

The Cumberland CONNECTION



ISSUE 04 | Winter 2024/25



From winter activities to hiking and biking, Ski Wentworth Resort is perhaps the finest destination in the Atlantic Provinces dedicated to year-round outdoor activity.

Meet Your New Council

New mayor Rod Gilroy and members of Cumberland municipal council were sworn into office during a special meeting in mid-November.

They were elected during the Oct. 19, 2024, municipal election.

“I’m really looking forward to working with and being part of this enthusiastic team. We have a great blend of experience and people who are on council for the first time,” Gilroy said.

Gilroy said it’s not the work council will do in the next few months or years that’s most important, but the legacy it leaves for the future.

Joining Gilroy on council are returning members Fred Gould in District 1, Jennifer Houghtaling in District 3, Kathy Redmond in District 4 and Angela ‘Angel’ McCormick in District 5.

New councillors include Anthony Fromm in District 2, Scott Lockhart in District 6, Carrie Lee in District 7 and Marchel Strong in District 8.

Five of the eight councillors are women.



Members of Cumberland municipal council include: CAO Greg Herrett, District 6 Coun. Scott Lockhart, Mayor Rod Gilroy, District 1 Coun. Fred Gould, District 2 Coun. Anthony Fromm, (back, from left) District 3 Coun. Jennifer Houghtaling, District 5 Coun. Angela ‘Angel’ McCormick, District 4 Coun. Kathy Redmond, District 7 Coun. Carrie Lee and District 8 Coun. Marchel Strong.

Supporting Local This Winter

As the snow starts to fall and the days get shorter, Cumberland's vibrant small businesses are preparing for the quieter winter months. While many of us hunker down and enjoy the season's coziness, it's also a time when local businesses can face extra challenges. We're always looking for ways to help our entrepreneurs thrive, even in the coldest months. With a bit of creativity, we can turn the season into an opportunity for our local entrepreneurs to stand out and shine. Consider gifting experiences this holiday season with a gift certificate for a local adventure, an over-night get-away, dinner out, theatre or concert tickets. Put local on your table by making an effort to purchase locally grown foods like wild blueberries, maple syrup, honey and preserves. Shop for gifts at a local craft and farmers markets where you will find an abundance of hand crafted and made with love items from woolen mittens and baked goods to art, candles, soaps and crafts.

Supporting our local businesses isn't just about keeping our community strong; it's about showing pride in where we live. The unique businesses in Cumberland contribute so much to our charm—whether it's a locally-owned cafe brewing up the perfect cup of coffee or an artisan crafting one-of-a-kind pieces. These are the heartbeats of our community, and they need our support to continue to thrive through the winter months. Together, we can make winter in Cumberland a season of support, creativity, and community spirit!



Let's show our businesses some love.



Upcoming Events



Fundy Shore Winter Carnival

Feb. 13 to 17, 2025



Pugwash Service Centre Opens

In order to serve residents along the north shore, the Municipality of Cumberland has opened a service kiosk in the Pugwash Library building.

The service kiosk will be open on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The office will offer a variety of services including:

- Tax and water payments
- Tax and water reprint of bills
- Low income tax exemption forms
- Provincial senior low income tax rebate forms
- Address change forms
- Water connect/disconnect (including seasonal properties)
- Pick up or drop off development permit applications



Merry Christmas

As we approach the holiday season, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you. This year has been filled with both challenges and triumphs, and through it all, the strength, resilience, and kindness of our community has shone brightly.

Christmas is a time to celebrate family, friends, and the bonds that tie us together as neighbours. Whether you're spending the season with loved ones or enjoying quiet moments of reflection, I hope that this time of year brings peace, joy, and renewal to you and yours.

As we look ahead to 2025, I am filled with optimism for what we can accomplish together.



Our community continues to grow, and with that growth comes new opportunities to make the Municipality of Cumberland a better place to live, work and raise a family.

On behalf of my family and the entire municipal leadership team, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mayor Rod Gilroy



Mayor - Rod Gilroy
902-664-7201
rgilroy@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca



District 1 - Fred Gould
902-664-8081
fgould@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca



District 2 - Anthony Fromm
902-397-2847
afromm@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca



District 3 - Jennifer Houghtaling
902-297-1298
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District 4 - Kathy Redmond
902-899-5441
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District 5 - Angela McCormick
902-664-9369
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District 6 - Scott Lockhart
902-397-1741
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District 7 - Carrie Lee
902-397-0159
clee@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca



District 8 - Marchel Strong
902-694-8422
mstrong@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca

Stay Active This Winter

Winter Equipment Loan

Municipality of Cumberland Equipment-Loan
2 week **FREE** lending program list!

- Adult and Children Snowshoes
- Adult Cross Country Skis
- Trekking poles
- Crampons
- Gaters

Stay active all winter!

Pick up Mon-Fri
8:00am-5:00pm

Available throughout Cumberland

RESERVE NOW!

cbollwerk@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca
902 664-9143



Parrsboro Library Options Report



Close to 90 people attended the Parrsboro Library Options Report public meeting in late November including Mayor Rod Gilroy and District 8 Coun. Marchel Strong.

TCI Management gave a presentation on the results of the community survey (235 responses), and the attendees broke up into small discussion groups and discussed questions presented by the consultants. At the end of the public meeting, each group had the opportunity to share their feedback with all those in attendance.

It was a very positive meeting with lots of valuable feedback gathered.

This feedback will be used to generate a report to staff and Council that will identify the needs of the community and the viability of options, including proposing the scope and location of a new library in Parrsboro. The report will then be presented to council in the new year.

Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre Free Public Skating Schedule



Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre
**PUBLIC SKATING
SCHEDULE**
2024/25

ADULT SKATE: Tues to Thurs 1-2PM

AFTER SCHOOL SKATE: Mon to Wed & Fri. 3-4PM

STICKS & PUCKS: Thurs 3-4PM & Sat & Sun 4-5PM

FAMILY SKATE: Sat 5:15-6:45PM, Sun 5:15-6:15PM

It is mandatory for all skaters to wear a helmet.

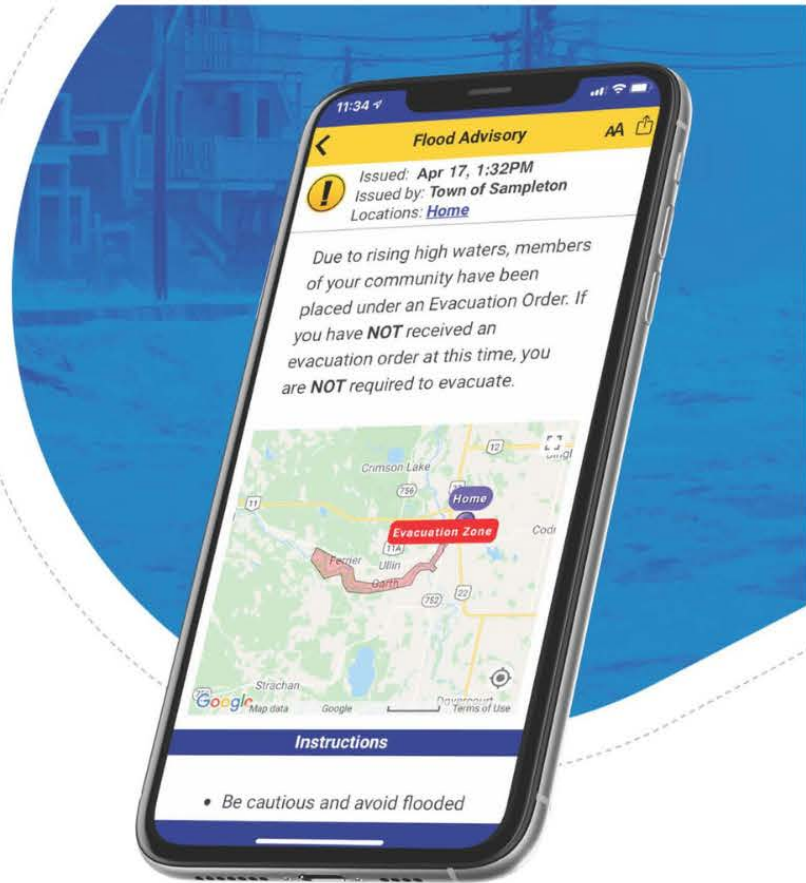


REGISTER FOR FREE TODAY

WHAT IS VOYENT ALERT!?

Voyent Alert! Is a multi-purpose communication service provided by the Municipality of Cumberland to keep you informed of critical events like fires or floods as well as day-to-day communications such as road maintenance and closures, water advisories, etc.

**NOTIFICATION
SERVICE**



WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT

PERSONALIZED COMMUNICATIONS

Voyent Alert! provides informative communications. Critical information such as the distance and direction from an incident, and preferred evacuation routes from your followed locations may be provided.

FOLLOW MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Voyent Alert! allows you to create and follow multiple locations such as "Kids School" or "Mom's House". Any event or communication related to your followed locations will be forwarded to you along your preferred communication channel.

COMMUNICATIONS YOUR WAY

Receive alerts over a wide variety of communication channels including mobile apps, text/SMS alerting, email or voice dial. You can register for one or more communication channels.

NO MESSAGE FATIGUE

Smart alerting capabilities ensure that you will only get notified when a communication is relevant to your or one of the locations you are following.

EASY REGISTRATION

Registration for the service is FREE, simple and anonymous.

REGISTER **NOW!**



MOBILE APP USERS

Download and install the Voyent Alert! app from the Apple App or Google Play stores.



Register online to receive email, voice or text-based alerts at:
register.voyent-alert.com

Springhill Solar Garden Q&A



Q. Will there be operational and construction noise?

There will be construction noise during the development, but only during working hours.

Once the solar project is operational, there will be no noise.

Q. What exactly will be put on the site?

Approximately 20,000 solar panels will be installed on the project site.

Q. Will there be reflections from the panels?

There could be short times during the day (depending on the time of year) that reflections are noticeable within the community. However, existing trees at the edge of the property should block any or most reflections.

Q. Why was the location selected?

Access to Nova Scotia Power electrical grid. The site is owned by the municipality and is heavily impacted by former coal mining activities, likely unsuitable for other uses, not heavily forested.

Q. Are there any other sites you are looking at?

No specific additional sites are under consideration as the current site has been identified as highly suitable for the project.

Q. How long will construction take?

Site development work such as design and procurement and other government processes will take about a year and a half.

After the project is awarded the Power Purchase Agreement, and the Councils of municipal owners approve the project, site construction activities will take from a year to a year and a half.



Q. How much land does the project require?

The project will use between 40 and 50 acres of land.

Q. Will my property value go down?

We do not anticipate property values going down as this is being developed on a post-industrial site.

Q. What is the total cost of the project?

The estimated cost is between \$20 million and \$25 million, depending on design, market rates, and geotechnical findings. Solar costs are decreasing, but the business plan will include contingency funds to address unexpected expenses.

MUNICIPALITY OF CUMBERLAND

2024-2025 Collection Schedule

Starting November 4th, residents in the Municipality of Cumberland will have all 3 streams collected on the same day (garbage, organics, recyclables) ONCE EVERY TWO WEEKS. See reverse for the collection map outlining the collection days.

Solid Waste Hotline: 902 667 5141
Place materials curbside by 7:00 a.m.

Week 1

Week 2

Alternate
Collection Day

Christmas Tree
Collection

NOVEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
November 11 collection will take place on November 9					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	Dec. 25 collection will take place on Dec. 28			

JANUARY 2025						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Jan. 1 collection will take place on Jan. 4			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY 2025						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
February 17 collection will take place on February 15						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH 2025						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29

REMINDER

Place materials in 3 separate piles:



Garbage: 4 bags/collection- Clear non-coloured bags only. One privacy bag (20" x 22") per clear bag is permitted.

Bulky item: 1 bulky garbage item can be placed out for collection per garbage collection.

Recycling: no limit on residential recycling. Clear non-coloured or transparent blue bags only.

Organics: 1 green cart- no plastic bags.

Note: The contractor will make multiple stops to collect all streams on your collection day.

Never Miss Your Collection Day Again!



Download our mobile app by searching **Cumberland County Solid Waste** in the App Store.

Use your mobile phone to have access to your collection schedule. Sign up to receive collection reminders & alerts when there are interruptions to collection.

Not a cellphone user? No problem. This information can be found at www.cumberlandcounty.ns.ca/waste-management.html

Winter Parking Rules In Effect

With winter now upon us, please remember that until May 1, 2025, parking is restricted on Municipal streets between midnight and 6 a.m. or at any other time that could interfere with snow clearing operations by Public Works Employees.

Vehicles left unattended on Municipal streets during these times may be ticketed and/or towed at owners cost and risk.

Also, please remember that snow from private residences cannot be pushed out into a Municipal Street or across a Municipal Street for disposal, by either a resident or private contractor removing snow for a resident or business.



What is Sticks & Pucks?



Ice time is a valuable commodity for any hockey player, as it offers an opportunity to become better at skating, stickhandling, and shooting. But during team practices or games, a player might not get the chance to work much on those specific skills at which he or she is trying to improve. Luckily, many rinks, including the Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre, offer weekly "sticks & pucks" sessions designed to give both young and old a chance to practice in a non-competitive atmosphere or to simply burn off a few calories by skating. If you're interested in improving as a hockey player, there's no substitute for spending time on the ice, messing around with a hockey stick and puck.

Sticks & Pucks Rules and Etiquette at Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre

- Offered for stick handling and shooting practice.
- Participants must have a CSA-approved helmet, skates, hockey gloves and stick.
- Participants under the age of 18 must have a helmet with a full-face cage and neck guard.
- No body contact, rough housing, or slap shots.
- Scrimmages, goaltending, and/or organized coaching are not permitted.
- No loitering in front of or behind nets.
- Participants must take turns shooting, one player at a time.
- Be respectful of younger skaters.
- Arena staff may assign one end of the ice to younger/new skaters.
- Anyone not following the rules will be asked to leave the ice.

Thursdays from 3-4 p.m. and Sundays from 4-5 p.m. at the Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre





The Learn 2 Lead Cumberland committee was formed as joint effort between the Municipality of Cumberland, Town of Amherst, NS Health Community Health Board, & Town of Oxford to coordinate workshops that will build capacity for volunteers and organizations throughout Cumberland County.

The committee strives to provide quality workshops in various areas of the county to support the needs of volunteers and organizations who provide recreation and active living services to residents. These workshops are provided at a heavily subsidized rate to participants.

We will also be adding Grant Writing, Fundraising, Board Governance, Home Alone, First Aid, Safe Spaces, Food Handlers, Volunteer retention and much more throughout the winter and spring. Follow their Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/L2LCumberland> as new workshops are added regularly.

January 2025			
Workshop	Date	Time	Location
NS Hike - Winter module	Sat, Jan 11, 2025	9:00am-5pm	Cliffs of Fundy Geopark - Parrsboro
Canva 2.0	Mon, Jan 27, 2025	1:00-4:00pm	Virtual
February 2025			
Workshop	Date	Time	Location
Babysitting by YMCA	Sat, Feb 15	10:00am-4:00pm	Oxford - TBA
Babysitting by YMCA	Sat, Feb 22	10:00am-4:00pm	River Hebert/Joggins & Area Community Centre
Meta for Social Media with Sam Madore	Mon, Feb 24	1:00-4:00pm	Virtual
March 2025			
Workshop	Date	Time	Location
Wilderness First Aid	Fri March 7-Sun March 9		Friends of Pugwash Estuary
May 2025			
Workshop	Date	Time	Location
NS Walk Leader Training	Sat. May 10th	1-4PM	Wallace Museum



Equity & Diversity Advisory Committee

December 10: International Human Rights Day

January 8: **Accessibility** Advisory Committee Meeting (open to the public)*

January 10: **Equity** Committee Meeting (open to public)*

*email skeilhack@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca for Teams meeting link.

Merry Christmas/Etawey ki'l Weli Nuelewin, Happy Hannukkah, and Happy Solstice!

CURBSIDE COLLECTION CHANGES

Miller Waste will be collecting garbage, recycling, & organics on the same day, once every two weeks.

To ensure collection, materials must be placed in **3** separate piles



Never miss another curbside collection day again!
Sign up to receive alerts and curbside collection reminders @
Cumberland County Solid Waste

Springhill Fire Station Construction Continues

Work is progressing on Springhill's new \$6.1-million fire station. Work began on the facility in July.

The project was included in the 2024-25 Municipality of Cumberland capital budget earlier this year. It will replace the existing fire station that is more than 50 years old.

The new building will serve the community and Cumberland County well into the future.

Please Remember!

In order to ensure collection, **ALL** materials (garbage, green cart, & recyclables) must be placed curbside by 7:00 a.m.



NOON YEAR'S EVE
EVE
Party

NEW YEAR'S EVE COUNTDOWN
at the #DCMMCC
Tuesday, December 31
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
ALL AGES | FREE ADMISSION

6 Main St. Springhill NS • 902-763-3000
www.cumberlandcounty.ns.ca

The logo for the Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre, featuring a stylized building icon and the text 'DR. CARSON & MARION MURRAY COMMUNITY CENTRE'.

Contact US

Upper Nappan Service Centre
1395 Blair Lake Rd.
Upper Nappan, N.S. B4H 3Y4
Phone: 902-667-2313

Springhill Service Centre
6 Main St. PO Box 1000
Springhill, N.S., B0M 1X0
Phone: 902-597-3751

Parrsboro Service Centre
209 Main St. PO Box 400
Parrsboro, N.S., B0M 1S0
Phone: 902-254-2036

Pugwash Service Centre
10182 Durham St.
Pugwash, N.S., B0K 0B2
Phone: 902-297-8022

Engineering & Operations 24-Hour Emergency Phone Number: 1-833-834-0020

Email: customerservice@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca