

A scenic view of a rocky stream flowing through a wooded area. The stream is surrounded by large, dark grey rocks and a concrete path that leads through the rocks. The water is clear and reflects the surrounding trees. The background shows a dense forest of bare trees, suggesting a late autumn or winter setting. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

**THE WILLIAMS LAKE DAM
MURRAY COOLICAN
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOVEMBER 9,
2021**

The Dam should be repaired or re-built

The Dam should be repaired or re-built:

- to protect the lake habitat and surrounding wilderness,
- to maintain a community recreation asset
- to protect the HRM, federal and provincial government investments in the Shaw Wilderness Park



The Two Alternatives

Two alternatives:

- 1 Re-build of dam as per 2005 engineering report at an estimated cost of \$1.5 million.
 - 2 Repair of existing dam using Poly-Mor technology at an estimated cost of \$60,000.
- Williams Lake Dam Association (WLDA) and WLCC have raised the public profile of this issue, enlisted hundreds of HRM residents (over 1,000 signatures on our petition!), engaged with all three levels of government and elected representatives.

Recent Chronology

Fall 2018:

- WLCC Dam committee formed, chaired by Cathy Vaughan to locate all documents relevant to the dam for briefing package for government, housed on WLCC website. Identify governmental/political contacts.

Jan. 2020:

- Shaw Wilderness Park opened

Summer 2020:

- Williams Lake Dam Association (WLDA) formed by Margo Kerr
- Williams Lake Dam Association Facebook page launched with “Petition” and daily posts of the plight of ‘disappearing” lake
- WLCC Dam Committee teamed with WLDA - two separate groups to act as one team.

Recent Chronology

Sept. 2020:

- Williams Lake mudflat photo on front page paper generated the needed public voice.
- “Get Loud” Public Education letter hand-delivered to area around the lake
- Three stories, monthly, in Chebucto News highlighted plight of lake.
- Weekly posts on WLDA FB Page on the state of the lake, 500 followers.
- Press Release by Margo K, netted CBC, Global News, articles, interview on lake with Colleen Jones, radio spots, focused on 5’ drop in lake levels, mudflats, loss of public access to lake.
- Shawn Cleary commits to help.

Recent Chronology

Oct. 2020:

- Motion by Shawn Cleary for HRM report on remediation of the dam and Williams Lake watershed accepted by council
- Meeting with Brendan Maguire, MLA
- Poly-mor Charlie Passey contacted WLDA and WLCC to propose solution

Dec 2020

- New councillors toured dam, Patty Cuttell, Katherine Morse, Kathy Deagle-Gammon, Shawn Cleary

Jan 2021

- Polymor meeting at the dam to consult

April 2021

- HRM Dept of Parks, Recreation & Design meeting at dam

Recent Chronology

April 2020:

- HRM Dept of Parks, Recreation & Design meeting at dam.

June 2021:

- Letter writing campaign to key political and government people by Margo K

Aug. 2021:

- Premier Rankin visited the dam
- All three candidates supported resolving the issue – Brendan Maguire, Liberal, Tim Cranston PC and Shauna Hatt, NDP.

Currently:

- Key contacts continue with government
- WLCC+WLDA team monthly strategy meetings
- WLDA - daily posts on the lake
- Chebucto News - 3 articles each month

Questions & Comments at End of the Meeting

