

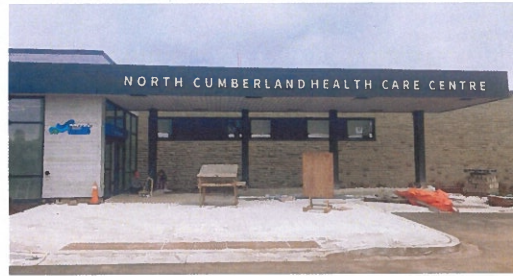
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North Cumberland Health Care Centre slated to open Spring 2024

Eileen MacIsaac, NS Health

Residents of Pugwash visiting North Cumberland Memorial Hospital will see that paving and landscaping for the new North Cumberland Health Care Centre is finished. Inside the new building, the millwork, flooring, wall protection are almost complete. In a few weeks' time the boiler and air handling unit will be turned on and commissioned. Information technology equipment installations have begun, and the



NCHCC entry area nearly complete. Photo supplied

communication network connected. Furniture and equipment will be delivered and installed when the building is

substantially completed and prior to occupancy. Nova Scotia Health expected that the new hospital would be open by now. Unfortunately, skilled labour shortages have had a significant impact on the construction progress for the new hospital. With many public and private construction projects concurrently underway across the province, attracting and retaining trades for the project has been an ongoing challenge.

The opening of the new hospital is scheduled for the spring. This additional time is needed for construction to be finished, any deficiencies corrected and building system commissioning complete. The project team, along with staff and physicians, are adjusting preparations to have teams ready to move into the building and be ready to accept patients.

Nova Scotia Health is grateful for the community's patience and looks forward to celebrating the opening of the new North Cumberland Health Care Centre!

Visit www.pugwashhealthcare.ca to view photos and video on the hospital construction.

Public Meeting at PDHS to discuss health care services in Pugwash Tuesday, November 28th



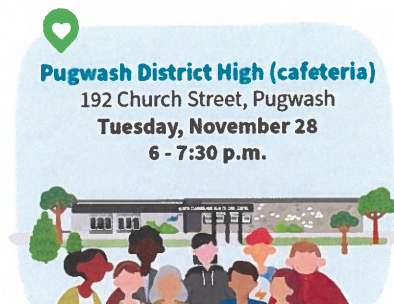
Pugwash Community Information Session

Nova Scotia Health will host an information session to share updates on health care services in Pugwash and surrounding areas, including updates from North Cumberland Memorial Hospital and Primary Health Care.

You will be joined by leaders from Nova Scotia Health, Emergency Health Services and Department of Public Works. There will be an opportunity to ask questions after the presentations.

People can also submit questions for discussion at the session by emailing eileen.macisaac@nshealth.ca.

Light refreshments and snacks will be served.



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Bank of Nova Scotia to Close Pugwash Branch June 2024

A notice has been sent out to Scotiabank customers that the local branch will be closing next Spring. All accounts and safety deposit boxes will be automatically transferred to the branch in Oxford unless the customers opts for a different location, such as Amherst or Tatamagouche. There is no indication in the letter that an automated teller machine (ATM) will be provided.

From the information included in the mailing: *"The Financial Consumer Agency of Canada (FCAC) is responsible for monitoring banks' compliance with the Notice of Closure Regulations The Commissioner of the FCAC may require ScotiaBank representatives to hold a Town Hall meeting to discuss the closure, exchange views or discuss alternate service delivery options.... If the Commissioner is of the opinion that (the bank) has not consulted the community well enough. ... The Commissioner may require a meeting if:*

1. An individual submits a written request to the FCAC for a meeting
 2. Scotiabank has not adequately consulted the community...
 3. The request is not frivolous or vexatious.
- Financial Consumer Agency of Canada**
427 Laurier Avenue West, 6th floor, Ottawa, ON K1R 1B9
Phone: English 1-866.461.3222. French 1.866.461.2232"

(Edited for space. Please read the full version available on the Village website at pugwashvillage.com):

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Pugwash Co-Op AGM Includes Staff Appreciation

The 77th Annual General Meeting of the Pugwash Co-operative Ltd. held October 17th 2023 opened with the presentation of certificates and gifts recognizing employees with 12 to 34 years of service to the Co-op and community.

The business meeting heard reports from committees and the auditor. Reports outlined improvements made to the store and the purchase of new equipment, a list of the many local and regional groups and organizations that have received financial and in-kind support of approximately \$50,000 in the past fiscal year. Groups receiving support include the elementary and high school, the Legion, Library, 4-H, Cumberland County Exhibition, HarbourFest, Gathering of the Clans and many more.



Back row L-R: Ruth Brownell, Paula Polley, Belinda Bennet, Fay Demings, Vance Trenholm, Trevor MacFarlane (Vice President/presenter), Colin Brownell. **Front row L-R:** Vicki Seaman, Barb Langille, Diane Polley, Steve Arkens (Manager). **Photo:** Sara Brownell of Scarlet Pixels

The auditor advised that the Co-op is in a strong financial position although reporting a profit of just over \$30,000, due in part to the cost of much needed facility maintenance undertaken over the year including siding replacement, installation of a new heat pump and improvements to the front entrance doors.

Members elected the Board of Directors and welcomed two new members; Pradeep Bagri and Michael Hunter. Returning Board members are June Beaton, Alison Bidwell, Heather Lowe, Trevor MacFarlane, Kevin Polley, Wesley Trenholm and Betty Ann Watts.

Betty Ann Watts



Thinkers Lodge 2023 Season

Another successful season has come to a close at Thinkers Lodge. Visitors

arrived from all over the world to partake in conferences, celebrate weddings, and much more. We are aware that not everyone signs the guestbook, but we have over 1000 signatures and many wonderful comments.

People came from all provinces and one territory in Canada, 22 states in the USA, and 14 countries outside of North America. The history of Thinkers Lodge with the Nobel peace prize present, the ongoing work of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs, and the hope of peace in ever troubled times draws people to Pugwash. "Remember your humanity"- Joseph Rotblat .

Thinkers Lodge is closed for the winter months. If you are interested in this important history you can go online to the National Film Board of Canada and find the documentary 'The Strangest Dream'. You can view free of charge this amazing video about Joseph Rotblat and the creation of the international organization 'Pugwash Conferences for Science and World Affairs'. Also, you can go directly to the website pugwash.org.

Patsy Cox

Heritage Day 2024: William Hall

William Hall was the son of formerly enslaved parents, Jacob and Lucy who fled Maryland during the War of 1812 as refugees and settled in Nova Scotia. Jacob found work in a shipyard in Summerville, where Hall was born in 1827. The family later bought a farm in Horton Bluff, where he also attended school. As a young man, Hall worked in shipyards in Hantsport for several years, building vessels. He then joined the crew of a Merchant Navy vessel and, before he was eighteen, had visited many of the world's busiest ports.



Hall enlisted in the Royal Navy in 1852 at Liverpool, England. His first service, as Able Seaman, was onboard *HMS Rodney*, and included two years in the Crimean War. Hall was part of the marine forces that landed to assist with manning heavy gun batteries, and he received British and Turkish medals for his service. After the Crimean War, Hall was assigned to the

receiving ship *HMS Victory* at Portsmouth, England. He then joined the crew of *HMS Shannon* as Captain of the Foretop. It was his service with *HMS Shannon* that led to the Victoria Cross.

The captain of the *HMS Shannon*, William Peel, recommended Hall and fellow crew member Thomas Young for the Victoria Cross, in recognition of their "gallant conduct at a twenty-four-pounder gun... at Lucknow on the 16th November 1857." Hall received his Victoria Cross aboard *HMS Donegal* in Queenstown Harbour, Ireland, on October 28, 1859. His naval career continued aboard many ships until he retired in 1876 as Quartermaster.

Heritage Day is the third Monday in February.

From: heritageday.novascotia.ca

North Cumberland Historical Society

Dianne Elliott

We are moving downstairs in the train station bit by bit. The joy is that when it is over, we won't have to climb those stairs anymore. The station masters' wives have our full sympathy. The down side is finding out where things are after many years of having certain places for things. The lack of wall space to hang up displays and some of our stuff is another problem. But that is far outweighed by the fact that anyone can come and visit us now no matter their age or physical ability and that it is light and airy of our new surroundings. We will let you know on Facebook the date of our grand opening.

Meanwhile, we move into winter. We are putting our History of Pugwash on sale from \$35 to \$25 for the Village Christmas by the Sea on the afternoon of Dec. 1st. Please drop in and have a look at all our publications. You never know when you might score a Christmas present. Also, you can drop in any Friday afternoon and see our new space.

If you have never checked out our web page, have a look at it at <https://ncumbhistorical.wixsite.com/genealogyhistory>. There are often new things being posted.

Communities in Bloom Springs into Summer 2023



Pugwash Open Air Gallery. Let's welcome two new art installations that were added to the Pugwash Open Air Gallery this summer.

Dorothy Bennett's *Mariner's Compass*, hand-painted with oil on metal, is installed on the new Pugwash Library. A trip to the Maritimes first brought Dorothy to Pugwash and she's now settled in beautiful Forest Glen. After 20 years in publishing, retirement has given her the freedom to fulfill a passion for intriguing art projects. Dorothy's contemporary barn quilts are inspired by the geometry and vibrant colours used by traditional fabric quilters.



Mike Cole's *Lapin*, with its lively palette and repeated pattern, is an apt recognition of this Chinese Year of the Rabbit and a won-

derful addition to the Pugwash Farmers' Market site. Originally from Hamilton, Ontario, Mike now resides in Sunset Community in Pugwash, Nova Scotia. After graduating with a business degree, Mike decided to create his own business. He discovered an on-line art program teaching drawing and painting and he hasn't looked back since. Mike paints a variety of subject matter in acrylic medium.



Winterscape. The village gardens have been put to bed and the beautiful **Fallscape** scarecrows and bales of straw have been tucked away. Winterscape volunteers have been busy putting up lights, wreaths, trees, and seasonal greenery in the village planters,

Cenotaph and Train Station. Have you noticed the Peace Wreath displayed on the west side of the train station facing the bridge? Wondered who designed and hung the wreaths for the Cenotaph fence and Eaton Park benches, decorated the window boxes at the village hall/train station and designed the lighting next to COOP? CIB hopes you enjoy the beauty!

Festival of Light 2023-Light up the Night! Join us to celebrate the season! How to participate? Decorate the exterior of your home/ business/property with lights, installations, decorations. No need to register but let us know if you have a favourite decorated house/business or You see someone who has made a special effort or you live off the beaten track and don't want to be missed.

CIB judges will view the village core and area (Miller, Irishtown, Pugwash River, Pugwash Point and Crowley Roads, South and West Pugwash, Pleasure Cove and Gulf Shore) on the evenings of December 11-18 looking for displays that bring a smile to their faces and put a jingle in their hearts.

Winners and honourable mentions will be announced December 20th on Pugwash Communities in Bloom and Things to Do in Pugwash Facebook pages. Prizes will be awarded. Contact Susan Webster, 902-297-6671, suguy48@gmail.com or Suzanne Totten, 902-957-7723, suzanne-totten@icloud.com.

CIB appreciates your support to grow the Pugwash community together including sponsors, donors, businesses and organizations. Come join us at CIB, Maureen Leahey, 902-397-3454; Mary Maron, 902-257-2468. All welcome!

Wishing you and your family and friends a wonderful holiday time!

Noreen Smiley



Great Year for 2023 Market

We would all like to extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who chose to shop at the Pugwash Market this season. It really means so much for our local producers and makers that we have such an amazing community who keep showing up, and who understand that when you spend your dollars locally, our vendors are able to keep doing what they love!

Join us at PDHS for our Christmas by the Sea market from 10am to 2pm on Saturday December 2nd. We will have a great variety of vendors with lots of holiday treats and gift-worthy products, all locally made, baked and grown. We hope you will shop local this holiday season!

The Farmers' Market Board of Directors and Staff wish the community a very happy holiday season, and thank you so much for the local support! For information and details about special events and market news follow us on Facebook or visit our website pugwashfarmersmarket.com

Marsha Amanova

Village Committees: Doctor Recruitment and Retention Committee

There is active work at different levels to recruit doctors and other health professionals. It is a difficult task, as nearly all parts of the Province are competing to attract doctors to their communities.

The Pugwash committee is comprised mostly of people who work in or retired from health care. Their mandate is to welcome and encourage any visiting physician to consider a move to Pugwash. They work very hard to show off the very best aspects of beautiful Pugwash and make great efforts to cater towards the visiting physician's particular interests.

Commissioner Duncan is on the committee and reports new progress at the monthly Village meeting. Meeting minutes are available on the Village website.

Staff

News from your MLA

The fall session of the Nova Scotia House of Assembly concluded on November 9 during which time Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin introduced twelve bills focused primarily on affordability and health care.

Five of the bills were directed specifically at affordability including ways to reduce the amount of taxes Nova Scotians pay each year. Another important bill, the Provincial Ambulance Service Act (#338), would see a complete overhaul of the administration of EHS by moving full responsibility directly to the Department of Health and Wellness and away from the present for-profit company, Medavie. That is the one bill Smith-McCrossin remains hopeful government will eventually consider so there is full accountability that will ultimately restore confidence in ambulance services. You can view a list of all bills at <https://nslegislature.ca/members/profiles/elizabeth-smith-mccrossin/bills-current-session>

With the holiday season just around the corner, Elizabeth and her constituency team want to extend best wishes to all residents of Cumberland North for a happy and healthy season ahead and we look to 2024 as a time of peace and prosperity for all.

Ann Keddy

News from your Municipal Councilor



Jennifer Houghtaling, Councilor for District 3, Municipality of Cumberland County. Photo: Kaydance Smith

I want to say thank you to everyone in our community who has been involved in all the wonderful events and activities throughout the very busy 2023 season! It takes a village to create community and I like to think of each organization here as a close-knit community that has aligned ideas of how to make this Village thrive. I have had the opportunity to work on some very exciting projects and look forward to 2024 and all that it brings!

I know some people are struggling right now, I am hearing stories and would just like to acknowledge this and share that trying to find some solutions and help is certainly a priority, especially around food insecurity. If you are able to support our local food bank this Christmas season, please consider making a donation.

Enjoy the holiday season everyone!

Councilor Jennifer Houghtaling



Busy Summer and Fall for FOPE

Betty Hodgson

This fall has been busy for FOPE. We are very pleased to report that the Boat Tour won by Ed Hannigan was a success and enjoyed by all. Thanks again to skipper Clifford Allen.

FOPE did not host a guided paddle this fall but we were pleased to hear that a guided paddle of the upper reaches of the Pugwash River led by Greg Nix was a success and that another paddle from Conns Mills to Estuary House took advantage of the warm weather and fall colours. We are fortunate that so much of the land bordering the river is protected. The unspoiled beauty of the river is an environmental asset to the area.

Protecting the environment of the Pugwash Estuary is FOPE's mandate. We were pleased to be involved with Ann Hennigar's group, Don't Spray Cumberland County, to oppose the spraying of glyphosate on a logged area above the Pug-

wash River Road. Preventing the aerial spraying kept glyphosate out of the Pugwash River, the wells of local residents and the watershed feeding the village wells. Glyphosate is not just a harmless herbicide; it is lethal to amphibians, is a likely carcinogen for humans, attaches to soil particles and is disburbed by run-off.

FOPE has been approached by Taylor Seed, Program Coordinator for the Community Eelgrass Initiative and Kristina Boerder, Dept. of Biology, Dalhousie University, as a possible partner to investigate the possibility of replanting to restore eel grass beds in the Pugwash River which have been damaged by climate change and green crabs. Eel grass is a foundation species to a healthy inland marine environment. FOPE is looking forward to hosting Taylor and Kristina to give a presentation on their proposed work at our AGM on Feb 25th, 2024. Please note this date and plan on attending.

FOPE continues to investigate ways of reducing the environmental impact and risks of speeding personal water craft (PWCs) on the Pugwash River. Discussions with Environment NS and Transport Canada have not been particularly helpful. In the spring, FOPE is planning to place signs at specific locations on the river to encourage PWC drivers to slow down.

On the home front, work on the composting outhouse at the Estuary House Trailhead is nearing completion. Both trails are open and in good shape, if a bit wet, and are being used. A guided hike is planned in association with Hike NS and our AGM for February; date to be confirmed.

Planning is well underway for the FOPE Dinner and Fun Night on Nov. 25th at the Peace Hall. There are still a few seats available. Looking forward to seeing you all there!



Canada Day and Gathering of the Clans



Pugwash hosts the biggest celebration of Canada Day this end of northern Nova Scotia. There are in fact two events going on at the same time, with Canada Day events such as the parade and fireworks working in conjunction with events around the Gathering of the Clans, such as the Highland Dance, heavyweight games and pipe and drum competitions.

It is thanks to the Gathering, and specifically to the Highland Dance competitions, that we have a stage in Eaton Park. In 1951 the stage started off as just an uncovered platform built for the dance competition. Over time it was enlarged, a shed added for storage and as a windbreak on the water side and then a roof. Over the decades, it aged out to being beyond further repair. With \$350,000 of grants from ACOA and the Municipality and further loans from the Province, we now have the fabulous, multi use outdoor performance stage. It is used for much of year for music, exercise classes, gatherings and meetings.

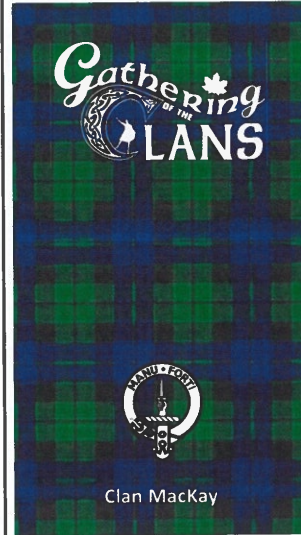
There have been many other changes over the years. The Highland Dance used to go on all afternoon, with the music entertainment becoming more prevalent recently. The Midway rides and games, bingo tent, fishing boat races, street dance and clan tents have all moved on for different reasons - usually because of costs, particularly insurance costs.

Now, we see more street vendors, the car and tractor show and shine, music acts with more technical production, the giant play sandpit (volleyball court) and inflatable games and rides.

We have always depended heavily on volunteers to help prepare for the festival and 130 or more to help on the day. Preparations for next year have already started. We are always open to new ideas, but they also need to be affordable and doable. Please bring us ideas and maybe how to get them done!

Staff

Tartan Banners



Would you be interested in contributing towards having your family tartan on display in the Village as a banner?

It would be a unique display of our Scottish heritage.

Let us know if you are interested. Costs to be determined.

A sample is seen here of Clan MacKay (the Clerk's clan). Call 902.243.2946

Staff

You are invited: Second Annual Community Christmas Dinner

Pugwash Community Christmas Dinner will take place at the Pugwash Legion Hall on December 25th.

We will be serving delicious home-cooked turkey dinners with all the fixings. It's free and no registration is necessary. Everyone is invited. Come anytime between 12:00 and 3pm. This is a wonderful way to spend time with family, friends, newcomers, and neighbours here in our community on Christmas Day.



Community Dinner 2022 .

Photo supplied.



This is intended to be a social event, so take-out dinners are not available. We are coordinating drives for those who need one. If you would like to book a drive to Christmas dinner call Michael at 782 414 0887.

Get in the Spirit and Volunteer! Can you offer an hour or two to help on either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day? We need people to decorate, peel, stir, mash, serve, do dishes, clean up, drive people, and more...

Contact Jeanne Hunter at 902 243 2279 or email jeannehunter26@gmail.com to volunteer.

This event is funded by community organizations, businesses, and individuals, with special thanks to Maggie's Place.

If you would like to donate to the event please contact Louise Haycocks at 902 694 3880, email PugwashCCD@gmail.com, or at the door to the Pugwash Community Christmas Dinner.

Gill Forward

Just a few of the things available at the Pugwash Village Hall

FREE

- * Visitor (and resident) Information Centre.
- * WiFi
- * Computer use
- * Drinking water - fountain for water bottle fill ups and outdoor tap
- * Accessible washrooms
- * Commissioner of Oaths (see page 12)
- * Snow shoes (see page 10)
- * Meeting room
- * Projector and screen
- * Covid test

NOT QUITE SO FREE

- * Printing and FAX services
25c for black & white. \$1 for colour
Long distance fee may apply for FAXes
- * Merchandise (see page 12)



Rapid response COVID-19 tests.
Five (5) tests per box.



Christmas-by-the-Sea 2023

Friday, December 1st



- Basic Spirit Fine Craft Gallery * Holiday sale and Christmas cookies
- Cross Roads Cycle Sales * Launch of December Santa Sale
- Cut to the Chase * Instore specials up to November 30th
- Fire Truck Rides * 4:30pm to 5:30pm from the Village Hall
- First Stop Esso * Customer draw
- Harbourview Pizza * Customer draw
- Harrison's Building Supplies * In store specials * prize draw for each purchase
- Horton Gallery * Open House. 20% off regular priced items, refreshments, open until 6pm.
- KGB – Christmas treat bags
- Nelly's Grill and Dairy Bar * Customer ballots for a prize will be drawn
- Northumberland Veterinary Services * Customer draw and 10% off pet food
- NSLC * 4pm to 7pm in store samples for tasting & yummy treats
- O'Brien's PharmaChoice * In store sales and giveaways * enter draw to win a TV*
- Pugwash Co-Op * In store specials, refreshments and customer draw. BBQ (weather permitting)
- Pugwash Home Hardware * In store specials and draw * Open 8am to 5pm
- Pugwash Legion * Darts and treats in the evening
- Pugwash Post Office * Refreshments and draw
- Pugwash Train Station * 7pm* Lighting of the community Christmas tree* Carol singing
- Pugwash Village Hall * 3pm to 4pm* Santa Claus
- Silver Spray Rebekah Lodge #1 * Craft and bake sale * Starts 10am
- Seagull Pewter * 15% off storewide
- SeaShell BeachWear and Gifts * In store specials * Open until 7pm,
- Scotiabank * Refreshments
- Sheryl's Bakery & Café * special holiday hours
- The MacFarlane Lantern Restaurant * Hot beverage & Christmas cookies
- Thrift Store at Sunset Industries * special sales and draws
- Wesley St Matthews United Church * View Christmas tree in decorated sanctuary * 3-5pm



Saturday, December 2nd

- Basic Spirit Fine Craft Gallery * Christmas Sale and cookies
- Cut to the Chase * Instore specials up to November 30th
- First Stop Esso * Customer draw
- Harbourview Pizza * Customer draw
- Harrison's Building Supplies * In store specials * Prize draw for each purchase
- Horton Gallery * Open House. 20% off regular priced items, refreshments, open until 5pm
- KGB – Christmas treat bags
- North Cumberland Memorial Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Shop – door prize
- Nelly's Grill and Dairy Bar * Customer ballots for a prize will be drawn
- NSLC * Noon to 3pm in store samples for tasting
- O'Brien's PharmaChoice * In store sales and giveaways * enter draw to win a TV*
- Pugwash Co-Op * In store specials and customer draw
- Pugwash Farmers Market * Christmas Market at PDHS * 10am to 2pm
- Pugwash Home Hardware * In store specials and draw
- Pugwash Legion * Special treats at the regular cribbage game
- Silver Spray Rebekah Lodge #1 * Craft and bake sale * Starts 10am
- Seagull Pewter * 15% off storewide
- SeaShell BeachWear and Gifts * In store specials * Gift for accompanied children
- The MacFarlane Lantern Restaurant * Hot beverage & Christmas cookies
- Wesley St Matthews United Church * View Christmas tree in decorated sanctuary * 2-4pm



Santa Alert!!

Look out for Santa Claus on Friday, December 1st!

We have good information that Santa will touring around the Village of Pugwash between 1pm and 2:30pm on Friday, December 1st. Look out for Santa and give him a big wave as he goes by and he will wave back.

How will you know where he is? Well, we hear he will be driving in a big red shiny truck. One that looks just like a fire truck! You might hear him coming by the sound of the air horn,

If you miss seeing Santa in the truck, come to the Village Hall and see him in person that same afternoon (3-4pm).

Later on, you could have a ride in the fire truck, just like Santa and the firefighters. The truck will be picking up/dropping off kiddies at the Village Hall 4pm to 5:30pm.

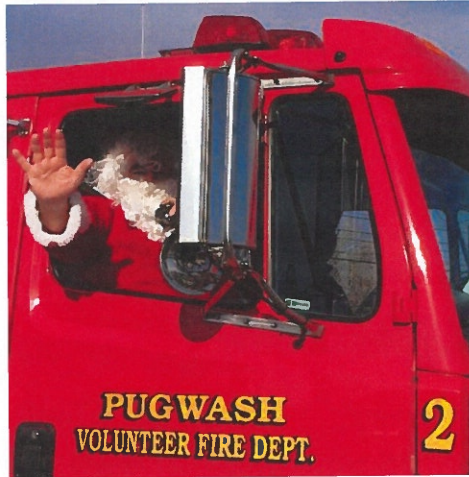
Santa will be in town *again* that evening for the community tree lighting at the old train station at 7pm. There will be treats nibble and carols to sing.

Elf #1

Christmas Eve church services

Wesley St Matthew's United Church
7pm Christmas Eve. All welcome.

48th ecumenical Christmas Eve Service at St John's United Church, Wallace at 7pm. All welcome.



Special fire department elves held Santa and Mrs Claus get around the Village. Be sure to look out for them and give them a big wave on Friday December 1st!

Hey kids! Did You Send Your Letter to Santa Yet?

It's not too late. Be sure to include your home address and send your letter to:

Santa Claus, North Pole, Canada, HOH OHO and he will write back!



Santa loves to hear about children's favourite jokes, hobbies and school activities. Letters are free - no stamps required. And Santa can reply in 30 different languages! Hurry up and get your letter sent by December 7th to get to Santa in time for Christmas.

Remember to include your return address so he can write you back!

Winter Events

December

- 1st Christmas-by-the-sea (6)
- 1st Turkey bonspiel (11)
- 2nd Cribbage (9)
- 2nd Turkey bonspiel (11)
- 2nd Christmas-by-the-sea (6)
- 6th Cribbage (10)
- 7th Hanukkah begins
- 9th Sunset Bazaar (10)
- 9th Country Christmas (Wallace)
- 11th Village Commission meeting (12)
- 12-18th Festival of Lights - judging period (3)
- 13th Cribbage (10)
- 15th Hanukkah ends
- 16th Cribbage (9)
- 19th Christmas Cheer Day (CEES)
- 20th Festival of lights - winners announced
- 20th Cribbage (10)
- 21st Winter begins. Yule starts.
- 17th Cribbage (10)
- 24th Draw for TV (O'Brien's)
- 24th Christmas Eve church services (7)
- 25th Christmas Day
- 25th Community dinner (2)
- 26th Boxing Day
- 26th Kwanzaa begins
- 27th Cribbage (10)
- 31st Hogmanay/ New Year's Eve

January

- 1st New Year's Day
- 1st Yule ends.
- 1st Kwanzaa ends
- 3rd Cribbage (10)
- 6th Cribbage (9)
- 8th Village Commission meeting (12)
- 10th Cribbage (10)
- 13th Lohri
- 17th Cribbage (10)
- 20th Cribbage & Chase the Ace (9)
- 24th Open Houses (10)
- 24th Cribbage (10)
- 25th Burns Night
- 31st Cribbage (10)

February

- 3rd Cribbage (9)
- 7th Cribbage (10)
- 12th Village Commission meeting (12)
- 14th Valentine's Day
- 14th Cribbage (10)
- 17th Cribbage (9)
- 19th NS Heritage Day (6)
- 21st Cribbage (10)
- 24th Sled head rally (11)
- 25th FOPE AGM (4)
- 28th Cribbage (10)
- 29th Leap Day

Dance and Exercise

Yoga with Sara - Peace Hall

Mat Yoga - 10am Wednesdays and Fridays
Chair Yoga - 11:30am Wednesdays

Call 902.243.2985 for more information

Line Dance Classes with Anna Jones

(Winter): Northport Community Centre
Thursdays 10am
(Summer): NCCC

Walking Schedule for Seniors
At Cyrus Eaton Elementary gym
9:30 to 10:30am FREE!

January 4	February 1	February 28
January 8	February 5	March 5
January 10	February 7	March 7
January 16	February 13	March 18
January 18	February 15	March 20
January 22	February 20	March 26
January 24	February 22	April 3
January 30	February 26	April 9

The Wallace Wentworth Pugwash and Area Community Health Board (WWPA CHB)

In September we hosted the Wellness Fund Celebration at the Northumberland Community Curling Club and distributed almost \$11,000 between nine projects supporting our Community Health Board priorities; mental wellness and sense of belonging, community engagement, connection, and inclusion, healthy active lifestyle, and supportive environment, and thriving communities, prosperity, and affordability.

Festa Junina was a great success. We were happy to partner with YReach and bring the celebration to the October Pugwash Night Market. Visitors enjoyed games, dancing, music, and lots of great food. It was great fun, and we hope we can do something similar next year.

Steve Wood, the Cumberland County Emergency Measures Officer, attended our October meeting to present information about emergency preparedness and comfort cen-

tres. Use the search bar at the provincial website at novascotia.ca to find out about emergency accommodations or preparedness.

Our popular Hike of the Month in partnership with Cumberland Trails Association will continue and we will share information about events on our Facebook and Instagram pages.

We are in the early stages of gathering information to write our new Community Health Plan and hope to host some community conversations over the next few months. Please take some time to complete this survey and help us identify what impacts the health and well-being of our communities at engage4healthnsh.ca.

We have some openings on our board and if you are interested in joining us please contact Colleen Dowe at colleen.dowe@nshealth.ca or 902-397-0376

Colleen Dowe

North Cumberland Memorial Hospital Auxiliary (NCMHA)

The NCMH Auxiliary has purchased white noise machines for the patient rooms in the new health care facility. We have also committed to purchasing telephones for the patient rooms and the family room.

The Auxiliary will hold its last meeting for 2023 on Tuesday, December 5. Monthly meetings will resume in March 2024. The last day the Thrift Shop will be open before Christmas is Thursday, December 21. It reopens on Wednesday January 3, 2024.

The hours for our Thrift Shop are Wednesday 1PM-4PM; Thursday 10AM-4PM and Saturday 9AM to 12 Noon. If the Shop is closed for any reason during these times, a message will be posted on our Facebook page at ncmhathriftshop.

Drop in to the Thrift Shop on Saturday, December 2nd during Christmas-by-the-sea and enter your name in the draw for a door prize.

Thank you to all who have supported the Auxiliary through our Thrift Shop and online auction. We appreciate your continued support.

Faye Moore

West Pugwash Women's Institute

Our organization has been very busy since the last news letter. We are so happy to announce that we have now started back to our Welcome Bags / Baskets for all new arrivals to Pugwash and surrounding areas. These bags/baskets are full of information for all new arrivals that are now residing here. There is even a nice relaxing gift inside. We have posted contact information posters at the CoOp, Post Office and Village Hall. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the members listed.

We are also in the works of having a "drop in" once a month. This is open to anyone who would like a cup of coffee /tea, a chat or a game of cards. Please check for the posters at the Co-Op and post office in the New Year.

We are a non profit group of women, with membership world wide, who serve our community in many ways. We meet once a month to discuss fund raising ideas for those organizations that we help support and have social time. We try to meet once a month outside our meetings for craft days, lunches, picnics, Christmas and other holiday get togethers.

We wish you a joyous holiday and look forward to meeting you. For more information about the Womens Institute please contact : Sue 902-243 2595 or Maureen 902-497-6260.

Sue Duncan

Pugwash Open Hamper Food Bank in Dire Need

The economic and food insecurity situation across Canada is being seen here in Pugwash.

Our client list has a doubled in the last two years. In the last 6 months alone, it has increased by 30%. We now have 95 children and 146 adults living in food insecure households relying on the Open Hamper.

Each year the clients are given hampers at Christmastime. They contain all that is necessary for a Christmas dinner and items for the children to enjoy. While last year the cost was \$20,000, we are anticipating the cost will be about \$30,000 this year.

The Open Hamper grocery bill was \$22,000 for half of 2022. It increased to \$30,500 for the same time frame this year and we have already had to cut the monthly provision by 20%. The \$20 gift cards, which the clients used for personal

hygiene products, extra juice, eggs and milk have been eliminated. Food received from Feed Nova Scotia is declining. Since January 2023, we have received \$24,000 in donations compared to \$64,000 in 2022 and this year there has been no government funding.

Clearly, we are in a dire position. This community has always been most generous in the past and I am hoping that we can rely on you again now. Your support will make a world of difference right here at home. Please consider giving to the Open Hamper.

Many thanks go to those who do still support us with donations. Examples of what your donation can do include: \$1000 will provide clients with hamburger, eggs and milk for a month.

If you would like further information please contact me at 902.243.3593 or judithrickard50@gmail.com Donations can be sent by e-transfer to openhamper@gmail.com

Judith Rickard, Secretary Pugwash Open Hamper



PREPARING FOR THE 21ST CENTURY
ON SE PRÉPARE POUR LE 21^E SIÈCLE

Royal Canadian Legion Peace Branch 60

Ken Cameron

Cribbage - 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month
Darts - Friday evening 7pm. \$10
Chase the Ace - resuming soon
Bingo - Season ends December 13th
 Christmas Day Dinner 12 to 3pm

Canteen: 902.243.2123
Bar hours: 2-6pm Friday & Saturday
 New members always welcome.

Marilyn & Friends' Feral/Stray Cat Spay & Neuter Program

With winter coming it is important to get your cat shelters all cleaned out and fresh straw strewn to keep any cats that are forced to live outside warm and safe. If you don't have a shelter of some sort I would kindly urge people to set one up as it is so easy with totes and some Styrofoam or build from leftover wood at home. Sunset Industries build wonderful cat shelters. It's the least we can do for these precious creatures that did not ask to be homeless.

Please watch the Cat Program Page on Facebook for upcoming Christmas sales and continue to follow the online auction for awesome deals. As we draw close to the end of the year I wish to express sincere gratitude to every person who helps the feral and stray kittens and cats in any way. I promise you the program is making a huge difference around the county and so many cats and kittens have also found homes.

During the colder months trapping shuts down except for emergencies but I ask anyone who has a pregnant feral, stray or abandoned kittens coming to your home for food and shelter to please contact me by calling or texting 902-694-0089. Wishing everyone a safe and healthy winter!

Marilyn Williams



Pugwash and District Volunteer Fire Department

Over the past year the Pugwash Fire Department has hosted a number of successful fundraisers. We would like to thank you, our community, for your support as these events could not have been a success without your generosity.

We would like to thank you for your continued support through the purchasing of tickets for the Nova Scotia Firefighters 50/50. These funds are crucial in helping us purchase important equipment to keep our firefighters and community safe.

We look forward to another year of community involvement and your continued support and wish you all the best during the festive season.

If interested in joining the fire department, or if you wish to help with any fundraising efforts, please feel free to stop by the station any Wednesday at 7pm.

Amy Laird

Legion Banners

When Village staff take down the summer banners around Thanksgiving, the Legion Banners go up. When they come down just after Remembrance Day, the Village keeps them safely together in the Village Hall basement, ready for next year.

Just like their original war-time or military postings, any one banner could end up in any part of the Village! Residents and visitors alike enjoy looking around the Village to spot their relatives on a banner.

If you would like to purchase a banner, please call Ethel Bollong at 902.890.2666. Pricing depends on order volume.

Staff

STRAY CATS:

- * were once pets, but are lost or abandoned
- * are often tame and vocal around people
- * will try to make a home near humans in garages, porches or backyards
- * are completely reliant on humans for food
- * may look dishevelled since they are not yet able to cope with life on the streets
- * can be seen at all hours

The difference between a stray cat and a feral cat



FERAL CATS:

- * are primarily wild-raised or adapted to feral life
- * are quiet, will not approach humans and are not good candidates for adoption to indoor homes
- * often live in groups called colonies, and take refuge wherever they can find food
- * will wait for humans to leave before eating food left out
- * will appear fed and groomed
- * will be more active at night

spayneutersspringfield.org

Sunset Auxiliary annual Christmas Craft Sale and Bazaar



The bazaar will be held at the Pugwash Legion on Saturday December 9th from 10:00 till 3:00. The Auxiliary will have a white elephant table. Marg Hansen will have her 4H table. Numerous other vendors featuring wonderful food items, knitted wares, jewelry, and Christmas crafts.

Admission is free. There will be door prizes, Sylvia's special mini Christmas trees by donation, the draw for our Christmas two baskets raffle and a canteen run by the Legion Auxiliary.

Save this date and plan to join us for a fun time shopping for home made items for those special people on your Christmas gift list. All proceeds are for our friends the residents at Sunset Community. See you there!

Barbara Clark

OPEN HOUSES

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 24, 2024
(SUNRISE DATE: MARCH 2, 2024)
12:30 - 3:00pm
Pugwash Library

*Invite all Community Members to meet the Sunset Community staff and "Open Houses" information sessions that promote the services and programs that we offer to our residents and staff. *Refreshments provided.

*This is a great opportunity for hearing, seeing, and community spirit. Let's try to bring along friends or neighbors who might be interested.

123

Could emergency services find your home - at night - in a snow storm - in a power outage?

Help fire, police or EHS find you and your loved ones in an emergency by clearly posting your civic sign. The Municipality bylaw on signage states where these reflective signs must go.

The Pugwash Fire Department will sell you a sign and post for \$45 and, if you are in their fire district, will even put it up for you. Delivery could take 2-3 weeks. Call 902.243.2600 to order yours today.

Andy Yarrow / staff

Snow shoes for loan at the Village Hall

A variety of sizes of snow shoes and poles are available for loan at the Village Hall for 48 hours or a weekend.

Try out this healthy sport for free. Many people love it so much they purchase their own shoes to enjoy all winter.

staff

It Takes a Village Newsletter

Published quarterly in March, June, September and December. The deadline for our next issue is **February 20th**.

Maximum word count of 250. We reserve the right to edit for length and content. Submissions from non-profit groups only please. No business advertisement accepted. Photos or graphics will be used as space allows. Please source all information and photo credits. Please send in a Word document.

The newsletter distribution covers the Village and all rural postal routes serviced by the Pugwash post office.

Send articles to:
villagecommission@pugwashvillage.com

For more information call:
902 243 2946 or visit
<http://pugwashvillage.com/index.php/government/village-of-pugwash/it-takes-a-village>

I♥Cribbage

Join us for a fun evening of Cribbage & Conversation

Wednesday Nights
7pm
October - May

Wesley St. Matthews Church Hall
14 Church Street, Pugwash

*** \$5.00 *** Snacks ***

Single Players Welcome

Mixed Palette Art Group

This fun group is a great way to spend Thursday mornings at the Pugwash Village Hall. No fee. Bring your own materials.

There is much to learn and we have lots of laughs.

Heather Cunningham

International Day of Persons with Disabilities
3 DECEMBER

Access includes everyone.
accessible.novascotia.ca

International Day of Persons With Disabilities

December 3rd

Route Six Snowmobile Club

The trails are looking great for Winter 2023/24! Route Six was busy as most of our area clubs and volunteers were, clearing trees and replacing a huge culvert at West Wallace River Road which was flagged as a safety concern. Mark your calendars for the 4 club Sledhead Rally February. Be sure to grab your Early Bird Trail Permit before December 15th, it is what drives our trail maintenance and groomed trails! Permits are at Crossroads Cycle Sales for Earlybird. All other classic, vintage and day passes are online at snowmobilersns.com. Note that our club grooms the Pugwash Salt Express all the way to the First Stop Esso gas station in Pugwash which is great for cross-country, snowshoe or hiking as well. Huge thank-you to Mike Cunningham for keeping the trailhead across from his shop on Crowley Road cleared for parking. Have a wonderful Winter!

~~*~*~*~*~*~*

Cumberland Trails Association

We are happy to report that the Pugwash Express has been completed with additional ditching and culverts installed this summer. Thank you K&P Excavating! The trail is being used daily and is a great spot to park and hike, bike and snowshoe. It is a multi-use trail so expect ATV and Snowmobile traffic. The Quarry Branch Trail was also finished this Fall! It is 4.5 km from the Wallace Ball Field Trailhead to the Trans Canada Trail...another lovely multi-use trail! Check out events on our Facebook Page.

~~*~*~*~*~*~*

Northumberland Boating Association

The buoys have been removed from the Pugwash and River Phillip for another season. A huge thanks to Mike Cunningham and his team! We had a great August and thank our many supporters who purchased member stickers! We will be having our AGM in February in preparation for another fun summer on the water. Like our Facebook page or contact our secretary if you would like to be added to the email list. nixregalvina@gmail.com

Greg Nix

Pugwash Yacht Club

The Bill Mundle Marina has been put to bed for a long winter's nap. As always, the boating season seemed too short, and the weather overall this year was less than ideal, however, any time spent on the water is good indeed. We were grateful not to have had any issues with Tropical Storm Lee.

PWYC held a special celebratory dinner on September 23rd to mark the 40th anniversary of the Club. It was attended by 44 members and guests. Special thanks to all who helped make this a memorable evening, including Wally Vaters for a lovely meal, and Pugwash Co-Op for donating decorations.



PYC Board Members
Back row L-R: Mike Cameron, Andrew Jardine, Deb Cameron, Barry Goudge, Rod Benjamin, Dougal MacDonald, Stewart Thompson.
Front row L-R: Belle Johnson, Rebecca Purdy, Cindy Ingram
Absent: Fred Jesty, Troy Ingram, Mark Robinson.

Thank you to Judi and John Randal for donating a shed to the marina, and to the Municipality for assisting with relocation expenses.

While things are quiet at the marina, Board members will continue to work throughout the winter months to prepare for the 2024 boating season. At our recent Annual General Meeting we were pleased to accept four new members to the board, for a total of thirteen.

Deborah Cameron

Busy Season Already at NCCC

THE 2023/2024 Curling season is underway with membership at an all time high of around 150! A BIG thank you to the volunteers who helped with the lounge refresh prior to season start-up.

The Club's fundraiser Dinner/Dance on September 30th was a sold out success. The evening Leagues, and drop in mornings, are being well attended. Wednesday evening Mixed Curling had a sign up overflow which necessitated the addition of a new time on Sunday afternoon. Little Rocks and Sunset curl on Tuesday afternoons.

Starting November 18th Tyler Barkhouse will lead a new Skills Development program on Sunday afternoons. Details were sent out via Membership email/NCCC's Facebook and Web pages.

NCCC would like to thank Stephen Leahey for offering to display one of their Pugwash Historical Art Pictures in our lounge. It's

hung prominently over the piano. Make sure you go check it out.

There is a new "Long Range Planning" group in place for future projects. We will try again to access grant monies to get solar panels installed on the roof. The largest expense our club incurs is the power bill, so success on this project would significantly help defray this cost.

Friday November 17th, NCCC had a fun night of mixed doubles curling. Many of the 18 teams who signed up were Newbies to this curling variation. It was successful and we will do it again.

Our annual Turkey bonspiel is scheduled for December 1st & 2nd. Sign up sheet is on the board at the club. The Invitational bonspiel will be late January.



Debbie Pike

Village Tennis and Basketball Courts

The Village of Pugwash is committed to keeping the courts available for everyone in the community.

The tennis nets and pickleball equipment have been put in storage for the winter season, but that doesn't mean the courts can't get used.

Countless children have learned to ride a bike, scooter or skateboard in this safely fenced off area.

Dog owners can let their dog off leash for a good run in an escape-free environment.

On the suggestion from the public, the Village is looking at bike rodeo equipment that could be kept in the courts for some safe and fun exercise. The pieces would be small enough to move out of the way of the court playing areas if needed for tennis or pickleball.

We tried to build an ice rink a couple of times, but our winters are just not consistently cold enough for a built rink.

We are always open to new ideas of how to use these facilities or accept help to re-try old ideas! Call 902.243.2946 or pop by the Village Office at 124 Water Street with your

Staff

Pugwash Village Commissioners: Who are they?

Pugwash Village has five elected Commissioners who volunteer their time to help decide what is going on in YOUR Village. To be a Commissioner, you have to live within Village limits and willing to give up a little bit of time to work for the sake of all Village residents. Terms overlap, thus elections are held every year for one or two positions.

Brent Wilson (902 664 8695) is the Commission Chair. Brent lives on Durham Street and works at Sunset Community.

Sue Duncan (902.243.2595) is Vice Chair of the Commission. Sue lives on Water Street. She and her husband Terry retired in 2017 and moved to Pugwash from Ottawa.

Margie Anderson (902 694 5133) email: lindsayandme@hotmail.com Commissioner since 2022. Margie lives on Water Street and is a retired teacher.

Dave MacEwan (902 694 8072) lives on Willow Street and also works at the Sunset Community.

Roger Mundle (902 243 2042) Roger lives on Water Street and is retired after delivering furnace oil to the area for 28 years.

Pugwash Village Commission Meetings

Regular meetings are generally held on the second Monday of the month at 7pm. Come to the next meeting and find out what is going on in YOUR Village!

Meetings often include special presentations from local organizations and groups, the RCMP or Provincial representatives

If you would like to make a presentation, call the Clerk at 902 243 2946 or email villagecommission@pugwashvillage.com



Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin
MLA for Cumberland North

5 Ratchford Street, Amherst, NS, B4H 1X2
or

124 Water Street Pugwash, NS, B0K 1L0

Phone: 902 661 2288

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<https://elizabethsmithmccrossin.ca/>

MP for Cumberland Colchester
Stephen Ellis
902-667-8679

MLA for Cumberland North
Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin
902 661 2288

Councillor for District 3
Jennifer Houghtaling
902 297 1298

Next Regular Commission Meetings

December 11th
January 8th
February 12th

Village Hall Board Room
124 Water Street
7pm

Did you know *It Takes a Village* newsletter goes out to over 800 local homes and is available at various downtown Pugwash locations? Look for the version number for the most recent printing and on the website for the colour version.

What is a Commissioner of Oaths?

A Commissioner of Oaths is a person appointed by the Minister of Justice, under the Notaries and Commissioners Act, to administer oaths and take and receive affidavits, statutory declarations and affirmations with the Province of Nova Scotia for use in the Supreme Court or any other court in Nova Scotia.

A Commissioner of Oaths cannot notarize documents to certify or verify that a document is a true copy of the original document – this requires a person to be a **notary public**. Only lawyers and MLAs may become notary publics in Nova Scotia.

Who Are the Commissioners of Oaths in Pugwash?

The Village Clerk, your Councillor and the staff at the RCMP detachment on Queen Street.

novascotia.ca & staff

Village of Pugwash

Merchandise - stocking stuffers!



Front licence plate \$10

GOC hat \$15



Pens \$5



GOC crest lapel pin \$5



Lapel pin \$2



Prices may vary as new stock is delivered

Gathering of the Clans shirt \$20

Cumberland-Colchester is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq.



@PugwashVillage

facebook

Village-of-Pugwash

Version 24.11.2023