



## Operational Services Department

### **Staff Report - Standard**

*Crosswalk or Crossing Guard*

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**To:** CAO for Operational Services Committee, January 18, 2011

**Date Prepared:** January 6, 2011

**Previous Reports:** Report dated November 26, 2010 – Crosswalk or Crossing Guard

**Related Motions:** C10(402) and C10(458)

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**Approved by:** Scott Winters, P. Eng., Director

#### **Summary**

At the December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting of Council a motion was passed by Council to direct staff to review and come back with a report (including information from other jurisdictions such as Truro, check legalities and possibility of outside sources of funding, such as Business sponsorship.

#### **Financial Impact Statement**

The following would be provided by the MEH if Council were to decide to fund crossing guards as per the existing policy for the Milford School:

The Municipality of East Hants would provide the administrative coordination, accept liability for proper operation and pay 50% of expenses as its contribution to the initiative as and when requested. Crossing Guard pay would be roughly \$10.00 per hour x 20 hours per week = \$200.00. The Municipality's share would be \$100.00 per week or \$4,000 per year +/- . This policy was established in 1998.

The Town of Truro and The Village of Bible Hill pay all the expenses including training and equipment with their crossing guards which amounts to about \$40,000.00 per year.

#### **Recommendation**

No staff recommendation.

## **Background**

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It is a policy of Council to cooperate with parents, a community sponsor, the Department of Transportation, the Chignecto Central Regional School Board and the RCMP to provide a crossing guard program at school crosswalks in East Hants.

## **Discussion**

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Before an investigation for the installation of a school crosswalk for an Elementary, Middle or Junior High School is undertaken the NSTIR must have a commitment from the School, School Board, Municipality or other responsible agency that adult crossing guard will be in place at all times when children are to go to and from school. The Town of Truro and The Village of Bible Hill look after the cost of the crossing guards, equipment and training. No business funding is available for their crossing guard programs. In the Town of Truro the crossing guards are employed under the Police budget.

## **Alternatives**

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No Alternatives.

## **Conclusion**

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NSTIR must have a commitment from the Municipality that an adult crossing guard will be in place at all times when children are to go to and from school. An investigation would take place by NSTIR to see if this location qualifies for a crosswalk. Prior to the Municipality going to NSTIR for their study a Community Sponsor group would need to be formed that would undertake on-going responsibilities as identified within the Municipal Policy for Crossing Guards previously adopted by Council. Please reference the following attached documentation:

- Municipal Crossing Guards Policy and Procedures
- Reference letters dated February 4<sup>th</sup> and March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1998 between the Municipality of East Hants and Chignecto Central Regional School Board.
- Letters of Agreements with Crossing Guards and the Community Sponsors.

The Municipality could decide to sponsor the entire program cost for crossing guards yet NSTIR would still need to investigate need and give approval. Information from Truro and Bible Hill has indicated that once a program starts it is extremely hard to stop and other school areas will most likely be looking for the same program.

## **Recommendation**

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No staff recommendation.