

**MUSQUODOBOIT HARBOUR PUBLIC & ON-LINE FORUM QUESTION RESPONSES
AS OF 24 APRIL 2007**

Active Transportation

1. We already have the Musquodoboit Trailway. Can you suggest any other walking or cycling routes within Musquodoboit Harbour, that could complement this major trail?

Boardwalks on beach, sidewalks along #7

Oyster Pond Walk

A walking platform (??) Along Martinique Beaches grass area [see Q. 2]

Complete the sections to join up with the Blueberry Trail at Chezzetcook - allow people to travel to Greater Halifax Metro

The Abandoned Power Line - Sidewalks in Core Area

ONLINE: YES! I would like HRM to develop a walking, bicycling, and cross country ski trail along the abandoned railbed from Head of Chezzetcook to Musquodoboit Harbour. This would provide an active and safe route to school for students at both Gaetz Brook Junior High, and Eastern Shore District High. Currently, I use the trail to get to the MH library and to visit family. Also, it would compliment the MTA trail, which is also an Active Transportation trail

PANEL:

Trailway continue to Superstore (Porter's Lake) or to Sobeys's (Jeddore)

2. What types of cycling or walking facilities would you like to have implemented, such as trails, sidewalks, separate lanes or shared lanes?

ATV & snowmobiling from Little River West for those who are interested.

Sidewalks - M.H. anywhere there is "high" density housing - and traffic - eg, East Petpeswick Rd

A shopping centre type, indoor sidewalk

A walking platform (??) Along Martinique Beaches grass area [see Q. 1]

Sidewalks, bike route along #7 Hwy.

Mixed-use of existing trail like rest of Canada!

PANEL:

Bicycle park (dirt)

3. Can you think of any key locations for putting in or routes for kayaking, canoeing, boating?

Old mill - off Riverside Ave.

West Petpeswick by recreation - for swimming. Martinique Beach.

Musquodoboit River, Head of Petpeswick Inlet, E. Petpeswick gov. wharf

Pick your lake or pond or ocean

Musq. Hbr is surrounded by "great" lakes - Petpeswick Lake, Chezz Lake (Souls) etc. - encourage these areas

Petpeswick Inlet would be wonderful for kayaking & canoeing.

Musq. River!! In conjunction with trail

ONLINE: The Musquodoboit River - I have both canoed and kayaked this river. I learned recently that

Atlantic Salmon still swim in this river.

The Petpestwick Lake, Chezzetcook Lake, Conrod's Lake, Chezzetcook River, into the Chezzetcook Inlet. My sweetheart and his brother surprised their parents by paddling their canoe from Chezzetcook Lake all the way downriver to the inlet as boys. We should all be so lucky! A canoe/kayak launch could be developed on the Chezzetcook Inlet at Exit 21 on the old railbed land by the mouth of the Chezzetcook River. Petpestwick Inlet - there is a yacht club, why not include canoe, kayak rentals? Just like St. Mary's boat club in HFX.

Chezzetcook inlet already has a put-in on Old Coach road, (the old swimming hole) that could be better maintained. Kayakers already use this access point.

Petpeswick Inlet has the swimming wharf on West Petpeswick Rd across from the Old Anderson House. This could be modified slightly to allow kayak and canoe access.

Both Petpeswick and Conrad's Lake have beaches, but Chezzetcook (Sole's Lake) lacks a public put-in. A complete put-in system plan would be the first step in establishing a water trail way system, which would lead to a better appreciation of the local wilderness and conservation that is required to maintain these ecosystems.

Community Energy

4. How important do you think it is, to introduce energy reduction goals for Musquodoboit Harbour?

Very

Very important

Very important

Extremely

Musq. Harbour is part of the world right! Of course we should reduce energy

Impt: re wind

It is important; however, develop the "village" first

Very important

We have more important issues 1st but should be considered

5. Can you think of any appropriate locations for windmill generators? Hydro?

A fair number of high areas to put these.

Hills west of 357 about 3 - 4 miles from #7

Off Martinique Beach

Ridge between Petpeswick Inlet & Musquodoboit Harbour Inlet

Martinique Beach area, Head area

Northeast Ridge from Musquodoboit Har. Also areas similar.

Top of cliff at Lawrencetown Beach.

Seashore, Martinique Beach

East Petpeswick Rd. Adjacent to Seniors Club? Don't know if that is Crown land or private?

Jerusalem [sp?] Hill or further up Grant Rd - cape by Martinique

6. Are there other types of energy reducing projects you'd like to see the community undertake?

Transportation (car pooling, small buses)

A “village” like mall in centre of town would be attractive, with café and shops. Right now things seem fragmented, dotted here and there.

Sewer & water - grey water management - energy incentives

Economic Development

7. What kinds of commercial development should Musquodoboit try to attract as a District Centre?

More retail, B& B, motel.

Small businesses

Manufacturing (small - medium)

A shopping mall - even a small one.

Farmers market

1. Services 2. Develop Industrial Park (here and Chezzetcook) - GREAT potential

Shopping Plaza, taxi service

Call centres

Residential Mix-use - commercial/retail

ONLINE: Keep it Green! Green energy. Active Transportation. As the city grows, there will be plenty of people who will desire a getaway from the traffic, the dirt and congestion. I do not want to see a Wendy's, or McDonald's or Walmart out here. No strip mall developments. Create a process whereby the community has input into the look/design of proposed developments.

PANEL:

Weekend farmer's market

8. Where would be appropriate places for expansion of existing businesses or development of new ones?

From 107 to Hbr. Line east

Along #7

Business Park

MH core area & industrial parks.

Like the planned development adjacent to old rail bldg.

Core of community

9. How can we capitalize on our natural recreational assets?

Accessibility, beautification, marketing

Advertise

Get DNR to “develop” beaches & trails

Make sure we let people in nearby Dart. & Hfx know we exist! I work in the city and it never ceases to amaze me how many locals never come out this way!

Advertise for tourism

Immigration & Diversity

10. Are there ways to attract newcomers and encourage them and their children to stay in our community?

Provide jobs, adequate housing

Get the Provincial Nominee Program working efficiently

Recreation Centre with programs for all ages

To attract young families we would need better recreational facilities; ie., improve existing arena; indoor pool

Yes - grow the area economically and increase housing developments in key areas

Infrastructure Development

11. What types of services would you like to see in Musquodoboit Harbour - water, sewer, roads, transit, solid waste management, sidewalks, other?

Water, transit, sidewalks

[underlined water, sidewalks]

Sidewalks - water - sewer - transit - very imp.

[underlined transit, sidewalks]

[underlined transit, sidewalks]

public swimming pool

Rte 357 & E. Petpeswick joined

Better #7 Hgwy condition, bicycle lane on #7

[underlined sewer, solid waste management, sidewalks]

All of Above

Water - needed drastically in core - sewer needed drastically in core - sidewalks needed drastically in core - transit to City

ONLINE: I would like to see HRM's Noise By Law enforced! I strongly dislike the traffic of All Terrain Vehicles near my home, it DISTURBS my PEACE AND TRANQUILITY.

PANEL:

Sidewalks or expanded shoulders linking key points in the harbour

More pedestrian friendly

Inter community pathway (use existing old rail bed from train station to industrial park)

Bicycle path to the new school (separate from cars)

Cultural & Heritage

12. Can you identify any local cultural landscapes or heritage buildings? Is there anything you really like about these buildings?

Yes.

Railway station - some churches - school - beaches.

Rail station

Railway Station - Colonial structure

ONLINE: Musquodoboit Railway Museum! Retain Station! Acadian Museum! Blueberry Run Trail! Chezzetcook-Musquodoboit Trail! Musquodoboit Trailways! East Chezzetcook Beach, Martinique, Conrod's Beach, East Chezzetcook Hill is for horses.

PANEL:

Use/preserve decommissioned school – community centre, business incubator.

13. What characteristics make you realize you're in Musquodoboit Harbour?

The sign! And the railway station

An overabundance of signs (roadside) at the west entrance to Musq. Hbr.

The terrible array of signage at 107 & 7. The Railway Museum.

Small-town

Open Space

14. Where are the key ecological assets in and around Musquodoboit Harbour?

Little River

Beaches, trail - ocean, lakes, rivers

Lots of salt water - for leisure.

Pristine lakes/beaches/trails - downside - remains of “Juan” downed foliage

The River; Martinique Bird Sanctuary

Martinique Beach Area - Musq. River - Community Center

15. Should people be allowed or encouraged to visit these places?

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

16. Where do you see opportunities for expanding or improving open spaces?

Yes

Clean up Juan damage. Improve HRM Beach access (Petpeswick)

Community Center

Recreation

17. What opportunities are there for recreation in Musquodoboit Harbour?

Curling rink, tennis courts

Baseball, softball, hockey, ringette, skating, walking
Small gym/trails/lakes/beaches - HRM Centre on 357
Multi-use trail system.

ONLINE: Beautiful walking/bicycling trails/cross country skiing, the most beautiful saltwater beaches, sweetwater lakes for swimming, clam digging (I can't reveal my favorite spot! It's a family secret!), wonderful community suppers, treehugging, boating, mushroom and blueberry picking...to name just a few

PANEL:

Indoor Pool
Swimming pool

18. Are there any more you would like to see added?

ATV trail(s)
Multi-use facility - hockey, curling etc.
Yes - make the "centre" a good modern facility.
Swimming Pool
Multi-use trail system

ONLINE: I would LIKE a swimming pool

I envision the Petpestwick Yacht club as a St. Mary's boat club - paddling, canoe, kayak - equipment rentals and 'how to' courses.

PANEL:

Dirt bicycle park (see the kids riding bikes in circles around the Library?)

Park & Ride, Express and Rural Transit

19. What kind of trip schedule, route and stops would encourage you to commute by bus?

Out twice daily, in twice daily.
Morning, evening.
1 - 1 ½ hrly. Hospitals, major malls, transfer points
daily and regular
2 daily return trips to Dartmouth Ferry or central Dartmouth bus terminal
No opinion
QEII & Vic Gen'l. Shopping Plazas in BURNSIDE & DARTMOUTH, FERRY
Early morning - mid-day - early evening

ONLINE: A direct route along the 107 into HFX, or Cole Hbr.

PANEL:

To QEII and Veteran General
Buses with bicycle racks
Express to major points – Ferry Terminal, DND dockyard, downtown

20. Where would be the most convenient place in Musquodoboit Harbour to locate a transit hub (terminal or station) offering express commuter service and, in the longer term, local feeder routes?

SWR Developments has ideal proposal.

Central Region

At a parking area!

In front of the bank

The old Imperial Oil service station site

Industrial Park.

Old railway [station]

The old train station

ONLINE: HRM recreation offices, Community Centre, Porter's Lake Superstore.

21. What types and designs of buildings, parks and trails do you think would make sense within a 10-minute walk of the transit hub?

Shopping, etc., parks with benches.

Restaurants, commercial stores

Service centres - Service Canada - Access NS - HRM

Mix of residential/commercial/retail with old fashioned design - Colonial

ONLINE: Think bicycle as well as ten minute walk! Walking and bicycling trails, don't worry about grooming in the winter...just call out the local snowshoe club to pack down the snow. Negotiate a transit shelter with existing buildings (HRM rec office, Community Centre, Porter's Lake Superstore.) Plant some more trees in the parking lots.

Land Use

22. The Regional Plan shows a conceptual circle where we would encourage compact, walkable, development. Would you move this circle or change its shape? How and why?

No opinion.

No

23. What kinds of land uses would work well together, so people could walk from their homes for some of their errands? What kinds of land uses should be kept apart?

M.H. needs a plan that includes housing, parks, small businesses.

Retail/mixe[d] residential

24. How do you expect people's housing needs will change in the next 10 to 20 years? How could Musquodoboit Harbour ensure it has the right kinds of housing to meet that need?

Support SWR Developments concept for seniors.

More people are going to move here - there does not appear to have any planning re housing - type of housing

Baby boomers condos/smaller homes

Seniors' village (gated community maybe?)

More need for alternative housing options to age in place.

Community Greening

25. Would you like to see more street trees in Musquodoboit Harbour?

Yes

Yes

Absolutely

Yes.

Take down signs & you will see more trees!

26. What kind of trees would you like to see planted?

Mixture

hardwoods - maples

Not spruce or fir! Hardwoods - blossoms (cherry?)

We live in the middle of millions of trees now don't we?! What we need is pro-active development

Water Resource Management

27. What kinds of uses of local lakes, harbours and watercourses are important to the community?

Boating, canoeing, kayaking etc.

swimming, skating

Quiet boating - public access to waters for boating - public beach development - salt water swimming pools at Martinique

Recreation only/Tourism

Fishing & Boating

28. What kinds of land uses and activities can affect the water quality of lakes and watercourses?

4-wheelers

Motorized pleasure craft - erosion of soil due to poor development - water contamination due to fertilizers, chemicals, pesticides

Development run-off.

More development without proper sewer services

29. Have you noticed any problems with the quantity or quality of water available in local wells?

Yes

Yes

No

Yes - smell
Yes.
Very

Community Organization and Partnerships

30. What gives us a sense of community?

Neighbours, community organizations, recreation programmes, schools, churches
Today - communication
At this time - a very few dedicated volunteers. There needs to be more general community pride

31. How can we as a community work effectively towards a common vision?

More meetings and input from ordinary locals who have a born & raised Musquodoboit Harbour upbringing
That all people's views are appreciated and that a common respect, common goals are acknowledged - given that values can be uniquely different
Communication - today
By meetings such as this (14/4)

32. How do we as a community want to work with other partners to achieve a common vision?

Communication - today
As an equal, important partner.

Community Services

33. What kinds of community services are important to you?

Road maintenance
PANEL:
Hospital
Medical clinic (need more doctors to handle residents in the area)

Government

34. Is there anything else you would like to see added?

Sobeys, Tim Hortons, nice restaurant
A good restaurant

Youth

35. How can Musquodoboit Harbour be more youth friendly?

Supply more things ready available for youth.
Activities - arts, music, theatre - crafts, sports
Give them a facility to exercise their spare time
Ball park

36. What can be done to provide employment opportunities for youth?

[no ideas recorded]

37. What facilities and services are needed for youth in the community?

Arts centre - sports centre
Recreation, sports