



RURAL COMMUNITY

FUNDY SHORES

Incorporated January 1, 2023

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FORWARD

This annual report is prepared pursuant to section 105 of the Local Governance Act, and Regulation 2018-54.

This report contains general information about the Rural Community of Fundy Shores such as population; tax base and tax rate. It also contains more detailed information regarding Council, the provision of grants and the types and costs of services provided. The 2023 Audited Financial Statements are appended as Appendix I.

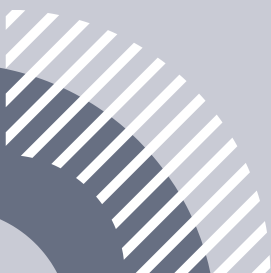


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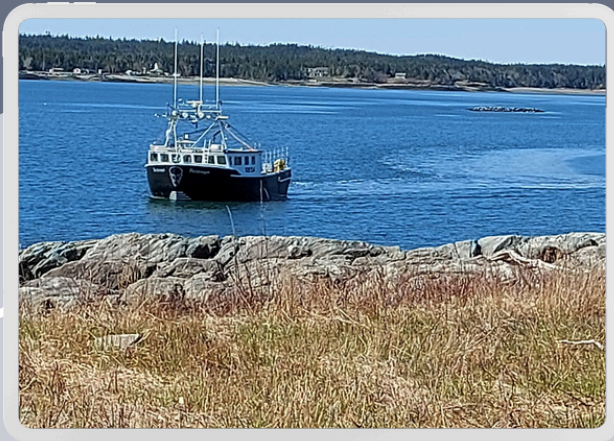
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COMMUNITY PROFILE

The Rural Community of Fundy Shores covers the communities of Chance Harbour, Dipper Harbour, Lepreau, Little Lepreau, Maces Bay, Musquash, New River, Pocologan and Prince of Wales. Each community having its own identity, special attributes and strengths.

The Rural Community is located in the southwest portion of the Province of New Brunswick, approximately 15km west of the City of Saint John. With a population of 2100 citizens covering a landmass of approximately 350 square kilometers.

For its first year, the Rural Community had one full-time staff member which worked to establish service contracts, transfer departments from Provincial oversight back to the local community. With Council they helped develop a strategic plan and identify needs of the community.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I am pleased to provide the very first annual report and financial statements for the Rural Community of Fundy Shores. We as a community have been very vocal in our needs for the community. Committees, Council and staff have worked hard over the year to move these needs forward. 2023 was a year of growth and learning and we look forward to seeing our work come to fruition in 2024.

Sincerely

Denny Cogswell

Denny Cogswell,
Mayor

COUNCIL COMPENSATION

Council's compensation is based off a by-law that was established by the Province of New Brunswick in conjunction with the transition team. This by-law is by-law A-4-2023 known as the Remuneration By-law

For the year of 2023; remuneration of Council was as follows:

Mayor \$10,500

Deputy Mayor \$7,500

Councillor \$6,500

Expenses are reimbursed to the member of Council for expenses incurred while conducting business on behalf of the Community while they are away from area. The following expenses were claimed for 2023:

Mayor Cogswell: \$0.00

Deputy Mayor Farquharson: \$ 597.89 (UMNB Conference Expenses Room, Meals and Mileage)

Councillor Saulnier: \$287.59 (2 UMNB Meetings in Fredericton)

Councillor Bent: \$447.80 (UMNB Conference, Room, Meals)

Councillor Dealy: \$626.89 (UMNB Conference, Room Expense, Meals and Mileage)

Councillor Thompson: \$0.00

Total disbursements for Council were:

\$45,960.17



COUNCIL MEETINGS & ATTENDANCE

All Council Meetings are held at the Community Office, located at 31 Malcolm Meehan Road, Musquash, unless otherwise posted. Regular Council Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month, with the Committee of the Whole scheduled for the third Wednesday.

Date	Meeting Type	Denny Cogswell	Susan Farquharson	Deanna Bent	Heather Saulnier	Tina Dealy	Lorraine Thompson
04-Jan-23	Regular Council						
18-Jan-23	Committee of the Whole						
01-Feb-23	Regular Council						
15-Feb-23	Committee of the Whole						
01-Mar-23	Regular Council						
15-Mar-23	Committee of the Whole						
05-Apr-23	Regular Council						
19-Apr-23	Committee of the Whole						
03-May-23	Regular Council						
17-May-23	Committee of the Whole						
07-Jun-23	Regular Council						
21-Jun-23	Committee of the Whole						
05-Jul-23	Regular Council						
19-Jul-23	Committee of the Whole						
02-Aug-23	Regular Council						
16-Aug-23	Committee of the Whole						
28-Aug-23	Special Council						
06-Sep-23	Regular Council						
14-Sep-23	Committee of the Whole						
20-Sep-23	Committee of the Whole						
04-Oct-23	Regular Council						
18-Oct-23	Committee of the Whole						
01-Nov-23	Regular Council						
15-Nov-23	Committee of the Whole						
29-Nov-23	Special Council						
06-Dec-23	Regular Council						
			Absent				
			Present				
			Present Virtually				

COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

Each Council member also had their own area of interest and worked through Committees to help provide services in the community.

Denny Cogswell

Mayor



Mayor Cogswell was a director of the Southwest New Brunswick Regional Service Commission (SNBSC), Member of the SNBSC Public Safety and Transportation Committee, Chair of the Fundy Shores Public Safety Committee and ex-officio member of all committees of Fundy Shores

Susan Farquharson

Deputy Mayor /
Councillor At
Large



Deputy Mayor Farquharson sat as an alternate Director for the SNBSC Board of Directors, Chair of the Economic Development Committee for Fundy Shores, Member of the Community Development Committee. Director for Synergi and YMCA Foundation

Deanna Bent

Councillor
At Large



Councillor Bent served as the Chair of Fundy Shores Community Development Committee and as a member of the Economic Development Committee and Recreation Committee. Councillor Bent is also a volunteer firefighter for the Musquash Fire Department.

Heather Saulnier

Councillor -
Ward 1



Councillor Saulnier served as the Chair of the Fundy Shores Tourism Committee and a member of the Recreation Committee.

Tina Dealy

Councillor -
Ward 2



Councillor Dealy served as the Chair of the Recreation Committee and member of Tourism Committee and the CBDC.

Lorraine Thompson

Councillor -
Ward 3



Councillor Thompson served as a member of the SNBSC PRAC Committee and member of the Fundy Shores Tourism Committee.

PROPERTY TAX BASE & RATES

Property Tax Base

All real property in the province is assessed annually for taxation purposes on the basis of its real and true value. Real Property is classified as either residential property (owner-occupied, non owner-occupied or other residential) or non-residential property. The total of all property assessments provides the property tax base which is used in a formula to set the tax rate for the community based on the services it provides. A tax base ratio is also added to non owner-occupied and non-residential property. The ratio can be 1.4 - 1.7. Fundy Shores ratio is set at 1.7



Taxing Authority	Classification			Tax Base
	Residential	Non-Residential	Heavy Industrial	
Musquash	\$ 89,415,900	\$ 26,690,500	\$ 283,052,500	\$ 615,979,000
Lepreau	\$ 76,369,800	\$ 13,397,800		\$ 99,146,060
				\$ 715,125,060

Property Tax Rate

Every fall, Council works to establish a balanced budget, the budget is based on the cost of operating each department and contract owned by the rural community. Some costs Council has a great deal of input into budgeting, however, some items Council is told by other levels of government what they expense shall be. Once all the expenses and revenues are taken into account, the final outstanding amount is known as the warrant. That is the amount that is charged against real property in the form of a tax rate.



2023		Classification	Tax Rate
Total Budget	\$ 1,784,730	Residential	\$ 0.2292
Less Non-Tax Revenue	\$ 121,598	Non-Residential	\$ 0.3896
Net Budget	\$ 1,663,132	Heavy Industrial	\$ 0.3896
Less Community Grant	\$ 23,936		
Warrant	\$ 1,639,196		

Local Governments cannot budget for a surplus or a deficit, each year they must present a balanced budget.



GRANTS

over \$500

Fundy Shores Soccer

Youth Soccer Program - \$1000

A youth soccer program for ages 1 - 18 was established many years ago in the community and for continued access to sports and recreation a donation of \$1000 was made to help this program.



Fundy Shores Elementary

Roots of Empathy - \$1000

The Roots of Empathy program is delivered to elementary school children. Through guided observation the children label the baby's feelings and intentions, learning the affective aspect of empathy (emotion) and the cognitive aspect of empathy (perspective-taking). In Roots of Empathy, emotional literacy develops as children begin to identify and label the baby's feelings, reflect on and understand their own feelings, then bridge to understand the feelings of others.

Without the donation from Fundy Shores, this program would not have been accessible at the local Elementary School.



SERVICE & COSTS

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Total Budget: \$444,583

Legislative (Mayor & Council): \$66,000

General Administration (CAO & Office Building & Legal): \$167,400

Financial Management (Accounting Contract, Software etc.): \$7,500

Common Services (Cost of Assessment, Civic Relations/Website): \$177,183

Other Services (Insurance and Memberships): \$26,500

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Total Budget: \$31,908

Police: Managed and Funded by Province of New Brunswick

Fire: Managed and Funded by Province of New Brunswick

Emergency Management: \$12,500

Animal Control: \$17,855

Regional Service Commission: \$1,553

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Total Budget: \$734,888

Solid Waste Collection: \$554,539

Solid Waste Disposal: \$180,349



SERVICE & COSTS

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Total Budget: \$1774

Roads: Maintained and funded by Province of New Brunswick

Street Signage: \$300

Regional Service Commission: \$1,474

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Total Budget: \$275,614

Land Use Planning & Inspection (RSC): \$196,696

Community Development (RSC): \$5,421

Community Development Local Committee: \$500

Economic Development (RSC): \$34,502

Economic Development Local Committee: \$2,500

Tourism Promotion (RSC): \$33,995

Tourism Promotion Local: \$2,500

RECREATION & CULTURE SERVICES

Total Budget: \$171,822

Community Centre: \$27,000

Recreation Planning: \$50,000

Regional Recreation (RSC) \$94,822

FISCAL SERVICES

Total Budget: \$124,141

Banking Service \$4,000

Transfer to Reserve Fund \$25,000

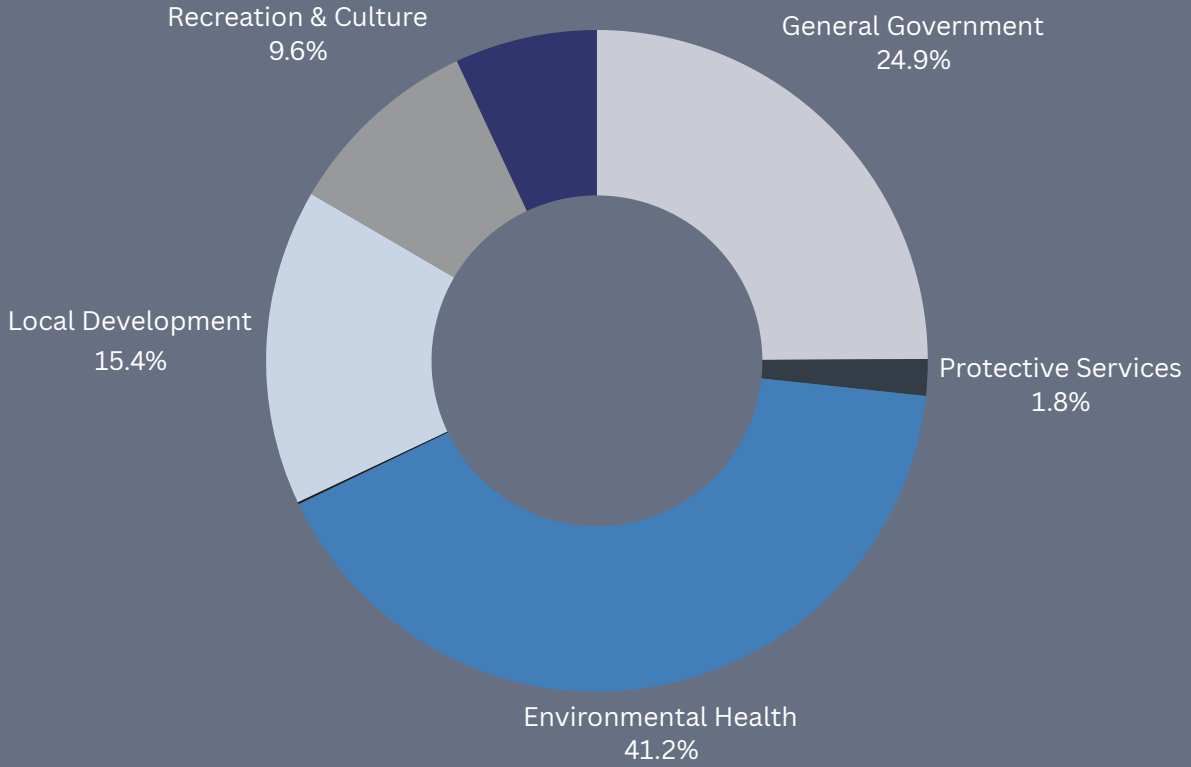
Deficit (former Musquash LSD) \$73,141

Capital Purchase - Accounting Software: \$22,000



SERVICE & COSTS

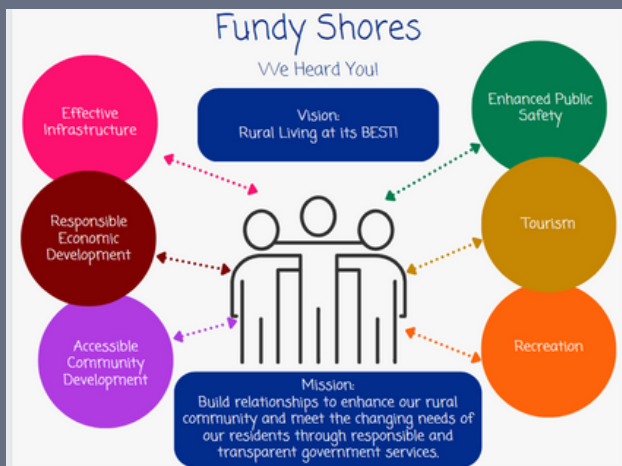
TOTAL BUDGET - \$1,784,730



HIGHLIGHTS

Community Engagement

In early 2023, Council began hosting community engagement sessions to identify the needs/wants of the community and develop a strategic plan. Over the course of three months events were held and a plan was developed and presented to Council. The strategic plan created a vision and mission statement and identified six pillars for growth.



Rural Plan Update

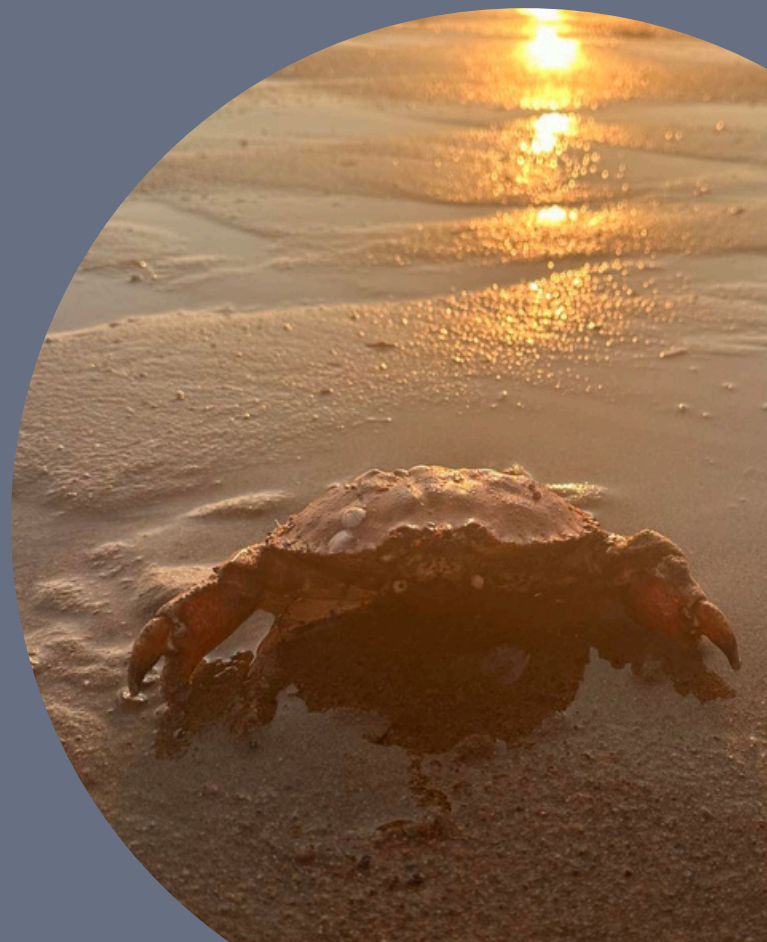
In the Summer of 2023, Council tasks the Regional Service Commission to update the Rural Plan By-Law for Fundy Shores. Currently, two separate planning acts governing development in Fundy Shores, the new plan would cover the entire area and treat it uniformly. Proposed completion date on this project is mid 2024.

Fire Department

Council worked with the Musquash Fire Department and the Province of New Brunswick to transition the Fire Department from a Provincial Resource to a partnership between Fundy Shores and Musquash Fire.

Contract Negotiations

In October 2023, Council negotiated the new terms and conditions for solid waste collection in Fundy Shores. This saw the contract costs transition from \$554,539 to \$228,189 for 2025 (2024 will be a transition year on the contract from Provincial to Fundy Shores.)



APPENDIX

Appendix 1 - 2023 Audited Financial Statement

Phone

506-693-0207

E-Mail

linda.sullivanbrown@fundyshores.ca

Site

www.fundyshores.ca

Address

**31 Malcolm Meehan Road
Musquash NB, E5J 2G2**