

TOWN OF LUNENBURG  
**COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**  
Tuesday, January 13, 2026 | 6 pm  
Lunenburg Town Hall – Council Chambers  
120 Townsend Street



**NOTICE:** Council meetings are open to the public and held in Town Hall. **Please use the back entrance at 120 Townsend Street.** The public can also watch meetings through Zoom. To livestream this meeting starting at 6 pm, use this Zoom link:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81475382430>

Please note that all Council meetings are livestreamed through Zoom and meeting recordings are archived on the Town's [YouTube](#) channel.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

This meeting takes place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people. We are all Treaty people.

**3. ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

4.1 January 13, 2026 Council Meeting Agenda

**Recommendation:** That Council approve the agenda for the January 13, 2026 meeting as presented.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

5.1 December 9, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

**Recommendation:** That Council approve the December 9, 2025 meeting minutes as presented.

**6. PRESENTATIONS**

6.1 Council Recognition: Tony Schleihauf and Sourav Sourav of William Gerhardt Property Improvement

6.2 Council Recognition: Martin & Sylvie Ruiz Salvador (Gary MacDonald Culinary Ambassador Award)

**7. PUBLIC INPUT AND QUESTIONS – 20 MINUTES**

- Each person is limited to 3 minutes
- Each person must state their name
- Questions or comments are directed to the Chair
- Comments and questions are open to any municipal matter
- **Virtual Participation:** Members of the public wishing to participate virtually in

this agenda item must register in advance by 12:00 p.m. on the business day before the meeting by contacting adminsupport@townoflunenburg.ca or 902-634-4410 ext. 225. When registering, please include a brief description of the agenda item you wish to speak to.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

*Correspondence items included on the agenda have been submitted for Council's information and do not imply endorsement by the Town. The content of correspondence reflects the views of the author and has not been independently verified. Should Council wish to take action on an item, a motion must be made.*

**9. PUBLIC HEARINGS, PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS AND APPEALS**

**10. BUSINESS ARISING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

11.1 Review of the Motion Action List

11.2 Information Reports: Potable and Wastewater Quality Test Results (July – Sept 2025)

**12. NOTICES OF MOTION, INFORMATION REQUESTS AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

**13. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

The next Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 3, 2026.

**14. MOTION ACTION LIST**

**15. CLOSED SESSION**

15.1 Legal Advice

**Recommendation:** That Council move in closed session for agenda item 15.1.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

**COUNCIL MEETING  
TOWN OF LUNENBURG**

December 9, 2025 | 6 pm  
Lunenburg Town Hall - Council Chamber



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Present	Mayor Jamie Myra, Deputy Rachel Bailey, Councillors Alex Greek, Debbie Dauphinee, Renea Babineau, Gale Fullerton and Alison Strachan
Also present	Paul Nopper, CAO Tyson Joyce, Director of Public Works Kayla Byrne, Municipal Clerk Jamie Deans, Communications and Events Coordinator
Call to Order	The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
Land Acknowledgment	The Chair recognized Lunenburg's location on the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.
Approval of Agenda	Moved and seconded that Council approve the agenda for the December 9, 2025 meeting as presented. <b>Motion carried unanimously</b>
RCMP Quarterly Report July – September 2025	For information Council received the RCMP Quarterly Report July – September 2025.  Council highlighted the desire for a dedicated discussion on community safety and traffic-related issues, acknowledging preliminary internal conversations and the value of formal engagement with the RCMP to identify shared priorities.  Questions were raised regarding trends in impaired driving. The RCMP reported that alcohol remains the most common cause of impairment, but noted that enhanced drug-recognition training and new equipment will strengthen their ability to detect drug-impaired drivers.
Correspondence	Council received a staff update highlighting recent successes in recruitment, retention, and succession planning within the Finance Department. Council recognized and congratulated staff member Jacob McGuigan for completing the requirements for his Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) designation.
Initiating MPS and LUB Amendments for Expanded	Moved and seconded that Council direct staff to prepare draft amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and Land Use By-law (LUB) to expand the circumstances under which Development

Development  
Agreements and  
Introducing Site  
Plan Approvals

Agreements may be considered.

**Motion carried unanimously**

Moved and seconded that Council direct staff to prepare draft amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and Land Use By-law (LUB) to introduce Site Plan Approvals as a planning tool consistent with Provincial guidance.

**Motion carried unanimously**

Moved and seconded that Council refer the development agreement and site plan approval materials to the Planning Advisory Committee and to the Public Participation Meeting process to be held in January 2026.

**Motion carried unanimously**

Information Report:  
Marketing Levy By-  
law Survey Results

Council received an update on engagement with accommodation operators regarding the proposed Marketing Levy Bylaw. Staff reported mixed levels of support, with the primary concern focused on implementation challenges, particularly operators' ability to adjust booking software for an April 1, 2026 rollout.

Council discussed these considerations, noting operator concerns, the need for clear education and communication, and the benefit of aligning the levy with broader work on short-term rental regulations.

Following the discussion Council made the following motion:

Moved and seconded that Council direct staff to proceed with the drafting of the Marketing Levy Bylaw, with an effective date of January 1, 2027.

**Motion carried unanimously**

Information Report:  
Hillcrest Cemetery  
Operations  
Discussion

Council received a report outlining the Town's current roles and responsibilities in operating Hillcrest Cemetery.

Council discussed ongoing community concerns about the condition of the cemetery and emphasized its importance as both a historic site and a meaningful community space. Members expressed interest in looking at a broader approach to how the cemetery is cared for, which may include exploring heritage grant opportunities, reviewing plot pricing alongside other municipalities, and considering future features such as cremation vaults.

Council agreed that a more in-depth discussion is needed and reached consensus to bring the topic to a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

Removing Lands from Surplus: Blockhouse Hill and King Street

Moved and seconded that Council approve removing the following Town-owned lands from their surplus designation: PIDs 60057460, 60057395, 60057387, 60057379: Upper Duke Street (north of Creighton Street) and Upper King Street (north of Creighton Street, excluding the first 42.5 metres from Creighton Street north), as shown in Attachment F; and PIDs 60056991, 60056900, 60671427: Blockhouse Hill lands, as shown in Attachment A – Lands to Declare Surplus Following Option 2: Out of Sight Blockhouse Hill.

**Motion carried unanimously**

Rent Relief Request: Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance

Moved and seconded that Council provide rent relief support to Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance for 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 under the negotiation of the Chief Administrative Officer.

**Motion carried unanimously**

REMO Inter-Municipal Services Agreement (IMSA) Review

Moved and seconded that Council approve the amendments to the REMO Inter-Municipal Service Agreement as presented.

**Motion carried unanimously**

Information Report: Paid Parking Infrastructure Town of Lunenburg

Council received an update on options for modernizing parking payment in the Old Town. Staff advised that the most practical solution is to adopt HotSpot, a mobile parking system already used in nearby municipalities.

Council asked questions about privacy, enforcement, time limits, bylaw requirements, and user experience. Several members noted the importance of retaining coin payment for those who prefer or require it.

This item was provided for information, and staff indicated they would proceed with finalizing the HotSpot implementation within existing budget resources.

Lunenburg Academy Roof Repairs Pre-approval for 2026/27

Moved and seconded that Council pre-approve the Lunenburg Academy Roof Repairs Project for fiscal 2026/27 in the amount of \$1,039,000.

**Motion carried unanimously**

Grant Application: Safe and Active School Routes Funding

Moved and seconded that Council confirm the Town of Lunenburg's commitment and financial support for the Safe and Active School Routes Project and its funding application.

**Motion carried unanimously**

Information Report: Status Updates for November 2025: Town & Water Utility Capital Projects	Council received a brief update on ongoing capital projects. Staff noted significant progress since the last report, including several major projects reaching completion or substantial completion. Council expressed appreciation for the smooth delivery of recent work, particularly the Pelham Street reconstruction and the bandstand restoration, and thanked staff and contractors for their efforts.
Notices of Motion, Information Requests and Councillor Reports	Council members noted a busy period of community events, business socials, and holiday activities. Updates included participation in committee meetings, the Region 6 Waste Management meeting regarding the launch of extended producer responsibility, and attendance at the community celebration marking the UNESCO anniversary.
Items for Consideration at COTW	The next Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 3, 2026.
Motion Action List	For information Council received the Motion Action List.
Adjournment	There being no further business, the Organizational Council meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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Minutes were read and approved.

**Subject:** Review of the Motion Action List

**From:** Kayla Byrne, Municipal Clerk

**Date:** Jan. 13, 2026



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## **Recommendation**

That Council receive the updated Motion Action List, review the priority sequencing, and provide any direction on adjustments.

## **Discussion**

Now that it is January 2026 and the Priority A timeframe has been completed, this is an opportunity for Council to review the Motion Action List to ensure it continues to align with Council's current priorities.

This review is intended to:

- Confirm that completed or no-longer-relevant items are appropriately reflected or removed
- Ensure timelines remain appropriate given ongoing work; and
- Provide Council with the opportunity to move items between priorities, including elevating items where Council wishes to see earlier action.

The attached Motion Action List includes comments in red, which reflect staff's recommended updates based on the current status of items, including suggestions to remove items that have been completed or to adjust priorities where work is ready to proceed. These comments are provided for Council's consideration, and staff are seeking confirmation that Council agrees with the proposed updates before proceeding.

## **Attachments**

Motion Action List

# Town of Lunenburg Motion Action List

**PRIORITY A = Action within 3 months (Sept. 2025 – Dec. 2025) (Jan. 2026 – March 2026)**

**PRIORITY B = Action within 6 months (Sept. 2025 – March 2026) (April 2026 – Sept. 2026)**

**PRIORITY C = Longer-term (Beyond March 2026) (Beyond Sept. 2026)**

MOTION ACTION LIST					
TITLE	REQUESTED DATE	COUNCIL MOTION OR DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE	STATUS & UPDATES
<b>PRIORITY A</b>					
Marketing Levy By-law	2024	Draft a Marketing Levy By-law.	Municipal Clerk	<b>PRIORITY A (in progress)</b> By-law to be approved in early 2026. Effective date to take place Jan. 1, 2027	<b>Draft by-law for introduction expected at Feb COTW</b>
Short Term Housing Report	April 1, 2025	Bring back a report on what amendments might look like to the MPS and LUB, including options to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restrict short-term rentals to primary residences;</li> <li>• Restrict short-term rentals to commercial-use zones;</li> <li>• Evaluate the merits of a short-term rental business licensing by-law.</li> </ul>	Community Development	<b>PRIORITY A</b> Implications to Marketing Levy	

MPS Amendments: DAs on Town Land	Original motion: July 16, 2024  Updated motion: Jan. 7, 2025 COTW	Original motion: Amend the Municipal Planning Strategy, allowing development agreements with potential purchasers of the lower slopes of Blockhouse Hill.  Jan. 7, 2025 COTW motion: Refer the proposed amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS), as outlined in Attachment A, to Council for consideration, enabling the use of development agreements on lands throughout the Town.	Community Development	<b>PRIORITY A</b>	This is a milestone that needs to be achieved for HAF agreement.
LUB Amendments: Main Street Form Zone & on-site parking	2024 /2025	Form Zone: Prepare a report with recommendations for revising the Land-Use By-law's Main Street Form Zone requirements, with the aim of encouraging more varied development within this zone  Parking: Original (Feb. 27, 2024): That Council direct staff to work on a proposed amendment to the Land Use By-law (LUB) to enable up to five on-site parking spaces in front yards.  Expanded Jan. 28, 2025: That staff to expand their review beyond the motion passed on February 27, 2024, which directed staff to work on a proposed amendment to the Land Use By-law (LUB) to enable up to five on-site parking spaces in front yards, and further explore additional options to address parking challenges in the Salt Meadow subdivision and the apartment buildings in that neighbourhood.	Community Development	<b>PRIORITY A</b>	As a part of comprehensive MPS/ LUB Review – Work expected to start in Jan. 2026
Housing Market Study	Jan. 14, 2025	Collaborate with MODL on commissioning a comprehensive housing market study to provide updated housing market information and address known data gaps that will support affordable housing within the region.	Community Development	<b>PRIORITY A (in progress)</b>	Report complete. Consultant presentation to Council to be scheduled.

Reducing Speed Limits	April 15, 2025	<p>Prepare a report on reducing speed limits from 50 km/h to 40 km/h on Linden Avenue, Pelham Street, and Creighton Street, based on available traffic study data and exploring the possibility of including adjoining streets, in an application to the Province for a speed limit reduction; and that a recommendation of a town-wide reduction may result if appropriate and cost-effective.</p> <p>Bring back a report exploring the installation of four-way stop signs at the intersections of Creighton Street with Prince Street and Creighton Street with Cornwallis Street.</p>	Public Works	<b>PRIORITY A (in progress)</b>	Comments received from Provincial Traffic Authority.
<b>PRIORITY B</b>					
Community Grants Policy Amendment	Aug. 19, 2025	<p>Review and propose any possible edits to the policy.</p> <p>Sept. 2, 2025: Council indicated a desire to have a Grants Committee.</p>	Communications & Events Coordinator Municipal Clerk	<b>PRIORITY B</b> <b>Move to Priority A and look at changing the deadline (March 31) for the intake period for this year</b>	
Paid Parking Infrastructure	May 28, 2024	Prepare a report on paid parking infrastructure, which accepts various payment options for consideration in conjunction with the 2025/26 budget deliberations.	Public Works Bylaw Enforcement Finance	<b>PRIORITY B</b> Early in 2026; align with the budget cycle)	<b>REMOVE FROM LIST (Hotspot)</b>
Cornwallis Street Renaming	Dec. 10, 2024	Cease work on the renaming of Cornwallis Street subject to Council re-evaluation.	Municipal Clerk Community Development	<b>PRIORITY B</b>	

Washrooms at Lunenburg Academy	Initial Direction: March 4, 2025 COTW	Staff presented an information report on this on June 24, 2025. No motion was made, but a general consensus to revisit the idea of portable washrooms in the Spring of 2026.	Public Works	<b>PRIORITY B</b>  Early in 2026; align with the budget cycle)	
Buffer Zone & Rescinding a Motion	April 15, 2025	Review and report back on the UNESCO World Heritage context for development in the Old Town buffer zone, including the 1994 nomination documents and recommendations from Zzap Architecture related to Upper King Street. Following receipt of the report, Council will reconsider its November 28, 2023 motion declaring the Upper King Street lands as surplus.	Community Development	<b>PRIORITY B</b>	<b>REMOVE FROM LIST</b>
Banner Installation and possible program	July 15, 2025	Explore options for banner installation, taking into consideration the current requests, including potential logistics, responsibilities, and costs, and how similar requests may be accommodated in the future.	Public Works Municipal Clerk	<b>PRIORITY B</b>	
Review Hack & Trolley By-law	Aug. 19, 2025	Review the Hack and Trolley By-law, taking into account regulations from other jurisdictions with similar climates and tourism activities	Municipal Clerk By-law Enforcement	<b>PRIORITY B</b> <b>MOVE TO PRIORITY A</b>  (Spring 2026)	
Wastewater Treatment and Harbour Water Quality	Aug. 19, 2025	Prepare a report on the Town's wastewater treatment system and its relationship to harbour water quality, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An overview of whether and how untreated or partially treated sewage may enter the Front or Back Harbour;</li> <li>• A plain-language summary of the current treatment system upgrades and their anticipated impact on effluent quality; and</li> </ul>	Public Works	<b>PRIORITY B</b>	Staff Report delivered to Council at October 28 Meeting. No subsequent direction provided from Council.

		Contextual information to support public understanding of the Town's wastewater practices.			<b>REMOVE FROM LIST</b>
Lunenburg Academy Roof	Aug. 19, 2025	Defer the Lunenburg Academy Roof Repairs Project, with the intention of Staff keeping the same scope for the 2026/27 Town Capital Budget and proceeding with the tender process as soon as possible.	Public Works Community Development Finance	<b>PRIORITY B</b>  Early in 2026; align with the budget cycle)	<b>REMOVE FROM LIST</b>
Traffic and Parking Budget Considerations	March 4, 2025 COTW	Staff to bring forward cost estimates for the following initiatives as part of the 2025/26 budget deliberations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <del>Reconfiguration of the Community Centre parking lot</del></li> <li>• <del>Accessible parking considerations</del></li> <li>• Paid parking options <i>*if this is too much perhaps this considered in a different year per Council discussion (REMOVE FROM LIST?)</i></li> <li>• Consistent signage improvements</li> </ul>	Public Works Community Development Finance	<b>PRIORITY B</b>  Early in 2026; align with the budget cycle)	First two items addressed in July 15, 2025 staff report. Other items to come at a future meeting
Cemetery Review	Dec. 9, 2025	Council received an information report on Hillcrest Cemetery operations and reached consensus to schedule a future Committee of the Whole discussion to undertake a comprehensive review of cemetery care, rates, and future needs.	Multiple Departments	<b>Staff suggestion: PRIORITY B</b>	
<b>PRIORITY C</b>					
NSUARB application to amend Regulation 5.14	April 23, 2024	Amend Electric Utility Regulations to include energy storage alongside renewable low-impact generators, limited to devices with a capacity of 27kW or less.	Finance	<b>PRIORITY C</b>  Requires ABCO to follow-up with Town	This was a request from ABCO contingent on ABCO paying for the amendments,

					but no follow-up has been received yet.
Parking & Traffic Study Recommendation	Jan. 28, 2025	Work towards collaborating with the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg and the local MLA to work towards the recommendation identified in the Parking and Traffic Study regarding safety improvements at the intersection of Route 332 and Trunk 3.	CAO Public Works	<b>PRIORITY C</b>	
Laurie Fisher Art Project	April 22, 2025	Explore how the town could work with Eric Croft to explore options for maintaining and restoring the Laurie Fisher Fish Rehabilitation Project.	Staff TBD	<b>PRIORITY C</b>	
Election signs on public lands	May 13, 2025	Prepare a local rule governing the placement of election signs on public lands, specifically parklands, within the Town of Lunenburg.	Municipal Clerk	<b>PRIORITY C</b>  Prior to next election cycle	

## INFORMATION REPORT

**Subject:** Potable Water, Quality Test Results: July to September 2025

**From:** Tyson Joyce, P.Eng, PMP, Town Engineer

**Date:** January 5, 2026

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### Recommendation

This is an information report. No decision of Council is required.

### Background

The Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change (NSECC) Approval documents to operate for the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) require that certain tests be carried out to verify the quality of treated potable water. There are also Federal testing standards that must be followed. Routine testing is conducted in the Town of Lunenburg (TOL) lab at the WTP, and independently by accredited laboratories to determine compliance levels with both the Provincial and Federal standards. If any test result exceeds the standards, then explanations are provided. This report provides a monthly summary of these results.

The timing of this document follows from the testing schedule at the WTP, which is performed on a quarterly cycle. The next Council report will be prepared at the end of the next quarter.

At the end of each year an annual report is also prepared for the WTP and filed with the Provincial and Federal governments.

### Discussion

#### 1.0 Water Quality

The TOL water system operates according to two Nova Scotia Environment Approvals:

- Approval for Operation – Water Treatment Facility (Approval #2010-071794-02)
  - Updated Approval to Operate effective May 4, 2022
- Approval to Withdraw Water – Dares Lake (Approval #2011-079411-01)

The Approval to Operate document requires the following water quality sampling:

- Weekly total coliform and fecal coliform tests for water entering the distribution system and various water distribution system sample points (maximum none/100 mL).
- Quarterly tests for Manganese (maximum 0.12 mg/L).
- Quarterly tests for disinfection by-products:
  - Trihalomethanes (maximum 0.1 mg/L).

- Haloacetic acids (maximum 0.08 mg/L).
- Lead and Copper testing performed in accordance with the “Requirements for Lead and Copper Management Municipal Public Drinking Water Supplies” which requires 10 samples taken between May 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> each year (maximum of 0.005 mg/L).
- Turbidity measured continuously at each filtration unit shall not exceed 0.1 NTU 99% of the time and shall not exceed 0.3 NTU at any time.
- Chlorine residual must be between 0.2-4.0 mg/L measured continuously.
- The Province can also request virus testing for *Giardia* and *Cryptosporidium* at any time. Treatment efficiencies are required to meet:
  - 3-log reduction (99.9%) of *Giardia* and *Cryptosporidium*.
  - 4-log reduction (99.9%) of viruses.
- Treatment must also limit corrosion of water distribution and/or plumbing systems and reduce odors.

Federal Guidelines for Monitoring Public Drinking Water Supplies require annual testing of raw water and treated water for compliance. A more in-depth assessment is required every five years.

## Results

From July to September 2025, all weekly, monthly, and quarterly regulatory testing and in-house daily testing complied with the Approval requirements.

The following table summarizes the sampling results for this quarter, including parameters identified in the Approval to Operate. This table reports periodic turbidity and chlorine residual testing, but not continuous testing. Turbidity and chlorine residual are continuously monitored and recorded on the WTP Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. There are safeguards in place that automatically raise alarms for the operator and shut down equipment when the required conditions are not met.

Parameter Tested	Approval Limit	Exceeded Approval Limit
Lead	<0.005 mg/L	None
Manganese	<0.12 mg/L	None
Trihalomethanes	<0.1 mg/L	None
Haloacetic Acids	<0.08 mg/L	None
Turbidity	<0.1 NTU 99% of the time, and not to exceed 0.3 NTU	None
Chlorine Residual	0.2-4.0 mg/L	None
Total Coliforms	None/100 mL	None
Fecal Coliforms	None/100 mL	None
Comment: None		

The annual MAC/IMAC testing of both raw and treated water was completed this reporting period as required under Federal Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality. This testing included a wide range of health-related parameters such as metals, organics, disinfection by-products, and other

trace substances. All parameters measured were within the Health Canada guideline limits, and no exceedances were observed. All results from both raw and treated water were within their respective guideline limits, and no exceedances were identified.

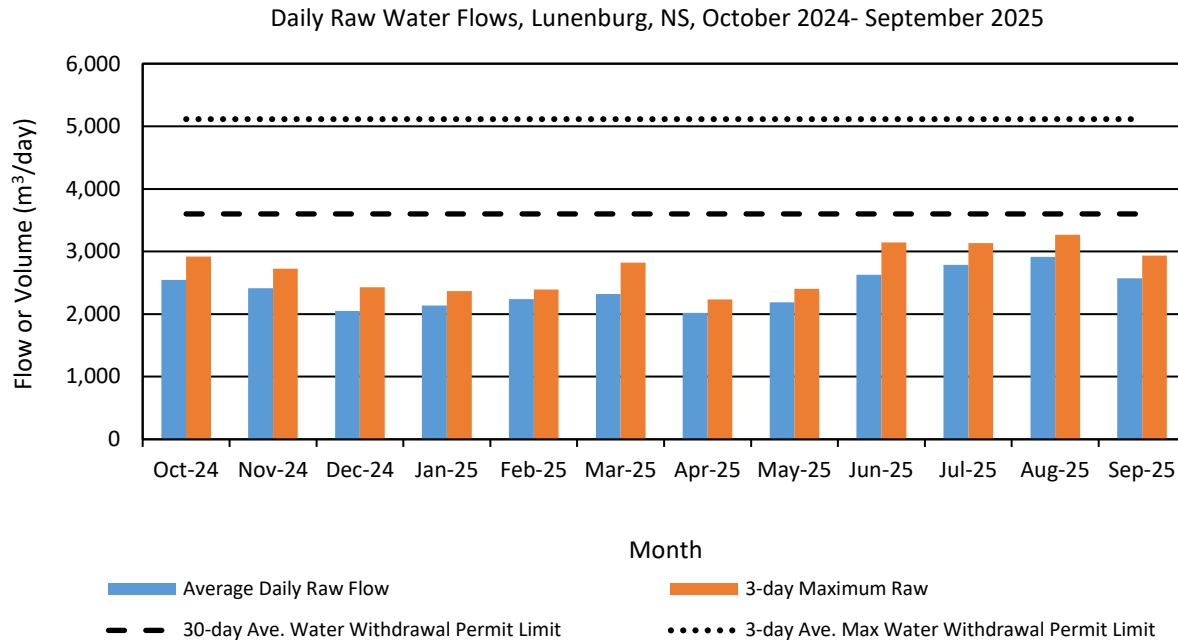
## 2.0 Raw and Treated Water Flows

The WTP withdraws water from Dares Lake and can withdraw water at a rate outlined in the Approval to Withdraw Water. The approved rates of withdrawal as of July 31, 2022, are as follows:

- Average rate of withdrawal: 3,600,000 L/day (averaged over 30 days).
- Maximum rate of withdrawal: 5,114,000 L/day (averaged over 3 days).

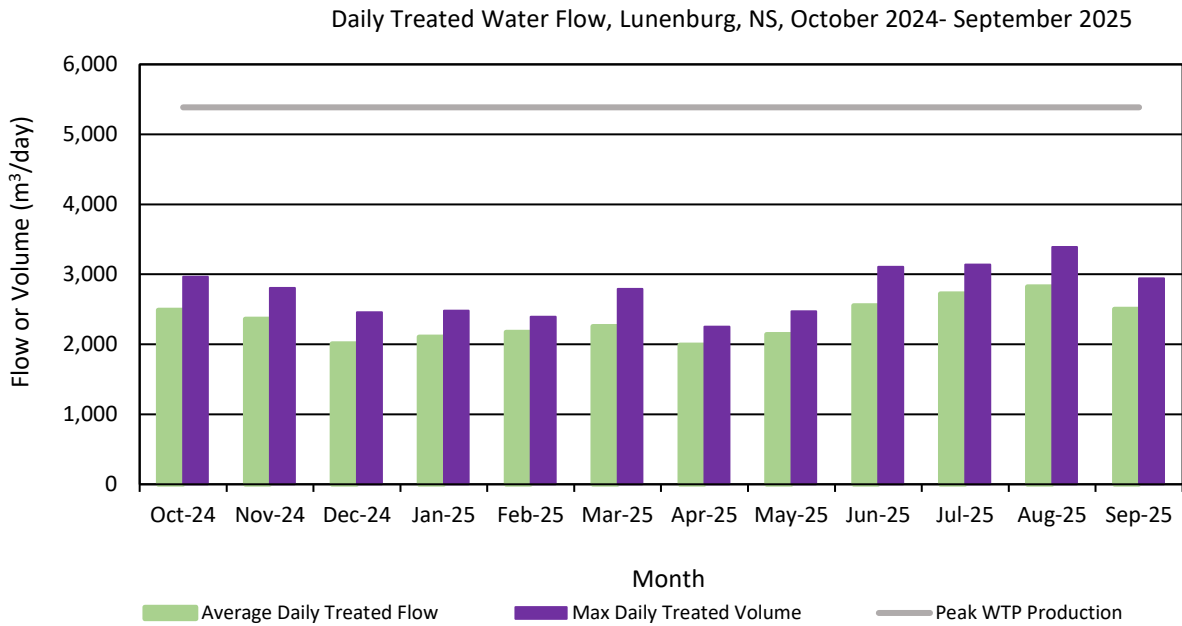
### Average and Maximum Daily Flow of Raw Water:

The following graph shows the historical monthly flows and the 3-day maximum flows for the raw water entering the WTP over the past year, inclusive of this quarter:



### Average and Maximum Daily Flow of Treated Water:

The following graph shows the historical average daily flows and the maximum daily flow for the treated water from the WTP over the past year, inclusive of this quarter:



**Results**

The average daily raw water flow did not exceed the 30-day average Water Withdrawal Permit Limit during this quarter.

The 3-day maximum average withdrawal limit was not exceeded this quarter.

The treated water flow did not exceed the peak production rate within this quarter.

**3.0 Water Main Breaks and Repairs:**

There were two reported water main break and repair this quarter, which is detailed in the following table:

Month	Date	Street	Address or Block	Problem or Cause
July	28	Cumberland	107	Split in the 8" main near sewer crossing. Replaced the section of the pipe
August	19	Victoria	45	Leak in service line on private side encountered in sidewalk renewal. Replaced the section of the line.

## **4.0 Complaints**

The were no complaints reported this quarter

### **Strategic Plan Relevance**

Strategic Planning Goal #3. A. (a.) of the Town’s Strategic Plan is to “Champion opportunities for our community’s health and well-being by ... Protecting our natural environment ... Continue to provide solid waste management, sewage treatment and high-quality water to all of our residents”.

### **Relevant Legislation/Approvals**

The TOL water system operates according to two Nova Scotia Environment Approvals:

- Approval for Operation – Water Treatment Facility (Approval # 2010-071794-02)
- Approval to Withdraw Water – Dares Lake (Approval # 2011-079411-01)

### **Financial**

Funds are included in the WTP operating budget to pay for these water quality tests.

## **INFORMATION REPORT**

**Subject:** Wastewater, Quality Test Results: July to October 2025

**From:** Tyson Joyce, P.Eng, PMP, Town Engineer

**Date:** January 5, 2026

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### **Recommendation**

This is an information report. No decision of Council is required.

### **Background**

The Nova Scotia Environment “Approval” documents to operate for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) (Class II wastewater treatment facility) require that certain tests be carried out to verify the quality of treated wastewater at the plant. There are also Federal testing standards that must also be followed. Routine testing is conducted both in the Town of Lunenburg (TOL) labs at the WWTP and independently by accredited laboratories to determine compliance levels with both the Provincial and Federal standards. If any test result exceeds the standards, then explanations are provided. This report provides a monthly and quarterly summary of these results.

The timing of this document follows from the testing schedule at the WWTP, which is performed on a quarterly cycle. The next Council report will be prepared at the end of the next quarter.

At the end of each year an annual report is also prepared for the treatment plant and filed with the Provincial and Federal governments.

### **Discussion**

The Lunenburg WWTP was issued an amended Approval to Operate by Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change (NSECC) in 2023. The requirements of this Approval, as well as the Federal Requirements are summarized in the following tables:

### Provincial Approval 2012-082710-03 Testing Requirements

Treated wastewater must be tested a minimum of five times per month (once per week) for:

- Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD, maximum 20 mg/L)
  - Suspended Solids (SS, maximum 20 mg/L)
  - *E. coli* (maximum 1000 counts/100 mL)
  - pH (acceptable pH is in the range 6.0 - 9.0)
- The facility is considered to be in “compliance with the treated effluent discharge criteria if the average value calculated for the averaging period meets the specified limits. All average residuals shall be the arithmetic mean with the exception of *E. coli*, which shall be the geometric mean.” The averaging period is defined as quarterly.

### Federal Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations Testing Requirements

Treated wastewater must be tested every two weeks for:

- Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD maximum 25 mg/L)
  - Total Suspended Solids (TSS maximum 25 mg/L)
  - Un-ionized ammonia (maximum 1.25 mg/L) and
  - pH (between 5.5 - 9.5)
- Acute Lethality Tests are mandated to be conducted quarterly. In this test, rainbow trout are used to determine if they can survive in wastewater effluent over a 96-hour period. According to the regulations, if four consecutive Acute Lethality Tests pass when taken quarterly (over a year), then the testing for acute lethality can be reduced to once per year. The WWTP is currently on the reduced program of one lethality test per year.

### Results

The required number of tests per month for CBOD, SS, *E. coli*, and pH were carried out, and all pH tests were within the required ranges.

#### Quarterly Averages:

Quarterly averages for this reporting period are summarized in the following table. As per the Approval, an arithmetic mean is used for CBOD and SS, and a geometric mean is used for *E. coli*.

Quarter	Quarterly Average		
	CBOD (20 mg/L)	TSS (20 mg/L)	<i>E. coli</i> (1000 counts/100 mL)
Qtr. 1 2025	13	21.5	459

All CBOD test results met the Provincial and Federal requirements this quarter; however, TSS test results met the federal requirements but slightly exceeded the provincial limit of 20 mg/L, with a quarterly average of 21.5 mg/L. *E. coli* test results were above the Provincial requirements in six instances this quarter ranging from 1,100 to 2,500 counts/100mL. Nonetheless, on a quarterly basis, which is the basis for meeting the requirements in the Provincial Approval, *E. coli* test results met the Provincial requirements this quarter.

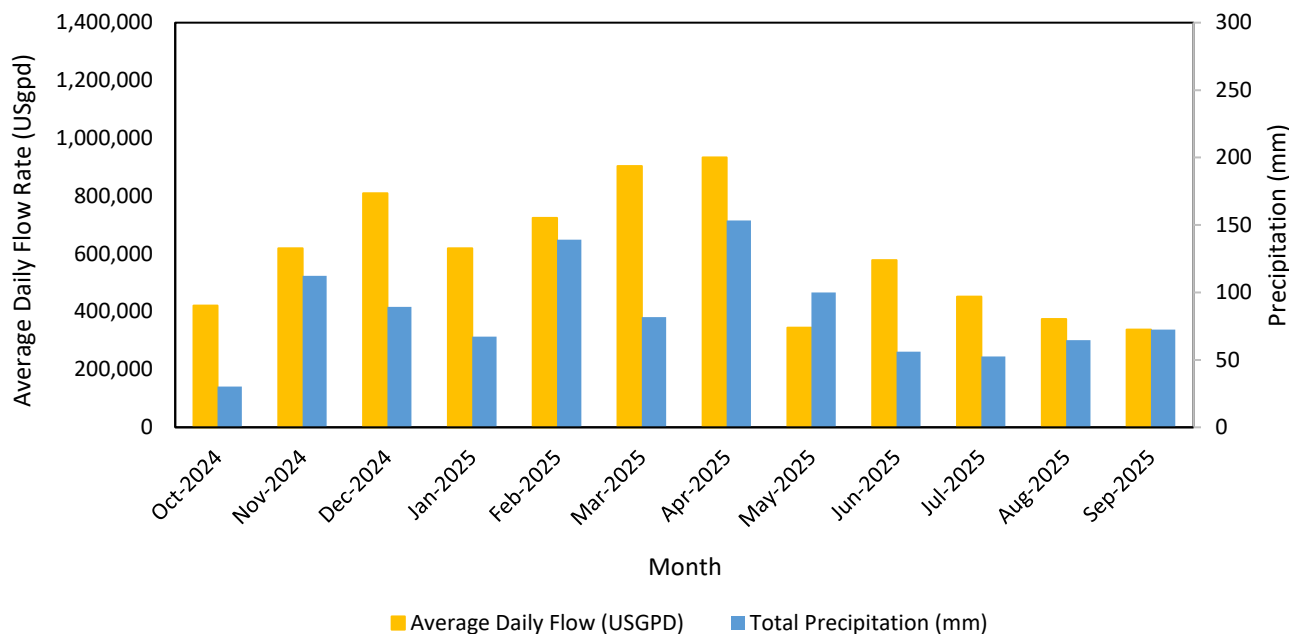
Lethality Testing:

Based on the *Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations*, acute lethality testing of the effluent is only required annually as the previous six consecutive samples passed the test requirements. An acute lethality test was performed on December 12, 2024, and the effluent was determined to be not acutely lethal. The next acute lethality test is scheduled to be performed in December 2025.

Average Monthly Daily Flow of Wastewater with Total Monthly Precipitation:

The following graph shows the monthly flows for the wastewater treatment plant over the past year, along with the total monthly precipitation. Total precipitation data was taken from Western Head, Nova Scotia.

Average Daily Flow of Treated Wastewater, Lunenburg, NS,  
October 2024 – September 2025



Sewer Breaks and Repairs:

There were no sewer breaks recorded this quarter.

Complaints:

There were no complaints recorded this quarter.

Overflows:

There were a few overflow events reported this quarter, which are detailed in the following table:

Date	Lift Station	Address	Estimated Overflow (USg)	Problem or Cause
July 8, 2025	Young Street	37 Young St	73	Rain Event
July 8, 2025	Back Harbour	171 Prince St	5,416	Rain Event
July 8, 2025	Fisherman's Wharf	34 Bluenose Dr	481	Rain Event
July 8, 2025	Bluenose Drive	176 Bluenose Dr	19,182	Rain Event
July 8, 2025	Rous Brook	344 Pelham St	350	Rain Event
July 8, 2025	Brook Street	3 Brook St	7,289	Rain Event

**Strategic Plan Relevance**

Strategic Planning Goal #3. A. (a.) of the Town's Strategic Plan is to "Champion opportunities for our community's health and well-being by ... Protecting our natural environment ... Continue to provide solid waste management, sewage treatment and high-quality water to all of our residents".

**Financial**

Funds are included in the Wastewater Treatment Plant operating budget to pay for these effluent quality tests.