

Open Space Strategic Plan Public Access to Special Places

Open Spaces was initially identified during the public conciliation process in the development of the Intergrated Community Sustainability Plan in 2010.

Open space is land publically accessible for community enjoyment. The Municipality of the District of Digby boasts some of the most beautiful landscapes in the province that includes beaches, basalt cliffs, trails, and old growth Acadian forest. The open spaces in the District are frequented and enjoyed by residents, tourists, and are habitat for a rich community of flora and fauna. With almost 200 km of coastline in the Municipality, the water has defined much of the District's industry (e.g. fishing, ecotourism) as well as it's cultural identity. Open space comes in many different sizes and can be used for various activities related to health, leisure, wildlife habitat, environmental protection, and education, among others. Sometimes, open spaces contain recreation in-

frastructure or facilities.

(From the Open Spaces Strategic Plan Executive Summary)

Last spring the municipality, under the guidance of Urban Perspective Landscape Architecture & urban Planning and TEAL Architects Consulting, conducted a public survey to determine the



public's interest in open spaces in the district. The survey was supported by five community sessions to identify in more detail special places in the area that could be deemed important to

the residents. The public sessions also were an opportunity to express the personal passion for the land and why open space is important. Some of the most valued spaces identified in the survey were: Sandy Cove beach; Point Prim; Savary Park; Lake Midway Provincial Park; Balancing Rock Trail; Acacia Valley Trail; Rail to Trail; Brier Island Trails; Gilberts Cove; Mount Shubel; Seawall; Boar's Head Lighthouse; Digby Boardwalk; Digby Shoreline, New France. The public sessions identified nearly 60 more potential open spaces .

The report outlines a 15-year Open Space Strategy with framework to move forward to make public accessible spaces in the district for today's and tomorrow's generations.

For more information on the entire Open Spaces Strategic Plan go to: www.digbydistrict.ca



Readiness Always a Priority in Winter

The message is the same each winter season, but it's always very important – are you ready for winter?

Storms this year in both winter and summer remind us to always have a plan, and materials in a kit, ready for extended power out-



ages. Some of the reminders are: Those who have access to back-up power sources should make sure the fuel for generators is fresh, and a safely stored supply of it is on hand.

Anyone who might need cash to purchase fuel, food, medicine or emergency repairs to property should have a supply of cash sufficient to cover periods of time when banks may not be able to operate ATM machines.

Anyone who is vulnerable because of medical, transportation, or any other reason, should have contacts and friends who can check on their welfare and assist

in case of isolation or power loss.

In our region, most gasoline filling stations lose power and the ability to pump fuels. The only two commercial fueling stations are in Weymouth and Annapolis. People who need to refill should expect wait times at these locations.

As always, whenever any kind of emergency fuel and power are used, exhaust or combustion fumes must always be safely vented to the outside.

For more information on winter safety and other emergency tips, the Nova Scotia Emergency Management webpage is helpful, and is located on the Internet at <http://novascotia.ca/dma/emo/>.

Critical Customer Communication Program

Nova Scotia Power

Power Outage Priority Customer
list .Should you be on It?

Our Critical Customer Communication Program is designed for customers whose health is directly dependent on electricity, such as those requiring oxygen machines or dialysis.

* Through this program, we provide advance notice of planned power outages

* Contact during unplanned power outages expected to last longer than four hours and information on the cause and the expected time power will be restored
Updates if the restoration time changes during the repairs

* To be prepared for power out-

ages, you can also

* Contact your health care or medical service provider for advice on handling power outages Plan other living arrangements you may require during an outage, or make arrangements for an alternative power supply
Plan for alternate or additional oxygen supplies and other medical equipment as necessary

All you need is a letter from your doctor or registered medical service provider describing the type of home/critical care you currently receive that is dependent on electricity.

Mail or fax your letter to us

**Nova Scotia Power
P.O. Box 910, Halifax, NS,
B3J 2W5**

**Attention: Critical Customer
Communication Program**

**Toll Free Fax 1-888-428-
6108 (902-428-6108 in
metro Halifax)**

**Attention: Critical Customer
Communication Program**



Canada's National Flag Celebrating 50 Years



Our Maple Leaf Flag was first raised in Ottawa on February 15th, 1965 and this year will mark the flag's 50 birthday. To commemorate this special landmark the Municipality of Digby and the Town of Digby will be hosting a special 50th anniversary, flag raising ceremony. The ceremony will take place Friday, February 13th at 2pm at the Digby Regional High School gymnasium and will feature all levels of government as well as representatives from the Royal Canadian Legion; RCMP; local fire chiefs and cultural organizations. Our special guest will be the Honorable Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage, Tony Ince. Grade 12 student, Carter Thurber from the Island's Consolidated School has created a video for the occasion. The ceremony is an opportunity for students and the public to pay homage to this defining Canadian symbol and celebrate all that is Canadian.

Be Proud ! Be Canadian !

Municipality Heralds the Start- up of its Biogas Generator

Since the development of the municipal compost digester in Weaver Settlement, the facility has been using the mink biowaste from 35 farms in the area. They provide 150 metric tons of mink waste per month for the facility. It is the methane gas that is produced from the compost materials that will be burned to generate heat to turn an electrical



Terry Thibodeau, Renewable Energy & Climate Control Program Coordinator, inspects the methane pressure at the generator facility

turbine to produce electricity. "The municipal bio digester is now producing electricity," said Site Manager Robert Rhodenizer. The biomass digester is potentially capable of producing enough gas to generate nearly 600 kilowatts of power. It could take two electrical generators to meet this capacity. "We are finally at the

start up point," said Mr. Rhodenizer. "The first generator was installed in early 2014 and has recently been connected to the provincial grid. After many recertifications to comply with Canadian regulations, the electrical generator is now up and running." This single generator can produce approximately enough electricity to power 50 households. The second generator will be installed after it is proven that the bio digester can produce enough methane to supply two generators. For this to happen more farms would be needed to contribute to the supply of feedstock to the facility. While this may seem daunting there is nearly 100 farms in Digby Co. that will need to adopt a farm waste management practice by the end of 2015 and the Biogas generator is a viable option.

For more information on the biogas generator contact Terry Thibodeau at 245-4767
tthibodeau@municipality.digby.ns.ca



Biogas Digester & Generator Facility

Council Activities

Jimmy MacAlpine District #1

* Attended the Launch of African Heritage Month. This year's theme is Justice: People, Places, and Events. Also, the United Nations has declared 2015 as the beginning of the Decade of people of African Descent, embracing the theme of recognition, justice and development.

* Would like to remind drivers to show caution when driving on the Hwy 303 in Conway where the new cross-walk has been installed at Belair Drive as we are waiting for the lighting to be installed

* Once again the residents of Bear River are embracing winter and are going to be enjoying it by hosting the Bear River Winter Carnival from February 13th-15th. Hopefully you will be able to partake in this great event.

Maritza Adams District #2

* Organized ,with Warden Gregory, the New Year's Day Levee. We had a great turnout and food and drink and music was enjoyed by all.

* Attended the Admiral Digby Museum Christmas Tea.

* Attended workshops on the fiscal indicators for all municipalities in Nova Scotia and one put on by N.S.P.I. on vegetation.

Warden Linda Gregory District #3

A new year is upon us, we are in 2015. Where has the time gone.? The holiday season came and went with its usual festive exuberance. I was fortunate to help out with Christmas Daddies, a worthwhile annual endeavor. On a personal note, I was blessed to have a family Christmas. Meeting attendance continued throughout December and into January. I keep in present contact with our MLA and MP. For anyone with a competitiveness or a creative nature, there is a contest on to name the new ferry. You may go to the ferry terminal and put your suggestion into the box. As always, I am available if you have concerns or comments.

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

David Tudor District #4

* I have been working on providing hi speed internet for the remaining unserved areas in district #4.

* Assisting not for profit groups with grant applications.

* If you need assistance, the food and wood bank could help Please contact me at 839-2630.

* Continue to work to develop a comfort station at the Tiverton ferry dock.

George Manzer District #5

Volunteered at the Santa's Pancake Breakfast at the Weymouth Historical Society Building.

* Helped serve Christmas Dinner to residents at Tideview Terrace.

* Congratulations to the organizers of the Weymouth Parade of Lights. A job well done.

DALA programs have continuous enrolment – enroll in the following programs throughout the year:

Digby Community Education Centre – day programs

Evening school – including GED preparation

Family Literacy – held in three locations



Learning Grove Childcare Centre - Early Childhood Education

Visit our website for more information – www.dala.digby.ns.ca or call 902-245-7530.

Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole Feb 9 4:30 pm

Council Feb 23 6 pm

Committee of the Whole March 9 4:30 pm

Council March 23 6 pm

Directory of Municipal Services

Councillors

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Maritza Adams

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George Manzer

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

David Tudor

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

Municipal Offices

General Inquiries	902-245-4777
Building & Fire Inspector	902-245-6776
Airport	902-245-5885
Dog Control Officer	902-245-5885
REMO	902-245-6252
Heritage	902-245-4757
Renewable Energy/Climate Change	902-245-4767