

## **SPECIAL COUNCIL**

A Special Session of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was held in the Court House, Truro, Nova Scotia on Wednesday, May 7, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.

### **Roll Call**

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Mike Smith, Chair	
Councillor Bob Taylor	District #1
Councillor Bill Masters	District #2
Deputy Mayor Hugh Matheson	District #3
Councillor Richard Elliott	District #4
Councillor Glen Edwards	District #5
Councillor Jimmie LeFresne	District #7
Councillor Soley Lynds	District #8
Councillor Keith Baas	District #9
Councillor Doug Cooke	District #10
Councillor Earl McKenna	District #11

### **Absent**

Councillor Ron Cavanaugh	District #6
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### **Purpose of Meeting**

Mayor Smith indicated that the purpose of the meeting was to identify the highest ranking priorities in recreation and associated funding for these activities.

The CAO, Mr. MacIsaac, advised that Council could add or take away from these priorities and to identify a general method of financing recreation as a whole rather than for specific activities.

Council agreed that no formal motions would be made at this meeting.

### **Presentation on Recreation**

Mr. Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development and Sue Burley, Manager of Recreational Services, presented an overhead presentation to Council on recreation in Colchester County, including an update of activities since January 2000, a review of the recreational issues identified in the citizen survey conducted last fall, results of a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats), establishment of broad categories for the Recreation Department, setting priorities, options for implementation and funding.

## Discussion

During the discussion around this presentation, the following priorities were recommended:

### Parkland

1. Maintain existing school playground funding (depending on whether there is a need); \$40,000 to any not-for-profit capital recreation projects (community owned); and \$20,000 to improve facilities on municipal sites

It was suggested that schools should be contacted to determine if there is a need and what they want to do with the funding that they currently receive. It was also recommended that the funding extend beyond elementary schools.

### Trails

2. Create a County-wide trail network with a variety of opportunities and challenges for non-motorized use

### Community Access to Schools

3. Establish a community access to schools' policy and program

### Community and Volunteer Support

4. Work with communities to determine recreational needs and opportunities on a community and regional basis.
5. Create a grant program to help with start-up costs for programs created by community groups (\$10,000)

It was acknowledged that the number of community volunteers is decreasing and Council had a brief discussion on what role it should play to keep, help and support the volunteers without running the programs themselves.

### Activity Community Program

6. Continue to promote a healthy active lifestyle for the community and offer or coordinate activities that supports active living.

Arts and Culture

7. Attract more visual and performing cultural activities to the County.
8. Work to create a regional cultural centre(s).

Other Recreational Facility

9. County research and prepare a Facilities Master Plan to identify facility needs of the community.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Baas  
Seconded by Councillor Elliott

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:35 p.m.”

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Sheila Arsenault  
Deputy Clerk