

Our annual survey will be released in January. Have your say and let us know how we're doing.

WINTER FAMFEST Watch for more details but be sure to save the dates of February 16-18 and plan to join us! NOMINATIONS OPEN Nominate a deserving Stratford resident. Learn more on page 9.





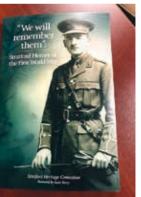


















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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Happy 2019! I hope you had an enjoyable and peaceful holiday season. On behalf of Town staff and Council, I wish all residents much happiness and good health in the year ahead.

I would like to welcome new Council members Jill Burridge, Steve Gallant, Darren MacDougall and Derek Smith, as well as returning Councillors Gary Clow and Gail MacDonald. As your new Mayor, I look forward to working with Council to make Stratford the best community possible. To do that, Town staff, Council and volunteers are organized into portfolios to ensure high-quality programs and services are provided to residents. Each portfolio has an associated committee made up of residents, with councillors serving as chair and vice-chair. The committees are charged with discussing issues, and providing advice and recommendations to Council. Our committee structure is as follows:

- Infrastructure and Human Resources (HR) Committee: Chair, Gary Clow; Vice-chair Infrastructure, Jill Burridge; Vice-chair HR, Gail MacDonald
- Finance Committee: Chair, Gail MacDonald; Vice-chair, Darren MacDougall
- Sustainability Committee: Chair, Darren MacDougall; Vice-chair, Gail MacDonald
- Recreation Committee: Chair, Steve Gallant; Vice-chair, Derek Smith
- Planning Committee: Chair, Jill Burridge; Vice-chair, Steve Gallant
- Safety Services Committee: Chair, Derek Smith; Vice-chair, Gary Clow
- Accountability and Engagement Committee: Chair, Steve Ogden; Vice-chair, Jill Burridge
- Deputy Mayor, Gary Clow

We will be seeking your input in regards to the Town's spending priorities at a pre-budget consultation meeting in on January 16 (time to be announced). Your ideas and comments will be valuable in developing the Town's 2019-2020 budget.

I believe strongly in citizen involvement and engagement and will work hard to promote increased dialogue with Town residents on issues affecting their lives. Please let me know if you would like to discuss any issues or if you have any information, advice or comments you would like to share with me or with any member of Council. We will make arrangements to meet with you.

Thank you for the trust you have placed in me by choosing me as your Mayor. I will do my utmost to ensure that your trust is well founded.

Sincerely,

Mayor Steve Ogden



Imagine that!

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CALLED

NUMBERS



PEI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, **INFRASTRUCTURE AND** ENERGY Snow plow damage, culverts in driveways, potholes, storm water drainage and catch basins.

902-368-4770

PEI HUMANE SOCIETY Dog or cat issues. 902-892-1190 or 902-892-1191

IWMC Questions on pick up days, sorting, etc. 1-888-280-8111

MARITIME ELECTRIC Streetlight out, damaged or is staying on. 1-800-670-1012 or email customerservice@maritimeelectric.com

POT HOLES AND **SNOW PLOUGH** DAMAGE

If you wish to report pot holes and/or damage caused by snow ploughs, please call direct to the Department of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy 902-368-4770.

The Department of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy own and maintain all of the roads in Stratford.

> Thank you for your cooperation

INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

> Utility Projects

The Eastern Realties water project came on line in 2018 adding close to 200 new water services for the Utility. The Utility has also taken over the water and sewer systems for the developments in Foxwood, Clifton Farms, Koughan Heights, Southside Greens and Forest Trail. When complete, these subdivisions will add approximately 100 more units.

The Utilities main project in 2018 was the implementation of water metering. Staff and the previous Council began working on this project in 2015 and were pleased to see it come together this past year. Water metering is proven to conserve our precious resource of water which is part of our Sustainable Stratford vision. As of December 2018 we have had a 96% meter install success rate. Even as 200 new customers were added to our water system in 2018 (aside from the existing) we have already seen a 12% reduction in the use of water over the same time period. With a project of this magnitude there is a learning curve for residents and staff alike. The Utility will continue to work with residents in our effort to conserve water through metering. We want to sincerely thank residents for their efforts to conserve water and their positive response to installing water meters at their properties. Utility staff will continue to monitor and maintain our water and sewer system which is now comprised of 85 kilometers of sewer main, 1205 sewer manholes, 28 sewer lift stations, 4 water stations and a reservoir, 74 kilometers of water main, 563 water main valves along with 229 hydrants and valves.

The water and sewer extension of Michael Thomas Way on the waterfront will be tendered in mid- December with work to be completed in 2019.

> Public Works

2018 was a very busy year for the Public Works department. At Stratford Town Center contractors recently completed repairs to exterior fascia and gutters and new flooring and a foldable door was installed on the stage. The MacNeill Community Center received energy efficient upgrades in the form of heat pumps; attic, window and door insulation; led lighting and a drop ceiling. New appliances and flooring were also added. At Cotton Park the Youth/ Seniors building received a new interior firewall upgrade.

The Fullerton's Creek Conservation Park washroom facility tender in October 2018 came in over budget and will be retendered in 2019.

> Waste Water Delivery System

Phase 1 of this project went out to tender in August of 2018 but was significantly over budget so Council and staff agreed to retender the entire five phases of this project in order to potentially secure more contractor bids and better pricing. The scope of work was adjusted and this five phase project went to tender in mid-December with closing in mid- January 2019.

> Emergency Services Facility

This project was first tendered in July 2018 but was also significantly over budget. To lower costs, the scope of work was reduced with a post tender addendum in September. This did decrease costs and the low bid from MacLean Construction was accepted. The facility is located within the new roundabout and will house the Fire Department, the RCMP and Island EMS. Work is now underway with completion expected in the fall of 2019.



INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

Kinlock Beach Parking

An additional parking area was added at Kinlock Beach located at the end of the Kinlock Road. This should help with parking next summer when the beach gets busy with residents and tourists.

> Roundabout Update

Although the Town is not responsible for this project it is expected to improve traffic flow throughout Stratford. The project is administered by the Province of PEI and will be completed in three phases. Phase 1 prep work began in late September and the Province expects to complete the next two phases by the fall of 2019. As a reminder to residents, the Province of PEI maintains, operates and holds the responsibility for all of the streets in Stratford including the Trans Canada Highway.

> Sidewalks Trails Bike Lane & Storm Water

Contractors have extended sidewalk, curb, storm, road and bike lane widening on the Georgetown Road from Woods Farm to the Tea Hill Subdivision. With the early arrival of winter in November, contractors were forced to complete reinstatement in 2019. This project was completed in partnership with the Province of PEI



Dept. of Transportation. Other projects include the natural trail along the pond in Clearview Estates being completed in August while the Trans Canada Shakespeare Trail was paved in late October 2018. In 2019 The Town will continue to add to our ever growing trail and sidewalk system.

> Cross Walks

Pedestrian safety at crosswalks has been a big concern to both residents and Council for a number of years.



With permission from the Province of PEI DOT (who own the streets in Stratford), Town staff have installed a trial crosswalk flag safety system on the Bunbury Road by Cotton Park, another at Bunbury Mall/Horton Park and a third on the Stratford Road at Southport Drive/Marion Drive. These trial areas will be monitored by the Town and the Province. The flag safety system has been very successful in other areas of the province and Canada and we ask that drivers be aware of these locations and stop when a pedestrian is at any crosswalk.

> Safety Services Street Lighting

Maritime Electric continues their program to replace high pressure sodium lights with LED while the Town adds street lights throughout the Town to keep up with the guidelines set out in our street light policy. Please report damaged or broken street lights directly to Maritime Electric.

> Speed Humps

In an effort to increase pedestrian safety, the Town alternates temporary speed humps throughout Stratford. The Town has partnered with the Province of PEI to install two permanent speed humps and a traffic crosswalk table on Marion Drive. The Province and Town will monitor these installations to determine whether other permanent humps will be added in 2019.

> Snow Clearing On Roads/ Sidewalks &Trails

As you may be aware, all roads and streets in the Town of Stratford are owned and cleared by the Province of PEI. If you have any issues with the clearing of snow off streets please direct them to Department of Transportation at 368-4770 or 368-4750. This includes issues with storm water drainage that may occur during heavy rain or melt events where ditches and storm water catch basins are overwhelmed or covered. The snow clearing contract for Town sidewalks and properties was tendered in the fall of 2018. The successful contractor was Don MacRae Backhoe. At this time trails in Stratford are not cleared of snow unless they are along the public right of way and lead to public services or are groomed for skiing by the Recreation department.

The Town would like to note that, like every community on the Island, there will be times when one operator covers another's work. Workers make every effort to keep things tidy, however, some mess cannot be helped as provincial snow plow operators and private contractors clear snow from streets, parking lots and driveways at different times.

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE

DO YOU NEED A PERMIT?

Call the Town of Stratford to be safe. Staff can assist and advise you of the requirements before your project – big or small – begins!

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Should you have any questions relating to building permits or the National Building Code, please contact our Planning Department at Inspector@townofstratford.ca or (902) 569-6255.





Follow us on Twitter @StratfordPEI

> Zoning Stratford: Development Bylaw Review

The Town recently completed a review of the Bylaw which has been ongoing since the spring of 2016. After much public consultation with Stratford residents, the business community and stakeholders, along with a legal review, the document has been updated to reflect the Town's Official Plan which was approved in the fall of 2014. Pursuant to the Planning Act all municipalities must review their Official Plan and Bylaws every five years. The first reading was passed at the November 14th Council Meeting and a Special Council Meeting was held on Wednesday, November 21st for second reading and adoption of the bylaw. Highlights from the new bylaw as derived from the Official Plan include allowing for more diversity in the Town's overall housing inventory with the allowance for smaller lot sizes, a broader range of permitted uses, and a new allowance for secondary suites.

As well, to align with other municipal and provincial legislation a number of new items were required to be include in the new bylaw including:

- Allowing for cannabis retail operations
- Digital reader board signage
- New election signage provisions
- More defined child care uses
- New agricultural-related uses
- The incorporation of the Stratford Business Park Development Standards

Planning staff will be reviewing the Town's Official Plan against the new bylaw to ensure that both are in agreeance with each other and any necessary changes identified be made to the Official Plan. This final work is targeted to be completed in early in 2019. The Zoning and Development Bylaw will also need to be approved by the Province of PEI's Minister of Communities, Land and Environment.

> Development Permits

2018 has been a record year for development in the Town of Stratford. The following table shows a summary of development activities between January and November 2018:

SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT PERMIT January 1 to November 30, 2018

	Permits	Estimated Value
Single Family Residential	68	23,027,086
Semi-Detached/Duplex	1	275,000
Apartments/Condos & Townhouses	10 (150 units)	27,475,000
Residential additions or renovations	8	347,000
Accessory Buildings	20	426,949
Accessory Structures	26	251,481
Other	5	917,400
Commercial	15	5,967,000
Institutional	2	11,042,581
Totals	153	69,729,497

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE

> Heritage Subcommittee -Book Launch

The Town of Stratford marked the centenary of the end of the First World War in a special way - with a book honouring the lives of a number of our veterans from the Great War. "We will remember them": Stratford Heroes of the First World War is a project of the Stratford Heritage Committee, a group composed of Council members, staff and resident volunteers, with the book including contributions of information, photos, and stories from a number of Stratford families. The idea for the book began with research into the history of Bunbury which took place prior to the 1995 amalgamation of area communities into the current Town of Stratford.



Beginning with a list of names of local men contributed from memory by an area senior, the project has evolved and grown into one that includes the 46 stories of veterans - 45 men and 1 woman - from all areas of Stratford. The book required careful research, writing, and editing, but the result has been worth the wait. "We are very proud of this project," said Mike Farmer, Chair of the Heritage Committee. "And we are so pleased to see it in print and ready to share with Stratford residents and other Islanders who want to learn more about the experiences of ordinary Canadians in the First World War". Copies are available for purchase at Stratford Town Centre during office hours and at The Bookmark in Charlottetown for \$19 plus tax.

> Heritage Wall

The Town of Stratford completed the installation of our Heritage Wall within the lobby area of Stratford Town Centre in 2018. The project was commissioned by the Town's Heritage Committee using bricks saved from the historic "Brick House" that was demolished in 2016. Red Clay Construction Inc. were hired to create a design that replicated a historic double wall that was used many years ago as a structural wall in many brick buildings. The wall that was chosen within the Town Centre displayed pen and ink sketches of the Town's fifteen Heritage Properties and now that the Heritage Wall is complete, the sketches have been rehung and an illustration will be added to tell the story of the origin of the bricks that came for the historic "Brick House". Please drop by and have a look at this beautiful addition to the Town's Heritage collection.



The Town of Stratford would like to thank and acknowledge the following companies who donated their advertising space in the bus shelters across our community this past November to allow the Stratford Heroes veteran posters project to continue:

- Centum Mortgage Partners (Kim Reddin and Kim Ogley)
- Cooke Insurance Group
- Egg Producers of PEI
- Hillside Motors
- · McDonald's Restaurants of PEI
- Michael Poczynek, Michael's Home at Northumberland Realty
- Northumberland Ferries Ltd.
- Patty Campbell, Exit Realty
- PEI Federation of Agriculture
- Tim Horton's
- Wine Kitz

Drop by to meet our new Building Inspector. We are pleased to welcome Carter Livingstone to our Town team.

PLANNING TO ADD A POOL THIS SPRING/SUMMER?

Swimming pools require a development permit to ensure safety measures are being applied. Any pool having a depth of 60 cm (approx. 24 inches) or more at any point or with a surface area exceeding 10 square meters (approx. 12 feet in diameter), whether being constructed or purchased as an inflatable kit, must first receive a pool permit.



Many new businesses have opened and will be opening this year. Please continue to *Think!Stratford* when shopping for products and services.

Think to search in Stratford first, before you shop, play and explore!

STRATFORD AREA WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT GROUP

SAWIG is a not-for-profit group dedicated to preserving and enhancing Stratford's diverse landscape and fostering interest and participation in watershed planning.

> Restoring Henry's Creek

This past fall SAWIG undertook an important project to restore stream flow to an estuary in Stratford. Through funding from the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, SAWIG was able to successfully remove a portion of the dam at Henry's Creek, as well as to plant approximately 1000 native tree and shrub species. There are many benefits to this work, including improving habitat connectivity and water quality.



Projects such as this one are made possible by the combined efforts of landowners, funders, contractors, provincial and federal experts, volunteers, and your local non-profit watershed group; everyone has a part to play in being a steward of the environment, so don't hesitate to contribute or become involved!

If you'd like to learn more about SAWIG's projects you can find us on all social media platforms:

@stratfordwater

Stratford Area Watershed

@stratfordwatershed

sawig.wordpress.com

SAWIG encourages all residents of the Stratford, Hazelbrook, Alexandra. Fullertons, and Pownal areas to stay abreast of activities happening in the watershed by visiting our Facebook page (Stratford Area Waterhsed), Twitter (@StratfordWater), and our website (sawig.wordpress.com). Additionally please feel free to contact Madeleine Crowell. Watershed Coordinator, at (902) 367-3605 or stratfordwater@gmail.com

DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE SPRING TREE SALE!

"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago, the next best time is today"

> Don't miss our Build-a-Roost-Box Workshop coming up soon!



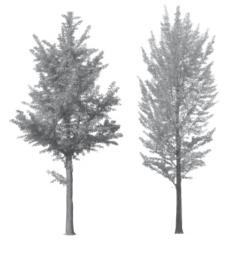
Global trends show a decline in songbirds and other small birds, and winter is a particularly

challenging time. By putting out seed and installing roost boxes you can make your backyard a welcoming place for birds wintering in PEI. Contact (902) 367-3605 or stratfordwater@gmail.com for more information or to register! Just remember, birdfeeders contribute to the spread of disease, and should be taken down in summer.

BIG THANK YOU to the PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund for their generous support. Did you know that when you purchase a PEI Conservation License Plate the proceeds support the work of environmental groups on PEI like ours?

> Spring Tree Sale

SAWIG is now accepting orders for the annual Tree Sale. Please get in touch with us for a full list of available species. This event is aimed at making it easier for Stratford residents to plant trees on their property. Planting trees around your home can greatly reduce the impacts of hotter summers and colder winters. We could all use a few more trees and this is a great way to get your hands on native species!



> Become a member!

Memberships are only \$10/year for Individuals, \$20/year for Families, and \$100/year for a Business Corporate Membership. Pick up a membership at Town Centre, call (902) 367-3605 or find it online at sawig.wordpress.com

Your membership fee goes directly to helping SAWIG complete projects in your community!

2018 TOWN OF STRATFORD SENIOR, ADULT & YOUTH VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

AWARD OBJECTIVES:

Volunteers are - and always will be - an essential part of our community. This award is an annual award, which acknowledges and rewards a volunteer citizen who has made an outstanding contribution to his or her community.

The recipient will receive prizes and the recipient will have his or her picture displayed at the Stratford Town Centre, 234 Shakespeare Drive. Also, the winner's name will be engraved on a special trophy to honour each year's Volunteer of the Year. As well, ALL NOMINEES will be recognized for their volunteer efforts and will receive an official acknowledgement on behalf of the Town of Stratford.

ELIGIBILITY:

Volunteering is the act of people being involved in the improvement of their surroundings. Volunteer acts can occur within a structured organization (ex. volunteering at your library) or in an informal setting (ex. raking leaves for your elderly neighbor).

Those eligible to receive this award include any individual who performs volunteer act/acts (as defined above) within the Town of Stratford community. The purpose of this award is to focus on recognizing individual citizens, however the judging committee will also accept a submission that nominates two or more people together.

SELECTION PROCESS:

The Town of Stratford will oversee the award, provide title, and the way in which it is presented. A committee under the direction of the Town's Recreation, Culture and Events Committee will select the winner.

HOW TO SEND IN A SUBMISSION:

Nomination Forms can be found on the Town's web page at www.townofstratford.ca or picked up at the Stratford Town Center, 234 Shakespeare Drive. Completed nomination form may be forwarded to the Town of Stratford's Recreation, Culture & Events Department at the address below.

All submission must be signed. The annual deadline for submissions is June 7. The award will be presented annually at the Town of Stratford's Canada Day celebrations.

PLEASE NOTE: Award decisions will be selected based solely on the information provided, so it is important that all relevant information accompanies the nomination in order for the judging committee to make the best possible decision.



Submit to: Volunteer Award Selection Committee Town of Stratford

Email: rarsenault@townofstratford.ca

Or mail to or drop off at Stratford Town Centre 234 Shakespeare Drive Stratford, PEI C1B 2V8

RECREATION CULTURE & EVENTS

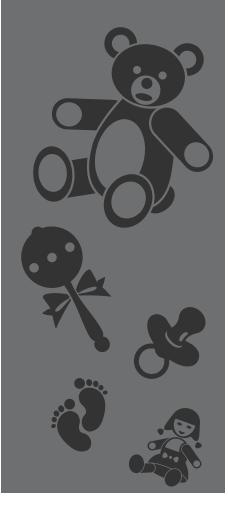
PD DAY – BABYSITTING COURSE

March 8 and May 3 9:00am – 4:00pm Cost is \$45 (must bring own lunch)

Designed for youth 11-15, this one day course teaches the skills necessary to care for infants, toddlers and preschoolers emphasizing safety, emergencies, and first aid basics.

To learn more or to register call (902) 569-1995.





> Stratford Youth Centre



The Stratford Youth Centre offers youth in Grades 5-12, a safe and supportive environment for participating in social and recreational Centre, various clubs, and special events to engage youth which encourages social growth and helps develop self-confidence and skills to prepare youth for their future. The Centre guides members to focus on volunteering, empowerment, community engagement and provides youth with an opportunity to voice their concerns about the community and show that they can really make a difference.

Membership allows access to the Youth Centre, numerous clubs and events, as well as an opportunity to participate in regular weekly member meetings. There is no cost for youth to join the Stratford Youth Centre. All members must help out with regular fundraising and volunteer opportunities within the community, to maintain their membership. Parents are strongly encouraged to become involved with the Youth Centre and attend regular parent meetings.



Members are asked to commit to a minimum of 20 volunteer hours with the Stratford Youth Centre every year to maintain their membership. This may include working at an event, assisting nonprofit organizations and fundraising. All volunteer hours members collect are recorded and can be used on a resume as valuable life experience as they approach adulthood. Upcoming volunteer opportunities will be included in parent emails and weekly member meetings. Members are also eligible to earn special prizes and awards for their volunteer service with the Stratford Youth Centre.



Stratford Youth Centre members are also eligible to earn special prizes and awards for their volunteer service with the Stratford Youth Centre. (photo: YC3) We are always looking for new youth members and adult volunteers. If you would like to become a Stratford Youth Centre Member, volunteer or if you have any questions, please contact Duane at 902-367-3294 or by email at dpineau@ townofstratford.ca

> Party Time at the Stratford Youth Centre

The Stratford Youth Centre offers party bookings in 2 hour time slots on Saturdays and Sundays. Select what options you would like for your party and contact the Town of Stratford to arrange your booking in person at 234 Shakespeare Drive or by phone at 902-569-1995.

RECREATION CULTURE & EVENTS

> Stratford Youth Centre Clubs



The Stratford Youth Centre has a number of great clubs for youth to join. The clubs are open to Youth Centre members and are free of charge. For more information about these clubs or to become a Stratford Youth Centre member, stop into the Youth Centre or contact Duane Pineau at 902-367-3294 or by email at dpineau@townofstratford.ca

> Stratford Youth Centre -Drop In Schedule

Youth Members are welcome to stop in and hangout during their allotted Drop In times. Drop In Centre activities include Video Games in our Game Cave, Computers, Board Games, Arts and Crafts, Movies, Pool Table, Ping Pong Table, legos, teen lounge area and much more!



Mondays: Grade 5 – 6 (2:45pm – 5:15pm) Grade 7 – 12 (5:30pm – 7:30pm)

Wednesdays: Grade 5 - 6 (2:45pm – 5:15pm) Grade 7 – 12 (5:30pm – 7:30pm)

Youth Drop In times only apply to school days. If there is no school or school is

cancelled due to weather, the Stratford Youth Centre will be closed. This schedule is subject to change.For more information, contact Duane at 902-367-3294 or by email at dpineau@townofstratford. ca

Main Room \$60.00 / 2 hour session

The Youth Centre Main Room has everything you need for a party of any age. The room includes a 106" movie screen and projector, Bluetooth sound system, a Blue Ray / DVD player with an assortment of movies and access to Netflix, Wii Game system with an assortment of games, Legos, board games, computers, couches, tables and chairs, pizza warmer, fridge / freezer and popcorn maker.

Games Room (Add On) \$20.00 / 2 hour session



The Youth Centre Games Room can be booked in addition to the Main Room. It is limited to kids 10 years and older. It includes a pool table, ping pong table, fooseball table, air hockey table and assorted video game systems with a good selection of games.

Kitchen (Add On) \$20.00 / 2 hour session

The Cotton Centre community kitchen can be booked in addition to the Youth Centre Rental. The kitchen has a stove, oven, sink, fridge and microwave. Users must bring their own supplies.

All bookings require payment in full at time of booking, as well as a \$200.00 damage deposit. Each 2 Hour booking includes 15 minutes before for set up and 15 minutes after for tear down.

PD DAY – STAY SAFE PROGRAM

February 25 and April 12 9:00am – 3:00pm Cost is \$50 (must bring own lunch)

Stay Safe is for children a minimum of 9 years of age and older (or completion of Grade 3), who may have to spend a brief amount of time alone due to parents being stuck in traffic, or any unforeseen circumstances. Students will learn home safety procedures, ways to obtain emergency help and when it is appropriate to call 911 and other related topics.

To learn more or to register call (902) 569-1995.

Looking for more information on the Stratford Youth Centre? Contact Duane to learn more before September rolls around and programming starts up for the fall. T: (902) 367-3294 E: dpineau@townofstratford.ca

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL TOWN OF STRATFORD COMMUNITY YARD SALE AND FLEA MARKET

Saturday, June 1st 8am – 12pm

Residents throughout the Town of Stratford will be having Yard Sales and Garage Sales, including a huge indoor Flea Market at Stratford Town Centre. You can register your property in our event publication or rent a table at the Flea Market. For more details, contact Duane Pineau at dpineau@townofstartford.ca

This is a fundraising project of the Stratford Youth Centre.

ONLINE PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Visit our website to see upcoming programs and registration dates. You can even create a personal account to register and pay for programs online at www.townofstratford.ca

FREE PUBLIC SKATE!

Pownal Sports Cenre, Stadium January 19, 2019 - 3:20pm February 16, 2019 - 3:20pm March 9, 2019 - 3:20pm

Our thanks to Go PEI for their continued support!



PERMISSION TO USE TOWN FACILITIES

The Town of Stratford owns and operates a number of parks, playgrounds, playing fields and facilities. Groups and individuals who want to use Town facilities for any reason must fill out an application and obtain permission from the recreation department. Town parks include all neighborhood parks and playgrounds, as well as

our major parks; Tea Hill Park, Pondside Park, Kinlock Park, and Robert L. Cotton Memorial Park. Town facilities include the Stratford Town Centre, MacNeill Community Centre, Bunbury Rink Building and Cotton Park buildings. Town facilities are available to groups or individuals on a priority basis.

> Afterschool Arts and Crafts

The 10 week afterschool arts and crafts program includes activities planned for both boys and girls in grades 1, 2 and 3. Registration is limited to 12 participants and the cost is \$80. The focus is on fun! Your child will enjoy the creativity of the arts as well as the company of others in a creative atmosphere.

Thursday's: Jan. 10 – Mar. 14 Time: 2:30–4:30pm Location: Glen Stewart School Ages: Grades 1-3 Fee: \$80.00

> Youth Art Club

Session are designed to teach children about different materials, types of art and artists, with a chance for them to create some art each week inspired by the topic. Get messy, have fun and be creative!

Tuesday's: Jan. 8 – Feb. 26 Time: 6:00-7:30pm Location: Gertrude Cotton Centre Ages: 9-12 years Fee: \$100.00



> Art-Esteem!

Empowering youth and building self-esteem through creativity, this program will focus on the creation of one final multimedia art piece per student. Students will learn about various types of art, artists and on 2 occasions be visited by guest artists, plus much more!

Saturday's: Jan. 12 – Mar. 16 Time: 1:30-3:00pm Location: Gertrude Cotton Centre Ages: 12-16 years Fee: \$130.00

> All Ages Art Activity – Let's Get Creative

These sessions are meant to foster creativity and connection through engaging people of all ages and abilities in fun arts and crafts projects. Each class will be different, check out www.townofstratford. ca to learn more!

Sunday's: Jan. 27, Feb. 24 and Mar. 31 Time: 1:00-3:00pm Location: Gertrude Cotton Centre Fee: \$20.00 /family (max. 4 people)

> Stratford Minor Basketball

We are a non-profit volunteer organization with a mission to provide opportunities for youth from kindergarten to Grade 6, to play basketball at recreational and competitive levels. We presently have over 125 players enrolled in the program, which runs from mid-October to early March. We have excellent coaches in all divisions but are always looking for more volunteers to coach or help with our Executive. For more information please visit our website www.stratfordfoxes.ca or contact Stratford Recreation Administrator at 902-569-6250.

> Stratford Playschool

Stratford Playschool is a three hour playschool program for 3-4 year olds. The program is designed to encourage children to develop their imagination and learn by play and hands-on exploring. We believe that child's play is the foundation for learning. Children must be three years old as of December 2018 and fully potty trained.



This program will involve a number of activities such as arts and crafts, games, story time, show and tell, finger plays, yoga, gardening, and other special events. Our mission is to meet each child's developmental needs by providing a safe and nurturing learning environment. Children learn by doing, adding pieces of information to their understanding of the world around them through play.

The program start date is January 7, 2019 at MacNeill Community Centre and runs for 15 weeks. The fee is \$360. There is a Monday/Wednesday and a Tuesday/Thursday class group, both running from 9:00am to 12:00pm. The minimum enrollment is six per class with a maximum of eight per class.

Playschool instructor Marjane Sanayie is a teacher with over 15 years of experience working with children in childcare/ kindergarten setting. She has received various certificates in Early Childhood Education. Marjane is fluent in both English and the Farsi/Persian language. Child Care Facilities Act Provincial License Number: P550583

> C.H.A.N.C.E.S. Drop In and Play

This program is held on Fridays in the Stratford Town Centre. It is an ongoing, weekly program, from 9:30am-11:30am for children from birth to age six. The C.H.A.N.C.E.S. Family Resource Centre hosts this weekly playtime for caregivers and children. Make new friends and discover all sorts of fun things to do together! No fee or registration necessary. Call (902) 892-8744 for more information.

> Music Man Mike Pendergast

The Music Man program resumes on Thursday, January 3 and runs weekly from 10:45am-11:45am at Stratford Town Centre. The cost is a drop in rate of \$5.00 per family. A delightful and funny weekly musical experience with the "Music Man" for youngsters and their caregivers.

> Stratford Summer Day Camp

The Stratford Recreation, Culture, & Events Department are very excited to offer a summer day camp. This 9 week program can be reserved on a weekly basis or for full 9 weeks. Age group is for youth between the ages of 8-12 years of age. We will only be accepting a maximum of 30 youth per week. Each week youth will experience various different activities: healthy eating, theater, arts and crafts, sports, nature based programs, and lots of free imaginative time. Registration begins January 07. Fee is \$135 per week or \$990.00 full summer. Discount also offered for multiple child registration for full summer registrants.



POTTERY CLASSES

Check out our pottery classes for adults and youth being offered this winter through Happy Potter. Visit our website to learn more. Space is limited.

STORM CLOSURE POLICY

When winter storms arrive and you are unsure whether the Stratford Town Centre Gymnasium and Fitness Centre is available for public use, please be aware that we follow Provincial civil servant offices of Charlottetown cancelations.

When this is announced on the local radio stations the Stratford Town Centre gymnasium and fitness area will be closed. Notice will be on local Island radio outlets, i.e. CFCY, Ocean 100, CBC, Q93, Hot105.5.Since cancellation notices are often times reported by media later than when the doors to the recreation centre are normally open to the public, we urge you to call the recreation office at 569-2535 for a recorded message with the latest update on closures and cancellations.

You can also check the Town's Facebook or Twitter.



> Watercolor Painting Classes

Saturday's: Jan. 5 – Mar. 9 Time: 10:00am–12:00pm Location: Gertrude Cotton Building (57 Bunbury Road) Fee: \$20.00

Join Tricia MacNeil Baldwin, Stratford Artist in Residence, beginning January 5th. Space is limited and supplies are not included. Open to those 16+

> Art Club

Thursday's: Jan. 3 – Mar. 7 Time: 7:00pm–9:00pm Location: Gertrude Cotton Building (57 Bunbury Road) Fee: \$20.00

Join Tricia MacNeil Baldwin, Stratford Artist in Residence, beginning January 3rd. Supplies are not included. All levels and abilities are welcome who are 16+.

Head to our website to learn more about our cooking classes being offered this winter! There's something for everyone. Check out www.townofstratford.ca

Go!PEI

is a community-based program that encourages Islanders to get active and eat healthy! Go!PEI provides programming in all 7 partnered communities across Prince Edward Island to support Islanders in making a healthy lifestyle change. The five main pillars of Go!PEI include Walking, Running, Biking, Hiking and Healthy Eating. We are hoping to help improve the overall health of Islanders for the long-term, by offering barrier-free, community-based programs! We are currently recruiting volunteers who wish to get involved with

GO PEI in program delivery. Please contact Rachel Arsenault, rarsenault@townofstratford.ca

> Body Fit Fitness Class

Looking to get a head start on your New Year's resolution to get fit? Drop in to Body Fit, a full body muscle conditioning 60 minutes class of fun for all levels of fitness. You can do all the exercises with weights that work for you or no weights at all!

Monday's from 6:15-7:15pm Location: Stratford Town Centre (stage) Fee: \$3 per class of punch card of 10 for \$30

All proceeds from this fitness class go directly to the Stratford Youth Centre for programing and equipment.

> Step Fit Fitness Class

Also check out Step Fit, it's a step aerobics class (yes - just like in the 80s) that's a great cardio workout for all levels of fitness! Time flies when you're having fun and working up a sweat! Come on out and try it!

Wednesday's from 6:30-7:30pm Location: Stratford Town Centre (stage) Fee: \$3 per class of punch card

of 10 for \$30

All proceeds from this fitness class go directly to the Stratford Youth Centre for programing and equipment.





This 8 week program offers a moderate but challenging head to toe workout that will uplift your quality of life, delay the ageing process, brighten your mood and help you feel more energetic. Each class will include a warm-up, standing and seated exercises and end with gentle total body stretches. Workouts will include a variety of equipment such as chairs, tubing, small balls, dumbbells, step platforms, etc. These fitness classes safely build dense, strong bones and will improve circulation, coordination, balance, core and full-body muscular strength, endurance and flexibility. Exercise while having fun and making friends! Wear loose fitting, comfortable clothing, and proper shoes that offer safety and support. Drink water before, during and after exercise. And don't forget to check with your doctor before starting any new exercise program. This program is provided by GOPEI.

Monday's beginning January 21 Time: 10:00-10:45 am Location: Town Centre stage Cost: \$16 Maximum of 12 participants and minimum of 4 participants required.

Register online via the Town's website or with the recreation department in person before January 18. For more information contact the recreation department at 902-569-6924.

> Men's Recreational Basketball

Sunday's: Jan. 6 – Apr. 28 Time: 8:15–9:45pm Location: Stratford Business Park (mini fields) Fee: \$20.00

Recreational basketball league - everyone is welcome to come and play. All levels encouraged in this "for fun" league! Register with the recreation department. For more information contact Troy Gauthier at gray.hoops@gmail.com

> Adult Badminton

Jan. 8 to Apr. 30 Tuesday's at Stratford Town Centre Time: 8:15-9:45pm Thursday's at Glen Stewart School Gym Time: 7:30pm-9:00pm Fee: \$20.00

Recreational badminton league for adults. Register with the recreation department before January 25.

> Wheelchair Basketball

Sunday's starting Sept. 9 Time: 9:00am-10:30am Location: Stratford Town Centre



"Hoop It Up!" with the PEI Mustangs Wheelchair Basketball Club. Instruction and equipment will be provided. This program is open to the general

public. Contact ParaSport & Recreation office at (902) 368-4548 or email info@ parasportpei.ca for more information.

> Pickleball

Pickleball is a paddle sport (similar to a racquet sport) that combines elements of badminton, tennis, and table tennis. Two or four players use solid paddles made of wood or composite materials to hit a perforated polymer ball, similar to a Wiffle Ball, over a net. The basic equipment (ball & net) is provided by the Town of Stratford and for people starting up, paddles are provided as well. All you need are your runners and your energy! Beginners are welcome to come and try the program. Every ability is welcome and all ages 16+.

Monday & Wednesday's 9am-12pm Friday's 1:00-3:00pm Location: Stratford Town Centre Fee: \$40.00 (Jan. to April)

Register online via the Town's website, or with the recreation department in person or over the phone (902-569-1995) before January 18. For more questions regarding play contact Bruce Fitchett at bruceandrobin54@eastlink.ca

Stratford Gymnasium Walking/Running Track Direction and Rules

The inside lane of the walking track is for walking and is the lane closest to the bleachers. Because we change directions each day, the direction to walk will be posted by the top of the stairs. The direction will always be opposite of the running lane. We ask that people do not walk more than two wide in the walking lane and that faster walkers pass in the outside lane when traffic allows.

The outside lane is for running and this is the lane closest to the fitness equipment area. Like the walking track, the direction is changed daily and is posted by the top of the stairs. We ask that people do not run in pairs, as the running lane is wide enough for one person only. The walking lane may be used for passing when traffic allows. Indoor sneakers must be worn (those never having been used outside) and please remember to sign in upon arrival.

Young children MUST be directly supervised by an adult if using the gymnasium track. Fitness area (equipment only) is restricted to 15 years and older.

> Gymnasium Hours of Operation

Sunday to Thursday: 5:30am-9:45pm Friday and Saturday: 5:30am-8:45pm

The Stratford Town Centre is open for Stratford residents to use 7 days a week. The centre is equipped with a gymnasium, walking track, fitness centre, multipurpose meeting rooms, change rooms, stage and kitchen. Residents are welcome to use the fitness centre and walking track any time the building is open.

Residents are also welcome to use the gymnasium any time there are no programs or bookings scheduled. Schedules are posted weekly on the bulletin board, as well as being posted on our social media accounts daily.

To book any of the meeting rooms or gymnasium for private use, contact the recreation office at 902-569-2535. When you enjoy this beautiful facility please sign in and out at the front door. Indoor sneakers only in gym and track/fitness area.



TOBACCO - FREE POLICY FOR INDOOR AND OUTDOOR F ACILITIES

The Town of Stratford recognizes that exposure of non-smokers to tobacco smoke (passive smoking) is hazardous to their health and that non-smokers, including children, should be protected. Passive smoking can lead to serious illnesses in adults, such as bronchitis, lung cancer and cardiovascular disease. Children can also develop chest illnesses and asthma from exposure to tobacco smoke. Children who are in frequent contact with adults who smoke are also more likely to become smokers themselves.

The Town of Stratford has had a Tobacco-Free Policy since 2007 to protect the health of all concerned with an emphasis placed on children. In August 2018, Stratford Town Council approved and adopted a resolution to change the policy to a bylaw is now in effect. The bylaw will continue to be enforced through education however does allow for charges to be laid if necessary.

All properties & facilities owned by the Town are designated as tobacco-free. This includes all outdoor playing fields, trails, parks and playgrounds as well as Stratford Town Centre, Cotton Centre, and MacNeill Community Centre.

DID YOU KNOW?!

The provincial government has announced that as part of their initiative to return carbon tax revenue to Islanders transit fees have been reduced effective January 1, 2019.



STRATFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

25 Hopeton Rd, Stratford, PE T: (902) 569-7441 W: www.library.pe.ca E: stratford@gov.pe.ca		
Tuesday:	9:30 a.m 5:30 p.m.	
Wednesday:	9:30 a.m 8:00 p.m.	
Thursday:	9:30 a.m 5:30 p.m.	
Friday:	9:30 a.m 12:30 p.m. 1:00 p.m 5:30 p.m.	
Saturday:	9:30 a.m 5:30 p.m.	
Sunday & Mo	onday: Closed	

Find us on Facebook! Search for Stratford Public Library, PEI. Last minute events, opportunities, and specials will be posted.

COMPUTER ASSISTANCE

Need a hand with setting up email, figuring out Facebook,

or anything in between? Call the library to book a time with one of our volunteers. By Appointment, call 902-569-7441

EBOOK ASSISTANCE

Check out the library's free ebook service, Overdrive! If you need a hand setting up your device, drop in or call for an appointment. Wednesdays from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by appointment, call 902-569-7441

DID YOU KNOW?

Islanders with a library card can browse from a catalogue of thousands of eBooks and eAudiobooks which can be downloaded to eReaders, smartphones, iPods and MP3 players. Check out the library website for more details, or call to book an appointment to get one-on-one assistance setting up your device.

STRATFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

> Adult Book Clubs

First Tuesday of the month at 2:30pm Last Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm

> Artist of the Month

Apply at the desk to display your art. All ages and experience levels welcome.

> E-Book Assistance

Bring your device and let us help you get connected to Overdrive, the library's free eBook and eAudiobook service. Overdrive is accessible 24/7, and you'll never have late fines with automatic check in. Wednesdays from 2:00-3:30pm

> Adult Ukulele Lessons

Whether you're a beginner or picking it up again, strum along with this group and fill the library with beautiful music! Wednesdays at 1:00pm, starting January 16

> Yarn Crafts

Thursdays at 1 pm Whether you like to knit, crochet or just craft and chat with friends, drop in anytime.

> Blind date with a book

Celebrate Valentine's Day by choosing a wrapped book to borrow. You won't know what it is until you get it home! If you enjoy the book, bring it back with a review and we'll share it with other borrowers. If you don't enjoy the book, bring it back with no awkward questions asked (unlike on some actual blind dates)! All month during library open hours. > Brush Stop: Stories and Art Ages 3-5 years Tuesdays at 10am

> Wiggle, Giggle Read

Ages 0-12 months Thursdays at 10:00am, starting January 10

> Family Storytime

Ages 12–36 months Thursdays at 10:30am, starting January 10

> Bricks & Blocks: LEGO Club

All ages Saturdays 9:30am-12:30pm

> Hackmatack Book Club

Ages 9 – 12

Third Saturday of each month at 1pm Read some fantastic Canadian fiction and nonfiction, then vote on your favourites.

> Family Literacy Day: Read and Learn

Family/All ages Saturday, January 26 at 11:30am

> No School? No Problem

Join us for school aged activities each day the children are home from school on Friday morning! Friday, March 8, 10:00am to noon Friday, April 12, 10:00am to noon Friday, May 3, 10:00am to noon

> March Break MakerSpaces

Join us for a different craft and activity each day and let your imagination grow! Tuesday through Saturday at 1:30pm Ages 5 to 10

STRATFORD AND AREA LIONS CLUB

Warm January greetings from the Stratford and Area Lions cCub. Being the start of a new year let helping other's and your community be your New Year's resolution. Consider being a Lion! The overwhelming feeling of pride and satisfaction within will grow knowing how much you can make a difference. This year we have welcomed 3 new members. To learn more, speak to any Lions member about joining !

We recently held our Christmas Senior's Dinner for area seniors which included a visit from Santa himself. All those in attendance enjoyed the meal and we wish to thank those who came out and helped us serving the meal.

A quick recap of our fall activities included our apple pie & bagged apple sales which was once again a roaring success. Our thanks go out to those who support it and to our members who put in lengthy hours during this time. We also provided a pancake breakfast fundraiser to raise funds for Glen Stewart Primary and Stratford Elementary school breakfast programs where the entire proceeds went directly to the schools. Our next pancake breakfast will be held during the Town's Winter FamFest. We will be on the go before the crack of dawn getting the prep work done to be ready for all of you to take a break and enjoy breakfast prepared by us!

Cribbage is held weekly on Thursday evenings and you just may be the big winner with the best hand of the night! Philip Boudreault got a 29 hand this past fall, the first one at our crib tourneys! We also have a ceildh the third Tuesday each month with a great line up of local talent and a light lunch served. Both of these events take place at the Robert Cotton Center on the Bunbury Road.

You can find us on Facebook, Stratford and Area Lions, where you can like our page to keep updated on activities and projects we are involved in. Our motto is "We Serve " so if you, or someone you know, needs our assistance in Stratford and surrounding area, please feel free to contact any Lions member, email us anytime at stratford. area.lions@hotmail.com or reach out to our president Scott Martin at 902-367-8949.

Respectively submitted by, Mae Bovyer, Club Secretary





Lions representatives present cheques to Stratford Elementary and Glen Stewart Primary Schools following fundraising pancake breakfast. \$4,226 was raised at September's breakfast to be divided between the schools.



Our town is full of hidden treasures, fun activities and world-class businesses. So much of what you're looking for can be found right here, in your own backyard!

So, we're on a mission!

We invite you, our residents, to Think! Stratford first before you shop, play and explore. From shops as unique as the people who own them, to natural resources that make us the envy of many, Stratford is growing and we want to help that growth continue!

How can you help?

When going about your regular routine this New Year, look for options available to you in Stratford!

Gas, groceries, morning coffee, banking, wining and dining, unique shopping, health care, and exercise are just some of the amenities close to home.

Keep an open mind. Try something new in Stratford, and you just might discover your new favorite things!

Encourage your friends and neighbours to Think! Stratford, too. It takes you to start a trend!

Think! Stratford... Convenience is closer than you think!



Imagine that!



When playing, I can show road respect by:

Not playing on high traffic roads – only on my local neighborhood road or street.

Moving out of the way for cars and other vehicles using the road.

Not running into or across the road unexpectedly.

Looking out for everyone else - cars, cyclists, runners and walkers – and doing my part to share the road.





MOVE OVER





Imagine that!

RCMP IN STRATFORD

RCMP, Provincial Government and Town of Stratford enforcing school bus laws for the safety of our children

RCMP have been working closely with the Town of Stratford and the Provincial Government to continually message the laws surrounding school busses on our roads.



Many enforcement activities have taken place and a good deal of public announcements and social media outreach continues to be done to convey the vital importance of stopping for red flashing lights on school busses.

Recent amendments from the Provincial Government might get the attention of drivers who disobey this law. Now, drivers who illegally pass a school bus will lose their licence.

As of December 8, 2018, failing to stop for a school bus when the red flashing lights are activated will lead to 12 demerit points, resulting in suspension of the licence for three months. This is in addition to the fine of up to \$5000.

This change increases the penalty for illegally passing a school bus from eight demerit points to 12 demerit points. When any driver accumulates 12 demerit points, the licence is suspended is for a period of three months.

In order for the licence to be reinstated, the driver meet with Highway Safety, pay a \$100 reinstatement fee, and take a defensive driving course within six months of the getting their licence back. After the reinstatement, the driver is on a demerit point probation in which any further demerits within one year will result in a further licence suspension.

Government has ramped up public awareness efforts to prevent dangerous and distracted driving, and continues to explore additional prevention and enforcement options including new technology and safety features on school buses and further legislative amendments.

Let's all do our part in keeping our little people safe from harm. Slow down, and always stop for red flashing lights on school busses.



JAMES AYLWARD, MLA

HAPPY NEW YEAR! WELCOME TO 2019!

I hope that everyone's end of year festivities included memory making gatherings with family and friends; and our incredible Stratford residents' generous tradition of giving to those less fortunate.

As you are aware, 2018 was a year of some challenges for me and my family. My parents' deteriorating health resulted in increasing time commitments overseeing their care and eventual transition to the wonderful assisted living accommodation at Beach Grove Home.

In September I made the difficult decision to relinquish my position as Leader of the Opposition in order to ensure a swift and smooth changeover to a new leader who will be able to give 110% of their attention to the needs of all Islanders allowing me to focus all my energy on Stratford-Kinlock issues. Thank you to all who have supported our family in so many ways over the past year.

Like so many of you, I was pleased with the decision of the Public School Board to recommend the construction of a secondary education facility in Stratford. The November announcement that government has agreed to build a High School is additional welcome news. For my part, I will continue to work hard advocating at every opportunity for the additional grades 7-9 component.

Increasingly I have been hearing from constituents about their concerns regarding traffic on the bridge, highway safety and policing in general. I will be having meetings with the appropriate authorities to identify solutions and support for improvements.

I would like to acknowledge and welcome the many new businesses to our Town. The Murphy's Kinlock Pharmacy and Medical Centre redevelopment of the former Home Hardware, the arrival of Stratford Discounters, Shoppers Drug Mart construction, and many more new businesses are shots of adrenalin for our community.

On November 18th I had the honour of recognizing in the Legislature, Major Trevor Jain, a Stratford resident, who was recently awarded the Order of Military Merit (Officer Level) presented by Governor General Julie Payette. Major Jain was one of only 5 members of the 26,000 strong Canadian Army to be so honoured this year.



Hon. James Aylward congratulating Stratford resident, Major Trevor Jain, on being 1 of 5 members of the Canadian Army awarded this year's Order of Military Merit (Officer Level), conferred by Governor General Julie Payette.

Best wishes for the coming year. Be sure to get out and take advantage of all the activities around Town and always 'Think Stratford'.

Sincerely, James Aylward, MLA



James Aylward presenting cheque for \$500 to the Stratford Youth Group on behalf of the Insurance Bureau of Canada. (Left to right) Sawyer Trainor, Sydney Morris, James Aylward, Rebekah Gallant, Leigh MacPhee, Ethan Banks.

James Aylward, MLA Stratford-Kinlock Email: jsaylward@assembly.pe.ca Telephone: 902-368-4355 ATTENTION STRATFORD BUSINESSES!

19

We are currently seeking materials for our Town of Stratford Welcome Packages for new residents.

If you have anything to contribute (business cards, brochures, etc.) please contact **Audra** at 569-1995 or abulger@townofstratford.ca.

Let's make sure our new residents are aware of all that our community has to offer!

Imagine that!

STRATFORD SCHOOLS COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

CITIZENS ON PATROL NOW RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS



Citizens on Patrol Stratford is a volunteer program established in 2008 where residents help to keep the community safe by volunteering to patrol the community and provide an "extra set of eyes and ears" for the RCMP. The program is funded in part by the Town of Stratford and works closely with the RCMP. Citizens on Patrol volunteers observe and report suspicious events to the RCMP – they do not intervene in any way, to ensure their own safety.

If you would like to learn more or go for a ride along with volunteers to try it out for an evening, please call the Town Centre at (902) 569-1995. You can also follow them on Twitter @COP_Stratford and on Facebook www.facebook.com/copstratford



Leave the phone alone while driving! \$500 minimum fine <u>& five demerit points.</u>

If you suspect a motor vehicle you are



following has an impaired driver call 911 when you can safely do so.





The Stratford C o m m u n i t y Schools Playground Committee, a group of parent volun-

teers, was recently formed by the Home & School Associations from both schools and has received support from school administration. The Committee engaged Cobequid Consulting, Outdoor Recreation Consultants & Contractors to design, supply and install new playground equipment that is inclusive and accessible to students and the surrounding community.

We are proud to say that students at both schools have been actively involved in the planning process, sharing what they would like to see in their playground. The cost of this playground will be \$300,000 dollars.

Did you know?

- The only schools in Stratford, Glen Stewart Primary (GSP) and Stratford Elementary (SES), currently have a combined population of over 1,100 children.
- Recess times are staggered to accommodate the large volume of students within the limited space where there is a lack of age appropriate and accessible play structures.

- Both school playgrounds are used extensively outside of school hours and serve as a gathering spot for families to get outdoors and enjoy an active lifestyle.
- The playground structures are showing extensive wear and tear because of the high level of usage, which can be linked to our increasing community population.
- Playground creation and maintenance are not part of capital budgets; these playgrounds are funded exclusively through fundraising efforts of parents and through community support.

Please contact us if you have any questions/ comments or if you are interested in helping us in any way. Find us on Facebook: Stratford Schools Community Playground and through at www.gofundme.com/Stratford-playground

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Willena Lanigan wlanigan@eastlink.ca 902-367-2820

Kristina Dowling kristinadowling@gmail.com 902-367-9088

FULLERTON'S CREEK FAMILY FUN MORNING

Fullerton's Creek Family Fun Morning took place Thanksgiving morning to fundraise for the Stratford Schools Community Playground, a natural playground build to replace the playground taken down during the Stratford Elementary School expansion. \$1160 was raised and approx.. 250 ppl were in attendance. The Committee of parent volunteers aims to raise \$300 000 through events, efforts and community generosity. To get involved or support efforts search 'Stratford Schools Community Playground' on FB, join the group and the pro outdoor play movement!

Special thanks to the event's Food and Beverage Sponsors: MacDonalds PEI; Purity Dairy; Sobeys Stratford and MacPhee's Orchard.





STRATFORDS OF THE WORLD

G'day! This was the greeting we often heard while attending the Stratfords of the World Reunion in Stratford, Australia in September. Stratford is located at a ford on the Avon River, 232 kilometres east of Melbourne. It is a small, rural town of 2,617 people (2016 census). The main industries of the area are dairying, sheep, cattle, vegetable growing, oil and gas.



The 65 delegates visiting from the Stratfords in Ontario, New Zealand, Connecticut, United Kingdom, and Prince Edward Island, were treated to warm hospitality and a varied social and cultural experience. Some of the highlights included: a day tour of Walhalla historic mining town; indigenous activities at the Knob; Gippsland Lakes tour by boat; and seeing kangaroos, koala bears, and local birds. In keeping with reunion tradition, there was an Ecumenical church service, a Shakespeare performance (by youth),

the Catalano concert (each Stratford performed a skit and/or musical selections), and the Banquet (attendees dressed in an Australian theme). All delegates were billeted with local families who were most hospitable. Needless to say, our PEI delegates- Dick and Viola Murley, Scott MacDonald, Joyce Gregory, Debbie and Michelle Reid, and Shane and I enjoyed ourselves immensely!



The next reunion will be held in Stratford, Ontario July 30- August 6, 2020 (tentative dates) and it is open to ALL residents of Stratford. Since it will be occurring during the summer (in 2 years time), it could be a family activity! As more information becomes available it will be posted on https://www.facebook. com/sotwontario/ and in our Town Talk. If you have any questions, you can contact me at dxcampbell@live.ca

Respectfully submitted by Daphne Campbell, Chair Stratfords of the World-PEI



RESPECT

SLOW DOWN MOVE OVER THINK OF OTHERS

The cold, snow and ice have arrived, and that means we need to show **RESPECT** for our fellow residents when it comes to winter road safety!

> Here are three tips for keeping it safe on our Stratford roads through the winter months:

• Don't make any abrupt turns or stops while driving! This could cause your vehicle to lose control and even skid on ice.

• **Brush it off!** Make sure that your car mirrors, windows and top are free of snow and ice before getting on the road. These debris can blow off and distract other drivers, not to mention yourself, putting everyone at risk!

• Tailgating becomes much worse with winter weather.

Stopping takes much longer on snowy and icy roads than on dry ones, so be sure to leave enough room between your vehicle and the one in front of you!

Bonus Tip: **Stay home during** stormy weather when road conditions are deemed

unsafe. The safest strategy for yourself and others is to avoid driving in poor winter weather; instead, wait for conditions to improve before heading out!



Imagine that!

WELCOME NEW BUSINESS!



High Valley Plumbing & Heating is a family-owned and operated company located at 26A Myrtle Drive in Stratford. From residential to commercial and from renovations to service. we can meet all of your plumbing and heating needs. With competitive rates and free estimates. **High Valley Plumbing** & Heating has been providing professional service to our valued customers since 2012.

High Valley is comprised of Red Seal Certified staff and holds a Mechanical Contractors License. The company is also one of PEI's only certified and licensed back-flow prevention tester and installer. With competitive rates and FREE estimates, contact High Valley Plumbing and Heating today at 902-569-5212 for your next plumbing and heating project!

If you are a new business in the Town of Stratford, please let us know by sending an email to info@townofstratford.ca! We'd love to welcome you in a future edition of Town Talk.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

> Cadets



Cadets from 20 (Stratford) RCACC will recommence

training at Stratford Town Centre in January. If you are between the age of 12 and 18 and you would like to learn more about Army Cadets you are encouraged to check us out between 6:30 and 9:00pm on Thursday evenings when we parade. There is no cost to join! We participate in orienteering, sports, marksmanship, leadership, citizenship, community service, geocaching, hiking, canoeing, abseiling, and more! For more info 902-626-5159 or curtis.doucette@ cadets.gc.ca

The Town of Stratford would like to thank the Stratford Cadets for once again delivering this issue of Town Talk to our residents.

> Make a "Big" difference with Big Brothers Big Sisters

What if every child fulfills his or her potential? You can help a child build the confidence to achieve more. Sign up to be a Big Brother, Big Sister, Big Couple or an In-School Mentor and help a child in Stratford reach their full potential. Making a difference in the life of a child is easier than you think. For more information, call Big Brothers Big Sisters of PEI at 569-KIDS (1-877-411-3729), e-mail info@ bbbspei.ca or visit www.bbbspei.ca

> Definitely Not The Symphony (DNTS)

Definitely Not The Symphony (DNTS): a fun group of people with a variety of levels of musical skill who enjoy playing in an orchestra. All levels of ability and suitable instruments are welcome. DNTS is resuming this month and will continue to play until June. Practices are held on Saturday mornings at 10:00am in the activities room at Andrews of Stratford, 355 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PEI. To learn more please visit www.dntspei.blogspot.ca, call Jenny at (902) 368-3576 or email dnts.pei@gmail. com.

> Canadian Tire Jump Start

Canadian Tire Jump Start is a charitable program created by the Canadian Tire Jump Start Charities to help kids in need (ages 4 to 18), participate in organized sport and recreation programs. This program is national in scope, but local in its focus. Canadian Tire Jump Start helps by providing funds to help offset the cost of registration fees and equipment for recreation like swim passes, bowling passes, dance lessons, Scouts and Girl Guides, etc.



To apply, please contact one of the following organizations: Kidsport PEI at (902) 368-4110 or Recreation PEI at (902) 892-6445 http://jumpstart. canadiantire.ca/en.html

> Kidsport Fund

The Kidsport Fund is a program offered through Sport PEI to ensure that no child is left out of organized sport due to lack of finances. For more information or to apply call 902-368-4110



COMMUNITY GROUPS

or 1-800-247-6712; or http://www.kidsportcanada.ca/prince-edward-island/ drop into the Sport PEI Office at 40 Enman Crescent in Charlottetown.

> Special Olympics PEI

Special Olympics Prince Edward Island



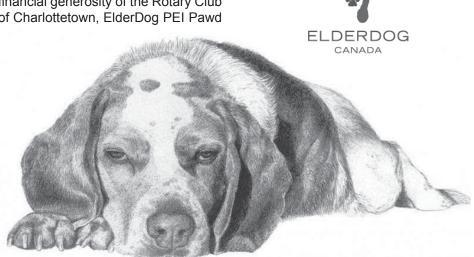
Special Olympics PEI is a non-profit, charitable, sport organization. We provide year-round opportunities for individuals with an intellectual disability to participate in sport. Programs are available for athletes of all ages (starting as young as 2 years old) and abilities in either the Community Sport Program stream (non-competitive) or the Competitive Sport Program stream (various sports offered). If you or someone you know is interested in getting involved as an athlete, coach or volunteer, or for more information, contact us at our Charlottetown office at (902) 368-8919 or by email at sopei@sopei.com or check out our website at www.sopei.com

> ElderDog PEI Pawd

ElderDog is a national non-profit organization dedicated to aging people, aging dogs and the important connection they enjoy. Thanks to the financial generosity of the Rotary Club of Charlottetown, ElderDog PEI Pawd is proud to kick off project: A Helping Paw. Aligning with the mission and values of ElderDog Canada, the goal of A Helping Paw is to assist seniors living in the Charlottetown area in the care of their canine companions. Seniors often face issues (namely financial) when caring for their canine companions. Most common issues faced are in the areas of regular vet care, quality food and grooming, which if not rectified in a timely manner, can cause more serious issues for their dogs.

The first step in providing assistance through A Helping Paw is to identify the seniors in need. Through trusted recommendations and referrals by people and organizations like you, ElderDog PEI and Rotary Club of Charlottetown can provide quality assistance to seniors in the Charlottetown area.

How can you help? Do you know of a senior in the Charlottetown area who: has a canine companion living with them; struggles with the care of their dog and could benefit from vet care, grooming, food, general care; and meets revenue Canada's low-income guidelines? If so, please tell them about this program. There is no cost to the senior for this project. Contact (902) 969-2926 or elderdogpei@gmail.com for more information.



RESIDENT WELCOME PACKAGES

Do you have a business in Stratford? Did you know we provide welcome packages to new residents? Please provide a brochure, flyer, coupon, or small give-a-way item to the Town office so we can help promote you to our newest residents. Learn more or get involved by speaking with Audra at (902) 569-1995.

> DID YOU WELCOME A NEW MEMBER TO YOUR FAMILY OVER THE HOLIDAYS?



Remember to get your new family member licensed. Call us at (902) 569-1995 to learn more.

Stay up-to-date between Town Talk editions – sign up on our website for our e-newsletter and be sure not to miss a thing!

HEALTH & WELLNESS

CAN I STILL WORKOUT WITH LOWER BACK PAIN?

Back pain is awful, this is true! However, it's not an excuse for not working out, and should actually become the reason you do.

Exercise could significantly help your back pain. A study done by researchers at UCLA determined, that after a year and a half of regular exercise, patients with a history of chronic lower-back problems were 31 percent less likely to experience an increase in pain than that of their sedentary counterparts. That great news!!

If you are currently living with back pain, where do you even _______start?

There are a few small changes you can make that can make all the difference.

TRY SWIMMING

Instead of running, try swimming. High-impact aerobic exercises like running and jogging are jarring to the joints, and back. Swimming is an excellent choice, since the water provides both support and resistance.

RECUMBENT BIKES

Instead of stationary bikes, try recumbent bikes. Water is not always accessible to everyone. A great non-pool option is the stationary bike, but leaning over to reach the handlebars in spin class is often tough on your spine. The recumbent bike allows you to lean back and relax your back muscles and the pedals are out in front of you, giving you a more comfortable ride.

> Adult Line Dancing Class

Line dance classes continue to be held on Tuesday night from 6:30-8:00pm and Wednesday morning from 10:00-11:30am. All classes are on the stage area of Stratford Town Centre. Your requirements: a love of music and dance along with comfortable shoes and clothes. Open to ages 18 to 81 with beginners always welcome - we will teach you! There is a small fee, and there will be a maximum number of persons accepted, so please call: Micheline at (902) 368-3416 or e-mail at: m.dufour@eastlink.ca

> STRONG by Zumba

This is the revolutionary HIIT workout that will push your limits. In this 55 minute class you experience 4 quadrants that gradually increase in intensity. This full body workout uses martial arts, body weight exercises, cardio moves and high intensity exercises to drive your heart rate, increase your strength and provide you with the best workout in the least amount of time. STRONG by Zumba is NOT a dance class. Please find me on Facebook: Strong by Zumba with Allison for details on class times and location!

> Beginners Line Dancing

The Stratford Line Dance beginners group meets every Wednesday from 10-30 until noon at Cotton Centre. There is a small donation that is collected and then donated to the Stratford Boys and Girls club. Instructors' are Deborah and Trent Costello. All are welcome, come put your shoes on and have some fun!

> S.O.S. (Seniors on Strength)

S.O.S. (Seniors on Strength) is a dynamic combination of strength development and balance for the

active older adult using tubing, dumb bells, body weight, stability balls and small balls. This session includes warm up, total body strengthening movements and end with a total body stretch. It's a party for your muscles! You will be stronger to lift and carry, climb stairs and do the things in life you wish to do. All levels.

Tuesday's, 9:30 a.m. (1 hour) Stratford Recreation Centre

Session 1: January 8 - 29

Session 2: February 5 - 26

Session 3: March 5 - April 2

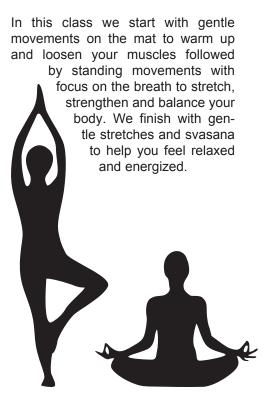
Session 4: April 9 - 30

Each 4 week session is \$30.

Sign up for 2 sessions and save \$5 (8 weeks \$55)

To register contact Joan Varacalli: bfitjv@gmail.com or (902) 213-6187

> Gentle Flow Yoga/Stretch



HEALTH & WELLNESS

Tuesday's, 11:00am (1 hour) Stratford Recreation Centre

Session 1: January 8 - 29

Session 2: February 5 - 26

Session 3: March 5 - April 2

Session 4: April 9 - 30

Each 4 week session is \$30.

Sign up for 2 sessions and save \$5 – 8 weeks \$55

To register contact Joan Varacalli: bfitjv@gmail.com or (902) 213-6187

> Chair Yoga/Stretch & Tone

A four week session open to beginners, geared to improving body awareness, balance and strength. Gentle stretching, strengthening and balance movements combined with breath work while sitting in a chair and/or standing using the chair for support. Part of each class will include small ball and theraband exercises.

Thursday's, 11:00 a.m. (1 hour) Stratford Recreation Centre

Session 1: January 10 - 31

- Session 2: February 7 28
- Session 3: March 7 April 4
- Session 4: April 11 May 9

Each 4 week session is \$30.

Sign up for 2 sessions and save \$5 (8 weeks \$55)

To register contact Joan Varacalli: bfitjv@gmail.com or (902) 213-6187

> Cardio Pump

These classes start with low impact cardio then moves to oldies music followed by muscle conditioning and toning using tubing, dumb bells, body weight, small balls and therabands. The class ends with a relaxing stretch. Have fun, burn calories, tone and strengthen your body.

Thursday's, 9:30 a.m. (1 hour) Stratford Recreation Centre

Session 1: January 10 - 31

Session 2: February 7 - 28

Session 3: March 7 - April 4

Session 4: April 11 – May 9

Each 4 week session is \$30.

Sign up for 2 sessions and save \$5 (8 weeks \$55)

To register contact Joan Varacalli: bfitjv@gmail.com or (902) 213-6187

> Stratford Stealers Softball

After a successful season in 2018, the Stratford Stealers are gearing up for the 2019 season. Over 140 girls between the ages of 5 and 14 played across 7 teams this past year, and both a U12 and U14 Stratford Stealers team won their provincial titles in September capturing gold. Watch for registration info to be released in the early spring and visit www.stratfordstealers.com for more information at any time.



PILATES AND YOGA

Instead of cardio aerobics, try Pilates or Yoga class, either one on one or in a group setting. The key here though, is to communicate to your teacher what you physically can and can't do. Once they are aware of any limitations, they will be able to tailor sequences, and poses to suite your abilities.

PLANK FOR CORE STABILITY

Instead of crunches, try planks. Sit-ups and full crunches put too much pressure on the lower back, and are often done incorrectly, which could make existing injuries worse. Instead, strengthen your abdominal muscles in a plank. Your form is very important in a plank, so while holding the plank keep your spine as flat as possible(do it in front of a mirror) set your gaze a few inches in front of your hands, keep your belly button drawn in at your lower back to support the lower back.

WALL SITS

Instead of squats, try wall sits. Squats are terrific for toning your legs and glutes, but they're also notoriously hard to perfect, without injury. A foolproof alternative (that's also great for your abs) is the wall sit, which works many of the same muscles and has the added back support of the wall.



STRATFORD COMMUNITY TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS:

Drop In & C.H.A.N.C.E.S	(902) 892-8744
Stratford Playschool	(902) 569-2535
Intro To Sports	(902) 569-2535

YOUTH PROGRAMS:

After School Programs	(902) 569-2535
Girl Guides of Canada	(902) 894-4936
Stratford Youth Centre	(902) 367-3294
Stratford Minor Basketball	dougnewson@gmail.com
Stratford Soccer Club	president@stratfordsoccer.pe.ca
Art Programs	(902) 569-6925
Stratford Minor Baseball	jcarroll_2007@hotmail.com
Instructional Ice Hockey	(902) 569-2535
Pownal Minor Hockey	(902) 676-2182
Pownal Can Skate	(902) 569-5866
Speed Skating PEI	(902) 569-2498
Red Cross Water Safety	(902) 628-6262
Scouts Canada (Stratford)	(902) 569-2353
Flag Football	(902) 368-4262
Stratford Army Cadets	(902) 569-4699

ADULT/SENIOR PROGRAMS:

Badminton	(902) 569-2535
Carpet Bowling: Shirley Cleveland	(902) 569-3306
Co-Ed Soccer: Pat Martel	(902) 569-3830
Co-Ed Volleyball: Dianne Lidstone	(902) 892-3784
Crossroads & Area Lion's Club	(902) 569-2409
Intro to Fitness Centre	(902) 569-2535
Mayflower Seniors Club	(902) 569-2732
PEI Wildfowl Carvers Club: Moe Wood	(902) 569-3591
Recreational Basketball	(902) 569-2535
Stratford Area Watershed Improvement Group	(902) 367-3605
Yoga/Sweat & Pump - Varacalli Fitness	(902) 213-6187

FAMILY PROGRAMS:

Community School: Kim Stewart	(902) 569-4258
Table Tennis: Najam Chishti	(902) 368-2360
Cricket: Ross Dwyer	(902) 817-4404

SUPPORT PROGRAMS:

Canadian Tire Jump Start	(902) 892-6445
KidSport Fund	(902) 368-4110
ParaSport & Recreation PEI	(902) 368-4540
Queens County Residential	(902) 566-4470

STRATFORD RECREATION FACILITIES:

(902) 569-3305
(902) 569-3424
(902) 569-2535
(902) 569-4987

TOWN ADMINISTRATION:

Reception Desk	(902) 569-1995
Chief Administration Officer	(902) 569-6251
Infrastructure	(902) 569-4662
Finance	(902) 569-6254
Utility Billing Inquires	(902) 367-3228
Planning, Development & Heritage	(902) 569-6255
Recreation, Culture & Events	(902) 569-2535

STRATFORD RECREATION STAFF:

Jeremy Pierce, Director	(902) 367-4288
Rachel Arsenault, Recreation Coordinator	(902) 569-6924
Tanya Craig, Recreation Program Leader	(902) 569-6925
Recreation Administrator	(902) 569-6250
Duane Pineau, Youth & Family Coordinator	(902) 367-3294

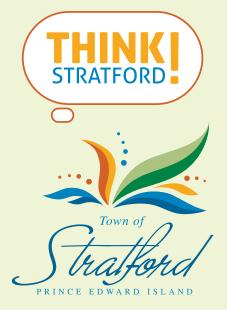
SCHOOLS:

Glen Stewart Primary School	(902) 569-0550
Stratford Elementary School	(902) 569-7750
Birchwood Junior High School	(902) 368-6870
Charlottetown Rural High School	(902) 368-6905

See your business here in the next issue.

Contact Wendy at wwatts@townofstratford to learn more about advertising in Town Talk!







566-9962 (ext. 105) www.t3transit.ca



Call to Artists.... Amateur & Professional All Ages Welcome!

The purpose of the Art Expo is to allow all community members to enjoy the work that is being created by local talented artists, including both amateurs and professionals of all ages.

January 28 to March 1, 2019 Stratford Town Centre

- · We are happy to accept visual work in any media
- NO ENTRY FEE!
- Space is limited so please limit size of art to fit within 8.5"X11"
- Works need to be delivered to the Stratford Town Centre from January 3 to 25, 2019
- · Art can be picked up from March 1 to 8, 2019
- Please clearly label your art with your name & contact information preferably on the back unless you wish your information public.
- For more information please call 902-569-1995 or email tcraig@townofstratford.ca

Experiencing creative expression enriches our lives and community by empowering each to share their voice and enabling us to experience the voice of others.



Imagine that!