

This Issue:

Pugwash Hospital Progress	1
Food Bank/Johnny Cash - CTV	2
NCHA - CBC	2
Pugwash web cams	2
Village website details	2
Communities in Bloom	3
Community Spirit Award	3
Friends of the Pugwash Estuary	4
NCMHA	4
West Pugwash Women's Institute	4
Village Hall contact information	4
Visitor Information Centre	4
Route Six Snowmobile Club	5
Nova Scotia Health Authority	5
Snowshoes	5
Pugwash Harbourfront Centre	6
Writing Workshops	6
Employment Opportunities	6
Gathering of the Clans	7
HarbourFest	7
GOC Lapel Pin	7
Spring events	7
Pugwash Library Programs	8
Pugwash Library - spring hours	8
North Cumberland Historical Association	8
Commission notes	8
Mixed Palette	8
Royal Canadian Legion	9
RCA Certification of Appreciation	9
Toonie Draw	9
Message from your Councillor	9
Cumberland Trails	10
Tax Return Help	10
Camp Pagweak	10
Pugwash Yacht Club	10
Pickleball Boom	11
Newsletter facts	11
NCCC	11
Sewer facts	11
Commissioners, meeting times, Contacts, information, election dates	12
Merchandise	12
Contact information for your Councillor, MLA and MP	12

Preparations Continue in Readiness for New Hospital Construction



Local residents may have noticed drilling equipment on-site at North Cumberland Memorial Hospital last December and wondered if that was the beginning of the construction project for the new building. It was actually geothermal testing to determine the suitability of using geothermal as the heating and cooling source for the facility. The engineers have reported the results of the testing were positive which is a great step forward in the overall schedule and in our effort to meet the provincial standards for an environmentally friendly building.

That is just one of the many activities underway in preparation for issuing the construction tender expected to occur in the next few weeks. Teams have been examining every detail of the architectural plans to ensure nothing has been overlooked in preparation for the important step of awarding the tender. These reviews have included looking at where waiting areas and work stations are located to ensure the best flow of people and delivery of services, what new

equipment will be required (and what can be moved over from the current building) and even deciding the best design and location of signage to guide patients and visitors through the facility. Each detail that is confirmed now means saving time and money once construction begins.

As work progresses, regular updates will continue to be shared with the community. The overall project timeline is still moving ahead as anticipated. Once the tender is awarded, on-site work is expected to begin late spring/early summer of this year and the move into the new building is scheduled for the summer of 2022.

Preparations already made include moving the helipad to a site behind the Pugwash Fire Station to make room for construction.

Check out the front page of the Village website for a link to more information



Ann Keddy, Nova Scotia Health Authority/
staff

Pugwash gets TV Media coverage

Let Them Eat Cake



On February 26th, CTV Morning Live Atlantic showcased a unique fundraiser in Pugwash. The Pugwash Open Hamper Food Bank and the February

26th birthday of the "Man in Black", Johnny Cash, were celebrated with black and white cupcakes from Sheryl's Bakery and Cafe. Amazingly, the sale of over 800 cupcakes raised \$4237.65 as generous supporters bought the treats and donated well beyond the cost of the cupcakes. The show can be seen on the Village's YouTube channel.

Sheryl Chambers, owner of the bakery, made a huge donation of all the ingredients and her time in making the cupcakes. Sheryl's generosity demonstrates the big hearts we have in this wee village.

The fund raiser is the brainchild of Bert and Patti McWade. The offering of baloney sandwiches and birthday cake with black icing at the Pugwash Co-op has been a tradition for the past five years, it was time for a new idea. In Covid times Johnny Cash cupcakes were the perfect answer to maintain social distancing and safety regulations.

A huge "Thank-you" to all who made this Open Hamper Food Bank fundraiser a tremendous success. If you missed this opportunity, you can offer your support by writing a cheque to: Open Hamper Food Bank and send in care of 3291 Cape Cliff Road, Fox Harbour, NS, BOK 1L0. Funds can be sent by e-transfer to: openhamper@gmail.com. Please write your mailing address in the message box and a receipt will be mailed to you.

The Open Hamper Food Bank provides food to anyone in need. Operating out of the basement of the North Cumberland Memorial Hospital in Pugwash, we serve families over a wide geographical area from Malagash to Port Philip to Wentworth. We have a very successful Community Garden (located behind O'Brien's Pharmacy in Pugwash) and, in normal times, also operate a Sharing Kitchen to advance food and nutrition related education.

On March 18th CTV will be running a follow-up piece, highlighting the Pugwash Open Hamper Food Bank.

Judith Rickard



Pugwash CN Train Station Features in CBC's "Renovation Renewal"

CBC's Land and Sea has been featuring life on Canada's eastern shores since 1964.

Producer Rachell Bower was asked to produce some shows on the re-use of old (sometimes historic) buildings for new purposes and she wanted to cover a part of Nova Scotia not often featured.

In November last year she and her crew came to Pugwash to look at the old train station and found out more of what it is used for today - a Public Library and the offices and archives of the North Cumberland Historical Society.

Tune in to CBC Land and Sea on Sunday March 21st at 11:30am. The show will air again Monday 22nd at 1am and will be posted on CBC's online streaming service (Gem) later in the month. Locals Kenny Braden and Harvey Gullon will be part of the show named "Renovation Renewal".

See also page 8

Staff

Pugwash Web Cams Live Soon

Parts of Pugwash should be available to view online 24/7 when three webcams become live very soon.

Different parts of Pugwash Harbour and Eaton Park will be viewable. The Village will announce on their website and social media when the cameras are up and running.

Visit the Pugwash Village website at www.pugwashvillage.com
Listings include local businesses, government services, volunteer organizations, contacts, history of the Village and events.
Links to the Village social media and YouTube channel.



Pugwash Communities in Bloom: People, Plants and Pride Growing Together!

The loss of familiar events and gatherings made 2020 a very challenging year. Many people and organizations in little Pugwash, with a history of volunteerism and a can-do attitude, stepped up to the plate to bring us joy and hope this year.

The community push to install the docks at Dingy Beach this summer, the improvement of hiking trails by the Friends of the Pugwash Estuary and the home deliveries by Open Hamper Food Bank volunteers, all examples of how the health and wellness of our residents was a priority and that groups knew how to problem-solve.

And then there were the leaps of inspiration, great ideas followed up by the hard work of volunteers to make them a reality. Mary Purdy conceived of The Art Box Project, rallied support and delivered creativity to kids in lockdown.

Louise Cloutier envisioned art on the streets of Pugwash and, working with a small committee, solicited the support of CIB, businesses, the Village Commission and artists to establish the Pugwash Open Air Gallery.

At Christmastime, the Pugwash Fire Department members added lights, provided by the Village of Pugwash, to the CIB wreaths on Palmerston Bridge, to create a welcoming entrance to the village. Jennifer Jamieson, of Chase's Lobster, knew that a Buoy Tree was just what the community needed. She and her group of volunteers from the fishing and boating community got the blessing of the Pugwash Harbour Authority, solicited donations of 400 buoys from Pugwash, Wallace and Advocate and erected a ten-foot tree on the wharf overlooking the harbour, to everyone's delight. The volunteers of the Northumberland Boating Association thought to add a whimsical

Floating Tree off Tide Mill Bridge, purchased the lights, and Mike Cunningham and crew made sure it was installed. All wonderful initiatives to warm the cockles of our hearts. Meanwhile, the residents of the Village put on wonderful displays of Christmas lights on their properties.

So thanks to those with bright ideas, the doers, the organizers, the movers and shakers that make projects like these happen. You know who you are. Know that all your acts of generosity, community spirit and kindness are appreciated and make this a community a great place to live.

If you know of other efforts, let us know and we will share them. Seasons greetings from all the volunteers at Pugwash Communities in Bloom

Norene Smiley

Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit Plaque Awarded to the Village of Pugwash

The Village of Pugwash has been honoured, along with all other Municipal units in the Province, with a beautiful brass plaque. In English, French, Mic'maw and Gaelic, it declares:

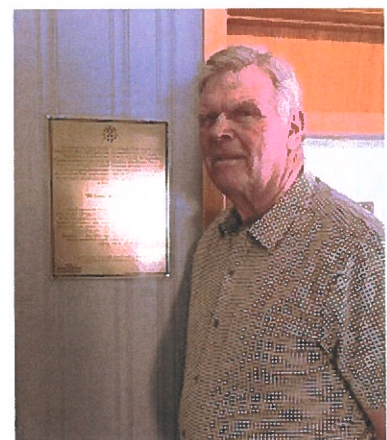
In the name of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada and all Nova Scotians, the Lieutenant Governor of the Province has presented this tablet in recognition of those who contributed to aiding their fellow citizens during the 2020 pandemic.

From the Province's news release, 28th September 2020:
 "Volunteers generously give their time, encourage community achievement and act with kindness. It is important to continue recognizing these individuals who help

build vibrant communities all year long.

"Nova Scotians have experienced some difficult times and disruptions to their lives since March, but I have been immensely impressed at how resilient they have been in adapting to the significant changes in their lives," said Lt.-Gov. Arthur J. LeBlanc. "Our many communities have demonstrated their amazing spirit and resourcefulness in helping their residents cope and it proved to me that no matter the circumstances, you cannot dampen or stifle Nova Scotians' wonderful generosity and their innate desire to volunteer and help those in need." The 13 Mi'kmaw communities, and all municipalities, towns and villages across the province received the Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit Recognition Plaque."

The plaque is on display for all to see in the hallway of the Pugwash Village Hall.



Plaque on display and Commission Chair, Roger Mundle



The Friends of the Pugwash Estuary have continued to be as active as possible this winter despite restrictions imposed by COVID-19.

Our Board has continued with monthly meetings and plans for this summer. We are looking forward to having the roof on Estuary House replaced with steel, thanks to the success of our Raise the Roof Fund-raising Campaign. Our sincere thanks to all who contributed to this campaign. With the new roof in place we will be looking into solar power so that FOPE can reduce our carbon footprint and serve as an example of what a small environmental group can accomplish to protect the environment.

The Christmas Bird Count was held on Dec 28th, 2020. A total of 1196 birds representing 33 different species were counted. Highlights included 6 bald eagles and 502 Canada geese enjoying the warm weather and open waters. A large flock of red polls (184 birds) was also spotted on Pugwash Point, showing that this species has rebounded after a tragic kill-off a few years ago. The next bird count will be the Spring Migratory Count on the weekend of May 15th. Data collected from these counts is important to the ongoing assessment of the health of bird populations across North America.

FOPE will be selling swallow nesting houses this spring. Produced by Sunset, the boxes will cost around \$30; stay tuned for more information.

FOPE will also be initiating a study of Great Blue Herons in northern Cumberland County this

FOPE trails kept busy all year

spring to investigate if herons are nesting in the area. No heron breeding rookeries have been found recently by the Nova Scotia Breeding Bird Survey along the shores of the Northumberland Strait or the rivers of Cumberland County. FOPE will be asking for input from our members, and others as well, to watch for returning herons through April and May and for any that appear to be remaining in the area.

FOPE has supported a grant application by Clean Foundation to follow-up on the culvert study that was done by FOPE several years ago, to assess the flow of streams into the Pugwash Estuary. We are also looking forward to continuing our partnership with Nature Conservancy Canada this summer.

As the COVID vaccine program rolls out across Nova Scotia, FOPE is hoping that we will be able to get back to more normal plans for events such as our Flotilla, involvement with the Farmers Market and events like our Feast in some format. One "program" that is continuing with great participation, on a daily basis, is the use of our trails. February has provided excellent snowshoe hiking on both trails with hikers coming from all over NS to enjoy being outside in nature.

For more information, follow us on facebook: Friends of the Pugwash Estuary; on our web page: www.pugwashestuary.com, or by email: pugwash.estuary@gmail.com; or call the Chair, Betty Hodgson @ 902-243-2476.

Betty Hodgson

North Cumberland Memorial Hospital Auxiliary (NCMHA)

The NCMHA meets the first Tuesday of the month, except for January, February, July and August. Meetings are held at 2pm in the hospital boardroom.

The Thrift Shop hours are
Wednesday 1- 4pm;
Thursday 10am - 4pm
Saturday 9am - 12 Noon.

Our online auction is posted on Facebook and can be accessed by typing in [ncmhathriftshop](https://www.facebook.com/ncmhathriftshop). From January 12th, 2020 until November 29th, 2020 the auction took in \$5,812.00.

Thanks to everyone who supports us either by shopping at the Thrift Shop or through our online auction.

Faye Moore

West Pugwash Women's Institute (WI)

We are a local branch of an international non profit organization for rural women who wish to make a difference in their community and meet new people. We meet once month for a couple hours for social interaction and to address community needs in our area. At our meetings we decide on how to raise funds for seniors, struggling families, school programs, funds for high school graduates to further their education, food hampers, the volunteer fire departments and other needs in our community.

One of new projects is to start a "Welcome to Pugwash" campaign for new residents with a reusable grocery bag filled with community maps and information as well as local businesses information and a few small gifts. Any business that would like to provide a business card or information is more than welcome to be included.

Our membership is growing and we are always open to new members. If you are interested please come and join us for a meeting as our guest. We currently meet on the second Tuesday of every month at the Pugwash Legion at 1:30pm.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Sue Duncan

Pugwash Village Hall

Spring office hours
Monday to Friday
9am to 1pm
or by appointment

Clerk Treasurer:
Lisa Betts
Phone: **902 243 2946**

e-mail:
villagecommission@pugwashvillage.com

124 Water Street
PO Box 220
Pugwash, NS
BOK 1L0

The Village Hall has space available for a variety of uses and meeting sizes. This is FREE to non-profit groups. Please call the Clerk to book a time at: 902-243-2946



Pugwash Visitor Information Centre

Spring hours
Closed until May.
Open by chance or by Appointment

Volunteers welcome

Pugwash Village Hall
124 Water Street
902 243 2088

Route Six Snowmobile Club



Route Six is happy to report that we finally have enough snow to groom into Pugwash. The trail begins with land permissions from Brent Clarke

at Langille’s Gas Station; through Kara Irving’s pasture to the Irishtown Road and to the Fire Hall. The trail travels past the Lantern Restaurant and Hillcrest Motel and connects to the Pugwash Branch rail trail (we will have a naming the trail contest) to Pugwash Junction where it connects to the Great Trail and our neighboring snowmobile clubs.

All users are welcome - including skiers and snowshoe. Be attentive to snowmobile traffic; especially on corners. We hope to keep the trails open well into March! We participated in a 4-Club rally that had participants travelling over 200 kms if they left Pugwash on their sled.

We are happy to support the work of Cumberland Trails by taking on the replacement of the Docherty Creek Bridge as part of making a high quality link from Pugwash to the Great Trail. Our trails connect Oxford, Pugwash, Wallace and Tatamagouche and we maintain three warming shelters and operate two groomers on our trails system.

Greg Nix



Throughout the month of February we have had the pleasure of awarding over \$11,000 in Wellness Funds to local community groups for projects that will enhance the health of our community.

Our Wellness Fund Recipients include:

- Autism Nova Scotia, Cumberland Chapter - Au-some Cooking
- The Municipality of Cumberland County for Learn to Lead and Play Boxes
- The Northumberland Tennis and Pickleball Association for Court & Communities in Action
- Pugwash Communities in Bloom for the Pugwash Open Air Gallery
- Maggie’s Place Family Resource Centre Keeping Warm Cumberland
- Pugwash District High School for Potluck Cooking Program
- The Pugwash Farmers’ Market – Food Security in the New Normal
- Writing on Fire – Art Jam! The Isolation Diaries

Stay tuned! We will be sharing more information about the projects on our Facebook page over in the next couple of weeks.

In an effort to help build healthy communities and encourage people to get outside and enjoy nature we have been working with the Cum-

berland Trails Association to promote our local trails. Each month we highlight a trail by sharing directions and some pictures with what you can expect to see along the way. In February we also hosted a guided snow shoe along the Peace Trail to celebrate Winter Walk Day. The snow shoe was followed by some hearty sandwiches, fruit and yogurt. We are very grateful for the Cumberland Trails Association and all of the work they have done and continue to do to keep our trails in such great shape and to promote healthy lifestyles.

The Wallace Wentworth Pugwash and Area (WWPA) Community Health Board (CHB) has joined forces with the other two Cumberland CHBs; Springhill, Oxford, Amherst and Region (SOAR) and Southamptton, Parrsboro, Advocate and Region (SPAR) on a couple of Cumberland Wide projects.

On February 20th, at the Coldest Night of The Year Walk, the Cumberland County CHBs in partnership with the Cumberland Municipal Alcohol Project (MAP) presented Community Champion Award. These awards are presented annually to community partners who; meaningfully impact social and economic factors influencing health and wellbeing, De-normalize the pervasive culture of alcohol through working with community partners and ultimately lessen the burden of alcohol harms for our families and communities. This year we were pleased to present the awards to Maggie’s Place, A Resource for Families, The YMCA of Cumberland and Cumberland Public Libraries. All three recipients worked hard to

provide programs and services throughout the pandemic.

WWPA has decided to make housing a priority and have created a subcommittee made up of the three Cumberland CHBs to discuss next steps.

We currently have openings for new members. If you are interested in creating a healthier community you may be a perfect fit. For more information please contact colleen.dowe@nshealth.ca 902-397-0376.

Colleen Dowe

Snowshoes

The snowshoes available on loan from the Pugwash Village Hall have been popular this past winter. With a little more snow than the past couple of years and many people with more time on their hands than usual, the six pair of shoes and poles have been signed out nearly every weekend for the past two months.

Many borrowers are now enthusiastically looking for their own to purchase ready for next season.

The snowshoes were originally purchased by Pugwash and Area Community Health Board for loan in 2017.

Staff

PUGWASH HARBOURFRONT CENTRE READY FOR ACTION!

Tai Chi on
Thursdays
at 12 noon



The Pugwash Harbourfront Centre was probably used more last year than it or its predecessor was for many years. A number of groups and organizations that could not meet at their regular indoor venues due to pandemic restrictions were able to make good use of the stage. They liked it so much, many are planning on returning this year.

The covered stage makes this a perfect, sheltered area for Tai Chi, line dancing classes, yoga and so much more! The curved back wall of the stage is designed to help project sound, making it an excellent venue for unamplified productions such as plays and impromptu concerts.

The Village is looking at offering classes in stage craft. Let us know if you would like to participate in or could assist in instructing in Theatre Games (improvisation), singing classes, dance or stage management.

Users are welcome to use the stage but we do need to know you are coming so we are sure it is ready for you to use and to save the disappointment of a double booking. Please use the online booking tool Skedda (linked at the Village website) or call the Village Office at 902.243.2946.

There is no fee for non profit groups.

Staff

The Isolation Diaries: Writing Workshops for Adult Participants

Writing on Fire's ArtJam! 2021 is offering something entirely new this Spring, extending its Youth writing retreat to include a new series of writing workshops for adults aged 55+. We are inviting North Shore adults to work with acclaimed author and mentor, Anne Simpson, in a six-week series of writing workshops (through in person and/or virtual platforms). This will culminate in a day (May 23rd) for adult participants to come together with youth participants and their mentor, award-winning writer Sue Goyette, at the Thinkers Lodge in Pugwash, an opportunity to share voices and thoughts.

This year seems to call for creating connections and fostering a sense of belonging in this time of isolation. We took this as both a challenge and an opportunity to construct a format for both youth and adults—mentored by professionals—to develop skills to dissipate isolation, to discover common ground, and to find their voices while learning from each other.

For this new series of free writing workshops, any interested adults 55+ are welcome to apply. The workshops will take place Wednesdays, April 21st to May 19th, from 2 - 3:30 p.m. Since the experience of isolation may be vivid in participants' minds, Simpson's writing workshops will help them come together through "Delving," "Sensing," "Exploring," "Deepening," and "Connecting." Participants will be asked to challenge themselves by doing new writing, by changing and developing their writing as they proceed, and by helping others strengthen their own work.

In addition to the writing workshops, this year's ArtJam welcomes Catherine Bussiere, photographer/videographer, podcaster, who will help participants find their voices while exploring the power of Podcasting.

Applicants are asked to write approximately 200 words related to this year's theme: *The Isolation Diaries—Building Connection and Belonging Through the Arts* by March 20th. Applications can be emailed to: writingtonfirens@gmail.com.

Questions can be addressed to the Writing on Fire email or contact Norene Smiley at 902-243-2073

Employment Opportunities for Summer Staff at the Village of Pugwash

Administration Assistant- part time, may expand to full time. Assist the Clerk with administrative duties. Assist other staff when required. General business management and office skills required. Hours and wage negotiable.

Recreation Director: Develop and provide recreational activities for residents and visitors of potentially all age groups. Indoor/outdoor activities. Assist Clerk with events and festivals. \$15/hour. Hours negotiable.

Visitor Information Centre Counsellor: One full time and one part time position available. Full time position starts May 11th, part time position starts in June. Applicant must be able to handle questions from visitors and residents regarding a wide range of local events, attractions and businesses. Must be computer competent. Conversational French a definite asset. Centre will be open 7 days a week late June to Labour Day. Includes weekends. 35 hours/week at \$13.60/hour.

Groundskeeper: Keep multiple Village owned properties mowed, clean and tidy. Assist other Public Works staff when required. Will be required to work weekends. 35 hours/week at \$13.60/hour.

Gardener: Maintain flower beds, shrubs and planters. Flexible hours. Part time. \$13.60/hour. Start early May.

Full job descriptions available on the Village website. Send resumé and covering letter to the Village Clerk Treasurer, PO Box 220, Pugwash, NS B0K 1L0 or villagecommission@pugwashvillage.com by April 9th.



COVID-19 concerns cancel the Gathering of the Clans

It is with great regret that the Pugwash Village Commission announces that regular celebrations and events for Canada Day and the Gathering of the Clans are cancelled for Thursday, July 1st 2021.

The safety of the public during the COVID-19 pandemic is the Commission's primary consideration. We hope to host some of the regular Highland Games competitions at another time, but all other events are cancelled.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Staff



The Pugwash HarbourFest-Homecoming committee is tentatively planning this year's event. Set for July 30th - August 1st, we are hoping to offer a festival that will meet Covid restrictions and provide our community with a chance to celebrate. Plans are in the works for the Homecoming get-together on the evening of July 30th - possibly in an outdoor venue. On Saturday, July 31st, music in Eaton Park followed by fireworks. We hope to have everyone's favourite activities, the SoapBox Derby, the 5 K race, Golf Across the Harbour and the Sinkers' Conference. For up-to-date info, check us out on Facebook, or our website pugwashharbourfest.ca

Last summer, our committee, in collaboration with the Village of Pugwash, the Municipality and some very dedicated volunteers, repaired the Dinghy Beach docks and installed them. As soon as the weather is suitable this summer, the docks will be back in the water for the public to enjoy. We appreciate all those who made this possible.

Kirsteen Thomson



A new lapel pin will be available for sale as a fund raiser for the Gathering of the Clans.

The design of this new pin accurately reflects WL Filmore's 1952 design of the Pugwash Gathering of the Clans and Fishermen's Regatta coat of arms.

The background is the saltire flag of Nova Scotia. The shield includes a Celtic cross, the ship Hector, the May-flower (Nova Scotia's provincial flower) and the Gaelic salmon of knowledge.

The 1" wide pin should be available for sale in limited numbers in the Spring.

Staff

Spring Events

March

- 6th Chase the Ace (9)
- 8th International (Working) Women's Day
- 9th Village Commission meeting (12)
- 10th Bagpipe Day
- 11th Chase the Ace (9)
- 12th Daylight savings time starts
- 14th Pi Day
- 17th St Patrick's Day
- 18th Pugwash feature on CTV (2)
- 20th Spring starts
- 20th Chase the Ace (9)
- 21st Pugwash featured on CBC (2)
- 23rd National Puppy Day (USA)
- 27th Passover starts
- 28th Chase the Ace (9)
- 28/29 Holi
- 31st Bunsen Burner Day

April

- 1st April Fools Day
- 1st Tatting Day
- 2nd Good Friday
- 3rd World Party Day
- 3rd Chase the Ace (9)
- 4th Easter
- 4th Passover ends
- 5th Dandelion Day
- 6th Tartan Day
- 9th Village summer job applications due (6)
- 10th Chase the Ace (9)
- 12th Village Commission meeting (12)
- 13th Ramadan starts
- 14th Be Kind to Lawyers Day
- 17th Chase the Ace (9)

- 17th Haiku Poetry Day
- 19th Garlic Day
- 20th Village Commission meeting (12)
- 22nd Earth Day (4)
- 22nd Ramadan starts
- 24th Chase the Ace (9)
- 25th Penguin Day
- 30th Jazz Day

May

- 1st Chase the Ace (9)
- 2nd Brothers and Sisters Day
- 8th Chase the Ace (9)
- 9th Mother's Day
- 12th Commission Nomination Day
- 12th Ramadan ends
- 10th Village Commission meeting (12)
- 12/13th Eid-al-Fitr
- 15th Spring bird count (4)
- 16th Farmers' Market opens (2)
- 15th Chase the Ace (9)
- 16th Spring bird count (4)
- 22nd Farmers Market opens for the season
- 23rd Isolation Diaries (6)
- 24th Victoria Day
- 22nd Chase the Ace (9)
- 26th Nominations for Commissioner close
- 27th Village AGM (12)
- 29th Chase the Ace (9)

June

- 5th Pugwash Village Commission Election Day
- 14th Village Commission meeting (12)
- 20th Father's Day

With so few events planned at the moment, a few, fun celebration days have been included for your entertainment. They are real days - can you spot them?



From: Denise Corey, Chief Librarian,

March Break Fun!

TAKE AND MAKE

Sharpie Dyed Tile Coasters

Make these fun, bright coasters! Materials are available at your local library March 12. Watch the tutorial on Facebook March 15.

PLEASE NOTE: Take And Make Kits are subject to availability. Please call your local branch to reserve your kit now!!






Check our Calendar of Events on the Cumberland Public Libraries' website to see the other fantastic programs lined up for the spring and summer:
www.cumberlandpubliclibraries.ca

You can also follow us on
 Twitter: @CumberlandPL,
 Instagram: @Cumberland_pl
 Facebook: CumberlandPublicLibraries

March Break!!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Take & Make: Sharpie Tiles	Take & Make: Among Us Crew Member Stuffie	Take & Make: Family Game Night Bag	Take & Make: Hot Chocolate Bombs	Take & Make: Uama Tassel Bag
Spice It Up! CPL staff step up to the spice challenge	Virtual Teen Escape Room	Puppet Show!	SING-ALONG Storytime!	Snow Frozen Yogurt Melts

Join Cumberland Public Libraries for our Virtual March Break!
 Take & Make bags are available for pick up at your local branches March 12th so grab your supplies and watch the videos during March Break week to join in on the fun! We're so excited to be able to provide these virtual programs for you to enjoy at home. Be sure to tag us in your posts so we can see what you've created!

Pugwash Library

Winter hours
September - June

Monday: CLOSED
 Tuesday: noon - 5pm
 Wednesday: 2pm - 7pm
 Thursday: 2pm - 7pm
 Friday: noon - 5pm
 Saturday: 10am - 1pm
 Sunday: CLOSED

Phone: 902 243 3331
 Four patrons at a time are currently allowed in the library.

North Cumberland Historical Association (NCHA)

Two exciting pieces of news from the NCHA. First, is our exposure on *Land and Sea*, a CBC program about Atlantic Canada. The show airs on March 21st at 11:30 a.m. and features our president, Harvey Gullon, and Ken Braden, last occupant of the old train station, talking about Pugwash and our railway past.

Second is an article about us done in the *Tatamagouche Light* on Feb. 8, 2021. You can read it at <https://tatamagouchelight.com/historical-society-in-pugwash-sees-increase-in-genealogical-requests-during-pandemic/> It reports on the increase in interest in the past that we volunteers have noticed. Is it because people are at home more and looking for hobbies? And there is nothing more fascinating than working

on your genealogy. People are using the internet to start their research, but our files are mainly hard copy pre-internet papers. Don't forget, we have been collecting for over 50 years.

Our ability to help does rely on people sharing their papers and photos of the past with us. We have received a number of donations lately and are thrilled to get them. And our donors speak of the satisfaction of having their precious things properly looked after and shared.

Our work on linking obituaries to graveyards continues as does the Built Heritage Project. This project is a compilation of old homes in the area and the history attached to them.

We are in the train station each Friday from 1-4pm but would ask that if you are going to drop in, you call us first at 902.243.3348 as we do need to continue to monitor our numbers.

Dianne Elliott

Village Commission News

The Commission recently met with the three other levels of government: MP Lenore Zann, MLA Elizabeth Smith McCrossin and Councillor Jennifer Houghtaling to talk about inter governmental cooperation.

The Commission and staff are currently working through the budget for 2021/2022. This is always a tough undergoing, as the Village has a small tax base to fund an ever growing list of services and facilities requested by the public and required by other levels of government.

The public is encouraged to attend Commission meetings. Just as at any other level of government, the public may not speak at a meeting while it is in session but may ask questions after the meeting is adjourned.

Generally, inquiries and problems should be sent to the Village Office first. Please send questions, concerns or comments to: villagecommission@pugwashvillage.com and we

will get back to you with a response or answer as soon as we can. Call 902.243.2946 with any emergencies or time sensitive questions.

Commissioners and staff serve on a number of Village, community and municipal committees. Reports are made at Village Commission meeting as new information can be added. These reports are included in the minutes which can be read on the Village website at <http://www.pugwashvillage.com/index.php/government/village-of-pugwash/meetings-and-minutes>

If you have a particular interest or question about any of these committees, please contact one of the commissioners listed or staff. Community members are not listed.
Accessibility - MacEwan, staff
Audit - Duncan, MacEwan
Communities in Bloom - Martin, staff
Physician Recruitment & Retention - Martin

Contact information can be found on Page 12

Staff



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.



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

Royal Canadian Legion Peace Branch 60

Ken Cameron

Chase the Ace Every Saturday.
3-5pm. Draw at 5:15pm. Ticket holder must be present for the draw to win.

Canteen: 902.243.2123
Bar hours: 2-6pm Saturdays only

New members always welcome.

Certificate of Appreciation Presented to Peace Branch 60



Ken Cameron (President), Ethel Bolong (Member), Maggie Stone (past President) and Brian Chase (Vice President), Lenore Zann, MP

Lenore Zann, MP visited with the president, Ken Cameron, and other members of the 60 Peace Branch Legion and presented the Legion with a Certificate of Appreciation for the good work they continue to do on behalf of veterans, their families and the community.

It was also an opportunity, said Zann, to “share my heartfelt congratulations to them for being the recipient of \$13,400.00 from the Veterans Organizations Emergency Support Fund (VOESF). Covid-19 has taken a big toll on our legions. This funding is meant to help them cover operational costs so that they can continue to deliver their important services”.

Office of Lenore Zann

Pugwash and District Volunteer Fire Department



The Pugwash Fire Department’s 50/50 Toonie draw started up again on September 3rd with a good response from our players. Thank you all for your patience during these difficult times. All credits that were in the system for the two months we were shut down have been credited to your numbers.

We have eight drop boxes at: Sunrise Country Market Port Howe, Wilson’s Gas Bar, Scotiabank, O’Brien’s Pharmacy, Pugwash Kwik Way, F&D Esso, Sheryl’s Bakery & Café, The Lantern Restaurant and the Sunset Community (for employees only).

Our website is getting plenty of hits. Players can check the status of their number(s) and when they are about to run out. The website also shows our weekly winners and an up to date list of rules. The home page on the web site shows when it was last updated, which is normally done after the Wednesday night draw, so if you have paid during the week, it won’t show up until after the draw.

You can still contact us at pugwashfiretooniedraw@gmail.com and we will get back to you in 24-36 hours if you have any questions, or call 902 243 2600 and leave us a message.

We are encouraging our registered players to pre-pay in advance by placing bills or cheques in the drop boxes. Remember to tell us your number by applying a yellow sticker.

The draw takes place every Wednesday evening shortly after 6pm. Members of the public are welcome to come along to the Fire Station to witness the draw.

The weekly drawn number is published on our Facebook page at Pugwash Fire Department Toonie Draw and on our website.

The Pugwash Fire Department would like to thank everyone for their support with this fundraising initiative and wish you good luck in the weekly draws.

Check out our website at pugwashfire.tooniedraw.ca

Andy Yarrow, Fire Chief

A word from your Councilor

I hope everyone is enjoying their soon-to-be spring and I know it has been a tough year and a long winter for many. Our community has done so well and I thank everyone for taking care of each other and some who are going above and beyond to make Pugwash a better place, thank you, you are so appreciated.

The community organizations here and support from the locals on great initiatives is very inspiring, there are many wonderful things in the planning process and I am constantly hearing from new residents who want to explore the area. There seemed to be a snowstorm every Tuesday (our garbage collection day) for the last month or so, and I encourage folks to get on the Things to Do in Pugwash facebook page or Jennifer Houghtaling District 3 facebook page to check for updates on any municipal related issues and just general information that I will continue to provide for this area.

If you are interested in volunteering in the community please contact me and I can give you some options as there are many groups doing great things around here. Also welcome to all the new residents moving here, if you are new to the area please contact me as I would love to welcome you to the community and get you involved!
Take care everyone.

Councilor Jennifer Houghtaling

Cumberland Trails Association

The Cumberland Trails Association will be very busy in the Pugwash area this summer with major Trail projects as part of creating a Destination Trail (Pictou to Oxford) for Northern Nova Scotia similar to the Harvest Moon, Rum Runners and Celtic Shores Coastal Trails in other parts of the province supported and promoted by the Nova Scotia Trails Federation, Hike Nova Scotia and Tourism Nova Scotia.

After leading the repairs with the Sunrise Trails ATV and Route Six Snowmobile Clubs to the rail trail between Pugwash and Oxford in the Fall of 2019, we decided to press on with improving our trails resource. Much like you can experience in Colchester County and Tatamagouche; approximately 20 kilometers of our rail trail (Great Trail) has been upgraded last Fall to accommodate bicycles and other

non-motorized users as is the mandate for the Great Trail in our area.

Trail Groups from Pictou to Oxford are working to make the trail a wonderful experience for all. As part of the project, upgrading trails infrastructure to Wallace and Pugwash will create loading docks; improve/create public parking trail staging areas and improve trail surfacing and signage for all to enjoy.

A major project this summer will be the replacement of the Docherty Creek Bridge not far from Estuary House supported by The Route Six Snowmobile Club.

Join our Facebook page for information about trails and trail activity in Cumberland, or call Greg at 902.397.2632

Greg Nix



Need Help Filing your Tax Return?

Joanne Hauser is a registered volunteer with the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) with Revenue Canada.

Income tax filing is FREE if your income limit is \$35,000 for single person or \$45,000 for a couple. For people who do not qualify for the volunteer program, the fee is \$40.

Contact Joanne directly to book an appointment. Call 902.890 0545 or e-mail: joanne.hauser43@gmail.com.

Staff

Pugwash Yacht Club News

The membership of the Pugwash Yacht Club is pleased and proud to announce a personal donation which will enhance the growth and stability of the Marina.

Bill Mundle has had a long standing interest in the Pugwash Yacht Club and was instrumental in the club formation and incorporation in 1983. He served as the first Commodore, and 37 years later Bill is donating \$120,000 to assist with the growth and development of the Marina.

Deborah Cameron, the current Commodore, and Bill's daughter, has commented "The Club is touched by this gift as we recognize the amount of time and energy Bill has committed to promoting boating in Pugwash."

This gift will improve the Marina facilities and encourage visitors to the area and will contribute to the overall economic growth of the village. The Pugwash Yacht Club wishes to announce that henceforth the Club will be housed at the Bill Mundle Marina.

Deborah Cameron, PWYC Commodore

Camp Pagweak – Waiting for SPRING...

We are very optimistic that we can open this summer. So far it looks very good for opening and having a regular camping season.

Our work days are planned for two Saturdays in May so we are also hoping the weather is good to get everything spruced up. A big thank you to Randy Bonnyman who does so much for the camp.

Our camp schedule has been finalized and can be found on the Pagweak web page – www.pagweak.org. We are still in need of both Sr. and Jr. Cabin Leaders both male and female and volunteers! Don't miss out – the application is found on the camp web site. I can't think of a better place to spend your summer than at Camp Pagweak while earning some extra \$!

Our current vision is to use our property to not just host summer camps each year but also to use the camp to entertain elementary school groups in June and hopefully some middle and high school groups in the fall. To that end, and to improve our summer programming, we have added a low adventure course (2019) a game called 9 Square in the Air (2019) and this year we are adding a bike course and trail, a bouldering shelter and relocating and upgrading our archery area.

Until then keep checking our Facebook page and the camp web page – www.pagweak.org for staffing, volunteering, etc.

Ruth Rushton

Pickleball Is Exploding In Pugwash



After only two years of being introduced to the sport, Pugwash is scrambling to meet demands of the local pickleball community. Now with 40 members strong, players from 25 to 82 years old are eagerly looking for alternate places to play this coming winter. Pre-COVID, players filled the courts at the local High School and now at the outdoor Tennis Courts at Price Albert Street. And with

the sport expected to grow globally and exponentially over the next few years, it appears pickleball is here to stay. You may ask, is this a sport for youth? Absolutely! Pickleball is now being offered by many schools in NS and Canada wide

The sport launched in Washington State in 1965. It exploded in Florida and is now huge in Canada, in particular amongst 30 to 70-year-olds.

Pickleball Canada says the ball must bounce twice, once on each side of the court, before players can hit the ball in the air. The game is usually played to a score of 11, and the winning side must win by two points, or play continues. Tournament games can be played to 15 or 21 points.

Doubles is more popular than singles. That, combined with the fact it's easier on the knees and shoulders than tennis (you serve underhand) has made it extremely popular with seniors.



Think of the game as a mix of tennis, racquetball and ping pong with special paddles, a Wiffle ball and less ground to cover than during a tennis game. It's inexpensive, too – you only need court shoes and a pickleball paddle.

Rod Young

It Takes a Village Newsletter

is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. The deadline for our next issue is **May 25th**.

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>

Busy Curling season for NCCC



Northumberland Community Curling Club (NCCC) has been successful in staying open most of this past season and this has been made possible by the unwavering compliance and willingness to help by our members.

COVID 19 restrictions require players to sign the tracing log book on entry into the club followed by hand sanitation. Curlers then proceed to their assigned chair, while wearing a mask, and when seated, may remove their mask. As locker rooms are closed, curlers remove their coats and put on their curling shoes while at their assigned place. Tables and chairs have been placed so that curlers are distanced.

Players proceed to the ice, one sheet at a time, with 15 minutes intervals between start times for each sheet. All chairs, tables, and hand touched surfaces, i.e. light switches, washroom taps and flush handles are sanitized before each group leaves.

While on ice, masks are not required.

These COVID restrictions were carefully worked out by our hard-working Return to Play Committee in conjunction with Curl NS before curling was allowed to begin in November. Although we were required to take a 3 week break over Christmas and New Year's, curling has continued without interruption or any detected cases of the virus. To make up for the time missed over Christmas, league play will continue until April 9th.

There is no question that NCCC curlers miss the socialization that has traditionally led to the success of our club. We have not been able to have our funspiels or customary Christmas parties. Little Rocks, Juniors and Sunset programs have been cancelled for this year only.

Hazel Felderhof

Do not connect storm water and basement drains to sewer drains

The Village sewer system works perfectly well, as long as it is not overloaded by waste water systems it was not designed to process. The sewer should only be connected to home or business bathrooms, laundry and kitchens. The Municipality of Cumberland County is responsible for the sewer system.

Rain water, basement flood water and snow melt etc should be directed towards or connected to a storm drain. These are responsibility of the Province through the Department of Trans-

portation and Infrastructure Renewal (NSTIR). The two systems run independently from each other. There should not be any connection between them.

If there is a heavy rain storm or sudden thaw, water that should be directed elsewhere but is connected to the sewer has been overwhelming the sewer system and causing an overflow into the street. This is unnecessary and very unhealthy.

Staff

Please, if your basement sump hole drain is connected to the sewer, make preparations to disconnect from the sewer and redirect to the storm water system.

There has been a County bylaw requiring property owners to do this for a long time.

Meanwhile, NSTIR is aware that the storm drains need to be updated and upgraded. This is an expensive project. A letter to your MLA will be sent on to the Minister responsible .

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.

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

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

Bill Martin (902 614 3000 or bill.martin@pugwashvillage.com) lives on Church Street. Bill is a retired Baptist pastor and is the Pugwash Volunteer Fire Department chaplain.

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

Sue Duncan (902.243.2595) lives on Water Street. She and her husband Terry retired in 2017 and moved to Pugwash from Ottawa.

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

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MP for Cumberland Colchester
Lenore Zann
902 - 667-8679

MLA for Cumberland North
Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin
902 661 2288

Councilor for District 3
Jennifer Houghtaling
902 297 1298

Next Regular Commission Meetings

April 12th
May 10th
June 14th

Annual General Meeting Thursday, May 27th

Meetings start at 7pm
Village Hall Board Room

Did you know *It Takes a Village* newsletter goes out to over 800 local homes and is available at various downtown Pugwash locations? New: we are back to 12 pages per edition. Look for the version number for the most recent printing and on the website for the colour version.

Village Commission Election Day 2021

Saturday, June 5th 9am to 7pm
One vacancy

Nomination papers will be available May 12th. Complete nomination papers must be delivered to the Village Clerk Treasurer by 4:30pm, Wednesday, May 26th. Nomination papers must include signatures from five Village nominating electors.

To be eligible for the Commission, a candidate must be 18 years old or older on the day of the election and Canadian citizen. Candidates for the Village Commission must also normally reside within the Village of Pugwash and have lived in the Village for at least six months.

The same qualifications apply to electors. There is no advance poll or proxy vote permitted.

Village of Pugwash Merchandise



Front licence plate \$10

Gathering of the Clans hat \$15



Pens \$5



Gathering of the Clans shirt \$20



Lapel pin \$2

Prices may vary as new stock is delivered

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



@PugwashVillage

facebook

Village-of-Pugwash