



## Request for Agenda Item

**Date of Committee of the Whole Council Meeting: July 18, 2023**

(Requests must be submitted to the Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon on Wednesday before the meeting)

**Subject: Seeking the declassification of local clam flat to enable recreational clamming.**

**Motion to be Considered:** Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that

**Therefore, be it resolved that the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program - administered jointly by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada - be requested by Council to declassify coastal clam flats within The Municipality of Barrington and to open those traditional sites for recreational clamming purposes.**

**Further, be it resolved that the correspondence-request to declassify coastal clam flats within the Municipality of Barrington be directed to the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program, including all federal departments who share in the administration of this program. And, that this correspondence also be cc'd to our Federal Member of Parliament and to other municipal councils within the Tri-Counties.**

**Whereas** there is a growing problem with food-insecurity in our community and local residents could supplement their food supply through recreational clamming;

**Whereas** steamer clams (& quahogs) along our tidal flats are not considered a species under threat;

**Whereas** recreational clamming has been a traditional activity and safe practice in the MoB for centuries;

**Whereas** toxicity concerns have not prompted any Federal or Provincial Agency to prohibit the recreational harvesting of wild mushrooms,

And, **Whereas**, safety concerns around the recreational harvesting of wild mushrooms is left solely to the knowledge, common sense, experience, and safe-practices of individual mushroom harvesters;

And, **Whereas**, recreational clam harvesters possess equal levels of knowledge, common sense, experience, and safe-practice around the clam resource, as do harvesters of the wild mushroom resource do;

**Whereas**, there appears to be no reason to classify our local clam flats since not one Federal Agency - including the CSSP, CFIA, ECCC, or DFO - are accepting any current responsibility for testing such areas for resource toxicity nor for resource safety;

**Whereas**, if the Federal Government has any concern about toxicity in the absence of ongoing testing, then recreational clamming licences could be required at no cost before anyone is permitted to engage in this activity and, along with the issuance of such licences, recreational harvesters could also sign a waiver indicating that they are aware possible shellfish toxicity and that they indemnify and save harmless anyone from harvesting clams or preparing them solely at their own risk.

<b>Councillor: Shaun Hatfield</b>	<b>Date: July 12, 2023</b>