

The Cumberland CONNECTION

ISSUE 01 | SPRING/SUMMER 2023



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**Kayaking at Three Sisters,
Cape Chignecto**

Junction Road Project Begins

It's going to be a busy summer for infrastructure work in the Municipality of Cumberland.

One of the biggest projects in recent years has begun in Springhill with the rehabilitation of both Junction Road and Athol Road.

The Junction Road project will see a completely new streetscape with a new urbanized right-of-way, including sidewalk on both sides of the street, concrete curb and gutter and new asphalt. The project will see a new watermain as well as the replacement of the sanitary sewer along the right-of-way and a new stormwater system and replacing ditching with curb and gutter.

The Athol Road project will replace an aging water distribution line that extends for about a kilometre from McGee Street to Beaton Lane, replacing aging and smaller diameter water line that serves approximately 60 residents. It will also see street resurfacing from McGee Street to the former town boundary.



Parrsboro Playground Nearing Completion

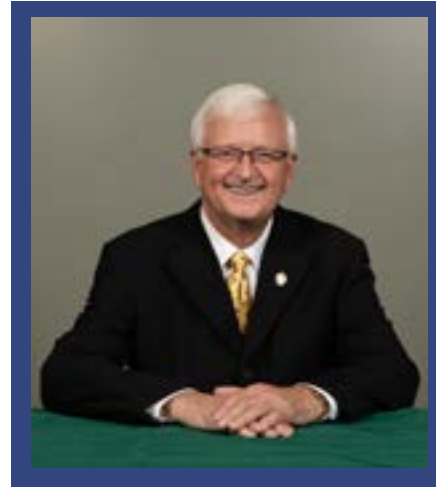
The Parrsboro Playground Project is one of several initiatives the Municipality of Cumberland is working on this year.

The playground will include an accessible artificial turf surface where three pieces of equipment will be installed. There will also be a large climbing structure and swings on a wood fibre surface, and a constructed play hill with slides and other features.

Mayor's Message

On behalf of council and the staff of the Municipality of Cumberland I want to welcome you to our newsletter.

Several years ago, council identified that one of the issues we face daily here is being able to effectively communicate with our residents. This newsletter will be the first of several you'll receive annually to give you updated information as to what's happening within the municipality.



It's an exciting time for the Municipality of Cumberland. Since taking office in late 2020 we have worked on several projects to enhance the quality of life of our residents and to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of our municipal operations.

After many years of consideration, we moved forward with the construction of a new library for the community of Pugwash and surrounding areas, while we recently announced a major project in Springhill that will see both Junction Road and the Athol Road, within the former town boundary, reconstructed with new underground infrastructure and paving.

We have also completed the Clear the Deck initiative that will result in the municipality thinking and acting as one to provide better service delivery and increasing accessibility and accountability by standardizing and simplifying much of the work we do every day.

There are many exciting things happening within our municipality and there's much more to be accomplished.

As a council, we can't say enough about how vital effective communication is to an organization such as the municipality. I'm hoping this publication will lead to a greater understanding of some of the exciting work that goes on behind the scenes within the municipality.

I encourage you to reach out to myself or your local councillor if you have questions or thoughts about what you read in this newsletter and for more specific information about those projects and initiatives we've discussed.

- **Murray Scott, Mayor, Municipality of Cumberland**

Domestic Brush Burning FAQs

Do I still need to purchase a burning permit?

For Domestic burning of piles smaller than two metres by three metres and campfires, no, but you now need to check the burn restrictions map or phone line to see when you are allowed to burn.

For Industrial burning – yes – you do still require to obtain a permit if you are burning piles larger than two metres by three metres and will have more than two piles burning at once and are clearing land for building a structure, for agriculture or for blueberry burning over two hectares. Go to your local Natural Resources and Renewables office to obtain a permit.



Can I burn brush in the morning?

No matter what colour the map shows, there is no domestic brush burning permitted in Nova Scotia between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Some municipal bylaws vary from provincial rules – which do we follow?

Check and follow your municipal bylaws first. Your municipality may have a burning restriction that supersedes the provincial novascotia.ca/burnsafe map restriction. Municipal restrictions may include: the time burning is permitted, the type of burning appliance that is permitted, the location in the municipality where burning is allowed or not, etc. Open Air Burning By-Law 21-06 sets out the Municipal regulation for open air burning.

The Pugwash Library opened its doors on Feb. 5 and since then hundreds of people have been coming through its doors. The official opening is Saturday, July 29, from 1 to 2 p.m.

Come celebrate the grand opening of the Pugwash Library

The Pugwash Library Grand Opening Ceremony is Saturday, July 29, from 1 to 2 p.m.

The library is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. that day and there will be a full day of children's activities, including crafts, puppet shows and story time.

The official opening, including the ribbon-cutting ceremony, will take place at the rear of the library overlooking Pugwash's harbour (weather permitting). Please note, the parking lot will not be available to the public for the day.

It is hoped representatives of the federal and provincial governments will be on hand to speak, along with Municipality of Cumberland Deputy Mayor Mark Joseph.

After years of planning, the Municipality of Cumberland decided last year to move forward with the project, committing approximately \$1.7 million to the \$2.198-million price tag. The community raised nearly \$600,000 and the library opened in early February. From opening day, hundreds of people have been flowing in to use the facility.

The library is much larger than its previous location in the former train station, allowing it to offer more programs than ever before. Already, there are two book clubs and a knitting club meeting weekly while there's plenty of space to meet and host events. If you haven't been into the library yet, it would be a perfect opportunity to see the building and what it offers.



2023/24 Budget

The annual budgeting process is preceded by a business planning process that identifies priority initiatives for the upcoming fiscal year, based on the strategic directions previously established by Council.

Operating Expenditures by Category



Operating Expenditures by Department



*Mandatory costs are those mandated by the provincial government, including RCMP, housing, assessment services, education and corrections.

Residential and Commercial Tax Rates

There are three different tax rates: general, Springhill area rate and Parrsboro area rate. These tax rates are established annually for residential, commercial and resource properties.

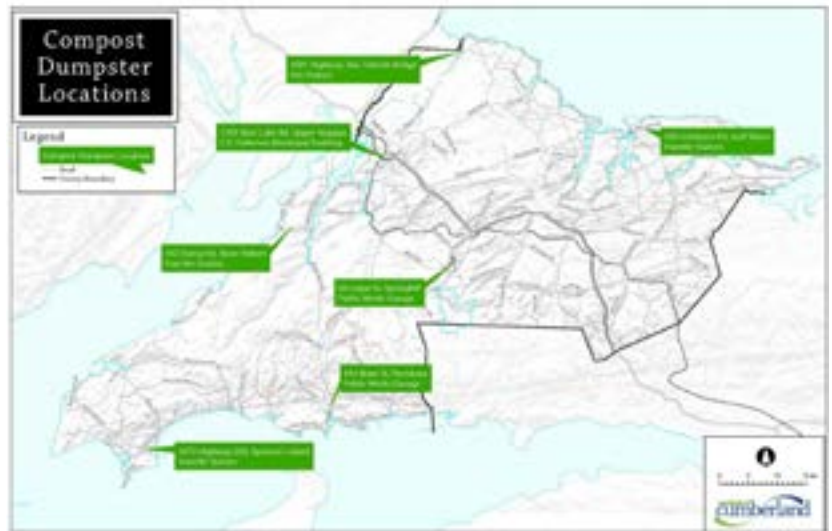
All tax and area rates are per \$100 of assessment.



Compost Dumpsters in Place for the Summer

Compost dumpsters have been placed in areas throughout the municipality so residents have a place to deposit excess green bin material over the summer months.

Check out the map for the one closest to you. These dumpsters are intended for green bin material only: bread products, coffee grounds, dairy products, damp & soiled paper, eggs & shells, food napkins, fruit & vegetables, leaf & yard waste, meat, fish, bones, paper food wrappers, paper plates, paper flour/sugar bags, paper towel, pasta, grains, rice, pet waste/kitty litter, pizza boxes, shellfish, small branches, tissues/ Kleenex, NO PLASTIC.



Back to the Basics with Dual Stream Recycling

Dual Stream Recycling is where all recyclables are sorted into two separate bags. Paper products are collected in one bag and recyclable containers are collected in another.

Recyclable Paper Products

Cardboard, cereal & cracker boxes, envelopes, greeting cards, office paper, newspaper, magazines, flyers, paper egg cartons, & paper towel cores.

Recyclable Containers

Aluminum cans & pie plates, glass bottles & jars, juice cartons & boxes, milk cartons, plastic bags & containers, plastic wrap and steel & tin cans.

Summer Composting Avoiding Pests

Use boxes or paper bags to keep your cart clean

Line your green cart with newspaper or use paper bags. You can also place food waste in a cereal box to help keep your cart clean.

Freeze It

During the summer months freeze your organic materials. Place the frozen organics in your green cart on your collection day.

Any amount will do

Place your green cart out for collection on every organics collection cycle even if it's not full. The longer your cart sits with food in it, the more it's going to smell.

Come to Pugwash on Canada Day for the Gathering of the Clans

The Gathering of the Clans has become the traditional way to spend Canada Day in Cumberland County. It is a party, Scottish style, with piping, drumming, highland dancing, highland games, artisans, midway, concerts, food and artisan vendors.

Early in the morning, local and international highland dancers take to the Eaton Park stage for ScotDance sanctioned competitions. Lovers of Pipes and Drums will enjoy the ACPBA sanctioned competitions on the grounds of Thinkers Lodge. At the Cyrus Eaton Elementary School, steely muscled athletes, dressed in their kilts, toss the caber and compete in other heavyweight highland games.

When the pipe and drum band competitions are over, all musicians form a massed band which will march up Water Street as far as the Village Hall. Band prizes are then awarded. This will be at about 3 pm.

The official opening is at 2 pm in Eaton Park. Wrap up the day by attending the evening's special stage show featuring Drew Polegato, Alycia Putnam & Family, the Mark MacMillan Trio and Ashley MacIsaac and spectacular Canada Day fireworks display over Pugwash Harbour.

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