

Sheralee Mitchell-MacEwan

Subject: FW: Cenotaph

From: Pam MacInnis
Sent: September 22, 2025 1:26 PM
To: Kim Ramsay <kramsay@easthants.ca>
Subject: Cenotaph

Good Day Councillors,

Re: Shubenacadie Cenotaph Move

It is apparent from Tuesday's meeting that councillors have concerns that council would be seen as just giving money to a community group, in this case, the legion. But that is not what this money is for.

This money is for council to make something right, to fix a mistake. Councillors have admitted to, and apologized for, this mistake.

Concern over precedent is unwarranted. This money is not being given for a request from a community, this is money being spent to solve a council created problem. A very specific action. Residents need to understand this. This is not an open door for money. This is a unique situation. Likely one that will never be repeated. So no, this is not a precedent for randomly giving money to groups and it's important your residents recognize this. This money is to fix this grievous error.

Although money is the major concern, let's address some others that councillors mentioned. There were comments made about safety in the original location. In fact, there is traffic control and room for everyone, just like when we have parades. I had not heard about a generator being an issue, but we could ask the new owners of the garage if we could run an extension cord. If I recall correctly, Shane used to provide this convenience. Keeping the area clean was mentioned. This is easy to address through a request for volunteers. A local resident, Dave McCrae, looked after the cenotaph every day for a very long time, and received a volunteer award for these efforts.

Having more parking spots was wanted by some. Parking is available in the River park, where the second ball field used to be. That is a parking lot. There is some room behind the community hall. There is a space across from the hall which should be improved for parking. There is parking when the bank isn't open.

School children can enjoy a walk in their village to the cenotaph to learn about its significance.

In the end, spending in this unique situation is the right thing to do.

The cenotaph belongs in the heart of the village.

The village core studies have, in a large part, centred around maintaining village character. What better way to meet this objective than to put the cenotaph back.

I believe that without money as a stumbling block the move back would not be a difficult decision, as it was not an issue when first moved. Would things be different if that initial move had been coming out of general tax reserves? Would it have been moved?

Please do the right thing for Shubenacadie.

Not only owning your mistake and apologizing for it, but by fixing it.

The cenotaph belongs back in the heart of the village.

Regards
Pam

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