

December 2024

Photos by Karla Kelly



PRESERVING OUR PAST - DEVELOPING OUR FUTURE

Warden Gregory 2024 Christmas Message

With the Christmas holiday season upon us it is a good time to take a moment and reflect on both the blessings and challenges that come with living in our wonderful community.

It has been another year of peaceful progress and positive development for the Municipality of Digby and we have both good fortune and the supportive attitude of all our citizens to thank for that.

Since the recent Municipal Election, our new Council has been preparing for the next four years of our new term in your service, including beginning our necessary strategic planning. We have welcomed two new councillors; Joan Ross and Peter Scherer, to our team, and I have been honoured to be chosen to serve as Warden over the upcoming term. I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity as well, to thank our departing councillors, Angela Thurber and David Tudor, for their years of diligent service and to wish them well as they pursue their future endeavours.

Prime items of our ongoing planning will certainly be continuing to work resolutely with our Provincial and Federal government partners to secure

service improvements, especially in healthcare and housing, that our community deserves.

We also continue to seek innovative solutions such as the conversion of the former Barton school into eight residential units.

Regarding health care we want to acknowledge the



Warden Linda Gregory

excellent efforts of our health navigator, Nancy Whalley, in working together with the Town, Municipality and the Health Foundation.

On behalf of Council, I want to thank our outstanding municipal staff members for their hard work and commitment to serving our community. We have some new members of staff this year and we are delighted to see that this

dedication to service continues. For the eighteenth year in a row, we have been able to hold our municipal tax rate without increase and this is in no small part due to their focus and expertise.

I hope many of you will be able to celebrate the season with us, and meet your old and new councillors at our New Year's Levee, being held at the Municipal Building on January 1st from 1-3 PM. Everyone is welcome.

The holiday season is a time for joy and giving, but always be mindful of families and individuals who are having a hard time buying food and paying bills. That can be devastating. So in this season of peace and goodwill let's seek out and support ways to assist those in our community who may need a little extra help. Donations to our local charitable organizations are important, and even something as simple as an acknowledgement, a call or even a smile can ensure that their day is made ever so brighter.

On behalf of the members of your Council and municipal staff, may the sparkle of Christmas lights and the love of family and friends brighten your holiday season and the peace and joy of Christmas live in your heart all year long

Welcome New Council Members



Municipal Councillor,
Peter Scherer District # 4

Peter is a resident of East Ferry and works as a Production Manager at Acadian Seaplants in Cornwallis. He has an Industrial Engineer Degree from Grenoble Institute of Technology in France and a master's degree in business administration from McGill University, Montreal.

Peter has extensive experience in managing complex business environments and finding the right talent to bring a (project / business) to a successful outcome. He speaks five languages and enjoys working with people in a variety of situations. Peter and his wife Wendy, have a boy named Pierre and they are also expecting a baby in the very near future.

Peter is an avid book collector, musician and a volunteer firefighter with the Digby Neck Fire Department. ***"I believe we need to make the Digby area more viable for local families and help them succeed by providing sound governance, and I want to be part of that,"*** concluded Peter.

Joan has been a resident of Smith's Cove for 18 years. She is now retired from a long career as a physiotherapist. Joan worked at the Digby General Hospital from 2006 – 2011 and then went to Tideview until 2018. She has worked many years as Registrar for the Provincial College of Physiotherapists. ***"I think my background in the health care system has prepared me for public service,"*** said Joan.

Over the years Joan has developed operational policies and procedures in a collaborative environment. ***"As a municipal councillor, I will have the opportunity to be part of a governing team to create a more progressive community and enhance the overall lifestyle in the area. My constituents have expressed their concern about the roads and improving accessibility for seniors to important facilities in the Digby area. These are some of the issues I would like to address in the next four years. Overall, I want to be a voice for my constituency,"*** said Joan.

Joan and her husband Alan have raised two sons and two daughters and have eight grandchildren. ***"From my family to yours, have a very joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year".***



Municipal Councillor,
Joan Ross District #1

Digby Art Bank Acquisition

The 2025 Digby Art Bank Acquisition is now requesting submissions and is pleased to announce a call out to artists and artisans of the Digby area to submit original works for purchase.

* Artists can submit up to three pieces for jury selection.
* The value of each piece of art cannot exceed \$2,500.
Deadline for submissions is

January 31, 2025.

Please go to the Municipality of Digby website:

www.digbymun.ca and look under the Digby Art Bank posting for submission forms and brochure.

You can email:

heritage@digbymun.ca

and request submission documents or contact **Robert Hersey** at: **902-245-4757** if you have any further questions.

2024 Election Municipal Council

District #1 **Joan Ross**

District #2 **Deputy Warden -
Matthew Ross**

District #3 **Warden -Linda
Gregory**

District #4 **Peter Scherer**

District #5 **George Manzer**



REMO

Regional Emergency
Management Organization



Winter Storm Check List

- * Have your emergency kit ready. Be prepared for power outages.
- * Carbon monoxide kills: NEVER use a generator, BBQ, propane inside an enclosed area.
- * Listen to local news and weather reports for information on changing weather conditions.
- * Winterize your home and car emergency kit with warm clothing and blankets.
- * Make sure you have shovels and snow removal equipment handy.
- * Have an alternative heat source, such as a fireplace, wood burning stove, or a generator.
- * Make a personalized preparedness emergency kit. Families should be prepared to be self-sustaining for at least three days.
- * Prepare your vehicle for winter weather and create an emergency kit for your vehicle. Keep the gas tank full. Always check local weather conditions before heading out on the road.
- * When a severe storm is expected, Environment Canada will issue a weather warning. Radio and television stations will also broadcast Environment Canada weather statements. Pay attention to that information.
- * Be alert for instructions from officials and community leaders – listen to the radio, watch your local news channels, and/or follow your local news outlet and/or emergency officials on social media.
- * During a storm, avoid going outside or unnecessary travel. If you have to go outside, dress appropriately to protect yourself

from the elements. Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia.

* Bring companion animals indoors. Create a place where other animals can be comfortable in severe winter weather.

After the Storm

- * Avoid travelling if possible and listen to local news and weather reports for current road and weather conditions.
- * Be aware of the wind chill. Avoid unnecessary exposure of any part of the body to the cold.
- * Be careful when clearing snow. Take your time and avoid over-exertion. Take regular breaks to warm up and rest if needed.



The Western Regional Enterprise Network is celebrating its 10th Anniversary this year! We are here to help grow the economy in Western Nova Scotia, from Barrington all the way to Digby.

If you are a business, we offer some great programs at minimal cost to help you prosper. Our Continuous Improvement program will make things run more efficiently with reduced costs, expanded business, enhanced customer experiences, boosted employee morale, and increased profits. Our Business Transition program will guide you through the process of selling your business. Our Connector Program brings together job ready professionals with Business and Community leaders with the goal

of connecting them with career opportunities.

Want to learn more? Email:

BusinessNow@westernren.ca. or call 902-740-0151.



Drop-in Mobile Primary Care Clinics in Digby



Mobile primary care clinics will happen in Digby and area through December and into 2025 as follows:

Weymouth Medical Centre - Saturday, December 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Digby and Area Health Services Centre - Tuesday, December 17 from 4:30 to 9 p.m. and Sunday, December 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

These are drop-in clinics. so have your health card and list of medications on arrival. If you have a doctor or nurse practitioner, please call their office first to see if they have appointments. However, there are times when you may not be able to see your primary care provider. The clinic only addresses non-urgent health issues. Lab and diagnostic imaging requirements are not available. For more dates, visit: <https://www.nshealth.ca/mobileprimarycareclinics>



On the Trails



Digby Regional High School O2 Class

On November 18th, 15 students from Digby Regional High School's Options and Opportunities (O2) program volunteered at Van Tassel Lake Trails, helping with trail maintenance by spreading woodchips and gravel.

"When I started as Trails Coordinator, I was saddened by the lack of young people involved in trail work. The O2 program seemed like a perfect opportunity to engage the next generation. Seeing these students on the trails was a great start. Their hard work not only improved the trails but made a lasting impact on all who use them. I hope their efforts inspire them to return—not just as users, but as future volunteers," said Candace Levings, Trails Coordinator.



O2 students applying wood chips as trail cover at Van Tassel Lake Trail.

Road Litter



Let's Keep Our Roads Litter Free

If you have not noticed there is a litter issue along our roadways and highways. Since COVID there has been an increase in littering which is mostly food related items. So please, do not throw your garbage from your vehicle. We live in a beautiful area, let's keep it that way.



- *Digby Courier 1877- 1977
- * Elder Transcripts
- * Heritage Home Inventory
- *1871 AF Church Map
- *John Collier 1950 Photos



Directory of Municipal Services

Councillors

Warden Linda Gregory

902-245-2616/247-0356 lgregory@digbymun.ca

Deputy Warden Matthew Ross

902-247-5555 mross@digbymun.ca

George Manzer

902-837-4353 gmanzer@digbymun.ca

Peter Scherer

902-308-0208 pscherer@digbymun.ca

Joan Ross

902-245-1855 jross@digbymun.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

Trail Coordinator /Candace Levings 902-245-2861

Council Meetings

5 pm

January 14 Committee of the Whole

January 28 Council

February 11 Committee of the Whole

February 25 Council

March 11 Committee of the Whole

March 25 Council

Get your Coastline by email Send request to: heritage@digbymun.ca

Or go to: www.digbymun.ca look under: **Departments/ Information**

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