

Terms of Reference

Eastern HRM Region Communities Economic Development Network

Official name: Eastern HRM Region Communities Economic Development Network

Boundaries for the Eastern Shore: the western boundary will begin with Lawrencetown/Grand Desert and extend to the eastern HRM boundary at Ecum Secum and north to the Musquodoboit Valley

Network Members/Composition: all interested organizations

Members/Composition of the Steering Committee for the Network:

Representatives from:

- Musquodoboit Harbour and Area Community Development Association
- Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce and Civic Affairs
- Musquodoboit Valley Tourism Association
- Lake Charlotte Area Heritage Society
- Other Eastern Shore community development associations wishing to participate including private sector groups/associations

Formation details:

The Eastern HRM Region Communities Economic Development Network is the result of a public strategic planning meeting held on March 29, 2014 in Oyster Pond funded by ACOA, HRM and Greater Halifax Partnership. The public meeting resulted in a report: Eastern HRM Strategic Planning Report 2014 which summarizes the aspirations of those present with regard to the future development of the Eastern Shore and its communities. See:

<http://www.greaterhalifax.com/en/home/ourprograms/communitydevelopment/community-engagement-session.aspx>

Following that public meeting, a provisional steering committee composed of the above community organizations came together to lead follow-up to the various development priorities identified in the March report. Three general priority areas from that report were chosen for initial follow-up:

- Local transportation
- Extension/expansion of internet and cellphone coverage
- Eastern Shore tourism destination designation for the Eastern Shore “Bay of Islands”, beginning with assessment via ACOA’s Strategic Tourism Expansion Program (STEP)

Roles/Responsibilities:

Chair and recording responsibilities will rotate amongst members of the steering committee

Conflict of Interest Statement: No member of the Steering Committee shall benefit financially on a personal basis from participation in the Steering Committee.

All members of the Steering Committee shall commit to being prepared for meetings and willing to take on tasks as required

Purpose/Goals of the Network:

- To collaborate on projects of mutual interest for the economic, social and environmental development of the Eastern Shore and its communities
- To support one another's individual efforts to further the economic, social and environmental development of the Eastern Shore and its communities

Governance/Decision-making Process: by consensus of those wishing to participate on particular projects

The Network will report to its community development group members and more generally, to residents of the Eastern Shore via transparency in its activities using the communication tools outlined under "Communications", below.

Resources/Budget

It is not expected that the Network will have require financial resources of its own but will work through constituent community organizations should any resources be sought from funding bodies. The Network will not register as a Society with NS Joint Stocks.

Communications:

For activities of the steering committee:

- via the GHP website Community Development Program tab, GHP-sponsored Facebook community and LinkedIn
- via the distribution list resulting from the March 2014 public meeting
- via individual community organization email lists, websites and social media

Deliverables (specific projects to be determined)