

COUNCIL COMMITTEE – PRESENTATION MEETING

The Council Committee/Presentations Meeting of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was conducted virtually via Zoom Webinars and in person, on Monday, November 3, 2025.

In peace and 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.

Roll Call

Mayor Christine Blair	
Councillor Paul Weatherby	District 1
Deputy Mayor Laurie Sandeson, Chair	District 2
Councillor Sheldon Richardson	District 3 <i>regrets</i>
Councillor Mike Cooper	District 4
Councillor Tim Johnson	District 5
Councillor Nigel Leggett	District 6 <i>regrets</i>
Councillor Sherry Martell	District 7 <i>(arrived late @ 6:20pm)</i>
Councillor Lisa Patton	District 8
Councillor Marie Benoit	District 9
Councillor Charlene Fletcher	District 10
Councillor Allan Kennedy	District 11

Others Present

Dan Troke, CAO
Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary
Tim Smith, Manager of Computer and Information Systems

United Way Colchester & Cumberland Counties – *Building stronger communities, together* - Sue LaPierre and Shelly DeViller

Councillor Martell arrived during the presentation, at 6:20pm.

Ms. DeViller began the presentation providing background information on the United Way Colchester & Cumberland and what they do; identified five priority areas of impact essential to helping individuals and communities; social determinants of health; and statistical information for Colchester. Ms. LaPierre presented on housing and homelessness which included details on the Affordable Housing Division of United Way Maritimes, partnerships; key considerations for success; and various affordable housing projects including the Sackville Tiny Homes Community, the Groves at Hillsdale and Summerside Community. The presentation also highlighted a success story of a recipient currently living in the Sackville Tiny Homes Community.

Points of discussion included:

- length of time individuals are permitted to stay;
- sizes of existing tiny homes and what seems to be working best;
- community and individual gardens;
- location requirements;
- problems with drug addictions, how it affects the tiny home communities and how it is handled;
- and what is needed to start a tiny home community in Colchester.

Responding to a question regarding the actual size of the tiny homes, the presenters advised they would forward the information along via email.

Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Kennedy

“That the presentation from United Way be received”. Carried unanimously.

**Truro Homeless Outreach Society – *Working Together for Our Community* –
Stephanie Watson**

Ms. Watson began with a brief introduction of herself and the Truro Homeless Outreach Society (THOS). The presentation included the different supports provided such as emergency shelter, housing support, outreach, and diversion; THOS core values; facts and statistics of homelessness; substance use and harm reduction; possible solutions for improvement such as funding support for lived experience counsel, creation of programs for social determinants of health and continued education and alignment of policy with the National Housing Strategy; and the systemic issue of criminality associated homelessness.

Discussion following the presentation included the tremendous amount of work of THOS; the need for more staff and more programming; safety risks of both housed and unhoused; homelessness being a national issue require support from all levels of government; criminality around homelessness; concerns and protection of residents; Haven House, located in Onslow and what it offers; and addictions and programming.

Moved by Councillor Patton, seconded by Councillor Benoit

“That the presentation from United Way be received”. Carried unanimously.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councillor Cooper, the meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

“The meeting adjourn at 6:35 pm.”

Tracey
Recording Secretary