5.1 COUNCIL’S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

In October of 2020, Truro voters elected six Councillors and a Mayor who, together form the current Town of Truro Municipal Council. This Council will serve until a new Council is elected in October of 2024, as legislated in the Nova Scotia Municipal Government Act and the Nova Scotia Municipal Elections Act.

The powers and responsibilities of Council are set out in the Municipal Government Act. Mayor and Council are elected to represent citizen and community interests by policy and decision-making, including allocation of Municipal revenues. Council’s governance role of the Municipality is connected to operational administration via its Chief Administrative Officer, who is responsible for direction and oversight of Municipal staff.

Council holds regular public meetings that sometimes include an in-camera segment as regulated by the Municipal Government Act. Individual Councillors participate in committees such as the Planning Advisory Committee and the Truro Police Commission, which also include community members. Councillors also interact regularly with their constituents and attend community events.

Along with Council’s on-going duties relating to issues and opportunities on meeting agendas, recent Councils have made it their practice to identify strategic priorities early in their four-year mandates. Truro’s current Council, elected in 2020, developed a list of priority projects and activities soon after election. Priority directions were revisited at the half-way point of their mandate in the context of the Community Plan Review and the extraordinary circumstances of the COVID pandemic and Hurricane Fiona.
Council carefully considered its overall direction of leadership for the community in relation to:

- Community Goals derived from the Truro, Let’s Connect engagement work,
- progress on its strategic projects list,
- new challenges, such as housing availability and inflation.

Council identified the four areas listed below as priorities for the Town of Truro. Under each priority, Council has identified specific topics and strategies needing to be addressed to achieve the priorities.

**FISCAL STEWARDSHIP**
- Financial Reserves
- Infrastructure Stewardship
- Fund Development
- Employment/Labour Pool Participation

**ECOLOGICAL STEWARDSHIP**
- Climate Crisis and Greenhouse Gas Reduction
- Ecological Sustainability
- Prosperity with Sustainability
- Natural Asset Strategy
DESIGNED GROWTH

Housing Crisis
Development by Design/Neighbourhoods
Incentivizing New Municipal Planning Strategy Initiatives
Valuing Heritage
Public Transit & Traffic
Diversity and Immigration Strategy
Economic and Business Development Strategy

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Covid Recovery
Collaboration with Neighbouring Jurisdictions
Politics of Belonging
Youth Attraction & Belonging
Immigration Strategy
Inclusion
Truro to the World!