



Fall 2015
News letter

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Municipality of Shelburne



@shelburnemuni

WARDEN'S MESSAGE

On behalf of Council, it is a pleasure for me to bring greetings to you and provide some commentary on issues affecting the Municipality.

The most challenging issue for Council has been doing everything that we can to ensure the delivery of local health care services. Having a modern collaborative clinic is one of the most important features to attract doctors to our area, yet we continue to be frustrated by the slow pace of Provincial government. It has been reported in the news that an announcement on a new clinic is imminent, yet we are still waiting. The Minister of Health has committed to the clinic, so we have no choice but to wait for him to deliver on his promise. I would like to recognize and thank all of our local citizens who have taken some action to push for improved health care services for our community. I am committed to doing what it takes to get this matter resolved. I feel confident that I can rely on our citizens to support this ongoing initiative.

On a positive note, the climate data study that the Municipality is supporting has revealed that this area has a suitable climate for growing a wide variety of fruit; such as, apricots, grapes, haskap berries, etc. This presents an economic opportunity for our area and the Municipality is considering how it can be promoted.

The Municipality held public meetings in the spring to update our sustainability plans for the next five years and report on what has been accomplished over the previous five years. I would like to thank those residents who showed an interest and took the time to assist with this process. The Municipality of Shelburne is very progressive and I get a lot of positive feedback from people outside our community who recognize what is being done here. I previously mentioned how the Municipality was presented a Provincial Climate Change Leader award.

Warden's Message continued on page 4...

WE'RE AN ATTRACTIVE AREA

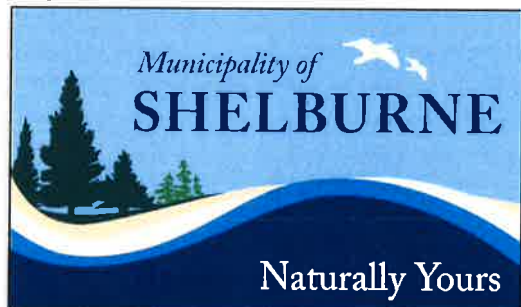
Let's get noticed...

Community Identification Signs

The Municipality is pleased to unveil its new Community Identification Road Sign, which will be installed at two locations on Highway 103; near Granite Village and Clyde River.

The Municipality is a natural place to live, work and play and is known for its pristine, unspoiled beauty.

The shades of blue represent our clear skies and clean waters, where our family and friends make their living as well as enjoy first class leisure activities. The greens represent our forests and symbolize the growth and vitality in all that the Municipality offers. The "Naturally Yours" tagline is welcoming and depicts the quality of life enjoyed by our residents and offered to the world.



Shelburne Industrial Park

We are currently working on the final details so we can start marketing the Shelburne Industrial Park to new businesses and industries. We see the Park evolving into an industrial hub for the area, benefiting our residents and boosting our local economy.

When it comes to new businesses in Shelburne, we're all about making it happen. That's why people looking to start one here will love the way we answer their important questions.



New Website

We are working on a new website that better represents our Municipality as a place to live, do business and to visit. This updated website will be easy to navigate and contain all the information our residents, visitors and potential businesses need to know about our area.

The new website launch date is **October 1, 2015**. Check it out at www.municipalityofshelburne.ca.

Will your community get behind business? **ABSOLUTELY**
Can I find skilled people there, with a "let's get it done" attitude? **NO PROBLEM**
Does Shelburne hate red tape as much as I do? **YOU BETCHA**
Can I afford the start up costs in the area? **SURE THING**
Can I get a house by the water that won't drown my bottom line? **YOU CAN**
I'm in the ocean's sector, you got me covered? **AYE-AYE CAPTAIN**
Do you have ready to go ocean-side industrial lots? **CHECK**
Are the tax rates high? **SORRY, IT'S A NO ON THAT ONE**

SHELBURNE - WE'RE A MAKE IT HAPPEN PLACE

2015 Fall Tax Bill

The final billing for 2015 will be sent out the first part of September, with a due date of **October 31, 2015**. Total amounts billed must be paid by the due date to avoid interest charges. Please look under the finance section of our website for information on payment options and other finance related information.

Not Receiving Your Tax Bill?

It is very important that your property tax bill(s) show the correct mailing address or it may not be delivered. It is the responsibility of the property owner to ensure we have the correct mailing address on file for all of their properties in the Municipality. If you need help determining your correct mailing address, please contact your postal carrier (Canada Post, US Postal Service or Deutsche Post).

2016 Tax Sale

The tentative date for the 2016 tax sale is **Tuesday, March 8, 2016** at 10:00 am at 136 Hammond Street, Shelburne, NS. If you have any questions or concerns regarding tax sale proceedings, please contact Janice MacKinley, Tax Clerk at 902-875-3544 ext. 222 or email infoofficer@municipalityofshelburne.ca

PROVINCIAL SERVICES

Each year, the Municipality collects rates for provincial programs with your property tax by collecting the following money and forwarding it to the Province of Nova Scotia:

- Education \$1,151,465
- Police Protection \$653,958
- Regional Library \$29,400
- Public Prosecution \$2,213
- Corrections \$79,900
- Housing \$13,985
- Assessment Services \$140,467

Total **\$2,071,388**, representing **35%** of the total operating budget.

Ready for an Active Autumn?

SRHS COMMUNITY USE PROGRAMS

will resume on September 8th.

Drop-in evening sport programs include:

- Monday - Indoor Soccer
- Tuesday - Jr. Basketball
- Wednesday - Pickleball
- Thursday - Adult Basketball

For more programs, check out "Keep Moving" on Facebook.

SHELburne COUNTY ARENA will open in mid October and offers public skating times for both adults and children, pick-up hockey and ice rentals. The Municipal Recreation & Parks Department will again be offering the **Free of Cost Ice Time Program**. Residents can apply for free ice time for things like fundraisers or recreation activities. Several **Free Public Skating** sessions will also be offered throughout the season.

KID'S FAIR PLAY FUND

Tickets on a king size quilt are being sold until December 16th to raise money for the Kid's Fair Play FUND. They are \$2 each or 3/\$5. Please purchase tickets to assist children and youth in Shelburne County to access sport, recreation and cultural activities of their choice. If you would like to sell tickets, contact Marilyn Johnston @ 902-875-3544 ext. 225.

2015/16

Municipal Budget

Council has approved an operating and capital budget for 2015/16 where **residential and commercial tax rates will remain the same as last year.**

Major components of the budget include:

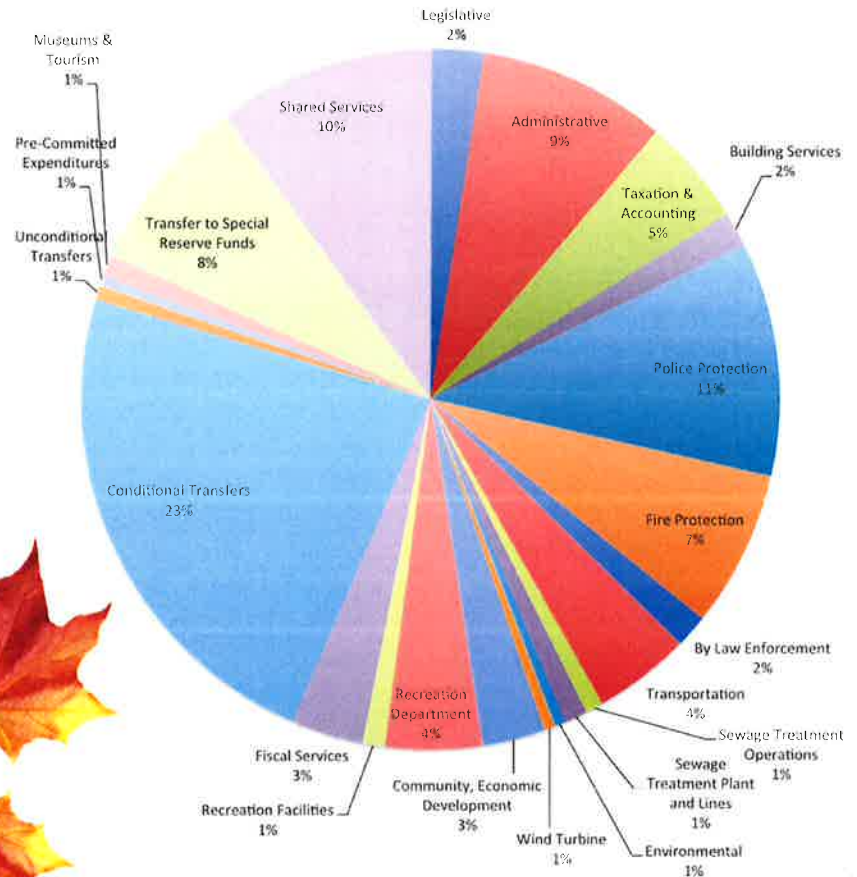
- Total Operating Budget set at \$6,013,411, an increase of \$109,707
- Residential tax rate set at \$1.26/\$100 of assessed value
- Commercial tax rate set at \$1.82/\$100 of assessed value

Council will invest in the following areas:

- Tourism and Museums \$57,640
- Economic Development \$100,000
- Physician Recruitment \$32,022
- Grants to Community Groups \$75,000
- Community Signage Project \$35,000

Total Capital Budget projects include:

- Initial stages of 800 KW Wind Turbine \$30,000
- Shelburne Medical Clinic \$450,000
- Shelburne Industrial Park \$185,213
- Satellite Emergency Office \$15,000



*Values rounded to the nearest percentage.

Solar Shelburne *Pilot Project*

The Municipality is considering a new program which would provide long term, low interest financing for Energy Efficiency upgrades, Solar Thermal and Solar Photovoltaic installations for homeowners in the Municipality through the property tax system, as permitted by the Nova Scotia Municipal Government Act. Preliminary details on this pilot project are as follows:

- Pilot project would be limited to 25 homes
- Eligible projects would include energy efficiency upgrades as identified by an Efficiency Nova Scotia home energy audit, Solar Thermal (Hot Water) and Solar Photovoltaic (Electricity)
- The following project cost limits would be imposed for each type of project
 - Energy Efficiency upgrades to a maximum of \$5,000 per home
 - Solar Thermal Installations to a maximum of \$8,000 per home
 - Solar Photovoltaic Installations to a maximum of \$15,000 per home
- Participants choosing the energy efficiency upgrades would need to submit a completed energy audit (by Efficiency Nova Scotia) and use an Efficiency Nova Scotia approved contractor
- Participants choosing either of the solar options would need to use a Municipally approved local installer
- Participants would agree to share information regarding current energy usage and energy usage / system performance after installation complete



Are you a homeowner interested in participating? Or a contractor interested in becoming an approved installer? Learn more about this exciting opportunity by joining us at our **Public Information Session on Thursday, October 29th** at the NSCC Shelburne Campus from **6:00 to 8:00 pm**.

Adapt NS

Adapting Nova Scotia (or "AdaptNS") is a **web mapping tool** designed to inform municipalities and residents in Shelburne County, of present and future potential coastal flood exposure due to climate change, and support municipal planning and decision-making. AdaptNS has **citizen participation** features to help understand where climate change adaptation should be prioritized and allows you to record local information on flooding and erosion.

Visit www.adaptns.ca for more information.

ICSP ACTION PLAN 2020

Check out the Sustainability section of our website for the updated Integrated Community Sustainability Action Plan for 2020. It will inform you of projects, initiatives and plans the Municipality has for the next five years.

ACTIVE ADVENTURE FOR GIRLS is a free after school program in which girls can sample a variety of recreation and physical activities. This fall, it is being offered at both SRHS and LRHS. It will start in late September and sessions will run once a week. Participants will have the opportunity to try a variety of activities that will include canoeing, kayaking, hiking, archery, skateboarding, sledge hockey and skating. The programs will be promoted in each of the high schools.

FALL SPORTS DAY is scheduled to take place **October 24th** at the Shelburne Regional High School utilizing the gym, outdoor courts and soccer field. Sports Day is an event that gives children, youth, parents and individuals of all abilities the chance to try a variety of sports. **OUTDOOR RECREATION ACTIVITIES** such as guided paddles and hikes are being planned for the fall and winter which may include canoeing, kayaking, trail hiking and snowshoeing.

Waste Reduction Week

October 19th - 29th

Check out the Waste Diversion Coordinator's Facebook page and share your waste reduction tips with us. Let everyone know what you are doing to help reduce your global footprint or ways you are reusing items to give them extended use.

Whether using recyclable grocery bags, taking your own mug to work or school, lunch kit ideas, reusable water bottle ideas or choosing to use compostable items instead of styrofoam - we'd like to hear them all!

Don't have Facebook? No worries! Email your waste reduction tips and we will add it to our page to be shared. What you may think is normal, could be a new idea for someone else. Contact Kim Ringer at 902-875-5336 or kringer@municipalityofshelburne.ca

Not All Recycling Goes In A Blue Bag

- Take your non-working/outdated electronics to the ACES drop-off location at the ENVIRO-DEPOT across from the Shelburne Mall. It is free to drop off your electronics; you have already paid the recycling fee when you bought the item.
- Used/broken cell phones can be taken back to any retailer or brought into the Municipal Office and put in the cell phone collection box in the main lobby.
- Instead of putting your bottles and cans in your blue bag, take the tops off, let them dry out and return them to your local ENVIRO-DEPOT in order to get back 5 of the 10 cents you already paid when it was purchased. This is a great way for children to make extra money.
- You can take up to four used tires (up to 24.5 inches) with rims removed to any tire retailer in Nova Scotia for recycling at no cost to you. RRFB will go to those locations and pick them up.

Household Hazardous Waste Depot

Our Household Hazardous Waste Depot is open on the **first and third Mondays of every month** (Tuesday if a holiday) and is located at 243 Sandy Point Road.

Acceptable items include:

Leftover corrosive cleaners, pesticides/herbicides, propane tanks, aerosol cans containing hazardous substances, used oil, antifreeze, paint, etc.

Unacceptable items include:

Ammunition, pharmaceuticals, biomedical waste, radioactives, etc.

THE SHELBURNE COUNTY 50+ EXPO will be held on **Saturday, September 12th** from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at the Shelburne Community Centre. The theme for the day is "Living Well".

The event will include information, workshop presentations, draw prizes, entertainment and lots more that is of interest to seniors and caregivers.

The Shelburne Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary will be operating a canteen service throughout the day. This will be a fun event - **Come and bring a friend!**

Interesting Info

The NS Department of Natural Resources is lifting the ban on **SUNDAY HUNTING** for the first two Sundays of general deer hunting season. This change will apply to all wildlife in season on those dates, except moose. In 2015, this means that Sunday hunting will be allowed on **November 1st and November 8th**.

HOME WARMING is offered by Clean Foundation and Efficiency NS and assists qualifying homeowners with improvements that can help them feel more comfortable in their home year-round, and reduce their heating and power bills.

Application forms and criteria are available online at www.HomeWarming.ca or by calling **1-877-434-2136**.

PIPING PLOVER UPDATE

Seven plover pairs nested on Municipal beaches. Unfortunately, only two pairs successfully raised young (at Roseway and Fox Bar). Other pairs lost their nests due to predators, flooding and one instance of human and dog disturbance. Big thanks to our volunteers, partners and beach goers who helped keep beaches safe for plovers and other wildlife.

Follow plover news on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ploverconservation, and email nsplovers@gmail.com if you're interested in helping out on a beach near you next season.

REMEMBRANCE DAY is

Wednesday, November 11th.

LEST WE FORGET

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK is October 4th -10th.

Did you know that roughly half of home fire deaths result from fires reported between 11:00 pm and 7:00 am, when most people are asleep?

Keep your family safe with a working smoke alarm in every bedroom.



GET INVOLVED

To nominate a successful entrepreneur for our next edition, please contact Erin Hartley, Strategic Projects Coordinator at 902-875-3544 ext. 226 or email ehartley@municipalityofshelburne.ca.

FINAL BUILDING INSPECTION

If you have a building permit or demolition permit, then it requires a final inspection, regardless of how big or small the project is. This ensures that all the health and safety requirements are met.

If you are constructing a new house or cottage, or you are doing major renovations to your existing home, your insurance and/or mortgage company may require a copy of your occupancy permit.

Future sale of your home or business may be delayed if proof of an occupancy permit is requested and there has not been one issued.

If you are not sure whether a final inspection has been completed or if you require one, please contact our office to book an appointment @ 902-875-3544 ext. 237 or 238.

Warden's Message Continued...

My final comment will be on the amalgamation issue with the Town of Shelburne. I know this is a very controversial topic. It is important to note that the issue exists and if the Town was to dissolve, we would be forced to deal with the issue. So I believe that we are doing the right thing by gathering all of the information so that Council can make an informed decision on the question. My position that Council will not agree to anything that harms the citizens of the Municipality has not changed. A strategy has been mapped out and approved by both Councils to do a financial review on all of the infrastructure and liabilities of both Councils. A Request for Proposal has been issued and we hope this work will be completed by the end of September 2015. The results will be presented to both Councils and both must decide whether or not to go forward with public consultations on the issue of amalgamation. There are many unanswered questions, so we will see where this issue takes us.

Warden Roger Taylor

Entrepreneurship Excellence

This season, we would like to acknowledge and express our appreciation for all the fishers and lobstermen/women throughout the Municipality of Shelburne. Many times, these small, independent family-owned businesses are not thought of as entrepreneurs, but they most definitely add to our economy, vitality and identity. The fishing industry plays an essential role in our history and our future. Through good and difficult times, these business owners have dedicated their lives to the fishery.

These men and women are committed individuals and teams. It may seem easy to be successful when the commodity price is high, but as we all know, there are highs and lows in market prices, resulting in inconsistency. Running a long-term, successful operation in this industry is time consuming and requires an eye for detail and a mind for business.

They have challenges like any other business, including finding appropriate and available labour, updating and repairing equipment, sale of goods, cash flow, weather, as well as the extremely high costs of buying, renewing and maintaining their assets.

The rewards are also apparent - carrying on a family business, connection with the crew, being self-reliant and the pride of contributing to a long-standing, well established industry.

This season, thank a local fisher for their work by buying local seafood whenever possible.

WISHING ALL OUR FISHERS A SAFE AND PROSPEROUS LOBSTER SEASON.

Hungry for a Challenge?

The 50% Local Food Club is a province wide, month-long initiative designed to increase purchasing and consumption of local food. The aim is to support and celebrate our food producers and farmers, strengthening the local food movement in our province. We invite you to source half of your diet from local producers for the month of September.

Register to participate as an individual, family, group or business by visiting



www.nslocalfoodclub.wordpress.com

2015 BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Shelburne County Business Excellence Awards are back! To recognize, celebrate, and inspire business excellence throughout the area, nominate a business in one of the following categories:

- Exporter of the Year
- Innovation in Business
- Excellence in Community Development

The awards banquet will take place on **October 20th** at the Sandy Point Lighthouse and Community Centre, with guest speaker Don Bureaux, President of Nova Scotia Community College.

For more information, please contact Lori at Shelburne CBDC at 902-875-1133 or lori.zwicker@cbdc.ca.

