

Establishing the Regional Municipality of Grand Tracadie-Sheila

This fact sheet provides a quick overview of your new local government.

A Snapshot of the new Regional Municipality of Grand Tracadie-Sheila

- ◆ Grand Tracadie-Sheila (GTS) represents a partnership between 20 local service districts (18 full LSDs and a portion of two others) and the town of Tracadie-Sheila, and is the first local government of its kind in the Province.
- ◆ GTS will have 8 voting wards (6 rural and 2 urban wards), represented by a council of one mayor and ten councillors—elected by residents. One councillor will be elected in each of the rural wards and two each in the urban wards.
- ◆ Once incorporated, your regional municipality, with more than 16,000 residents, will be part of the Province's Top 10 most populated local governments.

Residents and Council Voted “Yes” —Here's What to Expect Next

Since the December 2013 plebiscite, a variety of efforts have been put in motion to officially establish your new regional municipality. Outlined below are dates and events of interest:

- ◆ Currently, efforts are underway to establish the regional municipality of GTS in law, under the *Municipalities Act*. A new regulation is expected to be approved in March 2014.

Two **public information sessions** will take place in your community to speak to what it means to be a regional municipality, to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the regional municipality council, and to encourage residents to consider running for council. The first session will take place **March 12, 2014 at Polyvalente W.-A. Losier (585, rue de l'Église Street) at 7:00 p.m.** and the second, on **March 19, 2014, 7:00 p.m., at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Pont-Landry (5520, Highway 160)**. GTS residents are encouraged to attend an information session.

- ◆ Council nominations open on March 29, 2014 and close April 17, 2014, for eligible GTS residents who are interested in running for council.
- ◆ On May 12, 2014, GTS residents will elect their very first regional municipality council during municipal elections.
- ◆ Swearing in of the newly elected council, the first meeting of council, the appointment of a clerk, and an inauguration ceremony, will take place May 26, 2014 in GTS.
- ◆ July 1, 2014, will be the official incorporation day for GTS. On this day, the newly elected council will officially take over community affairs.

The time between election-day (May 12) and incorporation day (July 1) is a transitional period for the new council members to allow them to familiarize themselves with their roles and responsibilities. During this time, council of the former town of Tracadie-Sheila will continue to represent the town, with limited powers (i.e. decisions of significance will wait for the new council). Likewise, LSDs will continue to be supported by the area local services manager.

The Department of Environment and Local Government (ELG) is committed to working with you to support the transition to a regional municipality. Please direct questions to André Sonier, area local services manager for ELG, 394-3868.