Town of Clarenville

Community Updates

WINTER | SPRING 2023

Meet Your Councillors





Paul Tilley Deputy Mayor





Heber Smith Councillor







Donna Maloney - Brown Councillor

Deidra Strowbridge Councillor

Councillor bios available online at: https://clarenville.ca/mayor-councilors







As we start a New Year, let me begin by wishing each and every one of our residents a very happy & healthy 2023

As Mayor, I understand that the past couple of years have been challenging for everyone. But I am also optimistic that 2023 will bring a return to normalcy and our Town will see a period of renewed growth and prosperity.

As a Council, we are very excited for the year ahead. After nearly five years of being

reduced to one lane traffic, the replacement of the Shoal Harbour Causeway will finally be completed. The contract has been awarded with construction scheduled to start in early spring 2023 and anticipated to be completed



by late fall. The replacement of this bridge is one of the many priorities the Town will carry out this year.

To help Council improve how it communicates with our residents, the Town Office recently launched a new notification system called Voyent Alert. This system is meant to keep residents informed of critical events happening in the community. It is free of charge, and I would encourage everyone, if they have not already done so, to sign up for this invaluable service.

Additionally this year, your Council will put more emphasis on Economic Development through the hiring of an Economic Development Officer. His role will be to lead business development initiatives and to help support economic growth in our Town. With funding from ACOA and the Provincial Government, the Town is also in the process of completing a Strategic Tourism Enhancement Program (STEP). The STEP program will provide the opportunity for local business and residents to develop strategies to improve our Tourism growth.

Clarenville

Many of you already know that the Town of Clarenville is an inclusive Age-Friendly community and we want to continue our efforts. Just recently ten of our Local businesses were designated as being Age-Friendly, and work will continue on this initiative throughout 2023. The Town and the Random Age-Friendly Committee have now partnered with Eastern Health on an initiative to also make our Town Dementia Age Friendly.

Despite all of the challenges we have faced our Town continues to grow and prosper. We are currently listed as the second fastest growing Town in the province which gives us some assurance that our town is a great place to live, work and have a high quality of life. In closing, I just want to say a special thanks to all of our Volunteers who really make this Town a remarkable place to raise a family or to retire. Without you, our Town would not be able to provide the many programs and services that our residents and visitors enjoy daily.

In the months ahead, your Council looks forward to working with all residents and the business community to continue to make our Town one of the most prosperous and enjoyable places in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Mayor John Pickett

www.clarenville.ca



2023 Budget Highlights

The Town of Clarenville...

- » has seen increased expenses in three areas Inflation, Interest and Investment in Human Resources.
- » will invest more in software and employee training to improve procurement processes.
- » will seek funding to improve the provision of emergency services.
- » will work to invest in enhancing school/child safety in and around Riverside Elementary.
- » will improve water quality by removal of the old/unused Shoal Harbour chlorination building.
- » will invest in a high-pressure sewer jetting unit.
- $\,\,$ will continue to invest in tourism development initiatives.
- » to maintain debt levels to reduce the town's exposure to higher interest rates.
- » will reconstruct Shoal Harbour Causeway Bridge in 2023.
- » will conduct roadwork on Wiseman's Road, Summerville Heights, Balsom Street and Emerald <u>Ave (Phase 1)</u> during 2023.
- » will continue Shoal Harbour Park / Age-Friendly Park Improvements.
- » will purchase a new multi-purpose tractor and a pickup for the Recreation Department.
- » will see its overall budget for 2023 matches reve-

nues and expenditures in the amount of \$11,407,830 compared to \$10,426,399 in 2022, an increase of approximately 9% from the 2022 budget. The residential tax rate in Clarenville will rise from 7.8 to 8.3 mills. Commercial property tax will increase from 8.5 mills to 9.5 mills.

» will increase property tax discounts for low-income threshold brackets.

To view Budget 2023 visit: clarenville.ca/annual-budget



Winter Operations Snow and Ice Control

Reminder to residents, vehicles are not permitted to be parked on the roadway during the winter season as they may hinder or impede the ploughing and/or removal of snow or ice from the streets. This restriction is in effect from **November 1st to April 30th**, between the hours of **1:00am to 8:00am**. The Town of Clarenville wishes to thank residents for their attention and cooperation to this matter.

Economic Development, Tourism and Communications

In December 2022, Colin Holloway was hired as the new Economic Development Officer for the Town of Clarenville. Colin will be responsible for promoting business growth and expansion opportunities within the Town as well as providing advice to Council on new economic development initiatives.

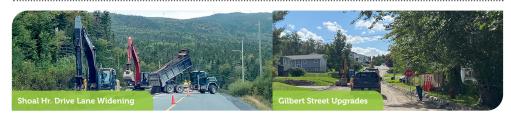


One of the first priorities has been the **Strategic Tourism Enhancement Program (STEP)**. The STEP program seeks to create experiential products throughout the greater Clarenville Area, build capacity around innovative marketing techniques and work with local operators to strengthen the region's online digital presence. Through the support of a working

group, the STEP partners aim to develop the region's first Strategic Tourism Plan by the end of June 2023.

Some other focuses will be on developing a Strategic Economic Plan for the community, increasing the Town's market presence at conferences and tradeshow and supporting local groups and organizations with funding proposals. Contact Colin at 466-7937, ext. 110 or email at colin@clarenville.net.

Public Works and Planning Update



2022 was another busy year for the Town of Clarenville's Public Works and Planning Department as works were completed on Clearview Drive, Gilbert Street, Marine Drive, Memorial Drive, Pardy Place, Pleasant Street Shoal Harbour Drive and Valleyview Heights. The combined investment to the Town's infrastructure upgrades was approximately \$2,850,000 and equates to:

• 5.7 lane kms of new road asphalt • 2,775m of new concrete curb • 6250m of new concrete sidewalk

Currently we are in the process of finalizing the work plan for 2023. Once finalized, look on the Town's website for further details on construction related to:

Balsom Street · Emerald Ave (Phase I) · Summerville Heights · Wisemans Road

In addition, Staff have been working and anticipate completing the following initiatives in 2023:

- · Adoption of New Municipal Plan and Development Regulations, 2022-2032
- Development of New Asset Management Plan/Policy
- Development and Implementation on Annual Sidewalk Program
- Development and Implementation of School Safe Zone for Riverside Elementary School
- Continuation of Lift Station Remote Monitoring Program
- Continuation of Equipment Upgrades and Replacement at the Water Treatment Plant

🛞 Clarenville Fire Department

Fire Safety During Winter Storms

Winter storms can happen almost anywhere and they can cause problems. Know what to do before, during and after a storm. This information will help keep your family safe from a winter fire.

- » Test all smoke alarms
- » Plan two escape routes out of your home in case of an emergency
- » Make sure your house number is visible from the street
- » Be ready in case the power goes out, have flashlights handy, never use candles
- » Stay up-to-date on winter weather forecasts for your area
- » Check on your neighbours

»

- » Stay away from down powerlines
- » Dress in layers if the heat goes out
 - Turn portable heaters off when you leave the room and when you go to bed
- » External power sources such as generators should always be outside in a well-ventilated area

📑 Like us on Facebook



FACT: There are more home fires in winter than any other season.

Voyent Alert System

In May 2022, Clarenville launched a notification service called **Voyent Alert**. Voyent Alert is a multi-purpose communication service 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. This service will greatly improve communication with residents, businesses and visitors.

Be sure to download the Voyent Alert App or register to receive notifications via email, text, or on your home phone. It's 100% free! For more info and tutorial videos, please visit our website at: <u>clarenville.ca/alerts</u>





Tapping the Potential of Experiential Tourism

The Clarenville region offers great yearround opportunities for users of ATVs, snowmobiles and biking to explore and have fun. Clarenville trail connections allow users to access routes in three directions – towards the Bonavista Peninsula as well as east or west to destinations along the



provincial T'railway. Within Clarenville, our business community is committed to offering top-level services with one common goal – to maximize the user experience.

The Town has added a new information portal to its Website that we call, **Making Tracks**. <u>clarenville.ca/makingtracks</u> is the product of a partnership with the Discovery Trails Snowmobile Association and is part of a comprehensive initiative designed to help people learn about and enjoy our extensive multi-use trail system. The site offers a mobile-friendly, media-rich expe-



rience that highlights destination routes, area information, GPS maps and videos and photos with an emphasis on the safe use of our trails by a variety of users.

To ensure maximum value, the Town has designed and posted trail signage featuring Quick Response (QR) codes that allow users to simply point their device and quickly receive trail-ready information.

Business Profile - Subsea Imaging



When driving by, you may not realize it but located on Memorial Drive is one of Newfoundland's most successful ocean tech companies SubC Imaging. SubC Imaging designs and builds industry-leading deep-sea cameras, subsea systems, LEDs, lasers, and software for marine research, offshore energy, aquaculture, fisheries, and more.

Born in a tiny basement office nearly 15 years ago, the company has since grown to 25 employees with more than 180 customers from over 30 countries worldwide. Despite its impressive growth, there was never a question as to where SubC Imaging would be headquartered.

For an ocean tech company like SubC, there are not many areas of the world more ideal. Newfoundland and Labrador is home to cutting-edge research labs and funding with the National Research Council, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, the Department of Industry, Energy, and Technology, and Ocean Supercluster.

"When I started building this company, it honestly never crossed my mind to start SubC Imaging in a different province or country", says Chad Collett, Founder & CEO. "Newfoundland is home. It is rugged and unique, the people here are the same, shaped by the land and environment around us."

For Chad and the other SubC employees, the Town of Clarenville and the surrounding area represent the "all-in" mentality that characterizes the company. "I usually get asked, 'Why rural Newfoundland?', continues Chad. "If you are outside of the St. John's area, you are "all in" to the way we live here. If you are into the outdoors, the lifestyle here is something people in other parts of the world dream of. Hiking, biking, boating, or skiing is 10-20 minutes away. It is great for families as well as the soul."

Learn more at: subcimaging.com







www.clarenville.ca

Clarenville Trail Network Update

The Town of Clarenville extends a sincere thank-you to the Trail Advisory Committee, the Dream Team Working group, for all their assistance in rejuvenating our trail network. Both the Rotary Trail and Bare Mountain Trail are in great condition for hiking. Here is a summary of our recent upgrades:

Rotary Trail

- Up-to-date mapping and signage have been added along the Rotary Trail. The signage includes trail safety tips, trail information as well as QR codes that can be scanned with your smartphone and will then link you to a website called <u>alltrails.com</u>. You can use the **AllTrails App** to track your location in relation to the trail with pinpoint accuracy, you can post photos, leave reviews for other hikers and more. Additional QR codes will be added along the trail as well.
- 2. We realize the beavers have been busy on the trail. Please remember the beavers have as much or more right to be there as hikers. The Trails Advisory Committee will be installing a beaver baffler in the spring which will hopefully minimize the issue of flooding on the trail. The goal is to try and co-exist with the beavers and allow trail users to watch them in their natural habitat.
- 3. Additional directional arrows and trail markers will be added soon.

Bare Mountain Trail

- There has been a re-route cut to direct hikers away from the recent land developments on Bare Mountain. The re-route has been marked to ensure hikers stay on the correct route. See photos to the right. Please note, the trail maps on Bare Mountain do not include this most recent re-route, however, these maps will be updated soon.
- 2. This trail is already equipped with maps and signage that will link you to <u>alltrails.com</u>. As with the Rotary Trail, we will be adding additional QR codes and trail markers throughout the trail as well.

Who's up for a boil-up in the woods?

Firepits and pre-cut firewood will be available on both trails for the winter season. Feel free to utilize these firepits with your friends and family. Both trails are in great condition for hiking. Get out and enjoy!!

For more information, contact Brandon at brandon@clarenville.net or call 466-4105 ext 225.

eastlink events centre UPCOMING EVENTS

Eastlink Event Centre Theatre:

- Feb 9 Chad Hunt Tribute to Country Music Legends Mar 3 - "Mountain Music" Alabama and "Chicken Fried"
- Zac Brown Tribute Tour
- $\ensuremath{\text{Mar}}\xspace 4$ Kings of Country A Tribute to Country Music
- Mar 8 CARA presents an 'Old Fashion Variety Concert' showcasing many talented local performers. In Aid of the Salvation Army Food Bank.
- Mar 9 Mike Lynch and Cecil O'Brien Breaking Bay
- Apr 15 The Navigators CD Release Tour

Eastlink Events Centre Arena:

- Feb 11 Caribous vs Outer Cove Marines 7:30pm Feb 12 - Caribous vs Outer Cove Marines 3:30pm
- Feb 18 Caribous vs CB Blues 7:30pm Feb 19 - Caribous vs CB Blues 1:30pm
- Feb 19 Caribous VS CB Blues 1:30ph

Public Skating Schedule:

Monday adult skate 9:00 a.m. - FREE Wed/Fri Seniors skate 9:00 a.m. - FREE Mon/Wed/Fri Parent and Tot 10:00 a.m. - FREE General skating Friday 8:00 p.m. - \$4 each/\$10 family Family skating Sunday 3:00 p.m. - \$4 each/\$10 family

Get the latest event info or tickets at 709-466-4105 or clarenville.ca













Courses start the week of February 20th Visit **clarenville.ca** to download your copy!

TRY SNOWSHOEING

Borrow our snowshoes and head out for a hike. Pay a small returnable deposit at EEC for the snowshoes. Available Mon-Fri between 8-4



Town of Clarenville Community Updates - Winter/Spring 2023