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New Pugwash Library Now Open

For many months, Pugwash and area residents have watched as the community's new \$2.198 million library take shape on the waterfront. That wait came to an end in early February when the 3,900-square foot building was completed.

Area councillor Jennifer Houghtaling is thrilled with the new building. "It has been over 10 years of community meetings discussing a new library for Pugwash for myself, and for others it has been much longer," she said. "I am so very grateful to the staff, mayor and my fellow councillors who made this a priority and moved it to the top of the list for my community." Houghtaling said the beautiful space and sunny nooks where people can enjoy a good book will be cherished by everyone and it could not have happened without the many dedicated volunteers who put so much effort into making sure this came to be.



Library main collections area. Photo: Darrell Cole

The chief librarian of the Cumberland Public Libraries, Denise Corey, said "I'm very excited for people to be able to come in and look at this space and spend time here. It's going to be an excellent space for people to come and just hang out." Corey said the Pugwash library will be one of the busiest in the seven-library chain. She expects those numbers to grow in the new building, adding the library serves much more than Pugwash but its users extend along the Northumberland Strait area, especially in summer, and all the way to the Oxford area.



Main collections area with program room in the background. Photo: Darrell Cole

Work on the library began in 2022 when the Municipality of Cumberland announced plans to build the library. The Pugwash Library had been located at the former Pugwash train station since 1988. When construction was complete library staff moved the collection to be ready for opening day.

One of the features of the new library is a program room that will be used for various library events such as book club and activities for people both young and old. It will also be available to the community and Corey is already hearing of organizations wanting to book the room. While the library is open, she said there are a few items left to be worked on. An official opening will be held in late July.

Darrell Cole

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North Cumberland Memorial Hospital Redevelopment Project

Construction on the new North Cumberland Health Care Centre is in its final stage so the countdown is on and there is lots of planning happening! The new hospital, located directly behind North Cumberland Memorial Hospital on Gulf Shore Road, is expected to open this summer.

The clinical planning team is starting to transition from construction to operations and looks forward to welcoming patients and families.



Recent aerial photo of the new health care centre. The exterior stonework is Wallace sandstone. Staff. Photo: supplied

Survey of current hospital

As part of this process, the team is asking for feedback on the current state of North Cumberland Memorial Hospital. After the new hospital opens, the team needs to evaluate the new space and processes. If you were a patient (or family of a patient) in the last five years we would like you to complete the survey linked at the hospital's Facebook page or on the Village website.

This information will be used as a comparison to evaluate the new facility once the move is complete. Thanks so much for your support and we look forward to hearing from our community.

You can follow progress on the new facility by visiting www.pugwashhealthcare.ca.

Nova Scotia Health Communications

A word from your Councillor

As the local councillor I sometimes hear that the only thing residents get from paying their taxes is garbage pickup. This is not the case. The Municipality has many responsibilities to our taxpayers. Some we have control over and some, like education, we are mandated to help pay for, but are primarily the responsibility of the Province.

It has been a very transformative time for our rural municipality over these past few years, to some extent in ways that we have never had to deal with before. Cumberland County is now growing in population, this is against all of the data collected up to 2020 that said our population was in decline. We must shift our thinking in terms of how we go forward.

Having more residents may mean more tax revenue, but it also increases the cost of nearly all services including garbage collection contracts, fire service calls, policing, insurance, recreation services, planning and development resources, water and wastewater services, infrastructure, maintenance and emergency services, to name a few.

I would encourage anyone who has questions or concerns to watch our council meetings that are recorded and available upon request or on our website or Facebook page. There is no shortage of work to try to improve services for my constituents. I do hope everyone takes the time to learn or ask questions if they are interested and I will do my very best to answer them! jhoughtaling@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca



Jennifer Houghtaling, Councillor for District 3
Photo: Kaydance Smith

Plaque of those named in memorials placed in Village of Pugwash properties. The plaque is for all to view at the Village Hall.

Staff



Streetlight Repair

Public streetlights are now the responsibility of the Municipality, not Nova Scotia Power. If your streetlight is broken, report it to the Municipality at 902.667.2313.

Spring Flowers! Each year, more and more spring flowers are being seen around the Village, bringing much appreciated colour after a dreary winter. Look out for the hundreds of new daffodils planted by Communities in Bloom last fall! As the season progresses you will also see snowdrops, crocus, scilla and tulips.



PUGWASH COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM PLAN BIG FOR 2023!

EVENTS

The first of 3 Eco-seminars - April 20, 6-8 pm - Preparing for Extreme Weather - Horticulturalist on how to protect trees, shrubs, grasses. Check CIB Facebook for more details.

Pugwash Communities in Bloom Fundraising Dinner, Tuesday April 25, 6pm at Inn the Elms. Delicious food, lively conversations. Your support is appreciated.

Annual CIB Plant Sale - Saturday May 13, 9am - 1pm. New Location - The Pugwash Farmers' Market site on Durham St.

Donations of plants and small trees can be dropped off on or before May 12 - to 10863 Durham St. or 2478 Gulf Shore Rd.

In July/August, The Celebration of Gardens organizers will be looking for notable garden displays in our area, featuring the colour PURPLE.

PROJECTS

Landscaping of the Village Gateway Signs that welcome people to the village.

'The Ocean Starts Here! Protecting Our Oceans, Our Future': CIB, in partnership with Friends of the Pugwash Estuary, Pugwash Farmers' Market and the Neighbourhood Roundtable, will celebrate World

Ocean Day June 8 by screening 'Where The Bay Becomes The Sea', a film on the ecosystem of the Bay of Fundy. An art exhibit of works based on the ocean and waterways by school children and local artists will be featured.

GOOD NEWS - The Village has installed Doggie Waste Bags & Receptacles in Eaton Park. Let's help keep our green space clean by using them (Photo Page 5).

VOLUNTEERS - Welcome to Jeanne Hunter, Jill Black and Marlis Kempf, the latest to join our merry band. If you like the work CIB is doing in the village, come join us!

Norene Smiley

Tree planting Tips

Did you lose a lot of trees in Hurricane Fiona? Spring is coming and is a great time of year to plant new trees or shrubs.

Before spending a lot of money on new trees, do a little research and look around your particular property to review what you want to plant.

Which trees survived the storm better than others around you? Take your notes with you when you go shopping so that you purchase a tree that will be the right species, height (eventually) and in the right kind of soil and location.

Some tree species evolved specifically to our soils, weather and pests. They will thrive here,

while exotic species may struggle and also will not support other parts of animals and plants in our environment that native trees will support.

There is lots of information online, including the Village website at: <https://www.pugwashvillage.com/index.php/living-in-pugwash>. See also Page 8.

Staff



RCMP Services in Cumberland County

As Nova Scotia's provincial police, the RCMP provides provincial, municipal and federal policing services from Cape North to Cape Sable Island, and everywhere between.

The RCMP proudly serves Pugwash as part of Cumberland County through a Provincial Policing Service Agreement. Through this agreement, the federal government funds 30% of the County's policing budget.

In addition to this federal contribution, the RCMP provides several highly specialized operational, tactical, and investigative supports at little-to-no cost to County taxpayers. Some of these services, which support municipal policing agencies across the province, include:

* **Emergency Response Team (ERT)** ERT offers tactical response to a variety of critical incidents, such as armed and

barricaded persons and hostage takings.

* Human Trafficking Unit (HTU)

HTU conducts human trafficking investigations and facilitates victim support.

* Major Crimes Unit (MCU)

MCU investigates homicides, attempted homicides, suspicious disappearances, drug trafficking activities and sexual assaults.

* Police Dog Service (PDS)

Our PDS service is trained to detect explosives, firearms and narcotics; our dog teams also search crime scenes and conduct search and rescue missions.

* Provincial Internet Child Exploitation Unit (ICE)

The ICE unit locates and helps child victims of sexual abuse and identifies those responsible for these crimes.

* Underwater Recovery Team (URT)

URT assists with tactical operations, underwater searches for missing persons, and recovery of evidence.

Through the RCMP's District Policing Model, general duty and specialized units in Cumberland County are strategically coordinated and responsive to day-to-day service requirements.

About 1,000 RCMP officers work throughout Nova Scotia, serving 40 municipalities and 13 First Nation communities.

Allison Gerrard, Senior Communications Advisor, RCMP



The Friends of the Pugwash Estuary (FOPE) weathered the effects of Hurricane Fiona with no damage to Estuary House; sadly the same cannot be said for our trails. The wind damage to the forests and the trees, especially the older, larger trees was terrible and even the storm surge played a role in damaging the boardwalks adjacent to the salt-marshes. Several work parties throughout the fall cleared Estuary Trail, rebuilt a bridge on the first loop of the Peace Trail and opened that loop and the trail as far as Spirit lake from Thompson Rd. Trailhead and as far as Yellow Birch Bridge from the Crowley Rd. Trailhead. With grant funding through the Trails Federation we will have opened the remainder of the Peace Trail by the end of February.

FOPE did host a Fall Colours Paddle, despite the effects of Fiona. It was interesting to look at the forest damage from the water and Canfield Creek remained unblocked all the way to the tidal lakes.

FOPE also did a Fall Migratory Bird Count in September. Bird numbers were down from

FOPE Winter Report

Betty Hodgson

previous years, possibly due to Fiona as well. The prolonged warm weather through the fall months resulted in large numbers of Canada Geese and Black Ducks still present for the Christmas Bird Count, while winter forest birds such as the ruby crowned kinglet were not seen.

FOPE was very pleased to host a successful Dinner and Trivia Fun Evening at the Peace Hall in November. By all accounts a good time was had by all. We also raised funds to put toward future projects such as renovating and creating an Estuary Interpretive Center in the newly stabilized building beside Estuary House. FOPE has also continued to advocate for nature with letters to the government on issues related to forestry, glyphosate and protected areas.

The FOPE AGM was held February 26th at the Peace Hall. Our Guest Speaker, Donna Crossland, discussed Invasive Insects Threatening NS Forests.

We are looking forward to an active year in 2023.



Plans for Hot Food Vendors at the old Train Station

The Pugwash Market team has been extra busy this winter!

The Market has taken on a new project called the Market Community Hub. This will essentially be a full commercial kitchen that will allow our market to have hot food vendors, Producers will also have the ability to use the space to preserve and extend the life of local food.

Mark Wood from the Sunset Community serving his delicious French press coffee made with freshly ground beans. We are hoping to have this new coffee bar open throughout the week.

We are welcoming in our new market manager Marsha Amanova. Marsha has been volunteering for the market for several years now and will be exceptional in her role as market manager.

It is shaping up to be a great season and on behalf of all of our members we cannot wait to see you in the spring!

Jenn Houghtaling

Pugwash Library
10182 Durham Street

Monday: 10am - 3pm

Tuesday: 10am - 5pm

Wednesday: 10am - 8pm

Thursday: 10am - 5pm

Friday: 10am - 5pm

Saturday: 10am - 3pm

Sunday: CLOSED

Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays:

Closed for lunch 1-2pm

Phone: 902 243 3331

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

June & September
Monday - Friday
10am to 4pm

July & August
Monday - Saturday
times may vary
or by appointment

Pugwash Village Hall
124 Water Street
902 243 2498

The Wallace Wentworth Pugwash and Area Community Health Board

In February the Wallace Wentworth Pugwash and Area (WWPA) Community Health Board (CHB) was pleased to host their annual Wellness Fund Celebration at the Wallace and Area Museum. This year, they awarded \$10,839.38 to eight projects.

Cyrus Eaton Elementary School was awarded \$600 for The Tootie Fruity Tuesday project which will provide students with smoothies weekly.

Pugwash District High School was awarded \$2,000 for their project Hygiene 101. The goal is to provide an environment where each student feels a sense of belonging and to engage habits that will promote well-being. Hygiene kits and information sessions will be available to all students in grades 7 through 9.



The Pugwash Farmers' Market was awarded \$2500 for their Community Hub Kitchen. The funds will go to help provide items needed to work toward a Zero Waste Community Kitchen.

WWPA CHB Chair Greg Nix presented Jennifer Houghtaling and Mary Purdy with the award for the Pugwash Farmers' Market.
Photo: RikkiRene Greene



haircare.

Pugwash HarbourFest Homecoming was awarded \$2,000 for their Community Christmas Dinner which was hosted December 25th, 2022. A huge success, they hope it will be an

Kirsteen Thomson and Louise Haycocks received their award from WWPA CHB Chair Greg Nix.
Photo: RikkiRene Greene

annual event.

The Malagash and Area Historical Association was awarded \$1,200 for their project Victorian Tea in the Park which will take place on July 16th. Everyone is invited to come and experience a real afternoon tea as well as live music and speakers sharing information on the Victorian Era.

The Wentworth Recreation Centre was awarded \$600 for their Healthy Cooking Project which will provide monthly cooking classes.

The Wentworth Learning Centre was awarded \$1200 for their Growing with Us Project. They will provide weekly intergenerational gardening sessions

SchoolsPlus was awarded \$739.38 for The Classroom Cuts project that will offer free hair cuts to all interested PDHS students. They have partnered with a local 2SLGBTQ+ barber and an African Nova Scotian Esthetician to provide inclusive haircuts and

We have openings for new members. Please contact Colleen Dowe colleen.dowe@nshealth.ca if you are interested in learning more about the CHBs.

Colleen Dowe

North Cumberland Memorial Hospital Auxiliary (NCMHA)

The monthly meetings of the NCMH Auxiliary resume on the first Tuesday of March, following a break during January and February. Meetings are held in the hospital boardroom at 2PM. New members are always welcome.

The winners of the door prizes for Christmas-by-the-Sea 2022 were Barb Langill, Dianne Carter, and Wanda Blades.

Our Thrift Shop and online auction have continued to be busy throughout the winter. Your support is very much appreciated.

Our Thrift Shop is open: Wednesday from 1PM – 4PM; Thursday from 10AM – 4PM; and Saturday from 9AM -12:00 Noon. Anyone interested in volunteering at the Shop can contact Anita Seaman at 902-667-6669 or 902-661-4340; or Wilma Logan at 902-243-3630.

Faye Moore

West Pugwash Women's Institute

The West Pugwash branch of the WI meets once a month for a couple of hours for social interaction, to address community needs in our area and to decide on how to raise funds to assist seniors, school programs, for high school seniors to further their education, food banks, the volunteer fire department and other needs in our community. We also invite speakers to come in to inform and educate us on many subjects.

We get together for social lunches, pot luck suppers, picnics, craft days and celebrations. We rally twice a year with another branch in our area to socialize and exchange ideas and information.

We meet at the Village Hall at 1:30 PM on the second Tuesday of each month September to June. Guests are welcome to learn more about our organization and meet our members .

For more information please contact: Judy Benjamin (902-694-9100), Maureen Albert (902-497-6260) or Sue Duncan (902-243-2595).

Sue Duncan

Scoop the Poop

If you find yourself out for a walk with the dog and realize you ran out of dog waste bags, the village has your back. Three new bag dispensers can be found around Eaton Park, mounted on the metal multi-bins. Thank you for keeping our parks and streets clean of pet waste. The used bags can go in the garbage or compost bins.



Saturday, July 1st



Canada Day

The theme for Canada Day 2023 is: **Proud to Call This Home.** This feeling applies to everyone living here, whether they have been their whole lives or if they just moved into the area - we all love it here. You can use this theme for your entry into the Parade - or not, but you score extra points if you do!

Inflatables - were a big hit last year so we are hoping to have them and more this year. The **Giant Sand Pit** was a ton of fun for the little ones who had a blast playing in the volleyball sand.

We are planning for all the usual events of the day but always open to suggestions for new or renewed events.

We Are Looking for Volunteers for Canada Day

The population of little Pugwash multiplies tenfold on Canada Day. Every year, we are blown away by the number of people who volunteer part of their day to help welcome our important visitors, competitors, judges and dignitaries. Full time and seasonal residents alike, from Pugwash and from all over this end of the County, help out and have all kinds of fun doing it. Join us! The sooner we can confirm our volunteers, the more time we have to spend on making this annual community fundraiser better and better each year.

Gates - the six entrance gates are essential to the smooth running of the festival and the primary source of revenue to keep the festival going. Each one is run by a not for profit group. To keep everything secure and not too tiring, it takes at least 14 people to run each gate in 2½ hour shifts from 8am to 9pm. In return, the Gathering will make a donation to that organization. We have some excellent experienced groups and this year we need at least two new organizations to each take on a gate. Each group needs a leader (we call them "wranglers") to organize booking the shifts on that gate.

Bankers and Runners - essential helpers to assist the chief banker to keep revenues secure.

Highland Dance - the very essence of the Gathering of the Clans. This is the oldest existing event and a large part of why the Gathering happens at all. We need people to help the judge and scrutineers. **

Pipe and Drums - pipe bands and individuals come to Pugwash every year to compete in the competition at Thinkers Lodge. We need people here too, to help the Chief Steward and judges. We will also need a scrutineer to keep score of competition results.

Heavyweight Games - national and international champions come to Pugwash to throw heavy object around the elementary school playing grounds. We need help to keep things in order there too. We could also use some help filling in the "divots" the cabers and hammers make when we fill them in later in the summer.

Parade - we need directors, marshals and judges. Sometimes the animals leave a deposit that should be cleaned up.

Bouncy Castles and Giant Sand Pit - Sell wristbands for rides and help supervise around the inflatables and the kiddies playing in the volleyball sand. The area needs some preparation ahead of the event to make it safe and clean to use. **

Vendors - help set up in the right spot early in the morning.

Entertainment - help out our stage manager and technicians or help with keeping the stage area secure while the bands are playing. Artists often have merchandise to sell and we could use help with that too.

Publicity and Marketing - we could use your marketing ideas or your energy to distribute publicity.

** Requires recent RCMP check

As you can see, there are many moving parts to this important festival. If you are part of a group or organization, an individual, family or couple, please contact Lisa Betts, Event Coordinator at events@pugwashvillage.com or 902.243.2946 and we can find you something to do on July 1st. Thank you!

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. \$15:50/hour. Hours negotiable.

Visitor Information Centre Counsellor: One part/full time position available. Position starts May 11th as part time and hours expand to full time 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 5 days a week late June to Labour Day. May include weekends. 35 hours/week at \$15/hour.

Groundskeeper: Keep multiple Village owned properties mowed, clean and tidy. Assist other Public Works staff when required. Full/part time. Weather dependant. \$15/hour.

Gardener: Maintain flower beds, shrubs and planters. Flexible hours. Part time, more hours may be available as season progresses. Full/part time. Weather dependant. \$15/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 1st.



17TH ANNUAL HARBOURFEST

The 17th Annual Pugwash HarbourFest 2023 is fast approaching, and we couldn't be more excited! Our beloved festival is just around the corner, and this year promises to be even more fun!

The organizers have been working tirelessly to create a fantastic weekend filled with entertainment, and exciting activities for everyone. There will be something for all ages to enjoy, from live music, athletic events, art activities, boat rides, and some brand new activities to be revealed soon!.

One of the most anticipated events of the festival will be the famous Cardboard Boat Race, locally known as the Sinkers Conference. Participants will create their home-made boats from cardboard and set sail into the harbour

for a thrilling race. It's a must-see event, as participants put their creative skills to the test and compete in a fun-filled race.

Festival-goers can look forward to beach volleyball and canoe jousting. The festival will provide all the equipment necessary for participants to enjoy a friendly game while enjoying the stunning view of our harbour.

In addition to the exciting activities, food vendors will offer delicious food while the beer and wine garden will provide a re-

laxing environment for adults to unwind and watch all the fun.

Of course, what would HarbourFest be without live music? This year, the festival is excited to welcome some amazing local talent to the stage, as well as well-known headliners from around the region. Stay tuned for more details on our Facebook page.

Check out our new website too - we will be updating it regularly as plans unfold. www.Pugwashharbourfest.ca

We can't wait to see everyone come together for Pugwash Harbourfest 2023, from July 28th to 30th. Mark your calendars and get ready to have a blast! Make sure to bring your family and friends and join us for an unforgettable weekend filled with fun and excitement.

Gillian Forward

Spring Events

March

- 4th Cribbage (9)
- 4th Chase the Ace (9)
- 6th Erev Purim
- 7th Holi starts
- 8th International Women's Day
- 8th Cribbage (11)
- 10th Bagpipe Day
- 11th Chase the Ace (9)
- 12th Daylight savings time starts
- 13th Commonwealth Day
- 13th Village Commission meeting (12)
- 14th Pi Day
- 15th Cribbage (11)
- 17th St Patrick's Day Dance (9)
- 18th Cribbage (9)
- 18th Chase the Ace (9)
- 20th Spring starts
- 22nd Cribbage (11)
- 23rd Ramadan begins
- 25th Chase the Ace (9)
- 30th Mass Casualty Commission Report release

April

- 1st April Fools Day
- 1st Cribbage (9)
- 1st Chase the Ace (9)
- 3rd Village summer job applications due (6)
- 5th Dandelion Day
- 5th Passover starts
- 5th Cribbage (11)
- 6th Tartan Day
- 7th Good Friday
- 8th Chase the Ace (9)
- 9th Easter
- 12th Passover ends
- 12th Cribbage (11)
- 15th Cribbage (9)

April continued ...

- 15th Chase the Ace (9)
- 17th Village Commission meeting (12)
- 19th Cribbage (11)
- 20th Tree planting and Care seminar (8)
- 21st Ramadan ends
- 22nd Earth Day (4)
- 22nd Eid-al-Fitr
- 22nd Great Garbage Challenge
- 22nd Chase the Ace (9)
- 25th CIB fundraiser dinner (3)
- 26th Cribbage (11)
- 27th Roast beef take out (9)
- 29th Chase the Ace (9)

May

- 3rd Cribbage (11)
- 5th Cinco de Mayo
- 6th Cribbage (9)
- 6th Chase the Ace (9)
- 8th Village Commission meeting (12)
- 10th Commission Nomination Day (12)
- 10th Cribbage (11)
- 13th CIB Plant Sale (3)
- 13th Chase the Ace (9)
- 14th Mother's Day
- 13th Spring bird count
- 17th Cribbage (11)
- 19th June newsletter deadline (10)
- 20th **Farmers Market opens for the season (2)**
- 20th Cribbage (9)
- 20th Chase the Ace (9)
- 22nd Victoria Day
- 24th Nominations for Commissioner close (12)
- 24th Cribbage (11)
- 25th Village Annual General Meeting (12)
- 27th Dandelion Festival (Wallace)
- 27th Chase the Ace (9)
- 30th Cribbage (11)
- 30th Bingo (9)

June

- 3rd Pugwash Village Commission Election Day
- 3rd Cribbage (9)
- 3rd Chase the Ace (9)
- 7th Bingo (9)
- 8th World Ocean Day
- 12th Village Commission meeting (12)
- 14th Bingo (9)
- 17th Cribbage (9)
- 18th Father's Day

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.

Other Local Event Calendars

Facebook

Things to Do in Pugwash
Pugwash Happenings

Municipality

<http://www.cumberlandcounty.ns.ca/upcoming-events2.html>

Six Rivers

<http://www.sixrivers.ca/Calendar>

For more details - numbers in brackets refer to newsletter page numbers.

Most religious, public and secular holidays are listed.

Camp Pagweak 2023

We are excited for the upcoming spring and summer season.

Last year we hosted 10 different elementary school groups, including 5 from Cyrus Eaton and are looking forward to hosting more day trips again this June for year end celebration trips. If you are interested ask your teacher to contact our director, at director.pagweak@gmail.com for more details. Each day is filled with activities including outdoor cooking, biking, challenge course, 9 square in the air, gaga ball and many other fun things to do.

Then our summer program starts with 7 full weeks of camp, 6 overnight camps including a short week for those who maybe haven't been to an overnight camp before and one week of day camp. The schedule including ages, dates and costs are all on our website, Pagweak.org and registration is already open.

This year we are hoping to add a 9 hole miniature golf course to our cabin activities, and possibly even an orienteering course to our other options such as rock wall, archery, kayaking, outdoor cooking, bike course, crafts, sports and improv drama.

Staff hiring is in process and we have about 2/3 of the staff hired. We are still in need of a

cook, an assistant cook and a couple of cabin leaders, so if you know someone who is qualified and/or interested point them to our website to complete an application.

Thanks to the Pugwash Search and Rescue team as each week for the past 2 years the cabin who wins the weekly point competition gets a ride (weather permitting) on Friday in the Search and Rescue boat, what a thrill!

We are looking forward to another summer on the shores of Pugwash Harbour and hope many will join us from the area for a great week of fun and adventure.

Dave Throop, Director

North Cumberland Historical Association

We are preparing for our 60th anniversary. This society is one of the oldest in Nova Scotia, and we were recently lauded for that by the NS Genealogical Society. We will be having a celebration in August. We are currently preparing a history of the Society, and it does make very interesting reading. We are a society to be proud of.

Our AGM will occur in June with the date TBA. Our speaker this year will be Ralph Waugh who has recently published a book called Two Soldiers about the David family. Ralph has written many articles about this area over the years.

We carry on with our normal activities of filing donations, cataloguing photos, indexing scrapbooks and matching obituaries. Drop up and check out your family file some time. We are open Fridays 1pm to 4pm.

Dianne Elliott

**Pugwash Communities in Bloom and Friends of the Pugwash Estuary present:
Tree Planting and Care Seminar**

**6:30pm, Thursday, April 20th
Northumberland Community Curling Club**

Notes From Our MLA

Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin

The Heating Assistance Rebate is available until March 31st. You can apply online at <https://harp.novascotia.ca/harp/start.xhtml> There are also forms at the Village Hall.

To qualify for the rebate, you need to pay for your own home (residential) heat and meet 1 of the following criteria:

- * have a net income of \$85,000 or less and live alone with no kids or dependents
- * have a combined net household income of \$85,000 or less and live with kids, dependents or other adults
- * receive Income Assistance from the Department of Community Services
- * receive the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) or the Allowance from Service Canada

You may still qualify if your personal or financial situation has changed since last year. Examples of changes include becoming widowed, divorced or legally separated, losing your job, turning 18, recently arriving in Canada, or changing custody of your children. Contact the Department of Service Nova Scotia and Internal Services to determine your qualifications.

Application deadline is 31 March 2023.

You can apply online for the rebate. Please look at the application for details on all required sup-

porting documents.

Submit your completed application and any supporting documents. Check your application status online (if you apply online).

It should take eight weeks to get your rebate. It can take longer if more information is needed or if your application hasn't been filled in correctly. The government may contact you by email if more information is required to process your rebate.

If your income tax refund is direct deposited, your heating assistance rebate is too. If not, your rebate is mailed to you.

The NS Legislature has been recalled for March 21st, 2023, for the Spring Session. My staff and I are preparing and welcome your ideas and suggestions for new legislation and amendments to existing legislation. The Spring Session also brings a new provincial budget.

It is my honour to serve you, the residents of Cumberland North. I will continue to push for changes in the weeks ahead, including improvements to local healthcare services, addressing access to affordable housing and other measures to make life more affordable, and helping the Cumberland area realize its full economic potential. Please get in touch with me anytime.

Palmerston Cemetery Society

The Society has been working with the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) for the last year and a half to acquire a permit to place rock on this shoreline to stop the undercutting of the bank and erosion of land which is threatening the graves which are close to this edge. We finally received a permit March 2023.

Nancy Mundle

Due to DFO regulations on when work can be done, it will likely be late summer or early fall before this project is complete.

Palmerston Cemetery Society relies solely on the sale of plots and public donations for our funding. We do not receive government funding. We are a Registered Charity and can issue Income Tax receipts for donations. If you have family buried there, or if this is a cause that interests you, donations may be made to The Palmerston Cemetery, c/o Jan Saunders, PO Box 314, Pugwash.



Royal Canadian Legion Peace Branch 60

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

Ken Cameron

Friday March 17th
St Patrick's Day Dance

Wednesdays - starting late May - BINGO

Fridays
7:30pm Darts \$8. Ends late May.

Saturdays
1pm Cribbage \$20 per 2 person team. 1st and 3rd Saturday in the month. Ends May 20th
3-5pm Chase the Ace. Draw at 5:15pm

Canteen: 902.243.2123.

New members always welcome.



Burn Restrictions until October 15th

Burning of outdoor fires, including those in backyard burn pits, brush burning and campfires that are not in private, municipal, provincial or federal campgrounds with proper campfire facilities are not permitted in the province between 8am and 2pm.

Each day at 2pm, the online provincial BurnSafe map (novascotia.ca/burnsafe) is updated to show where and when burning is permitted between 2pm that day and 8am the next day. Daily burn restrictions are also available by recorded message on the toll-free phone line 1-855-564-2876 (BURN).

In an emergency, report wildfires by calling 1-800-565-2224 or 911. For more information, go to <https://novascotia.ca/natr/forestprotection/wildfire/burnsafe/Q-As.asp>

NS Dept. Natural Resources and Renewables

Civic Signs

Could emergency services find your home or business? At night? In a snow storm?



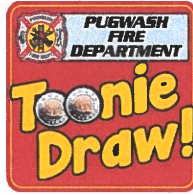
Pugwash Village Hall civic number

By Municipal bylaw, all properties are to have civic signage. They must be posted in a manner that they can easily be seen. For example, they must be at the right height, on the right side of the road and displayed so that they can be seen from all directions. They can be on a post or on the building, depending on how far the building is from the road.

New or replacement signs (and post) can be ordered from the Pugwash Fire Department (902.243.2600) or the Municipality (902.667.1142). If you are in the Pugwash fire district, the fire department will even install your new sign.

Staff

Pugwash and District Volunteer Fire Department



The Pugwash Fire Department's 50/50 Toonie Draw continues in the community and surrounding areas. We have 9 drop boxes situated at Sunrise Country Market Port Howe, Langille's Service Station, Scotiabank, O'Brien's Pharmacy, Pugwash Kwik Way, Langille's Esso, Sheryl's Bakery & Café, Lantern Restaurant, and the Sunset Community (for employees only).

Our website gets plenty of hits where players can check if they are about to run out of money. It also shows our weekly winners, and an up to date list of rules. Please check out our site at pugwash-fire.tooniedraw.ca

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 pugwashfiretoonie2016@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 between 6-7pm. 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 group page at Pugwash Fire Department Toonie Draw and is published on our website.

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

Andy Yarrow, Fire Chief

Pugwash and District Volunteer Fire Department



April 27th will be the next roast beef takeout supper. Tickets will be available through any member of the Pugwash Fire Department in early April.

The Home Hardware Free Sausage and Pancake Breakfast will be coming up in June. Date yet to be determined.

Stay tuned for future fundraising events, including the annual Mackerel and Striped Bass Fishing Tournament August 19th and 20th.

If you have ever wondered what it would be like to join your local fire department stop in at the station any Wednesday evening at 7pm.

Amy Laird

Cumberland Trails Association

The CTA has been busy clearing rail trails and repairing water damage from heavy rainfall. With support from fundraising, Nova Scotia Trails Federation and Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage; many culverts have been repaired or replaced. Most of the Trans Canada Trail damage is located in the Wallace area. Use caution until all trails have been inspected.

We thank our local trail steward, Valerie Brown, for updating us on the Pugwash Salt Express and for organizing guided walks! Many thanks to Cunningham Construction for keeping the trailhead clear. We continue to offer at least one hike-of-the-month sponsored by our Community Health Board. February will be at the Amherst Point Bird Sanctuary. We hope March will be on the Pugwash Peace Trail.

We still have a few 2023 calendars for sale and we wholeheartedly thank everyone who helped make our summer fundraiser a success in support of the Oxford Red Bridge Refurbishment Project. We accomplished two huge milestones this past summer with the completion of the fine granite link on the Trans Canada Trail and the completion of the fine granite on the Pugwash Salt Express!

The link to Wallace (The Quarry Branch Trail) is also well underway. The executive wish to send out our sincere gratitude to regular and new sponsors that share our dream of a Destination Trail for Northern Nova Scotia! Check out the Cumberland Trails Association Facebook page!

Greg Nix



Need Help Filing your Tax Return?

Joanne Hauser is a registered volunteer with the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) through 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 \$45.

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

Staff

Nova Scotia Trails Federation

You are invited to share information related to motorized and non-motorized trails with the Fundy Region Representative for the NS Trails Federation, Greg Nix. (nixgregalvina@gmail.com).

Information about events, trail builds, major projects and trail concerns are just some of the topics. Annual region reports are sent in to NS Trails and information that might be of interest to the general trails population are shared on the Cumberland Trails Association Facebook page. Check out the Nova Scotia Trails Federation page at <https://nstrails.com/>

Greg Nix

The Route Six Snowmobile Club

Winter has yet to happen for our club members but there is still hope! Despite Mother Nature, with the help of our sponsors, trail pass purchases and volunteers, the trails have been cleared from Hurricane Fiona and our groomers have been out attempting to establish a snow base. Hikers have appreciated the groomers packing the snow on the Pugwash Salt Express and we would like to express our sincere support to our local businesses that have sponsored our rally and individuals that have purchased our 50/50! Check out the Route Six Snowmobile Club Facebook page!

Greg Nix

It Takes a Village Newsletter

Published quarterly in March, June, September and December. The deadline for our next issue is **May 19th**.

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>

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

Northumberland Boating Association

Brrrr, it is still too cold to put your watercraft in the water, but our annual AGM and meeting will be held in late March. We will discuss needs for the club, safe boating practices, and plans for the Spring, Summer and Fall of 2023.

If you are interested in joining the group, contact the President, Mike Cunningham at 902 664 8424 or keep an eye on our Facebook page for events and information regarding our AGM.

The NBA promotes safe boating practices in River Phillip and the Pugwash River systems. A huge shout-out to our sign sponsors located at Chase's Marina, Brickyard Marina and the Pugwash Public Launch plus the record number of local boaters and supporters who purchased a member sticker located at the Pugwash Gas Station!!

Greg Nix

Non Emergency Police Contact

902.243.2181

The Pugwash RCMP Detachment is open most of the week. All telephone calls will be answered either locally or by dispatch. If you have something to report that is NOT an emergency, call this number and a file will likely be started.

For all emergencies, please call:

911

Village Tennis and Basketball Courts

The Commission is committed to keeping the courts available to residents and visitors alike. There is no fee to use the courts and they can be reserved using the Skedda booking form available on the village website.

There are no restrictions for use by players, bikes, skateboards or dog walkers but we do ask users to clean up after themselves and to be mindful not to disturb the surrounding neighbourhood.

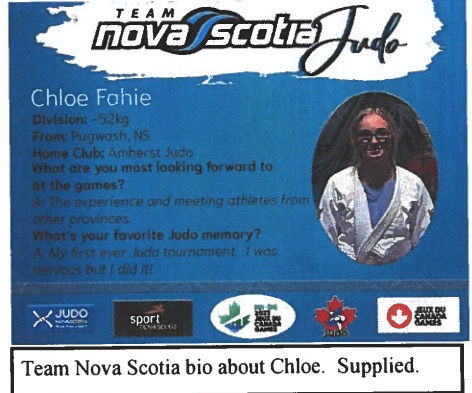
Please contact the Village office with any questions, to reserve court use or to report any problems at 902.243.2946 or villagecommission@pugwashvillage.com

Pugwash Student Youngest in Team Nova Scotia

A grade 9 at PDHS, Chloe Fahie's talent at judo was soon noticed by her local club in Amherst. With intensive additional training in Halifax, she qualified for the 2023 Canada Winter Games in Prince Edward Island where she competed for Nova Scotia as the youngest competitor in the whole team.

Chloe has also competed for the province in Manitoba and will soon compete in Boston, Maine and Quebec. Way to go, Chloe!

Staff



TEAM NOVA SCOTIA Judo
 Chloe Fahie
 Division: -52kg
 From: Pugwash, NS
 Home Club: Amherst Judo
 What are you most looking forward to at the games?
 A. The experience and meeting athletes from other provinces.
 What's your favorite Judo memory?
 A. My first ever Judo tournament. I was nervous but I did it!

JUDO sport Nova Scotia
 TEAM NOVA SCOTIA JUDO
 CANADA WINTER GAMES

Team Nova Scotia bio about Chloe. Supplied.



PUGWASH YACHT CLUB

We are pleased to have completed the requirements to submit our application to Department of Fisheries and Oceans for regulatory approval. This brings us closer to the final stage of acquiring permission to expand our facilities.

There will be extra work this spring at Bill Mundle Marina, repairing damage caused by Fiona. Thankfully, the repairs are manageable.

We were saddened by the recent passing of our benefactor, Bill Mundle (pictured left). Bill was the first Commodore of PWYC. We will continue to uphold the vision he maintained for 40 years.

Debbie Cameron, Commodore

Cribbage & Conversation

Join us for a Fun Evening
 Wednesday Nights at 7PM
 October - May
 Wesley St. Matthews Church Hall
 14 Church Street, Pugwash
 \$5/person. Snacks. Single players welcome

Booking Form

Book your space at the Village Hall, tennis or basketball courts, Eaton Park or the Pugwash Harbourfront Centre.

The system is free to use. Village properties are free to use to non-profit organizations. Some restrictions may apply.

Look for the Skedda button on the front page of the Village website at pugwashvillage.com



NCCC Facility Free to Use by Non Profits

When the founding group for North Cumberland Community Curling Club (NCCC) made plans to build a Curling Facility in Pugwash, part of the *Memorandum of Understanding* signed between NCCC and Municipal council stated that NCCC would offer free services to not-for-profit organizations in the community.

As good corporate citizens, we continue to honor this commitment. If your Association meets this criterion, and needs somewhere to meet, please check us out. Listed below are some of the groups who make use our building;

- North Cumberland Hospital Foundation*
- HarbourFest, ATV Club*
- Sunset Adult Residential Centre*
- Tai Chi, Friends of the Pugwash Estuary*
- Pugwash Farmers' Market*
- Route 6 Snowmobile Club*
- Nova Scotia Health*
- Dance & Exercise Classes*
- Municipality of Cumberland*

We offer free Little Rock and free Junior programs to our school-age population. Our *Learn To Curl Program* has seen significant growth in recent years.

NCCC is also available for rentals and has been the site of fund-raisers, weddings,

dances, anniversary, and birthday celebrations. Prior to removing the ice at the end of the Curling season, we've hosted free skating.

The facility is a vibrant part of our community and draws curlers from miles around. In fact, it has factored into some newcomers' decision to move here. Between the curling club and the golf courses in the vicinity, we boast some of the best recreation in NS.



Debbie Pike

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

Phone: 902 661 2288
Fax: 902 661 0114
e-mail: Elizabeth.Smith-McCrossin@novascotia.ca
esmithmccrossinmla.com

MP for Cumberland Colchester
Stephen Ellis
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 17th
May 8th
June 12th

Annual General Meeting

Thursday, May 25th
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 2023

Saturday, June 3rd 9am to 7pm
Two vacancies

Nomination papers will be available May 10th. Complete nomination papers must be delivered to the Village Clerk Treasurer by 4:30pm, Wednesday, May 24th. 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



Lapel pin \$2



Gathering of the Clans shirt \$20

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



Village-of-Pugwash