



PRESERVING OUR PAST - DEVELOPING OUR FUTURE

## Digby Emergency Dispatch

Vital 24/7 communication network for the delivery of emergency services

Many people may not know it, but the Digby Municipal Emergency Dispatch provides emergency communication for all fire departments in Argyle, Clare, Digby and Yarmouth. They are also the contact for wastewater emergencies, emergency management and dog control for the Digby area. The dispatchers' duties also include dealing with air traffic and fuel sales for aircraft.

Digby Dispatch serves 31 fire departments. The types of calls range from structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, fire alarms, medical calls and grass/forest fires to name but a few. After paging out a fire department they stay with them for the entirety of the call providing them with resources such as police, EHS, public works,

Nova Scotia Power, tow trucks, Coast Guard, Department of Natural Resources, excavators and public safety field communications. There are 6 radios and 5 phone lines to manage.

There are 5 full-time dispatchers and 7 part-time. Bruce Snell, the Dispatch Supervisor, has been working for the Municipality for 19 years. When he started, dispatch covered the Digby/Annapolis areas only. In 2019 the opportunity to expand the service to include half of southwest Nova Scotia, with the exception of the Annapolis area, was awarded to the Digby dispatch. Most of the dedicated staff have been working for the Municipality for many years. Scott Cromwell has been a dispatch operator for 26 years. He also is the Municipal Dog Control

Officer. Kenny Carter and Cheri Howe have been dispatching for 19 years and Paulette Theriault has been with dispatch for 16 years. Each dispatcher works 8-hour shifts in a 10-day rotation. The part-time dispatchers are also an integral part of the organization. They include Bentley Rice, Tim Long, Mike Rhora, Jeannie Ann Underwood, Darlene Cromwell, Loretta Trefry and Pierce MacKinnon.

***"It is an honor to serve our Fire Fighters and Emergency Services."***

*Dispatch Supervisor, Bruce Snell*

*The dispatch office is located at the Digby Municipal Airport in Hillgrove.*



Loretta Trefry, Pierce MacKinnon, Darlene Cromwell



Dispatchers R-L Front Row- Cheri Howe, Paulette Theriault, Tim Long, Scott Cromwell  
Back Row -Bruce Snell, Kenny Carter



Dispatch Supervisor, Bruce Snell



Dispatcher Mike Rhora



Dispatcher Bentley Rice



Dispatcher - Kenny Carter



Dispatcher Jeannie Ann Underwood

# Digby Art Bank Selection 2024

The Digby Art Bank jury has made their selection for the purchase of locally made art by artists and artisans in the area. The art bank received submissions from 26 artists who submitted a total of 78 pieces for jury consideration. The annual purchase budget is \$2500.

## 2024 selection.

- \* Patrick Jarvis - Ngoni African Drum
- \* Jay Stone- Red Oak Burl Bowl
- \* Flora Doehler – Still life painting, “A Song in My Heart”
- \* Kathy Dunphy – Readers at a Coffee Shop
- \* Anna Benhoi - Ukrainian – Birth of a New Life

## Jury Members

Poppy Balsler \* Don Rice \*  
 Andrew Elliot \* Mary Saulnier  
 \* Councillor Angela Thurber \*  
 Municipal Staff, Robert  
 Hersey

The Municipality would like to thank all who submitted their work to the Art Bank Acquisition this year. The next call for submissions will be in November 2024.



Flora Doehler



A Song in My Heart



Kathy Dunphy



Readers at a Coffee Shop



Anna Benhoi



Red Oak Burl Bowl



Jay Stone



Patrick Jarvis



Ngoni African Drum



Birth of a New Life

## What is 211 Nova Scotia ?

**211** is a free and confidential service, available 24/7 that connects individuals and families with government, not-for-profit and community programs and services. The service is available in over 150 languages.

### 211 can be accessed by:

**Phone:** call 211 / or Toll-Free Number: **1-855-466-4994**

**Online:** search programs and services on - ns.211.ca

**Email:** help@ns.211.ca  
 Monday-Friday 9am-4pm AST

**Text:** send a text to 211  
 Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm AST

**Chat:** access on our website at ns.211.ca  
 Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm AST

When you dial **211**, the line is answered by certified Community Resource Navigators who will help you navigate the complexities of the human and social services system quickly and easily.

### Contact 2-1-1 for information and referrals to:

- \* Health Services & Mental Health Supports
- \* Income Support & Financial Assistance
- \* Food Banks, Meal Programs & Grocery Delivery
- \* Housing Help & Emergency Shelter
- \* Support Services for Seniors And more!

**When you're facing a non-emergency situation or are seeking community help and don't know where to turn, remember to contact 211! Help starts here.**

# REMO

Regional Emergency  
Management Organization



Fire season provincially is now March 15th to October 15th. As of March 15th, 2024, domestic burning permits are no longer required. You must phone 1-855-564-2876 or go online to <https://novascotia.ca/burnsafe> to see if it is safe to burn. Green means burn after 2:00pm and have your fire out by 8:00am, yellow means burn after 7:00pm and have your fire out by 8:00am and red means no burning at all. These restrictions are set in place for the safety of the public and burning is only permitted when it is the lowest possible fire risk. In the evenings and after/during rain events is the safest to burn as temperatures are lower, humidity is higher, and winds are calmer.

If you see someone burning illegally or see a wildfire, please report it to either **1-800-565-2224** or 911.

Prevention is the best way to reduce the occurrences of wildfires.

## Being prepared for an emergency also means having the necessary supplies on hand to help you and your family cope.

The Red Cross recommends that you keep a disaster preparedness kit in your home with enough supplies to meet your family's needs for at least 72 hours. By taking the time now to store food, water and other supplies, you can provide for your entire family in the event of an emergency.

The following list is a guide of suggested items to have in your disaster preparedness kit at home. It is important you check it every year

and resupply it after every use.

Items to include in a disaster preparedness kit include:

Bottled water  
Non-perishable food  
Radio (battery or wind-up)  
First Aid Kit  
Flashlight  
Emergency Phone List



For a full list of items, please see the **Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness** website.



Looking to improve the way your business runs? The Western REN Continuous Improvement



(CI) program can help you streamline your business by introducing CI/LEAN Manufacturing to your company and your team.

Continuous improvement is a team mentality shared by the employees to actively look for ways to improve the daily operation in small, incremental steps. The project is led by a consultant who works with managers and employees who together look for ways to improve the operation.

A CI project gives all employees the tools to improve efficiency and reduce waste. It helps unite everyone into a team with the common goal of improving efficiency.

Continuous Improvement Projects can improve profitability by reducing production time, costs, labour, and waste in general and improving workflow and key performance indicators.

Anyone looking to learn more can get in touch with program manager Rob Stephenson at: [rstephenson@westernren.ca](mailto:rstephenson@westernren.ca) or check out: [www.westernren.ca/programs/continuous-improvement](http://www.westernren.ca/programs/continuous-improvement)



R-L Health Services Lead Chantelle Hazelton, Callista Weir, Nadine Gaudet, Kiersten Wagner

## Making healthcare connections in Digby

Helping improve awareness of how to access healthcare was the goal behind the Nova Scotia Health Digby Community Connection public event held February 21 at the Digby Fire Hall. Several dozen people attended and were able to visit tables with information and displays on several services, like the Digby Collaborative Family Practice, Virtual Care Nova Scotia, Mental Health and Addictions, hospice, rehabilitation and restorative care, and more. Participants were able to give feedback on their experiences with the healthcare system. The public event was a follow-up to December's announcement that the growing Digby Family Practice team is now able to provide clinics in Bear River and Weymouth, along with the services at Islands Health Centre. For more info, visit: <https://www.nshealth.ca/>

## Please take Note!



**2024/2025 Interim Tax Bills will be mailed out the first week of April. If you do not receive your tax bill by mid-April, please contact our office to ensure we have the correct mailing address.**

# On the Trails



## A fantastic seven years

For the next Coastline, a new trail coordinator will be updating you on developments with Digby trails. I have resigned effective this May and will be heading over to work with Parks Canada as an Interpreter.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the last seven years and am proud of all we have done to develop the trails and open spaces of the Digby area.

In particular the mapping and navigation signage systems implemented at both Acacia Valley and VanTassel Lake have made both those systems much more useable for many more people. We have been working diligently at restoring the Digby Railbed Trail and that is now significantly more rideable and sustainable to maintain than when we started. And of course we have developed the Haines Lake property that is being enjoyed by more and more people every year.

Still there's lots more to be done, and so the Municipality will be hiring a new Trail Coordinator this spring to carry on this important work. I hope you can be as supportive of this new person as you have been of me. Thank you very much for a great seven years.

Jonathan Riley

**Get your Coastline by email**  
**Send request to:**  
**[heritage@digbymun.ca](mailto:heritage@digbymun.ca)**

Or go to: **[www.digbymun.ca](http://www.digbymun.ca)** look under: **Departments/Information**

**Check us out on Facebook:**  
**[municipality of digby](https://www.facebook.com/municipalityofdigby)**

# Registered Heritage Church Grant Program 2022 - 2026



Freeport Baptist Church Repair

The Municipal Registered Heritage Church Grant Program is in its second year. The program is mandated until March 31, 2026. Owners / trustees of churches that are Municipal Registered Heritage Properties are eligible to receive \$1000 for conservation work conducted on exteriors and internal structural repairs. The \$1000 can be banked for future work or to support a current major conservation repair. Each church could receive a total of \$5000 over the five-year program. For more information contact Robert Hersey Program Development Coordinator for the municipality at 902 245-4757 or email:

[heritage@digbymun.ca](mailto:heritage@digbymun.ca)

## Remember !

No more black garbage bags after April 1st.



# Tax Bill Payment Options

Did you know the Municipality of Digby offers many convenient payment options?



\* **Online Banking**

\* **Telebanking**

**Debit / Visa / MasterCard**

\* **Pre-authorized payments**

\* **In person**

For more information call:

**(902) 245-4777 Email:**

[administration@digbymun.ca](mailto:administration@digbymun.ca)

## Council Meetings

**5 pm**

April 9, 2024 – COTW

April 23, 2024 – COUNCIL

May 14, 2024 – COTW

May 28, 2024 – COUNCIL

June 11, 2024 – COTW

June 25, 2024 – COUNCIL

July 9, 2024 - NO MEETING

July 23, 2024 – COUNCIL

## Directory of Municipal Services

Councillors

**Warden Linda Gregory**

902-245-2616/247-0356 [lgregory@digbymun.ca](mailto:lgregory@digbymun.ca)

**Deputy Warden Matthew Ross**

902-247-5555 [mross@digbymun.ca](mailto:mross@digbymun.ca)

**George Manzer**

902-837-4353 [gmanzer@digbymun.ca](mailto:gmanzer@digbymun.ca)

**David Tudor**

902-308-9934 [dtudor@digbymun.ca](mailto:dtudor@digbymun.ca)

**Angela Thurber** [athurber@digbymun.ca](mailto:athurber@digbymun.ca)

902-467-3425

### 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

Trail Coordinator, Jonathan Riley 902-245-2861