

Municipality of East Hants
Elmsdale,
Nova Scotia

[REDACTED]
Shubenacadie,
NS. B0N 2H0

July 17, 2025

RE: Shubenacadie Cenotaph

Dear Councillors,

I am writing this letter to express my concerns regarding the relocation of the Shubenacadie Cenotaph.

First of all, what is the real reason it was moved in the first place? I have a hard time believing it was for more parking space. Parking space for what? It is pretty sad to think a war memorial would be moved for a parking lot!! Shubie is almost a ghost town now. Over the last number of years The Municipality has taken so much away from Shubenacadie and Milford starting with the Municipal Offices, swimming pool, Public Health offices. By doing so, they have taken income from the communities. Now without any notice to the Community they have moved the cenotaph off Main Street where it stood proud and a great reminder of the sacrifices made by our young men in both World Wars.

My next question was why was the Community not advised or approached regarding this relocation. It definitely is a community matter. A special meeting should have been called.

Who actually owns the cenotaph and the land it was sitting on? My understanding is the CNR donated the land to the community and the cenotaph was placed there by Community itself. Were any deeds searched?

The cenotaph was placed on that spot for a reason, to remind us of the young men and women who travelled by train to fight wars so that we may live in peace today. Those people left their homes with no guarantee they would return. When the train comes through Shubenacadie during our Remembrance Day Service every year and we pause because of the sound, it should be a time to think about those brave people and what they sacrificed, not an inconvenient interruption.

I also have concerns of the Legion location. First of all, it has its back to Main Street. The parking is going to be an issue as well. What about the elderly or disable people who used to park handy so they could hear and be part of the service without having to stand? Did the Legion get permission from the School Board for parking?

What happens to the cenotaph if the Legion closes and the building is sold? This Legion has been struggling financially for the last several years. The members are hard workers but like other organizations, they are getting older and young people are not interested in stepping up. Where would the cenotaph go then??? I strongly feel it should be moved back to Main Street where it belongs.

In closing, I want to say I have been a member of this community my entire life. I remember many of the World War II Veterans. I had three uncles who fought and fortunately came home. I