

Alton CLC Meetings Summary - 2017

Meetings held: February 27, April 3, May 15, August 21, September 25

February 27

Meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm.

The Agenda was approved. Committee agreed to discuss CLC structure and plan. Alton representative explained that once a year the province's [Guide for the Formation and Operation of a Community Liaison Committee](#) requires the CLC to review its objectives, mandate and membership. CLC members asked to bring input on a Terms of Reference to the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8 pm.

April 3

Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm.

There was considerable discussion about membership to the CLC, in particular the section *CLC Member's Roles and Responsibilities* (page 3 of [Guide for the Formation and Operation of a Community Liaison Committee](#)), and aligning with it. A motion was carried that membership should not be granted to candidates who do not meet the criteria in this section.

Feedback received from CLC members on Terms of Reference and Terms of Reference to be circulated to CLC members and posted on the Alton website.

Alton representative reported that winter activity at the river and cavern sites is quiet. The representative said discussions about the project continue with individuals and organizations and with the Mi'kmaq.

Recent media about Alton was shared with CLC members, including [Alton's response to an opinion-editorial published in The Chronicle Herald](#).

Alton representatives to attend the Youth Expo in Brookfield on April 22, 2017.

Feedback from CLC member that [Alton newsletter mailed to local residents in January 2017](#) was well received.

Meeting adjourned at 8 pm.

May 15

Meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm.

Members toured the research lab at Dalhousie University, Faculty of Agriculture, where salinity tolerance testing taking place on Striped bass eggs, larvae and juveniles.

Alton representative shared recent updates to the Alton website, www.altonnaturalgasstorage.ca, such as addition of Frequently Asked Questions section, and provided an update on community activity.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

August 21

Meeting was called to order at 6:50 pm.

A representative of Ikanawtiket provided members with a presentation on the Shubenacadie River study taking place to examine the water quality of tributaries flowing into the river. The study is described in the [January newsletter for Alton](#), pages 6 and 7.

An Alton representative shared information on Alton from the AltaGas quarterly results on July 27, 2017, that brining for cavern development is expected to begin in late 2017 or early 2018.

An Alton representative shared that the Environment section on the Alton website has been updated and includes a new slide deck to explain river monitoring, research and environmental protections. See www.altonnaturalgasstorage.ca/environment

An Alton representative provided an update on local community activities including support for the new playground at Dennis Park in Stewiacke.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

September 25

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm. The Agenda was approved.

Charles Lyons, the Vice-President for Environment, Health, Safety, Security and Sustainability for AltaGas, provided an overview of environmental protections and safeguards at Alton. A summary of the protections is available in a presentation on the [Environment page](#) of the Alton website.

A CLC member asked what emergency training would be provided to local first responders for the storage facility. Lyons said educational sessions can be provided to local first responders, in coordination with other training they already receive on natural gas. Training would take place as the in-service date for Alton gets closer.

CLC members asked about the routing for the natural gas line to connect the Alton site with the Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline. Lyons explained that the route is still being finalized. See the [Regulatory section](#) of the Alton website for information on the pipeline environmental assessment which was approved in May 2013.

CLC members shared that many people do not understand that the brining process can not take place when natural salinity in the Shubenacadie River estuary reaches 28 parts per thousand. Brining operations are required to stop when river salinity reaches this level. It was suggested that additional communication to the public is needed on this matter. An Alton representative referred CLC members to the information on salinity on page 2 in the [January newsletter](#) for background, as well as the [Fish Monitoring Trial](#) information including the two-minute video.

An Alton representative shared that the [September community newsletter](#) is posted to the Alton website and distribution of print copies underway to local residents and stakeholders.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.