

THE TOWN CRIER Jan/Feb 2021

MONTHLY ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS
OF ANNAPOLIS ROYAL AND AREA
ANNAPOLISROYAL.COM



Send your photos to admin@annapolisroyal.com for a chance to be featured!





WHAT'S UP ANNAPOLIS?



"I think the more unexpected something is, the more there is to learn from it."

- Michael J. Fox

Hello 2021, Happy New Year!

Ah, January. It is the time for new beginnings. It is in this month that you get a clean slate, a chance to reflect, relax, and set new goals. These things are important to set your mood for the whole year.

We hope everyone had a wonderful time over the holidays and would sincerely like to thank you all for your support by shopping local throughout the holiday season. Valentine's Day is next! Make sure to buy something special for your someone special (or treat yourself). But don't forget to try to buy locally!

February is African Heritage Month. This year's provincial theme is Black History Matters: Listen, Learn, Share and Act, which recognizes the important legacy of people of African Descent and the long-standing history in the development of Canada.

Are you looking for community involvement or to volunteer your time this year? We have some opportunities available to join our sub-committees. As you will see on page 5, we are looking for members for our Planning & Heritage Advisory Committee, Board of Police Commissioners, Audit Committee, and the new Accessibility Committee.

Just a friendly reminder that Town Hall will be closed February 15, 2021 for Heritage Day.



Members of Council

Mayor Amery Boyer mayorboyer@annapolisroyal.com

Deputy Mayor Pat Power patpower@annapolisroyal.com

Councillor Holly Sanford hsanford@annapolisroyal.com

Councillor Paula Hafting phafting@annapolisroyal.com

Councillor Michael Tompkins mtompkins@annapolisroyal.com



Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Town Hall 285 St. George Street, PO Box 310 Phone: 902 532-2043 Fax: 902 532-7443 Toll Free: 1 877 522-1110 Email: admin@annapolisroyal.com www.annapolisroyal.com Open Mon to Fri / 8:30 am-4:30 pm



Mayor Boyer Office Hours Available by Appointment



The Town Crier is a publication of the Town of Annapolis Royal.

Copies are available online at www.annapolisroyal.com and by email subscription.

Contact admin@annapolisroyal.com to be added to the email list.

Submissions are welcomed and deadlines vary monthly, with the deadline for the March / April edition being February 26, 2021.

Please contact
admin@annapolisroyal.com
or 902-532-2043 ext. 102 if you have any questions.

Police Emergency: 911 Police Non-Emergency: 902-532-2427

Public Works Emergency: 902-532-8347

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



This is month three for your new Council and we are focused on getting the day-to-day business done while at the same time working on a new strategic plan for the Town. Your Council has decided to pull together and review all the work that has been done to date by successive Councils and staff over the years. This includes the 2012 strategic plan, a Town survey of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges that was completed in 2016, a draft strategic plan completed in 2018, and a vision statement written as part of the revised Municipal Planning Strategy completed last year. Collectively, we are working on a single document for your review and input. The document you will be asked to comment on will have the following components:



Mayor Amery Boyer, B. Mus., MBA

- 1. Vision for the Town (vision for the future)
- 2. The mission (or purposes) of the Town
- 3. The values that are important for our Town
- 4. An updated list of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges
- 5. A description of the environment that the Town finds itself in (the social, demographic, environmental, political, economic, and regulatory environment)

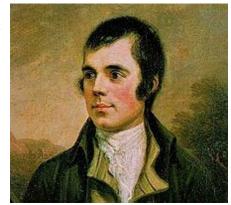
A preliminary draft has been completed including references to background material. The members of the Management Team and Town Council will be reviewing it on January 21, 2021 and getting the draft ready for public comment and input. We will use your input to modify the assumptions we will be making to support our strategies and objectives. This will lead to the drafting of a second document that will include changes to the original document as well as draft strategies and objectives. This second draft will also be made available for further comments and input before the Town finalizes its plans. We hope to get this work done in time for the 2021-2022 budget.



Burns Night and Beyond Oqwa'titek

January 25th is Burns Night, the annual celebration of the life and poetry of the pre-eminent Scottish poet, Robert Burns. If the name is somehow not familiar, you will know his work as the author of "Auld Lang Syne" which you may have sung in a compromised state earlier this month. Typically, this is a festive gathering that can warm the coldest winter night. The annual feast features Haggis, neeps and tatties, and possibly a dram or two followed by dancing and exuberant reciting of poetry. Beginning in 1801, the event is now celebrated globally. While, we may not be able to gather this year to celebrate, the anniversary should not pass unremarked.

And speaking of anniversaries and things related to Scotland, September 11th is the 400th anniversary of the signing of the Charter of Nova Scotia. We will commemorate the signing by looking at the anniversary in a broader context. Called "Beyond Oqwa'titek", this new event will focus on how the colonial charter affected everyone involved, and the relations between the Mi'kmaq and the Gaels. More details will follow as plans are finalized.



Did you know... January 29th is National Puzzle Day! Almost time to get puzzling!



COMMUNITY



Nova Scotia Works/PeopleWorx

Starting a new business? Need a resume or cover letter? Require job search assistance? Interested in information on programs which you may be eligible for? Please visit or call Helen and Sue at our Annapolis location for one-on-one assistance. We are a non-profit organization; all it will cost you is your time. Contact: 258 St. George Street, 902-532-0605 (appointments only)



Come to the Innovation Lab and Create Something Amazing!

The Annapolis Innovation Lab, a high tech 'maker space' is located adjacent to the AR Library at the Academy. The Lab houses two 3D printers, audio and video recording and production tools, Apple and a Microsoft developer workstations, a full Cricut stencil production system, a comprehensive Robotics tool kit, a Serger, a Jenome commercial sewing machine and other fibre arts tools, plus an instructional SMART board. Lab Members can book the Lab to use these tools during regular Library hours by phoning the Library at 902-532-2226.

Any local senior, adult, or teen with an AVRL Library card can become a Lab Member. View our web site at https://www.valleylibrary.ca and make an appointment to come in for a tour and orientation.



Solar PV System

The Clean Annapolis River Project, in partnership with the Town of Annapolis Royal, Farm Credit Canada, Province of Nova Scotia, County of Annapolis, Valley Regional Library, and Parker Mountain Wind Turbine Society, has successfully completed their Low Carbon Communities "Powering Innovation in the Annapolis Valley" project.

This project allowed for educational presentations to youth groups and schools, the holding of a "Climate Action Event" we called "Powering Innovation Confabulation", which took place November 2, 2019, and the installation of a Solar Photovoltaic (Solar PV) system located on the roof of the Academy located at 590 Saint George Street.

The system is a 11.055kW solar photovoltaic system installed by Nova Sun Power with electrical completed by Charles Stewart Electrical. It has 33 panels in total. The inverter was turned on between 10 and 11 am Friday October 9th 2020.

The live data is now available online at https://www.solarweb.com/PvSystems/PvSystem?pvSystemId=317d9fc1-b2d7-40b5-a436-99bfe48a7fb8. We are very thankful to all of our project partners for helping make a project such as this a great success!



Twinning News!

The Twinning committee of the Town of Annapolis Royal always likes to recognize February 22nd. This is the day in 1628 when Pierre Dugua, sieur de Mons died. We do not know his birthdate. Dugua is the explorer and merchant from Royan, France, who financed and led the effort to establish a permanent French presence in North America. Accompanied by his cartographer Champlain, Dugua established the Habitation at Port Royal in 1605 befriended and helped by the Mi'kmaq people.

Annapolis Royal is proudly twinned with Royan.

The inauguration of Pierre Dugua Day will now take place on Saturday, June 18th, 2022 as our friends from Royan will not be able to travel to Annapolis Royal in 2021.

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The Twinning Committee welcomes new members and volunteers. Please contact Christine Igot at christine@latext.com.

January's Moon is called the Wolf Moon. This year, the full Moon is January 28th.



CHIEF'S CORNER





Chief Mark Kane

First of all I would like to say on behalf of the officers and myself of the Annapolis Royal Police Department, Happy New Year

I know 2020 was a tough year for everyone, but we would ask you continue to follow the health guidelines in relation to COVID-19. I do have to point out that anyone who is self isolating should not leave their property.

As you can see the winter road conditions are upon us and I would ask you drive to the conditions of the road. Ensure you clean as much of the snow from your vehicle before your journey. Also, check your washer fluid levels as the roads can cause a

lot of spray from the melting snow and salt mix. If you have auto lights I would just check that your lights are on front and back as in the conditions now sometimes it is hard to see vehicles in poor driving visibility. Also ensure you are not following close to the vehicle in front or using excessive speed. I am sure that everyone understands the dangers at this time of year due to ice and snow.

If we all continue to take the above simple steps we can ensure our roads are safe and we get to our destinations safely.

I look forward to the year ahead and hope we can all work together to continue keeping one another safe in all aspects of life.

Take care, Chief Mark Kane

Emergency Line: 911

General Police Line: 902-532-2427

Office Location: 285 St. George Street, Annapolis Royal (right side of the Town Hall) Social Media: Contact us on Facebook or on the Town of Annapolis Royal web-page

Police Facebook Page: @ARPoliceD

Town Facebook Page: @townofannapolisroyal

Town of Annapolis Royal Web-Page: annapolisroyal.com/police/

CRIMESTOPPERS: 902-422-8477 OR crimestoppers.ns.ca

Police Statistics for the month of December	
#	Nature of the Call
2	Speeding
6	Other Motor Vehicle
1	Driving Disqualified / Unli- censed
1	Motor Vehicle Liability Policy
1	Other Provincial Offences
3	Fail to Comply with Undertak- ing/Notice
1	COVID-19
1	Assaults
1	Theft Under \$5000
1	Shoplifting
2	False Alarms
3	Lost/Found



Assistance to the Public

Property Checks

TOTAL



GET MOVIN'



31

20

64

Outdoor Public Skating Rink coming to Downtown Annapolis Royal!

We've been waiting on Mother Nature to cooperate, and it's looking like the outdoor rink will open mid-January 2021! This facility, located directly inside the Farmers' Market Plaza, will be open for free public skating for all and with recreational hockey only allowed from 4-6PM. Current Covid-19 safety precautions and regulations will be posted and enforced.

A very special thanks to the Parker Mountain Wind Turbine Society and Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, and Heritage's Active Communities Fund for generously supporting this project, along with the Annapolis Royal Fire Department, local volunteers, and local businesses for pledging their sup-



If you would be willing to assist with monitoring ice conditions, basic weekend maintenance, and snow removal of this facility, please contact Noah 902-955-1205, or email alc@annapolisroyal.com. Any and all help to keep things running smoothly would be greatly appreciated!

"The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today." - H. Jackson Brown, Jr.



EVENTS FOR THE MONTH



Please forward March/April submissions by February 26, 2021 to: admin@annapolisroyal.com.

*Please note that changes may occur on short notice due to public health provisions.

Events

January 15th

Winter Music Series: Pat O'Brien & Paul Ryan / 7:00 pm -9:00 pm / Annapolis Royal Legion

January 22nd

Winter Music Series: The Clam Diggers / 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm / Annapolis Royal Legion

January 29th

Winter Music Series: Michael Robertson & Friends / 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm / Annapolis Royal Legion

February 7th

Super Bowl Party / 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm / Annapolis Royal Legion / BBQ with Bring Your Own Meat & Munchies

February 16th

African Heritage Month Event / 4:30 pm / Virtually via Zoom / More information to follow

Volunteer at Nova Scotia Health

There is an opportunity for those who wish to volunteer and support the Nova Scotia COVID Vaccine program. COVID-19 volunteer opportunities exist across Nova Scotia. If you would like to become a volunteer in the Annapolis Valley at the following facilities:

Annapolis Community Health Centre Chipman Building, Kentville Eastern Kings Memorial Health Centre Soldiers Memorial Hospital Valley Regional Hospital Western Kings Memorial Hospital Please complete the online application or download the application.

Contact:

Jennifer Moore, Volunteer Resources Consultant

Tel: 902-365-1701 Ext 3444 jenniferl.moore@nshealth.ca

More information available at: http://www.nshealth.ca/get-involved/apply-contact-volunteer-services

Recurring

Vendor's Market/ 9:00am - 12:00pm / Starting Dec 12 - all Saturdays until the end of March / Annapolis Royal Legion / Covid-19 Restrictions apply

Thursday Afternoon Celtic Music / Annapolis Royal Legion / Thursdays / 3:00 pm - 4:00pm / Free



— Nova Scotia —

Notice of Adoption of the Solid Waste By-Law

TAKE NOTICE THAT Annapolis Royal Town Council approved 2nd reading and passing of the following by-law at the December 21, 2020 Town Council meeting:

Solid Waste By-Law

This by-law became law as of January 6, 2021.

Copies of the by-laws are available on the Town website:

https://annapolisroyal.com/town-hall/policies-and-by-laws/



What's a cow's favorite holiday? Moo Year's Eve.

Upcoming Meetings

Open to the public via FACEBOOK Agendas available online

> Council January 18th @ 5pm

Planning & Heritage Advisory Committee February 1st @ 9am

Environment Advisory Committee February 3rd (a), 2pm

Committee of the Whole February 4th @ 5pm

Marketing & Economic Development Committee February 9th @ 6pm

Board of Police Commissioners February 10th @ 10am

Traffic Flow Advisory Committee February 11th @ 9am

> Audit Committee February 16th @ 10am

Council February 16th @ 5pm

Legion events: Facebook for details on their events.

All King's Theatre events & films: www.kingstheatre.ca

ARCAC (ARTsPLACE) events: arcac-artsplace.weebly.com

All Community Hub events: www.valleylibrary.ca/calendar/

Historic Gardens events:

historicgardens.wordpress.com/ activities-events/

For more details & up-to-date events, visit the online Community Calendar at annapolisroyal.com.



TOWN HALL... STAY CONNECTED



Town Hall will be closed February 15, 2021 for Heritage Day.



Grants & Donations Deadline

Please make sure that all grants and donation applications are filled out and submitted by January 31, 2021. Applications will be assessed throughout the winter months and applicants will be notified in the spring once the 2021-2022 budget is approved by Town Council. You can find the application to submit as Appendix A on our website at: https://annapolisroyal.com/donations-grants-policy/.



Beavers at the French Basin Trail

There have been many complaints about the destruction of trees by beavers on the French Basin Trail. After consultation with the Department of Lands and Forestry, the Clean Annapolis River Project, and the Town's Public Works Department, the CAO has concluded that these beavers pose a significant risk to the Town's tertiary sewage treatment plant, as well as the adjacent trail and dyke systems. While all options were explored, it is clear that the only viable option for the Town is removal of the beavers. The Town's Environment Advisory Committee supported her recommendation.

At the January 7, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting, Town Council made the motion (MOTION #CoW2021-01-07-05) to allow staff to hire a nuisance wildlife operator to obtain any required permits from the Department of Lands and Forestry and remove the beavers. The Town is currently in the process of removing the beavers from the trail.

Relocation was not advised as this process is not recommended for many reasons. Most often, the relocated animal does not survive, and is put through considerable stress and often suffers a prolonged death.



Town Crier Newsletter - March/April

Just a friendly reminder that next months edition of the Town Crier Newsletter will be a combined issue for the months of March and April. The deadline for submissions for the combined issue is February 26, 2021. The March/April edition of the newsletter will be printed the first week of March. Please send all submissions to admin@annapolisroyal.com by February 26th.



Happy New Year! The month of January always signals budget time. The first pass of the budget has been put together and during the month of January department heads will fine tune their portions. Once this is complete senior management will pull all the pieces together and have a balanced budget to put in front on Council in the coming months. A special budget meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 16, 2021. Stay tuned for further updates.



Meetings, Procedures, and Presentations Policy

At the December 21, 2020 Council meeting, the updated Meetings, Procedures, and Presentations Policy was approved by Town Council (MOTION #C2020-12-21-07). The amended policy made various changes to the Town's meeting structure and format of the minutes. The policy is available to review on our website at: https://annapolisroyal.com/town-hall/policies-and-by-laws/. Additionally, even though all Town meetings are being held via Zoom - anyone from the public can attend virtually. Please contact admin@annapolisroyal.com to receive the Zoom link to any meeting via email.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Town of Annapolis Royal is looking for residents interested in volunteering to serve as part of the following committees:

> The Accessibility Advisory Committee

The Planning & Heritage Advisory Committee

The Board of Police Commissioners

For more information contact CAO Sandi Millett-Campbell at cao@annapolisroyal.com or 902-532-2043 ext. 104.

The Audit Committee is seeking a citizen volunteer. Contact Director of Finance Melony Robinson at finance@annapolisroyal.com

Is your organization looking to hire or have a volunteer role to fill? If so let us know and we will include it in our next edition! Send your information to admin@annapolisroyal.com

Waste Collection Pick-Up

Pick-up dates:

January 12th & 26th

February 9th & 23rd

Please contact Valley Waste for all waste related matters:1-877-927-8300 or see their website for email addresses:

www.vwrm.com

January's birthstone, the garnet, is thought to keep the wearer safe during travel. February's birthstone is the amethyst, and is thought to keep its wearer thinking sharply.





Community ACCESS-Ability Grant

As mentioned in the last edition of the Town Crier, the Town of Annapolis Royal received a grant from the Community ACCESS-Ability Program. The Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage provided \$6,483 into the initiative to make the library entry doors accessible at the Community Hub. The grant covered 66% of the expense and the Town covered the remainder.

The accessible doors have been installed and have been working great. Make sure to stop by the Community Hub and check them out. We have heard excellent feedback and look forward to continuing to make all of Annapolis Royal accessible for everyone.



Sidewalk Snow Clearing

Just a reminder for this snowy season: under the Town's Streets and Sidewalks By-law: "Occupiers, owners or persons in charge of houses, stores, lots and pieces of land situate on that portion of St. George Street in the Town extending northerly from and including the property at 324 St George Street on the one side and from the Town Hall Building at 285 St George Street on the other side to the Town Wharf, shall, after every snowfall, clear away the snow from the sidewalks adjoining their respective properties..." The full by-law is available at https://annapolisroyal.com/town-hall/policies-and-by-laws/.



Please Keep Your Dogs on a Leash!

The Town of Annapolis Royal adopted the new Dog By-Law on October 7, 2020. The intent of the by-law is to protect the health and safety of the public and to protect your pet. We ask you to please remember to keep your dogs leashed. The use of a leash will benefit you, your neighborhood, and your pet. Fenced backyards and leash-free dog parks provide space for dogs to run wild and let out their inner racehorses. But on the street and other public places, it's safer to keep them leashed. We thank everyone for their continued cooperation.



2021 Assessment Notices

It is that time of year again! On January 11th, over 634,000 assessment notices were mailed out to Nova Scotia property owners. Assessment information is now public and can be found on PVSC's website at www.pvsc.ca. Remember to review your 2021 Assessment Notice and contact PVSC if you have questions. Assessors are available Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at 1-800-380-7775 or inquiry@pvsc.ca.

Your 2021 property assessment is in the mail!



Contact PVSC for more info: 1-800-380-7775 www.pvsc.ca





COUNCIL MOTIONS



Under the current state of emergency and the MGA, all meetings are required to have unapproved draft minutes posted within 24 hours of the meeting. Please visit our website for all committee minutes and motions.

https://annapolisroval.com/town-hall/council-and-committees/council/







Find us on Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram by searching Town of Annapolis Royal

"Even though February was the shortest month of the year, sometimes it seemed like the longest." - JD Robb

















Did you know... February 17th is Random Act of Kindness Day. Let's all do something nice!