

The MOPC Spotlight

E-newsletter



July 2024

IN THIS ISSUE:

- **MOPC Alert, P. 2**
- **Budget info, P. 3**
- **Scotsburn Food Forest, P. 4**

Caribou Beach is a great place to spend time with family and friends this summer.

Summer fun

Youth played a round of musical chairs at the Lismore and District Community Hall on July 12, 2024. The summer rec program in that community is very well attended and provides a variety of activities for the youth to be involved in. Other recreational programs throughout the Municipality of Pictou County have seen an increase this year with youth getting the opportunity to have fun and learn some new skills.



Sign up for MOPC Alert for important info

The Municipality of Pictou County is encouraging residents to sign up MOPC Alert.

MOPC Alert was created as a tool for the MOPC to be able to connect with residents to send important information prior to, during and after adverse weather events, or other EMO related information

MOPC Alert will be used to send our residents alerts about upcoming severe weather, comfort center locations and operating times, as well as any other information we deem relevant for citizens to be aware of.”

MOPC Alert will also be used for to inform Municipal water customers when there boil water advisories, or other water-related issues that may be relevant.

MOPC Alert will only be used to provide precautionary information. It will NOT be used to convey information that would otherwise be sent through the Nova Scotia Public Alerting System (Alert Ready).

Residents can choose what they want to be notified about and how they would like to be notified. Notifications can be sent by email, text message and/or by phone call.



Only those who sign up will receive notifications. To sign up scan the QR Code in the image or visit <https://tinyurl.com/mr3vx8dt>

Contact the Municipality of Pictou County

Physical Address

46 Municipal Drive
Pictou, N.S.
B0K 1H0

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 910
Pictou, N.S
B0K 1H0

Call Us

902-485-4311
902-752-1530

MOPC releases budget

Property tax rate will remain the same

PICTOU - The Municipality of Pictou County will be holding its tax rate once again.

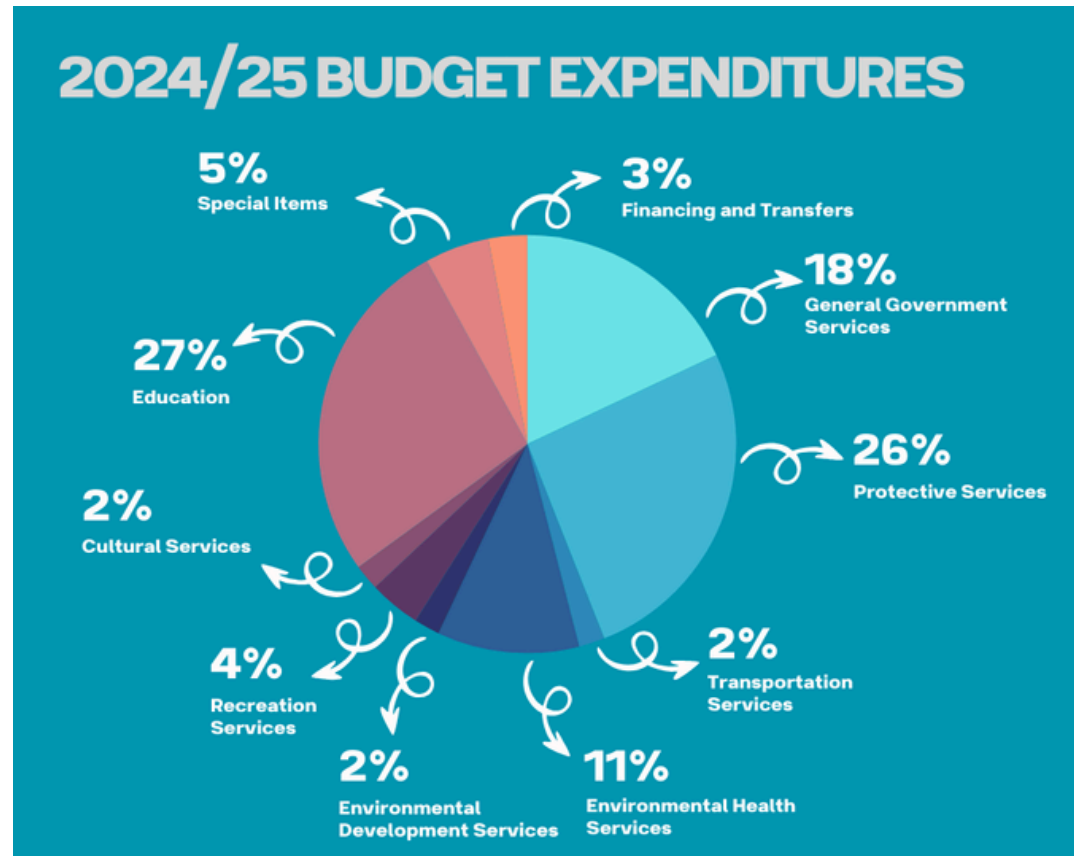
Council for the Municipality of Pictou County voted on July 2, 2024, to approve a \$23,357,052 operating budget. The tax rate for the 2024/25 fiscal year will be \$0.815/\$100 assessed value for residential and resource properties and \$1.825/\$100 assessed value for commercial properties.

Warden Robert Parker said he is happy they were able to avoid a tax rate increase.

“This was particularly important at this time with so many residents struggling with greatly increased cost of living and increased assessments,” said Warden Parker. “Your Municipality’s costs continue to rise rapidly, no different than your household or business, which each year makes it more challenging to hold our tax rates.”

The sewer area rate for those who are hooked up to the municipal sewer system will increase from \$325 to \$368 per year.

Parker said this is up because of a large increase at the wastewater treatment plant that Council had no control over.



The MOPC will pay \$6,047,900 for protective services in the 2024/25 fiscal year, which is 27 per cent of the operating budget. It will also pay a mandatory contribution of \$6,338,598 for education, which is 26 per cent of the operating budget.

During the meeting to discuss the budget, Council also allotted \$572,121 for grants to various community groups.

“Once again, Council was able to allot considerable funding to projects to improve our communities,” Warden Parker said.

This money supports many organizations and will help make the community safer in times of

emergency as well as provide meeting places and recreational opportunities in rural areas, Warden Parker said.

“Our Council respects the tax dollars of our residents and attempts to spend them wisely and fairly.”

Want to know more?

You can view our operating budget and other financial documents online at www.munpict.ca

Scotsburn Community Food Forest shines light on food security movement

The Scotsburn Community Food Forest invites the public to join in its inaugural Garden Party Fundraiser, set to take place at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 10 on location at the Scotsburn Trailhead Park.

This afternoon event promises to delight attendees with a showcase of Food Forest flavours courtesy of Stone Soup Café catering, live local music, and opportunities to support the community-driven initiative.

The Scotsburn Community Food Forest, now in the heart of its fifth growing season, has become a beacon of regenerative agriculture and community engagement.

Established as a grassroots effort by dedicated volunteers, the Food Forest aims to create an edible, medicinal gathering and learning space for current and future generations.

This year's Garden Party Fundraiser not only celebrates this milestone but also raises crucial funds to support ongoing projects and expansions.

"We are thrilled to host our first annual Garden Party fundraiser," said Raina McDonald of the Scotsburn Community Food Forest.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together, enjoy delicious local foods grown right here, and support our efforts to promote food security, food literacy and community resiliency."



Scotsburn Community Food Forest volunteers and caretakers are seen planting in 2020.

The event will feature a variety of activities designed to engage and entertain guests, including exciting prizes, a silent auction full of locally sourced, mindful items, and insightful speakers connected to local food security and biodiversity movements.

Among the notable speakers are representatives from Small Holdings Farm and the Butterflyway Project, who will share their expertise and insights on sustainable practices and environmental stewardship.

Attendees can look forward to an afternoon filled with music from talented local musicians, guided tours of the Food Forest, and the chance to learn more about how they can get involved in this transformative community initiative.

"We encourage everyone to join us for what promises to be a

memorable celebration," added Mandy Sandbach, who is organizing the event on behalf of the Food Forest. "Whether you're passionate about gardening, sustainability, or simply enjoying a beautiful afternoon with friends and family, there's something for everyone at our Garden Party."

Tickets for the Scotsburn Community Food Forest Garden Party Fundraiser are available for purchase at scffgardenparty.eventbrite.ca.

All proceeds will directly support the ongoing development and maintenance of the Food Forest, ensuring it continues to thrive as a vital community resource. For more information about the Scotsburn Community Food Forest please visit www.scotsburnfoodforest.com or contact scotsburnfoodforest@gmail.com



Garden Party

and Fundraiser

2PM-4:30PM
SATURDAY, AUGUST 10TH

Join us in celebrating Scotsburn Community Food Forest's fifth growing season while contributing to an interconnected food security movement!

LIVE MUSIC

Musical talents of Tala, Isis and Yula

TASTES & SAVORIES

Tastes of the Food Forest, curated with care by Stone Soup Café

LOCAL TEAS

Teas foraged and harvested from our Food Forest

SILENT AUCTION

Locally-sourced, rare & mindful items for every taste - this will be a silent auction like you've never seen before

BEST HAT

Make, take or borrow a sensational garden hat for a chance to win a prize

LEARNINGS

Enjoy speakers from the Food Forest, Small Holdings Farm and the Butterflyway Project

\$60 per plate OR \$100 including a ONE-YEAR Scotsburn Community Food Forest Membership

For tickets, visit [SCFFGardenParty.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/SCFFGardenParty)



Exciting Update from MOPC Network

Did you know that MOPC Network is now available to over 5,000 homes in the Municipality of Pictou County?

If you haven't yet taken advantage of our services, now is the perfect time to get connected. Register online at www.MOPCNetwork.ca to check your eligibility and sign up today. Our installation process is simple and customer-friendly, with no additional cost to you.

We are proud to announce the successful completion of the MOPC FibreFirst Network build-out in River John and Toney River. This expansion adds over 500 homes and businesses to our network, marking another step in our ongoing commitment to expand internet access across the county. With this new infrastructure, more households and enterprises can now benefit from our affordable fibre optic network.

By the end of August, there will be an additional 800-1,100 homes to the MOPC FibreFirst Network, including areas such as Munroe Avenue, Mt William Rd, Westville Rd, and Truro Rd.

We are proud to be part of the Pictou County community and strive to make MOPC Network your top choice for internet connectivity. We will keep you updated as we continue to expand our services and work towards making Pictou County the most connected county in Canada.

MOPC
Network

Experience the Future with MOPC Network
Affordable, Reliable, and Fast Internet
available in your area!



Built By Us For Us

Don't miss out! Check your eligibility and order today
www.MOPCNetwork.ca

HOW TO BECOME A COUNCILLOR 101



 **6 p.m. Aug. 7, 2024**

 **46 Municipal Drive, Pictou**

The Municipality of Pictou County will be hosting an information session for anyone interested in learning more about municipal politics and what's involved to run as a councillor in the Oct. 19, 2024 Municipal Election.

Former councillors, Returning Officer Josephine MacDonald and municipal staff will be present to answer questions about the roles and responsibilities of elected officials.

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP by Aug. 1, 2024
to adam.macinnis@munpict.ca

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2024

**Calling all
interested
candidates!**



OCTOBER 19, 2024

YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

LEARN MORE AT WWW.ELECTIONSPICTOUCOUNTY.CA

STAY IN THE KNOW ABOUT THE UPCOMING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Municipal Elections in Nova Scotia will be held on Oct. 19, 2024.

Returning Officer Josephine MacDonald will manage the election for the six municipalities in Pictou County. Her office is now open by appointment. Regular office hours will be announced when they are set up.

HOW TO VOTE

All voting in the upcoming Oct. 19 election will be electronic. Voters will have the option to vote online or by phone. Voter cards and more information on how to vote will be announced in future correspondence.

There will be two advance voting days on Oct. 12, 2024 from noon to 8 p.m. and Oct. 15, 2024 from noon to 8 p.m. For advance voting days there will be kiosks set up in each municipality where voters can have assistance with electronic voting.

Residents will be able to cast their ballots starting at noon on Oct. 6, 2024 through 7 p.m. on Oct. 19, 2024. This can be done with any electronic device, phone or at a kiosk between the hours of 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Oct. 19, 2024.

**RETURNING OFFICER JOSEPHINE MACDONALD
PHONE: (902) 485-2253
RETURNINGOFFICER@MUNPICT.CA
46 MUNICIPAL DRIVE, PICTOU, NOVA SCOTIA, B0K 1H0
WWW.ELECTIONSPICTOUCOUNTY.CA**



Salem & Area Recreation Association
is proud to present the second annual:



Music in the Park

SUNDAY JULY 21st, 1-4pm

109 Salem Loop, Greenhill (former Salem Ball Field)
Rain Location: West River Fire Dept. Hall

Featuring:

The Island Boys



Playing Country, Newfoundland & Dance Music
Vince Robin, Kevin Webb, Dave McGovern, Kenny Collins



Pictou County Local Fiddlers
Amelia Parker, Katey Aucoin,
Pierre Aucoin

Admission: \$10/person, children under 12 free Tickets sold on site



BBQ & refreshments
prepared by the West River
Fire Dept. proceeds to S.A.R.A

**Bring your lawn chair or
blanket and enjoy an
afternoon of live music!**



Family friendly event!

BIKE REPAIR NIGHT

SEE YOU
THERE!



COME OUT TO THE
CN STATION TO HELP
WITH BIKE REPAIRS!
(71 FRONT ST, PICTOU)

Bikes for
Kids

6:00PM-8:00PM
TUESDAYS

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!
NO EXPERIENCE
REQUIRED!

For more information,
contact
bikesforkids@munpict.ca
or (902)-759-9523

