

Local Fire Departments

Essential Part of the Community

If you ever find yourself in a situation where you need the fire department to put out a fire at your home, you quickly realize just how thankful you are for their service. We are lucky to have such volunteers willing to put themselves in intense situations to help prevent a possible disaster to our property and God forbid, a loved one. Fire fighting is an essential service that needs community support to keep it running efficiently. Volunteer fire fighting is one of the best ways to serve your community.

Some departments in the district are continuing to struggle to maintain, let alone increase, the volunteer base in their departments. Southville Fire Department has 12 volunteer members and would like to see more youth involvement. "In Southville, the population is getting older and the young people are not here. They have moved on to where they can get work and the young that are left are sometimes working two jobs or shifts to make ends meet making it hard for them to commit. The volunteer situation here at the Southville Department

is getting serious," said Department Fire Chief Doug Cromwell. In Westport, the department is looking for a volunteer for first responders. The Digby and Digby Neck Fire Departments are both in need of active volunteer members.

In 2008, the Provincial Government presented several departments in the district with Emergency Services Provider Funding totalling \$382,909. Fire Departments used these funds to



(R) Warden Jim Thurber, Chief Gerald Moore, Roger Thomas, Richard Hurlburt, Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, Helen Teed, Ivan Moore

purchase needed equipment like bunker suits that included pants, jackets, boots, gloves and helmets. Some departments purchased portable generators and others the Jaws of Life and self-contained breathing apparatus. The Southville Department purchased a new 800 gal. pumper truck. The Freeport Department received the most from the provincial funds and is putting the money towards a greatly needed new firehall similar to the

new Salmon River Fire Hall.

Fire Department Activities in your area.

Firemen's Breakfasts:

Smith's Cove every third Saturday of the month 7 -10am

Freeport every third Sunday of the month 7 – 10am from April – November
Westport every second Saturday of the month

7 – 10 am

Bear River first Saturday of every month 7- 10 am

Southville Fishing Tournament (first weekend in June)

Weymouth Canada Day Celebration July 1st

Smith's Cove Good Times Day July 4

Bear River Cherry Carnival July 18

Freeport Days Pig Roast and Chowder August 21- 22

Digby Fire Department Labour Day Fair September 7th and Saturday Night Bingo

If you are interested in Volunteering please contact your local Fire Chief.

Barton, Cliff Surette 245-6466

Freeport, Gerald Moore 839-2210

Smith's Cove, Jim Martyn

245-2156

Tiverton, Greg Perry 839-2622

Weymouth, Roy Mullen 837-5171

Bear River, Darryl Jelfs 467-3633

Digby Neck, Lee Wentzell 245-2651

Plympton, Mike Amero 245-5116

Southville, Doug Cromwell

837-4232

Westport, Clifton Moore 839-2005

Town of Digby, Robert Morgan

245-4632

Scott Cromwell Dog Control Officer

For the past five years, Scott Cromwell has been the District's Dog Control Officer. Several years ago, the Municipality built a new dog kennel at the municipal airport. This facility is designed to keep dogs happy, safe and warm. Each dog has its own kennel with an individual exterior run separated from other dogs, but on cold winter nights the runs are closed. "Separating the dogs is not just to control social behavior but is also a health issue. Some dogs may be carrying a disease or fleas, so it is important to keep them separated to stop any spread," said Scott. The kennels are cleaned everyday and heated in the winter. A fan cools the air in the summer and lights are turned off at night. The dogs receive nutritious food and water once a day. New dogs are cleaned

of fleas and ticks if necessary. Any serious physical problems are also tended to by a veterinarian. "I usually get a call when a dog is abandoned or running stray. Dogs are picked up and are held for 7 days if they have no identification tag. If not claimed, then I try to find someone to adopt them. I advertise on AVR Radio or if there is room at the TLC shelter I will take them there. If there is no room at the shelter and adoption efforts are unsuccessful, then I may need to have the dog put down. Sometimes a dog comes in with anger issues that make the dog impossible to adopt," said Scott. The adoption fee is \$40, which is redeemable when you get the dog spayed or neutered. There is a three strike policy for repeat offenders. For the first offence there is a \$20 charge and a \$7 per night kennel fee. On the second offence, the charge doubles to \$40 plus kennel fees. On the third offence, the charge triples or additional fines may be laid, up to \$344.00 plus kennel fees. When a complaint is made about

a barking dog, a verbal warning is given for the first complaint. If the barking continues then a registered letter is sent asking the owner to fix the problem. With the third complaint, charges could be laid but Scott will first work with the owner to resolve the problem. "If a dog is abandoned or neglected then the Nova Scotia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty (SCPA) should be contacted at toll free 1-888-703-7722.

If you have a complaint about a dog in the District of Digby, please contact me at 245-5885," Scott concluded.



Scott Cromwell

Digby Area Tourism Showcase 2009 Experience Annapolis Digby

This year will mark the Digby Area Tourism Association's fourth annual tourism showcase. The showcase will be held February 14, Valentine's Day from 10 am - 4

pm at Champlain Hall, Annapolis Basin Conference Centre. The event will be an opportunity for local tourism operators and service providers to gather to network and see what is new in the area. The Showcase is a great opportunity for the public to gain a better understanding of how special this area is and the unique features it has to offer as a destination for travellers near or far.

Times are changing. Residents and businesses want to buy local goods so this year the Showcase will feature local products that are harvested or created right here. Artisans, wine, special music

and stories about the area will be featured at this years Showcase. It will be an experience that you will not want to miss. Come see for yourself what all the buzz is about. Admission for the public is **free** and exhibitors only pay \$25.00.

For more information please contact Carolyn Smith at 245-2932 or email :

csmith@municipality.digby.ns.ca



Council Works on a Roadmap for the Next Four Years

On a cold weekend in January, members of Municipal Council and senior staff, along with a facilitator, met at the Annapolis Basin Conference Centre to work on developing priorities for the next four years.

This Council Retreat is the first step in the process of developing an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan or ICSP. The ICSP is a strategic document that integrates all municipal decision making and planning processes into a single long-term (20 year) plan involving community consultation

and visioning.

Because the ICSP integrates economic, environmental, social and cultural sustainability



Councillor Randall Amero, Councillor Maritza Adams, Warden Jim Thurber, Deputy Warden Jimmy MacApline, Councillor Linda Gregory

objectives, Council used these four priorities when setting their goals and objectives. Priorities identify the “bigger picture” issues. Goals describe what is to be accomplished and objectives

describe how goals will be achieved. Timelines; resources such as people, time and money; and who is assigned to making sure that the objectives are met, are part of the document.

To ensure that the document does not sit on a shelf gathering dust, a plan was developed to regularly track progress and to review the document at the mid-way point. A Strategic Plan Update will become a regular agenda item at every Committee of the Whole meeting.

Council will formally approve the Priority document at the regular meeting of Council on February 23rd after which it will be posted on the Municipal website with regular updates as needed.

www.municipalities.com/digby

Municipality of the District of Digby Open House

Proposed Digby Municipal Airport Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law

February 18, 2009, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Municipal Office, 12548 Highway 217, Seabrook

The Digby Municipal Airport Working Committee will host an open house to allow the public an

opportunity to comment on a proposed **Digby Municipal Airport Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law.**

Copies of the proposed Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law can be obtained at the Municipal Office, 12548 Highway 217, Seabrook, Digby County, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Along the Coastline

*Council attended a Strategic Planning Session January 16, 17 and 18 at the Annapolis Basin Conference Center. Initiatives over the next four years were discussed and tied to the implementation of an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan.

*Warden Thurber and Linda Fraser, Chief Administrative Officer, attended a CEO/CAO Forum in Truro on Dec 11th and 12th. Gordon McIntosh was the facilitator for the session which was found to be extremely informative. This was the third such session held in the province with more planned for the future.

*The amendments to the Conway Area MPS and LUB as well as the new Subdivision MPS and LUB have been forwarded to the Province for their review and approval.

*Administration's work on the Tangible Capital Asset project is nearing completion. A meeting with the Municipalities accounting firm is to be planned to review work completed to date and to discuss the next steps in policy development.

*The future location of the Weymouth library has been surveyed. A building committee will be formed to move the process forward.

*The Digby Municipal Airport Working Group met on January 13th to discuss the draft Municipal Planning Strategy /Land Use By-Law for the airport and surrounding property. The Digby Municipal Airport Working Group will host an open house February 18th, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Municipal office to allow the public an opportunity to comment on a proposed Digby Municipal Airport Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law.

*The PAC met on December 9th to review the final draft of the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for the regulation of wind turbine development in the Municipality of the District of Digby. A public consultation process will follow with meetings scheduled for:

***February 10, 2009**

Weymouth Legion Branch 67, Weymouth at 7:00 pm

***February 11, 2009**

MILESTONE RECOGNITION POLICY

The Council provides a certificate of recognition to groups or individuals for significant milestones or achievements. To find out more visit our website under the Council page

Municipal Website-www.municipality.com/digby/

The Coastline is published by the Municipality of the District of Digby. Any comments, suggestions or story ideas may be sent to the Coastline, P.O. Box 429, Digby, Nova Scotia BOV 1A0; dropped off at the office 12548 Highway 217, Mon. – Fri. 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; telephone 245-4777; fax 245-5748.

e-mail heritage@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Municipal Council Chambers, 12548 Highway 217, Seabrook at 1:00 pm

***February 11, 2009**

Digby Neck Consolidated School, Sandy Cove at 7:00 pm

Community meetings for District 3

Meet with your Councillor **Linda Gregory**

If you would like to meet in person please note the following dates:

Call 245-2616 to set appointment

Feb 17-Tuesday

Mar 17-Tuesday

Apr.21-Tuesday

From 6pm to 8 pm Municipal Building

If you have any questions, concerns or issues you would like to discuss call 245-2616 anytime

Wellness Funds from the Office of Health

Promotion & Protection, to be made available to *groups* or *organizations* in the community

Deadline for project applications to be received by

Digby & Area Community Health Board is **February 20, 2009**.

For more information & application form contact:

Norma Wagner, Assistant

Digby & Area Community Health Board

75 Warwick Street

PO Box 1521, Digby, NS B0V 1A0

Phone: (902) 245-1951

Fax: (902) 245-5517 (Attn: D&ACHB)

E-mail: NWagner@swndha.nshealth.ca

Directory of Municipal Services

Councillors

Warden Jim Thurber

839-2643 jthurber@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Deputy Warden Jimmy MacAlpine

245-4651 jmacalpine@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Linda Gregory

245-2616 lgregory@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Maritza Adams

245-6671 madams@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Randall Amero

837-7324 ramero@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Municipal Offices

General Inquiries 245-4777

Building & Fire Inspector 245-6776

Airport 245-5885

Dog Catcher 245-5885

EMO 245-6252