



Town of Stewiacke
BYLAW AND POLICY
COMMITTEE MEETING – AGENDA
May 16, 2024 @ 6:30
Via In Person

- 1. Agenda/Call to order –**
 - 1.1. Welcome/Regrets
 - 1.2. Approval/Additions to Agenda

- 2. Minutes of the Last Meeting**
 - 2.1. April 2024

- 3. Update of amendments in progress**
 - 3.1 – Land acknowledgement update
 - 3.2 - Citizen Committee Appointments policy amendments (in progress)
 - 3.3 – Recreation Committee Policy ToR Citizen Appointment - staff request (Erin)
 - 3.4 -
 - 3.5 – Infrastructure Charges – Kevin – verbal update
 - 3.6- Dog Bylaw – expand on fees and penalties – defer until DOJ approves

- 4. New Business**
 - 4.1 – Land acknowledgement
 - 4.2 – Committee Appointment Policy
 - 4.3 – Summer Day Camp Policy amendment.
 - 4.4 –
 - 4.5 -
 - 4.6 -

- 4 Next meeting – June 20, 2024**

- 6. Discussion / Sundry / Citizen Comments**

- 7. Adjournment**

Policy: Citizen Committee Appointment Process Policy

Date Originally Approved:

Motion: *“That the ~~Citizen~~ Committee Appointment Process Policy 2017 – 42 be approved as presented; and*

Further that the Policy be effective immediately.”

This Policy is current as of: October 26, 2017

Annotation for Official Policy Book

Date of Notice to Council Members of Intent to consider: October 19, 2017

Date of Passage of Current Policy: October 26, 2017

I certify that this was adopted by Council as indicated above.

CAO / Clerk

Date

Policy: Stewiacke Summer Day Policy

Motion: *“That the Summer Day Camp Policy 2024-01 be approved as presented; And
Further that the Policy be effective immediately.”*

Date Originally Approved: *April 25th, 2024*

Proposed amendment presented:

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Date presented for Councils approval:

Motion: *“That the Summer Day Camp Policy e approved as amended; and
Further that the Policy be effective immediately.”*

This Policy is current as of:

Council. This manual will be shareable.

10. The Town of Stewiacke is implementing a Discipline Process for staff and parents to follow, detailed in the Summer Day Camp & Childcare Services Handbook.
 11. Parents/Guardians of participants ~~campers~~ will be required to review and sign the Day Camp & Childcare Services Handbook before their child is enrolled into programming.
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Bylaw and Policy Committee – Background information – Land Acknowledgement

April 2024-

Current Land acknowledgement -

Before we begin our meeting, we would like to acknowledge that Stewiacke is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

In 2023, 2 Councillors brought to Council's attention the land acknowledgement being used by Colchester East Hants Library at their meetings. It was more elaborate than the current one being used by Council. The Bylaw and Policy Committee now reviewing the phrase and will make a recommendation to Council. . Some discussion in March 2024 centered on the use of the word unceded.

Susan contacted Jason Haughn our Municipal advisor. – Acknowledgement is a start, but reconciliation is more than just a statement or wording. Getting stuck on the wording may be a “red herring”. He suggested we check with an elder for advice. For some history and context he did note land never was ceded and including African Nova Scotians and Acadians a choice by each municipality.

Susan contacted L'nu Affairs and spoke with Nik Phillips. The Province of NS been trying to do some clean up and education around land acknowledgement. Land acknowledgement is not part of the truth and reconciliation process. There is not a standard phrase or wording. The phrase the library board chose combines land acknowledgement and people acknowledgement which are 2 distinct things and should not be in same sentence. If we are committed to reconciliation then we need to consider – Why are we doing this what is our intention; what does it mean? What is meaning of the document and its purpose. In Mi'kma'ki the treaty was about peace and friendship and not land surrender. It is not correct or incorrect to say unceded. Say something simple, genuine and be committed to reconciliation. He referenced “Stewiacke” being bending in river and this is more about land and rivers being here much longer than people. Education is available. He is sending some education pieces. **Several copies of booklet “We are all Treaty People” received for distribution to Council and Committee members.**

Input from a Stewiacke resident who has personal knowledge. No response.

May 2024 - Input from Elder Joe Michael – Joe Michael advised the phrase we are using is the correct one. He had nothing else he wanted to add.

Examples of current wordings:

Town of Shelburne - The Town of Shelburne is located on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq, (Mi'kma'ki), in the District of Kespukwitk, home to Acadia First Nation. We are all Treaty people. We also acknowledge the histories, contributions, and legacies of the African Nova Scotian people and communities.

Colchester East Hants Public Library –

“We (I) would like to begin by acknowledging that the land in which we gather is Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq. We extend our respect and gratitude to the Mi'kmaq and their ancestors who have stewarded this land throughout generations.

Quite separate from the land acknowledgement, we honour the contributions of African Nova Scotians whose ancestors established over fifty historic communities and hold a distinct place in the history of our province.

We are committed to amplifying Indigenous and African Nova Scotian voices and fostering knowledge of their respective histories, cultures, and traditions

**From L'Nu Affairs -
sample Acknowledgments:**

I acknowledge we are in Mi'kma'ki, (Meeg-mah-gee) the territory of the Mi'kmaq. As a Treaty person, I am committed to reconciliation.

We are in the traditional, ancestral lands of the Mi'kmaq, known as Mi'kma'ki (Mee-gmah-gi).

Town of Truro - called the meeting to order and began with a Land Acknowledgement recognizing that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq People.

Municipality of County of Colchester - In peace and in friendship, and in the spirit of truth and reconciliation, it was acknowledged that the Municipality of Colchester is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq.

Municipality of East Hants - LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT Warden Roulston respectfully acknowledged that East Hants is in Mi'kma'ki and the District of Sipekne'katik, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. East Hants further acknowledges the 50 African Nova Scotian communities whose 400-year history have contributed to the provinces culture, history and legacies. We are all Treaty people.