

FORM "A"

TO BE COMPLETED BY ANYONE

WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL

No decision will be made at the same meeting as your presentation.

Names of individuals making the presentation:

Christy Conrad

Points to be made:

concerns about who can use the multi use flag pole ; concerns about the flag policy.

Purpose and any requests that may be forthcoming from the presentation:

requests are attached.

Please attach a copy of your written or power point presentation.

Time requested for presentation:

15 minutes 30 minutes

Christy Conrad
Signature

Print Name: Christy Conrad

Mailing Address: Box 144, Shag Harbour, Bow 3B0

Phone Number: 902-635-0514

E-mail address: 6352352@gmail.com

Will you require a projector and computer for your presentation? no

NOTE: Individuals or groups making presentations are required to address their comments and questions to the Chair of the Meeting only.

Form "A" must be returned at least 7 days in advance of the Meeting you wish to attend.

May 30, 2023

To The Council of the Barrington Municipality, Warden, CAO and Whomever it May Concern,

First of all, we thank you for your dedication as elected representatives serving our community. I presume it is a difficult task to provide a nondiscriminatory voice to a multitude of issues.

We address you as concerned constituents within your municipality. At this time, our concern lays with the municipality's flag policy, Policy No.55. It has come to our attention that the LGBTQ2+ community will have a flag flying from June until October. The list of flags to be flown is as follows:

July 2- July 15: Canadian Pride Flag

July 26-29: Lesbian Pride Flag

July 30- August 12: Transgender Pride Flag

August 27- September 9: Pansexual Pride Flag

September 10- September 23: Straight Ally Flag

September 24- October 7: Bisexual Pride Flag

This seems excessive and unreasonable for one group/organization to monopolize the municipal flag pole for the intent of bringing attention to sexual identity or preference.

Our flag policy states that "The Municipality will not approve applications from community organizations in support of: political parties, religious parties or groups or organizations that support social or racial intolerance, violence and hatred."

Allegedly, to many people the rainbow flag represents aversion or hostility of Christianity, a radical ideology being pushed into schools and businesses, loss of religious liberty and forced celebration of sexual perversion. This is seen over and over in the news as we see more and more communities standing up against this radical theology, such as Drag Queen book reading being cancelled and LGBTQ flags being taken down across North America.

Believing in Jesus and God and living as a Christian is my chosen lifestyle. Just as the LGBTQ2+ community want to celebrate their chosen lifestyle with a flag I would like acceptance to celebrate mine in the same way, but as it stands our policy only allows certain groups to do this. Unfortunately this policy is not inclusive.

Our community does so much good for so many that we should be promoting and celebrating that. We never want to exclude anyone, but do we need to constantly be celebrating sexual identity/preference?

We have several recommendations to present to the council for changes to the Flag Policy to make it more inclusive to all. Our first choice would be #1.

1. Change our policy and allow only the national Canadian flag or provincial Nova Scotia flag to be flown. These two flags would be inclusive of all residents of our country and province. This would also prevent our flag pole from being used by exclusive groups.

or

2. Change the “will not approve” section to include not only political or religious flags, but also flags in support of personal beliefs, lifestyle choices and sexual preference.

and/or

3. And/or Limit how many times per year the same individual or organization can request a flag flown.

Thank you for your time. I hope that our concerns will be taken seriously and considered with an open mind.

Sincerely,

Your Concerned Constituents



POLICY NO. 55 FLAG POLICY

1. This policy is designed to establish a consistent protocol and management for the flying of flags on Municipality of Barrington properties.
2. The purpose of this policy is:
 - a. To establish a policy that provides clear direction with regards to flying flags on properties and flagpoles owned by the Municipality.
 - b. To provide guidelines for use of the Special Purpose Flagpole, located adjacent to the Kiack Brook, in Barrington.
3. It shall be the policy of the Municipality that no flag, other than the Official Canadian Flag, Official Provincial Flag or a Municipal Flag will be flown from a municipally owned flagpole or municipally owned property, notwithstanding Section 4.
4. The Municipality receives requests to fly flags in recognition of a variety of events and organizations. To enable meeting these requests the Municipality of Barrington has adopted the following guidelines for the Special Purpose Flagpole located adjacent to the Kiack Brook, in Barrington.
 - a) The flagpole will be designated for groups and organizations who request that their event flag be flown for a specific period of time. The maximum period of time for a single flag to be flown is two (2) weeks.
 - b) All requests must be received on the attached Application Form - Appendix A, from organizations wishing to have their flag flown. Applications are to be submitted a minimum of one (1) month prior to the date the group would like the flag flown. A calendar will be maintained by the office of the CAO to track availability. Consideration will be given to the order in which requests are received.

- c) All applications will be reviewed by the CAO for approval.
 - d) Approved applicants must provide the flag they wish to have flown at least one (1) week prior to the date it is to be flown and pick it up within a week of it being removed. The Municipality will not fly a flag that is in poor condition and is not responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged flag while it is on the flagpole.
 - e) The Municipality will not approve applications from community organizations in support of:
 - political parties
 - religious groups
 - community groups or organizations that support social or racial intolerance, violence or hatred.
5. Notwithstanding Section 4, other governmental flags may be flown on the Special Purpose flagpole as deemed appropriate by the Chief Administrative Officer, as in the case of a visiting dignitary for the duration of their visit to the Municipality.
6. When there is no Special Purpose Flag flown on the flagpole, the Nova Scotia flag shall be flown.
7. The public will be advised of the significance of the flag being flown on the Special Purpose Flagpole through communications efforts on the Municipality of Barrington's social media pages.



APPENDIX A

**MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF BARRINGTON
Application for Flying a Flag on the Special Purpose Flagpole**

Consideration will be given to the order in which applications are received.

Please note: To have an application considered by the Chief Administrative Officer this form must be submitted at least one month prior to the date being requested. Once the CAO reaches a decision, you will be advised by staff through the contact information you provide below. Approved applicants must provide the flag noted in their application at least one week prior to the date of the flag being flown and will be requested to provide a jpeg file of their flag, along with promotional text/media release. Approved flags may be dropped off at the Administrative Centre, 2447 Highway 3, Barrington, Nova Scotia during business hours.

Community Organization Requesting Flag to be Flown: _____

Flag to be Flown: _____

Significance of Flag: If additional space is required, please attach information to the application form. This information may be used in MoDB social media posts regarding the flag being flown:

Contact Person: _____

Contact Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Contact Email address: _____

Please indicate the dates of the two (2) week period that your organization would like the flag flown, along with a second choice should the first choice be unavailable:

First Choice: _____ Second Choice: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Chief Administrative Officer’s Annotation for Official Policy Book

Date of Notice to Council members of Intent to Consider	October 15, 2019
Date of Passage of current Policy	October 28, 2019
I certify that this Policy No. 55 “Flag Policy” was adopted by Council as indicated above to replace existing Flag Policy.	
_____	_____
Chris Frotten Chief Administrative Officer	Date

VERSION LOG

Version Number	Amendment Description	Amendment/Policy Owner	Approved By	Approval Date
1	Approved Policy of Council	CAO	Council	October 28, 2019