



**Regular Board of Directors meeting
Kent Regional Service Commission**

**February 15th, 2024
4:00pm
Beaurivage**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting is called to order at 4:06pm by the Chair, Aldéo Saulnier.

2. ATTENDANCE

- Aldéo Saulnier, Chair of the KRSC and Mayor of the Town of Grand-Bouctouche
- Arnold Vautour, Mayor of the Town of Beaurivage
- Jean Hébert, Mayor of the Rural Community of Beausoleil
- Jean-Charles Daigle, President of the Kent Rural District
- Jean-Pierre Richard, Mayor of the Town of Champdoré
- Tina Beers, Vice-Chair of the KRSC and Mayor of the Municipality of Five-Rivers

ABSENCE

- Jimmy Bourque, Mayor of the Village of Nouvelle-Arcadie

OTHERS

- Paul Lang, Executive Director - KRSC
- Isabelle Godin, Assistant Executive Director – KRSC
- Francine Arsenault, Administrative Assistant - KRSC (Grand-Bouctouche)
- Lynn Landry Caissie, Finance Director - KRSC
- Claudie Ringuette, Director of Community Services - KRSC
- Marie-Paul Robichaud, Economic Development and Tourism Director - KRSC
- Micheline Léger, Regional Development Coordinator - KRSC
- Carolle Maillet, Coordinator of the P.R.O. Jeunesse and LP2C Kent programs
- Francine Babineau, Interpreter
- Daniel Goguen, Manager - Environment and Local Government/Kent Rural District
- Honorable Benoit Bourque, MLA Kent-South (Zoom)
- Honorable Kevin Arseneau, MLA Kent-North (Zoom)
- Roger Doiron, Chairman, Kent Health Committee
- Ginette Doiron, Executive Director - Destination Southeast
- Jonathan Keeley, Marketing agent - Vivify
- Members of the public

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

No declarations.

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2024-004

It is moved by Jean-Pierre Richard, seconded by Arnold Vautour, that the agenda be adopted as presented.

Motion carried

5. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 21ST, 2023 AND FEBRUARY 1ST, 2024 MEETINGS

2024-005

It is moved by Tina Beers, seconded by Jean Hébert, that the minutes of the Regular meeting of December 21st, 2023 be adopted as presented.

Motion carried

2024-006

It is moved by Tina Beers, seconded by Jean-Charles Daigle, that the minutes of the Special meeting of February 1st, 2024 be adopted as presented.

Motion carried

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Will be discussed during the meeting.

7. PRESENTATION - Ginette Doiron (Destination Southeast) and Jonathan Keeley (Vivify) – Activity report

Ginette Doiron of Destination Southeast and Jonathan Keeley of Vivify present the group with their marketing objectives in relation to Destination Southeast. They talk about the 2023 campaign and what's to come in 2024. Among other things, they talk about digital advertising, organic publications on social networks, the creation of organic videos, billboard advertising, blog creation and more. They also talk about events that have taken place, such as the cultural market, the tourism forum, the Saltscapes Halifax exhibition and the Salon du VR Québec. The activity report for 2023 shows financial partners, municipalities, various meetings with partners and member support. In 2024, they will focus on developing a digital advertising campaign, collaborating with organic partners, developing a tourist guide, developing a series of contents for off-season activities, promotional items and workshops, a calendar of events and maps to promote our region.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Finances – Administration – Human Resources

The Minutes of the Finance Committee of October 19th, 2023 and the unaudited financial statements to December 31st, 2023 are circulated.

Lynn Landry Caissie presents the unedited financial statements for December 31st, 2023 and provides explanations.

b. Audit

The audit will begin in March, and the results will be presented at the AGM in April.

c. Health

Aldéo Saulnier explains that a number of things have been happening lately and that they have had several meetings about health in Kent. Paul Lang speaks about the meeting held with Vitalité on February 13th, 2024. There were three items on the agenda - 1. Communication - will be rectified in the future; 2. Closure of acute care beds at Stella-Maris-de-Kent Hospital - details still to be clarified and 3. Infrastructure. Vitalité will develop a capital plan for the facility, and the community will be part of the process. The process should begin in the next few months, and members will be kept informed of any developments. At the meeting, the CEO confirmed that Vitalité has no intention of closing or converting the hospital to another vocation, and that emergency services will continue at the institution. Some members of the

Health Committee met this morning to discuss Tuesday's meeting and would like clarification and details about acute care.

WHEREAS the Chair of the Kent Regional Service Commission (KRSC), the Chair of the KRSC Health Committee, the Executive Director of the KRSC and the Chair of the Stella-Maris-de-Kent Hospital Foundation met with the Vitalité Health Network on Tuesday, February 13th, 2024;

WHEREAS the meeting held on February 13th was very positive and there is a mutual willingness to collaborate between the Vitalité network and the KRSC to improve healthcare in the Kent region;

WHEREAS the Vitalité Health Network has communicated that it has no intention of changing the vocation of the Stella-Maris-de-Kent Hospital;

WHEREAS the Vitalité Health Network wishes to improve primary health care in the region;

WHEREAS the elected officials of the Kent region wish to receive the Vitalité Health Network's plan to bring acute care hospital beds back to the Stella-Maris-de-Kent Hospital.

2024-007

Therefore, be it resolved that the Kent Regional Service Commission send a letter to the Vitalité Health Network requesting their plan to bring acute care hospital beds back to the Stella-Maris-de-Kent Hospital, and that this plan be communicated in writing to the elected officials of the Kent Regional Service Commission no later than February 29th, 2024.

Moved by : Jean-Pierre Richard

Seconded by : Jean Hébert

Motion carried

10. REPORTS ON COLLABORATIVE SERVICES ACTIVITIES

a. Planning

The construction report for December 2023 is circulated.

b. Solid Waste

The December 2023 Solid Waste Report is circulated.

Isabelle Godin takes the floor for clarification before moving on to motions.

Optimized collection system

WHEREAS the optimized collection system was unanimously adopted by the Board of Directors of the Kent Regional Service Commission (KRSC) on May 21st, 2015;

WHEREAS the regions of Baie-Sainte-Anne, Escuminac, Hardwicke, Shediac-Bridge, Shediac-River and the Notre-Dame section of Westmorland County were inserted into the territory of the KRSC in January 2023 by the local governance reform;

WHEREAS the collection contracts in these territories are managed by the Province of New Brunswick and will expire on November 3rd, 2024;

WHEREAS if the municipal council of the Rural Community of Beausoleil wishes to transfer all responsibilities related to the collection of residential solid waste in its new territory to the KRSC, they must do so by the same date;

WHEREAS the addition of communities to the optimized collection system on this date requires the dissolution of two existing collection contracts (K1 and K5) and the creation of new contracts;

WHEREAS the sharing of collection costs is based on the percentage of households from the different communities of the Kent region and that the addition of a community will have an impact on the distribution of costs;

WHEREAS the sharing of tipping fees is based on the percentage of population from each community in the Kent region for the total tonnage produced and that the addition of a community will have an impact on the distribution of costs;

WHEREAS Calls for Tenders will be prepared and published by the KRSC during the month of July 2024.

2024-008

It is therefore resolved that the Kent Regional Service Commission's Board of Directors accepts the extension of the optimized collection system to the communities of Baie-Sainte-Anne, Escuminac, Hardwicke, Shediac-Bridge, Shediac-River, and the Notre-Dame section of Westmorland County as of November 3rd, 2024, on condition that the respective authorities transfer us the responsibility.

Moved by: Tina Beers

Seconded by: Arnold Vautour

Motion carried

2024-009

It is also resolved that the Kent Regional Service Commission send a letter to the Minister of the Environment and Local Government requesting the transfer of collection responsibilities in the Kent Rural District, and that a request be made to the municipal council of the Rural Community of Beausoleil for a motion transferring responsibility for collection in its new territory to the Kent Regional Service Commission.

Moved by: Tina Beers

Seconded by: Jean Hébert

Motion carried

c. Public Safety

The next meeting is scheduled for March 14th. Arnold Vautour announces that André Caissie is the new RCMP sergeant for the Richibucto detachment. This morning saw the launch of the Youth Planet project, which was a great success with students from MFR, Bonar Law and Clément-Cormier schools taking part.

d. Economic Development

Nothing to report.

e. Tourism Promotion

Discussed in presentation with Ginette Doiron and Jonathan Keeley.

f. Community Development

With the Regional Strategy, it was proposed to implement a new program to help young people participate in recreational, sporting and cultural activities, which is a great need in Kent. In order to create and implement this program, Carolle Maillet has been hired to help with the project. Carolle will also participate in the Physical Literacy for Communities project to build new programs and provide opportunities to get young people moving. Claudie announced that funding requests had been made in collaboration with Stéphanie Caissie of Community Development and Chanelle DaPonte of Kent Resiliency, and that since yesterday, four pieces of good news have been announced:

- ❖ \$25,000 was received for a project called New Horizons for Seniors. It's an Amazing Race type project, which has been done elsewhere in the province and has worked very well. It's a kind of scavenger hunt, and the aim is to showcase the Kent region through an intergenerational project.
- ❖ The Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation (ESIC) is donating \$11,000 for "play boxes". These are iron boxes containing items for sports games (soccer balls, tennis rackets, basketballs, skipping ropes). The aim is to give young people access to outdoor activities that are fun and get them moving. This does not replace existing library programs that offer equipment loans. Rather, it's intended to target those areas of Kent most remote from the municipalities.
- ❖ A third piece of good news is that Stéphanie Caissie, with the help of Mario Doiron, Food Resilience Coordinator, has received \$17,000 to upgrade or replace equipment for breakfast programs in the region's schools.
- ❖ And finally, for the "I'm committed to my mental health and well-being" initiative, \$6,000 was received to work with the Resiliency Committee to create a wellness and mental health forum with our partners.

g. Regional Transportation

The transport service now has 27 drivers and over 600 customers in the region who use our services. The search for drivers continues. One challenge we face is with people who have to go to dialysis on a regular basis. Various options are being examined to cater for this clientele. This is something that was briefly discussed with Vitalité at the February 13th meeting, and they were receptive.

h. Recreation Planning

Discussed under item h. Community development.

11. CHAIR REPORT (DECEMBER 14TH, 2023 TO FEBRUARY 7TH, 2024)

December 14, 2023 - Participation in the Town of Champdoré's 5 to 7 mixer

December 21, 2023 - Meeting with Minister of Transport and Infrastructure and his team - Teams

December 21, 2023 - KRSC Board of Directors meeting at Beaurivage

January 2, 2024 - Meeting with Roger Doiron to discuss health issues.

January 11, 2024 - Attendance at Beausoleil art gallery show.

January 17, 2024 - Meeting with Chair, Vice-Chair and Executive Director at Beaurivage

January 27, 2024 - Participation in the opening of the Fernand-Léger skating rink in Champdoré

February 1, 2024 - Special meeting of the KRSC Board of Directors for the health file.

February 5, 2024 – Meeting with Paul Lang and Vitalité by Zoom

12. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT (DECEMBER 14TH, 2023 TO FEBRUARY 7TH, 2024)

December 14 – NB Municipal Working Group – Circular Materials - Zoom

December 14 - KRSC presentation in Baie-Sainte-Anne

December 18 - Discussion KRSC and AAAPNB in Shediac

December 18 – Chair, Vice-Chair and ED meeting - Five Rivers

December 18 - NB Multicultural Council meeting - Teams

December 20 - Discussion community safety plan - Zoom

December 21 - Canadian Centre for Safer Communities - Teams

December 21 - Meeting with François Houde - Beaurivage

December 21 - Meeting with Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure - Teams

December 21 - KRSC Board meeting - Beaurivage

December 22 - Meeting with FCM regarding electric vehicles - Zoom
January 16 - KRSC and Farm Credit Canada meeting - Teams
January 16 - Summary of IRCC funding proposal - Teams
January 17 - Meeting with Gérard Thébeau - Beaurivage
January 17 - Chair, Vice-Chair and ED meeting - Beaurivage
January 18 - AMANB Board of Directors – Zoom
January 18 - RSCs CEO meeting - Zoom
January 18 - RFP score card review - community transportation platform - Zoom
January 23 to January 25 - CMNCP Board Strategic Plan - Calgary
January 30 - Collaboration on the development of a physical activity strategy for NB - Oromocto
January 30 - Information meeting on Mennonite file - Rogersville
February 1 - RFP score #1 - transportation - Zoom
February 1 - RSCs CEO meeting - Zoom
February 1 - Special meeting of the Board of Directors - Beaurivage
February 1 - KRSC Health Committee meeting - Beaurivage
February 5 - Meeting with Vitalité regarding HSMK - Teams
February 5 - RFP score #3 for transportation - Zoom
February 6 - RFP score #4 for transportation - Zoom
February 7 - RFP score #5 for transport - Zoom

13. RESOLUTIONS

No resolutions.

14. NEW BUSINESS

a. Report – meeting with Minister Richard Ames

Paul Lang gives an overview of the meeting with Transport Minister Richard Ames, attended by several of the elected representatives here today. The report of the meeting was circulated, along with a list of the capital projects that will be carried out in 2024. In particular, the KRSC wanted an update on Route 11. The subject of passing lanes that are too short, a concern brought up by elected officials, was addressed and the Ministry took note. Hopefully, extensions will be made this year.

b. Report – meeting with Minister Daniel Allain

Paul Lang gives some context to the meeting with former Minister Daniel Allain concerning his intervention on the Stella-Maris-de-Kent Hospital. The intervention promoted the construction of a new hospital. The Executive Director of the KRSC, as well as the Chairmen of the KRSC and the Health Committee, met with him to learn more about his intentions regarding this statement. The report of the meeting has been circulated.

15. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

No questions from the public.

16. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

2024-010

It is moved by Jean-Charles Daigle, that the adjournment be held at 5:33pm.

CHAIR

Executive Director/Clerk