



PRESERVING OUR PAST - DEVELOPING OUR FUTURE

Karla Kelly Photos

## Council Approves 2025-2026 Operating Budget \$12,844,185

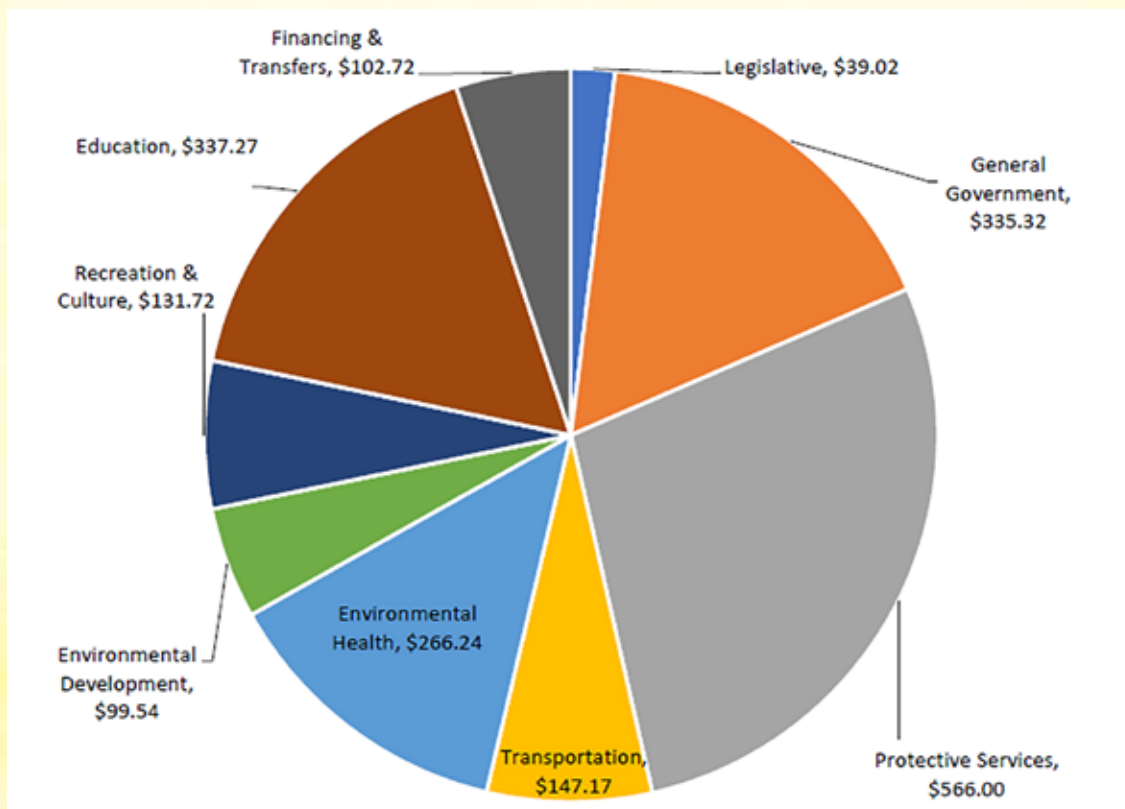
A copy of the budget presentation is available on our website at <https://digbymun.ca>  
On May 27th Council approved the 2025-26 Operating Budget with no increase in the tax rate of \$1.30 per \$100 of residential and resource assessment and \$1.85 per \$100 of commercial assessment.

In this budget Council approved a scaled Low-Income Tax Exemption of \$350 to \$600 for those whose 2024 income from all sources is less than \$33,000.

### How Are My Tax Dollars Used?

To the owner of an average home valued at \$150,000, the base budget being brought forward would levy taxes of approximately \$1,950 per household. If you factor in a .05 cent fire area rate, that adds an additional \$75.

### How Your Tax Dollars are Spent



# Digby Art Bank Acquisition Purchases

The 2025 Digby Art bank jury has made their selection of art pieces for purchase. The recipients are Kathryn Dunphy, Jim Walch, Ray Sanford and Rob Buckland Nicks. Their artwork is now on display at the municipal office. We would like to thank all who submitted work for the 2025 acquisition.



Kathryn Dunphy - Summer Cows



Jim Walch - Old Fashion Way



Rob Buckland Nicks  
Red Breasted Woodpecker



Ray Sanford - Fundy Waves

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## Two New Staff Members



### Welcome Chris Kingston

Chris is our new Director of Municipal Services. He oversees the operation of municipal departments and assists staff with guidance and direction. Chris worked prior as a survey engineer with DeWolfe and Morse Survey Ltd and has extensive experience working with the public. Originally from Hampton, New Brunswick, Chris moved to Nova Scotia seven years ago with his wife and two kids. "I am an outdoors type of person, I enjoy doing things like hiking, fishing, and camping with the family. "I look forward to bringing a private sector perspective to the delivery of municipal services," concluded Chris.



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### Welcome Cory Rice

Cory is our new Building Inspector and is in the training stages of the job. He will be accompanying Chris Thibodeau in the field as part of his training. Over the next two years, Cory will be enrolled in several building inspector courses and will be certified shortly there after. "The job training is intense but very good, Municipal staff have been very good to work with," said Cory.

Cory has been working in the carpentry field since he was a teenager. His family are builders, and building is in Corey's blood. "I have been working as a carpenter since 2012 after graduating from NSCC Burrige Campus carpentry course.

When Corey is not working, he enjoys being with his family. "I love being in the woods, camping, hiking, biking, hunting and fishing. The Digby area is great for that," concluded Corey.

# REMO

Regional Emergency Management Organization

## Competition time! A chance to win one of two 4-person disaster preparedness kits.

**Test Your Preparedness & Win!**  
All you have to do is answer a  
10-question quiz on emergency  
preparedness.

**Draw Date: July 23rd, 1:00 PM**  
**Location: Digby Fire Hall**

Check the Town and Municipal  
websites or visit the DIGBY REMO  
Facebook page for quiz details  
and how to enter!

### What is FireSmart?

FireSmart is a national Canadian  
program that helps increase the  
resilience of homes and commu-

nities to wildfires—especially in  
areas where neighborhoods meet  
forests and grasslands. Learn how  
to reduce your risk and protect  
what matters most.

### Wildfire Preparedness Information Session

**Location:** Digby Fire Hall

**Date & Time:** July 23rd at 1:00 PM

Learn how to protect your home  
and property in the event of a  
wildfire. Join us for a public infor-  
mation session where you'll re-  
ceive practical advice and resourc-  
es to help keep your family safe.  
Members of the NS Guard will be  
there to answer your questions.

**Don't forget to enter our quiz**  
for a chance to **win a Disaster**  
**Preparedness Kit!** Winners will be  
drawn during the event.  
All are welcome—come prepared,  
stay protected.

**See Quiz form Insert**



## Digby Hospital Auxiliary Celebrates 100 years



Auxiliary Chair Jackie Dugas (standing)  
with a past Auxiliary member

When a small cottage hospital  
first opened in Digby, it could  
not afford simple supplies. Soon,  
women from a local sewing circle  
collected money to buy linens  
for their hospital, and the Ladies  
Hospital Aid was born. The group  
evolved along with the Digby Gen-  
eral Hospital for the past 100 years,  
changing its name but never losing  
its focus. The Digby Hospital Auxil-  
iary recently celebrated a century  
of caring with friends, hospital staff  
and the community. "The goodwill  
and warm feelings you create reso-  
nate with our staff and physicians,"  
said Ruth White-Frizzel, Director of  
Integrated Rural Health, NS Health.  
Congratulation to Auxiliary Chair  
Jackie Dugas, and all Auxiliary  
members past and present.

## Low Income Property Tax Exemption 2025-26

The applications for the 2025-26  
Low Income Residential Property Tax  
Exemption are now available **online**  
or in-person at the  
**Municipal Office**, 12548 Hwy 217,

Seabrook.

When submitting an application,  
please also bring a copy of your 2024  
Notice of Assessment from the Cana-  
dian Revenue Agency. Low-income  
property owners may be granted a  
yearly property tax reduction (up to  
\$600) based on income. For more  
information, please see our applica-  
tion form on our website. (<https://>

[digbymun.ca/low-income-property-tax-exemption-2025-26.html](https://digbymun.ca/low-income-property-tax-exemption-2025-26.html)) If  
you have any additional questions,  
please contact the Municipal Office  
at 902-245-4777.



# On the Trails

## A Forest Reclaimed: Restoring Van Tassel Lake Trails

A once-thriving section of the Van Tassel Lake Trails has gradually become a struggling patch of forest. What was once a scenic, inviting area is now crowded with downed, decaying trees and overshadowed by a fast-spreading invader—Glossy Buckthorn. Glossy buckthorn is a non-native shrub that grows rapidly and forms dense thickets, blocking out sunlight and crowding out native plants. By outcompeting local trees and shrubs for light, space, and nutrients, it disrupts the natural balance of the forest, reduces biodiversity, and prevents native species from flourishing.

The Town of Digby, Municipality of Digby, Van Tassel Lake Trails

Association (VTLTA), and South-west Nova Biosphere Reserve Association (SNBRA) decided to team up and take action. For seven days, in total, a team of volunteers worked to remove the fall and buckhorn.

With the invasive species removed, it was time to bring new life to the area. The team planted 65 sugar maple trees, known for their beauty, environmental value, and the habitat they provide for local wildlife. These trees will help rebuild the forest's structure, encourage biodiversity, and restore the natural character of the trail system.

"This project is a great example of what can happen when passionate people come together with a common goal," says Mark Durkee, President of the Van Tassel Lake Trails Association. "Even small, focused efforts can lead to

meaningful, lasting change—for the landscape, the wildlife that depends on it, and the people who will love and cherish these trails for generations to come."



L-R Mark Durkee, Greg Turner, Candace Levings, Daniel Memillan, John Lefebvre, Maria Roy



Maria Roy using the Extractagator

Explore the Past and Discover the History

[www.heritagehub.ca](http://www.heritagehub.ca)

District of Digby, Nova Scotia, Heritage Resources

### Council Meetings

5 pm

June COTW - June 10th

June Council - June 24th

July Council - July 22nd

August COTW - August 12th

September COTW - Sept. 9th

September Council - Sept 23rd

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)

### 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)

**Peter Scherer**

902-308-0208 [pscherer@digbymun.ca](mailto:pscherer@digbymun.ca)

**Joan Ross**

902-245-1855 [jross@digbymun.ca](mailto: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