

# Municipality of the District of Argyle

## Fall 2019 Newsletter

### Volume 13 - No. 1



*A place we are  
proud to call home!*

## FROM WARDEN TO WARDEN

Since our last Newsletter, the Municipality has had a transition from Warden Richard Donaldson to Warden Danny Muise. What a great opportunity to talk about the role of a Warden for a municipality.

The Warden is chosen amongst his/her peer elected officials. (S)he has no more authority than the other councilors around the table, and votes on every decision just like other councilors. The role of a Warden is almost identical to that of a Mayor, except a Mayor is chosen by the voters directly, not by other councilors.

The Warden is expected to speak on behalf of Council on political decisions. (S)he represents the voice of the majority of Council and can be found speaking to media and to the public. The CAO is the administrative voice of the Municipality on matters non-political. Together, they represent who generally speaks for the organization. Social media and other announcements are made by a broader group to further inform our residents.

The role also includes chairing meetings of Council. Our Council has taken the practice of sharing that role with the Deputy Warden (Guy Surette), who typically chairs the committee meeting of Council. The role of the chair is to keep the discussion on topic, and respectful. It is also to help the group move decisions along in an orderly fashion.

While the Warden is on equal footing with other councilors, (s)he is often asked to meet with other Wardens and Mayors, and to participate in more regional and provincial matters. The Warden works closest with the CAO on administrative topics and is often the most informed on municipal matters due to his/her involvement in many discussions at many levels. The expectation to be informed on municipal matters is higher on the Warden because of the obligations of the position.

We would like to congratulate Danny on his appointment, and sincerely thank Richard for his contribution.

## 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 PM.
- ◆ All Council meetings are now available for viewing online: [www.youtube.com/munargyle/](http://www.youtube.com/munargyle/)
- ◆ 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: <http://www.munargyle.com/en/council-agendas/> or pick-up in person on the Friday prior to each meeting.

## ARGYLE MUNICIPAL OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURES

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

November 11<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day  
Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> at Noon to Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> Christmas Holiday

## "this issue"

P2  
Experience  
of Argyle

P3  
Council's  
Corner

P4  
*Congrès mondial  
acadien*

[www.munargyle.com](http://www.munargyle.com)

# BUSINESS PROFILE

## ANCHORED GROUNDS 4106 highway 308 Tusket, Nova Scotia B0W 3M0 (902) 648-3297



Congratulations to Anchored Grounds as they quickly approach their one-year anniversary! Owners, Faith and Jonathan

Rhyno, have poured their hearts and souls into their new business to create an establishment that is warm and welcoming, family-friendly, offering quality organic coffee and locally sourced food to (in their words) *fuel minds, souls and hungry bellies!*

A welcome addition to Tusket, Anchored Grounds offers a wide

range of delicious hot (and cold) beverages, such as Exit 33 medium roast coffee (their most popular beverage), as well as fancy lattes, herbal teas, or a good cup of orange pekoe tea. They have a full breakfast menu and have since added lunch and dinner options as well. The coffee shop/restaurant features modern but cozy décor, delicious pastries and meal options, all made from scratch, using locally-sourced ingredients whenever possible. They are pleased to advise that they are also now fully licensed.

Anchored Grounds often hosts events during evenings, such as live music, trivia night, painting or writing workshops, etc. There are also board

games provided for family fun, any time of day, and cozy nooks throughout the restaurant, including sofas by the fireplace.

Faith and Jonathan have hired many staff members over the past year, and are proud of their core team of 4, who have been with them since they opened. They advised that there are employment opportunities at the café and they also hire students.

Anchored Grounds is open 7 days a week. Check out their Facebook page for information on their hours, menu / specials, upcoming events, as well as to see photos of the delicious food they offer.

## EXPERIENCE OF ARGYLE

### Tickets are now available!

The fifth edition of Experience of Argyle will take place Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at the "Centre scolaire communautaire de Par-en-Bas," 4258 Highway 308, Tusket, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The organizing committee is in full swing putting together a great evening of local music and food.

This semi-formal event celebrates the Municipality of Argyle's accomplishments throughout the year, recognizes the great work of its residents and highlights momentous events.

**The event is divided into two main parts: a "Showcase of Argyle" and a "Taste of Argyle."**

The "Showcase of Argyle" will highlight local talent in a variety of performances, including music, and will feature two guest speakers, Miguel d'Eon, owner of Saltwreck, and Sandra Phinney. The

master of ceremonies will be West Nova MP, Chris d'Entremont.

The "Taste of Argyle" will give an opportunity for guests to sample award winning cuisine from local restaurants!

Tickets for the event are \$10 and can be purchased at: Tusket Ford, Carl's Store, Shoppe à Carl, the Argyle Municipal Office in Tusket, at Coastal Financial Credit Union branches in Wedgeport, West Pubnico or Tusket, and at the door.

**ONLY 300 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD.**

As in past years, all of the proceeds raised will benefit the **Argyle Emergency Aid Fund** which provides up to \$400 to assist residents who experience an emergency situation and which requires immediate action.



We are happy to announce that one of our guest speakers this year will be local author Sandra Phinney!

## COUNCIL'S CORNER:

FOLLOWING ARE UPDATES ON FOUR OF THE MAJOR PROJECTS THAT COUNCIL AND STAFF ARE CURRENTLY WORKING ON.

### Municipal Administrative Building

Council is committed to the construction of a new administrative building located in Tusket. This year, Council is committed to the following: Construction of a public road in anticipation of a new building, a full update to our residents regarding the project and the new, more affordable building, and finally, tendering the work in January of 2020. Our anticipated construction would start in March of 2020, with completion in June of 2021.

### Construction of a new Fire Station – Eel Brook

Municipal Council has approved a major contribution to Eel Brook Volunteer Fire Department's efforts to construct a new fire station. We will be contributing \$100,000 this year and another \$100,000 next year to support this important project. This construction will consider emergency measures' needs, including water shortages, and power outages, in its construction.

### Mariners Center Expansion

Our residents have expressed a large support for the expansion of our regional recreation facility, with the potential of having an aquatic center and potentially other recreational services co-located on Jody Shelley Drive. We, along with our regional municipal partners, the Town and Municipality of Yarmouth, are committed to a shared new vision for the Mariners Center. That application has been submitted, and we will be working closely with the community and provincial and federal levels of government to ensure that these vital recreational services are available to our residents.



**Sainte-Anne-du-Ruisseau Church**

Photo submitted by Denise Babin

## PHOTO CORNER:

***Let's showcase our beautiful Municipality!***

Do you have any photos taken in the Municipality of Argyle, that you would like to share with our readers?

Please submit your photo, along with caption information and photo credit to: [newsletter@munargyle.com](mailto:newsletter@munargyle.com).

### Affordable and Alternative Housing

Our Council is aware that housing needs are changing. More residents want an alternative to their current housing arrangements for a variety of reasons. That is why our Council has committed to extending a Public Road in Tusket to an underutilized section of land that we own, with the idea of encouraging alternative/affordable housing pocket community in the area. Council supports the ongoing work of our staff to secure other locations for these types of investment. Our land use bylaw and municipal planning strategies both must be modernized if we are to be successful in this area.

## “CONGRÈS MONDIAL ACADIEN” (CMA)

The *Congrès Mondial Acadien* (CMA), a momentous gathering of Acadians from around the world, is coming to us from August 10 to 18, 2024. This event will be organized in partnership with the Municipality of Clare. We are very fortunate to host this Acadian celebration which is only held every 5 years. This is a special opportunity to welcome the world to see how we live here in Argyle as Acadians in one of, if not the oldest, Acadian regions in the world.

The activities and celebrations of Acadian pride during the CMA 2024, will be surrounded by music, arts, Acadian history, and remarkable family reunions. We will celebrate culture, our heritage and many culinary delights will definitely be served! This Congress will have economic benefits for our communities, above all this monumental event is for you, a time to revitalise our pride, celebrate the roots of our heritage and share it with our new found friends, the Acadians worldwide. We cannot wait to start planning activities.

Write down the dates of the CMA and share the information with your relatives who live outside the region to plan to be here during the *Congrès Mondial Acadien* 2024. For more information, updates and learning how you can help with planning, please visit <https://www.cma2024.ca/>.



### COMMUNITY NEWS: DALHOUSIE'S MANAGEMENT WITHOUT BORDERS

#### PROJECT: EXAMINING THE POTENTIAL OF OYSTER SHELLS TO PRETREAT DISTILLERY WASTEWATER

A project idea submitted by the Municipality of Argyle has been accepted for the fifth year in a row!

The purpose of the project is to find alternate and environmentally friendly ways to pre-treat wastewater from a distillery before it enters the wastewater treatment site in West Pubnico.

From the master's students who voted to work on the project, six were chosen. On November 25<sup>th</sup>, at a poster conference at Dalhousie University, they will be presenting the final report.

For further information please contact: Charlene LeBlanc  
902-648-2623 or  
[cleblanc@munargyle.com](mailto:cleblanc@munargyle.com)

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SENIORS

#### 2019 PROPERTY TAX REBATE

Applications for the 2019 Property Tax rebate for seniors are available at the Municipal Office.

The deadline to apply for this rebate is December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

This provincial program provides **eligible** seniors a 50% rebate off of their property taxes, up to a maximum of \$800.

FOR ELIGIBILITY AND OTHER  
INFORMATION, PLEASE PHONE  
TOLL FREE AT  
1-800-670-4357

### MUNICIPALITY OF ARGYLE

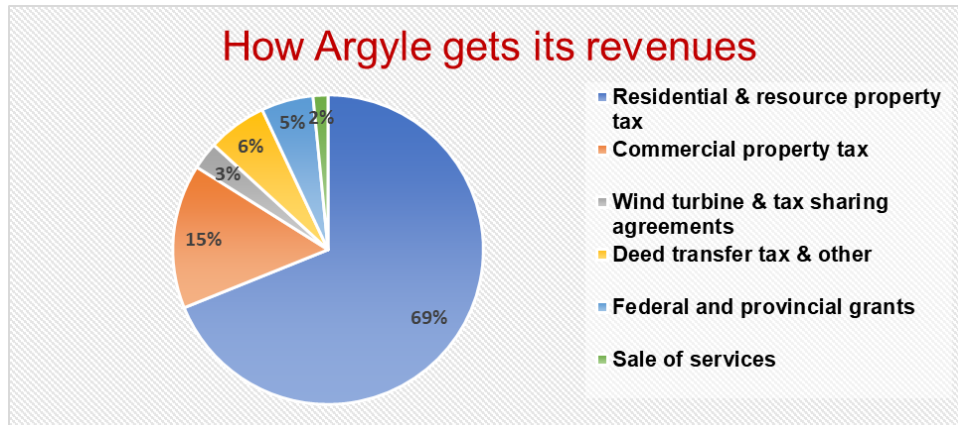
27 Courthouse Road  
PO Box 10  
Tusket, Nova Scotia B0W 3M0  
Fax: 902-648-0367



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: [NEWSLETTER@MUNARGYLE.COM](mailto:NEWSLETTER@MUNARGYLE.COM)



**How Argyle spends money - based on \$1,000 tax bill**

	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>
Education	\$ 215	\$ 213
Police and correctional services	138	133
Waste collection & disposal	96	97
Administration, finance & IT services	105	108
Public Works, Planning & zoning and housing	72	72
Grants and rebates to non-profit organizations	57	60
Fire protection & emergency management	52	63
Recreation, senior and active living	53	55
Property assessment and tax	40	40
Airport, roads & public transportation	39	34
Economic & community development	32	27
Courthouse, archives and library services	33	33
Legislative and council	35	35
Future capital commitments	20	18
Doctor recruitment & medical centers	13	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,000 \$</b>

**Of the \$1,000 listed above, \$392 (\$399 in 2018-19) is paid directly to the Province of Nova Scotia as mandated by law.**



## What else is cooking in the Municipality?

### Here's a snapshot of other projects in our community:

#### Fire Protection

The Municipal Council is supporting smaller fire departments more than ever before! Recent purchases of a fire truck in Quinan and a rescue vehicle in East Kemptonville received municipal funding. The purchase of these vehicles cannot be fully supported by local area rates. Council understood the financial issues faced by those volunteer fire departments and has supported a multi-year grant of \$25,000 and \$15,000 per year to ensure residents in these communities continue to be protected.

#### Community Navigator – Doctor Recruitment

Thanks to a regional effort, led primarily by the Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce, Argyle has funded a new position for the region. The Community Navigator position seeks to connect doctors to this community and is focused on Yarmouth County and Barrington to secure new physicians for the area. Our Navigator, Rebecca Cassidy Rose, has already made tremendous advances, and we are pleased to support an initiative that brings, and potentially retains, physicians in this region, either family doctors or specialists. Having adequate health care is key to a healthy and sustainable community.

#### Improvements to our Land Use Planning

Argyle is home to a growing interest in investment, from alternative housing to a new distillery. Our land use documents are not keeping up with the changing times. Council is committed to the modernization of our land use documents and have hired WSP to lead the way. Stay tuned for announcements of our progress, and you may see our consultants in some of our most popular hot spots asking our residents what is important to them now and into the future.

#### Regional Emergency Management Organization

With climate change already showing impacts in our region, it is more important than ever to work regionally to ensure all our residents are protected and informed on climate risks that could hit our region, including but not limited to hurricanes, flooding and drought. That is why Council recently approved a regional agreement where the emergency management would be County wide. The costs will be shared with the Municipality and Town of Yarmouth. Our supporting organizations such as the RCMP and Community Services have recommended this change to improve and coordinate services.

#### Solar Power!

The Municipality, using its annual Federal Gas Tax funding (we receive \$350,000 per year), has purchased and is installing solar panels in West Pubnico and soon in Wedgeport. The locations are either owned or supported by the Municipality. The solar panels in West Pubnico have been installed at our sewer treatment plant on Rock Road, and on the West Pubnico Volunteer Fire Department, and will be connected to the grid in November 2019! The Wedgeport and District Volunteer Fire Department will be home to our next installation. Using Federal grants, we will be selling solar energy to NS Power for a 20-year period, with the revenues coming directly to the Municipality to aid us in offsetting the cost of service delivery.

