

East Hants Curling Association
1076C Hwy 2
Lantz, Nova Scotia B2S 1M8

4 December 2025

East Hants Municipality/ All Councillors and CAO
15 Commerce Court
Elmsdale, Nova Scotia B2S 3K5

**EAST HANTS CURLING ASSOCIATION (EHCA) -
RECREATION FACILITIES MASTER PLAN OUTCOME**

Reference: Telephone call 3 December 2025 Harold MacNeil/President EHCA – Alana Tapper/Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture regarding email Tue 2025-12-02 1:22 PM

EHCA is submitting a time line for Needs Assessment: letters and correspondence in regards to the current Needs Assessment/Recreation Facilities Master Plan Survey.

EHCA Registered as not for Profit on 30 December 2008:

13 January 2023 – EHCA: Funding East Hants Curling Association

29 June 2023 – EHCA: Letter on Aquatics Program Registration and East Hants Multi-purpose Curling Facility

5 October 2023 – Telephone call Kim Ramsay/CAO – Harold MacNeil/President EHCA

19 October 2023 – EHCA: Follow up letter to telephone call of 5 October 2023

6 November 2023 – EHM: Letter advising that curling will be included in Needs Assessment

22 February 2024 – Letter for information in regards to the Needs Assessment

The list of correspondence demonstrates how the EHCA has worked diligently for the community in regards to having a dedicated Curling Facility constructed. There has been business plans, an operational EHCA curling on Thursdays for the last eight and one half years. The EHCA feels strongly that the funding, construction and operations of a facility is well past due.

This EHCA correspondence will deal with time lines implications only. The letters, by date, demonstrate that EHCA has kept the concept of a dedicated curling facility at the forefront for years. On 5 October 2023 conversation indicated that the Needs Assessment was to be initiated soon and curling would be prominent in the process. This made EHCA optimistic about the very near future.

The time line has now progressed from January 2023 to December 2025: three (3) years. EHCA had made inquiries up until February 2025 and with no firm date for the Recreation Facilities Master Plan being identified. In February EHCA sent three photographs to council with the words NEEDS ASSESSMENT being displayed by the Morning, Evening and Youth Curling groups to kick start the process and as a testament to how passionate EHCA was for a new facility.

EHCA had conversations and took a “let the process unfold” stance in the hopes of getting the Recreation Facilities Master Plan completed. EHCA participated in the process in early 2025. The most recent communications, put forwarded after watching a council session that described a project potentially not getting on to the 2026 budget planning because of the matter being discussed in

November 2025 caused EHCA concern. An inquiry was made and it was indicated that indeed EHCA funding as a result of the Recreation Facilities Master Plan may not be in place for the 2026 year.

The time line has concerns for EHCA in that the organization has a whole feels that EHM Council will not meet the intent of the correspondence and conversations in regards to construction of a dedicated curling facility. The current process will add another year to the funding decision.

Recent EHCA Activities

EHCA requested a \$500.00/day usage fee, a grant to offset a \$9,301.05 bonspiel fee and neither was approved. Also, EHCA had full usage of the ice for the complete day to progress the game of curling prior to EHM Operations and now there is a charge for ice usage outside of the morning and evening game time slots. These EHM revenue generating decisions are not assisting EHCA at the present time and a dedicated facility would greatly add to the community availability of curling and the growing of the game at a much more reasonable cost.

EHCA in 2025/2026 have 11 teams in the morning and 10 teams in the evening, the most in eight (8) years and would grow significantly in a full time curling facility with consistently good curling ice. A very successful auction was held on 15 November 2025 and a second activity of Raffle for a Side of Beef with a draw on 29 November 2025 was extremely well received by the community. Also held: 3rd Annual East Hants Curling Association Rising Tides Curling Bonspiel from 28-30 November 2025. EHCA is ready and able to operate a full time curling facility.

EHCA Request – Recreation Facilities Master Plan

EHCA is requesting that funding for a dedicated curling facility be part of the budget process for 2026 so that when the Recreation Facilities Master Plan Survey results are released the funding is in place and the project is able to proceed. EHCA does not have access or knowledge of the survey results, and would be extremely surprised if the data was not highly supportive of a curling facility. EHCA indicated that first curling stones down sheets in October 2026 was goal.

Thank you and EHCA awaits your consideration and reply.



Harold MacNeil, President EHCA (approval acquired from BOD to add their names as submitters)
Terry Isenor, Vice President
Caius Doyle, Treasurer
Kevin Cruickshank, Director
Pam Taylor, Director
Lawrence Williams, Director
Jackie Malley, Director
Sylvia Stobart, Director