

The MOPC Spotlight

E-newsletter



December 2025



Shellie Pettipas, left, and Clare Steele were busy earlier this month decorating the MOPC Christmas Tree which can be seen in the lobby of the Admin building.

Happy Holidays to all!



Another busy year is behind us as we move into the festive season of Christmas. A time of magic for our younger generation, a time of endless to-do lists for their families and a time of many fond memories for us more senior.

A difficult time for some because of health, financial concerns or other challenges. On behalf of all our Councillors and staff at your rural Municipality, I wish you a safe, restful holiday season, regardless of your beliefs. We can all celebrate that we live in a peaceful part of the world when unfortunately many cannot.

Merry Christmas to all and all the best to you and your families in 2026.

Warden Robert Parker

Contact the Municipality of Pictou County

Physical Address

46 Municipal Drive
Pictou, N.S.
B0K 1H0

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 910
Pictou, N.S.
B0K 1H0

Call Us

902-485-4311
902-752-1530

MOPC Network Launches Senior Valet Service

MOPC Network is proud to announce the launch of its Senior Valet Service, a first-of-its-kind program designed exclusively for MOPC FiberFirst and MOPC FirstHome Wireless customers aged 65 and older, available at no additional cost.

As part of MOPC Network's ongoing commitment to care and community, the Senior Valet Service provides seniors with a personalized, compassionate experience that ensures they can stay connected, safe, and supported. The program goes beyond standard internet service—combining technology, care, and peace of mind into one thoughtful package.

"This program is something truly special," said Rhiannon McNair, Director of Business Operations at MOPC Network. "We're building more than a network—we're building community. The Senior Valet Service was created to make life a little easier for our older residents, helping them stay connected without the worry or frustration that sometimes comes with technology."

The Senior Valet Service includes:

Priority Service: First in line for restoration during outages, with proactive care calls to ensure everything works smoothly.

Complete Technical Support: In-home setup assistance for all devices, and house calls when phone support isn't enough—we'll come to you until it's fixed.

Flexible Billing: Clear, senior-friendly statements with pay-by-cheque options available.

Family Support: Authorized family members can



help manage accounts, or own the account on your loved one's behalf.

Human Connection: Every call answered by a real person, 24/7—never a machine.

MOPC Network continues to expand its services across the region, now offering internet, home phone, and television services. The Senior Valet Service is another step toward ensuring every resident, no matter their age, feels confident and cared for in our connected community.

"Our seniors have built this community," added Rhiannon McNair. "Now it's our turn to make sure they're supported, connected, and protected—with service that truly puts people first."

For more information or to enroll in the Senior Valet Service, visit www.mopcnetwork.ca or call 1-833-727-2256.



I would like to wish the residents of District 9 and the rest of Pictou County a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please stay safe and may 2026 be our year.

**District 9 Councillor
Peter Boyles**

Pictou County civic sign suppliers

Supplier	Civic Address	Area Served	Phone	Email
Alma Fire	80 Alma Loop, Alma	Alma Area	902-759-4479	nedrawilson@eastlink.ca
Auto Trim & Sign	669 Pine Tree Road, Thorburn, NS	Pictou County	902-922-2915	design@atdnortheast.ca
Barney's River Fire	13317 Highway 104, Pictou County	Pictou County	902-754-8422	barneysriverfire@gmail.com
Advocate Sign Group	125 North Foord Street, Stellarton	Pictou County	902-752-2722	info@advocateprinting.com
Eureka Fire	5222 Stellarton Trafalgar Road, Eureka	Pictou County	902-921-0884	cliffjardine@hotmail.com
Little Harbour Fire	8328 Pictou Landing Road, Little Harbour	Little Harbour Area		firechief@lhfd.ca
Plymouth Fire	4667 E River East Side Road, Plymouth	Plymouth Area	902-755-5441	livingstonerod6@gmail.com
Sketch-It Design	268 Munroe Avenue Ext. New Glasgow	Pictou County	902-752-7446	sketchitsd@outlook.com
Thorburn Fire	738 Marsh Road, Thorburn	Pictou County		thorburnfiredept@gmail.com



Long service

The Municipality of Pictou County recently recognized several employees with long service awards.

In the top photo, Warden Robert Parker (centre) is pictured with Jennifer Boyce (left) who has been with the MOPC for 20 years and Stacey MacLeod who has been here for 5 years. Both Stacey and Jennifer work in the finance department.

In the photo to the left, Warden Parker is pictured with CAO Brian Cullen who has been working at the MOPC for 20 years.



I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a festive holiday season. Reflecting on the past year, I would like to express my gratitude to the staff and my fellow councillors. The commitment they have shown to better the County is commendable.

To the residents who have given their talents and time by volunteering, I want to give a special thanks. Your contributions have not gone unnoticed and have benefited the County greatly. May the spirit of this season bring you comfort, peace and happiness. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

District 8 Councillor
Larry Turner

Parking lot expansion

Visitors to the MOPC Admin office will have more space to park thanks to an expansion that was completed this month. In the coming months electric charging stations will be installed in the parking lot which people will be able to pay to charge their vehicles at.





Skating in Pictou County

2025-2026 Free Skates Schedule

Monday

Trenton Minor Sports Community Centre

- Adult/Senior Leisure Skate: 12:00PM-1:30PM

Pictou County Wellness Centre

- Parent & Tot Skate: 10:00AM-11:00AM
- Adult/Senior Skate: 11:00 AM-1:00PM

Wednesday

Trenton Minor Sports Community Centre

- Adult/Senior Leisure Skate: 12:00PM-1:30PM

Hector Arena (Pictou)

- Adult/Senior Skate: 2:00PM-3:00PM

Pictou County Wellness Centre

- Parent & Tot Skate: 10:00AM-11:00AM
- Adult/Senior Skate: 11:00AM-1:00PM

Friday

Trenton Minor Sports Community Centre

- Adult/Senior Leisure Skate: 12:00PM-1:30PM
- After-School Skate: 3:00PM-4:00PM

Hector Arena (Pictou)

- Public Open Skate: 3:00PM-4:30PM

Pictou County Wellness Centre

- Parent & Tot Skate: 10:00AM-11:00AM
- Adult/Senior Skate: 11:00AM-1:00PM

Tuesday

Hector Arena (Pictou)

- Adult/Senior Skate: 2:00PM-3:00PM

Pictou County Wellness Centre

- Parent & Tot Skate: 10:00AM-11:00AM
- Adult/Senior Skate: 11:00AM-1:00PM

Thursday

Hector Arena (Pictou)

- Adult/Senior Skate: 2:00 PM-3:00 PM

Pictou County Wellness Centre

- Parent & Tot Skate: 10:00AM-11:00AM
- Adult/Senior Skate: 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

Saturday

Pictou County Wellness Centre

- Family Leisure Skate: 4:00PM-6:00PM

Ivor MacDonald Memorial Arena (Thorburn)

- Public Open Skate: 4:00PM-5:00PM

Sunday

Trenton Minor Sports Community Centre

- Parent-Child Skating: 4:30PM-5:30PM

Westville Miners Sports Center

- Public Open Skate: 6:30PM-7:20PM



Season's Greetings to the residents of District 2

As the Christmas season approaches, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest wishes to all residents of District 2.

Christmas is a time for reflection, kindness, and community.

Over the past year, I have been continually inspired by the resilience, generosity, and neighbourly spirit shown across our district. Whether through supporting local initiatives, looking out for one another, or contributing to the life of our community, your efforts make District 2 a wonderful place to live.

I recognise that this season can be joyful for many, but also challenging for some. Please know that you are not alone, and that our community is at its strongest when we care for one another with compassion and understanding.

As we look ahead to the New Year, I remain committed to representing your voices and working hard on your behalf to build a safe, inclusive, and thriving District 2 for everyone.

On behalf of my family and myself, I wish you a peaceful Christmas and a healthy, hopeful New Year.

**Warm regards,
Debi Wadden
Councillor for District 2**



Merry Christmas and all the best in 2026 to the residents and businesses in District 5 and thank all the volunteers who helped out in 2025.

A big shoutout to Scotsburn Recreation and congratulations on your new hall and upgrade to the courts. Thanks as well to the firefighters for keeping us safe in a time of emergency, the Lyons Brook and Meadowville halls for hosting so many great events and DMSC for looking after the hall in Elmfield. Every one who helps out, no matter how big or small, certainly makes a difference. From me and my family, we thank each and everyone involved for what you do for our communities.

**District 5 Councillor
Wayne Murray**

How can we help?

To report a problem with a streetlight, please call 902-485-1201 or email outages@munpict.ca

If you have an MOPC public works emergency after hours, call 902-301-1825



Christmas is my favourite time of the year. It is a pleasure I do not take for granted to spend time with our family and friends. It is so much fun to watch our grandchildren open their presents and talk about Santa.

One of my favourite traditions is picking out a big, beautiful tree at a local Christmas tree farm. When the tree is decorated it makes the home look and feel so special. Seeing our neighbourhoods lit up, visiting local shops and community events, and watching the children perform in their school concerts all add to the joy of the season.

Christmas is a special time when we share the warmth and love of the season with our families, friends and neighbours. May the blessings and joy of the season be with you all. Barb and I wish all the residents of District 7 a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

**District 7 Councillor
Donald Parker**

Did you know?

Most roads in rural Pictou County are owned and maintained by the Province of Nova Scotia. If you have a road maintenance concern, you can contact the Department of Transportation **toll-free at 1-844-696-7737.**

Holiday Greetings

Greetings and best wishes to all the residents of Pictou County and congratulations especially to District 12 for a very successful 2025.

Congratulations to the Hopewell Ceilidh committee for a tremendous job hosting their event on a hot, hot August afternoon and Iona Park for a wonderful Sunday afternoon in September. There were terrific crowds at both events.

Thank you to the volunteers and to the people who turned out. Without both, it wouldn't have been a success. Special thanks to the parade committee at the Ceilidh and all the people who made the field look the way it does today. Both the Ceilidh field and Iona Park are talking points of the community for how well kept they are.

I also appreciate everything going on at the Riverton Hall and the Lorne Hall. The Remembrance Day Services in our district were lovely and very respectable. Thanks to the crowds who turned out for those events.

We are deeply saddened by the passing of Jamie MacKay this fall. He was a dedicated volunteer at the Lorne Community Hall and the church and was known for his kindness. Our sympathies go out to his family and friends. He will be greatly missed.

I'm very pleased to say that the sidewalk from the post office to the seniors complex is done and what a job. Everything takes time, but the completion of it is very nice and safe for the residents and the people of Hopewell.



Work is ongoing for the water project in Riverton. This project started off with a cost of around \$700,000, but now it's over \$1 million. It's proceeding along and, hopefully, will be finished in 2026.

The Internet project is proceeding slowly, but is getting around. Things are certainly better in the areas they're getting it.

The Hopewell Christmas tree lighting took place Dec. 7 at 6:30 p.m. in Hopewell with a gathering that followed in the church hall.

I'd like to thank the residents of District 12 for all their help to me during the past year. If you have any concerns or projects you'd like brought forward, let me know.

The best way to reach me is by phone at (902) 923-2931.

Lori and I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Councillor Chester Dewar



Winter Guided Hikes

Make Your Move Outdoors!

December 21 6:00 p.m.
Jitney Trail, Pictou
5 km, 90 minutes

January 21 6:00 p.m.
Samson Trail, New Glasgow
5 km, 75 minutes

February 11 6:00 p.m.
Trenton Park, Trenton
5 km, 75 minutes

March 4 6:00 p.m.
Acadia Park, Westville
3 km, 45 minutes

March 18 6:00 p.m.
Roy Island Trail, Little Harbour
5 km, 75 minutes

Join us for one of five winter guided hikes to get outdoors and move your body this winter!

To register, contact Melanie at
melanie.dash@westville.ca or 902-396-1059



I would like to wish all District 1 residents a Merry Christmas and happy and prosperous New Year!

District 1 Councillor
Joe MacDonald

Season's Greetings, District 10

We are truly fortunate to belong to a community where residents generously volunteer their time to make our community a better place.

Throughout the year, events and gatherings offer wonderful opportunities to connect with friends and neighbours. Our recent Community Christmas Party was a perfect example of how these efforts bring us together, create memories, and strengthen our community. We are looking forward to many more chances to celebrate and enjoy District 10 together. Wishing you joy, peace, and happiness this Christmas and for 2026!

Randy Palmer - Councillor District 10