

The MOPC Spotlight

E-newsletter



July 2025



Pictou County Recreation took a group of kids to the Shubenacadie Wildlife Park on July 16 for the first trip of the year.



MOPC employee Theresa Welsh ran into former MOPC summer student (and current Central Nova MP) Sean Fraser while piping together at the Ship Hector launch on Saturday. Fraser worked at the MOPC the summers of 2003 and 2004.

How can we help?

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

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

The MOPC's GeoHub provides information such as building permits or to submit a bylaw complaint. Check it out at <https://mopc-pictoucounty.hub.arcgis.com>

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

Payment options

You can pay your property tax or water bills online through your bank by following these instructions:

To begin, you must have a separate payee for each; taxes and water.

Property Taxes

Go to "Add Payee"

Search "Pictou"

Select "Pictou County Taxes"

Add all 8 digits of your Municipal Account number

Water Utility

Go to "Add Payee"

Search "Pictou"

Select "Pictou County Water"

Add all 8 digits of your Municipal Account number

You can also pay your property tax bills by dropping a cheque into the mail. The address is:

The Municipality of Pictou County

P.O. Box 910, Pictou

Nova Scotia, B0K 1H0

Visit our administration building Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to pay your bill in person.



MOPC holds tax rate

The Municipality of Pictou County will be holding its property tax rate.

Council for the Municipality of Pictou County voted on July 7, 2025, to approve a \$26,065,443 operating budget. The tax rate for the 2025/26 fiscal year will be \$0.815/\$100 assessed value for residential and resource properties and \$1.825/\$100 assessed value for commercial properties.

Warden Robert Parker said Council is happy to be able to hold the tax rate, although he noted residents may still be paying more for taxes because of increasing property value assessments. Assessments are determined by the independent Property Valuation Services Corporation without input from the Municipality.

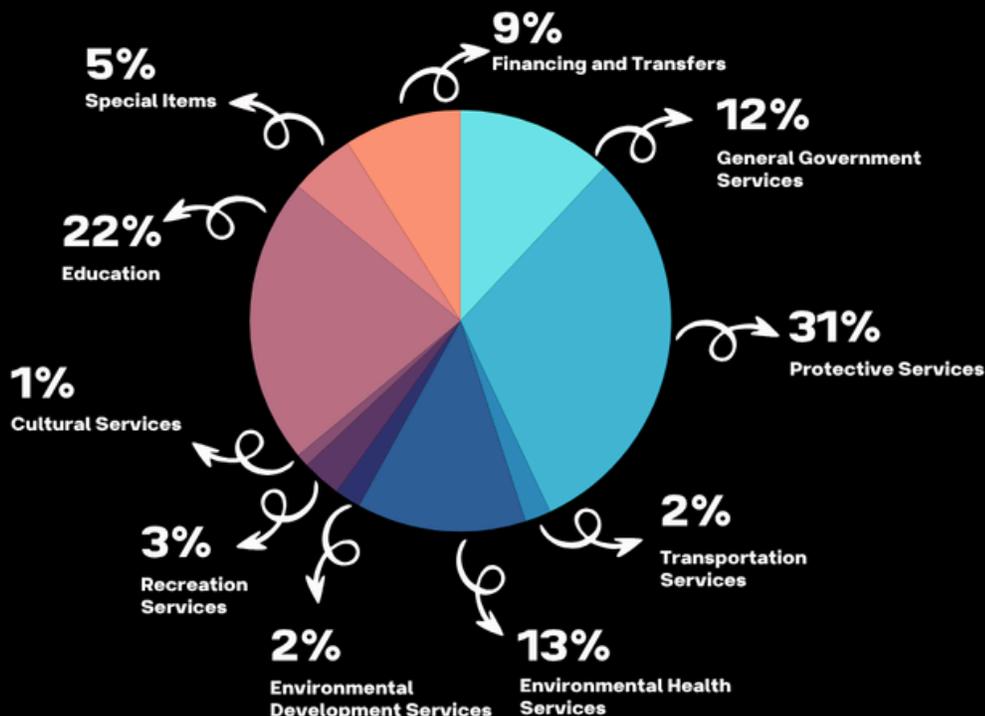
“Much like our individual homes and businesses, the County’s cost of doing business also increases each year, including salaries and wages, repairs and maintenance and meeting demand for new services,” Parker said. “Our efforts will always be aimed at balancing our budget and trying to keep tax bills to the lowest possible increases.”

The MOPC budgeted \$9,397,258 for protective services in the 2025/26 fiscal year, which is 31% of the operating budget. It will also pay a mandatory contribution of \$6,766,233 for education, which is 22% of the operating budget. The budget also allocates more than \$800,000 for grants that benefit community groups and programs in Pictou County.

Council also approved its Capital Investment Plan at the July 7 meeting. Some capital projects included in this year’s plan are the new sidewalks in Blue Acres and work on the MacLellan’s Brook and Coalburn area water project, as well as numerous other smaller projects and upgrades throughout the county.

“It is your taxpayer dollars that pay for all these improvements, and more are always in demand,” Parker said. “Our job, as elected Councillors, is to judge very carefully which and how many projects to undertake, while at the same time being aware of ever-increasing costs of running our County. And it must always fit within an envelope that is fair to our taxpayers. Our Council pledges to try hard to be fair to all.”

2025/26 BUDGET EXPENDITURES





The Loch Broom Log Church

1576 Loch Broom Loop, Loch
Broom, NS Canada

Open Hours (July and August)

Sunday 10 am – 4 pm

Tuesday-Saturday 10 am - 4 pm,

Closed Mondays

On June 10, 1767 the first permanent immigrant settlers arrived from Philadelphia on the brig "Betsy", a group of six families. They had previously come to the American States from Scotland and Northern Ireland. On Sept. 15, 1773, the ship "Hector" arrived, directly from Scotland, with 36 families and 30 single men. Nearly all were Presbyterian. It is said that there were only sixteen families in the settlement of Pictou when the Hector arrived.

This replica of the original log church built in 1787, was officially opened on June 29, 1973. It resembles as closely as possible the original and is built almost exactly where the original stood so many years ago. The original church formed the mother congregation of Presbyterianism in this region.

Come visit the replica of the first church build in Pictou County

Step back into the past and stand on the same site where the Rev. James MacGregor first preached to his flock in 1787. Look around, imagine men and women gathered for worship clad in homespun and roughly cured furs. Rev. MacGregor preached first in Gaelic to his Highland countrymen and then in English to those from the Scottish lowlands and the American colonies.

Whether you are a descendant of these brave settlers, interested in history or just want to look into the past; a visit to the Loch Broom Log Church is worth the time.

Flag raising

People First Pictou County held a Disability Pride Flag Raising at the MOPC Admin building July 15. Guest speakers shared about their experiences growing up in Pictou County and the success and independence they've been able to create despite the challenges and discrimination they faced. People First Pictou County is a self-advocacy group of members who have been labelled with an intellectual disability. Their vision is for all citizens to live equally in community.



QUESTIONS ABOUT UPGRADING YOUR HOMES ENERGY EFFICIENCY?

The Switch MOPC program is here to answer all your questions!

CONTACT US TODAY

 (902) 334-4227

 Switchmopc.ca



Marlie Chisholm is working with Coastal Nova Scotia this summer to help share information about activities and events in our region. Coastal Nova Scotia has once again set up a visitor information station at the Municipality of Pictou County's Administrative Building at 46 Municipal Drive in Pictou.

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.**

Looking for a landfill voucher?

Landfill vouchers are available from May 1st to Nov. 30. Get yours at the MOPC office or by mail. Call 902 485-4311 for more information.



PICTOU COUNTY RECREATION SWIMMING LESSONS

CARIBOU BEACH: JULY 2TH- JULY 18TH
LISMORE BEACH: JULY 21ST- AUGUST 1ST
MACDONALD'S COVE: AUGUST 5TH- AUGUST 15TH

\$15/CHILD

AGES 5 AND UP! (GROUP LESSONS)

AGES 3-4 (PARENT & TOT)

REGISTER TODAY!

SCAN QR CODE OR CONTACT
PICTOU COUNTY RECREATION

902-485-2244

SWIMMING@MUNPICT.CA



PLAY BOX REMINDERS

AND
FAQs!

HOW DO PLAY BOXES WORK?

Play Boxes are filled with recreational equipment that anyone can use for free while visiting the area. Just borrow what you'd like and return everything to the box when you're done!

CAN I DONATE TO PLAY BOXES?

Yes! Gently used donations are welcome – just leave them in the box! Items in the **Play Boxes** are regularly monitored by MOPC recreation staff.

WHERE ARE THE PLAY BOXES LOCATED?

Play Boxes are available at several locations across Pictou County, each stocked with free recreational equipment for all to enjoy. You can find them in **River John** inside the Lions park, in **Scotsburn** by the trailhead, in **Springville** at the ball field, at the **Salem Park**, at the **Little Harbour** Community Centre, and at the **Merigomish** Schoolhouse.

WHO DO I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?

If you any questions about the **Play Boxes**, contact our recreation department at clare.steele@munpict.ca or (902)-485-2247

2025

Pictou West

STUDIO TOUR

AUGUST 9TH & 10TH

10AM-5PM

The Pictou Arts Society is very proud to present the second Pictou West Studio Tour. Eleven very talented artists will be participating, and giving viewers the chance to get a look at where all the magic happens.

Find The Pictou Arts Society on Facebook or email us at societypictouarts@gmail.com

Pictou WEST

STUDIO
TOUR





2nd Annual
Garden Party
and Fundraiser

2PM-4:30PM
SATURDAY, AUGUST 16TH

Join us in celebrating Scotsburn Community Food Forest's sixth growing season while contributing to an interconnected food security movement!

LIVE MUSIC

Fiddle, Harmonizing vocals and guitar by local musical talents
Katie Gunn, Isis and Yula

TASTES & SAVORIES

Tastes of our Food Forest, curated with care by Stone Soup Café and community

LOCAL TEAS

Teas foraged and harvested from our Food Forest

SUPPORT

Silent auction, 50/50, raffle, door prizes. Locally-sourced, rare & mindful items

BEST HAT

Make, take or borrow a sensational garden hat for a chance to win a prize

LEARNINGS

Enjoy speakers Raina McDonald from the food forest and reps from Scotsburn Recreation and the Butterflyway Project

\$30 per guest OR \$70 including a ONE-YEAR Friends of the Food Forest Membership

For tickets, visit - 2025scffgardenparty.eventbrite.com



HARDWOOD SEEDLINGS GIVEAWAY

The MOPC's Tree Planting Committee will be distributing hardwood seedlings this fall at the Pictou County Wellness Centre, Mt. William

Saturday, Oct 11th, 2025

from 9 a.m. until noon.

There will not be a registration this year. Instead, trees will be given out on a first-come, first-served basis to residents of the Municipality of Pictou County only.

