



Rural News and Views

46 Municipal Drive, Pictou, Nova Scotia - Summer 2022



Daisy was welcomed into this world in April 2022 at the barn owned by Travis and Trudi Smith of Division Road, Pictou County. She is part of the TS Performance Horse family. Thank you to Wendy MacLeod Doggett for capturing this beauty.

**46 Municipal
Drive,
Pictou, NS,
B0K 1H0**

**Main office
phone number
902-485-4311
902-752-1530**

**Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 910,
Pictou
NS B0K 1H0**

Congratulations 2022 Graduates!

We wish all graduates of 2022 great success in the future. It is time to celebrate this major milestone but please do so safely.

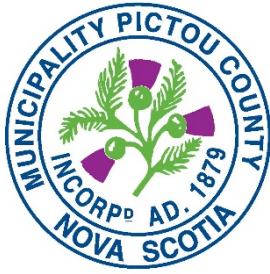


Landfill Vouchers

Landfill vouchers are available until Nov. 30 from the MOPC finance department. They can be picked up in person at our administration building or you can have them mailed out by calling 902-485-4311.

**Don't miss the
latest in MOPC
news and events.
Check out
www.munpict.ca
as well as our
Facebook and
Twitter.
pages at**





MOPC Staff Directory

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and Development

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Recreation

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Clare Steele

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A Message from the Warden

Welcome to summer in rural Pictou County. On behalf of my 11 fellow councillors, myself, and our dedicated staff, please enjoy our beautiful county and support the many locally owned shops and farms that dot our spectacular landscape. Amidst all the good things, we also have many challenges in our rural county.



Warden

Robert Parker

Access to modern communications is a necessity for most of our residents. This includes both high-speed internet and dependable cell service no matter where you are. While slower than we would like, our high-speed network is advancing, and soon more than a dozen towers will be erected and reach several thousand homes with wireless internet. Once our towers are connected by fibre, companies that provide service to your cell phones will be able to provide much more dependable service. Our municipality will not provide cell service but will enable others to do it in a much-improved fashion.

The project includes fibre for 2/3 of our homes over the next two years, with only a few outlying areas being served, possibly by satellite.

Housing remains a big issue in Pictou County as it is across the province. The good news on this front is our county has come to a sales agreement that will see the former East Pictou High School converted to housing and possibly some healthcare, adding housing in our rural county. The county is also part owner of the East River Business Park where another large housing project is being built. It is also good to see a new senior's home will soon be built to replace the current Valley View Villa.

Please help keep our county clean this summer. Your council is developing a strategy that will help with the littering problem. If you have some good strategies in mind, please forward them to our Communications Officer Sueann Musick at sueann.musick@munpict.ca.

Our county has a dangerous and unsightly policy that tries to get a few scattered properties cleaned up. This is often a controversial process because it is complaint driven. After a complaint is received, our bylaw officer, not councillors, determines if it meets the dangerous and/or unsightly level. A lot of us are under additional mental stress as we attempt to put Covid behind us so please be kind and welcoming to all and make everyone's day special.

MOPC Welcomes Two New Employees

Business Development Officer

Jeramie Lewis has joined the MOPC as our new Development Officer. He is trained as a Transportation Engineering Technologist having attended Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology (Ontario 2007).



He has since continued his education through various organizations and post-secondary institutions and brings a wealth of professional knowledge to our team. Since relocating to Pictou County Jeramie has worked on contract with the Town of Westville before accepting a role with the Municipality of Pictou County. Jeramie's work with the MOPC will include the review and approval of subdivision and development applications and the preparation of development policies.

Director of Emergency Services

Evan Hale has joined the MOPC as our new Director of Emergency Services. Evan is a certified NFPA 1001, and 1002 trained firefighter who has dedicated the last 10 years of his life to Pictou County's fire service. He holds multiple other certificates which are an asset in his new role.



Evan's previous professional experience includes working for the Town of New Glasgow as an operator/firefighter for the past eight years before accepting this role with the MOPC, as well as working for multiple training institutions, travelling throughout the Atlantic provinces, and holding multiple leadership titles in the volunteer fire service. He is currently deputy fire chief of the Alma Fire Department. Evan's work with MOPC will include working closely with our county fire service to ensure our stations have all the tools, and training necessary to ensure they are able to continue to provide a professional and well-equipped emergency service.

MOPC COUNCIL

District 1 Don Butler

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don.butler@munpict.ca

District 2 Deborah Wadden

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deborah.wadden@munpict.ca

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District 11 Andy Thompson

902-754-0101

andy.thompson@munpict.ca

District 12 Chester Dewar

902-923-2931

chester.dewar@munpict.ca

MOPC WEBSITE:

www.munpict.ca

Facebook, You Tube,

Instagram and Twitter Pages:

Municipality of Pictou County



Did you know you can register your dog with the Municipality of Pictou County for \$10 for the life of the neutered/spayed dog and if the tag is lost, there is a \$1 replacement fee?

If your dog is picked up by our bylaw officer while running at large, off your property, it will be identified sooner if it has one of our dog tags.

That way your pet gets home to you sooner and you avoid impounding fees while we try to find its owner.

There is also a fine for \$410 fine for letting your dog run at large so please be a responsible pet owner and keep your pooch at home in your yard.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact our bylaw officer at
bylawenforcement@munpict.ca

District 9 News

Hello District 9 Residents.

This past spring was another busy and productive season in District 9.

Our ratepayers meeting took place in May. Presentations were made on the MOPC Rural Broadband Project, recreation programs and Pictou County Solid Waste. The councillor's annual report and acceptance of municipal service grants also took place. Renovations to the Hillside Community Hall were presented. The hall will be adding a new kitchen and accessible washrooms on the main floor. It will also have new flooring, lights, and an accessible ramp.

The MOPC's Climate Change Advisory Committee partnered with Pictou County Forest School to plant 2500 white and red spruce trees on May 14. It was a great day! We could not have done it without the help of students from Northumberland Regional High School and the expertise of the Pictou County Forest School.

I would like to take this opportunity to send congratulations to our 2022 graduates and all other students and teachers on a successful year. I encourage you to reach out to me anytime with any of your municipal concerns or ideas. I look forward to hearing from you.



Congratulations Bob MacLean! Bob is a recently retired 55-year member of the Linacy Fire Department and he received his free licence plate from the Nova Scotia government in honour of his volunteer service. The community thanks you for your 55 years of service. Linacy Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary continue to provide a tremendous service to our district. They give generously to our community so please give them your support whenever you can. The firefighters' weekly 50-50 jackpot is a fundraiser for participating Nova Scotia fire departments, buy a ticket and support our Linacy Fire Department. Also for hall bookings contact: Erin Pettipas at - 902-921-3863.



Have a safe and wonderful summer.
Peter Boyles
Councillor – District 9
902-755-3938
peter.boyles@munpict.ca

RURAL NEWS AND VIEWS

Property Taxes are due June 15.

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 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.

Your property taxes create revenue that helps the MOPC provide services to rural residents. Thank you to our finance staff for this graphic that explains your property tax bill.

Municipality of Pictou County
PO Box 910
46 Municipal Drive
Pictou N.S. B0K 1H0

Property taxes are billed twice per year:
Interim in April & Final in August

RATEPAYER'S COPY

2022 / 2023 INTERIM TAX BILL

NAME	NOTICE DATE	DISTRICT	MUNICIPAL ACCOUNT NUMBER
Fire rates are approved by council for individual fire departments	April 14, 2022	11	12345678
DESCRIPTION	ASSESSMENT	RATE	AMOUNT
RESIDENTIAL TAXABLE	110,200	0.8155	\$ 449.34
FIRE-PLYMOUTH	110,200	0.1900	\$ 104.69
SEWER CAPITAL			\$ 416.67
HYDRANTS - RESIDENTIAL RATE			\$ 135.00
STREET LIGHTS PLYMOUTH			\$ 24.68
SEWER 1 UNIT			\$ 156.50
Total 2022 / 2023 Interim Taxes			\$ 1,286.88
Plus Credit To Date			(\$ 1.09)
Credits, arrears or interest from a previous period will be displayed here. Interest is charged on the first of each month at 1%			
DUE DATE			TOTAL AMOUNT DUE
June 15, 2022			\$ 1,285.79

Area rates for property services are determined by council according to costs and can vary between districts

Assessed value is determined by Property Valuation Services Corporation: 1-800-380-7775 www.pvsc.ca

2021/22 residential tax rate was \$0.8155 per \$100 of assessed value for the year

Your interim tax bill is levied at 50% the current years assessed value times the previous years tax rates

Legal property description shown here

PROPERTY PLYMOUTH
DESCRIPTION DWELLING

PLEASE QUOTE MUNICIPAL ACCOUNT NUMBER WHEN CORRESPONDING REGARDING YOUR ACCOUNT

REMITTANCE SECTION

Use this 8 digit Account Number to pay your bill at the bank or online

Where do my tax dollars go?

- Education
- Policing & Corrections
- Solid Waste Collection & Disposal
- General Administration
- Recreation Services
- Public Works
- Assessment Services
- Legislative Services
- Transportation Services
- Library Services
- Building & Fire Inspections
- Municipal Grants
- Development Services

THIS ACCOUNT IS PAYABLE TO:
MUNICIPALITY OF PICTOU COUNTY
PICTOU NS, B0K 1H0

PHONE: (902) 485-4311 or (902) 752-1530
OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:30-4:30

PAYABLE AT MOST FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

TAX BILL

MUNICIPAL ACCOUNT NUMBER

12345678

ENTER AMOUNT OF PAYMENT

\$

PLEASE WRITE YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER ON YOUR CHEQUE AND ON ANY CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING YOUR ACCOUNT

THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED WITH YOUR PAYMENT

We Are Building a Network



Thank you to Ruth and Sandy MacKay of Lyons Brook for being our first homeowners to hook up to our MOPC High Speed Network. The MacKay's along with other residents in the area will be testing our fibre network for a few months.

Crews will continue stringing fibre on poles in the county so that when testing is complete, people will be able to hook up to the service through an internet service provider. Our goal is to have most homes in Pictou County that are eligible for fibre to be ready for service by end of 2023.

Internet Service Providers will be announced soon on our website as well as in any literature mailed to you.

www.ruralnet.munpict.ca

Like No Other in Atlantic Canada!



Our first tower went up in April behind our administration building and is expected to offer wireless service to surrounding residents this summer. Our project includes erecting 17 towers across rural Pictou County that is expected to improve high-speed wireless services by the end of summer/ early fall.

What is the difference between our wireless and fibre options?

Wireless service means that the signal will come from one of our towers to your home to provide you internet service. Fibre service requires a wire to be connected directly into your home.

\$50 a month for wireless service

No contract. No installation fees. Owned and operated by the MOPC. Serviced by an internet service provider contracted by the municipality.

Internet service providers will pay to use our fibre to provide residents with service. They will contact you with offers. The price is expected to be about \$130 a month.

You will receive information in the mail addressed to you when the tower closest to your home or business is ready for service or fibre is ready in your area. Watch our website and social media pages for updates as well.

Appointments necessary when applying for MOPC building permits

The Municipality of Pictou Count continues to see record development and nowhere is this more evident than in our building services group. To help streamline our processes and deliver the highest levels of service possible during this building boom,

the MOPC has introduced new approaches to process your building permit applications. These include new online resources, administrative assistance, and dedicated appointments with our building officials, among other aids. Please call, email, or visit our front desk (902-485-2235 or buildingpermits@munpict.ca) to complete your building permit application. You will speak with our administrative staff, providing information related to your project. We will then schedule a dedicated appointment between yourself and our building officials to finalize your building permit application and obtain your approval.



MOPC Building Officials, Mike McKenzie, left, and Travis Spears.

Do you have your Civic Number on your property?

Civic numbers play an essential role in helping first responders find you in an emergency. We cannot stress how important it is that you and everyone in your home and workplace know your civic address and post it properly.

If I do not have civic number, how do I get one?

You can call the Municipality of Pictou County's GIS department to speak to our Civic Addressing Coordinator. The phone number is 902-485-4311 or he can be reached at gis@munpict.ca.

How do you purchase civic number signs?

Some local fire departments will order signs for residents. Contact a member of your department to find out more information. Some local businesses will also make them.

Can I place my sign anywhere on my property?

The Municipality of Pictou County has a bylaw on civic numbers which outlines how the signs should be posted on a property. The complete bylaw can be found on our website at www.munpict.ca.

Burning Brush* or Campfires?

Burning restrictions are now in place in Nova Scotia.

It is illegal and unsafe to burn brush or have campfires from 8am to 2pm, daily. To see when you can burn brush at home or have a campfire: visit novascotia.ca/burnsafe or call 1-855-564-2876 (BURN).

Always check municipal burning bylaws first. Restrictions in place until Oct. 15.

The BurnSafe map is updated daily at 2pm.

*Industrial brush burning still requires a paper permit from a DNR office.



We are Making it Easier for You to Contact Us!

The Municipality of the County of Pictou is excited to announce the launch of our new GeoHub! Please see the link below to try it out!

Click on the link our MOPC website at www.munpict.ca



Using the GeoHub, you'll be able to:

- View water and sewer systems in your neighbourhood.
- Find locations of municipally owned streets and sidewalks.
- Submit building permit applications.
- Report street light outages.
- Access Recreation's Loan Equipment Program.
- Submit bylaw complaints related to dangerous and unsightly properties, dogs, and other animals.
- Follow the development of municipal plans and policies.
- Submit comments and questions directly to municipal staff.
- And much more!

MOPC Volunteer of the Year



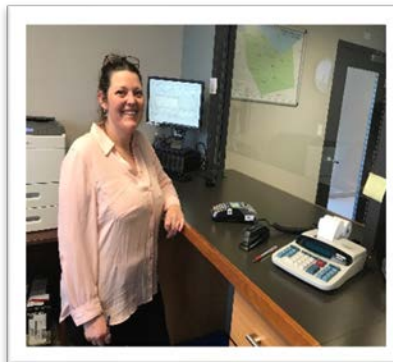
Arlene MacGregor is the MOPC's Volunteer of the Year. The Churchville resident is described by her nominators as a standout volunteer who can give freely of her time, to organize, to take responsibility and is committed to making her community a better place.

She started volunteering in 1971 at the age of 15 when she was asked to volunteer as a youth representative on the Church Official Board.

Arlene's accomplishments are too numerous to mention here but you can read more on our website at www.munpict.ca



The Little Harbour Community Centre held a grand opening for its pickleball courts in May. The day included a ribbon cutting, demonstrations, member games and a pub event. The MOPC contributed \$40,000 to the project. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in North America, appealing to players of all ages and levels of play.



We are pleased to have Shelley Jones work in our finance department this summer. Drop in and see her to make a payment or pick up your landfill vouchers.

Thorburn celebrating 150th Anniversary in August

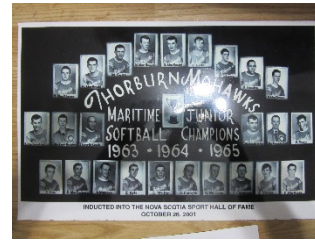
Thorburn and surrounding areas are celebrating their 150th Anniversary this year. A kiosk of three interpretive panels is now in the works by graphic artist and local historian, John Ashton, and his team of volunteers.

A visual display of the area's history is sure to capture the eyes of visitors and locals alike, with photos of days long gone. Do you remember the Thorburn Mohawks? The church had a picket fence around it? Regalia that was worn by lodge members? The great fire that took away much of the village? The families that came from all over to find work in the Thorburn mines? The schools that were warmed up with a wood stove?

To honour those who came before us, please, let's remember them. Though most of the arrivals to settle at the village of Thorburn were from Scotland, people from other countries such as Belgium, Syria, Poland, and Russia came to Nova Scotia.

We have collected a lot of this history, but we are still seeking more, perhaps you have something in an old box in the attic or the basement? We can do the digging for you, and we can scan old photos, so you don't have to mail them. It's all a part of our effort to get the best of the old photos available and to keep the history alive for future generations.

For this celebration, we would welcome all other groups/organizations who wish to come forward and organize an event alongside our kiosk unveiling. For those who have already confirmed, thank you so much.



On this 150th Anniversary of Thorburn, please join us for the unveiling of our kiosk, this August. Exact date to be confirmed.

To contact us:

Gail Jordan – gailjordan38@gmail.com 902-759-0803

John Ashton – ashtondesign@seasidehighspeed.com
902-923-2837.

Weather line phone number

1-833-794-3556 or 1-833-79HELLO
The Passcode for Pictou County is 01001

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SOLID WASTE**

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RURAL NEWS AND VIEWS

DISTRICT 13 RECREATION & PLANNING COMMISSION THORBURN & SURROUNDING AREAS 2022 SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

NO COST FOR THE PROGRAM

Recreation Program proposed start date is Monday, July 4th until Friday, August 26th at the Thorburn Mohawk Ball Field, from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

Age 5 to 12 years old

Come have fun, play sports and games, and go on field trips.

If you require further information, contact Randy Palmer at 922-2277.



Thorburn Pickleball

Open to those interested in learning to play this popular sport
Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 at the Ivor MacDonald Memorial Arena
Contact Jill Boudreau 902-922-3060 or Edwina Palmer 902-922-2277
for more details

Have you heard about our MOPC Producers website?

Just one click of your computer mouse takes you to the listings of local producers.

You will find the link on our website at www.munpict.ca



Once you have found the page, you will be provided with information and links to local producers' websites that will tell you more about the products they offer and how to reach them.

If you are a local producer wanting to be on the website, contact us today. It is free of charge and only takes a few minutes to get you involved.

sueann.musick@munpict.ca
902-485-2238



WIN A BENCH PICNIC TABLE

SUPPORT



PICTOU COUNTY VOLUNTEER
GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE

Sponsored by Kent Building Supplies

6 foot
pressure-
treated



tickets
1 for \$5
3 for \$10



Tickets on Sale Fri. June 17 and Sat. June 18

9:00 am to 6:00 pm

At Kent Building Supplies

60 Lawrence Blvd, Stellarton, NS

Email: pcvgsar@gmail.com

Starting
Tuesday June
7th &
Every
Tuesday After
7pm to 8pm

Yoga Class

\$10/class
sliding
rates
available

PEACE
☺



With Certified Instructor

Jayme Dooling

Merigomish Community Center
1682 Shore Rd, Merigomish, NS
BOK 1G0

For registration & inquiries
902-304-9546

[f Yoga with Jayme](https://www.facebook.com/yoga_with_jayme)

[@yoga_with_jayme](https://www.instagram.com/yoga_with_jayme)

yogawithjayme3@gmail.com

RURAL NEWS AND VIEWS



The Victoria Order of Nurses celebrated 125 years of service in May. The VON is a charitable community-based health care organization that addresses community health and social needs. VON Pictou County nurses, home support workers, community service coordinators and many other staff and volunteers have been caring for the lives and well-being of residents of Pictou County since 1920 and VON's nursing, health promotion and support services contribute to the health care system in Nova Scotia. Here, David Freckleton, chair of VON Pictou County's Community Board, and MOPC Warden Robert Parker raise the VON flag in front of the administration building.



Friends of the Green Hill Park Society proudly hoisted a sign on the new Green Hill Pavilion. The structure has been a work in progress of the society which fundraised to have it built at the Green Hill Provincial Park. The MOPC also contributed grant money towards the project. The pavilion can be used by visitors to the park but if you are planning a large, organized event, you will need to book it with the society. Rental information will be available at the pavilion or on a social media site that is still in development. Here, MOPC Warden Robert Parker, left, joined society members Tom Miller, John McLean, Nancy Levo and Don Jeffery for the installation of the sign.



JOIN US!

SALEM ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



COMMITTEE MEETING

Community members are encouraged to attend this initial meeting to elect committee members and begin planning for a community greenspace.

Wednesday
15TH
June 2022
5:30 pm
SALEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



There is lots of things to do when you join a fire department. Some people put out fires, some direct traffic, others drive the trucks, just to name a few. Whether you are 16 or 60, volunteer fire departments always have an opening for those looking to give back to their communities. Contact your local fire department to find out more about the role you can play.

Hillside Community Hall Renovations Will Make It More Accessible

The Hillside Community Hall has been booming with a multitude of activities. The hall was the recipient of \$68,000 from Canada's Revitalization Fund as well as \$12,200 from the Municipality of Pictou County. The MOPC approved a \$25,000 council grant for the Hillside Society and \$12,000 of this was used to purchase the building and the remaining \$12,200 is being used for the new additions.

It will be adding a new kitchen and accessible washrooms on the main floor. It will also have new flooring, lights, and an accessible ramp. These new additions will allow the hall to be enjoyed by everyone. The Hillside Community Society would like to thank the Honourable Sean Fraser and the MOPC for helping to make this dream a reality. Thank you to the residents and volunteers who had a vision of the Hillside Community Hall returning to the community and worked hard to make that vision come true.

Over the last several months the Hillside Community Hall hosted a variety of activities and fundraisers such as an Easter craft fair, a yard sale, an epicure sale, several trivia nights and paint nights with Rick Anderson. It continues to have a monthly 50/50 draw on the second Wednesday of each month.

If you wish to get in on the draw you can contact Sadie at 902-755-3938. Etransfer is an option.



The draw is videoed live at <https://www.facebook.com/Hillside-Community-Hall> Hillside Community Society has regular meetings; they are open to everyone, and it welcomes new members. Follow along on Facebook for upcoming activities. If you would like to see the hall host a certain activity, please call with your ideas. The hall is open for rentals. For booking or etransfer information, contact Sadie Boyles at 902-755-3938.

District 11 Ratepayers Meeting - Garden of Eden Community Centre – Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 7 p.m.

This will be the first ratepayer's meeting since May 2019. There's a lot to talk about within the community. Participants will hear about completed community projects and have an update on the MOPC Rural Broadband Project.

East River Valley Community Development Association Turkey Cold Plate Take-Out

Saturday, August 13th

11:30am-12:30pm

Drive-Thru at the Riverton Hall 5678 Stellarton-Trafalgar Rd. Riverton

Meal Includes: Cold turkey, potato salad, coleslaw, cucumber slices, roll and dessert for \$15 each.

Pre-Order by Saturday August 6th by phoning Kara at 902-301-0339 or emailing spotlight.1@hotmail.com

If you would like to donate food items (cooked potatoes, shredded carrots, boiled eggs or cucumbers) for this event please also reach out to Kara.



Free Water Testing

The Municipality of Pictou County is conducting a water sampling program for lead and copper as per the environmental approval for its water distribution system.

The samples identify potential corrosion-causing parameters. The MOPC's water utility doesn't contain lead but lead and copper corrosion can potentially occur in older plumbing systems with galvanized iron, copper or brass pipes and fittings.

How do you test?

Program participants only need to provide one water sample taken on a predetermined date in the summer months.

Municipal staff will drop off and collect the sample bottle.

Participating residents will receive the test results.

There is no cost to the homeowner to have your water tested and instructions will be given for proper collecting procedures.

The following areas that require testing would include:

Riverton

Plymouth

Priestville/Walkerville

Hillside

Westville Road

Mt. William

Merigomish Road

Alma/Greenhill

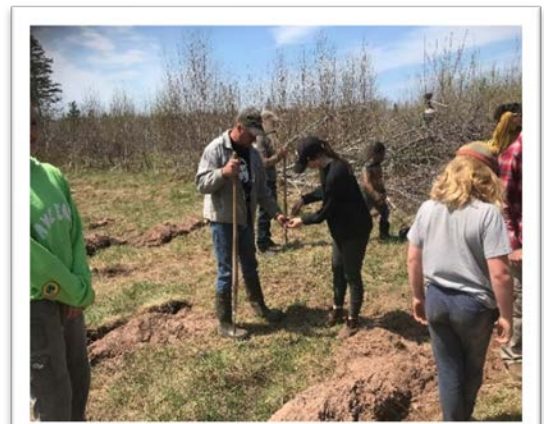
MacLellan's Brook Road



If you can participate in the water testing program, please contact Dan Fortune at dfortune@munpict.ca or call 902-485-2246.



Thank you to the MOPC Climate Change Advisory Committee and the Pictou County Forest School for coordinating a recent tree planting event in Scotsburn. Volunteers planted 2500 spruce trees and the PC Forest School will continue to monitor the amount of carbon created by them. Here, MOPC Public Works employees, Troy Bonvie, left, and Andy MacDonald, right, help Warden Robert Parker and Climate Change Advisory Chair Peter Boyles with the delivery of the trees to Scotsburn.



Whom do you call?

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.

Most roads in rural Pictou County are owned by the provincial government. If you have concern, contact the Department of Transportation at 902-755-7060 or toll-free at 1-844-696-7737.

Scotsburn Fire Department News

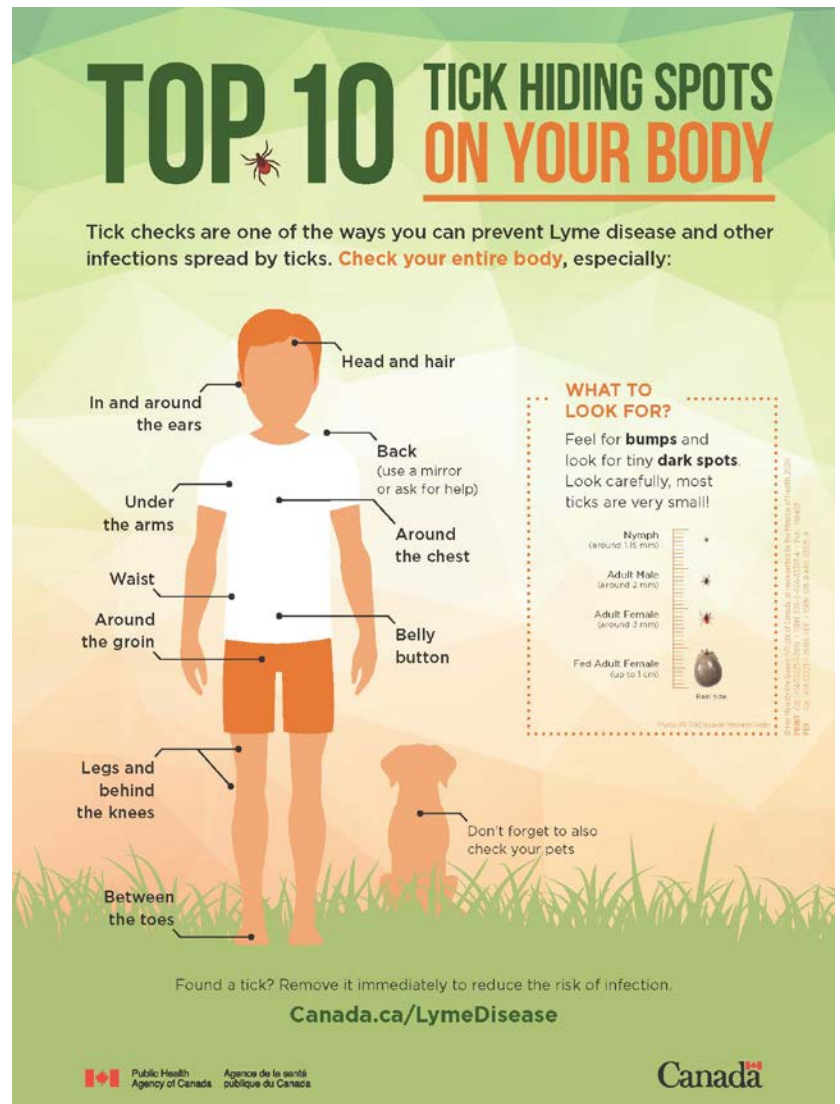
Scotsburn Fire Department has hosted the annual pork chop barbecue for the past 50 years until the pandemic shut it down. This year we are working to bring it back with a few changes. **The barbecue will be held July 27th, 2022, as a takeout ONLY.** Tickets can be purchased online or in person prior to the event. If things get back to normal, we hope to see you eating around the pond in 2023 instead of takeout.

To those new to the area, this event is largely a community effort made up of people from the Scotsburn Fire Department's coverage area.

We have an excellent junior program for youth over the age of 13 so think about joining the fire department to get the training and experience that will help you and us in the future. We also need senior members so join and help the community. For information, contact Fire Chief Tim Van Veen at 902-754-8284.

The auxiliary group of the department has ceased to be active due to age and mobility issues of its members. If you are interested in helping form a new group, contact Zack MacDonald at 902-301-4828.

The hall is available for rent at good rates. Contact Zack MacDonald for hall rentals.



Evening Traffic Disruptions on Westville Road this Summer

A section of the Westville Road, near the Highland Square Mall, will be closed during the evenings for most of the spring and summer months as the province does repairs to an overpass.

During this time (from 7 pm to 6 am) the Westville Road will be closed to all through traffic, and access from the New Glasgow side to the Stellarton side will be unavailable. Traffic on the 104, heading east will be able to exit at 23 but will not be permitted to make a left and westbound traffic will be able to exit to the Highland Square Mall/Wendy's but also not able to turn left to head towards Stellarton/wellness centre.



This will continue until Aug 31, 2022. For those that require access to the business on the mall side it is proposing to detour traffic down Lawrence Blvd to the interchange and back west to the offramp and for traffic heading west and requiring access to the wellness centre side they will be detoured at Exit 24(museum exit) and through Lawrence Blvd. The Westville Road would also be signed indicating no through traffic. Access will still be available for both on-ramps.

ENROL NOW!

Thinking about becoming a volunteer?

In School Mentoring
Just 1 hour a week for the school year

Join BBBS and start making a difference in the life of a young person

Call 752-6260 or
email bigbrothers@bellaliant.com

PICTOU COUNTY

Pride

SEPT 1-5

...LOOK FOR OUR PRIDE GUIDES (AVAILABLE AT LOCAL RETAILERS) & FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VENDORS, TALENT & FOOD TRUCKS. MESSAGE US AT MAIL@PCRAINBOWCOMMUNITY.CA

2SLGBTQIA+

HAPPY PRIDE!

Canada



Happy 80th Birthday

Congratulations were offered from the MOPC and District 4 Coun. Mary Elliott to Robert Ernest Heighton who recently celebrated his 80th birthday. A celebration with family and friends was held at River John Fire Hall.



The Green Hill community spring is flowing freely again thanks to David and Frank Parker who took it upon themselves to replace pipe that was hindering the flow.

Council and Committee Meetings Open for Public Viewing

MOPC Council meets the first Monday of each month and the third Monday of the month for property and finance committees.

You can attend the meetings in person at 7 p.m. in council chambers or view online through a link posted on our website, www.munpict.ca.

Meetings are also archived on our YouTube Channel, Municipality of Pictou County.

If you wish to make a presentation to council, please contact CAO Brian Cullen for details.

Habitat for Humanity Breaks Ground on First Home

Construction is underway for the Habitat for Humanity home in Stellarton for a family in need of affordable housing. Thanks to the hard work of the Habitat Pictou County Chapter and the staff at Habitat NS in Dartmouth, over \$250,000 in financial contributions and gifts of materials and labour was raised to make this project possible. In addition, many volunteers have come forward to participate in the home construction. A Habitat Partner Family was chosen from 50 applicants and the family will contribute 500 hours of sweat equity to the building of their new home, which will be completed this fall.

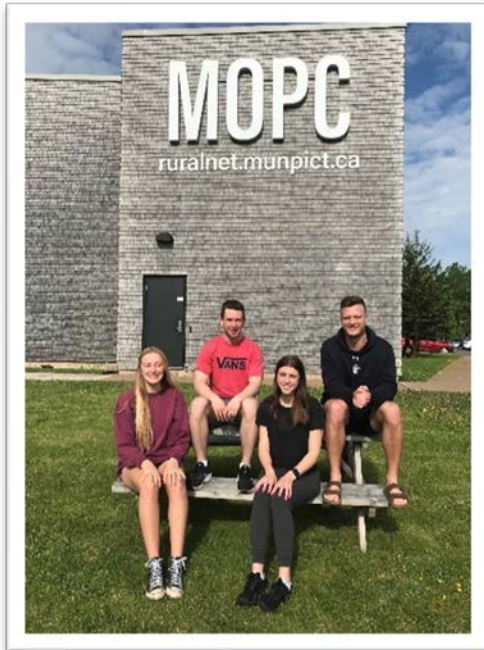
The Pictou County Chapter is now working on plans for future home builds in major communities in the County.



Dave Graham and volunteers Meghan Bragg and Tyler Brimicombe levelling crushed rock for basement floor. (May 20)

Volunteers to help with the construction of Habitat homes are always welcome. To register as a volunteer, go to the Habitat NS website, click on "apply now" and complete the form for volunteering in Pictou County.

Summer Rec is Ready to Roll!



Community Programming

This summer, the MOPC's recreation staff has plenty of things planned to help keep you busy. We will be offering LARK programming in Caribou, Scotsburn and Little Harbour in addition to other summer programming. Our program leaders and coordinators are, from the left, Nina Davey, Daniel Stewart, Riley Boulter, and Dan Chisholm.



Swimming Programs

The MOPC will be offering two-week swimming programs at local beaches in River John (July 18-29) and in Lismore (Aug. 2-12). Watch our website and social media sites for details.

GO PLAY

PICTOU COUNTY
EQUIPMENT LOAN
PROGRAM



The Municipality of Pictou County has joined forces with other municipal units to create a county-wide equipment loan program. Equipment can be loaned out to anyone, free of charge, by filling out an online application form. Cross-sharing is permitted, meaning you can receive equipment from any municipality on the site. There is equipment available for all seasons. Once your application is approved, you will be given instructions for the pickup and drop off of the equipment. All we ask is that you take good care of it.

Examples of equipment available for the summer months include:

Inflatable Paddleboards
Bicycles and Ebikes

Canoes and Kayaks
Nordic Walking Poles
Camping Equipment
Activity Kits and Giant Games



Pick and drop off of equipment just got easy at the MOPC. Come to the back of our building and find the orange Go Play door. Ring the buzzer and someone will come out to assist you.

You can access the link by clicking on the loan equipment tab on our website at www.munpict.ca

Bikes For Kids Program Accepting Applications Until July 22



Ellen Coffin is our Bikes for Kids Co-ordinator this year.

The Municipality of Pictou County is offering a Bikes for Kids Program. This is a free program that provides bicycles for children in the community. The deadline for applying is July 22 and the application is available at our administration building or it can be downloaded at www.munpict.ca. You can also check out its own Facebook Page at Bikesforkids. Volunteers are needed for doing bicycle repairs. Donations of bikes are currently being accepted and arrangements can be made by emailing bikes4kids@activepictoucounty.ca or calling 902-759-9523.

Financial Assistance for Sports is Now Available

Kidsport is helping more kids get off the sidelines and into the game! Its grants of up to \$500 per child help offset the cost of sport registration and equipment fees. Online registration: www.kidsportcanada.ca/nova-scotia/. MOPC Recreation Co-Ordinator Cindy Fraser can also help you with your questions and applications contact her by email at cindy.fraser@munpict.ca or by calling 902-485-8528.



Community Playboxes

Have you spotted our bright yellow playboxes in Scotsburn, Little Harbour, Merigomish and Springville?

They are filled with all kinds of equipment and activities that can be used while you're visiting a local park or community centre. All we ask is that you return the items to the box when you are finished. If you have gently used equipment you would like to donate to the boxes, leave it inside or beside them.

Melmerby Beach and Caribou Provincial Park have an accessible wheelchair on-site during the summer months to make it easier for individuals to visit the beach. The hippocampe can be reserved by visiting the Provincial Park website, or by calling the Lands and Forestry office.

The Pictou County Equipment Loan Program also has adaptive equipment for hiking and biking. Reach out to our recreation department for more information.

Watch our webpage www.munpict.ca and our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages for updates and registration dates for all programs.



LARK!

Pictou
County
Rec!

Registration Dates & Times

Caribou

**Monday June
20th from
7:00pm -
8:00pm at the
Caribou Fire
Hall**

Little Harbour

**Tuesday June 21st
from 7:00pm -
8:00pm at the Little
Harbour Community
Center**

Scotsburn

**Wednesday
June 22nd
from 7:00pm -
8:00pm at the
JP Gammon
Hall**

**For More Information Email:
mopc.lark1@munpict.ca**

