

# *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.

**WWW.MUNPICT.CA**



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.

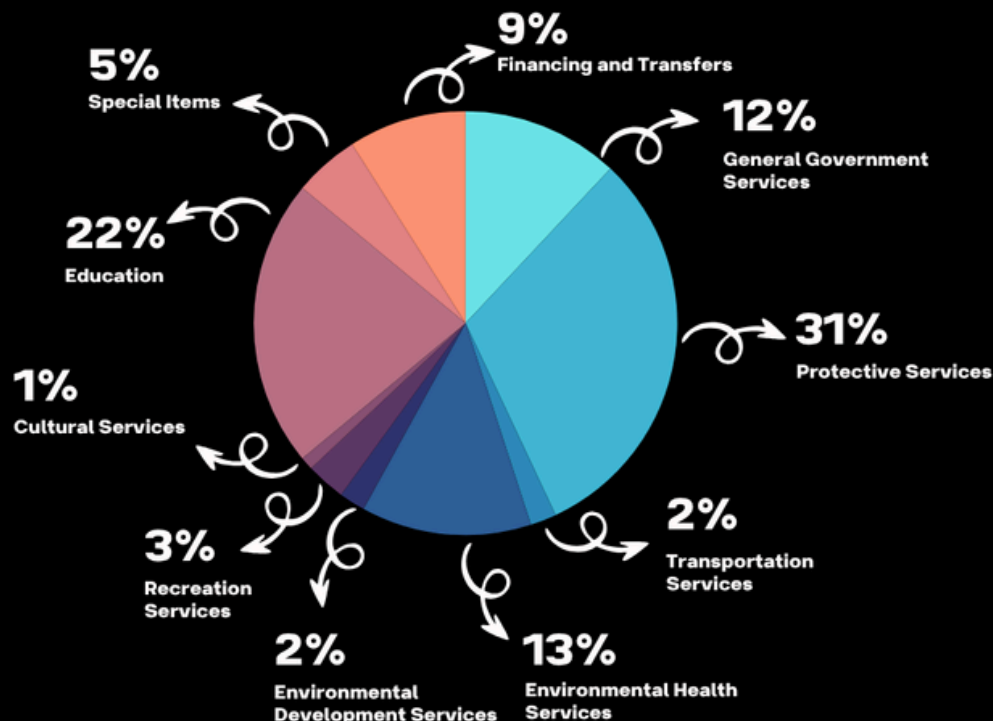
“Much like our individual homes and businesses, the County’s cost of doing business also increases each year, including salaries and wages, repairs and maintenance and meeting demand for new services,” Parker said. “Our efforts will always be aimed at balancing our budget and trying to keep tax bills 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](http://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 7<sup>TH</sup> - JULY 18<sup>TH</sup>  
LISMORE BEACH: JULY 21<sup>ST</sup> - AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup>  
MACDONALD'S COVE: AUGUST 5<sup>TH</sup> - AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**\$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](mailto: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](mailto:clare.steele@munpict.ca) or (902)-485-2247

# 2025 Pictou West

**STUDIO TOUR**

**AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup> & 10<sup>TH</sup>**

**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](mailto:societypictouarts@gmail.com)

*Pictou* WEST

STUDIO  
TOUR





*2nd Annual*  
**Garden Party**  
*and Fundraiser*

**2PM-4:30PM**  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 16<sup>TH</sup>**

*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](https://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.

