



CITY OF BATHURST
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES

Monday, June 9, 2025
6:30 pm
Council Chambers - City Hall

Recording of Attendance

Mayor K. Chamberlain
Councillor P. Anderson
Councillor D. Branch
Councillor S. Brunet
Councillor R. Hondas
Deputy Mayor D. Knowles
Councillor J.-F. LeBlanc
Councillor S. Legacy
Councillor M. Skerry
Councillor M. Willett

Appointed Officials

T. Pettigrew, CAO
A. Parker, City Clerk
M. Abernethy, City Engineer
J.-S. Chiasson, Communications Officer
L. Foulem, Corporate Communications Manager
S. Gauvin, Treasurer
M. A. LaPlante, Assistant City Manager
C. Legacy, Director of Economic Development
D. McLaughlin, Development Officer
S. Morton, Director of Human Resources
C. Roy, Executive Administrator

1. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

2. PUBLIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

2.1 Read NB by Richard Singer

Mr. Richard Singer, a trained tutor with Read NB, addressed Council to share the organization's mission and programs. Read NB is a non-profit charitable organization that provides free, confidential, one-on-one tutoring to adults in New Brunswick who struggle with reading, writing, and math. With 53% of adults in the province functionally illiterate, their goal is to empower individuals and build stronger communities through improved literacy—one adult, one goal at a time.

Tutors work closely with learners using materials that reflect their interests, literacy levels, and daily lives. Services are delivered through regional councils and include in-person and online programs. Read NB is currently seeking both volunteer tutors and adult learners in need of support.

The organization is guided by values such as the right to education, contextual learning, quality and trust in service, and collaborative partnerships, all aimed at improving lives and promoting literacy as a basic social value.

3. GRANT REQUESTS

3.1 Grant Committee Recommendations

The Jeux de l'Acadie will take place in Dieppe from June 25 to 30, 2025. The organizing committee is seeking financial support to help ensure the success of this major event, which celebrates Francophone and Acadian heritage. It is customary for most municipalities to contribute a \$1,000 donation to support the host city in delivering the event.

The Chaleur ATV Club is calling on its members and sponsors following an act of arson that destroyed the Currie shelter on the night of March 17. Determined to rebuild it on the same site and with the same dimensions, the Club is seeking support from the community through donations.

The Grant Committee has reviewed the donation requests and recommends the following:

- Jeux de l'Acadie \$1,000
- ATV Club \$500

Councillor Anderson has asked multiple times where the funds went when the Jeux de l'Acadie were canceled during COVID. For that reason, she will not be supporting the donation request.

During the Regular Public Meeting of May 5, 2025, the ATV Club proposed taking over the walking trail, stating that they were aware of the maintenance costs and that the City of Bathurst would not need to contribute financially, as the Club had sufficient funds to cover these expenses. For that reason, Councillors Anderson, Branch, and Hondas will not be supporting the donation request, as the Club should also have the funds to rebuild the shelter.

4. POLICIES

4.1 Community Support Policy

Council is asked to approve the City of Bathurst's revised Community Support Policy, which outlines a clear, equitable, and transparent process for allocating municipal funds through grants, donations, and sponsorships. The policy aims to improve transparency, accountability, and alignment with the City's strategic priorities such as cultural development, tourism, youth engagement, and community well-being.

The update was based on a review of best practices in other municipalities and includes distinct funding categories with clear application and evaluation guidelines. It will streamline administrative processes, reduce staff workload, and ensure requests are processed more efficiently. Staff will also have the authority to enforce deadlines and reject incomplete applications, ensuring fairness.

After reviewing the proposed policy, Council has requested several amendments which included the following:

All grant applications must include a presentation to Council during budget season, allowing them to be reviewed and considered for inclusion in the following year's budget. Donations and sponsorships will be reviewed by the designated committee, which will then submit its recommendations to Council. A firm deadline will be set for all requests, with three proposed submission dates. Once the allocated budgeted funds are exhausted, no additional funding will be provided.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7p.m.

Amy-Lynn Parker, CITY CLERK