents (HR policies, organizational structure, HR functions, etc.) has been provided to the consultants.

Next Month Priorities:

- **Emergency Management Roundtable:** MP Kody Blois will be hosting the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Emergency Management, Anthony Housefather, in Kings–Hants next week. As part of the visit, Kody is organizing a round table discussion focused on emergency management. The CAO and Mayor will be attending.
- **Pre-event Meeting:** Dalhousie will be hosting a community engagement day in November for the Kings County region. The Mayor and CAO will be attending a pre-event meeting with the other CAO's and Mayors to share information about our communities priorities to ensure the right experts to the broader economic prosperity round table discussion are present in November.
- **2 FOIPOP Requests:** The CAO is working on two FOIPOP requests.
- **Solar Garden Reconciliation:** Preparation of a memo to share with the AREA Board regarding the principles around cost sharing for the solar gardens is being prepared. The intention is to reach consensus on the current issues to complete the solar garden reconciliation and ultimately the Town's audit.

AREA

Mayor Trinacty

Submitter

Town of Berwick

Submission Date

Aug 24, 2025 4:22 PM

Committee Name:

AREA

Date of Meeting:

Jul 16, 2025

Name:

Mayor Trinacty

	Description
#1	Tour and Discussion with Minister Boudreau
#2	Review of the Strategic Plan and Resourcing
#3	templates for reporting
#4	Financial statements
#5	solar garden cost reconciliation
#6	general operational updates

Give a brief overview of the key discussions or decisions from the meeting.

Bused the board and the Ministers delegation to the solar garden site for a tour. Lots of questions. Returned to the hall for discussions. We remain optimistic that the Dept is receptive to moving forward with legislation. Ray presented the strategic plan and priority activities. The financial statements may be ready to proceed tot he audit but Berwick has presented a number of concerns regarding the solar garden reconciliation. We suggested a third party be consulted to review the discrepancies . Ray continues to stay on top of operational requirements including additional wind supply.

Diversity Kings County Committee

Councillor Kwakernaak

Submission Date Aug 22, 2025 8:30 AM

Committee Name: Diversity Kings County Committee

Date of Meeting: Jul 7, 2025

Name: Councillor Kwakernaak

	Description
#1	Presentation on Words Matter. This presentation by Diversity Specialist, Grayson Parker covered commonly used words that have a negative impact on various diverse communities.
#2	Summer Events Reminder Events of particular note August 17, Party in the Park. This event in Waterville. Includes a soccer tournament between teams of Temporary Foreign Workers followed by a Foam Party. This has become an annual event. The second date of significance is August 24, 11:00 -after 4:00 in Kentville Centre Stage. Featuring music, dance, arts and crafts.
#3	
#4	
#5	
#6	

Give a brief overview of the key discussions or decisions from the meeting.

I was unable to attend due to a schedule conflict. This meeting was attended by Heather Morse. There were no decisions made and the meeting was brief . Next meeting September 8th.

REMO

Mayor Trinacty

Submission Date Aug 22, 2025 1:46 PM

Committee Name: REMO

Date of Meeting: Jul 21, 2025

Name: Mayor Trinacty

Description	
#1	Presentation of the Dept of Emergency management
#2	Kings REMO Evacuation plan
#3	comfort Centre Reimbursement
#4	various operational update
#5	
#6	

Give a brief overview of the key discussions or decisions from the meeting.

Dan provided an overview of the new provincial dept structure. discussion on the Evacuation Plan changes and the approval of the reimbursement process for Comfort Centre. There was also a number of updates on wildfire season, hurricane season, extreme heat events, training schedule and the vulnerable persons registry. See Dan's highlights newsletter for more detail

From: Dan Stovel, Kings REMO REMC
Date: Tuesday, August 26, 2025
Subject: Kings REMO Special Regional EM Advisory Committee Meeting, Monday, July 21, 2025

The Kings REMO Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee met on Monday, July 21, 2025.

Key issues of discussion included:

Presentation: [Nova Scotia Department of Emergency Management](#) (NS DEM), Andrew Mitton
NS DEM Strategic Investments

- Effective Regional Incident Command Structures
- 6 Regional Emergency Operations Centres
- Activated NS Guard – trained and prepared community volunteers
- 24/7/365 Provincial Coordination Centre
- Special Operating Agency / Centre of Excellence in Public Safety Field Communications
- Dedicated position for Fire Services and GSAR
- Alerting Solutions for areas with limited cell coverage
- Modernized Disaster Financial Assistance Program
- Comprehensive Review of Fire Services
- Evidence-based decision making (Data/Analytics)
- One Window Website – Preparedness/Emergency/Recovery

2025-05-20/21 NS DEM Conference Report

The Nova Scotia Department of Emergency Management (NS DEM) invited Regional EMCs from across the province to attend the inaugural 'annual' emergency management conference, May 20-21, 2025

Conference Overview:

- Emphasis placed on priorities for the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) and the evolving relationship between REMOs, new Regional Emergency Operations Centres (REOCs), and the Provincial Coordination Centre
- Included a range of presentations and roundtable discussions, allowing EMCs to engage with fellow administrators and emergency management professionals to share insights and address the unique challenges communities are facing

Key Takeaways:

- Establishment of the NS Department of Emergency Management (NS DEM)
- Introduction of the NS Guard
- Emphasis on Climate Change Adaptation
- Strengthening Municipal-Provincial Collaboration
- Implementation of Standardized Emergency Management Practices
- Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO) Standards
Focus on Training & Capacity Building

Kings REMO Regional Emergency Evacuation Plan, Change 2

REMC summarized the changes being put forward in Change 2 to the Kings REMO Regional Emergency Evacuation Plan (REEP)

- Cover Page – date updated for Change 2: June 2025
- Foreword – amended signature block to chair of Kings REMO REMAC
- Section 1.2 Authorities – footnote added for URL web addresses
- Section 1.3 References – updates to dates for references and footnotes added for URL web addresses
- Section 2.4.1 Community Behaviour – new information
- Section 2.4.2 Evacuation Transportation Requirements – new information
- Section 2.10.1 Comfort Centres – weblink and footnote added for Kings County Comfort Centres

- Section 2.12 Domestic Animal Care and Relocation – footnote added for URL web address DARTNS and challenges highlighted for Animal Evacuation
- Section 2.14 Access Control & Security – new section highlighting key reasons for establishing security in an evacuated area
- Section 2.15.1 Return to Risk Area – new section highlighting key issues impacting re-entry of displaced residents and mitigation measures
- Section 5.2 Plan Review & Maintenance – updated with dates of review and change
- Section 6.0 Distribution List – updates to organization names
- Annexes – addition of new information
 - B – Animal Evacuation Challenges
 - C – Community Behaviour in an Evacuation
 - D – Evacuation Transportation Requirements
 - E – Security in an Evacuated Area
 - F – Key issues impacting Re-Entry of Displaced Residents & Mitigation Measures
 - G – Evacuation Re-Entry Issues & Mitigation Measures
 - H – Evacuation Re-Entry Framework

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE KINGS REMO REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE CHANGE 2 TO THE KINGS REMO REGIONAL EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN (REEP), DATED JUNE 2025.

Kings REMO SOP003 – Comfort Centre Reimbursement

Purpose:

- To establish a clear, consistent procedure for Kings County Comfort Centre operators to request reimbursement for eligible expenses incurred during an activation directed by Kings REMO, in accordance with the Kings County Comfort Centre Policy

Procedure:

- Step 1 – Maintain documentation
- Step 2 – Complete reimbursement form
- Step 3 – Attach supporting documents
- Step 4 – Submit to Kings REMO
- Step 5 – Review for reimbursement

Reimbursement Form:

- Section A – Comfort Centre Details
- Section B – Reimbursement Summary
- Section C – Operational Summary
- Section D – Declaration & Signature
- Section E – For Official Use (Kings REMO)

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE KINGS REMO REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE THE KINGS REMO STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP003) FOR KINGS COUNTY COMFORT CENTRE REIMBURSEMENTS, DATED JULY 21, 2025

2025 Wildfire Season

Reference: [NS Wildfire Viewer](#)

- Nova Scotia Wildfire Season March 15 to October 15
- Kings County has seen an average of 20 wildfires per year over the last 19 years
- To-date, there have been 5 DNR reported wildfires in Kings County
- The NS Burn Safe Map is updated daily at 2:00 pm

2025 Atlantic Hurricane Season

- 2025 forecast to be an 'Above-Normal' Hurricane Season
 - 13-19 named storms average 14
 - 6-10 Hurricane Strength average 7
 - 3-5 Major Hurricanes (Category 3 to 5) average 3
- Peak Atlantic Hurricane Season: Aug-Sep-Oct
- Detailed information from the Canadian Hurricane Centre (CHC) starts about 72 hours before the storm crosses into the Canadian Hurricane Response Zone.
- The Kings REMO Annual Hurricane Workshop occurred Thursday, July 3, 2025 at the Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC)

Extreme Heat

- Extreme Heat is a health risk
- As our climate continues to change, extreme heat events/heat waves are expected to increase in frequency, length and severity, resulting in increased health risks for many Canadians
- In 2024, there was a total of 16 days + 16 hours of Heat Warnings issued for Kings County. The document '[Health Checks during Extreme Heat Events](#)' developed by the National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health (NCCEH) has been distributed across Kings County for awareness

Comfort Centres

www.kingsremo.ca/Comfort-Centres

- 30 Comfort Centres (as of 2025-07-21)
 - Centreville Community Centre temporarily removed from list of active Comfort Centres – generator replacement required
 - Meadowview Community Centre temporarily removed from list of active Comfort Centres – generator repairs being investigated

Pending Additions (Provincial & Municipality of the County of Kings Generator Program Funding):

- Salvation Army Church (Kentville)
- Berwick Lions Club
- Morden Community Centre (Morden)
- Hants Border Community Hall
- Bethany Memorial Baptist Church (Aldershot)

Community Outreach

2025 Presentations: 13 as of 2025-07-21

Pending presentations to confirm:

- Acadia University Lifelong Learners (Fall / 2026 program)
- Filipino Community Group (Kentville)
- Aylesford Lions Club
- Coldbrook Lions Club (Sep 2025)
- South Berwick Womens' Institute (Sep)
- Kings County Seniors Safety Program (Fall)

Kings REMO Social Media

- Social media offer the opportunity to connect and cooperate with the networked public, take advantage of the capabilities and innovations of virtual volunteers, and to reach people quickly with alerts, warnings, and preparedness messages
- Kings REMO actively uses Social Media to increase community awareness:
 - Facebook followers – annual increase:
 - 9,716 2024-07-03 + 2,955
 - 12,752 2025-07-21 + 3,036

Vulnerable Persons Registry (VPR) Program

<https://www.kingsremo.ca/VPR/>

Registrations:

- 2023-01-16 32 registrations
- 2024-01-15 47 registrations
- 2025-01-22 55 registrations
- 2025-04-22 56 registrations
- 2025-07-21 58 registrations

Kings REMO continuing to develop a 'Community of Champions' to increase awareness of the VPR Program

Training & Exercises

- 2025 Training Schedule:
 - BEM
 - 2025-03-13 (Thu)
 - 2025-06-26 (Thu), Cancelled (insufficient registrations)
 - 2025-09-25 (Thu)
 - 2025-12-11 (Thu)
 - ECC
 - 2025-02-20 (Thu)
 - I100
 - 2025-03-12 (Wed)
 - 2025-06-05 (Thu) **New**
 - Additional courses as required
 - I200
 - 2025-04-23/24 (Wed/Thu), 24 registered
 - 2025-09-23/24 (Tue/Wed) **New**
 - I300
 - 2025-10-15/16/17 (Wed/Thu/Fri), 22 registered
- 2025-04-03 NS DEM Evacuation Workshop
- 2025 Exercise program for Kings REMO:
 - 2025-05-20/21 NS DEM EMC Workshop
 - Emphasis on priorities for NS DEM & evolving relationship between REMOs, new REOCs & PCC
 - 2025-06-10 NSEMO Exercise Nova Charlie
 - Focus on educating participants about and testing new lines of communication created with establishment of new NS DEM functions
 - 2025-07-03 (Thu) Hurricane-ECC Activation Workshop
 - 2025-11-20 (Thu) Winterstorm – Shelter TTX

Roundtable Discussion

Councillor John Andrew, Town of Kentville

- Inquired about attendance at ICS & BEM Training sessions.
- REMC highlighted that the BEM course is not only open to all elected officials, but invitations have been sent out to other organizations such as all Comfort Centre Volunteers. ICS Training is specifically for First Responders and Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) Municipal support staff & Agency Representatives.

Mayor Mike Trinacty, Town of Berwick

- Berwick Lions Club support as a Comfort Centre may be limited subject to generator load availability from the Berwick Century Apple Dome.
- REMC highlighted that community volunteers from the Berwick Lions Club could support the activation of the Berwick Firehall, in addition to any requested support from the NS Guard. REMC will be meeting with Berwick Lions Club representatives this fall

Rob Frost, Deputy CAO Municipality of the County of Kings

- Deputy CAO has been at the NS DEM Deputy Minister CAO Table to discuss ongoing NS DEM issues, such as REMO Standards, and Fire Services Review being conducted by the Fire Services Association of Nova Scotia (FSANS).
- 3 to 4 reports are expected in the Fall which will put forward recommendations.

Councillor Howard Williams, Town of Wolfville

- Another disaster such as the Swiss Air Disaster of 1998 may have the potential impacts and may have not yet been addressed in current Kings REMO EM Plans.
- A similar disaster from the perspective of offshore or onshore could have significant impact in Kings County
- REMC highlighted that there is an annual review of the Hazard Risk Vulnerability Assessment (HRVA) and issues such as a large aircraft disaster have been discussed from the perspective of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) aircraft flying in/out of CFB Greenwood.

Mayor David Corkum, Municipality of the County of Kings

- Recently attended the Ottawa FCM Conference and one of the sessions was with Intact Insurance during which a “50-point pamphlet for disaster prevention for individual homes” was provided. With information overload, a similar pamphlet would be beneficial for residents of Kings County.
 - [Intact Insurance – Home Protection Tips](#)
- REMC highlighted the 5 Kings REMO Brochures provided to residents and will investigate the Intact Insurance brochure for inclusion with materials provided during Community Outreach.

Councillor Samantha Hamilton, Town of Kentville

- Nervous that there are still very few people registered with the Kings County Vulnerable Persons Registry (VPR) Program.
- REMC highlighted that there was ongoing community outreach and building of strategic relationships with organizations that take care of our more vulnerable. The number of those registered does go up and down with annual updates
- Deputy CAO Rob Frost highlighted that the HRM VPR Program overview was provided at the NS DEM CAO’s Table and from a percentage perspective, a similar percentage of registrants based on overall population was registered in both Kings County and HRM. The DM has expressed concern that there should not be large numbers of registrations.

Next Meeting: Monday, October 20, 2025

Valley REN/LOC

Mayor Trinacty

Submission Date: Aug 22, 2025 1:21 PM

Committee Name: Valley REN/LOC

Date of Meeting: Jul 14, 2025

Name: Mayor Trinacty

	Description
#1	STAFF ACTIVITY REPORTS
#2	CHAIRS REPORT
#3	REGIONAL MARKETING LEVY
#4	
#5	
#6	

Give a brief overview of the key discussions or decisions from the meeting.

As usual there is a tremendous amount of work the staff are involved in Details are in the newsletter and other reports. REN board chair report noted the concern created by the termination of the NSCC Hospitality program. Regional Marketing Levy report was reviewed with the intention to host a joint councils meeting in September.

MAYOR'S REPORT

FROM July 14 TO Aug 26/25

Date	Lead	Purpose
July 14	Valley REN/ LOC meeting	Regular meeting
July 14	Police Services Committee	Orientation Session
July 16	AREA	Board meeting
July 17	Clark Squires	Hotel developer
July 21	Kings REMO	Regular meeting
July 24	Chris Palmer	Check in
Aug 22	Valley Faces	Photo session
Aug 26	Kody Blois	Emergency Management Roundtable
Aug 26	COTW	Regular meeting