



January 24, 2018

## **Strategic Planning 2018**

During Council's Strategic Planning initiative in 2014, residents were invited to participate by completing questionnaires and surveys, thus providing Council with valuable information about the desired future of our community. From the information you provided council identified several priorities such as; improve water quality, upgrade Main Street, additional economic development to promote employment, additional recreation infrastructure, and programs that will promote community spirit and a sense of belonging.

We are pleased to report that several of your priority projects were completed over the past four years; approximately 75% of Main Road was upgraded and paved, the remainder will be paved during the next phases of waterline replacement projects; we have a new water treatment plant supplying our residents with pristine water; our walking trail around Maturin Pond is second to none in the province; new economic development activity has provided additional employment for residents; and the new Municipal Complex is a building to be proud of. The new town building is not only a beautiful space, but it is efficient in providing several services from one location. As well, Council will continue to offer community programs that bring people together and promote a sense of belonging within our community.

So, what's next? Where do we go from here?

It's time to reassess, revisit and revise our 2014 Strategic Plan. It's time to do it again!

How do you envision the Town of Long Harbour-Mt. Arlington Heights in 10 or 15 years? What is our desired future? How do we make it happen? We start with a clear picture and a comprehensive plan. Over the next few months, with your help, Council will endeavor to create a new Community Vision and Strategic Plan.

### ***Building Community through Community Vision and Strategic Planning***

#### ***Assessing our Community***

Through the strategic planning process, we will reassess every aspect of our community. What are our strengths? What is unique to our town? How can we build on our strengths? What are our weaknesses? How are we affected by Regional Economic Development? How can we minimize our weaknesses and

take advantage of the economic development in our area? What programs should be implemented? Who should implement them? How do we want our community to look? How can we promote community growth? How can we ensure the wellbeing of our residents? The answers to these questions will provide us with the ability to shape our future as a community.

### ***We need your Input***

A vital element of the strategic planning process is to ensure input from every sector of our community. The needs of our seniors will differ from the needs of our youth. We must ensure all groups are represented. We must give every resident the opportunity to be involved.

What do you think would make the town of Long Harbour-Mt. Arlington Heights a better place to live? How do you want others to view your community? How can we build community spirit? Please send us your thoughts and ideas by completing the enclosed survey and questioner. For your convenience we will place a drop box at our local stores, and at the town office. You can email your ideas to [towncouncil@longharbour.net](mailto:towncouncil@longharbour.net) or [jgosse@longharbour.net](mailto:jgosse@longharbour.net). You can also call the office; our staff will be happy to document your ideas. Your input is the most important part of the strategic planning process. Don't be limited with your ideas. An idea that may seem farfetched may be attainable with the proper planning. Remember this is a community vision so dare to dream!

We plan to collect the drop boxes in two weeks, so please don't miss your opportunity to have your ideas heard.

***“Some Communities allow the future to happen.***

***Successful Communities recognize the future is something they can create!”***

***Create a Community Vision, Plan Strategies, Set Goals, Outline Objectives and  
Take Action!***

***Let the Planning Begin!***