

The MOPC Spotlight

E-newsletter



May 2024

New hotel coming to East River Business Park, P. 2



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TownePlace Suites coming to East River Business Park

NEW GLASGOW – A new hotel is coming to Pictou County.

Frank Barci, president of Barci Enterprises Inc. and his investment partner Carlos Lopes have purchased a two-acre lot in the East River Business Park which is co-owned by the Town of New Glasgow and Municipality of Pictou County. They will be constructing a hotel for TownePlace Suites, a hotel chain owned by Marriott International.

Construction on the 100-room hotel is expected to start in the spring of 2025.

Barci said he first heard about the land for sale in the East River Business Park through a representative who saw potential in the region. He did some initial background research about the area and the local accommodations market, but it was a trip to see the property in person that really sold him on the location.

Not only was it situated off the busy East River Road, which sees 30,000 vehicles a day, but it was near the Aberdeen Hospital and the Trans Canada Highway and just minutes away from malls and downtown New Glasgow. On top of all that, it had the visibility he was hoping for.

“It sits up high enough that when we build it people will be able to see it from the highway,” Barci said.

Barci said he was also impressed by the fact that the hotel he stayed in was full in the middle of the week. He could tell right away there was a need for more accommodations.

Frank MacFarlane, Business Development officer for the Town of New Glasgow and Municipality of Pictou County has been working with the developers from the start.

“When I eventually met Frank and Carlos on their visit to Pictou County in late Summer of 2022, I could tell immediately that they were impressed with the region and this strategic location and the opportunity for development,” MacFarlane said. “Within a couple of months, we hammered out a Purchase and Sale Agreement. It really has been a pleasure dealing with their group over the past two years.”

TownePlace Suites is a type of hotel that offers the option of long-term stay and each room will include a refrigerator and stove. “They’ll have a place they can stay and cook their own meals instead of having to go out to a restaurant,” Barci said.

He said this should be particularly of interest for workers staying in the area temporarily or people with family staying at the Aberdeen Hospital for an extended period. It might also appeal to people coming into the area for sports events who want the ability to cook their meals.

The hotel will also feature a pool and on-site laundry services. Barci anticipates construction will take about 14-16 months.

Joe MacDonald, chair of the New Scotland Business Development Inc. which manages the East River Business Park, said the hotel will be a great addition to the business park and will benefit the entire community.

“It provides more short-term accommodations for professionals coming into the county, which should free up more available housing for other residents.”

Randy Palmer, who is vice-chair for business park said it’s a great announcement.

“I think it is a perfect fit for the Business Park,” Palmer said. “The location is ideal for businesses in the area and convenient for those coming to Pictou County for medical and health care services.”

MacFarlane believes it could foster further development.

“The addition of a branded hotel to this part of the County is a game changer, both in the potential future development it may encourage, and also in the way it remedies a service gap in the extended stay market,” he said.

For more information about land opportunities in the East River Business Park call Frank MacFarlane at (902) 755-3575 or email frank.macfarlane@newglasgow.ca.

Volunteers spruce up field in Merigomish

Volunteers planted several thousand spruce seedlings in Merigomish on Saturday, May 13.

The planting was a project of the Climate Change Committee for the Municipality of Pictou County, which purchased 5,000 trees to be planted in the county.

Approximately 3,000 were planted at the site on Lamont Road and the rest were distributed to interested landowners and made available to the public.

Tree planting subcommittee chair David Parker said it was a great success.

“There was a good turnout of volunteers from ages 2 to 72,” Parker said.

He said the committee is thankful that the property owner Paul Daniels allowed them to plant the trees on his land.

Members of the Construction Engineering Flight from Pictou were among those who helped out with the planting and stayed from start to finish.

Parker said it was also nice to see young children involved and being taught to give back to their community.

“It shows that we can do things to help alleviate climate change,” he said. “That’s our main goal to get more people planting trees.”

The softwood planting has become an annual tradition for the Climate Change Committee and is expected to continue in the coming years.



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

Stay in the know

The Municipality of Pictou County has added a new tool to communicate with residents, MOPC Alert.

This new alert system will be used to notify residents who sign up for it about information in the community such as boil water advisories or local emergency management alerts.

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 at the side.

MOPC ALERT



Stay in the know with the Municipality of Pictou County's new notification system, MOPC Alert. You chose what notifications you receive and how. Scan the QR code to sign up today.



How to pay your taxes



You can pay your property tax or water bills online through your bank by following these instructions:

Property Taxes

Go to "Add Payee"

Search "Pictou"

Select "Pictou County Taxes"

Add all 8 digits of your Municipal Account number

Water Utility

Go to "Add Payee"

Search "Pictou"

Select "Pictou County Water"

Add all 8 digits of your Municipal Account number

You can pay your property tax bills by dropping a cheque into the mail. The address is:

The Municipality of Pictou County

P.O. Box 910, Pictou

Nova Scotia, B0K 1H0

Visit our administration building Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to pay your bill in person.



May is Gaelic Awareness Month in Nova Scotia. The MOPC was pleased to have Ann Munro join council during the May council meeting to read a proclamation in Gaelic. Munro is pictured here with Warden Robert Parker holding the Gaelic Flag. It will be flown at the Administrative Building for May.



Members of the Construction Engineering Flight 144 in Pictou are putting in some new windows and doors at the Hillside Community Hall this week. From left are: Cpl. Kodie Powell, Cpl. Travis Decker and Cpl. Greg Creighton.

Tick Check Basics

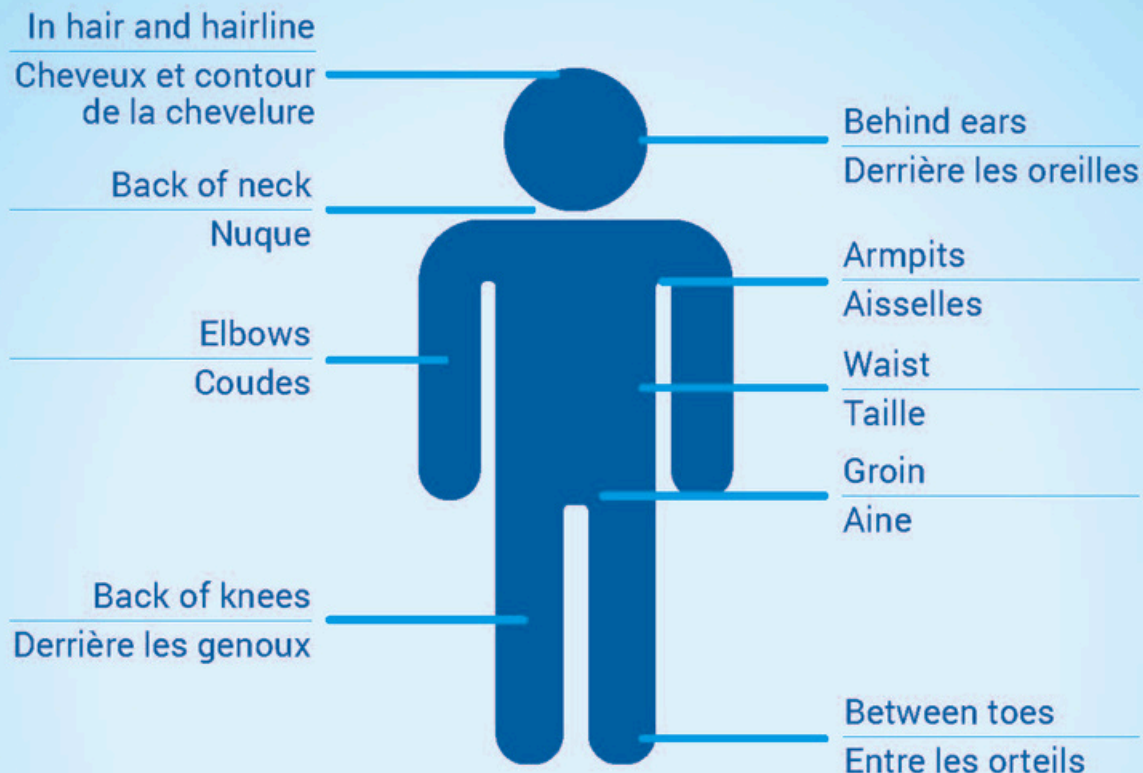
Conseils relatifs aux tiques

Check your body and clothing for ticks after spending time outside.

Ticks like warm places on the body.

Vérifiez votre peau et vos vêtements après avoir passé du temps à l'extérieur.

Les tiques aiment les endroits bien au chaud.



- Don't forget to check your pets
- A bath or shower within two hours of being outdoors makes it easier to spot ticks

- N'oubliez pas de vérifier vos animaux de compagnie.
- Il est plus facile de voir les tiques si vous prenez un bain ou une douche dans un délai de deux heures après avoir passé du temps à l'extérieur.

For more information, including how to remove a tick safely, visit novascotia.ca/ticksafety

Pour obtenir plus d'information, y compris sur la façon d'enlever une tique de façon sécuritaire, consultez le novascotia.ca/ticksafety (en anglais seulement).

PUBLIC MEETING

Regarding off highway vehicles



DATE

May 21, 2024



TIME

At 6:30 PM



LOCATION

Thorburn Fire Hall

Join us for this discussion about off highway vehicles. Conservation Officers and RCMP will be in attendance.



Pictou and Area Garden Club

Annual Plant Sale

\$5.00 each CASH ONLY

(some exceptions)

Saturday, May 25, 2024 — 9 am sharp to 11 am

Kinsman Building, 231 Patterson Street, Pictou

For a list of plants go to
our FB page: Pictou and
Area Garden Club



- Annuals
- Perennials
- Vegetables
- Seeds
- House Plants
- Herbs

Always Check Before You Burn

From now until October 15, the provincial government will update its burn map at 2 p.m. daily at www.novascotia.ca/burnsafe or you can call for updates at 1-855-564-2876(BURN).



In counties coloured green on the burnsafe map (designated "burn"), domestic brush burning is permitted between 2pm and 8am.



In counties coloured yellow on the burnsafe map (designated as "restricted") domestic brush burning is permitted ONLY between 7pm and 8am.



In counties coloured red on the burnsafe map (designated "no burn") open fires are not permitted.

Do you need a permit to burn?

For **Domestic burning** of piles smaller than 2m by 3m and campfires, No, but you now need to check the burn restrictions map or phone line to see when you are allowed to burn.

For **Industrial burning** – YES – you do still require to obtain a permit if you are burning piles larger than 2m by 3m and will have more than 4 piles burning at once and are clearing land for building a structure, for agriculture or for blueberry burning over 2 hectares. Go to your local Natural Resources Office to obtain a permit.

Can I have an open fire in the morning?

No. No matter what colour the map shows, there is NO domestic brush burning or campfires permitted in Nova Scotia between 8am and 2pm, except Industrial Permits. For INDUSTRIAL PERMITS you must call the local office first prior to igniting your fire to make sure conditions are safe to do so.

What is domestic brush burning?

Domestic brush burning is burning (for no remuneration) woody debris in 2 piles or fewer which are no wider than 3 m and no taller than 2 m. Domestic brush burning includes campfires (except in licensed private, municipal, and provincial campgrounds) and blueberry burning which is less/equal to 2 ha.

What is considered a campfire?

Any open fire that burns no larger than 0.5 m in diameter and is intended for recreation and not for survival is considered a campfire.

What about burning in chimineas, fire pits, and other backyard burning appliances?

If the fire is not in an enclosed CSA approved appliance, the fire is considered to be an open fire. A chiminea is an open fire.

Some municipal bylaws vary from provincial rules – which do we follow?

Check and follow your municipal bylaws first. Your municipality may have a burning restriction that supersedes the provincial restriction. Municipal restrictions may include: the time burning is permitted, the type of burning appliance that is permitted, the location in the municipality where burning is allowed or not, etc.



\$30,126

**Was given by KidSport to help kids participate
in sports in Pictou County in 2023**

\$26,676

For registration

3,450

For equipment

The reality is that cost keeps 1 in 3 Canadian kids out of organized sport. KidSport provides grants to help cover those costs to ensure that no kid is ever left watching from the sidelines. For information on how to apply locally visit <https://kidsportcanada.ca/nova-scotia/pictou/> or email cindy.fraser@munpict.ca or call (902) 485-8528.




Municipality of Pictou County,
District 2 Presents

FAMILY

FUN FOR EVERYONE

Day



SATURDAY, June 15, 2024
1-4PM

Little Harbour Community Centre

**FUN
ACTIVITIES
INCLUDE:**

Carnival Games, Bouncy Castle, Introduction to Pickleball, BBQ, Snow Cones, Live Music, Temporary Tattoo Station, Lawn Games

IN THE EVENT OF A RAIN DAY, WE WILL MOVE TO SUNDAY JUNE 16