



Town of Small Point to Adams Cove What We Heard - Town Hall #8 Meeting Summary

June 25, 2026

Thank you to everyone who attended our June Town Hall, both in person and online. If you were unable to join us, [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#) of the Town Hall are available on the Town's Facebook page, and we encourage everyone to take some time to watch the presentations and discussions.

The evening began with updates on several recovery initiatives currently underway in the community. Residents heard about the continued progress on the Town's **Updated Emergency Management Plan** - which is expected to be completed this summer, and a **Community Resilience Plan co-hort**, which is a collaborative plan between the Town and the unincorporated areas. Both of which will help strengthen our preparedness for future emergencies and guide long-term recovery and sustainability. The Town also updated residents on the implementation of recovery initiatives such as social events and programs, civic numbering and 911 mapping, and partnership opportunities.

Council shared the results of the recent soil re-testing with the Department of Forestry, which has confirmed there are no health risks or long-term contaminants in the soil. Updates were provided regarding upcoming roadside brush clearing by GNL and ongoing reforestation work with FAL along Route 70 and in town, and the Community Foundations of Newfoundland and Labrador recovery fundraisers. Read more about the CFNL funds on their website [here](#).

Brush Clearing on the North Shore main road was discussed, a date is to come from GNL (Province) regarding a start date, work is to be completed by July 31st. Contractors will provide 2 days of mulching services at no charge to residents at a designated location (location and dates are TBD). Additional brush removal needs have further been discussed by The Town and how Council can best support residents who have brush without the means to move it to the mulching site. More information to follow soon.

Residents were reminded of the successful **NL EnviroFest Community Day**, where more than 80 volunteers joined Newfoundland Power employees to begin transforming Broad Cove into a new community park by planting trees and shrubs, laying sod, clearing debris, and installing the entrance sign along with benches. This is a multi-phase project, Council will continue to update residents as the work progresses.

Council encouraged residents to participate in the [Broad Cove Park Naming Contest](#). The winning name will become part of the park's legacy for generations to come as it continues to grow and develop. Submit your name suggestion for the new park and you'll be entered for a chance to win **\$300 in gift certificates to local businesses!** A link to the submission form is available on the Town's [website](#).

Mennonite Disaster Services (MDS)

Residents welcomed representatives from [Mennonite Disaster Services \(MDS\)](#), a Canadian and U.S. non-profit, faith-based organization that helps communities recover from natural disasters by providing skilled volunteers to assist with rebuilding and repair projects.

MDS explained that their visit is an initial assessment to better understand the housing needs within our community and determine whether they can establish a rebuilding project on the North Shore. If approved, volunteer crews would likely begin work during the **2027 building season with an estimated 3-5 homes potentially built**. On this visit they were focused on identifying potential accommodations for volunteers, assessing damage and need from the wildfires, and meeting supporting agencies and locals.

MDS provides **volunteer labour**, while building materials must be funded by the home owner or through other sources. They work closely with local partners—including the Canadian Red Cross and Habitat For Humanity (located in St. John's) to determine homeowner eligibility and identify those with the greatest rebuilding needs. While many details are still being finalized, MDS emphasized that they are committed to working alongside local organizations to ensure support reaches those who need it most. Discussions will continue with MDS, the Canadian Red Cross, and Habitat For Humanity.

Broad Cove Park Development (TRACT Consulting)

TRACT Consulting is partnering with the Town to develop and implement the Broad Cove Park Development project. This multi-year initiative will transform the wildfire-impacted area into a destination for recreation, environmental restoration, and community gathering.

The new proposed park extends from Broad Cove beach, through the Melvin Burden Memorial Ball field and Broad Cove Brook corridor, following the brook and waterfalls, and connecting to Broad Cove Pond. The vision is to create a continuous linear park that celebrates the area's natural beauty while improving public access and recreational opportunities.

The Broad Cove Park Development project was recently awarded approximately \$37,000 through the Community Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador (CFNL) as part of a North Shore community infrastructure fundraiser. The funding followed a collaborative discussion among North Shore communities to determine priority projects, with other initiatives, such as the Western Bay Boardwalk repairs, also receiving support. The Town is grateful to the many residents, businesses, organizations, and donors whose generosity has made these investments possible.

Tract presented the proposed plans, the concept includes:

- A trail system linking Broad Cove Beach, Broad Cove Brook, waterfalls, and Broad Cove Pond.
- Restoration of natural areas impacted by the wildfire.
- Improvements to the swimming area damaged during the wildfire.
- Enhanced access to Broad Cove Beach.
- Redevelopment of the Melvin Burden Memorial ball field while preserving its existing name.
- New gathering spaces, picnic areas, playgrounds, lookouts, walking trails, and recreational amenities.

- Future opportunities for kayaking, canoeing, paddle boarding, and other non-motorized recreation at Broad Cove Pond, subject to environmental approvals.
- Improved signage, lighting, accessibility, and future Wi-Fi in key park areas.

TRACT explained that the project will be completed in phases and that future development will depend on community input, environmental approvals, and available funding. Throughout the planning process, the focus will remain on creating a park that is environmentally responsible, financially sustainable, and beneficial for both residents and visitors. The Town announced the new [Broad Cove Pond Fund](#) with Community Foundations of Newfoundland and Labrador for ongoing support. Discussion was had with residents on the potential impact of the park, expected number of visitors, and funding sources.

Looking Ahead

The Town appreciates the valuable feedback shared throughout the evening. Both the housing recovery work with Mennonite Disaster Services and the Broad Cove Park Development Project represent important milestones in our community's long-term recovery.

As these initiatives continue to progress, residents will have additional opportunities to provide input and stay informed through future Town Halls and community updates.

Mennonite Disaster Services (MDS) Questions & Answers

Q: Does MDS only build new homes, or can you also help with repairs and cleanup?

A: MDS primarily provides volunteer labour for rebuilding homes after disasters, but depending on community needs and volunteer availability, they may also assist with repairs and cleanup projects. Any future work in this community would likely begin during the next building season.

Q: Would building happen this year?

A: No. Due to planning requirements and volunteer scheduling, MDS indicated that any potential project in the community would most likely begin next year in 2027.

Q: How are homeowners selected, and how does the building process work?

A: MDS has eligibility criteria for candidate households, and works with organizations like the Red Cross to identify eligible homeowners. They use standardized home plans that are designed for volunteer construction while meeting engineering requirements. Licensed trades would complete specialized work such as electrical and plumbing where required.

Q: How is MDS different from Habitat for Humanity?

A: MDS explained that while both organizations rely on volunteer labour to help build homes, their programs serve different purposes. Mennonite Disaster Services (MDS) focuses on helping communities recover after natural disasters by providing volunteer labour for rebuilding and repair projects. Habitat for Humanity focuses on creating affordable home ownership opportunities, where qualified families purchase homes through an affordable mortgage program. Both MDS and Habitat for Humanity have their own eligibility and housing programs that they offer based on identified needs.

Q: Does MDS help communities build long-term capacity after disasters?

A: MDS explained that its primary focus is rebuilding homes and helping individual families recover.

Broad Cove Park Presentation Questions & Answers

Q: Is the Melvin Burden Ball field being renamed?

A: No. The Melvin Burden Memorial Ballfield will keep its current name. The naming contest is for the new overall park, not the ball field itself.

Q: Can people currently use the swimming hole?

A: Not at this time. The area was impacted by wildfire response work and subsequent flooding. Repairs and restoration are underway, and the Town will notify residents when it is safe to reopen.

Q: How many visitors do you expect the park to attract?

A: TRACT explained that exact numbers are difficult to predict. The primary goal is to improve quality of life for residents while also creating a destination that attracts visitors, supports tourism, and encourages economic growth. Visitor numbers will be monitored if the project proceeds.

Q: Is the park intended mainly for tourists?

A: No. The consultants emphasized that the project is first and foremost for local residents. Tourism is an added benefit that may help attract funding and support local businesses.

Q: How will vandalism and security be addressed?

A: The consultants advised that regular maintenance and prompt repair of any vandalism are the best deterrents. Security and operational considerations will continue to be part of the planning process.

Q: Can the Town afford to maintain a project of this size?

A: Council acknowledged this concern and stated that the project is still in the planning stages. They emphasized that they will not move forward with infrastructure that the Town cannot realistically maintain. Long-term operating costs and sustainable funding will be considered before implementation. Tract presented many building ideas and techniques that require little maintenance, including using rock structures and natural elements while limiting materials like boardwalks which require ongoing repairs.

Q: Will the project help the local economy?

A: Yes. TRACT explained that the project has the potential to attract visitors, support local businesses, encourage investment, improve quality of life, and help attract new families to the community, while still maintaining its primary focus on serving residents

Q: How long will the Broad Cove Park project take?

A: The Broad Cove Park Development Project is a long-term, multi-year initiative that will be completed in phases as funding, approvals, and community priorities allow. The project is expected to be developed over several years, with Phase 1 anticipated to be substantially completed by next year. This phased approach allows the Town to move forward in a financially sustainable way while continuing to incorporate community feedback throughout the process. The Town realizes access to the swimming hole is a priority but requires additional funds and work to re-open the road to public access after the damages.