



Photos by Karla Kelly

Warden's New Year's Message

On behalf of myself, Council and staff I want to wish each and every resident of the Municipality a wonderful, safe holiday season. It's hard to believe that we are coming to the end of another year. The Municipality continues to strive to become a leader in renewable energy and this year we installed electric vehicle charging stations in Bear River and Weymouth. With these chargers and the ones installed at Sobeys and Superstore, we are well positioned to serve this emerging technology.

This year also saw the Brighton – Barton Fire Department completion of a new fire hall, a building that will serve the needs of this fire district for many years to come. I also want to thank every volunteer fire fighter that serves



Warden Jimmy MacAlpine

*Merry
Christmas*

the Municipality of the District of Digby: you do a tremendous job protecting our resident's properties, you risk harm to yourself to save lives, and on a moment's notice you are ready to serve.

Another volunteer organization that I would like to recognize is the Digby Area Search and Rescue. They are very well trained and provide a very valuable service to the community; whenever a call comes in for help they are ready at a moment's notice. The Municipality is very pleased to be able to assist Digby Area Search and Rescue with a building at the airport to house the search and rescue vehicles and equipment.

On behalf of myself, Council and staff I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Levee!
Everyone Welcome

*New Year's
Day*

*Municipal Office
12548 Hwy 217
2 pm - 4 pm*

Update on Barton School

The Municipality, on Nov 14th, issued a "Request for Expressions of Interest" for the purchase and use of the former Barton school. Council's objective is to attract a non-profit organization, or a private entity that will develop the facility for the greatest benefit to its constituents, the community at large and the user of the facility. Proposals must be received by 2:00 pm on December 17th, 2018.

Council has established some basic principles to guide it in seeking the optimum use for the former Barton school. This would include the following: financial self-sustainability, experience, community appropriateness, and the benefit to the community at large.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following percentages out of a 100: (100 being the maximum score)

- Has the proposal provided all requested information(10%)
- How will the proposal provide a service to the citizens(25%)
- What percentage of the population of the Municipality of the District of Digby (MoDoD) will benefit from the proposal (ie. youth, seniors, special interest groups, etc...(15%)

Has the proponent successfully completed similar projects, or has the proponent provided similar proposed service to the community in the past(25%)

- The validity of the business and financial plan, understanding of the property in question, and other considerations(20%)
- The amount being offered for the property, as well as the direct effect to MoDoD from future potential tax revenue(5%)



Former Barton School

Regional Emergency Management Organization

Digby REMO Emergency Coordination Center staff held a table top exercise on Oct 24th. The aim was to validate our plans and procedures. The training is used to enhance the ability to achieve a coordinated emergency response to disasters and extreme conditions within our community.

Do you have your emergency kit ready?

- * at least 6 litres of water per person
- * food that won't spoil, like canned and dry foods
- * first-aid supplies
- * medications and special needs or equipment you use
- * wind-up or battery-powered flashlight and radio
- * cash

The Municipality of Digby has commissioned the casting of volunteer service award pendants for Firefighters who have served for 30 to 50 years in the Municipality.



Kings Transit
real-time bus tracking with

Double
MAP



Kings Transit Fees Jan. 1st 2019

Adult \$4.00
Students & Seniors (60+) \$2.25
Children under 5yrs. Free

Book of 10 bus passes:

Adult \$35.00
Student and Seniors \$20.00
Monthly bus passes
Adult monthly pass \$90.00
Student and Senior monthly pass \$ 65.00

HotSpot App

Users can pay for electronic transit tickets or passes register for the HotSpot App

<https://htsp.ca/>

Digby Home to Health Research

Information gathered in Digby may improve health care across Nova Scotia. Medical student Joel Arsenault spent this past summer with the collaborative team at the Digby and Area Health Services Centre working on a research project exploring patient-centred care.

Joel hopes the research will result in real solutions to improve health services. Learn about the project on the NSHA website:

<http://www.nshealth.ca/news/digby-based-research-helps-shed-light-patient-centred-care>

"Our research doesn't simply collect the data...we are actively involved in trying to make improvements based on this data,"

said Joel. "Our hope is that results from this research will be valuable resources for all other rural clinics. A great example of this are the Group Medical Visits we are working to implement by working very closely with the Digby team."

The Weymouth Health Centre is the location of a Group Medical Visit program that has won a national award. Watch a video on how group medical visits offer a new approach to primary care in Weymouth:

<http://www.nshealth.ca/news/group-medical-visits-offer-innovative-approach-primary-care-weymouth-video-245>

Joel said he enjoyed his summer in Digby. "I have spent most of my free time this summer outdoors enjoying the festivals, the hiking trails, the water activities or even just the downtown."



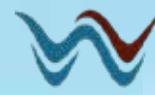
Researcher Joel Arsenault and some members of the Digby collaborative team: Shelley Boardman RN; Crystal Harris nurse practitioner; Erin Bohan nurse practitioner; Angela Morgan family practice nurse; Joel Arsenault medical student; Chantelle Hazelton licensed practical nurse; Marsha Arnborg – LeBlanc, dietitian.

Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole
December 10 - * 5 pm
(No Council meeting in December)
Committee of the Whole
January 14 - * 5 pm



The office will be closing for the Holidays
December 21 at 4:30pm and will open again on January 2



Western Regional
Enterprize
Network

BusinessNow :
Western REN Services to Businesses



Matt Trask

Often the first point of contact between the Western REN and regional companies is **Business Retention and Expansion**, a program designed to support or grow local businesses. Contact the newest member of the Western REN team, Matthew Trask at 902-749-8270.



Gino Thibeault

Helping employers overcome persistent labour shortages is the goal of the **Atlantic Immigration Pilot**. Ask Gino Thibeault for more information 902-307-2771.



Brenda LaGrandeur

The **Western Connector Program** matches skilled newcomers and recent grads to local employers for conversation and to help discover hidden job opportunities. Contact Brenda at 902-653-0369.

Along the Coastline

- ✓ * Construction of new washrooms has begun at the former DNR property on Haines Lake.
- * Council members attended the annual conference of the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) in Halifax where the theme of the conference was "Rethinking Communities".
- * During the NSFM conference, councillors participated in many relevant sessions as well as the Minister's Panel where issues such as RCMP costs, roads, cannabis, surplus schools, plus many others were raised with the appropriate provincial Ministers.
- * Council members were pleased to be able to participate in Remembrance Day Services throughout the Municipality.
- * Councillors have been busy in their districts meeting with constituents and attending various functions and events.
- * Councillor Ross held a district meeting on November 22nd.
- * The Municipal Office will be closed on Monday, Dec. 24th, re-opening on Wednesday, January 2nd.
- * Cooke Aquaculture awarded the Rattling Beach Farm with a Platinum Scale Award for production excellence.

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.

Or call 902-245-4777 or e-mail: heritage@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Check us out on facebook: municipality of digby

Digby Trails: Busy Beavers

Trails are great places to meet and observe wildlife. Beavers, in particular, put on a good show – as a canoeist I love beaver dams for making waterways deeper and paddable.

Last year a few beavers made a dam and created a beautiful deep pool on Aunt Sarah's Brook on the Acacia Valley Trails just upstream from the trail bridge. The beavers are no longer active there and half the dam washed out, but you can see the remnants and lots of beaver-chewed stumps and sticks.

Beavers can create problems for humans but, given how much habitat humans destroy for their own purposes, I find it hard to be too upset with beavers. They flooded the railbed in three places this fall; in two places the flooding impacted paved roads and in a third, it threatened a trail bridge. In all cases, heavy equipment was needed to get the water flowing again and restore trail surfaces.

Beavers slow down in winter but there are still interesting signs to watch for: have you ever seen steam rising off a beaver lodge? Or their deep twisty drag path in fresh fallen snow?

If at any time you do see signs of beavers working near any of our trails, we would appreciate if you could let our trail coordinator Jonathan Riley know by email jriley@municipality.digby.ns.ca or by phone at 902-245-2861.



Directory of Municipal Services

Councillors

Warden Jimmy MacAlpine

902-245-4651 jmacalpine@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Deputy Warden Linda Gregory

902-245-2616 lgregory@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Matthew Ross

902-247-5555 mross@municipality.digby.ns.ca

George Manzer

902-837-4353 gmanzer@municipality.digby.ns.ca

David Tudor

902-308-9934 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

Economic Development, Dan Harvey 902-847-1217

Trails Coordinator, Jonathan Riley 902-245-2861

