

Hello,

July 7, 2024

We are following up with an update regarding the temporary closure of the Lawrence House Museum. We have begun the process of working with the Maitland community to determine the best path forward. In the past couple of weeks, as a first step, we have had conversations online with residents, representatives of several community groups and the municipality. We greatly appreciate everyone's passion for Lawrence House and are thankful that so many were willing to share their thoughts, ideas and time. We have learned much.

Below are some common themes that emerged from our discussions:

- o Lawrence House is an important heritage site in the community and part of the broader tourism ecosystem of the region.
- o There is a desire to increase community involvement and access to the museum and grounds.
- o There is potential for the museum site to do more programming and events.
- o Some changes to the site operations will be necessary to ensure the stability of the museum in the future.

We will continue to have conversations with community members and may reach out to some of you again for follow-up. Then, we will arrange for an in-person community meeting this summer to report back on what we've heard and to discuss some possible options for moving forward.

A reminder that we are committed to making the museum available for community events and celebrations as requested. As well, the museum site will be maintained to ensure the safety of the building and upkeep of the grounds.

Once again, thank you for your interest and goodwill as we plan for the future of Lawrence House Museum.

Sincerely,

Laura Bennett, Director, Nova Scotia Museum and

Stephanie Smith, Executive Director, Archives, Museums & Libraries