



Volume 8 No. 4



Newsletter

December 2014

Warden's Message

It is hard to believe that the holiday season is already upon us. During this time, we would like to remind you to think of those in your community who might need extra help - offer a ride, shovel a walk-way or even invite them over for a meal.

This past year has been a positive year for our Municipality. We have seen accomplishments in a number of municipal projects such as the Dennis Point sewer extension, the tennis court retrofits, the Bay of Fundy Sea Kayak Symposium, signage improvements in Tusket and support of 9 brand new tourism experiences in Argyle. 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.

I would like to extend a special welcome to those who have come home to be with their families and hope that you have a wonderful time.

To all who are spending Christmas away from their native community this year, but who may be reading this message, I would like to extend Christmas greetings from Municipality of Argyle. On behalf of Council and your dedicated municipal staff, I would like to wish you a Happy Holidays and best wishes for a joyful, peaceful, healthy and prosperous New Year! We look forward with anticipation to another great year in 2015.

Enjoy the newsletter,

Warden Aldric d'Entremont

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JOIN US FOR AN EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME...

Bring the world home by welcoming an international student into your family!

The Nova Scotia International Student Program is currently looking for families in the Drumlin Catchment area who would open their hearts and homes to students wishing to live out their dream of coming to Nova Scotia to study! The need for francophone families is on the rise and the NSISP would love to welcome new host families willing to share Argyle's Maritime beauty and rich, cultural heritage to the program. There are hosting opportunities throughout the school year and we are currently placing students for second semester.

If you or someone you know would like to learn more about the Nova Scotia International Student Program, please visit the NSISP website at www.nsisp.ca or contact the Argyle area NSISP Homestay Coordinator:

Melanie Challoner-Muise
(902) 307-9737 melaniecm@tcrsb.ca



Testimonial:

"In 2009 we welcomed into our home and into our family a 17 year old German student named Malte. Although he boarded the plane and went back home in July of 2010, he will forever be part of the d'Eon clan. In 2013 he and his family came to West Pubnico to visit us and in October of this year we went to Germany and spent two wonderful weeks touring parts of Europe with him and his family.

The experience of taking in an international student, as we had expected, was a very



positive one for all involved, including our children who were no longer living at home at the time. Although he was used to city life and was appalled to find out that there was no transit system to allow him to travel from one place to another, (and that few people used bicycles) he quickly adjusted, loved the home cooked meals, the family gatherings, the proximity to the ocean, his school and his new friends. More importantly, he felt like he was a member of our family.

We still communicate with him and his family on a regular basis via Skype and we look forward to seeing him again."

Darcy & Clayton d'Eon
West Pubnico, Yarmouth County

Did you know...

- ◆ Council meetings are open to the public and are held the second and last Tuesday of each month - meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ All council meetings are now available for viewing online

@ <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 - www.munargyle.com/council or pick-up in person) on the Friday prior to each meeting.

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 2015 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.

2015 assessment notices will be mailed on January 9, 2015. 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

*To receive your 2015 assessment notice through epost, please register before December 2, 2014.

Registrations after December 2, 2014 will be applied to your 2016 assessment notice.

Active Living in the Municipality of Argyle



For the past six years, Bicycle Nova Scotia has been working with EastWindCycle Consulting to assess the feasibility of a province wide network of bikeways - which we have been referring to as the "Blue Route". The idea for the Blue Route is modeled on the Quebec Route Verte which was developed over 10 years in Quebec and is a comprehensive active transportation system. As Nova Scotia's communities overall plan, we see the Blue Route as a way to achieve this. The Blue Route now has an official logo and we are working on developing a pilot project for bike route signage in Nova Scotia. Part of building the Blue Route is creating the momentum in Nova Scotia to demand safe, well-marked, consistent cycling infrastructure. (Source: Bicycle Nova Scotia)

The Municipality of Argyle is in the initial stages of developing an Active Transportation plan. A committee has been formed, with members from various geographic locations in the Municipality, and from different business sectors. The Committee will be working towards creating safe, accessible and active communities.

For more information on Active Transportation please contact Natalie d'Entremont, Active Living Coordinator at 902-648-3379.

Sadly, we have said goodbye to our Community Development Officer, Brenda LaGrandeur. Her contribution to the Municipality and to our organization is evident, through support of many community groups; from tourism to community halls and everything in between. We wish Brenda and Francois well in their new life adventure!



We are equally pleased to announce the hiring of Charlene LeBlanc as our new Community Development Officer. Charlene is well known in the Municipality as co-owner of the Pont du Marais Boarding Home, avid biker and blogger, and community leader. We are fortunate to have Charlene join us. Her "get it done" attitude is exactly what we value, and what the community has come to expect from this position.

Municipal Office Holiday Closures

The Municipal Office and Archives will be closed on **Wednesday, December 24th at noon** and will re-open **Friday, January 2nd, 2015 at 8:30am.**

EMERGENCIES

EMO: 902-740-3433

Public Works: 902-648-4846

Chief Administrative Officer: 902-648-4751



BUY LOCAL THIS YEAR!

The average Canadian spends approximately \$640 on Christmas shopping. Keeping that money closer to home means more people working here.

Merry Christmas everyone!



Business Spotlight: Café Brioche d'Or

Interested in delectable pastries, a soothing cup of tea, good coffee or perhaps your favorite espresso drink? That is exactly what you will find at Café Brioche d'Or!

It was owners' Sam and Esther Bauer's desire to create a warm, cozy café where people could gather, enjoy good quality products and each other's company. As residents of Wedgeport for the past seven years, they chose to open this café in their community, rather than in town.

Besides being the owner, Sam is also the baker, and he places great emphasis on using the most wholesome ingredients. The coffee is organic, fair trade, and is available in regular drip coffee, as well as hot or cold espresso drinks. Also, decaf espresso is available which has not been chemically processed. There are also a variety of premium and organic teas available.

Sam bakes the pastries fresh every day, and he uses ingredients such as unbleached flour, mostly organic cane sugar, organic eggs, real butter and there are no preservatives or any artificial additives. The selection can vary day by day, but includes things like brioche (of course!), cinnamon rolls, croissant, and my personal favorite, brioche suisse, and more.

Since opening their doors on October 20th, Sam and staff member Nanette (see photo) are pleased to welcome the locals, as well as visitors to the area, whether it's for a quick coffee to go, or a leisurely visit. If you're feeling more adventurous, be sure to ask about the *Pubnico Fog* or *Acadiano*! This café is absolutely worth the drive to Lower Wedgeport!

Currently, Café Brioche d'Or is open Monday to Friday from 7am to 8pm. Be sure to check out their Facebook page, where they often post photos of the goodies on offer, and post information on their hours of operation.



Located at 4 Nicholas Road, Lower Wedgeport.
Phone: 902-965-3020

2014 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, 2014.

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

HEATING ASSISTANCE REBATES

For Low Income Nova Scotians-

The Heating Assistance Rebate Program provides help to **low-and-moderate income** Nova Scotians with the cost of home heating. It offers a rebate of up to \$200 for eligible applicants who pay for their own heat and heat their homes with oil, electricity, wood, propane, wood pellets, natural gas or coal. Single people with an income of \$27,000 or less and households with an annual income of \$42,000 or less qualify.

If you would like additional information, please visit www.homeheatinghelp.ca or call 1-800-670-4357.



For All Nova Scotians-

Nova Scotians who purchase energy for their homes are eligible for a rebate equivalent to the provincial portion of the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST). The Energy Rebate is a program designed to help with the rising cost of home energy. For most, the rebate is automatically credited on the bill by the power company and fuel distributors (home-delivered oil, propane, firewood and natural gas). For other energy sources, such as kerosene, coal and wood pellets, you are able to apply for the rebate. If you have paid HST on your residential use energy purchase and the rebate was not deducted from your bill, you have 24 months from the date of purchase to apply for your rebate. You can apply once you have spent \$300, before taxes, on purchases of energy products (equal to a \$30 rebate). This rebate **does not depend on your income level**.

Contact Access NS at: **1-800-670-4357**

or visit www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/access/business/your-energy-rebate/general-public.asp

MUNICIPAL RECREATION DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

The Argyle Recreation Department in partnership with Yarmouth Recreation will be sponsoring two FREE public skates on Monday, December 22 and Tuesday, December 23 from 11:00am - 12:00pm at the Mariner's Centre, Arena 1. **All are welcome to attend.**

The Argyle Recreation Department will be hosting some family winter activities during the months of January, February and March. Such activities will include a family trail walk, snow shoe hike, sliding party, skating party and a snowman and fort making event. All of these events will depend upon the weather and the dates and times will be determined during the winter months, so stay tuned and let's hope for some snow!!!

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 or email: recreation@munargyle.com.

LIKE our Facebook pages for regular updates on what is happening in the Argyle Recreation Department.

GARBAGE PICKUP during the Holiday Season 2014-2015

Regular scheduled garbage pickup for
December 25, 2014 has been
rescheduled to **December 26 (Boxing Day)**

*for: Residents of (begin on Abbotts Harbour Rd),
West Pubnico, Pubnico, Argyle Sound, Green Grove
Rd, Section of Highway 3 between Argyle Sound Rd
and intersection of Highway 335 at Dairy Treat to
Paul d'Entremont Marine.*

Regular scheduled garbage pickup for
January 1, 2015 has been
rescheduled to **January 2, 2015**

*for residents of Wedgeport- Beginning at Quik Mart,
Plymouth, Black Pond Rd*

If you have any questions, please contact:
Wasteco Ltd. 902-742-9496
or Department of Property Inspection & Public Works
at 902-648-2623

Indian Sluice Bridge Jewelry

The Argyle Municipality Historical and Genealogical Society (AMHGS) has once again engaged jeweler, Doreen Doucette of Grandmother's Silver, to design bridge jewelry, this time of the century-old Indian Sluice Bridge, which connected Surette's Island and Morris Island to Sluice Point. The jewelry launch took place at the Club social des îles in Surette's Island on November 16th. Items available include pendants in the shape of a heart, cross or anchor, pendants with a charm attached (various designs), necklace with a cross, necklace with a feather, a two piece necklace, brooch, earrings, and a Psalm 23 bracelet. Prices range from \$25 to \$45.

Check out our Facebook page for photos of the jewelry:
<https://www.facebook.com/argylecourthouse>

To purchase jewelry or place an order, drop by the Archives in Tusket during regular business hours.

For more information contact: Judy Frotten at
902-648-2493 or email jfrotten@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 - 902-648-2931

Emergency Measures Organization - 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