



PRESERVING OUR PAST - DEVELOPING OUR FUTURE

Twenty Years of Elected Representation Jimmy MacAlpine Steps Down

"Twenty years have passed more quickly than I would have liked, but it has been an honour to serve the Municipality during that time," said Warden Jimmy MacAlpine. A lot has changed since Jimmy was elected to Council in 2000. During his time on Council, the Municipality took on the development of large projects like the Weymouth and Bear River sewer systems and the expansion of the Smith's Cove sewer plant. Council's efforts to reduce greenhouse gasses led to the development of a Renewable Energy Department and capital projects like the two wind turbines in Culloden. The Convergys Call Centre in Deep Brook was a collaboration between Digby and Annapolis that provided much needed employment at the time. The King's Transit bus service was also developed from a similar partnership with Annapolis.

"I am proud of the Open Spaces initiative that the Municipality started in 2015. This initiative evolved into a Trails Department with a full time staff person. This program is providing access to beautiful

areas in the District that would otherwise not be freely accessible to residents," said Jimmy. An-



other improvement was the establishment of a Western Regional Enterprise Network for Southwest Nova. This was also something that was very important for the Municipality of Digby and the region. WREN focuses on business development and has been successful in working with local business with labour retention and job creation. For several years, Jimmy also sat on the board of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities and was the President for a term. "This experience reinforced my approach for broad collaboration between municipalities and the provincial government to enhance the betterment of municipalities in Nova Scotia," said Jimmy.

"As I leave municipal government, I would like to thank municipal staff and all the councillors that I worked with over the past 20 years for their support and guidance. In closing, I would like to thank all the people living in District #1 for their support, it has been an honour to represent them at Municipal Council."



2008 Digby Transfer Station Opening
 Yarmouth Municipality, Leland Anthony* Clare Warden Jean
 Melanson* Grant Brennan* Councillor Jimmy MacAlpine* Warden Jim
 Thurber* Deputy Mayor Sherry Lewis

Digby Trails

Lots of trail improvements at Van Tassel Lake

Municipal Election



Cast Your Vote In District 5 on October 17

The Municipal Election will be held on Saturday October 17, 2020. Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4 have been declared by acclamation. Voters in District 5 can vote by paper ballot or electronically at the poll on October 17, 2020 between 8 am and 7 pm at the Weymouth Fire Dept. If you are unable to vote at the polling station, you can vote electronically or by telephone (see voter instruction letter for details). The advance polls will be from 9 am October 8, 2020 until 7 pm October 17, 2020 and will be electronic voting only.

For more information contact the Returning Officer Nicole Robbins or Assistant Returning Officer Nicole Theriault at 902-245-4777

The candidates

District #1 - Smith's Cove/Bear River - **Angela Thurber**
(By acclamation)

District #2 -Marshalltown/Brighton/Plympton -**Matthew Ross**
(By acclamation)

District #3 - Culloden/Sandy Cove - **Linda Gregory** (By acclamation)

District #4 – Brier Island/Long Island/Little River -**David Tudor**
(By acclamation)

District #5 – Weymouth/Southville/Gilbert's Cove -**Terry MacBurnie** - **George Manzer**



The Van Tassel Lake Trails Association erected a large roadside sign at 859 Culloden Road.

The Van Tassel Lake Trails Association has been working hard to make their trails easier to find and follow.

With help from the Town of Digby, they erected a large roadside sign to show drivers where the trailhead is. At the trailhead, they erected two large wooden trail entrances so hikers can clearly see where the trails start.

At all major trailheads and intersections, they have erected "You are here" maps so hikers know where they are and where they are headed. These maps also include distances to the next intersection or other landmarks.

Also, some 200 red assurance markers have been placed on trees on the main 3.5-km loop

that goes around the lake – this way hikers will know, as long as they are following the red markers, they will eventually return to the parking lot.

Hikers will also notice a lot of improvements under foot – three tandem loads of gravel have been spread to smooth the hiking surface, and several wooden boardwalks and bridges have been built over wet areas.

The association is now in the process of spreading woodchips on some trail sections to improve footing.

Fall makes the perfect time to head up the mountain and check out these wonderful woodland trails.

Check Out

www.digbytrails.ca





Hurricane Season During COVID

Although we have not been directly impacted by any hurricanes so far this season it has been the most active year on record with many more than usual named storms. The season lasts until November.

COVID 19 will have an effect on the way we will have to deal with any impacts that may occur should we be affected by a near miss or a direct hit from a hurricane.

Should there be a need to go to a comfort center or an evacuation center then extra precautions will be required. Take your masks and any other medical requirements you may have.

However, the shelter will screen all clients for symptoms upon arrival to the shelter and daily thereafter. Screening means asking the clients about symptoms. Taking the clients' temperature is not necessary. Returning clients have to be screened for symptoms upon each registration into the shelter.



Internet Expansion in Western NS

The Western Regional Enterprise Network is working in partnership with Develop Nova Scotia, Bell Canada and the Municipalities of the Districts of Argyle, Barrington, Digby and Yarmouth, to connect over 7,000 previously underserved homes and businesses in western Nova Scotia to wired high-speed internet. The Western REN has worked as a liaison between the Municipalities and the public, industry and funding bodies to identify high-speed access gaps within the region and find lasting solutions. With financial assistance from the Nova Scotia Internet Trust Fund, Bell Canada will bring their Fibe service to these newly served addresses, offering fibre-optic internet speeds of up to 1.5 Gbps, as well as telephone and television packages. Of the 7,000

new connections, 1,340 of these will be located within the Municipality of Digby. New fibre-op connections are now available between Waterford and East Ferry, as well as in North Range and Hillgrove. Additional connections are anticipated to be completed in Bear River and Lansdowne by February 2021, and in Southville, Danvers and Riverdale before Summer 2022. Access to high-speed internet is critical during the best of times and even more so during COVID-19, where many of the region's businesses, employees and students need a reliable internet connection. The announcements to date are very exciting for the region, and work continues to find solutions for the underserved communities not listed.

• *The signs and symptoms that clients should be screened and monitored for include:*

- * **Fever (i.e. chills, sweats))**
- * **Cough or worsening of a previous cough**
- * **Sore throat**
- * **Headache**
- * **Shortness of breath**
- * **Muscle aches**
- * **Sneezing**
- * **Nasal congestion/runny nose**
- * **Hoarse voice**
- * **Diarrhea**
- * **Unusual fatigue**
- * **Loss of sense of smell or taste**
- * **Red, purple or blueish lesions on the feet, toes or fingers without clear cause**

- Any of these symptoms will prompt immediate testing for COVID-19. Client should be isolated as best as possible (in a separate room/area of the shelter while maintaining 2 metres/6 feet from others in the shelter) and provided with a medical mask to wear.
- Shelter staff should try to maintain social/physical distancing between themselves and the client.
- If close contact (i.e. any interaction within 2 metres/6 feet of client) is necessary and social distancing is not able to be maintained, staff should wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Notify Public Health call 1-902-943-5082.
- Call 811 to arrange testing and identify that the testing is required for a shelter

Along the Coastline

* Council continues to meet monthly. These meetings are held via video conference and following the Minister of Municipal Affairs directive the minutes from the meetings are posted on the municipal web site within 24 hours of the meeting.

* The municipality is working with Returning Officer Nicole Robbins on the preparations for the Municipal Election on October 17th. Regular election planning as well as numerous cautions regarding Covid-19 are being taken into account.

* The Digby Development Agency continues to work with Scotia Harvest Inc. on the development of the new fish plant in the industrial park, behind the Municipal office. Construction is moving along with walls now in place.

* The Municipality wrapped up another summer of great partnerships with Digby Recreation offering programming at the Haines Lake recreation site and summer campers visited a number of trails throughout the community.



Free online wellness program this fall

Digby and area residents can take part in a variety of FREE

online wellness programs this fall for adults of all ages on healthy eating, physical activity, mental wellness, parenting, and reducing one's health risks.

A Nova Scotia health card is required to register.

The wellness sessions are offered online in a friendly group setting using Zoom for Healthcare, and are facilitated by health care professionals, including dietitians, physiotherapists, social workers, and occupational therapists.

Visit HealthyNovaScotia.ca to see a full list of sessions and to register online.

Not sure how to use Zoom? Don't miss out. We can help. E-mail: Isabelle.dentremont@nshealth.ca and in the subject line, write: "I need help with Zoom for healthcare." Isabelle will be happy to chat and walk you through a practice Zoom call.

Tax Bills have been Issued

Payment Options are as follows:

- * Online Banking
- * Telebanking
- * Debit / Visa / MasterCard / American Express
- * Pre-authorized payments

* In person
(902) 245-4777

administration@municipality.digby.ns.ca



Alms House Memorial Gravesite

Marshalltown



Washing your hands frequently is one of the best ways to prevent getting COVID 19



Directory of Municipal Services

Councillors

Warden Jimmy MacAlpine

902-245-8746 jmacalpine@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Deputy Warden Linda Gregory

902-245-2616 lgregory@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Matthew Ross

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George Manzer

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David Tudor 902-308-9934 dtudor@municipality.digby.ns.ca



Municipal Offices

General Inquiries

902-245-4777

Building & Fire Inspector

902-245-6776

Airport

902-245-5885

Dog Control Officer

902-245-5885

REMO

902-245-6252

Heritage

902-245-4757

Renewable Energy/Climate Change

902-245-4767

Economic Development, Dan Harvey

902-847-1217

Trails Coordinator, Jonathan Riley

902-245-2861