



Rural Municipality of Belfast (RMB)

Mayor: Garth Gillis; Chief Administrative Officer: Bob Brooks; *Incorporated 1972*

AMALGAMATION SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING - AGENDA

Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at 7:00 PM

RMB Office, Wood Islands Market

- Sub-Committee: (Chair) *To be determined*
 Councillor Katherine Bryson (voting)
 Councillor Billy Gamble (voting)
 Mayor Garth Gillis - Ex-officio (voting)
- Administration: CAO Bob Brooks (non-voting)

This meeting is open to the public.

Item Order of Business

1. **Call to Order** – The Amalgamation Sub-Committee Meeting to be called to by Mayor Gillis at 7:00 PM. (*Mayor Gillis will act as Chair until Sub-Committee Members select a Chair*)
2. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest** – Do any members of the Sub-Committee have a conflict of interest with any items on today’s Agenda?
3. **Approval of Agenda** – Any other suggested Agenda Items for today’s meeting?
 - a. ??? _____
 - b. ??? _____
 - c. ??? _____
 - d. ??? _____

Moved by _____ **and seconded by** _____
 to adopt the agenda as presented/amended.
 Votes for: _____ Votes against: _____ Result: _____

4. **Selection of the Chairperson for the Amalgamation Sub-Committee (ASC)**
Nominations from the floor _____
Acceptance of the Nomination (Yes/No)
Any other Nominations from the floor _____

Moved by _____ **and seconded by** _____ **to**
appoint _____ **as Chair of the ASC.**
 Votes for: _____ Votes against: _____ Result: _____
5. **Approval of the ASC Terms of Reference** – A standard sub-committee terms of reference has been drafted to direct the purpose, direction, and operations for the ASC (*attached*). For discussion and approval/amendment.
 Discussion _____

Moved by _____ and seconded by _____
to adopt the ASC Terms of Reference as presented/amended.
Votes for: ____ Votes against: ____ Result: _____

6. **Where we are now** (*presented by CAO Bob Brooks*).
- a. Oct 18, 2023 - Council authorized the **creation of an Amalgamation Sub-Committee** to look at possible/suitable areas for amalgamation into the current RMB municipal boundaries; identify areas not suitable; and to develop a proposal for RMB Council, then Government acceptance/approval.
 - b. **Map of RMB Boundaries** and surrounding areas that are un-incorporated.
 - c. **Map of current Provincial Electoral Boundaries.**
 - d. **FPEIM Position** - Following the most recent FPEIM meeting, where they discussed *their vision* for the municipalization of the Province; the CAO contacted John Dewey (Executive Director of FPEIM), who confirmed that the FPEIM position that was recently put forward, was NOT based on an official position, map or a policy – just an 'FPEIM' working concept to be explored.
 - e. **Municipal Affairs and Lands Position** - the CAO contacted Municipal Affairs and Lands to see if there was an official Government of PEI position about the municipalization of the Province. It was confirmed:
 - i. For more than 40 years, the GPEI has had an interest in the municipalization of the Province,
 - ii. The Minister (Honourable Rob Lantz – Minister of Housing, Land and Communities) would like to see this happen sooner than later,
 - iii. The Minister has absolutely no interest in forcing municipalities to amalgamate into areas that those municipalities do not wish to amalgamate into, and
 - iv. The Minister, Municipal Affairs, and Lands is very enthused about receiving proposals from established Municipalities about amalgamation.
 - f. **Lands and Municipal Affairs in keen on RMB completion of the RMB Official Plan and Development Bylaw:**
 - i. Lands is investigating the confirmation that the completed RMB Official Plan and Development Bylaw can be set up to *only* take on the Development Approval Process, once signed off by the Minister; and/or
 - ii. That RMB may provide *only* an Official Plan for the Provinces Land Administration. (to be determined/negotiated).
7. **To Be Determined** (*for discussion/determination, presented by the Chair*).
- a. **Suitable 'Rural' communities/areas** that surround RMB borders that RMB might be interested in for amalgamation:
 - i. What type of infrastructure do they have in place? Owned by the Community? Owned by a Community Group/Not-For-Profit Group?
 - ii. What Fire-Map region do they already belong to?
 - iii. What would their tax-rate change be, with an amalgamation with RMB?
 - b. **Can/Will these Amalgamations take place to affect the 2026 Municipal Election?**
 - c. **Are there other sources of funding** to help get the new RMB municipal infrastructure get set up before the Amalgamations take place?
 - d. **What will be the financial and human resource impact to RMB** with the Amalgamations?

- e. **Which communities/areas are NOT Suitable** for Amalgamation into the RMB current boundaries?
- f. **Proposal to Council** and ultimately to the Government of PEI for consideration.
- g. **Other?** _____
- h. **Other?** _____
- i. **Other?** _____

8. **Next Steps** (*for discussion/determination, presented by the Chair*).

- a. ??? _____
- b. ??? _____
- c. ??? _____
- d. ??? _____
- e. ??? _____
- f. ??? _____
- g. ??? _____
- h. ??? _____
- i. ??? _____
- j. ??? _____

9. **Next Meetings:**

- a. **Next ASC Meeting?** _____
- b. **Regular Meeting of Council** - scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Hall at Wood Islands Market.

10. **Adjournment** – As there is no further business...

Moved by _____ **to adjourn the meeting at:** _____

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