

Rath Eastlink Community Centre

9:00 AM June 15, 2026

Truro Council Chambers

Members Present:

Cathy Hinton, Mayor, Town of Truro
Tim Johnson, Councillor, Municipality of Colchester
Al Kennedy, Councillor, Municipality of Colchester
Deb Pryor, Councillor, Town of Truro
Bill Thomas, Deputy Mayor, Town of Truro
Paul Weatherby, Councillor, Municipality of Colchester

Staff Present:

Dan Troke, CAO, Municipality of Colchester
Mike Dolter, CAO, Town of Truro
Suzanne Graham, Recording Secretary, Municipality of Colchester
Joel Dawe, Interim CEO

Regrets:

None.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Tim Johnson, Chair at 9:00 am.

Approval of Agenda:

Move GM Report to #3(b).

Moved by Al Kennedy

Seconded by Paul Weatherby

“That the agenda be approved as amended”.

Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the June 12th meeting were circulated in the package.

Moved by Paul Weatherby

Seconded by Al Kennedy

“That the minutes be approved as presented”.

Motion Carried.

GM Report:

Joel presented his report to the Board. Highlights included:

- Swimming lessons and day camps are now underway. Wallnuts 6 week summer sessions begins this week.
- Jr. A Bearcats schedule has been confirmed and pre-season games are scheduled.
- Hosted CEC graduations and Safe Grad on June 29th and 30th.

- Co-hosted Scotia Lacrosse League tournament on July 11th and 12th in conjunction with the Stadium.
- Sponsorship renewals are underway. About half of the board sponsors are confirmed; Sorensen's Electric is replacing a departing ice-logo sponsor; new sponsorship opportunities are being developed; a new arena banner agreement with Kia is to begin in a couple months; Central Nova Scotia Tourism Development Society (CNSTDS) trailer banner is in production and a School Board Pylon sponsorship has been finalized.
- Summer group fitness programming is reduced due to seasonal demand and instructor availability.
- Preventative maintenance/repairs are complete on treadmills and strength training equipment. Fitness area was reorganized to improve space, safety and accessibility.
- Upcoming staff departures and parental leave may affect early morning class coverage this fall, program planning and recruitment is underway.
- In the process of hiring vacant operator positions, 1 part time and 1 full time.
- Met with Cimco and Trane to get information on the replacement options for the ice plant and multistack.
- Approved repairs are ongoing including: replacing the compressor in the multistack and the elevator has been repaired after a recent electrical panel failure.

RECC Evaluation:

A kickoff meeting was held with East Point Engineering's project manager, and the team seems to have everything handled. They will be at the facility to complete the repairs on July 21st and hope to have everything finished in one day. The report should be back in early September for Board members and senior staff to review.

2028 World Women's Curling Championship – Financial Guarantee Letter:

Curling Canada has received our bid and came back with a few questions. They are looking for the Board to provide a financial guarantee letter should the promised funding not come through (Dept. of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage \$150,000; ACOA \$150,000; Municipality of Colchester \$75,000; and Town of Truro \$75,000). Brief discussion was held on the risk of us not receiving the promised funding. CAO Mike Dolter stated that the province has always come through with their funding promises for the facility so the risk is minimal.

**Moved by Paul Weatherby
Seconded by Cathy Hinton**

"That the RECC Board provide a financial guarantee letter for the 2028 World Women's Curling Championship".

Motion Carried.

RECC Branded Clothing for Senior Staff:

Board Chair Tim Johnson spoke to Interim GM Joel Dawe regarding all levels of staff wearing various RECC branded clothing. He would like to see senior staff wear something uniform so that they would be more easily identifiable.

Facility Equipment Updates:

Generator – the generator that was purchased for when the RECC is being used as a comfort centre was never installed at the facility. Brief discussion was held on the fact that this generator is still portable and can be moved, and, that since it is for use as a comfort centre it will not power the entire building.

John Deere Gator – this item was purchased to get around the exhibition grounds easier and since it is no longer needed, a decision needs to be made on what to do with it. Senior staff have been asked their thoughts and do not see a use for it at the facility. Paul mentioned that there are several items on the books that may need to be looked at now that the RECC facility is the only one being used.

Sea Cans – these are currently at another location being used to store some larger items. Discussion was held on moving them back to the RECC parking lot to store items there. Mike mentioned that might not be allowed, they will have to check the by-laws.

CEDF Money:

During the time the RECC was running the exhibition grounds, they were granted funds from the province. Currently about \$470,000 still remains to be paid to the RECC. These funds were spent as per program guidelines so staff and the Board anticipate still receiving them. Tim will reach out to the province to request an update.

Update on RECC Employee Commentary Policy:

Colchester HR Specialist Kelly MacIsaac has received some questions from staff on this policy and has shared them with Tim. Tim will send the questions to Joel and have senior staff go over them with employees.

RECC GM Position:

The job ad has been out for a couple weeks now and has been shared with Recreation Facilities Nova Scotia.

Advertising – Trailer in Parking Lot:

As mentioned in the GM Report, CNSTDS will be advertising on the trailer in the RECC parking lot.

Joint Council Meeting:

Some members of Colchester Council are requesting a joint meeting with the Truro Council and RECC Board to discuss RECC issues. Discussion was held on the lack of specific reason for a meeting; that questions can be asked to Board members at regular Council meetings; Board meetings are now open to the public, anyone who wants to attend has an opportunity; other previous Boards not being asked to do this.

**Moved by Paul Weatherby
Seconded by Deb Pryor**

“That the current request for a joint Council meeting be denied, however should there be a specific reason for the request, it be brought back for consideration at that time”.

In Camera:

Motion Carried.

Moved by Al Kennedy

Seconded by Deb Pryor

“That the meeting go in camera at 9:47 am”.

Motion carried.

Moved by Cathy Hinton

Seconded by Deb Pryor

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 10:23 am”.

Motion Carried.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 11th.

Adjournment

Moved by Cathy Hinton

“That the meeting adjourn at 10:25 am”.

Motion Carried.

Tim Johnson, Chair

Date

Recording Secretary

Date