



Volume 9 No. 1



Newsletter

March 2015

Warden's Message

Recently, the Province of Nova Scotia released the financial conditions indicators for all municipalities in Nova Scotia (check out www.munargyle.com for a link). The indicators are a summary of key financial indicators as selected by the Province.

Argyle's results are strong. Our residential tax burden is lower than average rural Nova Scotia municipalities, and we are also appropriately planning for future commitments. At the same time, we have supported millions of dollars of investments in our communities, including sewer in Pubnico and Tusket, Water in East Pubnico, landfill operations (South Ohio), medical clinic construction (Argyle/Pubnico Head), improvements to Glenwood Park, building expansion at the Quinan Fire Department, as well as thousands invested each year in each of our community halls, and major festivals, which are essential for our communities. I could go on. This is due to our aggressive approach to partner with our Provincial and Federal governments, for without their funding, these larger projects would not have occurred.

We are also strong because of our municipal partnerships. We share many services with our neighbors in Yarmouth County, and beyond. We share one third in the costs of construction and operation of 2 medical clinics in Yarmouth County. We are a partner in ensuring that essential flight services continue at the Yarmouth Airport, we share staff in land use planning... all these services (and more) are shared to ensure that the burden of cost is shared amongst all residents that use them. Recently, we signed an agreement to generate municipal revenues through wind energy. The 3 municipal units plan to erect 2 mini-turbines (50kw) to generate revenues to protect the affordability of property taxes for future years.

The benefits of shared service include a shared financial responsibility for services that matter most, without sacrificing our unique cultural and community identity that is Argyle!

Thanks for reading!

Warden Aldric d'Entremont

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Council Sets Top Priorities

Here is a summary of Council's top priorities it wishes to see completed in the next 14 months.

Renewal of Recreation infrastructure – Council has instructed staff to focus energy and funding in renewing our current baseball, tennis, soccer and track and field locations. During the current year, Argyle plans to complete needed repairs on the Wedgeport and West Pubnico tennis courts, and assist Ecole Belleville in the new construction of a multipurpose court. Furthermore, the Tusket, Wedgeport and Lower West Pubnico baseball fields will see continued improvements. Finally, planning will continue for a potential alternative use for the former ball field in East Pubnico.

Renewal of community halls – Council shall continue its financial support of community halls, through financial support via grants to their organization, or to assist in applying for grants from other levels of government.

Potential Development in Aquaculture – Our Community Development Officer, CAO and representatives of the Western Regional Enterprise Network will be doing the necessary preparatory work, including identification of suitable sites, education on the types of aquaculture opportunities, etc. We are already home to aquaculture of Trout and Oyster, and we will engage our local experts and residents along the way. Two of our strategic goals speak to the need to influence economic development in our area, and to retain and grow the population, with a focus of bringing back our youth to the community. Our youth need to see economic opportunity to stay, and Council sees Aquaculture as a potential growth opportunity.

Cell phone and internet service – There are still pockets of our Municipality with literally no cell phone service, and very little internet service. With many services now requiring online registrations etc., this lack of appropriate service is unacceptable to communities. Municipal staff already made contact with the service providers in the efforts to improve both services. Our efforts continue.

New building – Eel Brook Fire Department – Council recognizes the need for a new building for the Eel Brook Fire Department. Our Council is committed in assigning staff or other resources to confirm suitable design, location, partnerships and funding to assist the Fire Department in their efforts.

The Municipality has other initiatives underway, including long term capital projects, and offers financial support of its community non-profit organizations, not just community halls! For more information, please visit our website at www.munargyle.com or request additional information via email at admin@munargyle.com or our administration department at (902)648-3293.

Did you know...

- ◆ Council meetings are open to the public and are held the second and last Tuesday of each month - meetings typically begin at 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ All individuals or groups requesting an opportunity to make a presentation to Council must contact the CAO's office at 902-648-3293 at least two weeks prior in order to be added to the Council meeting agenda.
- ◆ Council meeting agendas are ready for distribution (on the Municipal website - www.munargyle.com/council-meeting-archive.html or pick-up in person) on the Friday prior to each meeting.

Night Skies in Argyle

A Free Astronomy Course will be offered this spring. Being the first Starlight Reserve in North America could provide an economic boost to our area.



We need trained tourist guides to help run dark sky related activities.

Stay tuned for more details or contact Charlene LeBlanc at (902)648-2623

ATTENTION COMMUNITY GROUPS!

**Municipality of Argyle:
Grants to Organizations
Deadline to submit grant applications is April 15th, 2015**

The aim of the *Grants to Organizations Program* is to provide modest levels of support and assistance to community non-profit organizations whose projects make the Municipality of Argyle a great place to live.

Applications are available on our website:

munargyle.com/grants-to-organizations.html as well as at the Argyle Municipal Office.

For information phone (902) 648-3293 or email cfrotten@munargyle.com

Argyle Municipal Office Holiday Closures:

Please be advised that the Municipal Office and Archives will be closed for the following holidays:

Friday, April 3 Good Friday
Mon. April 6 Easter Monday
Mon. May 18 Victoria Day

ARGYLE RECREATION DEPARTMENT - SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

The Argyle Recreation Department is looking to hire summer students for office positions (Physical Activity Sports Coordinator, Senior/Youth Leadership Coordinator and Office Administrative Assistant), Day Camp positions (Day Camp Directors and Day Camp Counselors) and a Soccer Club Coordinator for the Argyle Minor Soccer Club.

The deadline to apply for these positions is April 10, 2015.

Students interested in applying for any of these positions can do so by forwarding a cover letter and résumé to:

Argyle Recreation Department

27 Court House Road
Tusket, NS B0W 3M0

By email gdentremont@munargyle.com

Fax (902) 648-0367



Job descriptions will be available on our website at: munargyle.com/employment.html

For more information, please phone (902) 648-3379.

Residential Property Tax Exemption

The Municipality of Argyle provides a property tax exemption for low income earners who are residents of the Municipality.

The exemption limits set by the Municipality of Argyle for the 2015 tax year are as follows:

Tax Exemption	Income
\$200	\$0-\$17,100
\$150	\$17,101-\$22,560



The income column noted above is the gross household income of all residents living in the homestead. Applications are available on our website at: www.munargyle.com/property-tax-exemption.html or at the Municipal Office.

For more information, please contact the Tax Department at 902-648-2311.

Deadline to apply is May 8th, 2015.

SEA FARMING: DID YOU KNOW...

Municipal staff joined Nolan d'Eon and Sherman d'Entremont at the Sea Farmers Conference held in Halifax on January 28-30, 2015. It was a great learning experience, and an opportunity to see, and be proud of, the aquaculture businesses already in Argyle. Here is some of what we learned!

The world now farms more fish than cattle, to meet the growing need for heart healthy protein. Currently, one half of the fish consumed is farm raised, and our current fish stocks cannot meet the growing world demand for fish.

Aquaculture is a growing industry, and currently contributes \$54 million to Nova Scotia's economy every year – and yes Eel Lake Oyster farm is included!

The Ivany Report recommends that Nova Scotia double its export of seafood, which would require growth in the Aquaculture, or Sea Farming Industry.

Our waters in Argyle are generally warm, have good currents and are full of nutrients that may be suitable for aquaculture development for products such as mussels, oysters, sea scallops and salmon. The technology in aquaculture development is changing and improving all the time, making sea farming more sustainable and environmentally conscious, and not to mention healthier fish!

Do you want to learn more on how Sea Farming can add prosperity to our region? We certainly do! And we want to hear from you. Check our blog at www.argylefarmsfish.blogspot.com or our website at www.munargyle.com/seafarming



Business Spotlight: *The Hatfield House Restaurant & Culinary Experiences*

A breath-taking view of the Tusket River; elegantly restored historical property; delectable culinary delights; friendly and attentive staff; quaint ambiance; a feeling, as though transcending time... This describes the unique dining experience you can expect at “The Hatfield House” Restaurant. Proprietor, Laura Muise fell in love with the property the first time she saw it, and knew “this was it!” and wanted to do something special there. Laura has accomplished just that! She purchased the property in 2013, proceeded with major renovations, restoring it to its original splendor, and opened the trendy restaurant mid-July 2014. The fully-licensed restaurant has two dining rooms, as well as a covered verandah, seating up to 45 guests. The restaurant specializes in fresh local seafood, salads, filet mignon, along with local foods when available. They also offer homemade desserts and local wines. Laura works closely with kitchen manager, Mike Leblanc, along with eight other employees, to bring this casual fine dining alive.



Throughout her life, Laura has always had a love of hospitality and the food industry. Her first job was as a dishwasher at Braemar Lodge. In her 20s, she owned one of the first businesses to introduce frozen yogurt to retail customers. After raising two daughters, Laura went back to the restaurant business, and then became the general manager for Rudder’s Seafood Restaurant and Brewery Pub in Yarmouth. A decade later, she stepped down from the busy but rewarding position to dedicate more time to her family and personal hobbies. She now pursues innovative cooking, presentation, culinary photography and food writing. Her blog site called *Laura’s Tastes* captions her culinary adventures and Nova Scotia food specialities. Laura also hosts “Culinary Experiences”. She invites regional cooks/chefs to host these culinary experiences at Hatfield House, sharing culinary traditions, culture and lifestyle of Yarmouth and Acadian Shores, specializing in a hands-on approach with local dishes, sourcing locally available ingredients.



The restaurant is proud to be a member of *Taste of Nova Scotia*. *The Hatfield House* is open seasonally, from May to end of December. They are now taking reservations for Mother’s Day. For more information, please contact: 902-648-1888. The restaurant is located at 8132 Highway 3, Tusket. (Parking in the back).

Also, for information on restaurant hours, menu, culinary experiences, as well as beautiful photos of the dishes, check out their website: www.thehatfieldhouse.ca and Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/thehatfieldhouseculinaryexperiences>

Growing Communities Scholarship

The Municipality will be awarding two \$1,000 scholarships. One to a graduating student at École secondaire de Par-en-Bas and one to a graduating student at Drumlin Heights Consolidated School. The students must be enrolled in a full-time certificate or degree program at an accredited community or technical college or trade school.

Information and application are found on our Facebook page as well as on our website at munargyle.com/growing-communities-scholarship-fund.html or at school guidance offices.

Deadline to apply is May 1st, 2015.

Contact Charlene LeBlanc at 902-648-2623 or by email at cleblanc@munargyle.com



Municipality of the District of Argyle - Spring 2015 Special Garbage Collection

Special garbage collection in the Municipality of Argyle will be carried out as follows (a different day than regularly scheduled garbage pickup):

- Thursday, May 14:** East Pubnico, Argyle, Old School Road, Robert’s Island, Glenwood, Lower Eel Brook, Sainte-Anne-du-Ruisseau, Rocco Point, stop at SAR Church.
- Friday, May 15:** Begin at SAR Church, Abram’s River, Hubbard’s Point, Amirault’s Hill, Sluice Point, Surette’s Island, Morris Island, including section of Highway 3 between Frank Doucette Road and Hanging Oak, stop at Hanging Oak.
- Saturday, May 16:** Lower West Pubnico, Middle West Pubnico, West Pubnico, Pubnico, Pubnico Head, including side roads in the area, Argyle Sound Road, Green Grove Road, section of Highway #3 between Argyle Sound Road and Intersection of #335 to Paul d’Entremont Marine.
- Thursday, May 21:** Wedgeport, Plymouth and Black Pond Road.
- Friday, May 22:** Comeau’s Hill, Little River Harbour, Melbourne, Pleasant Lake, Gavel Road, East Kemptville, Tusket and Lake Vaughan Road.
- Saturday, May 23:** Chemin des Bourque, Eel Lake Road, Belleville, Bell Neck, Springhaven, Quinan.

Roadside collection shall be set out no earlier than seven (7) days prior to the special collection. Please have items out the day of your scheduled pickup before 7 a.m. Construction and demolition debris will not be picked up during this special cleanup. A list of eligible items for this special collection can be found on the Municipal website or by contacting Property Inspection and Public Works at 902-648-2623.

Open Mic, Tasty Food and more at the Club Social des Îles

The Club Social des Îles, Surettes Island, would like to invite everyone to attend their monthly open mic and food event which takes place on the second Friday of every month. The next event is planned for Friday, March 13th. Our doors open at NOON, and we serve food, both eat-in and takeout until 9pm (and sometimes later!). The Open Mic starts at 7pm, and is open to any interested musicians.



Come enjoy our famous homemade pizzas, Club-made donair meat, delicious Caesar salads and even more. The volunteers have a strong desire to create a vibrant and active Club, and these fundraisers are critical to our success and have supported investments in some needed upgrades, including new heat pumps!

Make sure to check out our Facebook Page, or give us a call to learn about what other activities are taking place at the Club! If you'd like to contact the Club to learn more about our Open Mic and Food events, or if you'd like to ask about using the Club space for your own event, please don't hesitate to contact us.



You can email us at Clubsocialdesiles@gmail.com, or call us at (902) 648-2269, or at (902)648-0333. Of course, we can also be found on Facebook (www.facebook.com/clubsocialdesiles).

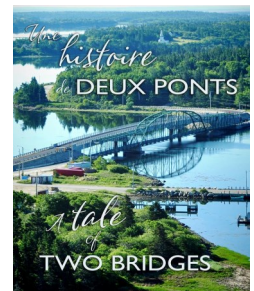
A Tale of Two Bridges

Summer 2014 was an exciting time in the communities surrounding the waters of the Indian Sluice. The 105 year old bridge spanning those waters and joining the communities of Morris Island and Surettes Island to the mainland was replaced with a beautiful new concrete and steel structure. In an attempt to capture the stories and history surrounding the lifetime of our old bridge, and the important stories of community activism which brought us the new bridge, a small group came together to put together a book telling these stories.

"A Tale of Two Bridges" is a full-colour, bilingual, 58 page book which tells the stories of both the old Indian Sluice Bridge, and its more modern replacement. With richly detailed stories telling us of how the old bridge came to get its name, the history behind its construction, and other local tales "A Tale of Two Bridges" is both an entertaining and enlightening read for anyone interested in the history of our area.

The book also talks of more recent activities, including local lobbying efforts to have our ageing bridge replaced, and also illustrates the incredible amount of community spirit surrounding this historic piece of infrastructure through beautiful images of the various celebrations which taken place on both the old and new structure. For those with an interest in the 'nuts and bolts' of how our new bridge was constructed, "A Tale of Two Bridges" is a publication of the "2014 Bridge Celebrations Committee", with 100% of funds raised by the sale of the book going back to the community.

The book is available for purchase for \$40 at the following locations:
Tusket Ultra Mart; Argyle Archives and Museum Gift Shop "The Cell" (in Tusket);
Carl's Store, Tusket; La Shoppe a Carl, Wedgeport; Le Courier, Meteghan.
Please contact Corey Clamp (902) 648-0333 for any further details.



Request from our Firefighters



Based on recent experiences, our volunteer firefighters have experienced difficulty accessing certain properties. Many properties have trees that have grown into their private driveways. While regularly sized vehicles can still enter their driveway, often the fire trucks cannot. Our Fire Departments urge residents to please clear away this over growth for your own safety and protection.

**If you have any questions, please contact your local fire department,
or the Municipality directly at 902-648-3293. Be safe!**

Municipality of Argyle

27 Courthouse Road
PO Box 10

Tusket, Nova Scotia B0W 3M0
Fax : 902-648-0367

Website: www.munargyle.com

Municipal Office

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Community Development - 902-648-2623
EMO (Emergency Measures Office) - 902-648-2314
Finance & Administration - 902-648-3293
Municipal Archives - 902-648-2493
Property Inspection & Public Works - 902-648-2623
Recreation & IT - 902-648-3379
Taxation - 902-648-2311

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? Email us at newsletter@munargyle.com