



Town Council Meeting

April 21, 2026

6:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, Town Hall
359 Main Street

Agenda

Call to Order

Land Acknowledgement and Recognition of Historic Contributions

1. Approval of Agenda

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Town Council Meeting, March 16, 2026
- b. Special Town Council Meeting, April 7, 2026

3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

4. Community Events, Occasions & Acknowledgements

Mayor & councillors may recognize recent or upcoming events, occasions & acknowledgements that are of interest to the Town and residents

5. Public Input

PLEASE NOTE:

- *Reminder to all speakers that the Town conducts its business with the seven sacred teachings in mind, truth, honesty, love, courage, respect, wisdom and humility.*
- *Members of the public participating in public input sessions will conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful to the public, council and staff. Should this not occur, the Chair will advise them to end their questions and/or comments immediately.*
- *You have up to 5 minutes to provide input to be directed to the Chair.*
- *Responses will be provided after the meeting either via email or in person and may be included in a future report.*
- *Any input that relates to personnel, current or potential litigation issues, or planning issues for which a public hearing has already occurred, but no decision has been made by Council, will not be responded to.*

Lead with care, creativity and purpose – honour our past, enrich our present, and shape a resilient future.



6. Motions/Recommendations from Special Committee of the Whole, Meeting March 24, 2026:

- a. RFD 020-2026: Valley Waste Resource Management Debt Guarantee for 2025-26 Capital Program

7. Motions/Recommendations from Committee of the Whole, Meeting April 7, 2026:

- a. RFD 027-2026 Letter to Province Regarding Budget Cuts

8. Adjournment to In-Camera under the Municipal Government Act Section 22(2)(e):

- a. Contract Negotiations

9. Adjournment of In-Camera

10. Regular Meeting Reconvenes

11. Regular Meeting Adjourned



Strategic Priorities At-A-Glance

Fiscal Responsibility: *Ensure organizational sustainability and deliver public services using sound financial decision-making, through:*

- 1) Asset Management: Collect accurate and timely data to make informed decisions that inspire trust and confidence.
- 2) Community Focus: Make Investments in public services reflective of community need.
- 3) Financial Planning and Management: Collect, administer, and manage funds in a transparent manner.

Prosperous Economy: *Foster a diverse and resilient local economy that supports entrepreneurship, innovation, sustainable development, and contributes to a vibrant community, through:*

- 1) Holistic Planning: Municipal Planning Strategy and development processes that enables investment, foster multiple and complementary uses of property, and supports a growing population.
- 2) Partnerships: Foster partnerships that promote Wolfville and create value.
- 1) Placemaking for a Vibrant Community: Enhancing public spaces to support community connections.
- 2) Event Attraction: Positioning Wolfville as an inclusive, supportive partner for events

Inclusive Community: *Build a safe and inclusive community and be a leader in meaningful engagement, through:*

- 1) Inclusivity: Nurture a sense of belonging for all.
- 2) Engagement: Listen and provide opportunities for the community to participate.
- 3) Safety: Keep our community safe and supported with our partners.

Sustainable Environment: *Lead climate action through integrated mobility and environmental protection, through:*

- 1) Climate Action: Reduce emissions and prepare for the impacts of climate change.
- 2) Environmental Protection: Protect and sustain our natural assets and biodiversity.
- 3) Mitigating emissions: Lead and influence through programs and education.
- 4) Integrated Mobility: Determine alternative options for moving around the Town for all ages and abilities.

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Land Acknowledgement

The Town of Wolfville acknowledges that we are located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People.

As a town committed to reconciliation and respectful governance, we ask that all who live, work, and gather here do so with the Seven Sacred Teachings in mind: Truth, Honesty, Love, Courage, Respect, Wisdom, and Humility.

These teachings guide us in building a community rooted in understanding, fairness, care for one another, and for the land.

Please pause for a moment of reflection - How can we be good guests on this land?

Recognition of historic contributions

We also acknowledge the histories, contributions and legacies of the African Nova Scotian people who have shared these lands for over 400 years, and we acknowledge the shared ancestry of all people of African descent in Nova Scotia.

Lead with care, creativity and purpose – honour our past, enrich our present, and shape a resilient future.

359 Main Street | Wolfville | NS | B4P 1A1 | t 902-542-5767 | f 902-542-4789

Wolfville.ca

REQUEST FOR DECISION 020-2026

Title: VWRM – Debt Guarantees 2025-26 Capital Program

Date: 2026-03-24

Prepared by: Diana Gibson, Director of Corporate Services

Contributors: Valley Waste Resource Management Staff



SUMMARY

Valley Waste Resource Management (VWRM) Debt Guarantee for 2025-26 Capital Program

Each year the Town is involved in Valley Waste Resource Management (VWRM)'s budget process, including any debt guarantees that are required in relation to the capital budget.

The request before Council today relates to the current year (2025-26) capital program, for which VWRM is preparing to participate in the Municipal Finance Department's upcoming provincial spring debenture issue. The first step of this process was completed on February 18, 2026, when the Interim-IMSA Board signed their Temporary Borrowing Resolution (TBR). The next step is for each of the Inter-Municipal Agreement Service Partners to guarantee their proportionate share of the debt. The documents before Council with this report represent that guarantee for Wolfville.

DRAFT MOTION:

That Council guarantees a share of Valley Waste Resource Management's Temporary Borrowing Resolution of \$428,835, with Wolfville's guarantee repayment share being 7.19% equal to \$30,842 as per the attached partner guarantee resolution form.

REQUEST FOR DECISION 020-2026

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Date: 2026-03-24

Prepared by: Diana Gibson, Director of Corporate Services

Contributors: Valley Waste Resource Management Staff



1) CAO COMMENTS

2) LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

- Municipal Government Act – Sections 60 & 88
- Valley Waste Resource Management Inter-Municipal Service Agreement (IMSA)

3) STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the loan guarantee requested by VWRM to address their 2025-26 capital program requirements.

4) REFERENCES AND ATTACHMENTS

- Loan Guarantee Resolution provided by VWRM (attached)
- VWRM 2025-26 Capital Program TBR, including Schedule A showing the breakdown of partner guarantees, and Schedule B noting the Capital Budget items being funded through long-term debt (attached).

5) DISCUSSION

VWRM must go through the process required by the Municipal Finance Department to access debenture funding for its capital program. The final step of this process requires all IMSA partners to guarantee their share of the debt. As one of these partners, Wolfville must guarantee its share of VWRM's long-term borrowing. The documentation attached is needed to ensure VWRM's TBR can be approved by the Minister.

This TBR approval is an annual housekeeping matter, finalizing details surrounding the Interim-IMSA Board and Town Council decisions previously made for fiscal 2025-26. Below is the breakdown of guarantees by IMSA partners:

IMSA Partner	Guarantee Percentage	Guarantee Amount
Municipality of Kings County	58.28%	\$249,905
Municipality of Annapolis	20.98%	\$89,961
Town of Kentville	8.10%	\$34,717
Town of Wolfville	7.19%	\$30,842
Town of Berwick	2.71%	\$11,632
Tow of Middleton	1.90%	\$8,164
Town of Annapolis Royal	0.84%	\$3,614
	100%	\$428,835

REQUEST FOR DECISION 020-2026

Title: VWRM – Debt Guarantees 2025-26 Capital Program

Date: 2026-03-24

Prepared by: Diana Gibson, Director of Corporate Services

Contributors: Valley Waste Resource Management Staff



6) FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no immediate budget impact on the Town, as VWRM's capital program was previously approved as part of the 2025-26 budget. The long-term borrowing requested will require increased Town contributions in future years once the debenture is in place and repayments are required.

7) REFERENCES TO COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN AND TOWN REPORTS

None at this time.

8) COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS

Once approved, the guarantee will be signed and the Town will advise VWRM staff of Council's decision, and then to forward all duly signed copies of the guarantee to VWRM.

9) ALTERNATIVES

Council could choose not to approve the guarantee. In doing so VWRM would be required to seek alternatives to fund its capital budget. Given Council has already approved the VWRM Budget, not providing the guarantee at this time would be an impractical option and is not recommended by staff.

VALLEY REGION SOLID WASTE-RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

TEMPORARY BORROWING RESOLUTION

Amount: \$ 428,835

Capital Projects: Detailed in Schedule "B"

WHEREAS the Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority (hereinafter referred to as the Authority) was incorporated on October 1, 2001 pursuant to Section 60 of the Municipal Government Act;

WHEREAS the Town of Berwick, the Town of Kentville, the Town of Middleton, the Town of Wolfville, the Town of Annapolis Royal, the Municipality of the County of Annapolis, and the Municipality of the County of Kings entered into an inter-municipal services agreement pursuant to Section 60 of the Municipal Government Act;

WHEREAS the Authority pursuant to the inter-municipal agreement states that the body corporate shall be vested with the power to borrow money for the purpose of capital projects, the specific amounts and descriptions of which are contained in Schedule "B";

WHEREAS any borrowing and/or entering into debt obligations of the municipal body corporate must be approved by the municipal units and the Municipal Guarantee percentages and amounts for each of the six municipal parties are attached at Schedule "A"; and,

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 88 of the Municipal Government Act no money shall be borrowed by a municipality, village, committee by an inter-municipal agreement or service commission pursuant to this Act or another Act of the Legislature until the proposed borrowing has been approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs has the approved the proposed guarantees;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT under the authority of the intermunicipal services agreement entered into under Section 60 of the *Municipal Government Act*, and subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Authority borrow a sum or sums not to exceed four hundred twenty eight thousand eight hundred thirty five Dollars (\$ 428,835) for the purpose set out above;

THAT the sum be borrowed by the issue and sale of debentures of the Authority of an amount as the Authority deems necessary;

THAT pursuant to Section 92 of the Municipal Government Act, the issue of debentures be postponed and that a sum or sums not to exceed four hundred twenty eight thousand eight hundred thirty five Dollars (\$ 428,835) in total be borrowed from time to time from any chartered bank or trust company doing business in Nova Scotia;

THAT the sum be borrowed for a period not exceeding Twelve (12) Months from the date of the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs of this resolution;

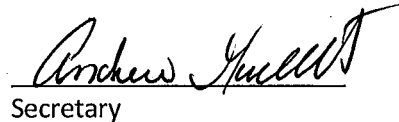
THAT the interest payable on the borrowing be paid at a rate to be agreed upon; and,

THAT the amount borrowed be repaid from the proceeds of the debentures when sold.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution read and duly passed at a meeting of the Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority held on the 18 day of February, 2026.

GIVEN under the hands of the Chair and the Secretary and under the seal of the Authority this 18 day of February, 2026.


Chair


Secretary

VALLEY REGION SOLID WASTE-RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

TEMPORARY BORROWING RESOLUTION

Amount: \$ 428,835

Capital Projects: Detailed in Schedule "B"

SCHEDULE "A"

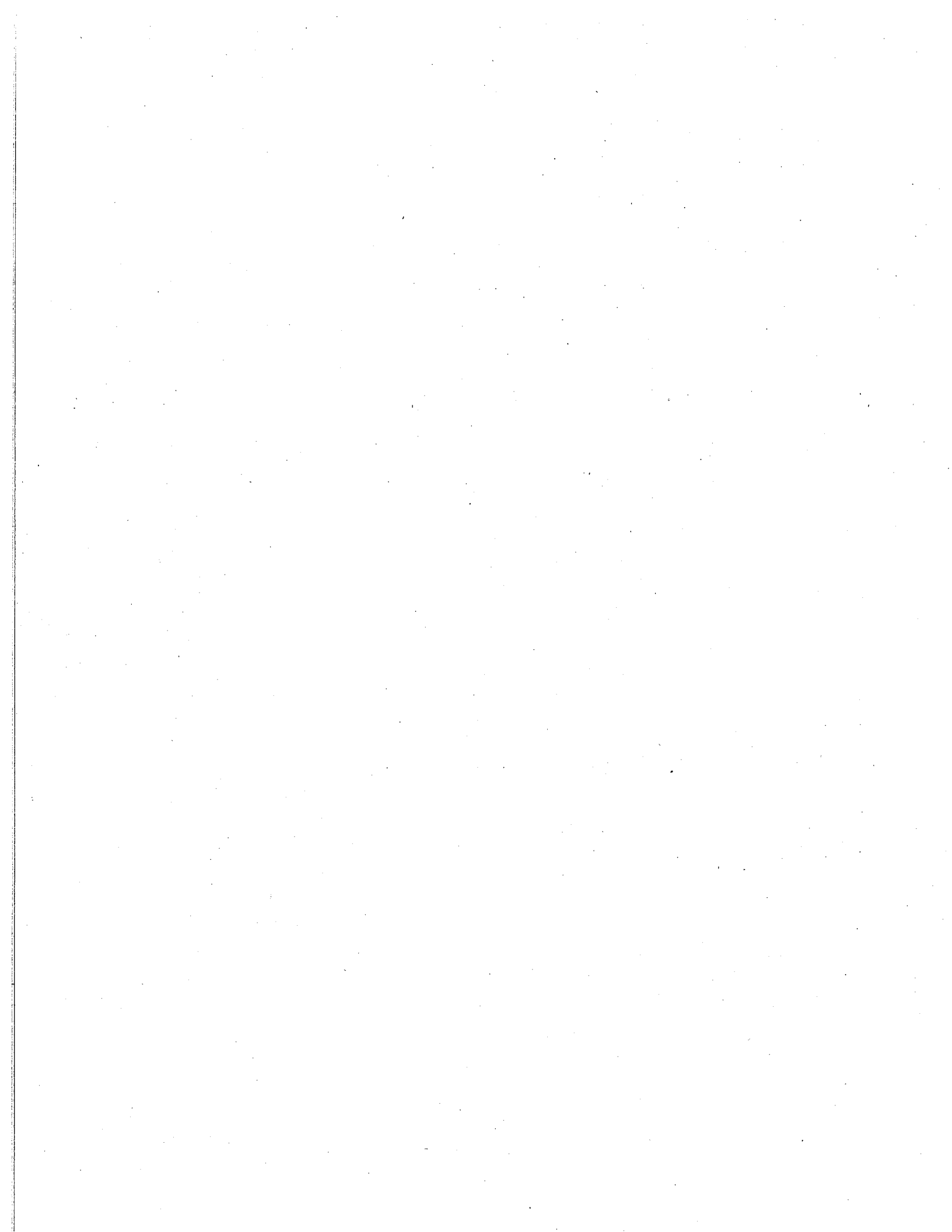
MUNICIPAL GUARANTEES

MUNICIPAL PARTNER	GUARANTEE PERCENTAGE	GUARANTEE AMOUNT
Municipality of the County of Kings	58.28%	249,905
Municipality of the County of Annapolis	20.98%	89,961
Town of Kentville	8.10%	34,717
Town of Wolfville	7.19%	30,842
Town of Berwick	2.71%	11,632
Town of Middleton	1.90%	8,164
Town of Annapolis Royal	.84%	3,614
Total Capital Requirements for Borrowing Resolution	100	428,835.00

Budget Year	Item Description	Finance Term	Funding Source Projection & Budget	Carry Forward from Prior Years	Approved Budget	Unsettled Costs in Due to/from
23-24	EMC / WMC C&D Hydrological Wells	10	Debenture	146,846	55,000	91,688
24-25	HHW Container & Pre Fab Steel Structure	10	Debenture		350,000	276,790
24-25	2xTri-Pak TB6030	10	Debenture		110,000	60,357
						<u>428,835</u>

As per Budget 2026 with AC as an owner	
Municipality of Kings	58.28%
Town of Kentville	8.10%
Town of Wolfville	7.19%
Town of Berwick	2.71%
Town of Middleton	1.90%
Town of Annapolis Royal	0.84%
Municipality of Annapolis	20.98%

249,905
34,717
30,842
11,632
8,164
3,614
89,961
<u>428,835</u>



**VALLEY REGION SOLID WASTE-RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
MUNICIPAL PARTNER GUARANTEE RESOLUTION
COUNCIL OF
Town of Wolfville**

Guarantee Share Amount: \$ 30,842 Purpose: Replacement guarantee for capital projects completed in 25-26 from prior year budgets that expired

WHEREAS the Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority (hereinafter referred to as the Authority) was incorporated on October 1, 2001 pursuant to Section 60 of the Municipal Government Act;

WHEREAS the Authority has determined to borrow the aggregate principal amount of thirty thousand eight hundred forty two Dollars (\$ 30,842) for purpose of Replacement guarantee for capital projects ;

WHEREAS the Authority has requested the Council of the Town of Wolfville, a municipality that executed the instrument of incorporation of the Authority, to guarantee said borrowing; and,

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 88 of the Municipal Government Act, no guarantee of a borrowing by a municipality shall have effect unless the Minister of Municipal Affairs has approved of the proposed borrowing or debenture and of the proposed guarantee;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

THAT the Council of the Town of Wolfville does hereby approve the borrowing of the aggregate principal amount of thirty thousand eight hundred forty two Dollars (\$ 30,842) for the purpose set out above;

THAT subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs of the borrowing by the Authority and the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs of the guarantee, the Council unconditionally guarantee repayment of thirty thousand eight hundred forty two Dollars (\$ 30,842) for the purpose set out above; and

THAT upon the issue of the debentures, the Mayor/Warden and Chief Administrative Officer of the Municipality do sign the guarantee attached to each of the debentures and affix thereto the corporate seal of the Municipality.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution read and duly passed at a meeting of the Council of the Town of Wolfville held on the ____ day of _____, 2026.

GIVEN under the hands of the Clerk and under the seal of the Municipality this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Clerk



Valley Regional Services Board of Directors Request for Decision

Agenda Item No. 5.3

Report to: Valley Regional Services Agreement Board
Meeting Date: February 18, 2026
Subject: Request for Decision: Temporary Borrowing Resolution
Prepared by: Dan L'Abbe

Current Situation: Three capital projects have been completed in the 2025-2026 fiscal year that were approved capital projects to be financed by debentures from prior fiscal years' budgets. The Nova Scotia Department & Treasury Board's one year financing approval has expired on these projects and requires renewal to participate in the Spring 2026 round of financing.

Background: To be eligible to participate in the Spring 2026 round of serial debenture financing for the above-mentioned projects, the following steps need to be completed:

1. Approval by the board by a board motion
2. Approval by all 7 owner's councils to guarantee their portion of the debentures
3. Approval by the Nova Scotia Department & Treasury Board

Discussion: Details of the completed capital projects

EMC / WMC C&D Hydrological Wells – approved budget 55,000 in 23-24 / cost expectations reset to 146,846 / completed project cost 91,688

HHW Container & Pre Fab Steel Structure – approved budget 350,000 in 24-25 / completed project cost 276,790

2x Tri-Pak TB6030 – approved budget 110,000 in 24-25 / completed project cost 60,357

Budget/Financial Implications: This request for the approval and certification of the attached Temporary Borrowing Resolution is in keeping with the approved 2025-2026 capital forecast as part of the 2026-2027 budget. Additional financial implications will become applicable when the actual Debenture for the funds is requested.

Alignment with Strategic/Business/Operational Plans: These projects were included in the operational plan presented as part of the 2026-2027 budget.

Alignment with Policy: The execution of the Temporary Borrowing Resolution is in keeping with Section 88 of the Municipal Government Act.

Intermunicipal Service Agreement Authority/Alignment: This RFD is not subject to the special resolution process requiring the individual approval of the Parties to the Intermunicipal Services Agreement.

Section 9(7) of the Amended and Restated Valley Waste Agreement dated June 30, 2025 grants the Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority the power to borrow money from the Nova Scotia Department of Finance and Treasury Board.

Legal Authority/Implications: The approval of the attached Temporary Borrowing Resolution is in keeping with the requirements of the Department of Municipal Affairs to secure Ministerial Approval for the planned borrowing.

Contractual Implications: n/a

Options:

1. Accept the staff recommendation and authorize the Chair and General Manager to execute/certify the Temporary Borrowing Resolution.
2. Direct staff to provide additional information before making a final decision.
3. Do not accept the staff recommendation and advise staff as to how best to proceed.

Recommendation: Option 1

Motion(s): That the Valley Regional Services Board formally authorizes the Chair and General Manager, serving as Secretary to the Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority, to execute the Temporary Borrowing Resolution in the amount of \$428,835 and further to submit the fully executed resolution to the Department of Municipal Affairs.

Communications: the Municipal Partner Guarantee Resolutions will be forwarded for Party Council for approval and certification.

Attachments: Temporary Borrowing Resolution in the amount of \$428,835

REQUEST FOR DECISION 027-2026

Title: Letter to Province Regarding Provincial Budget Cuts
Date: 2026-03-30 updated for Town Council 2026-04-07
Prepared by: Laura Morrison, Town Clerk & Manager of Administration
Contributors: Glenn Horne, CAO



SUMMARY

LETTER TO ~~PREMIER~~ PROVINCE REGARDING PROVINCIAL BUDGET CUTS

At the Special Committee of the Whole meeting on March 10th, Council expressed concern at the then proposed provincial budget cuts, especially those related to Arts and Culture and gave direction to staff to return with a draft letter to the Premier conveying those concerns.

A letter has been drafted and is attached to RFD 027-2026 for Council's review.

At COW on April 7, Council passed by amendment a revised motion to include Minister John Lohr as an addressee.

Some housekeeping amendments to the letter were made as discussed at the COW meeting.

DRAFT MOTION:

That Council give direction to staff to finalize the attached letter, signed by the Mayor, to email to the Right Honourable Premier Houston and Julie Vanexan, MLA for Kings South.

AMENDED DRAFT MOTION:

That Council give direction to staff to finalize the attached letter, signed by the mayor, to email to the Right Honourable Premier Houston, the Right Honourable Minister of Finance & Treasury John Lohr and Julie Vanexan, MLA for Kings South.

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Prepared by: Laura Morrison, Town Clerk & Manager of Administration
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1) CAO COMMENTS

Staff request council review the content of the letter, make any adjustments required.

2) LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

The *Municipal Government Act* described municipalities as a responsible order of government accountable to the people, with the purpose of developing and maintaining safe and viable communities. The Town of Wolfville has no authority over provincial programs or funding.

3) STAFF RECOMMENDATION

There are no staff recommendations

4) REFERENCES AND ATTACHMENTS

- i. Draft Letter (attached)

5) DISCUSSION

At the March 10, Special Committee of the Whole meeting, the topic of the library funding was discussed. Council indicated its disappointment at the then proposed budget cuts being made by the Province specifically to Arts and Culture. Council wanted to show their support for arts and culture in the community and agreed a letter to the Premier could be drafted to be sent from the Mayor on behalf of council stating such and requesting reconsideration.

6) FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

7) REFERENCES TO COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

Fiscal Responsibility: *Ensure organizational sustainability and deliver public services using sound financial decision-making, through:*

- *Community Focus: Make Investments in public services reflective of community need*
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- *Holistic Planning: Municipal Planning Strategy and development processes that enables investment, foster multiple and complementary uses of property, and supports a growing population.*
- *Partnerships: Foster partnerships that promote Wolfville and create value.*
- *Placemaking for a Vibrant Community: Enhancing public spaces to support community connections.*
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Inclusive Community: *Build a safe and inclusive community and be a leader in meaningful engagement, through:*

- *Inclusivity: Nurture a sense of belonging for all.*
- *Engagement: Listen and provide opportunities for the community to participate.*
- *Safety: Keep our community safe and supported with our partners.*

8) COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS

At Council's direction, a letter will be sent to the province.

9) ALTERNATIVES

Council may decide to send a revised letter or not to send a letter.



DATE

Sent via email

The Honourable Tim Houston
premier@novascotia.ca

The Honourable John Lohr, Kings North, MLA
johnlohrmla@gmail.com

Julie Vanexan, Kings South MLA
mlajulievanexan@gmail.com

Dear Premier Houston, Minister Lohr and Ms. Vanexan,

I am writing on behalf of the residents and community of Wolfville to respectfully express concern regarding the recent budget reductions, particularly those affecting arts and culture funding.

In communities such as ours, arts and culture are woven into the very fabric of our town, shaping our identity, contributing to community wellbeing and safety and supporting local economic activity. The reduction in resources has a direct impact on our cultural and economic landscape, which is reflected in the many events, festivals and venues that showcase, celebrate and sustain our shared heritage. Not only do these events provide opportunities for engagement and enjoyment, but they also foster inclusive spaces where individuals feel both physically and psychologically safe, welcomed and connected. This is not only a matter of enrichment, but an essential component of any healthy, resilient and cohesive community.

We fully appreciate the complexities involved in provincial budgeting and the difficult decisions that must be made in balancing competing priorities. The Town must also balance fiscal responsibility with the needs of its residents and consider safety and wellbeing alongside social and economic vitality. The impact of reductions in this area cannot be understated and brings the risk of eroding the vibrancy and community wellbeing of our Town.



With this in mind, we respectfully ask that, should an opportunity arise in future budget cycles, meaningful consideration be given to reviewing these reductions. A reinvestment in arts and culture would not only reaffirm their importance but strengthen not only the Wolfville community but communities across the province in tangible and lasting ways.

Thank you for your time and for your continued service to the people of this province.

Yours sincerely,

Jodi MacKay
Mayor

DRAFT