



Municipality Recognizes 13 employees with long-service awards

The Municipality of Cumberland presented long-service awards to 13 members of staff on Nov. 14. Among those receiving awards were: (front, from left) Margaret Pitts, Jennifer Moore, Ralph Pettigrew, Isobelle Chapman, (back, from left) CAO Greg Herrett, Justin Waugh-Cress, Cathy Coon and Mayor Murray Scott. Darrell Cole – Municipality of Cumberland photo

On Nov. 14, the Municipality of Cumberland recognized 13 long-serving employees at an employee appreciation ceremony at the Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre in Springhill.

“This event is a great opportunity to pass along our appreciation to all of our staff members for their efforts, everyday, to the provision of excellent municipal services here in Cumberland County,” Municipality of Cumberland chief administrative officer Greg Herrett said. “Often, it seems, their work is taken for granted and they’re the target of criticism rather than gratitude. I’m really pleased to say ‘thank you’ to our staff on behalf of the municipality.

“A number of our employees have also reached significant milestones in their municipal careers. We’re happy to honor them and thank them for their dedication to serving their communities.”

Receiving recognition were: 35 Years - Isabelle Chapman, 30 Years- Virginia Kelly, 25 Years - Catherine Coon and John Burbine, 15 Years - Candace Calder, Margaret Pitts, Ralph Pettigrew, Tom Hunter, Gerry Clark and Jack Gilroy, 10 Years - Jennifer Moore, Justin Waugh-Cress and Joel Stone.

Municipality of Cumberland Mayor Murray Scott said the strength of the organization is in its employees.

“Every organization depends on its employees and we have a lot of people who have served this municipality with dedication and commitment for many years,” the mayor said. “We’re so privileged and honoured to have these employees and we’re so thankful to be able to recognize them for everything they do to make this a great place to live.”

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Made-in-Cumberland Solution

The Municipality of Cumberland is like many organizations these days in that it has challenges recruiting qualified new employees. Sometimes, the solution is very close at hand – it just takes a little thinking outside the box and some innovation.

That was the case earlier this year when the municipality was seeking qualified building inspectors for its planning department. The past year has been one of tremendous growth within the municipal unit. The issue was finding the people to go over building plans and give them the necessary stamp of approval.

Enter Samantha Stewart and Cory DeWitt.

Stewart has been with the municipality for 11 years, working as an administrative assistant in the planning department while DeWitt has six years working the front counter at the Upper Nappan Service Centre. “I’ve had a lot of different roles with the municipality, but I really liked working in the planning department,” said Stewart. “I wanted to continue my career here in Cumberland and thought it would be a good move for me.”

DeWitt studied marketing and business in school and most of his jobs have been in customer service.

“For me, it was about opportunity and growth,” DeWitt said. “I was at a point where I wanted to grow into something new.”

David Buell, permits and inspections supervisor with the Municipality of Cumberland, said the pair have been great additions to the department.

“The qualification of Sam and Cory to residential inspector is instrumental in the permit group being able to meet the record demands on our permitting services in Cumberland County,” Buell said. “The fact that we were able to train and promote from within is an excellent opportunity for both them and the county and adds to the long-term viability of such an initiative.”



Mayor's Message



The Christmas season is upon us and we realize it is a very important family time which creates a sense of renewed meaning. We understand the importance of family and each other. It is my wish that we will all be able to share in our blessings whether big or small.

The staff of the municipality will be enjoying a much-deserved break as they celebrate the successes they have created this past year on your behalf. We extend to them a very heartfelt thanks. We wish them an enjoyable time with their families.

I extend our appreciation to all organizations and individuals who are working to assist those in our communities who may be finding this time of year difficult. From Christmas dinners, gifts and monetary assistance they are providing a much-needed service in our community. If you are fortunate enough to receive, I hope you will be inspired to share with others as well. Your efforts will be a blessing to both you and those you help. On behalf of the Municipality of Cumberland, our staff and my fellow councillors I want to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy Happy New Year. Wishing you all the best in 2024.

- Municipality of Cumberland Mayor Murray Scott

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Council Highlights 2023/24

As we turn the calendar from 2023 to 2024, it's an opportunity to share how busy the municipality has been in the past 12 months.

- Council recently announced a request for proposals to build new fire stations in Springhill and Parrsboro as part of the comprehensive fire services review conducted in 2022.
- Two major projects in the Springhill area – the Athol Road and Junction Road rehabilitation projects – were completed in November.
- The municipality also celebrated the completion of the new library in Pugwash earlier this year and officially opened the facility at a ceremony in July.
- 2023 also saw completion of the first phase of a new park and playground in Parrsboro near the site of the former town hall.
- Council was very happy to provide more than \$800,000 in grants to organizations who are doing wonderful things to improve life in communities across Cumberland County.
- The municipality is partnering with NSCC on a study of coastal vulnerability along the Northumberland Strait and it is excited to work with the provincial government on taking full advantage of the geothermal potential in the former mine workings under Springhill.
- In November, we also celebrated 13 employees for their years of service to the municipality in various roles.
- We also made several key additions to staff in the past year, including our new director of finance Aimee Hirtle, our new director of planning and development Glen Boone.

It really has been a busy and productive year within our municipality and 2024 is shaping up to be just as active.

Springhill Water Meters

A water meter is now required in every home and business serviced by Cumberland County Water Utility. Neptune Technology Group has been contracted by Cumberland County Water Utility to install water meters at Springhill properties.

A meter is necessary to accurately measure water consumption. Water rates based on actual consumption create equitable billing and encourage water conservation. Water meters help people manage their own household costs based on how much water use, which makes it fairer for everyone.

Springhill residents will receive a letter from Neptune with instructions on how to book an appointment. Letters are being sent out in phases.



Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to pay for the meter?

No, there is no charge for the meter or the installation during the project period.

Who is responsible for maintaining the meter?

The utility is responsible for any future water meter maintenance provided the owner takes reasonable precautions to prevent any damage to it. It is illegal to tamper with the water meter.

How do I recognize my water meter technician?

Every authorized Neptune technician is uniformed and carries identification, including name, photo, and ID number.

Can I install the meter myself?

No, Neptune is responsible for performing all installations. The technician will install the meter on your incoming water service.

Cumberland Rec. Winter Fun!

Public skating is free to attend with several times available in both Parrsboro and Springhill. Youth 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. CSA Certified Helmets are mandatory while on the ice surface with a limited supply are available to borrow in both locations.



Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre

Adult Skate: Tues. to Fri., 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
Parents & Tots: Tues. & Thurs., 10:30 - 11:30 p.m.
After School: Mon., Wed. & Fri., 3 - 4:30 p.m.
Sticks & Pucks: Sun. 4-5 p.m.
Thurs. 3 - 4:30 p.m.
Family Skate: Sun. 5:15 - 6:15 p.m.

Parrsboro Lions Arena

Adult Skate 18+: Thurs., 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
All Ages Skate: Thurs., 6 - 7:30 p.m.
Fri., 7 - 9 p.m.

Stay active and have fun all winter long! Did you know that Cumberland Recreation has a winter equipment loan program? Borrow snowshoes or cross country skis for a two-week period, for free! Pick up and drop off is available in either Springhill at the Dr. Carson and Marion Murray Community Centre or in Parrsboro at the Service Centre. Please call 902-664-9143 for more information or to make pick-up arrangements. Watch for details on social media for a Sledge Hockey program, March Break activities, Take the Roof Off Winter programming, Fundy Winter Carnival and Chilli Willi Winter Festival. You can find Cumberland Recreation on Facebook and on Instagram @CumberlandRecNS.

