



ATTENDING

- Mayor Jodi MacKay
- Deputy Mayor Jennifer Ingham
- Councillor Mike Butler
- Councillor Wendy Elliott
- Councillor Ian Palmeter
- Councillor Kelly van Niekerk
- Councillor Howard Williams
- CAO Glenn Horne
- Recorder Laura Morrison

ALSO ATTENDING

- Director of Corporate Services, Diana Gibson
- Director of Planning & Public Works, Devin Lake
- Manager of Communications & Strategic Initiatives, Barb Shaw
- Manager of IT, David Hopkins

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Mayor MacKay called the Town Council Meeting to order at 6:30pm.
Deputy Mayor Ingham read the Land Acknowledgement.

Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	THE AGENDA WAS APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.
2. Approval of Minutes	
a. Town Council Meeting, December 16, 2025	THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 16, 2025, WERE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.
b. Town Council In Camera Meeting, December 16, 2025	THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL IN CAMERA MEETING OF DECEMBER 16, 2025, WERE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.
3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None



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<p>4. Presentations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acadia President, Jeff Hennessy presented a status report on Acadia. • Innovation Challenge Acadia – Micro Transit in Wolfville: Ben MacLeod & Diane Carr • Innovation Challenge Acadia – Wolfville on Wheels: Eryn Marsh & Havelie Vanhelden
<p>5. Community Events, Occasions & Acknowledgements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February is still busy with bingo nights, trivia nights, open mics, Al Whittle movies, markets on Saturdays, Legion and Lions Club breakfasts continue. • Literary event put on by Landmark East last Saturday, Town sponsored at Al Whittle. • February is Heart & Stroke month and to support wellbeing of our community there is a Wellnify App. You can find details on website and social media. • February is African Heritage month – event at County of Kings on Feb 2. Heritage Day programming in Town at the Legion. Details on our website • February 9th upcoming budget planning discussion at Soups and Sides. • Big thanks from Council to Public Works and Parks Crews for winter clear up. Good job of clearing roads and sidewalks. • New Years Day Levee at Legion in conjunction with the Town. Around 350 in attendance – great day. • Mayor received email from Steve Shapiro in Virginia, who had a painting of Wolfville that he wanted to donate to the Town. We received the image via phone and turned to John Whidden our local Built Heritage expert – who suggested the painting is circa 1890/1895. We got the painting delivered by UPS. It arrived today. The artist is C. Young, some research into Youngs who previously owned Palms Restaurant in town as revealed no relation. Archivist at Acadia is researching more. It looks like the painting is taken from the vicinity of where the chapel in Acadia is now towards what was the working harbour. One of the



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	buildings is Sawyer Hall and the other Kennedy House. The painting will stay at Town hall for the winter and then will transition to Randall House Museum.
6. Public Input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No-one for public input
7. Motions/Recommendations from Committee of the Whole, January 27, 2026	
a. RFD 001-2026: Land Acknowledgement	<p>05-01-26 THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO BE USED IN ACCORDANCE WITH TOWN POLICY #110-002 COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS POLICY.</p> <p>AND FURTHER, THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE STATEMENT RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN PEOPLE.</p> <p>AND FURTHER, THAT THE STATEMENT RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN PEOPLE BE READ FOLLOWING A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION THAT FOLLOWS THE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</p> <p>DISCUSSION</p> <p>Upon request from Council some background information from the accompanying report was read into the record.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Land Acknowledgement was reviewed as part of the Equity & Anti-Racism Plan at the Equity & Anti-Racism Committee. The committee also recognized the importance and the desire to have an Historic Contribution statement. Land acknowledgements are an important act of reconciliation, allowing for recognition of our colonial past and acting as a commitment to a shared path forward. This acknowledgement is an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory we reside on, and a way of honouring Indigenous people who have been living on and caring for these lands since time immemorial.



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<p>b. RFD 002-2026: Urban Forest Policy and Work Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a starting point. The new Land Acknowledgement which is contained in the report was determined through difficult, uncomfortable conversations by the committee. It was reviewed with humility and respect and deep reflection to ensure that it was meaningful. • Wolfville’s Equity and Anti-Racism Plan also called for consideration of a recognition of African Nova Scotians. This idea was firmly embraced by the Equity and Anti-Racism Advisory Committee, who felt that it was important to regularly provide recognition of the 400 years of African Nova Scotian contributions. • While this statement of recognition is not a land acknowledgement, and is not part of a land acknowledgement, the time following a pause for silent reflection created by the land acknowledgement provides an important moment to share this recognition before returning to the business of Council or committee. • This statement of recognition shows continued recognition for the Black community, who have been marginalized, who continue to face barriers, and who continue to navigate anti-black racism in Nova Scotia. <p>06-01-26 THAT COUNCIL RECOMMEND STAFF SHARE THE DRAFT URBAN FOREST POLICY AND WORK PLAN, ONLINE AT WOLFVILLE BLOOMS, FOR A PERIOD OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION, WITH FINAL VERSIONS OF THESE DOCUMENTS TO BE BROUGHT BACK TO COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL AT A FUTURE MEETING.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</p>
<p>8. NEW BUSINESS</p>	
<p>a. IR 003-2026: Q2 Financial Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report was presented to Audit Committee



Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions
<p>b. RFD 003-2026: Appointment of Town Auditor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q3 statements will go to Audit Committee at future scheduled meeting and then be shared with Council. <p>07-01-26 THAT COUNCIL APPOINT DOANE GRANT THORNTON AS THE TOWN'S AUDITOR FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2026, AND FOR EACH OF THE FOUR FISCAL YEARS TO FOLLOW, ENDING MARCH 31, 2030, TO INCLUDE THE COMPLETION OF THE FINANCIAL INFORMATION RETURN REQUIRED BY THE PROVINCE.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</p>
<p>9. Regular Meeting Adjournment</p>	<p>REGULAR MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:03PM</p>

**Approved by Council at the February 17, 2026 Town Council Meeting
 As recorded by Laura Morrison, Town Clerk**