

April 2020

Photos by Karla Kelly



PRESERVING OUR PAST - DEVELOPING OUR FUTURE

This edition of the Coastline is meant to help residents with information that will assist them with finding assistance and common sense ways to move forward during this pandemic.

We are facing a challenge that our generation has not seen before.

Businesses are being ordered to close, people are losing their jobs, governments are needing to make new rules daily, people at risk of being fined if gathering in groups of more than five.

We need to come together to help those who have lost their jobs and those businesses who will struggle to reopen.

Our municipalities' budgets will be stressed. The town will be reviewing measures to help taxpayers, homeowners and business owners. There will be more details over the coming weeks.

As a community we need to not judge each other, be proactive and take care of your families, your neighbours, your friends. By following the recommendations from official sources and supporting each other we will be able to overcome this. Once we do, we need to support our local businesses and our community, which will help us recover.

Mayor Ben Cleveland

Special Edition COVID-19



Warden Jimmy MacAlpine



Mayor Ben Cleveland

As we face these challenging days ahead due to the Covid-19 virus, we need to take this health risk very seriously. We need to listen to the Provincial Chief Medical Officer, Doctor Robert Strang and adopt the 3 C's; Caring, Community and Common Sense. All of us need to practice safe distancing of at least six feet (2 metres), not gather in groups of more than five, and we need to self isolate if we have traveled outside of the Province or if you feel that you have symptoms of the virus.

It is your Social Responsibility to adhere to these safety measures. We need to care for our neighbours that are at high risk. Call them to see that they're ok; as we have to use safety protocols that protects their safety as well as as our own. Taking the measures implemented by our Provincial Government and the Chief Medical Officer will help us overcome the pandemic but it is going to take time. We're going to have some difficult days ahead.

We are working with the Town of Digby as well by sharing core services. The Municipal Council wants to assure our residents that Municipal Core Services are provided during this time. On behalf of Council please take this seriously and stay safe.

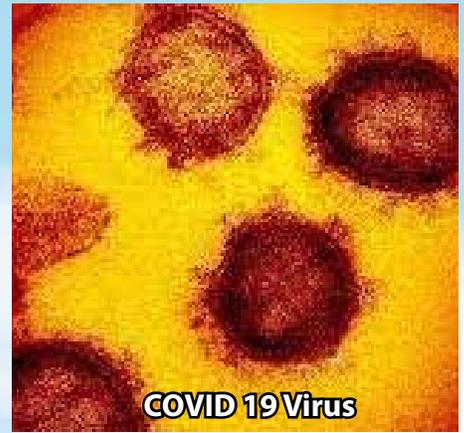
Warden Jimmy MacAlpine

What is COVID 19

(COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus. The disease was first identified in 2019 in Wuhan, Central China, and has since spread globally, resulting in the 2019–20 coronavirus pandemic. Common symptoms include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Gastrointestinal symptoms

such as diarrhea have also been reported. While the majority of cases result in mild symptoms, some progress to severe pneumonia and multi-organ failure.

The virus is typically spread from one person to another via respiratory droplets produced during coughing. It may also be spread from touching contaminated surfaces and then touching one's face.



PROPER HAND WASHING

Washing your hands frequently with soap and water is the best way to reduce the spread of germs.

- 1 Wet your hands with warm running water
- 2 Add soap and scrub for 15–20 seconds

- 3 Wash backs, thumbs, between fingers, and under nails
- 4 Rinse off soap under running water
- 5 Dry your hands with a clean towel
- 6 Turn off tap with a towel

When soap and water are not available, alcohol-based hand sanitizers can be used if hands are not visibly soiled.



Please do not Flush Sanitary Wipes Down the Toilet

With the rapidly rising use of sanitizing and disposable wipes amid the COVID-19 crisis, Residents are reminded of the importance of NOT flushing wipes of any sort- including those labelled "Flushable" or "Biodegradable".

We are already seeing impacts on our municipal sewer system due to the increase in usage of these wipes. Pump Stations are

being blocked and disabled by wipes and the only way to clear the obstruction is to physically handle the pump and remove the sewer debris by hand.

This unnecessary action puts you and your home at risk of a sewer backup. Also, it is an avoidable and unpleasant use of our staff resources.

We ask that you please do your part and keep wipes of all sorts out of the sewer system.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Municipal Office Closure

*The municipal office and the airport are closed to the public until further notice.

*All essential services will continue to be delivered.

*Bill payments can be made online, through telebanking or by

mail. You can email us at: **administration@municipality.digby.ns.ca**

If you need assistance please call **902-245-4777**.

*All April meetings have been postponed with the exception of the council meeting which has yet

to be determined.

*We continue to monitor this rapidly evolving situation and we will continue to update our website and Facebook.



CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

HOW TO ISOLATE AT HOME WHEN YOU HAVE COVID-19

Isolation means staying at home when you are sick with COVID-19 and avoiding contact with other people to help prevent the spread of disease to others in your home and your community.

If you have been diagnosed with COVID-19, it is expected that you take the following measures.

Limit contact with others

- ▶ Do not leave home unless absolutely necessary, such as to seek medical care.
- ▶ Do not go to school, work, other public areas or use public transportation (e.g. buses, taxis).
- ▶ Arrange to have groceries and supplies dropped off at your door to minimize contact.
- ▶ Stay in a separate room and use a separate bathroom from others in your home, if possible.
- ▶ If you have to be in contact with others, keep at least 2 metres between yourself and the other person. Keep interactions brief and wear a mask.
- ▶ Avoid contact with individuals with chronic conditions, compromised immune systems and older adults.
- ▶ Avoid contact with pets if you live with other people that may also be touching the pet.

Keep your hands clean

- ▶ Wash your hands **often** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and dry with disposable paper towels or dry reusable towel, replacing it when it becomes wet.
- ▶ You can also remove dirt with a wet wipe and then use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- ▶ Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- ▶ Cough or sneeze into the bend of your arm or into a tissue.



Avoid contaminating common items and surfaces

- ▶ At least once daily, clean and disinfect surfaces that you touch often, like toilets, bedside tables, doorknobs, phones and television remotes.
- ▶ Do not share personal items with others, such as toothbrushes, towels, bed linen, utensils or electronic devices.
- ▶ Use regular household disinfectants or diluted bleach (one part bleach and nine parts water) to disinfect.
- ▶ Place contaminated items that cannot be cleaned in a lined container, secure the contents and dispose of them with other household waste.
- ▶ Put the lid of the toilet down before flushing.

Care for yourself

- ▶ Monitor your symptoms as directed by your healthcare provider or **Public Health Authority**.
- ▶ If your symptoms get worse, immediately contact your healthcare provider or **Public Health Authority** and follow their instructions.
- ▶ Get some rest, eat a balanced diet, and stay in touch with others through 'communication devices'.



Public Health
Agency of Canada

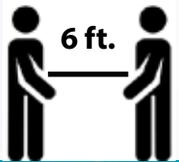
Agence de la santé
publique du Canada

Canada

Everyone Can Help Prevent the Spread of COVID-19



Stay home and self-isolate if you've travelled outside of Canada or Nova Scotia or have symptoms



Follow the latest social distancing and self-isolation advice



Wash your hands often



Be kind to others and look out for your neighbours

If you have symptoms



Take the survey first

go to: novascotia.ca/coronavirus or call 1-800-670-4357

Helpful Links:

Latest information on COVID 19 or if you feel you have the virus take the survey first go to: novascotia.ca/coronavirus or call 1-800-670-4357

Call **211** for a free helpline that connects you to community and social services in your area 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in over 150 languages.

If you need financial assistance go online to: **Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan**

Here you will find links to financial support for individuals regarding child benefits - Mortgage support -EI support -Emergency Assistance and many other COVID-19 programs. For businesses there is support for small businesses like: wage assistance - extension to your income tax filing - interest rate reduction and many more helpful initiatives.

Transfer Station Public Drop Off Hours

Winter Hours will be extended into April

Friday 9 am - 5 pm
Saturday 8 am -12 noon



Safe Activities During Social Distancing

- Spring cleaning
- TV, books, music, movies at home
- Sit on your deck
- A walk in your neighbourhood
- Yard work
- Cook or bake



Directory of Municipal Services

Councillors

Warden Jimmy MacAlpine

902-245-8746 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