



Beautiful



Torbay

2022

YEAR IN REVIEW



Torbay

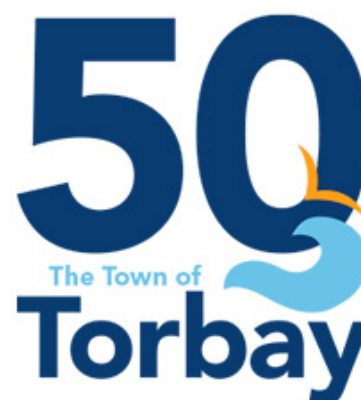


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Mayor's Greetings

Greetings and congratulations Torbay for making 2022 a year to remember. This was an important year for our town, both for what we accomplished as well as the direction we will take during this term of Council.

First and foremost, thank you everyone for your hard work and enthusiasm this year: from Council and staff, to our volunteers and residents who truly are the lifeblood of our community. The 50th Anniversary celebrations were a prime example of the voluntary spirit and pride of place that thrives here in Torbay. I'm proud to say that I attended each and every Torbay 50th event, and time-and-time again I was inspired by the enthusiasm and hospitality of our residents. I am also proud of our staff and their hard work, all of whom went above and beyond to make this summer successful.

Like all communities we have our issues and, on occasion, our disagreements. There are significant challenges ahead, but nothing that we can't handle if we commit to a culture of care, openness, and respect. As Mayor I'm here to listen and advocate for you, and I know we have a lot of work ahead of us. Water supply and wastewater treatment remains our top priority. Without sufficient water we cannot continue to grow as a town. This is true for all our infrastructure, from road maintenance and storm water management to trail development and the delivery of core services. All of this comes with a cost, and as a Council we must be mindful of how we spend our resident's money in this difficult economy. As we move into 2023 it is important we stay focused on resident priorities, operational efficiency, and fiscal sustainability.

It is also important that we not lose sight of what matters most: our collective wellbeing and quality of life. The global pandemic brought our attention to the importance of mental health and recent weather events like Hurricane Fiona are evidence of the danger of climate change. These are significant challenges that demand deliberate, collective action. Faced with these challenges, I know we have what it takes to rise to the occasion.

At every event I attended this year, I felt a renewed sense of community after three years of social distancing and pandemic restrictions. It was wonderful to see so many of our residents at our events. It was also inspiring to see what our volunteers and staff accomplished. I want to see this community spirit continue, and I look forward to working alongside all of you in 2023.

Sincerely,



Craig Scott
Mayor, Town of Torbay



Torbay Council 2022 Year in Review

Mary Thorne-Gosse
Deputy Mayor



Congratulations and thank you Torbay for an amazing 2022. I am so proud of our beautiful town and the incredible expression of community spirit I saw and felt during our Torbay 50th celebrations.

As a member of Council, I am committed to making Torbay an age friendly, all-inclusive community to live, work, play, raise a family, and retire. We took a big step with the opening of our new Torbay Common and History House. These two new facilities are the culmination of many years of hard work and will support new programming and activities for residents of all ages.

While we have much to celebrate, we also have challenges ahead of us. Improving water quality and supply, mitigating climate change, and fighting excessive speeding are all issues that Council must address. We also need to build regional partnerships, invest in infrastructure improvements, and improve service delivery to all our residents. To do this, we must continue to listen “openly” to all perspectives and concerns with the goal of building a better, more inclusive community.

This year’s Torbay 50th celebrations demonstrated the passion and generosity that runs strong in our community. I thank the Torbay 50th committee, our volunteers, and our staff for their hard work. It was an amazing summer and I hope the first of many more to come.

Trina Appleby
Councillor



Thank you to the people of Torbay for the opportunity to represent your voice at our council table. I am looking forward to continuing working with you to make Torbay a better community for everyone.

Ward Gosse
Councillor



Thank you everyone for an exceptional year. A lot was accomplished and thank you to our residents, volunteers, and staff for your hard work and contributions. After so many years apart it was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm and community spirit.

Rhonda Manning
Councillor



It's been just over a year since I was elected to Council and I'm happy to say that I'm delighted by everything we've been able to achieve. This year we opened two new town facilities and we recieved incredible feedback from residents who are enjoying the programs and events they offer. We also made important progress improving our town's infrastructure and the delivery of services to residents.

I was born and raised in Torbay, and it was wonderful to see the outpouring of community pride at this year's Torbay 50th celebrations. It was wonderful to see so many people at so many of the events this summer. I thank everyone who helped and volunteered.

As our community continues to grow, we need to meet the needs of all residents. From our ongoing water issues to the need for improved pedestrian safety, there are several resident concerns that demand action. I hear you and I will continue to work for you to build infrastructure and improve services. I love Torbay, and I am so proud to say it is my hometown.

Congradulations Torbay and thank you everyone for all that you do to make this the best community it can be.

Tony Pollard
Councillor



As we move into the New Year and reflect on the current year, my mind goes to the Torbay 50th celebrations and all the cultural and community comradery associated with the events that attracted many thousands of people. We must give thanks and praise for the tremendous support of all our selfless volunteers and staff without whom we would not have had the opportunity to experience the true celebratory effect of our efforts.

On a broader scale, Council has seen the wind up of some of our larger initiatives and a renewed focus on the basic services that a town needs to provide. Torbay Common and History House were envisioned many Councils ago and it was during this past year that we understand how they fit into the culture and operation of our Town. We completed our first foray into a widened mobility focus as we completed sidewalk infrastructure on the main thoroughfare through the town and have paved the way for future connectivity once the correct opportunity arises while still maintaining capacity to enhance and expand our well-loved and used trail system.

We have installed water meters as a first renewed infrastructure focus on a precious water resource and have followed that with investment towards Water Treatment as well as an expanded capacity to ensure a safe water supply into the future and to allow for future growth, necessary to contribute to the town's wellbeing.

The Town has also recognized the need to address climate change and have committed funds to continue with our flood risk mitigation projects and will incorporate necessary climate factors into our future infrastructure projects.

We also continue to review solutions available to deal with wastewater, an issue which is one of the two major longer-term initiatives currently on the radar of Council.

As we move into the new year, I want to wish everyone all the best in 2023.



Ralph Tapper
Councillor



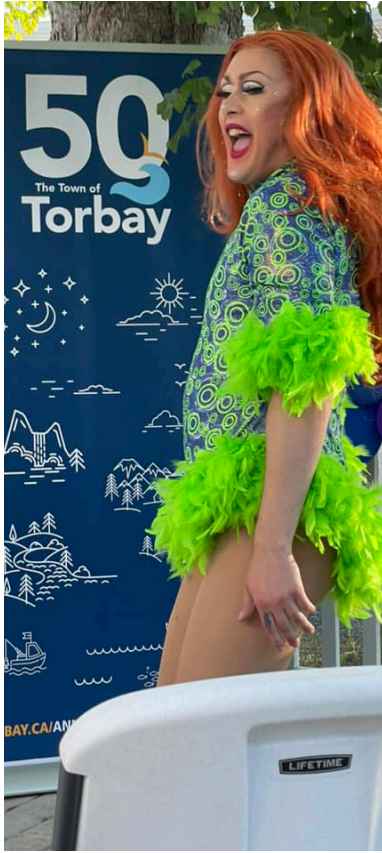
Happy 2023 everyone. It was a pleasure for me to work with our Council in 2022, especially as it was the 50th anniversary of our town’s incorporation. At the same time, it was also our province’s Come Home Year Celebrations. It was great to see so many of our residents attend many of our events throughout the year, especially our sold-out dinner theatre presentation and special Christmas dinner for seniors. There were many other well attended events for all ages. Getting back to socializing after so many restrictions were in place, at least gave us a sense of freedom again.

Our Torbay Common had a great year as did our new History House and Museum which opened July 2nd.

I am looking forward to 2023 and continuing to work on our biggest challenge, getting more serviced water. If Torbay is to grow like other communities in the Northeast Avalon area, we must make progress on this issue.

Thank you for your continued support.





Chief Administrative Officer's Report

Municipal Operations in Review

Dawn Chaplin

Chief Administrative Officer

According to Vince Lombardi, "The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual". This quote is a true reflection of Torbay in 2022.

Torbay 50th Celebrations

2022 saw the Town of Torbay celebrate its 50th year of incorporation. A volunteer committee led by resident Barry Codner, organized 50 events for our residents. There was something for everyone – the young and young at heart.

We celebrated our history and heritage with the opening of Torbay History House and Museum, the dedication of Fiddlers Tom Jennings and Tom Gosse Stage at Torbay Beach, recognized our sporting history with the 1934-2022 Reunion, Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, and the annual Pat Dawe Tournament.



Civic pride was evident with more than 100 residents attending every event. Thank you to everyone who was involved and participated. This legacy will serve us well as we plan community programs and events into 2023 and beyond.

2022 also saw the Town recognize those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, so that we live in freedom today. Funding support from Veterans Affairs Canada and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency enabled the Town to upgrade the War Memorial Site on Torbay Road. Paving stones, etched with the names of Torbay residents who served provides a legacy to our Veterans and their families.

Our Municipal Infrastructure

Quality of life makes a town a community. However, we must strive to find the balance. The balance to maintain and upgrade our infrastructure. 2022, saw the approval of funding to commence planning for water quality improvements at the North Pond Municipal Water Supply. Phase one of sidewalk installation along Torbay Road was completed, in addition to local road improvements.

As part of the Canada Community Building Fund, all municipalities in the country are required to complete an asset management plan. The value of asset management is that it provides a financial model, which enables a municipality to upgrade and replace its infrastructure, based on a level of service to residents and thereby ensuring our sustainability. Torbay took the second step in its asset management journey in 2022, by hiring a Capital Asset Mapping Technologist. Once the location of all our assets are mapped, we can complete a condition assessment, determining useful life remaining and commence the planning for their upgrade and eventual replacement. This will provide a long-term financial model, confirming what resources are required to maintain a level of service to residents.

While much has been accomplished, much work remains. Highlights for 2023 will see the installation of a multi-purpose court at Pine Ridge Open Space, upgrades to the Upper Three Corner Pond Park in preparation for the Killick Coast Regional Games in August, and continuous expansion of our trail network.

We will be developing a three-year framework for the updating of the Town's Municipal Plan and Development Regulations, including extensive public engagement in 2023. We want to hear from you! Have a say in the future of your community. Your Plan is Our Plan.

Support continues to the Torbay Fire Department, members who provide the vital role of fire and life safety to the residents of Torbay and Flatrock every day. A lighting system will be installed in front of Torbay station, ensuring the safety of all firefighters as they move into emergency response.

The Town anxiously awaits the response of funding applications for Phase Two of Water Treatment for North Pond, a wastewater study which will explore options to ensure the Town is compliant with Federal Wastewater Regulations, the potential of an exciting partnership with the Irish Government and Memorial University regarding the digitization of immigration records as part of the Mannion Project. 2023 will also confirm the feasibility of Great Pond as a second municipal water supply.

This year in review report profiles the "tip of the iceberg" regarding the exciting work undertaken by staff for residents. I encourage all residents to visit our website, attend a public Council meeting and stop by the Town Hall, Torbay Common Community Centre, Municipal Depot or Torbay History House and Museum, to speak to members of the staff team or myself, to learn more about what is happening in your beautiful community.

Council sets the vision; staff implements the directive. 2023 will see Council unveil its strategic priorities for the remainder of their term. Thank you, Mayor Scott, Deputy Mayor Thorne-Gosse, and Councillors Trina Appleby, Ward Gosse, Rhonda Manning, Tony Pollard and Ralph Tapper for your vision.

As Woodrow Wilson has said, "There is no higher religion than human service. To work for the common good is the greatest creed". Town staff are committed and dedicated to serving residents every day. It is a true honour and privilege to work alongside the entire staff team as we strive to make Torbay the best place to live, work, and play.

Dawn Chaplin
Chief Administrative Officer



Who We Are & What We Do

Departmental Operations at a Glance

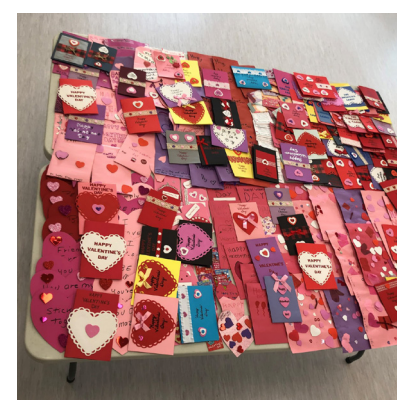
Building infrastructure and delivering services for our residents is what we do. From roads and sewers to special events and summer camp for kids, every municipal department plays a vital role in making Torbay a great place to live, work, and play.

Administration & Human Resources

The Town of Torbay currently employs a total of 58 staff across the entire organization. In 2022, there was significant growth within Recreation & Community Services as program and event offerings returned to pre-pandemic levels.

The recent global pandemic taught us the importance of mental health and wellbeing, and for our Director of Human Resources, Mark Whalen, employee engagement, health, and wellness have become important priorities. This encompasses everything from enacting stronger work life balance initiatives to promoting healthier lifestyles in and outside work, to providing employees with the necessary training and expertise they need to make sound decisions both at home and at work.

Empowering employees to acquire new skills and grow within the organization is key to ensuring we continue to deliver high-quality services to residents. Professional development and training opportunities increase job satisfaction. They also foster a strong culture of employee engagement, professionalism, and diversity.





Corporate Services

Corporate Services is the lifeblood of our organization. Its director and five staff are responsible for the processing of taxation invoicing and collections, procurement and tendering, maintaining and updating assessment information, processing of accounts payable and payroll, debt management, front line service to the public, and completing the accounting and financial reporting requirements of the Town.

In 2022, the department was expanded to include a GIS Technician responsible for mapping all of the Town's assets including roads and underground water, storm, and wastewater networks. Asset mapping is the beginning of the Town's asset management program and is required to maintain eligibility for the Canada Community Building Fund (formerly the Gas Tax program).

Asset Management requires the Town to identify and cost all of the assets utilized to provide services to residents. Once identified and costed, maintenance and replacement policies will be developed to guide decisions as to when asset replacement is required and how on-going maintenance can be scheduled to prolong asset life cycles. Asset management also provides for long-term capital planning to asset with the future retirement of existing assets and their replacement without interruptions in services to residents and at the lowest cost possible.

Planning & Development

Torbay's Planning & Development department helps residents, businesses, and developers build our community. This work is

guided by Torbay's Municipal Plan, the master document that guides the community's vision for growth and sustainability. A full review of the Municipal Plan will begin in early 2023, and the community is invited to participate and share their vision for the Town and their property.

Of the community's development challenges, improving Torbay's water quality and supply is the most urgent. Adding Great Pond to the existing system is a solution to these challenges.

To date, the Planning & Development team has collaborated with engineering consultants and our Public Works & Infrastructure department to complete an environmental assessment and system concept designs for federal and provincial review. In 2023, two further engineering studies will be completed to help us reach our goal of a high-quality, sustainable water supply for Torbay.

We are also responsible for enforcing Torbay's development regulations and standards, and for development control and mapping. To be able to provide developers and builders with up to date information and associated mapping, the Town regularly updates its base map and aerial photography, which are used for asset management, taxation, assessments, zoning, and current land coverage and use.

Some of the community initiatives taken in 2022 included a builder's luncheon, World Town Planning Day celebrations, and completion of the approval process for the Fiddle Gosse and Jennings Stage at Torbay Beach. There were also several green initiatives led by the Planning & Development team. This included advocating for climate resilience and reduction of green-house gas emissions.

Economic Development & Tourism

Torbay's Economic Development and Tourism Department is responsible for attracting and retaining businesses and people to Torbay as well as promoting the Town as a primary tourist destination. The Department follows a collaborative community development model by playing a key role in creating a supportive and nurturing environment through which economic growth will occur and quality of life enhanced.

The department has one dedicated staff member and provides ongoing economic development and tourism updates through a Council appointed committee. One of its many initiatives is the Torbay Economic Development Strategic Roadmap which outlines a multi-year strategy for growth in our community. The department also offers economic development support to new business start-ups, to film and production companies, mobile vendors, and established businesses looking to expand their operations.

Tourism development, awareness, and marketing is the other major focus of the department. In 2022, our tourism marketing targeted the Ontario market. Ads were placed in *Canadian Lifestyle and Travel Magazine* and on highway billboards in the Greater Toronto Area. We also released a new Torbay Tourism Map and held a Tourism Opportunities Session for local experience providers and destinations.

In addition to being Torbay 50th and Come Home Year, 2022 was also Year of the Garden. Torbay's Garden Tourism initiative saw 2,500 tulips planted, over 1,000 seed packages distributed, and extensive online garden photograph sharing.



Infrastructure & Public Works

Our Infrastructure & Public Works team is the hardworking beating heart of municipal operations. They are responsible for all our town's vital infrastructure from road maintenance and snow clearing to storm water mitigation, trail development, and water and sewers.

Water supply and wastewater treatment continues to be a multi-year department priority. In 2022 we continued our flow meter installation at key sites in an effort to resolve water pressure issues. Future projects include the three-phase construction of a new water treatment facility at North Pond. This will be a \$7.4 million dollar project completed over several years.

Road work and maintenance projects are always ongoing, and this year our staff filled over 200 potholes and completed just over 30 patches. Culvert replacement is another important component of this ongoing work, and in 2022 we replaced ten with several more scheduled in 2023. The second phase of sidewalk construction between Indian Meal Line and North Pond Road was completed this summer. We also tendered several road work projects for 2023, including work on Roblin Place, Gosse's and Rodger's Crescent, Dunphy's Lane, Quarry Road Extension, Gallows Cove Road, Hiscock's Lane, and Bullocks Town Road.

Our team also manages trail development and the construction and maintenance of municipal assets. This year we completed the restoration of the 100-year-old History House and improvements to the Torbay War Memorial. Residents can expect similar projects in 2023 that will contribute to the beautification of our community and improvements to our quality of life.



Recreation & Community Services

The Town of Torbay offers a range of programs and services to its residents and visitors. Our goal is to provide a variety of quality programs and services aimed at enhancing residents' lifestyles. In 2022, Recreation and Community Services ran more than 60 individual special events and programs attended by over 9,000 participants. We also offered several programs in volleyball, frisbee, soccer, ball hockey, pickle ball, rock wall climbing, archery, yoga, dance, kick boxing, aerobics, and Zumba.

In March 2022, Torbay Common resumed full operations after several years of disruptions caused by the global pandemic. New initiatives at the Common included an outdoor ice rink and the construction of 25 new community garden beds. The children's summer camp was extremely popular with over 450 participants.

It was also a great year for our young athletes participating in the Killick Coast Games. We had 33 teams representing Torbay (the largest contingent from any town) with 160 individual participants. We are proud to report that Torbay won the Jack Byrne Cup for most accumulated points for the first time in 17 years. In 2023, Torbay will host the Killick Coast Games and we're looking forward to another amazing summer sports season.



Heritage, Culture & Information Services

This was a big year for heritage, history, arts and culture in Torbay. Not only did we celebrate Torbay 50th and Come Home Year 2022, we also opened our new Torbay History House & Museum and established the new department of Heritage, Culture & Information Services.

History House is more than a museum, it's Torbay's cultural hub. With only six months of operations under its belt, History House has already hosted more than 30 special events, 10 classes and workshops, and 32 class visits by the students at Holy Trinity Elementary School. There are more exciting events and programs planned for 2023 and three new permanent exhibits opening on July 2nd.

History House is also home to the Jacob Bradbury Archives & Genealogy Room. On August 26th the archives formally became the new home of the Mannion Collection. For more than forty years historical geographer Dr. John Mannion and his wife Maura documented the history of Irish immigration and settlement in Newfoundland, cataloguing the names of over 7500 Irish migrants. The product of this work is an incredible catalogue of over 160,000 index cards rich in historical, cultural, and genealogical detail. 86,000 of these cards are available to the public via a digital database first launched in 2017.



The
Mannion
Collection

Always Alert

Torbay Volunteer Fire Department 2022 Year End Report



Rodney Gaudet
Fire Chief



This was a year of transition and growth for the Torbay Volunteer Fire Department. After more than 47 years of service, Fire Chief and founding member of the TVFD Mike McGrath retired. So too did Deputy Chief Jerry Dunphy after more than 20 years of service. Both were vital in building the TVFD, and we thank them for their many years of dedication and service. We also inducted John Coady, Greg Power, Jim Auchinleck, Jerry Dunphy and of course, Chief Mike McGrath as our Honorary Members in recognition of their service to the department and our community.

We saw the return to our in person Annual Ball, after taking a two year hiatus due to COVID. This was a wonderful evening where many members were given years of service pins and medals and included two members receiving their 20 year Provincial and Federal medals – Jerry Dunphy and John Callahan.

In August, we were able to return back down to the head of the pond for the St. John's Regatta where we do our only fundraiser throughout the year. We have many people who come see our booth every year and take a chance on the wheel for a prize.



We put a lot of work into this event and love to see all the people and see the smiles on the young and old when they win.

The Torbay Volunteer Fire Department also has a lot of community involvement, above just responding to emergencies. This year we participated in many Torbay 50th celebrations, our own fire prevention week events, school walks and fundraisers, and we saw the return to our department tours for community groups such as Brownies, Cubs, Scouts, Beavers and Sparks.

This fall, we were able to acquire our brand new pumper – 2023 Freightliner 4 Door Pumper with 1000usg tank and a 1050 pump, to better serve the residents of our towns. We initially thought this was going to be an 18-24 month wait but we were lucky to come across a brand new build without a buyer. The department graciously appreciates the support the Town Council provides the department and enables us to perform at the best of our ability with top notch gear. This new truck will serve the residents of Torbay and Flatrock for many years to come.

As of December 14th, the TVFD has responded to 200 calls of service so far. This number is getting us back to our pre-covid numbers when we were responding to 262 in 2019. Of those 200 calls, 90 were for medical emergencies, 12 were for Road Traffic Accidents, 90 were for fire related events and 8 for other events such as water rescue, extra service calls or high angle rescue calls.

Call volume during the weekday-daytime were 67 calls, weekends saw 56 calls and weekdays- evening/overnight saw 77 calls. Our average response time is 9.0 minutes and our total person-time for emergency calls is 1580 hours. Our breakdown of calls per towns was 29 for Flatrock and 167 for Torbay (plus 4 calls for assistance for mutual aid outside our area).

The Torbay Volunteer Fire Department currently has 35 members and is actively recruiting 12 new members to bring up our overall membership, to better serve the area. We hope to have these 12 new recruits in the door by mid January and will start their extensive training then.

The department continues to try and improve in what we provide to our citizens and our technical teams have trained hard and have gained more members to be trained in rope rescue, cold water rescue and boat rescue. We train hard to prepare ourselves for any situation.

From a medical standpoint, our department is quite capable to manage many emergencies. We actively have 4 Advanced Care Paramedics on our department, to serve our residents. We also train all members in Advanced First Aid for Firefighters and yearly CPR training.

From a firefighting standpoint, we have 5 members with basic training, 6 with their NFPA Level 1 certification, and 24 with their

NFPA Level 2 certification.

Our stations have also received a bit of a facelift this past year, with some new garage doors for our Torbay Station and new signage/decals for the Flatrock Station and our Annex.

I am happy with the growth we continue to see in our department and look forward to continuing to advance our capabilities and our knowledge as we continue to face challenges moving forward. From a firefighting perspective we see electric vehicles and home charging stations as our next big thing that we will be focusing training on. Our technical teams will continue to push their capabilities and grow as a team. Our equipment is top notch and we will always respect what we have been given and ensure that we keep it in the best working condition. All the while, continuing to refresh and retrain on the basics and research new procedures, with the safety of our residents at the top of mind at all times.



Our House is Your House

A Home for Torbay Arts, Culture & Heritage



When the Town of Torbay purchased the former Priest's House in 2017, the vision was a community museum to rehouse the exhibits and collections on display in the basement of Town Hall. What it became is so much more.

Our house is your house. When museum planner Linda Norris was hired by the Town to develop a concept plan for the new museum in 2018, she proposed a community-centred, accessible space for changing exhibits, programs, and community use. Her proposed slogan was more than appropriate - it encapsulates the essence of who we are, what we do, and where we plan to go. It's time for museums to become vibrant and engaged cultural spaces

supporting creativity, growth, and cultural wellbeing. At History House, we seek to accomplish this through our active programs, exhibitions, and sharing collections in our historic property and throughout the community. We believe that an understanding of our cultures and living heritage, sparking new connections, can build a bright future for Torbay and the Northeast Avalon.



TORBAY
**HISTORY
HOUSE** AND
MUSEUM



JACOB BRADBURY
ARCHIVES AND
GENEALOGY
ROOM

sheritage
[SHARING + HERITAGE]

THE
GARDENS
AT HISTORY HOUSE

From Priest’s House to Community Museum

Built in 1918 as a residence for the clergy of Holy Trinity Parish, the Presbytery, or Priest’s House as it’s commonly known, was one of the grandest homes in Torbay. The two-story, 3200 sqft house included 3 bedrooms, each with its own private bathroom, spacious first and second floor foyers, a wood-paneled sitting room, office, and quarters for a live-in housekeeper. It also boasted six beautiful coal-burning fireplaces, two of which included intricate hand-carved mantles.

When the museum conversion began in 2019, the goal was to preserve and restore as much of the building’s historic character as possible. Exterior restorations included repairs to the roof and replacement of all the old windows. The veranda which had been converted into additional office space was also restored based on historic photographs. On the interior, mouldings were preserved and, in some instances, recreated, and the impressive grand staircase was repaired and transformed into an exhibition gallery. The most striking change was the repainting of the front door back to its original bright green colour.

On July 2, 2022, after nearly six years of planning and restoration, History House opened to the public during the Town of Torbay’s 50th Anniversary celebrations. The new facility includes three permanent exhibition galleries, an art gallery, community room, and an archives reading room. A gravel path guides visitors through the grounds which include a spacious deck and performance stage perfect for musical performances and live entertainment.





The Changing Role of Community Museums

Community museums are often thought of and used as storehouses of antiques and family keepsakes. These museums are magical places filled with treasures and curiosities lovingly curated by passionate volunteers. There is no doubt that they do important work in their communities, but small museums jam-packed full of stuff leave little room for programming and community use.

The need for social connection and creative expression has never been greater, and museums have a role to play. It's simple: museums need to change. It's time to focus less on things and more on people and communities. It's time for museums to become vibrant and engaged cultural hubs supporting creativity, lifelong learning, and cultural wellbeing. We need to give people a reason to visit and, more importantly, a reason to keep coming back. This is why we have art and music classes, summer concerts, afternoon picnics in the gardens, tea parties, and regular school visits for our friends at Holy Trinity Elementary and Juniper Ridge.



Go Green Torbay

Answering the Challenges of the Global Climate Crisis



Julia Schwarz

Director of Planning & Development

Torbay is making great strides on a number of green initiatives, from advocating for building climate resilience to committing to green-house gas reduction targets, improving food security for the whole community, and solidifying conservation efforts for Torbay's wetlands and rivers.



Students from Holy Trinity High, as well as a representative from Birds Canada hiking to Western Island Pond to install nest boxes for tree swallows. Photo courtesy of Heidi Kavenagh.

Torbay Environment Advisory Committee

The four-member volunteer Advisory Committee meets quarterly to provide Council and staff with a review on applications that require commentary with an environmental lens in mind. The Committee also offers advice and makes recommendations on specific questions that arise, and in general, promotes the environmental agenda within the Town. The Committee liaises with the Planning & Development Committee and Department. Thank you to these four professionals who offer and volunteer their expertise to the Town!

Solar Panels: Partner for Climate Protection & Resilience

The Town is a partner for Climate Protection (PCP), a free program managed and delivered by the Federation for Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and ICLEI Canada (Local Governments for Sustainability) that helps more than 350 municipalities across the country (approx.. 15 in NL) take action against climate change.

The PCP program consists of a 5 Milestone Framework that guides municipalities through the steps required to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. As part of this program, the Town installed 36 solar panels on Town Hall that supply approximately 8% of the facility's energy needs.

The Town is in process of including a live feed to the Town's website so energy production and usage from the solar panels can be viewed live on our website.

Habitat Conservation

In 2022, the Town of Torbay in partnership with the Stewardship Association of Municipalities (SAM) and the Grand Concourse Authority installed one new interpretive sign at Western Island Pond management unit.

On December 7, 2022, Holy Trinity High School's Science & Environment Club and SAM gathered at Western Island Pond to install new nest boxes for tree swallows and to unveil the Town's newest interpretive sign about conservation management in the area. They were joined by representatives from Birds Canada, the Torbay Environment Advisory Committee and the Torbay Environment & Trails Committee. Great work!!

Tree Planting

In June of 2022, Town staff collaborated with residents, community volunteers, the Stewardship Association of Municipalities, Ducks Unlimited and Nature Conservancy on the planting of approx. 25 coniferous and deciduous trees in and around the Gully's Wetland, to assist with the rehabilitation of the wetland's buffer and to stabilize the sloped hillside of the Nature Conservancy property.



Financial Update

The 2022 Fiscal Year at a Glance

Norm Snelgrove
Director of Corporate Services

Taxation

The majority of the Town’s revenues are generated through municipal taxation. Assessment information is compiled by the Municipal Assessment Agency and provided to the Town. The Town’s assessment base has shown some volatility over the last five years with both increases and decreases reported over time. The total assessed values for 2023 are \$ 1,046,391,300 which is below the high of \$ 1,077,952,900 that was reported in 2020.

Over this period, the Town has experienced a growth in both residential and commercial construction. However, growth in the number of properties has been offset by an overall decline in the per unit assessed values of residential properties. This has resulted in a substantially flat taxation base. Tax revenues over this four-year period were cyclical but consistent.

Even with little growth in assessed values, the Town has continued to deliver services, pay down outstanding debt and complete capital projects.



Figure 1
Annual taxation revenues, 2019-2023
in relation to assessed residential and
commercial property values.

	Taxation Revenues	Total Assessed Property Values	Assessed Residential Property Values	Assessed Commercial Property Values
2019	\$7,630,000	\$1,041,052,800	\$1,015,999,000	\$25,053,800
2020	\$7,629,200	\$1,077,952,900	\$1,052,926,500	\$25,026,400
2021	\$7,370,400	\$1,033,410,700	\$1,009,456,600	\$23,954,100
2022	\$7,530,200	\$998,182,200	\$974,009,100	\$24,173,100
2023	\$8,401,600	\$1,046,391,300	\$1,021,655,500	\$24,735,800

Debt Financing and Cost Shared Funding

Large municipal infrastructure projects require funding through loans with financial institutions. The ability to borrow funds is crucial to the operations of a municipality. By utilizing long-term borrowing which matches the debt payments to the life of an asset, the municipality can spread the cost of a long-term asset over the life of the asset thereby minimizing the impact of the cost of construction or purchase of the asset on any single budget year.

The use of debt financing also permits the municipality to leverage cost shared funding that is available from both the federal and provincial governments. Cost shared funding for capital projects can range between 50% to 70% of the total cost of the project depending and the funding category into which the project falls.

The Town’s ability to successfully work with both levels of government ensures that the infrastructure requirements of the municipality continue to be addressed in a timely and efficient manner.

During 2021 and 2022 debt financing was utilized to offset the municipality’s cost of the cost shared projects which resulted in the approval of cost shared funding from both levels of government. Additional applications have been submitted for 2023 to ensure the necessary upgrades to municipal infrastructure continue.



Figure 2
Annual large capital project costs (2021-2024) in relation to government funding and debt financing.

	Project Cost	Government Funding	Debt Financing
2021			
Torbay Road Sidewalks	\$1,252,029	\$834,686	\$417,343
Water System Upgrades	\$1,508,230	\$1,055,761	\$452,469
2022			
Storm Water Mitigation	\$1,299,290	\$909,503	\$389,787
Torbay Common Generator	\$362,256	\$181,128	\$181,128
Torbay Roads and Streets	\$1,643,380	\$821,690	\$821,690
Budgeted for 2023			
North Pond Water Treatment Phase I	\$861,493	\$603,045	\$258,448
Anticipated in 2024			
North Pond Water Treatment Phase II	\$2,720,504	\$1,904,353	\$816,151
	\$9,647,182	\$6,310,166	\$3,337,016

Municipally-Funded Projects

During 2022 the Town also proceeded with projects that were not eligible for cost shared funding. These projects provide staff with the tools necessary to provide the services expected by residents:

Rubber Tire Loader	\$443,619
Fire Pumper	\$540,228
Three Fleet Vehicles	\$198,969
Fire Department Annex	\$146,325

Two additional projects were dedicated towards preservation of the Town’s history and the remembrance of the residents of the Town of Torbay who have served in our military:

War Memorial Refurbishment	\$100,000
Picco’s Ridge Memorial	\$127,500

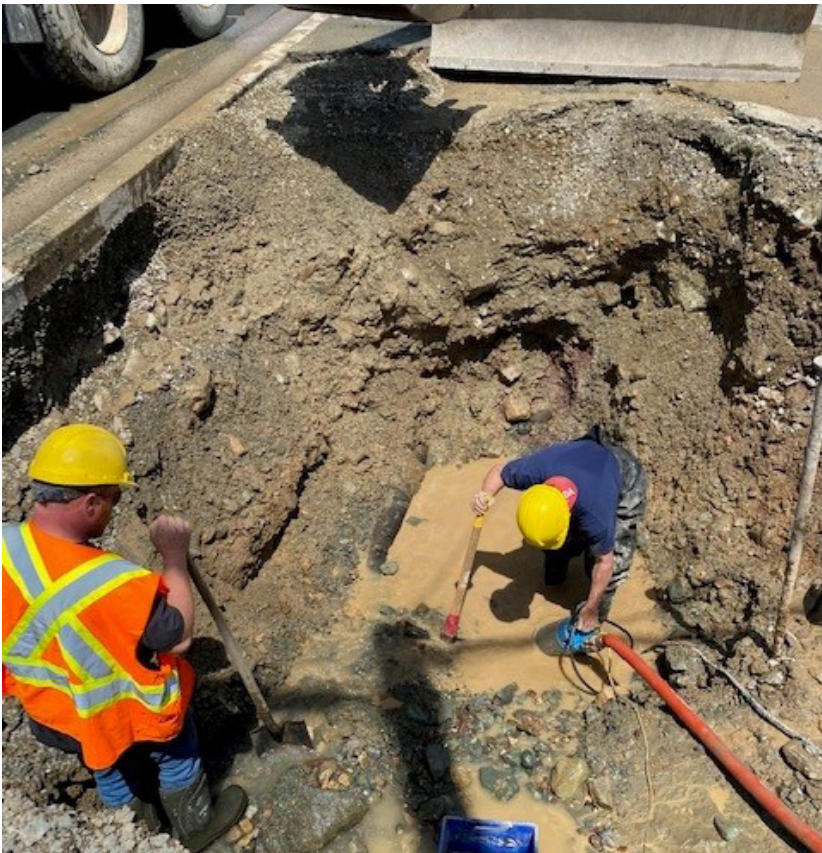


Figure 3
Project annual debt repayment.

2022	2023	2024	2025
\$1,583,815	\$1,537,868	\$1,575,428	\$1,536,337



Outlook for 2023

The Town’s 2023 budget positions the Town for future growth and prosperity. All core services have been maintained. In addition to core services, financial resources have been allocated to new or additional services which provide the ability to continue the successful operations of the Town into the future and to invest in municipal infrastructure.

Significant initiatives that have been budgeted for 2023 include the construction of a salt storage shed for \$500,000. The salt storage shed will reduce the amount of salt currently being lost to erosion due to weather and will also provide protection to the environment from salt entering the environment through the weathering process.

The single largest constraint on further residential and commercial development in Torbay is the lack of water capacity to service that development. If Great Pond were to be developed as a secondary source of water for the Town, it would double the current water capacity and provide the necessary water resources for the Town to grow and prosper.

Figure 4
Other 2023 capital initiatives

Purchase of a rubber tire loader	\$550,000
Purchase of a rubber tire backhoe	\$225,000
Installation of traffic lights at the Torbay Volunteer Fire Department	\$197,283
Trail development	\$197,283
Playground and landscaping at Upper Three Corner Park	\$135,000
Improvements to recreation infrastructure	\$100,100
Continuation of the municipal asset management program	\$100,000
Return of municipal enforcement services	\$100,000
Engineering study to evaluate Great Pond as a second water reservoir	\$100,000
Municipal Plan review	\$30,000



2021 Summary Financial Statements

Statements for the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as at December 31, 2021

	2021	2020
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$3,352,638	\$4,391,564
Taxes receivables	\$1,711,420	\$1,438,226
Other receivables	\$1,090,009	\$918,963
Guaranteed investment certificates	\$414,921	\$486,880
Total Financial Assets	<u>\$6,568,988</u>	<u>\$7,235,633</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$1,547,546	\$1,785,285
Employee benefits liability	\$429,539	\$260,393
Long-term debt	\$6,067,185	\$6,377,920
Obligations under capital leases	\$374,101	\$575,837
Total Liabilities	<u>\$8,418,371</u>	<u>\$8,999,435</u>
NET DEBT	<u>\$1,849,383</u>	<u>\$1,763,802</u>
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets	\$38,989,422	\$38,533,988
Inventories for use	\$150,000	\$150,000
Other	\$19,380	\$9,569
Total Non-Financial Assets	<u>\$39,158,802</u>	<u>\$38,696,557</u>
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	<u>\$37,309,419</u>	<u>\$36,929,755</u>

Consolidated Statement of Operations as at December 31, 2021

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
REVENUE			
Taxation	\$8,067,625	\$8,335,519	\$8,472,648
Sales of goods and services	\$226,855	\$298,330	\$326,111
Grants and transfers	\$5,157,291	\$1,415,675	\$1,457,802
Investment income	\$25,000	\$9,971	\$24,368
Other revenue	\$552,892	\$521,123	\$461,130
Total revenue (schedules 2,4, and 5)	<u>\$14,029,663</u>	<u>\$10,580,618</u>	<u>\$10,742,059</u>
EXPENSES			
General government services	\$2,721,342	\$1,985,728	\$1,456,138
Protective services	\$730,858	\$700,734	\$694,866
Transportation services	\$1,487,543	\$1,746,444	\$1,649,501
Environmental health services	\$925,446	\$876,927	\$869,984
Regional planning and development	\$618,666	\$574,854	\$527,242
Recreation and cultural services	\$1,471,026	\$1,637,409	\$1,379,963
Fiscal services	\$3,662,754	\$2,678,858	\$2,662,000
Total expenses (schedules 3,4, and 5)	<u>\$11,617,635</u>	<u>\$10,200,954</u>	<u>\$9,239,694</u>
ANNUAL SURPLUS	<u>\$2,412,028</u>	<u>\$379,664</u>	<u>\$1,502,365</u>
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>\$36,929,755</u>	<u>\$36,929,755</u>	<u>\$35,427,390</u>
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$39,341,783</u>	<u>\$37,309,419</u>	<u>\$36,929,755</u>

Consolidated Schedule of Revenues Year Ended December 31, 2021

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
TAXATION			
Property tax	\$6,990,088	\$7,176,877	\$7,329,641
Business tax	\$338,540	\$347,930	\$337,264
Water and sewer tax	\$389,204	\$405,304	\$390,302
Utility tax	\$349,793	\$360,648	\$349,793
Other municipal taxes levied	-	\$5,582	\$5,063
Penalties and interest	-	\$39,178	\$60,585
	<u>\$8,067,625</u>	<u>\$8,335,519</u>	<u>\$8,472,648</u>
SALES OF GOODS & SERVICES			
Recreation and cultural services	\$71,500	\$106,815	\$74,321
Fire protection services fees	\$110,155	\$116,566	\$123,800
Animal and pest control fees	\$100	\$42,138	\$35,392
Other sales of goods and services	\$45,100	\$32,811	\$92,598
	<u>\$226,855</u>	<u>\$298,330</u>	<u>\$326,111</u>
GRANTS & TRANSFERS			
Government of Canada			
Other federal revenue	\$354,916	\$354,916	\$165,169
Government of Newfoundland & Labrador			
Municipal Operating Grant	\$223,493	\$223,493	\$223,493
Provincial Shared Gas Tax	\$22,437	\$22,437	\$69,787
Municipal Capital Grant	-	-	-
Gas Tax revenue	\$69,787	\$69,787	\$512,738
Special assistance	-	-	-
Other provincial grants and/or subsidies	\$4,486,658	\$745,042	\$486,615
	<u>\$5,157,291</u>	<u>\$1,415,675</u>	<u>\$1,457,802</u>
INVESTMENT INCOME			
Interest from investments	<u>\$25,000</u>	<u>\$9,971</u>	<u>\$24,368</u>
OTHER REVENUE			
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	-	(\$23,931)
Miscellaneous	\$165,380	\$387,512	\$343,649
NEAA revenues consolidated	-	\$387,512	\$343,649
	<u>\$165,380</u>	<u>\$521,123</u>	<u>\$461,130</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	<u>\$13,642,151</u>	<u>\$10,580,618</u>	<u>\$10,742,059</u>

SCHEDULE 3

Consolidated Schedule of Expenses Year Ended December 31, 2021

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES			
Legislative	\$193,940	\$170,776	\$160,545
Common services	\$652,725	\$125,524	\$73,568
General administrative	\$1,498,404	\$1,587,690	\$1,120,290
Other general government services	\$166,759	\$101,738	\$101,735
	<u>\$2,511,828</u>	<u>\$1,985,728</u>	<u>\$1,456,138</u>
PROTECTIVE SERVICES			
Fire	\$544,802	\$439,329	\$420,763
Emergency measures	\$20,000	\$56,526	\$84,450
Animal and pest control	\$61,251	\$62,623	\$57,400
Municipal enforcement	\$122,472	\$142,256	\$132,253
	<u>\$748,525</u>	<u>\$700,734</u>	<u>\$694,866</u>
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES			
Road, street, sidewalk maintenance	\$637,177	\$803,065	\$667,962
Snow removal	\$283,643	\$314,490	\$305,870
Street lighting	\$225,258	\$215,256	\$212,155
Traffic services	-	\$23,238	\$25,785
Other transportation services	\$341,465	\$390,395	\$437,729
	<u>\$1,487,543</u>	<u>\$1,746,444</u>	<u>\$1,649,501</u>
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES			
Water supply	\$345,221	\$324,365	\$350,197
Sewage collection and disposal	\$55,860	\$31,121	\$24,445
Garbage and waste collection and disposal	\$524,365	\$521,441	\$495,342
	<u>\$925,446</u>	<u>\$876,927</u>	<u>\$869,984</u>
REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT			
Planning and zoning	\$373,662	\$372,670	\$245,895
Tourism and marketing	\$245,004	\$202,184	\$281,347
	<u>\$618,666</u>	<u>\$574,854</u>	<u>\$527,242</u>
RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES			
Recreation administration	\$223,386	\$184,441	\$220,877
Parks and playgrounds	\$116,795	\$295,394	\$215,607
Museums	-	\$25,810	\$12,660
Libraries	-	\$19,800	\$19,800
Other recreation and cultural services	\$724,232	\$705,351	\$570,875
NEAA expenses consolidated	\$406,613	\$406,613	\$340,144
	<u>\$1,471,026</u>	<u>\$1,637,409</u>	<u>\$1,379,963</u>
FISCAL SERVICES			
Long-term debt interest	\$1,274,286	\$261,953	\$274,148
Provision for uncollectible taxes, fees and charges	\$338,000	(\$224,885)	(\$398,705)
Other fiscal services	\$1,681,410	\$56,369	\$193,971
Amortization	\$2,585,421	\$2,585,421	\$2,592,586
	<u>\$5,879,117</u>	<u>\$2,678,858</u>	<u>\$2,662,000</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$13,642,151</u>	<u>\$10,200,954</u>	<u>\$9,239,694</u>

Consolidated Statement of Operations by Program Year Ended December 31, 2021

	General Government		Protective Services		Transportation Services		Environm
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
REVENUE							
Taxation	\$8,199,593	\$8,472,648	-	-	-	-	-
Sales of goods and services	\$32,811	\$90,787	\$158,704	\$159,193	-	-	\$15,060
Grants and transfers	\$1,119,227	\$1,292,633	-	-	-	-	-
Investment income	\$9,971	\$24,368	-	-	-	-	-
Other revenue	\$69,468	\$38,799	\$1,372	\$3,502	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL REVENUE</u>	<u>\$9,431,070</u>	<u>\$9,919,235</u>	<u>\$160,076</u>	<u>\$162,695</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$15,060</u>
EXPENSES							
Personnel services	\$1,183,981	\$830,445	\$231,417	\$214,900	\$741,334	\$683,810	\$168,932
Contract services	\$698,860	\$537,698	\$204,853	\$205,725	\$11,400	\$15,671	\$491,778
Utilities	\$33,163	\$41,583	\$17,453	\$24,812	\$267,588	\$277,203	\$47,566
Maintenance materials	\$52,310	\$30,692	\$184,845	\$156,812	\$726,120	\$672,817	\$168,649
Grants and contributions	\$17,415	\$15,720	-	-	-	-	-
Amortization	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest on long term debt	-	-	\$17,667	\$8,167	-	-	-
Other	-	-	\$44,500	\$84,450	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>\$1,985,729</u>	<u>\$1,456,138</u>	<u>\$700,735</u>	<u>\$694,866</u>	<u>\$1,746,442</u>	<u>\$1,649,501</u>	<u>\$876,925</u>
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$7,445,341	\$8,463,097	(\$540,659)	(\$532,171)	(\$1,746,442)	(\$1,649,501)	(\$861,865)

SCHEDULE 4

Mental Health Services	Regional Planning & Development		Recreation & Cultural Services		Fiscal Services		Total	
2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$8,199,593	\$8,472,648
\$1,810	-	-	\$106,815	\$74,321	-	-	\$313,390	\$326,111
-	-	-	\$416,725	\$165,169	-	-	\$1,535,952	\$1,457,802
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$9,971	\$24,368
-	\$53,781	\$48,789	\$397,091	\$370,040	-	-	\$521,712	\$461,130
<u>\$1,810</u>	<u>\$53,781</u>	<u>\$48,789</u>	<u>\$920,631</u>	<u>\$609,530</u>	-	-	\$10,580,618	\$10,742,059
\$184,392	\$392,144	\$334,126	\$748,010	\$639,663	-	-	\$3,465,818	\$2,887,336
\$466,321	\$112,205	\$95,172	\$78,057	\$60,520	\$52	\$9,300	\$1,597,205	\$1,390,407
\$50,678	\$2,050	\$2,136	\$48,296	\$55,099	-	-	\$416,116	\$451,511
\$168,593	\$95,808	\$95,808	\$263,330	\$213,142	-	-	\$1,463,709	\$1,337,864
-	-	-	\$52,868	\$36,479	-	-	\$70,283	\$52,199
-	-	-	-	-	\$2,585,418	\$2,592,586	\$2,585,418	\$2,592,586
-	-	-	-	-	\$261,953	\$274,148	\$279,620	\$282,315
-	-	-	\$446,853	\$375,060	(\$168,568)	(\$214,034)	\$322,7856	\$245,476
<u>\$869,984</u>	<u>\$574,854</u>	<u>\$527,242</u>	<u>\$1,637,414</u>	<u>\$1,379,963</u>	<u>\$2,678,855</u>	<u>\$2,662,000</u>	<u>\$10,200,954</u>	<u>\$9,239,694</u>
(\$868,174)	(\$521,073)	(\$478,453)	(\$716,783)	(\$770,433)	(\$2,678,855)	(\$2,662,000)	\$379,664	\$1,502,365

Consolidated Details and Reconciliation to Core Government Results Year Ended December 31, 2021

	Core Government		Torbay Volunteer Fire Department	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
REVENUE				
Taxation	\$8,335,519	\$8,472,648	-	-
Sales of goods and services	\$181,764	\$202,311	\$116,566	\$123,800
Grants and transfers	\$1,415,675	\$1,457,802	-	-
Investment income	\$9,971	\$24,368	-	-
Other revenue	\$133,611	\$117,481	-	-
<u>TOTAL REVENUE</u>	<u>\$10,076,540</u>	<u>\$10,274,610</u>	<u>\$116,566</u>	<u>\$123,800</u>
EXPENSES				
Personnel services	\$3,296,144	\$2,728,439	\$169,675	\$158,901
Contract services	\$1,516,908	\$1,311,075	\$80,296	\$79,331
Utilities	\$399,015	\$427,414	\$17,101	\$24,097
Maintenance materials	\$1,309,118	\$1,187,596	\$154,590	\$150,268
Grants and contributions	\$70,283	\$52,199	-	-
Amortization	\$2,585,418	\$2,564,063	-	-
Interest on long term debt	\$261,953	\$274,148	\$17,667	\$8,167
Other	(\$83,827)	(\$94,668)	-	-
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>\$9,355,012</u>	<u>\$8,450,266</u>	<u>\$439,3329</u>	<u>\$420,764</u>
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$721,528	\$1,824,344	(\$322,763)	(\$296,964)

SCHEDULE 5

North East Avalon Arena Regional Board Inc.		Total	
2021	2020	2021	2020
-	-	\$8,335,519	\$8,472,648
-	-	\$298,330	\$326,111
-	-	\$1,415,675	\$1,457,802
-	-	\$9,971	\$24,368
\$387,512	\$343,649	\$521,123	\$461,130
<u>\$387,512</u>	<u>\$343,649</u>	<u>\$10,580,618</u>	<u>\$10,742,059</u>
-	-	\$3,465,819	\$2,887,337
-	-	\$1,597,204	\$1,390,406
-	-	\$416,116	\$451,511
-	-	\$1,463,708	\$1,337,864
-	-	\$70,283	\$52,199
-	\$28,523	\$2,585,418	\$2,592,586
-	-	\$279,620	\$282,315
\$406,613	\$340,144	\$322,786	\$245,476
<u>\$406,613</u>	<u>\$368,144</u>	<u>\$10,200,954</u>	<u>\$9,239,694</u>
(\$19,101)	(\$25,018)	\$379,664	\$1,502,365

