



Volume 10 No. 4



Newsletter

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Warden's Message:

Another holiday season is already upon us. During this time, we would like to remind everyone to think of those in your community who might need extra help - offer a ride, shovel a walkway, or even invite them over for a meal.

This past year has been another positive one for our Municipality. We experienced a very strong tourism season, benefiting from a record breaking increase in visitation to the Province; we began assessments for the Wedgeport wastewater project; our community halls project was very successful this year; we formed a committee to move the administration building project forward and continued to work closely with our municipal partners and other levels of government on a number of projects and issues. Through these projects and many community events, our communities have come together, once again, to help create a place we are all proud to call home.

For those fortunate to be home with their family and friends during this holiday season, I would like to extend a special welcome to you and hope that you have a wonderful time. To all who are spending the holidays away from their native community this year, but who may be reading this message, I would also like to wish you holiday greetings from the Municipality.

On behalf of Council and our dedicated municipal staff, I also wish everyone a joyful, peaceful, healthy, and prosperous New Year! We look forward with anticipation to another great year in 2017.

Enjoy the newsletter,
Warden Richard Donaldson

Municipality of Argyle Council



Welcome to our new Council

Back row (left to right): Calvin d'Entremont (District 9), Lucien LeBlanc (District 3), Warden Richard Donaldson (District 6), Guy Surette (District 4), Roderick Murphy Jr. (District 2)

Front row (left to right): Glenn Diggdon (District 8), Kathy Bourque (District 7), Nicole Albright (District 5), Deputy Warden Danny Muise (District 1).

Videos of each Councillor speaking about their priorities for the next term can be viewed on YouTube and have also been shared on the Municipality of Argyle's Facebook Page. You can find these at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/munargyle>

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 council meetings are now available for

viewing online: 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.

Management Without Borders

Dalhousie University's Faculty of Management offers an innovative graduate class called Management Without Borders (MWB). Projects are submitted by host organizations across Nova Scotia and students vote for projects to work on. Once again, a project submitted by the Municipality has been chosen. This summer the Municipality of Argyle submitted a proposal called "Lighting Management Plan". We have been working with six students who have been studying our dark skies, and analyzing data. In December they will present a customized lighting management plan for us to consider.

Boating in Argyle

In an effort to further promote the Municipality of Argyle Boating Guide and website, we will have an information booth at the Halifax International Boat Show in February. Our boating website and interactive map can be found on our website at <http://www.munargyle.com/en/boating-in-argyle.html>

Argyle Municipal Office Holiday Closures:

The Municipal Office & Archives will be closed from Friday, December 23rd at 4:30pm and will re-open Tuesday, January 3rd, 2017 at 8:30am

EMERGENCIES

EMO: 902-740-3433
Public Works: 902-648-4846
Chief Administrative Officer:
902-648-4751

2016 Property Tax Rebate for Seniors

This program, administered by Access Nova Scotia on behalf of the Department of Community Services, is designed to help eligible seniors remain in their homes by providing them with an annual rebate on their municipal property taxes. The program provides eligible homeowners with a 50% rebate on the municipal property taxes paid the previous year, up to a maximum of **\$800.00** per year.



Application deadline is December 31st, 2016.

For eligibility and other information, please phone toll free at: 1-800-670-4357.

Applications are available at MLA Chris d'Entremont's office, here at the Municipal office or online at: www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/access/individuals/consumer-awareness/property-tax-rebate-for-seniors.asp

Understanding Your Property Assessment Notice

Municipalities use property assessments from Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) as part of a calculation to determine tax rates and calculate tax bills. As a property owner, it is important to review and understand your assessment notice.

You can access detailed information about your property, including preliminary 2017 assessment values, using the "My Property Report" tool on the PVSC website www.pvsc.ca. If you have questions or wish to discuss your assessment we encourage you to speak with an assessor at 1-800-380-7775.

2017 assessment notices will be mailed on January 13, 2017. If you prefer to go paper-free, you can receive your assessment notice online through Canada Post's epost™ service. Visit www.epost.ca for details and to register.

*epost is a trademark of Canada Post Corporation

New Policy regarding Building Fees

This Policy was accepted by Council on August 9th, 2016 and will be applied on January 1st, 2017. The fee amounts set out in this Policy shall amend those previously in effect. Building Permit Application Fees for new construction, additions, renovations, and demolitions, occupancy pursuant to the Municipality of the District of Argyle's Building By-Law and the Building Code Act.

- ◆ Residential, Community Centers and Churches (Construction excluding unfinished basements but includes decks): \$10.00 plus \$0.10 per sq. ft. (same fees for additions)
- ◆ Sheds, Garages, barns and Farm Buildings: \$10.00 plus \$0.05 per sq. ft. (same fees for additions)
- ◆ Other non-residential uses, such as Commercial and Industrial Buildings: \$10.00 plus \$0.14 per sq. ft. (same fees for additions)
- ◆ Renovations, Alterations and Repairs: \$10.00 plus \$1.00 per \$1000
- ◆ Demolition Permit: \$10.00
- ◆ Change of Use Permit: \$10.00
- ◆ Development Permit: \$0.00
- ◆ Renewal: \$0.00
- ◆ Fee for any action requiring Subdivision Approval: \$150.00

For further information, please contact John Sullivan at Public Works: 902-648-2623

GARBAGE PICKUP - Schedule for Holiday Season

Regular Scheduled garbage pickup for Lower Wedgeport, Wedgeport stopping at *La Shoppe à Carl* on December 26th, 2016 has been re-scheduled for December 30th, 2016. The garbage pickup for Lower West Pubnico, Middle West Pubnico stopping at the Red Cap, scheduled for January 2nd, 2017 is re-scheduled for January 6th, 2017. Please note that all other regular scheduled garbage pickups will happen on schedule.

For more information, please contact: Public Works Department at 902-648-2623 or Wasteco (John Duffus) at 902-749-6088.



Business Spotlight: A Touch of SAS

Stephanie d'Entremont has created *A Touch of SAS*, a company that embodies her style, creative energy, enthusiasm, and just a very positive outlook on life! Though the company was started seven years ago as an interior design company, it truly lifted off last November, when Stephanie created the new "*Touch of SAS Tank Tops*". She really wanted to create a product that would make women feel comfortable in their own skin, confident, and feel like the sky is the limit! The name of the company is a play on words: *Stephanie Anne Surette* (maiden name), *Stephanie Anne Style*, *S.A.S!* Her 10 years+ of experience in the retail industry, working at Suzy Shier, sparked this interest and passion in wanting to make women feel positive about themselves.



Stephanie sought the assistance of Halifax company *Nova Scotia Fashion Incubators*, to help make her designs a reality. She said she immediately felt the synergy, from the moment she first walked into their Quinpool Street location. Together, they worked to make her vision come to life, designing tank tops made of the softest organic bamboo material, which is very sustainable, not to mention feels lux on your skin. The tops are designed to "leave a lasting impression", a cross over feature in the back, that can be seen as you leave the room. The tops are available with or without a panel in the back. The subtle tattooed logo on the front, an infinity "S", with added twist with an anchor, is Stephanie's connection to the sea, to "home". Stephanie lives in Pubnico with her husband and two children.

As the environment is obviously very important to her, it just wouldn't do to throw away material remnants from making the tops. So, creative hat back on, and the new infinite twist headband was born! ("A little hug for you head", she says. This is *so* Stephanie!)



Summer 2016 saw the sales of the tank tops really take off, as Stephanie sold her items at local farmers' markets. So it was a bit of a shock to her when, at the peak of the summer, she was informed that the material was backordered for a month and a half! No worries. She had been thinking about a new product, and this gave her time to be creative again. And so she released her new *SAS Scarves*, inspired by her daughter Edyn. Her signature line of scarves, for that perfect accessory, contains one of three inspirational messages: *Beauty* (burgundy), *Fearless* (smoke), or *Free Spirit* (blush). And very recently, she has come out with a new line of scarves, with more whimsical designs, with a coastal nod to where we live: *Nautical & Nice* (blue) and *Sweet & Salty* (sandy beige). Stephanie is enjoying her *SAS* journey, the validation of making others feel good about themselves, and she is excited to see where the journey will take her next...



"Own Your SAS"

If you wish to see photos of the merchandise or support this local business, you can contact *A Touch of SAS* at: 902-648-8615 or email: steph@touchofsas.com.

Also, "Like" her Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/signaturesas/about/>

Water Situation, Municipality of Argyle

The water shortage issue in the Municipality of Argyle has certainly caused a stressful situation for the residents of the Municipality. The fact that residents were experiencing a lack of water in their wells became apparent in late August and prompted the Municipality's Emergency Management Organization to respond to this situation. Initially the first response was to provide people with drinking water. The Municipality purchased through a local retail outlet a number of pallets of water to be distributed through our local fire departments. As the number of residents affected by this shortage grew, other responses were put in place, including non-potable water sources, shower facilities in local schools and continued availability of drinking water supplies.

We know that many people have helped each other throughout this situation. Local companies have assisted residents in many ways including the delivery of water and providing large containers for homes. The Municipality has also received donations of bottled water through EMO Nova Scotia and the retail sector. The Municipality acknowledges that the largest contributor to this water shortage emergency has been the local fire departments through their dedication and work to make sure that people received water as needed. Thank you.

We continue to experience some rainfall and hopefully this will contribute to the elimination of this water shortage problem as winter sets in. We will in the near future discontinue water distribution efforts as water levels in residents' wells continue to climb. The Municipality encourages you to have your well tested and has sample bottles and instructions at the Municipal office for you to pick up.

If you have further questions or require assistance, please contact the EMO office:
by phone: 902-648-2314 or by email: emc@munargyle.com

Recreation Department - Activities

Would you like to plan an outdoor winter family adventure but have no equipment?

The Argyle Recreation Department has Nordic Poles and Snow Shoes that you can borrow for your family adventure. Contact us for more information and to borrow the equipment.

If you know of any child who would like to participate in a sport, but can't afford it, we can help!

So ALL Kids Can Play!



For more information on events or programs, contact us: 902-648-3379

LIKE our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/activelivingargyle/>
for regular updates on what is happening in the Argyle Recreation Department.

Staff Changes at the Municipal Archives

Peter Crowell has worked for the Municipality of Argyle for over 30 years, as the Municipal Historian and Archivist. During this period, Peter has seen many changes, including the founding of the Argyle Municipality Historical & Genealogical Society (AMHGS) in 1989. That same year, Peter created a quarterly publication called "*The Argus*", which was sent out to members of the Historical Society. He has continued to produce this publication, now in its 28th year of publication! Though Peter is the Editor and provides much of the content, we have several regular contributors, and others who have submitted a story or two. We currently have approximately 500 members, from nearly every province and territory in Canada, as well as a large number of members in the United States, and even one as far as Australia, all with a connection to Argyle. During all these years, Peter has managed to create what amounts to an encyclopedia's worth of historical information, stories and photos of the people and communities that make up the Municipality of Argyle. **With our Members' support, we are able to continue producing this publication, preserving our history and keeping their connections to Argyle alive. For more information on how to become a member, please contact us.**

The archives were located at the Court House & Gaol (Jail) Museum until 2006, but in that year, the archives moved into the newly renovated "church" building, purchased by the Historical Society and located next door to the museum. The museum is now open seasonally from May until October, and the Archives are open year round.

2017 will also bring exciting changes. Peter's position is changing to "Municipal Archivist" and becomes two full-time six-month shared positions. We would like to welcome and introduce Kaitlin Wood, who will be the Municipal Archivist from January until June, and Peter Crowell will return in this role from July until December.

Kaitlin has just graduated from the University of British Columbia with a Masters in Archival Science. We were fortunate to have her here during the summer months as an Archival Assistant, thanks to a grant received from Canadian Council of Archives, through their Young Canada Works program. Kaitlin also stayed on until the end of October as our Fall Museum Guide, and continued to work with Peter on archival projects. Kaitlin has family connections in the area and is happy to be working with us for six months.

Judy Frotten was hired as Heritage Development Officer in 2012. She will be the lead position responsible for the management of both the museum and archives effective January 2017. Judy is looking forward to working with both Kaitlin and Peter!



**Kaitlin Wood and Peter Crowell,
Municipal Archivists**

Argyle Township Court House & Archives (ATCHA)
8162 Hwy 3, P.O. Box 101, Tusket, NS B0W 3M0
902-648-2493 www.argylecourthouse.com

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