

Kicking the Fossil Fuel Habit

The Municipality has a long term energy strategy that will position the District of Digby as the greenest municipality and one of the most energy efficient areas in the province. There are many reasons for this progressive initiative that places the District of Digby as a leader in renewable energy. Reducing our fossil fuel dependency requires a long term strategy and supportive policies to create the environment needed to make this happen. Initiatives like these are an investment into the future by taking advantage of the natural renewable resources abundant in our region. The economic and population decline of our rural communities has been prevalent for many years. The economy has shifted to urban centers and with the recent world financial uncertainties, the struggle for rural communities to compete is even more difficult. For a community to grow and create new jobs you need to know what you have and how that can be converted to positive sustainable development.

One of the main obstacles the district has lies in the electrical power grid system from Tremont to Digby (69 kv). This system has very little transmission capacity for additional energy sources like wind, tidal or solar to supply additional electricity to the power

grid. To solve this infrastructure problem an innovative approach is being pursued. The plan would be to start the process to move from fossil fuel dependent electricity by utilizing our own renewable electricity generated through tidal, wind, solar, biogas and biomass. This, combined with efforts to install energy efficient devices such as electric thermal storage (ETS) and heat pumps, will help the effort by consuming the renewable energy locally. Along with this homeowners can then take advantage of low power rates through a *Time Of Day Use Program* provided by NS Power (www.nspower.ca). The overall impact of this will be that the Digby area will use less electricity generated by fossil fuel and move towards more clean use of locally produced electricity. Locally produced electricity can lead to other viable transportation options like hybrid electric cars, trucks, buses, ferries and facility equipment like ATVs.

The price of oil has been climbing over the past 40 years and it looks like that is not going to change any time soon. This means heating costs using oil will also increase. Sixty percent of Nova Scotia's electricity is generated by coal and oil. Renewable energy offers an environmentally friendlier power that utilizes our natural

resources and stabilizes energy costs over a long period of time. There is also the employment side to renewable energy. New skills to maintain, install and operate the new systems are required. Site managers and utility supervisors will also be needed.

Along the green energy path, the Digby Industrial Park in Seabrook is now focused on attracting green energy suppliers and manufacturers. The park is specializing in accommodating companies that have their sites set on further developing their products to better meet the emerging green energy markets in the United States, Canada, and Europe. All of this is happening while work continues with tidal developers locally and abroad to establish here to harness energy from the Bay of Fundy.

Renewable green energy represents the *Feather in our Cap*. Our opportunity to be a leader on an emerging world stage. It is this Municipality's vision to forge ahead in this direction. We can do this for us and for future generations. It all starts with you!



Welcome Aboard Jeff

Jeff Sunderland is the new Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for the Municipality of Digby. He succeeds Gordon Wilson who is now the provincial MLA for the constituency of Clare-Digby.

Jeff was previously the Harbour Manager for the Digby Harbour Port Association (DHPA) where, over the past five years, he successfully played a key role in managing the \$10.7 million funding for the major infrastructure improvements to the Digby wharf and waterfront environs.



The Moncton, NB native arrived in Digby in 2002 with a degree in Journalism from the University of Kings College and began his career as a reporter with the Digby Courier. He subsequently pursued a variety of business opportunities before assuming his position with the DHPA.

“My experience in the community has convinced me that the Digby area is poised for a bright future,” Sunderland said. “And I’m excited about being able to help manage those positive challenges and the opportunities that they offer.”

The Municipality believes Jeff’s managerial and communications skills will be a decided advantage in administering its ongoing agenda.

“We are pleased to welcome Jeff as a member of our Municipal team,” said CAO Linda Fraser. “His unique skill set will be a real asset in addressing the opportunities and challenges ahead.”

Jeff, his wife Cara (Haynes) and their four boys reside in the municipality where the entire family is also active in a number of volunteer community activities.

When will my road get plowed?

Plowing Priorities

*100-Series and trunk highways and other high traffic roads *

Cleared within 8 hours after snow stops.

*Secondary routes and other medium volume roads * Cleared within 12 hours after snow stops.

*Local paved roads, most subdivisions and residential streets

* Cleared within 24 hours after snow stops.

*Gravel roads * Cleared within 24 hours after snow stops .



Salting and Sanding

*100-Series and trunk highways and other high traffic roads * Salted to achieve bare pavement.

Salt applied before, during and after a storm if required.

*Secondary routes and other medium volume roads *Salted to achieve a bare centre line.

Salt applied at beginning of storm

and after a storm if required.

*Local paved roads, most subdivisions and residential streets

*Salted to achieve a bare centre line. Salt applied only after a storm.

*Gravel roads * Snow packed Sanding as needed

Delays in Service

We have more than 500 vehicles servicing roads throughout the province. During storms, most of our equipment is focused on keeping major highways passable. This may delay service to other roads.

www.gov.ns.ca/tran/winter

Highway conditions: 511

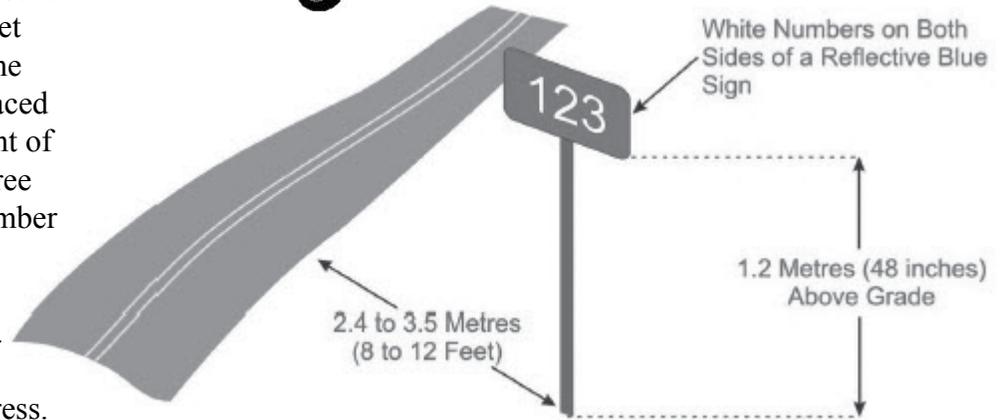
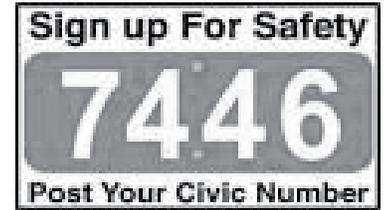
Local road information:

1-888-432-3233

Civic Numbering

Make it Clear Where You Are

The importance of posting your civic number cannot be understated. The number should be positioned in a clear location easily visible by emergency personnel arriving in your vicinity. Civic numbers should be placed no lower than four feet or 1.3 meters off the ground. The civic number should also be placed close to the road directly in front of the premises. Keep brush and tree limbs away from your civic number so visibility is not obstructed. For more information on civic numbers go to: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/access/land/land-services-information/civic-address.asp>



If you require a civic number plate please contact the Digby Neck Fire Department at: 245-2651 or the Digby Fire Department at 245-4958

Exotic Pets

– Have you done your homework?

Will your new Fluffy or Fido have fangs or feathers? Exotic animal ownership is one of the fastest growing sectors in the pet industry. Different species present different challenges, so before bringing home that unusual animal, there are some important factors to consider. For instance, there are laws in regard to exotic wildlife species. Some animals are illegal to keep as pets, sell or import into Nova Scotia. Some species require a special permit and some are no problem at all and require no permit.

Dietary requirements of exotic animals are specific and often not

readily available. If exotic pets are not properly cared for they can develop diseases that are expensive to treat and require specialized veterinary care. Some diseases of exotic species are capable of being transferred from the animal to humans. Exotic animals typically require a specific kind of enclosure which can be very expensive to set up and maintain. They can be very clever at escaping and rarely come when called. The importance of keeping exotic pets properly contained cannot be overemphasized as escaped animals can pose serious human health risks through bites or stings. If escaped or released exotic pets manage to survive in our climate they can have devastating effects on our native animals, some of which are already at risk. All pets come

with pros and cons, but exotic pets often have negative factors that need special consideration before the animal joins a human family. For more information regarding what pets are prohibited or require a permit please contact your local office of the Department of Natural Resources 902-638-2385 or visit <http://novascotia.ca/natr/wildlife/laws/captivewildlife.asp>



Council Activities

District #1 Jimmy MacAlpine

Attended a Library Board Association of Nova Scotia Board meeting; helped serve residents for the Christmas dinner at Tideview on Dec.9th, and on January 28th Rob Hersey and I attended a meeting with representatives of the Bear River Board of Trade to discuss the development of municipal property for a parking lot in Bear River.

District #2 Maritza Adams

Attended the luncheon celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Senior Safety Program. Organized, with Warden Gregory, the New Years Day Levee.

District #3 Linda Gregory

There have been many challenges in our area since the last Coastline. I have attended many meeting and events in the Municipality. I have been noting the concerns of fishermen to the office of our MP Greg Kerr; regarding utilizing computers to register for their personal fishing licenses. I attended and aided in our New Year's Day Levee, where I got to see all who attended this fun event. I have spoken with our MLA, Gordon Wilson, regarding constituent's concerns on numerous occasions. On a lighter note, one of my highlights was attending Stan Comeau's surprise 90th birthday party. I also got to attend the Robbie Burns Dinner. I am pleased that Mr. Dan Harvey is meeting with people regarding our economic development, and thanks to him the long since awaited high speed internet service for Digby Neck and the Islands is coming to fruition.

District #4 David Tudor

Went to numerous meetings
Actively assisting the establishment of high speed internet for the Islands.
Helping people with business plans.
Giving a hand to those who need it.
If you, or you know anyone, who needs assistance please contact me so I can help. 839-2630

District # 5 George Manzer

Attending Sustainability Conference Feb.11-13
Thanks to Stacy and Tammy for organizing the Parade of Lights in Weymouth on Dec 21. Good Job!!!!

Municipal Council Meetings 6pm

Committee of the Whole	February 10
Council	February 24
Committee of the Whole	March 10
Council	March 24

Milestone

Congratulations to Stan Comeau for celebrating his 90th Birthday January 2.

Our website has had a makeover! Take a look at www.dala.digby.ns.ca.

We offer free tutoring to help you prepare to write the GED tests (evening hours).

GED info at <http://gonssal.ca>

Phone: 245-7530



Congratulations to:

The Digby & Area Lion's Club

This past December the Digby & Area Lion's Club received top accolades from Lion's Club International for recruiting the most new members for a club of its size in all of Canada.

Directory of Municipal Services Councillors

Warden Linda Gregory

245-2616 lgregory@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Deputy Warden Jimmy MacAlpine

245-4651 jmacalpine@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Maritza Adams

245-6671 madams@municipality.digby.ns.ca

George Manzer

837-4353 gmanzer@municipality.digby.ns.ca

David Tudor

839-2630 dtudor@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Municipal Offices

General Inquiries	245-4777
Building & Fire Inspector	245-6776
Airport	245-5885
Dog Control Officer	245-5885
REMO	245-6252
Heritage	245-4757
Renewable Energy/Climate Change	245-4767

Milestone Certificates

Council provides a certificate of recognition to groups and individuals for significant milestones or achievements. To find out more go to:

www.digbydistrict.ca for details.

The **Coastline** is published by the Municipality of the District of Digby. Any comments can be sent to: P.O. Box 429, Digby, N.S. B0V 1A0 or dropped off at 12548

Highway 217 weekdays from 8:30 - 4:30. Or call 245-4777 or e-mail heritage@municipality.digby.ns.ca

