

MONTHLY ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS  
OF ANNAPOLIS ROYAL AND AREA [ANNAPOLISROYAL.COM](http://ANNAPOLISROYAL.COM)



Photo Credit: Sandi Millett-Campbell

Send your photos to [kdunning@annapolisroyal.com](mailto:kdunning@annapolisroyal.com) for a chance to be featured!

## WHAT'S UP ANNAPOLIS?



We've made it through another year, and as the sun begins to set a little later each day, there will be brighter days ahead. We hope that everyone enjoyed a safe and happy Christmas/New Year, and were able to connect with family and friends, whether in person or virtually.



Nova Scotia Regulatory and Appeals Board - Notice of Public Hearing on Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 10:30 am at Town Hall in Annapolis Royal. This is to review/approval of amendment to its Schedule of Rates and Charges for Water and Water Services and amendments to its Schedule of Rules and Regulations., and is open to everyone. Information is included on the Town's home page of our [website](#) for more information (procedure to speak at the hearing, dates, etc.).

Changes will be happening regarding Spring/Fall Clean-up. From April 1, 2026 bulky waste will be collected on the same day as regular curbside collection on public roads, The limit will be two items per bi-weekly collection.

Town Hall will be closed on Monday, February 16, 2026 for Heritage Day.

# MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Members of Council

Mayor Amery Boyer  
[mayorboyer@annapolisroyal.com](mailto:mayorboyer@annapolisroyal.com)

Deputy Mayor Sybil  
Skinner-Robertson  
[sskinnerrobertson@annapolisroyal.com](mailto:sskinnerrobertson@annapolisroyal.com)

Councillor Adele MacDonald  
[amacdonald@annapolisroyal.com](mailto:amacdonald@annapolisroyal.com)

Councillor Heather Sadkowski  
[hsadkowski@annapolisroyal.com](mailto:hsadkowski@annapolisroyal.com)

Councillor Lynn Myers  
[lmyers@annapolisroyal.com](mailto:lmyers@annapolisroyal.com)

Open Monday to Friday /  
8:30 am-4:30 pm  
Public access to Town Hall will be  
available only during the hours  
10:00 am to 3:00pm

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](http://www.annapolisroyal.com)  
and by email subscription.

Submissions are welcomed and  
deadlines vary monthly, with the  
deadline for the March 2026  
edition is  
February 23, 2025

Contact:  
[admin@annapolisroyal.com](mailto:admin@annapolisroyal.com) to be  
added to the email list.

Please contact:  
[kdunning@annapolisroyal.com](mailto:kdunning@annapolisroyal.com) or  
902-532-2043 ext. 110  
if you have any questions

## New Year's Day Levee

This year's New Year's Levee was a wonderful and well-attended community event despite the variable weather. A big thank you to the Legion for planning, preparing and serving so much food for so many! If you are not already a member of the Legion Community Centre, please consider becoming one. Besides hosting one of the best Remembrance Day services and New Year levees, the Legion continues to provide an environment for people to enjoy music and games and to socialize. It needs continued community support to maintain its facilities so that large and small community events can continue to be held there.



Mayor Amery Boyer

## Water Rate Study

A Water Study has been completed for the Annapolis Royal Water Utility and rates are expected to increase. The last water rate study was conducted ten years ago and the rates have not kept up with expenses. A hearing will be held before the Nova Scotia Regulatory and Appeals Board (formerly the NS Utility and Review Board) on March 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM.

## Municipal Assessments 2026

The Property Valuation Services Corporation has released the assessment roll for 2026. In summary, Town residential property assessment is up by 7.8%. The overall market rate was about 10%, but the cap on assessments brought this down by about 2.6%. The commercial assessment also went up by about 4.25%. And finally, the assessment for vacant land went up somewhat. Property assessment notices are in the mail. Any appeals must be filed by February 12, 2026. Paul Beazley of the PVSC will be coming to make a presentation to Town Council on January 21, 2026 for people interested in learning more about property assessment.

You can also go to the website at [PVSC - Property Valuation Services Corporation | Property Valuation Services Corporation](http://PVSC - Property Valuation Services Corporation | Property Valuation Services Corporation) .



## Join us for the next Council Engagement Session on February 23, 2025, from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the Annapolis Royal Legion #21

Everyone is welcome! There is no set agenda - just drop in with your questions, comments, or concerns and chat with Council in person.

Light refreshments will be available.

# GET MOVIN'

## WINTER/SPRING PICKLEBALL

### Public Sessions at the Community Hub Gym

Start date: February 6, 2026 and End date: June 19, 2026

Players of all skill levels are welcome.

Drop-in rate is \$5/session where available.

*Public Sessions Registration Day:*

Public Sessions	Days	Times	Rate
Afternoon Open Play (all skills)	mon, wed, fri	2 pm to 4 pm	\$105
Evening Open Play (all skills)	tues	6 pm to 8 pm	\$70

**\*\*\*Registration starts at 9AM on January 19.\*\*\***

*People can register any time after registration opens, but it's first come first served. Space is limited.*

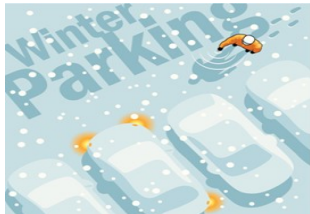
*There are no in-person registrations. To register, you must call 902-955-1205 or email [alc@annapolisroyal.com](mailto:alc@annapolisroyal.com)*




The  
**Snow Moon Howl**  
 Community Recreation Event  
**Sunday Feb. 1 @ 7PM**  
**Annapolis Royal Skatepark**  
 112 Prince Albert Rd. - Free and for all ages!

Please join us for an outdoor event celebrating community recreation, nature, and the February full moon (known as the Snow Moon). There will be snowshoeing or hiking, kicksledding for kids AND adults courtesy of the County of Annapolis WinterACTIVE Team, hot cider, a bonfire, and headlamps provided for a trek around the French Basin Trail!

For more information, or in the event of severe weather, please call 902-955-1205



### Winter Parking Regulations

Under the authority of Section 202 of Chapter 293 of the Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia, 1989, the Motor Vehicle Act:

- No parking or standing of any vehicle upon any street between the hours of 1:00 am and 7:00 am of the same day.
- No parking or standing of any vehicle upon any street that will hinder, inconvenience or prevent removal of snow or ice from such highway or street.
- No parking or standing of any vehicle upon any street during the period from one (1) hour after any snowstorm has commenced to two (2) hours after such snowstorm has stopped.

It also means that street parking is prohibited if Public Works is actively plowing or salting. Alternative parking is available at the “lower” town hall parking lot by the amphitheatre (**not** the upper lot on St George), at the “Irving” lot (please try to park closer to the water), at Market Square, and at the Skate Park.

**These regulations will be in full force and effectively annually from December 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026 inclusive.**

### **Yard Waste Drop Off Site Seasonal Closure**

The Yard Waste Drop Off site will close for the season from Monday December 15, 2025. It will re-open on April 1, 2026. The site is quite full now, so if you are dropping off debris, please try to take it as far back as possible. Prior to April 1, 2026, we will bulldoze the debris to the rear of the site and spread the mounded material to make the site easier to navigate. As always, no plastic bags, no construction debris, and no elms. *Thank you.*

# CHIEF'S CORNER

## Elder Abuse & Safety Tips part 2

### Prevention Suggestions for Older Persons:

#### Do:

- Plan for your own future when you are well and still independent
- Make a will and review it annually
- Have your pension and other cheques deposited directly into your account
- Stay active in your community for as long as possible

#### Don't:

- Revise a will without careful thought and before speaking to someone you trust
- Leave jewellery, cash, or other valuable possessions lying around your home
- Rely solely on family members for your social life and care
- Allow adult children to return to your home (especially if they have drug, alcohol and/or psychological problems) without carefully considering the situation and consulting others for advice
- Be too proud to ask for help when you need it (i.e. public health nurse, church, senior centre, friends)



Chief Mark Kane

Be intimidated in seeking your rights because of your age.

## Privacy Protection Part 1

Protecting your personal privacy is of vital importance in an age where incidents of identity theft are on the rise. The following tips, offered by the Annapolis Royal Police Service, are designed to help individuals from becoming victims of privacy crime:

### Documents and Mail:

- Keep all your receipts and reconcile them with your statements
- Ensure that all items containing personal information such as charge receipts, bank statements, etc. are disposed of safely
- Always shred receipts, copies of credit card applications, insurance forms and physician statements
- Never leave receipts at bank machines, bank wickets, in trash cans or at gasoline pumps
- Pay close attention to billing and mailing cycles
- Put outgoing mail in post office collection boxes
- Promptly remove mail from your mailbox upon delivery
- If you are going to be away from home, ask a trusted friend or neighbour to pick-up your mail or have Canada Post activate a 'hold mail' service

Avoid mail solicitations disguised as promotions that request personal information.



*of Annapolis Royal* is reviewing how we communicate with residents and would love your feedback. Take our short 3–5 minute survey to help improve the clarity, accessibility and the reach of our information.

Click the link below to participate. *No internet or need assistance?* Visit us at Town Hall- we are happy to assist you!

Survey Link click here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3PLWC72>

The survey wraps up on January 30, 2026.

Thank you for helping us strengthen communication in our community.

# EVENTS FOR THE MONTH



January 16  
**The Housemaid,**  
 King's Theatre  
 Theresa Porter,  
 Port Royal Legion #21

January 17  
**Music Bingo**  
 Port Royal Legion #21

January 17 - February 14  
**2026 Member-in-Residence /**  
 Basma Kavanagh,  
 ARTSPLACE  
**Exhibition / Cheryl MacKenzie -**  
**A Study of Light and Healing,**  
 ARTSPLACE  
**Exhibition / Elbows Up!,**  
 ARTSPLACE  
**Exhibition / Victoria Manning -**  
**In the Middle of Everywhere,**  
 ARTSPLACE

January 18  
**The Spongebob Movie: Search for**  
**Squarepants,**  
 King's Theatre

January 23  
**Marty Supreme,**  
 King's Theatre  
**The Fog,**  
 Port Royal Legion #21

January 24 & 25  
**Movement for Theatre,**  
 King's Theatre

February 1  
**Banff Mountain Festival,**  
 King's Theatre

February 6  
**The Heterosexuals**  
 King's Theatre

February 7  
**Exhibition / Basma Kavanagh**  
 ARTSPLACE

February 8  
**Tong Wang,**  
 King's Theatre

February 15  
**The Choral,**  
 King's Theatre

February 21  
**Rum Ragged,**  
 King's Theatre  
**Exhibition / Barbara Brown**  
 Conrod,  
 ARTSPLACE  
**Exhibition / Carolle LeBlanc,**  
 Jacque Savoie, Corrine Drapeau,  
 ARTSPLACE  
**Exhibition / Julie Rosvall**

February 22  
**National Theatre: Hamlet,**  
 King's Theatre

February 27  
**Girls Night Out,**  
 King's Theatre

2026

Assessment Notices are in the mail.



Property Valuation Services Corporation

1-800-380-7775 | www.pvsc.ca | inquiry@pvsc.ca

**Upcoming Meetings**

*Open to the public*

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**Planning and Heritage Advisory Committee**  
 February 2, 2026 @ 4:00 pm

**Committee of the Whole**  
 February 3, 2026 @ 5:00 pm

**Board of Police Commissioners (Quarterly)**  
 March 11, 2026 @ 10:00 am

**Environment Advisory Committee**  
 February 11, 2026 @ 3:00 pm

**Council**  
 January 21, 2026 at 6:00 pm  
 February 18, 2026 @ 6:00 pm

**Budget Meeting**  
 February 21, 2026 @ 10:00 am

**Engagement Session**  
 February 23, 2026 @ 4:30 pm  
 Annapolis Royal Legion

**Nova Scotia Regulatory and Appeals Board - Notice of Public Hearing**  
 March 19, 2026 @ 10:30 am



Community Hub refers to the Library, Innovation Lab, and program rooms located at 143 Ritchie Street. The Community Hub Gym is located at 578 St. George Street.

# TOWN HALL... STAY CONNECTED

## Volunteer Opportunities

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

\*\*\*\*

Environment Advisory Committee (EAC)  
(2 positions)

Planning and Heritage Advisory  
Committee (PHAC)  
(1 position)

and the

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and  
Accessibility (IDEA) are seeking  
volunteers  
(2 positions)

Contact: CAO Sandi Millett-Campbell  
at [cao@annapolisroyal.com](mailto:cao@annapolisroyal.com) or  
902-532-2043 ext. 104

## CELEBRATE AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH 2026

*Sharing the History and Culture of African Nova Scotians*

Strength in Unity Moving Forward with Purpose Prosperity Power and Progress

This year's African Heritage Month provincial theme is "*Strength in Unity: Moving Forward with Purpose, Prosperity, Power, and Progress.*" The theme speaks to the power that comes when African Nova Scotians and people of African descent stand together with a shared sense of direction. It recognizes unity as an active force for change that strengthens communities, advances justice, and creates new opportunities.

At the heart of this strength are our elders, whose wisdom, stories and leadership continue to guide us. As knowledge keepers and culture bearers, they remind us of where we have come from and what it has taken to get here. In honouring our elders, we celebrate more than 400 years of African presence in Nova Scotia and the enduring legacy of the province's 52 historic African Nova Scotian communities, while renewing our commitment to move forward together with purpose, prosperity, power and progress.

The 2026 theme also reflects the continued journey beyond the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent, carrying forward the principles of recognition, justice, and development. Strength in Unity calls upon us to harness our collective wisdom, resilience, and creativity to build prosperity in all its forms, cultural, social economic and spiritual.

African Heritage Month provides an opportunity for all Nova Scotians to learn, reflect, and celebrate the history, culture, achievements and contributions of people of African descent past and present.

More information available: <https://bccns.com/abmposter/>



## The Next Great Save Competition

\$ 6 5 , 0 0 0 in cash prizes!

The **Next Great Save Competition** offers an incredible opportunity to win **\$65,000 in cash prizes** to help protect cherished heritage places! Canadians have a deep love for their historic sites and rise to the challenge when these treasures are at risk. This competition empowers communities with a **\$50,000 Grand Prize**, generously provided by Ecclesiastical Insurance, along with two runner-up prizes of \$10,000 and \$5,000. These funds will support projects that protect, adapt, renew, or improve heritage places for the future - while inspiring us all along the way!

Accepting applications from January 9 to January 27, 2026.

More information available: [Next Great Save - National Trust for Canada](#)





## Business ACCESS-Ability Grant Program

**Deadline: 14 February 2026**

This program offers cost-shared grants to business for accessibility related improvements. Grants are intended to improve overall accessibility and create welcoming environments that persons with disabilities can access for business and employment opportunities. We pay up to 2/3 of accessibility improvements and up to \$50,000.

This program is part of the Province of Nova Scotia's commitment to equal opportunity and inclusive communities. In alignment with the Accessibility Act, Nova Scotia is committed to an Accessible Nova Scotia by 2030 (Access by design).

<https://cch.novascotia.ca/business-access-ability-grant-program>

Calendars available at Town Hall for pick-up between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. Waste Collection for the Town of Annapolis Royal is:



- Friday, January 16, 2026
- Friday, January 30, 2026
- Friday, February 13, 2026
- Friday, February 27, 2026

From April 1, 2026 there will no longer be a Spring/Fall Clean-up - bulky waste will be collected on the same day as regular curbside collection on public roads, The limit will be two items per bi-weekly collection



### ACCEPTED

## BULKY WASTE ITEMS

### NOT ACCEPTED



**\*Limit of two items per bi-weekly collection.**



#### HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES

Such as a washer, dryer, or stove.

**NOTE:** Cooling devices such as fridges, freezers, air conditioners, water coolers, and dehumidifiers must be brought to our sites for CFC removal or display a certified CFC removal sticker.



#### FURNITURE ITEMS

Such as a sofa, mattress, shelving. **Any one furniture or appliance item can weigh up to 91kg (200lb): other items must weigh no more than 34kg (75lb) each.** Carpet should be rolled in 4ft lengths.



#### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Such as a water tank, boiler (which must all be drained).



#### CONSTRUCTION WASTE

Lumber or loose items must be bagged or tied securely in bundles **no longer than 1.2 metres (4 ft).** Nails should be bent over or removed.



#### SMALL AUTO PARTS

No fuel or fluids



**Items not collected curbside!**

#### COOLING DEVICES

Fridges, freezers, air conditioners, ice makers, water coolers, and dehumidifiers **without a CFC sticker can be brought to our sites for a small fee to remove the CFCs.**



#### ELECTRONICS\*NEW\*

Similar to televisions, you can bring kettles, computers, monitors, stereos, printers, telephones, hairdryers, countertop microwaves, air fryers, toasters, and more into our sites or participating EPRA locations for FREE. Visit <https://epra.ca/> for info.



#### AUTOMOTIVE TIRES

Up to four rimless tires a day can be returned to any tire dealership, free of charge.



#### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW)

Visit [vwm.com](http://vwm.com) for information on disposal.

#### HOUSEHOLD AND LITHIUM BATTERIES

Bring to our sites or participating locations for FREE!



#### LARGE AUTO PARTS

Call your local auto salvage yard for more information.

**NEW!** As of April 1st, 2026, bulky waste will be collected on the same day as regular curbside collection on public roads. Residents on private roads should contact their cottage association for details.

#### RULES FOR BULKY WASTE COLLECTION

- A maximum of 2 bulky items will be collected per stop, with each item defined as a single object or securely tied bundle up to 4ft in length.
- Remove batteries from items; they can be dropped off at participating locations or our sites for free. This includes items with encased batteries.
- Do NOT leave items at the end of your driveway that you do not want collected, or mark them clearly with a sign that says **Do Not Collect**.
- Residents must remove any uncollected items from roadside after collection.



## Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Program for Packaging and Paper

### EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR)

"Companies take care of their packaging—even after you're done with it."

- ✓ Less waste
- ✓ Better recycling
- ✓ Materials reused in new products



Think: Old bottles → New bottles!



Nova Scotia is transitioning to a new recycling model that shifts responsibility from municipalities to the producers of packaging and paper products. This change is part of the province's extended producer responsibility (EPR) initiative, starting on December 1, 2025.

Circular Materials is a national not-for-profit producer responsibility organization (PRO) that manages where materials are collected, recycled and returned to producers for use as recycled content in new products and packaging. For more information, visit [Circular Materials](https://www.circularmaterials.ca/resident-provinces/nova-scotia/) at <https://www.circularmaterials.ca/resident-provinces/nova-scotia/>

### What is EPR?

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) means that companies who make things like packaging and paper are also in charge of what happens to these items after we're done using them. Instead of just throwing things away, this system encourages businesses to find better ways to recycle and reuse materials. For example, a soda company might design bottles that are easier to recycle. This helps create a "circular economy," where old products become new ones instead of ending up in the trash.

### What's Changing in the Annapolis Valley region?

Valley Region Solid Waste Resource Management has joined the EPR program. This means we can keep collecting recycling from homes while saving money and helping the environment. The goal is to send less waste to landfills and cut down on garbage right from the start.

### How does this affect residents in Kings and Annapolis Counties?

For residents in Kings and Annapolis Counties, this change brings more recycling options. You'll still use your blue bags and follow sorting rules, but you'll be able to recycle more items like disposable cups, pet food bags, toothpaste tubes, and frozen juice containers. Sorting guides are available in several different languages on the Circular Materials website.

### Are My Taxes Paying for This?

The cost of recycling will now be covered by the companies that produce packaging and paper. This shift encourages businesses to design packaging that's easier to recycle and helps reduce waste. Your taxes, which are on average \$200 annually per unit, cover the cost of curbside collection, bulky waste clean-up, and solid waste operations.

### Unlimited Blue Bags and Cardboard for Residential Collection

Valley Waste Resource Management will continue to collect your recyclables curbside on behalf of Circular Materials, and there's no limit to the number of blue bags you can put out or cardboard bundles. Just make sure everything is sorted properly — unsorted bags may be left behind.

### Recycling Limits for the ICI/Business Sectors

Small business units who receive curbside collection will be allowed a maximum of 6 bags of recyclables (which includes bundled cardboard).

### Same Sorting Rules Across Nova Scotia

One of the biggest benefits of this new system is consistency. No matter where you live in the province, the recycling rules will be the same. This makes it easier for everyone to recycle correctly.

### How will collection work?

As of April 1st you will see two trucks traveling your road on collection day. One will pick up garbage and compost, and the other will collect recycling and cardboard. This helps keep materials separate and ensures better recycling.

### What is recyclable?

To find out what else has been added to our recycling bags, see our sorting page or download the Recycle Coach app for free from Apple or Google Stores and access their What Goes Where section.

### Moving Forward

Let's work together to make recycling easier and better for everyone!

For more information, call 902 679 1325 or visit [www.vwrm.com](http://www.vwrm.com)





# MUSIC BINGO

## Annapolis Royal Legion

### January 17th @ 7pm

Members & Guests Can Play!



All Games Played on Same Card(s)

\$2 / card. Purchase as many as you like!

**Prizes: 1 line, 4 corners, corner stamp, around free, around outside, full card.**

Listen to clips of music from different genres & try to guess the song & cover it on your playing card.

The title will be mentioned before the next music clip.

*Winter Music Series*  
**GREAT MUSIC**  
**EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT**

ANAPOLIS ROYAL  
**Legion**  
 BRANCH no. 21

*Cocktail Specials*  
 Friday & Saturday Nights

*Happy Hour*  
 Fridays From:  
 5:30-7:00pm

*Theresa Porter*  
 January 16th: 7 - 9pm (or later)  
**Chase the Ace Draw at 8pm!**

## ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS NOW!

### 2026 Annapolis County Community Events Guide



Don't miss the chance to promote your 2026 community event or festival absolutely **FREE**.

Submit your event online at [AnnapolisCounty.ca](http://AnnapolisCounty.ca)

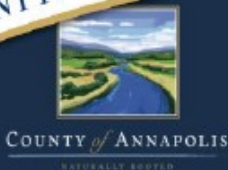
**Deadline:**  
February 11, 2026, 4:30 p.m.

Visit [AnnapolisCounty.ca](http://AnnapolisCounty.ca) to submit your event online.

Please direct all inquiries to:  
Rachael Browne  
Administrative Assistant—Community Development  
(902) 955-0771  
**rbrowne@annapoliscounty.ca**

You can also visit [AnnapolisCounty.ca](http://AnnapolisCounty.ca) for more information.

**ANNAPOLISCOUNTY.CA**



**FRIDAY NIGHT**  
**MUSIC WITH:**  
*The Fog*  
 January 23rd 7 - 9pm

**Chase the Ace Draw at 8pm!**  
**Annapolis Royal Legion**  
 66 Victoria St.