



**HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF LUNENBURG**

August 27, 2025 | 6 pm

Lunenburg Town Hall - Council Chamber

Present	Councillor Alison Strachan Councillor Renea Babineau (Chair) Faune Creaser, Citizen Representative Nathalie Irving, Lunenburg Heritage Society Representative Oliver Osmond, Lunenburg Heritage Society Representative Philip Mitchell, Citizen Representative
Also present	Laura LeGresley, Heritage Officer Marc Kiely, Director of Community Development Colin Mann, Applicant
Absent	N/A
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 the agenda	Moved and seconded that the Committee approve the agenda for the August 27, 2025 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously
Approval of Minutes	Moved and seconded that the Committee approve the minutes of the January 20, 2025, meeting. Motion carried unanimously
New Business; Central United Church Cupola Removal and Roof Repairs	Staff provided an analysis of the proposal's compliance with the Heritage Conservation District (HCD) Plan and Bylaw along with a recommendation to accept the exemption from the Bylaw, noting the importance of preserving the integrity of the overall structure due to deteriorating cupola and available funding. Applicant for Central United Church (Colin Mann) provided history and details around removal of cupola. Noted that regular check ins (as noted in staff report) may not be practical or feasible and suggested less frequent reports to Town.

Committee Discussion highlights include:

- The committee emphasized that the overall protection of the building is the top priority, including the preservation of significant interior features such as the organ.
- Members discussed the importance of establishing a clear framework for periodic reporting from Central United Church to ensure transparency, accountability, and demonstrate commitment to the agreed-upon rebuilding intent.
- It was noted that similar requests may become more frequent in the future due to declining congregation sizes, making it increasingly important to prioritize the preservation of historic churches within Old Town Lunenburg.
- The committee stressed the value of comprehensive documentation, particularly given the high level of craftsmanship evident in the original construction of these heritage structures.

Moved and seconded to recommend that Council accept the recommendation from staff to approve an exemption from the Heritage Conservation District Bylaw for the removal of the deteriorated cupola at Central United Church (136 Cumberland), with the understanding that the integrity of the overall structure is to be preserved, that the cupola will be rebuilt when funding becomes available, and that detailed documentation of the existing cupola be completed upon its removal.

Motion carried unanimously

Moved and seconded to recommend that Council direct staff to create an agreement with central united Church that provides for updates as the work moves forward and that council commit to supporting the grant application for the organization once it is made.

Motion carried unanimously

New Business;
Verbal Update
HSMBC Review

Staff provided an update that the HSMBC application to review designation of Old Town Lunenburg National Historic Site has been accepted and was further endorsed by Council at the August 19th meeting.

- Roundtable Committee Discussion highlights include:
- Potential idea of staff sharing updates of permit applications
 - Lunenburg Heritage Society (LHS) hosting Heritage House Tour Sept.13
 - Knaut-Rhuland House continues renovations, hopefully applying for National Cost Sharing Program
 - LHS Folk Art Festival was a great success
 - South Shore Genealogical Society raises issues around cemetery maintenance
- Next meeting The next meeting date was not set.
- Adjournment There being no further business, the August 27, 2025 Committee meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

DRAFT