



ATTENDING

- Mayor Jodi MacKay
- Deputy Mayor Jennifer Ingham
- Sgt. Mitch Pelletier
- Shelley Fleckenstein, Board of Governors, Acadia
- Jeff Hennessy, President and Vice-Chancellor, Acadia
- Yas Jawad, Acadia Students Union President
- Stephen Wolfe, Community Member
- Ian Murray, Chief External Relations Officer, Acadia
- Alicia Johnson, General Manager ASU
- Ashvin Shiyani, ASU Community Representative
- Glenn Horne, CAO
- Recording Secretary, Laura Morrison

ALSO ATTENDING

- Barb Shaw, Manager of Communications and Strategic Initiatives
- Brian Finnis, Athletics Director, Acadia
- James Sanford, Executive Director, Student Services, Acadia
- Interested members of the community

ABSENT WITH REGRETS

- Insp Bill Collier, RCMP
- Erin Beaudin, Vice-President, Finance & Administration and CFO, Acadia

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Mayor MacKay, called the meeting to order at 2:30pm.

The Land Acknowledgement and the Recognition of Historic Contributions was read by Deputy Mayor Ingham.

Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	THE AGENDA WAS APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.
2. Approval of Minutes	THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2025, WERE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.
3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None
4. Public Input	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No one for public input.



Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions
5. Chairperson's Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome
6. Old Business	
a. Signing of MOU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor MacKay, President Hennesy of Acadia and President of the ASU Yas Jawad signed the revised MOU.
7. New Business	
a. Update from the Town of Wolfville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAO presented on the pre-circulated Information Report on what the Town has been working on. • The Town has been working with Poly Psy master's student who is spending 5-7 hours a week focusing on various policy areas. • Timeline for LUB (Land Use Bylaw) and MPS (Municipal Planning Strategy) will be next couple of months depending on next COW meeting. • Quality of Life Survey - participation rate for 2019 survey unknown. • Excitement about the Crosswalk Guard initiative. • Wolfville won the 2026 Winter Wellness Challenge
b. Update from Acadia University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several productive meetings with council and other groups in the town to brainstorm ideas around mutual priorities. • Province adjusted the earliest completion date of the Childcare facility which will now be May 2027. • Childcare Facility committee structure almost complete. • Discussion of town subdivision of lot on Highland Ave where childcare centre will be sited. • Evaluating lease proposal for a small business interested in operating out of one of Acadia buildings – test case to see what kinds of revenue generation are available to Acadia based on existing land assets. • Dr Dan Lamedie, Psychology Prof – offering an AI Literacy online course open to public for free. Close to 5,000 participants so far. Part of regional engagement campaign which will be worked on over next few years. Ian Murry will be the lead on the regional engagement strategy.



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<p>c. Updates from the Acadia Students' Union</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial budget cuts- \$95k cut to graduate scholarships for Masters and PHD students. • Joint PHD program in Education cut in all three universities taking part. • A 2% grant increase is preserved, small increase to nursing grant, some interest from nursing capital to fund operations, Launchbox funding preserved. Expect more cuts next year following the program review required. Revaluation of university funding formula. Goal of next year is to modernize while continuing to provide programs of value that contribute to the region and province. • Men's Basketball team won AUS Championship and will now head off to Calgary for National championships. • Men's Hockey has game 3 coming up. • Team of students came second in the Bank of Canada Governors Challenge, losing to UBC. • Enactus team heading to Nationals in Montreal in May. • It was clarified that the AI course is still available, the Childcare Committee has not yet met and currently working on RFP process for service provider for Childcare Facility. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General elections wrapped up, excited to have a full executive team. The Community Representative role remains vacant until by-election. • Supported Muslim students with Ramadan this month, preparing and distributing over 200 Iftar Kits through the ASU Food Cupboard. • Attended a national online session focused on food insecurity in post-secondary education. Highlighted Town of Wolfville's Soups and Sides initiative, along with the ongoing food security efforts happening at Acadia through the ASU. • Open Educational Resources week from March 2 to 6. • Continuing to push for 20,000 signatures to maintain Canada Student Grants at \$4,200 rather than back to pre-pandemic levels of \$3,000 in collaboration with CASA (Canadian Alliance of Student Associations).



Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions
<p>d. Community Safety Plan for Spring Thaw and St. Patrick's Day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solidarity march on Wednesday to support Ontario Student Services program in response to OSAP (Ontario Student Assistance Program) cuts. • Student strike is proposed province wide from March 15 to 21. This is being organized by group of students and stakeholders from across the province. • A general assembly special meeting will take place for students to vote on whether to strike or not and participate in ongoing advocacy efforts. If vote passes it doesn't mean students must strike – it depends on their own preference. • Professors can choose how they want to structure for students to enable them to strike without being penalised. The demands are for a 20% tuition reduction and divestment from fossil fuels and anything that impedes on indigenous lands and weapons manufacturing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAO explained one of learnings from homecoming is the way in which crowds are controlled. Streets must be kept clear as a matter of safety. Town Compliance and RCMP in the past encouraged partygoers to go inside. However, this was sending uncontrolled and unknown numbers of students inside buildings that did not consider fire safety and building control considerations. That will not be the approach going forward. • Approach will be one of enforcement. • Success in the past is through crowd control by enforcement – there was previously a lot of leniency on part of Town and RCMP in terms of warnings and moving people on. • This year's approach will be much less lenient and more enforcement to get the message across. If enforcement is done early and often the hope is to avoid large gatherings accumulating. • Sgt Pelletier explained there will be a large overlap of membership to get the message out quickly in the early part of afternoon of this enforcement minded approach. Goals is to shut things down before they begin. Warnings will not be given.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is community safety approach and tactics used in past where hundreds of people have closed streets is not safe. • Acadia advised there will be programming for both St Patrick’s and Spring Thaw event on campus that will entail both dry and licensed programming. • St Patrick’s Day is less impactful on a weekday as students have class. There will be two different phases – one will be midday to late afternoon and then a different evening double decker event with two levels of licensed activity taking place. The capacity is for just under 600 students. Significant event in terms of trying to draw people away from the streets. Water and food will be available. • Licensed activities will be 8pm to 1am for evening events. There will be DJs. Daytime events will start around noon. • Discussion on landlord’s role. The Town advised many discussions have taken place with the landlords over the years. Previous enforcement against landlords did take place through the Nuisance Party Bylaw and many landlords have clauses in their leases that no parties are to happen. However, through the Tenancy Act the landlord is unable to show up and do enforcement. • It is common for the landlords to be at their properties during these events to ask RCMP and Town to shut them down. • Most of these events are spontaneous. Consistently heard from students they want a large venue where they can all hang out together, have a drink and party with friends on campus. • If other events cannot draw folks off the streets unfortunately crowd control through enforcement comes into play. • Discussion on proactive communication. Let students know of the approach and of the alternative events Acadia is putting on. • It is understood not all party goers are students of Acadia, however, they are attending Acadia student’s residences and events sanctioned or not. • Acadia is looking to do something for Homecoming, but nothing planned as yet.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reiterated that RCMP are not looking to target people but if they walk up with open liquor, they are breaking the law and this will be enforced. It is not anything new. • Discussion on what events could be accommodated and the costs. Sponsorship could help with costs. • All three of Acadia, the ASU and the Town needs to figure this out together. The goal is not to increase the number of SOT's but to avoid a safety issue or tragedy. • Consistent communication from everyone is important.
8. Round Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor MacKay's interview with CBC about Soups and Sides will be shared with committee. • Appropriate messaging around the programming is critical. Town has not changed a rule or regulation but will be enforcing the Bylaws already in place.
9. Next Meeting	TBD
10. Adjournment of Meeting	MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:20PM

Approved at the Town & Gown Committee Meeting of June 1, 2026
 As recorded by Laura Morrison, Manager of Administration & Town Clerk