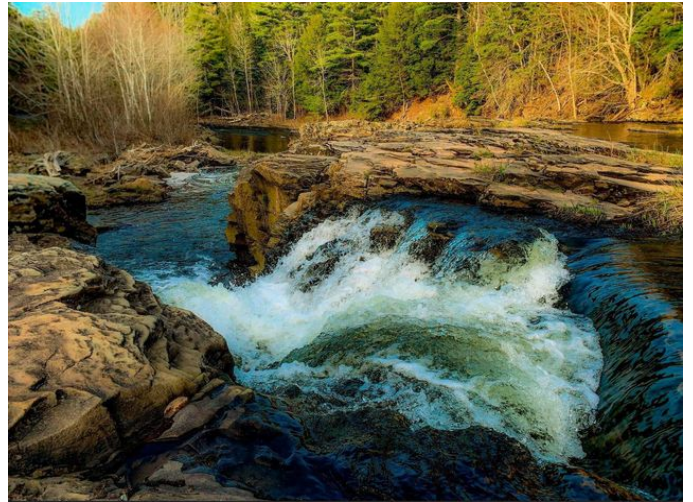




Rural News and Views

46 Municipal Drive, Pictou, Nova Scotia - Summer 2021



The MOPC is full of natural beauty. Our coastal shorelines, lush green fields and our maintained trails and parks make getting outdoors and taking pictures a frequent hobby for many people. Send us your photos of rural Pictou County and we will post them on our media sites for everyone to see. Here, clockwise from the left, are submissions from Angie Larkin-Turner of Green Hill, Kaitlyn Gammon of Waterside Beach and Lori Shepherd of Hopewell Falls.



We love our local producers. They work hard all year to provide you with the best, locally grown products. If you want to shop local, visit our producers site on our website at www.munpict.ca. You can link directly to the websites of local producers for information about their goods and services as well as their location and contact information.

Don't Miss the latest in Municipality News and Events. Check out www.munpict.ca as well as our Facebook and Twitter pages at Municipality of Pictou County.



MOPC Staff Directory

Chief Administrative Officer

Brian Cullen

brian.cullen@munpict.ca

Deputy Clerk

Carolyn MacIntosh

carolyn.macintosh@munpict.ca

Communications

Sueann Musick

sueann.musick@munpict.ca

Finance Office

Deputy Municipal Treasurer

Karen Cornish

karen.cornish@munpict.ca

Public Works

Engineer

Logan McDowell

logan.mcdowell@munpict.ca

Emergency Phone Number:

902-301-1825

By-law Officer

Anne MacCarthy

anne.maccarthy@munpict.ca

GIS Technician

Kevin Burley

kevin.burley@munpict.ca

Building Inspection

Mike McKenzie

Travis Spears

buildingpermits@munpict.ca

Recreation

Cindy Fraser

cindy.fraser@munpict.ca

Clare Steele

clare.steele@munpict.ca

Main office phone number:

902-485-4311

902-752-1530

46 Municipal Drive,

Pictou, NS, B0K 1H0

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 910, Pictou

NS B0K 1H0



A Message from Warden Robert Parker

The sun has warmed up the outside air; the grass is green, new young baby animals and birds play and sing.

All is well with the world. Well, not quite. A long way from it.

We are still battling COVID, having lost over 25,000 Canadians and shaken our lives like nothing since the World Wars. We also have a battle on our hands to protect Mother Earth. Mental health is also a huge challenge that is destroying many lives and many families. Many residents of our rural municipality are fighting a tough battle every day with significant illness and many losing dear loved ones.

Let us go back to the birds singing and all the newborns playing. We have a lot to be thankful for.

"We live in a good place at a good time in history," to borrow a line from one of my favourite preachers.

I believe our job in local government is to make the good things better, so we continue to attract people to live here and correct things that make life difficult, at least those within your control.

On a positive note, our construction numbers are up this year. I hope that some of this is trust that we will eventually have the best high-speed internet and cell service in the province. Although I am not happy with how long it has taken, we do have federal dollars to help with the wireless component of the project, and we are planning to have towers across the county this summer.

Our fibre to the home is ongoing. Our share of the provincial high-speed internet dollars would help, so as the provincial election nears, please pressure your candidates to treat rural Pictou County fairly.

Thank you to those who made our roadsides more attractive in the recent cleanup. Our council needs to continue to develop strategies to prevent littering and dumping. Thanks to Earle Cameron and his staff at Pictou County Solid Waste to coordinate Go Clean Get Green and their ongoing work to clean up illegal dumpsites.

There is a massive challenge in our County to do with doctor shortages. Our council supports a position to attract new doctors and retain those who are here. Virtual health is sometimes all you need, but nothing replaces everyone having a doctor. We must accept nothing less as our end goal. Our council has always been a strong advocate for better mental health care in this county. We have a joint committee with the other five municipal units firmly committed to improving mental health services in Pictou County.

On behalf of my fellow councillors and staff, enjoy your summer as we ease our way out of this pandemic. Be safe as you enjoy our inland and coastal waters. The best is yet to come and remember to take care of each other.

MOPC welcomes Logan McDowell

Logan McDowell recently joined the MOPC as its new director of public works and development. Logan is an engineer and project management professional as well as a graduate of St. Francis Xavier University (2009) and Dalhousie University (2011). He comes to the municipality from the private sector where he worked for 10 years as a consultant in Alberta, British Columbia, and Nova Scotia.



As a strong advocate for Pictou County, Logan and his family returned to the area in 2018 and have since enjoyed our wonderful beaches, outdoor activities, shopping, and restaurants. He is excited to step into his new role and looks forward to delivering the highest levels of service possible to residents, to helping local businesses to expand, and to promoting good development throughout our region. If you have a project to advance, please contact our public works and development department to get the ball rolling.

Working together to make PC a safe place to live

Pictou County REMO is the agency that takes care of emergency management planning, preparation, response, and recovery in Pictou County.



Every municipality in the province is responsible for emergency management in their areas, and Pictou County REMO helps make sure that all our municipalities, police departments, fire departments, and others can deal with any emergency that happens and continue to provide the essential services needed in our communities. Follow REMO on Facebook and Twitter or check out its website at www.remopictoucounty.ca for updates.

MOPC COUNCIL

- District 1 Don Butler
902-926-2589
don.butler@munpict.ca
 - District 2 Deborah Wadden
902-752-1303
deborah.wadden@munpict.ca
 - District 3 Darla MacKeil
902-759-2792
darla.mackeil@munpict.ca
 - District 4 Mary Elliott
902-351-2794
mary.elliott@munpict.ca
 - District 5 Wayne Murray
902-485-9194
wayne.murray@munpict.ca
 - District 6 Robert Parker
902-925-2240
robert.parker@munpict.ca
 - District 7 David Parker
902-396-3481
david.parker@munpict.ca
 - District 8 Larry Turner
902-752-6741
larry.turner@munpict.ca
 - District 9 Peter Boyles
902-755-3938
peter.boyles@munpict.ca
 - District 10 Randy Palmer
902-922-2277
randy.palmer@munpict.ca
 - District 11 Andy Thompson
902-754-0101
andy.thompson@munpict.ca
 - District 12 Chester Dewar
902-923-2931
chester.dewar@munpict.ca
- MOPC WEBSITE:**
www.munpict.ca
Facebook, You Tube and Twitter Pages:
Municipality of Pictou County

RECREATION

Summer recreation in the MOPC

Community Programming

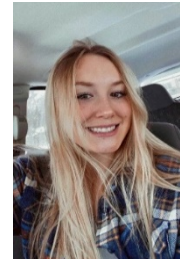
This summer, the MOPC's recreation staff has plenty of things planned to help keep you busy. We will be offering LARK programming in Caribou and Little Harbour in addition to other summer programming.



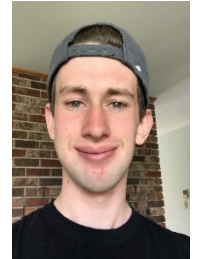
Campbell Burrows



Daniel Chisholm



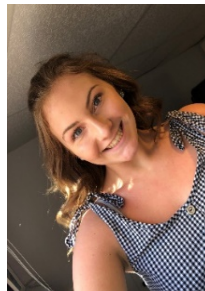
Nina Davey



Daniel Stewart

Swimming Programs

The MOPC will be offering two-week swimming programs at local beaches in River John (July 19-30) and in Lismore (Aug. 3-13).



Skye MacDonald



Kara-Lynn Taylor

Our swimming staff, Skye MacDonald and Kara-Lynn Taylor are certified swim instructors and lifeguards.

Bikes for Kids



Nathan Snell oversees our Bikes for Kids program.

The Municipality of Pictou County is offering a Bikes for Kids Program. This is a free program that provides bicycles for children in the community. Deadline for applying is July 23 and the application is available at our administration building or it can be downloaded at www.munpict.ca.

You can also check out its own Facebook Page at Bikesforkids. Volunteers will be needed in the future for bicycle repairs. Donations of bikes are currently being accepted and arrangements can be made by emailing bikes4kids@activepictoucounty.ca or calling 902-301-4277.

Equipment Loan



Our equipment loan program is popular in all seasons and for the summer months, we have camping equipment available, including tents, as well as inflatable paddle boards and summer activity toys. Just call 902-485-2247 to reserve items.

Watch our webpage www.munpict.ca and Facebook page, Municipality of Pictou County, for updates and registration dates for all programs.

RECREATION



Melmerby Beach has an accessible wheelchair on site during the summer months to make it easier for individuals to visit the beach. The hippocampe can be reserved by visiting the Provincial Park website, or by calling the Lands and Forestry office.

The Pictou County Equipment Loan Program also has accessible equipment for hiking and biking. Reach out to our recreation department for more information on reserving equipment.



MOPC Public Works crews have been busy placing speed signs in rural areas. The signs are reminder for residents to slow down and obey speed limits.



The MOPC proudly flies the Progress Pride flag in June in honour of Pride Month. Our second flagpole is available for community or event flags. Contact us if you have flag you would flown in front of our administration building.

Watch our meetings live online or archived on You Tube

You can view our monthly meetings online. The first Monday of the month, the MOPC hosts its Council meeting and the third Monday, it hosts property and finance committee meetings. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. and you can view them live by clicking on a link posted on our website at www.munpict.ca Meetings will be posted on our You Tube channel, Municipality of Pictou County, the following day.



Landfill Vouchers



Available from June to November 2021 at our Administration Building at 46 Municipal Drive, Pictou.

Save yourself a visit and have them mailed to you. Call 902-485-4311 for more information.

**Free WiFi
at the
Pictou-
Antigonish
Regional
Library
Branches**

If access to High-Speed internet is challenging - all branches of the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Libraries have free broadband Wi-Fi, available 24 hours/7 days a week, inside and outdoors around the library. Just park close to any library location and connect.



In addition, with assistance from Community Services – each library location has several iPads available for clients that can be borrowed and used in the vicinity of the library's WiFi – helping everyone to keep connected.

For more information, visit www.parl.ns.ca (for branch hours, telephone numbers, and email addresses), call Regional Library Headquarters' toll-free phone number (1(866) 779-7761), or email info@parl.ns.ca.

Living with bears

When you live in a rural area, there is a good chance you will see wildlife.

In Pictou County, black bears live in our wooded areas but can make their way onto your properties or roadways as they search for food.



The most effective way to prevent these situations is to remove (where possible) the attraction of food or to make it difficult to access. Once a bear has found a food source, it will likely return.

If you encounter a bear:

Stay calm, speak in a firm, authoritative voice while you back away. Do not look the bear directly in the eyes. Try to get upwind of the animal.

Move away slowly while facing the animal. Do not block any escape routes for the bear. Drop something – not food - to distract the bear as you move away.

Do not move loud noises, threatening gestures or sudden moves unless you are being attacked.

Never act physically aggressive towards a bear unless your life depends on it.

If a bear attacks you, fight back with everything you can and make a lot of noise. Use pepper spray if you have it with you. Do not run.

More information is available at:
<https://novascotia.ca/natr/wildlife>

District One News

With the arrival of spring, there is lots of anticipation in the air. Good things are happening in District One. Hats off to all who took part in the Go Clean, Get Green program on April 24th. The dumpster located at the Merigomish Fire Hall was packed to the top.



**District One
Coun.
Don Butler**

We are very lucky to have two fire departments in the district. I want to compliment the Merigomish and Barneys River departments on the co-operative way they work together to ensure we are well looked after in the event of a fire.

Both departments are participating in the weekly 50/50 jackpot sponsored by Nova Scotia Firefighters. A portion of each ticket purchased comes back to the departments. Give them your support.

The Merigomish School house continues to be a hive of activity along the Shore Road. Beginning in early May they feature a weekly Farmer's Market each Sunday morning from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

They work very hard to provide a stage for local vendors to display and sell their wares.

Last year we conducted a virtual summer recreation program for children throughout the district. This was very well received. For sure there will be a recreation program again this summer. Depending upon covid, it will be either regular or virtual.

District One Development Society is in the process of producing a business directory. For the most part there will be no charge to be included. A concerted effort will be made to include all businesses.

A hearty welcome to new residents in the district. Once fear of Covid passes, we hope to have a social event to welcome each of you to the area.

Respectfully,

Don Butler

don.butler@munpict.ca

902-925-2589



**Provincial
Mental Health and
Addictions Crisis Line**
Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
1-888-429-8167 toll free

**Mental Health and
Addictions Intake**
Available weekdays, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
1-855-922-1122 toll free

Community Mental Health and Addictions Clinics, Withdrawal Management Services,
or Opioid Replacement and Treatment Program

WHO DO YOU CALL?

TIR OPERATIONS CONTACT CENTRE: Since most roads are provincially owned, one avenue of contact is through your local MLA's office, but you can also contact the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal's Operations Contact Centre, which is open 24 hours, seven days a week. **The Operations Contact Centre can be reached locally at 902-755-7060 or toll-free at 1-844-696-7737. Emails can be sent to tir-occ@novascotia.ca.**

MOPC PUBLIC WORKS: If emergency assistance is required in rural Pictou County for issues regarding water, wastewater, or municipal roads, please call: 902-301-1825.

STREETLIGHTS: If you have a streetlight out in your area please call 902-485-1201 or email, outages@munpict.ca

NSFM supports MOPC through Rural Caucus

In addition to my council activities, I was quite fortunate to be elected as the Rural Caucus Representative to the board for our Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM). The NSFM is the collective voice of municipalities in the province. Its role includes government advocacy, policy development, develop programs, and member services. Five resolutions we are advocating to the province are the CAP program, inadequacies in municipal funding, extended producer responsibility (EPR), enabling municipal modernization, and funding for roads. We also have statements of municipal concerns such as accessibility enforcement, active transportation, asset management, fire service, gas tax, women in local government, and many more. I am so pleased to be a part of this very active organization and am always amazed at the amount of work done on our behalf by our NSFM, and now I can sit on the board and see how all this work is done. Our NSFM believes working together is critical to help our province grow, and our communities succeed. We believe our collective voice will impact changes that better support all of us here.

We work to bring our collective views together, prioritize the areas of most concern, develop meaningful resolutions, and organize events that reach out to other levels of government. NSFM works to help municipal councils better understand issues and opportunities. I am very proud to be a part of this very able organization representing all rural municipalities across our province.

*Deborah Wadden
Nova Scotia Rural Caucus Representative*

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.



Congratulations to Mary Jane Craik who recently retired as volunteer treasurer for the River John Library board of directors. She has held the position for 17 years. She was presented with a plaque of appreciation from District 4 Coun. Mary Elliott on behalf of the MOPC.



River John resident Raymond MacKenzie recently celebrated a big milestone on March 20 by celebrating his 90th birthday. MOPC District 4 Coun. Mary Elliott recently presented Mr. MacKenzie with a plaque of recognition from the county.

District 4 News

I am pleased to be a councillor for the Municipality of Pictou County serving District 4. Congratulations to the grads of 2021! It has been another challenging year, but do not let this take away from all you have accomplished.



**District 4 Coun.
Mary Elliott**

It is very important that I take the time to say thank you to our volunteers. Letting our volunteers know that their contributions are important and that their hard work matters. Volunteers are special. Your generosity means the world to the people you serve. Commitment to community is evident here in District 4, and we are very thankful. As we approach a new normal of living in the future, things will get better. This is a hard time for everyone. Our communities will once again celebrate and come together. Until then, seize opportunities to share lightness and humour. Laughter right now is a relief for all of us! Remember to keep up to date on news and events from the Municipality of Pictou County by following our website at www.munpict.ca as well as our Facebook page. If you have any questions at any time, please do not hesitate to contact me. Stay safe and take care.

*Sincerely,
Mary Wooldridge-Elliott
mary.elliott@munpict.ca
902-351-2794*

Municipal Grant Applications

If you are a member of a community group looking for a municipal services grant application, please contact your councillor directly. Due to the ongoing pandemic, ratepayer meetings may not be possible.

Rural Internet Project progressing with wireless and fibre



Warden Robert Parker, left, and Central Nova MP Sean Fraser stand together following an announcement of federal government funding for the rural internet project.

Federal government funding received for wireless portion of project

The MOPC Rural Internet Project is progressing with both wireless and fibre components. In April, the municipality received \$4.46 million from the Federal Government's Universal Broadband Fund Rapid Response Program for the deployment of a broadband network to rural areas. Government of Canada's Universal Broadband Fund Rapid Response Stream. With a contribution from the Municipality of Pictou County of \$3.32 million, this project will connect many underserved households to high-speed Internet in Pictou County. The Rapid Response money will be used to expand wireless network access in the Municipality of Pictou County as part of its rural broadband project. The MOPC has been working on a high-speed rural internet project for the past five years that will give every home in rural Pictou County the opportunity to have access to high-speed internet. Two thirds of this project will be fibre to homes while another one-third will be wireless.

Most of our work on this project thus far has been behind the scenes involving planning, permit approvals and equipment orders.

We have had unfortunate delays, some of which have been due to COVID, but the project is making progress.

Phase I fibre component

- Project has been reviewed and audited with an assessment.
- Permits and equipment are being accelerated for best results in 2021
- Construction will start with multiple strategies in 2021.

Wireless component

- Project is on-track
- Service Maps will be made available soon.
- Service will launch by September and construction and installation this summer.
- Completion by November 2021



Warden Robert Parker stands with spools of fibre that will be used for our rural internet project.

For updates on our Rural Internet Project, check out www.ruralnet.munpict.ca

Water and Tax Billing



Property Taxes are due June 15.

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

To begin, you must have a separate payee for each; taxes and water.

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. Social distancing restrictions are in place and masks must be worn inside the building.

Is your civic number up?



Civic numbers play an essential role in helping first responders find you in an emergency. We cannot stress how important it is that you and everyone in your home and workplace know your civic address and post it properly.

If I do not have civic number, how do I get one?

You can call the Municipality of Pictou County's GIS department to speak to our Civic Addressing Coordinator. The phone number is 902-485-4311 or he can be reached at kevin.burley@munpict.ca.

How do you purchase civic number signs?

Some local fire departments will order signs for residents. Contact a member of your department to find out more information. Local businesses such as Eastern Sign Print and Auto Trim and Sign also make them, and the Westville Citizens Crime Prevention is also listed as a supplier on the provincial website. <https://beta.novascotia.ca/.../civic-address-sign...>

Can I place my sign anywhere on my property?

The Municipality of Pictou County has a bylaw on civic numbers which outlines how the signs should be posted on a property. The complete bylaw can be found on our website at www.munpict.ca.

District 9 News

Living during a pandemic is difficult. There are times when you might need help, but you do not know where to turn. If there are people in our area isolating or anyone who cannot go out in public, please call me.



Peter Boyles
Coun. District 9

There is a list of different organizations available, and I will assist you in finding the resources you need. No one should feel alone. We are a strong community and look after one another. We can help each other by calling on the phone anyone you know who may feel isolated. If you are able, support the food bank and local business.

Everyone has faced sacrifices and challenges this pandemic presented us. We must continue to follow public health protocols to interact soon and move about safely. Hopefully, we may be able to have a modified version of some of our summer activities.

Since we are outside in the warmer weather, remember it is tick time. Lyme disease is a serious illness caused by the bite of a black-legged tick. The best way to prevent Lyme disease is through education and preventative measures, such as daily tick checks. To learn more, visit <https://novascotia.ca/ticksafety/>

I am pleased to say that a large portion of Chance Harbour Road has been repaved this spring. I will continue to lobby to have culverts fixed or replaced so that they are functioning correctly. Call me with any road issues, and I will do my best to assist.

I wish to extend sincere condolences to the family of Spurge MacDonald. Spurge received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, in 2013 for outstanding and exemplary contributions to his community. Spurge received special recognition from the Municipality of Pictou County for his 40 years of dedication and volunteerism to hockey and Pictou County children. I remember Spurge flooding the outdoor rink when I was a kid so we would have a place to skate. As an adult, I was fortunate to call him my friend. As my campaign manager, he walked with me to meet people on a lot of doorsteps. Spurge will be missed!

Congratulations to graduates on the completion of their studies and all other students on a successful year. It has been a challenging school year for students, parents, and teachers. You are all to be commended for your commitment to education during these Covid-19 circumstances.

If you have any ideas of how we can continue improving our district or have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Have a safe summer,
Peter Boyles
peter.boyles@munpict.ca
902-755-3938



Thorburn Fire Department

Greetings to the residents of Pictou County in the coverage area of the Thorburn & District Fire Department.

In the last few years, we renovated the community hall area and installed a Genset for power outages, allowing us to be a relief center when EMO declares us one. We have several new members and training is taking place, training of the new members refreshes the training of the older members.

We have about half the department trained in medical first response and respond when 911 calls us, and now we have the Covid training, so we can be called to more than car accidents until the ambulance gets there.

We have a webpage,

<https://thorburnfirerescue.wordpress.com>, and

followed that up with a Facebook page called the Thorburn Fire Department.

The Thorburn Fire Department, along with more than 220 other fire departments around the province, has joined Amherst Fire Department in their province-wide 50\50 draw. You go on the site, select the fire department (we are Thorburn FD) you want to support, indicate you live in NS, choose the number of tickets you wish to purchase, and pay for it with a credit card. Your tickets are emailed to you. The way it works is that for \$10, \$5 goes to the winner, \$1.50 to Amherst Fire to administrate, and \$3.50 to the department you have chosen to support. You can log on at: <https://rafflebox.ca/raffle/nsfd/signup> to purchase your tickets.

*Barry MacKenzie
Treasurer, TFD*



Congratulations to Ann Munro of Eden Lake who is our MOPC Volunteer of the Year. Ann was nominated for this award by The Garden of Eden Community Centre. She was the driving force behind the capital project of upgrading the community centre and she worked tirelessly throughout the entire process. The centre is now accessible and is a great asset to the small rural community.

Do you need help from our bylaw department?



Complaints about dogs running at large, mammals on beaches and animals at large can be taken over the phone or by filling out a form on our website and returning it to our office. It can also be dropped into the building's mail slot or regular mail.

Complaints of dangerous and unsightly properties must be made by filling out the form and returning it to our office in person, by email or regular mailed. The form can be found on our website at www.munpict.ca. **IT MUST BE SIGNED. NO ANOYMOUS COMPLAINTS WILL BE DEALT WITH BY OUR BYLAW DEPARTMENT.**

Email: anne.maccarthy@munpict.ca

Phone: 902-485-8640

District 2 News

I would like to thank the residents of District 2 for their continued support.

This has been a very different fifteen months and you have worked hard to follow the public health protocols. With the roll out of our vaccine program, hopefully we will be able to enjoy our new normal by late summer.



Deborah Wadden
Coun. District 2

Although under tight restrictions some of our residents were able to clean up various roads within our district for the Go Green Get Clean program. It is so hard to understand why some people continue to litter, but unfortunately that is still the attitude of some. Luckily, we have some very caring residents who took it upon themselves to get out and clean up our area. We were also joined by a group called Urban Roots who did an excellent job of cleaning up our roadways. Thank you all!

Off Highway Vehicle Safety

It is that time of year again when Pictou County residents will begin to enjoy the outdoors on their wheeled off highway vehicles. Here are some of Nova Scotia's Off Highway Vehicle Act (OHV) regulations to promote a safe riding in the area.

Helmets: They are required for every driver and passenger.

Drivers under the age of 16: You must be at least 16 years of age to drive an OHV. The only exceptions are as follows:

A 14- or 15-year-old can drive if they are under the direct supervision and in direct sight of their parent or guardian and both the child and parent/guardian have successfully completed off highway safety training.

If they are driving on an accredited closed course designed and maintained for the class of OHV they are operating and are following the regulations of the Act in compliance with the course.

The playground at the Little Harbour Community Centre continues to see many families enjoying some of our great spring weather. Work is also progressing on the outside pickleball courts which will be a huge asset to not only our community but Pictou County. Roy Island Trail has become a busy trail with people coming to take advantage of enjoying Mother Nature. There is now a spyglass at the look off to enjoy all the surrounding scenery. The committee was able to purchase this piece of equipment from a municipal service grant.

I do miss our ratepayers' meetings which give me an opportunity to advise you on what is going on at council and to hear your concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have a concern or just want to share an idea. I hope you all get a chance to enjoy your summer or at least a part of it with family and friends. Please take care and above all stay safe!

Respectfully,
Councillor Deborah (Debi) Wadden
deborah.wadden@munpict.ca
(902)752-1303

Driving on public roads: OHV cannot be ridden on highways, beside traffic on the shoulder of the road, or along medians. However, they can cross highways by taking the following safety precautions:

Come to a complete stop on side of the road and yield to all traffic on the highway until safe to cross. Choose an area where there is a clear view for 500 feet in each direction.

You cannot have a passenger on board while crossing the highway.

OHV can be operated on your own property or on designated trails. OHV cannot be operated on someone else's private property without the written permission of the owner or occupier.

The review the entire off-highway vehicle act and regulations visit, www.novascotia.ca.

Information provided by the Nova Scotia RCMP

LORDA Park opens for another season of camping and fishing

LORDA Park

1480 NS-289, Westville, NS B0K 2A0

902-396-4470

Lorda Park is open and available for your outdoor recreational relaxation for the 2021 season. All visitors to the park MUST sign in at the office next to the accessible fishing pond. The park asks that, as a visitor, you help us maintain Covid 19 guidelines in keeping everyone safe:



If you have contact with Covid, or are experiencing any Covid symptoms, please do not attend the park, and get tested.

Wear masks when in contact with staff and persons not in our bubble (i.e. office area, washroom lineups, etc).

Maintain 6 ft distances between yourself and anyone not in your bubble (i.e. fishing, camping, picnic areas).

At registration, be able to answer the Covid screening questions.

Persons in your bubble must be your regular contacts and bubble size must be within public health recommendations. Always maintain a minimum of 6 ft distance from anyone not in your bubble.

At this time, it is not allowing visitors to the campground area if you are not registered as a camper. It is recommended that if you are planning to camp at the park, that you let it know in advance, so it has a spot reserved for you, as well as camping information packages.

Do you need a building permit?



The Building Inspection Division of Public Works and Development is mandated to administer and enforce the Nova Scotia Provincial Building Code Regulations which the Municipality of Pictou County has adopted as required by law. This department is responsible for all new construction, alterations to buildings, relocations, and demolitions. Provincial regulations mandate the Municipality to use and administer the current adopted additions of the National Building Code of Canada for any new construction, additions, alterations, or changes of occupancy.

For inquiries on building relating matters please contact the building officials at:
(902) 485-4588 or email buildingpermits@munpict.ca .

There's an app for that!

Download our mobile app
'Pictou County Solid Waste'



See your
waste collection
schedule



Receive
reminders about
your collection day



Learn if
materials can
be recycled



Don't have a mobile device? Visit www.pcwastemgmt.com.
You can also sign up for reminders by email or phone call.
Search for an item to learn if it can be recycled with the
'Waste Wizard'.

Questions? Call us (902) 396-1495



EARLY DETECTION IS KEY

The identification of Lyme disease in its early stages is very important. In most cases, if caught early, Lyme disease can be treated effectively with antibiotics.

Symptoms typically occur 3 to 30 days after you've been bitten. They can differ from person to person and **could include** any of the following:

- ▶ Rash (sometimes shaped like a bull's eye)
- ▶ Fatigue
- ▶ Fever
- ▶ Aching muscles and joints
- ▶ Chills
- ▶ Swollen lymph nodes
- ▶ Headache

More severe symptoms (experienced weeks to months after a tick bite, if untreated) could include but are not limited to:

- ▶ Severe headaches
- ▶ Facial paralysis (such as Bell's palsy)
- ▶ Joint pain
- ▶ Irregular heart beat
- ▶ Nervous system disorders (such as dizziness, mental confusion or inability to think clearly, and memory loss, nerve pain, numbness or tingling in the hands or feet)

Contact your health care provider if you're not feeling well or are concerned after being bitten by a tick.

PETS AND LYME DISEASE

Although pets can't spread Lyme disease directly to humans, they can carry infected ticks into your home or yard. Regular tick checks and prompt tick removal are just as important for pets as for people.



Sore muscles and joints are the most common symptom of Lyme disease in pets. Some animals may develop a fever or fatigue. Talk to your veterinarian about tick prevention or if you think your pet has Lyme disease.

For more information, visit
Canada.ca/LymeDisease



ENJOY THE OUTDOORS, WITHOUT A TICK

LYME DISEASE IS IN CANADA. PREVENTION IS IMPORTANT.