

THE BRIDGETOWN READER

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FREE

Jan. 30
2026
VOL. 18
Issue 4

Call For Proposals

Paradise Heritage Centre's Spring Conference May 22, 23. Deadline for submission February 6.

"Stories Are All We Have: The Shape of Our Footprints" with Amanda Peters, author of The Berry Pickers, as keynote speaker.

Stories have the power to build connection and understanding, to strengthen community. Stories woven through our lives and through history may transcend time and embrace generations. This is as true in the history of our valley as it is anywhere. Are you the person or group that would like to join Amanda and the rest of us to tell a story of our area that embraces generations and can help us to connect and understand? You would be presenting that story on Saturday, May 23. You can choose the form- a storytelling circle, a digital presentation... whatever works best for you.

Apply to barbarabishop84@gmail.com.

African Heritage Month

February 2026. Sharing the History and Culture of African Nova Scotians.

This year's African Heritage Month provincial theme is "**Strength in Unity: Moving Forward with Purpose, Prosperity, Power, and Progress.**" The theme speaks to the power that comes when African Nova Scotians and people of African descent stand together with a shared sense of direction. It recognizes unity as an active force for change that strengthens communities, advances justice, and creates new opportunities.

At the heart of this strength are our elders, whose wisdom, stories and leadership continue to guide us. As knowledge keepers and culture bearers, they remind us of where we have come from and what it has taken to get here. In honouring our elders, we celebrate more than 400 years of African presence in Nova Scotia and the enduring legacy of the province's 52 historic African Nova Scotian communities, while renewing our commitment to move forward together with purpose, prosperity, power and progress.

The 2026 theme also reflects the continued journey beyond the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent, carrying forward the principles of recognition, justice, and development. Strength in Unity calls upon us to harness our collective wisdom, resilience, and creativity to build prosperity in all its forms, cultural, social economic and spiritual.

African Heritage Month provides an opportunity for all Nova Scotians to learn, reflect, and celebrate the history, culture, achievements and contributions of people of African descent past and present.



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Dimensional Printmaking with Basma Kavanagh

At ARTSPLACE Gallery, 396 St. George Street, Annapolis Royal.

ARTSPLACE Gallery is pleased to welcome our next Member in Residence, Basma Kavanagh, who will spend four weeks developing a new body of large stitched, folded, and collaged works in paper. Drawing on her extensive background in printmaking, Kavanagh will experiment with relief prints as building blocks for sculptural installations created within the studio space and the Library Gallery.

During the residency, Kavanagh will begin a new series and create new hand-printed works using linocut, stencils, and brayers, as well as printed elements produced at the nearby Elephant Grass Printmakers' studio.

Select works in progress will be presented in the Library Gallery from February 7 to 14, where visitors can observe pieces that may continue to evolve throughout the display period," said Sophie Paskins, Gallery Director.

Kavanagh is a Lebanese Canadian multidisciplinary artist whose practice includes writing, printmaking, textiles, performance, and artist books. She has exhibited and performed across Canada and in the United States and has held residencies at Penland School of Craft, the Banff Centre and the Minnesota Center for Book Arts. She recently completed an MFA in Creative Nonfiction at the University of King's College, Halifax.

Member-in-Residence, Basma Kavanagh. Residency January 17 to February 14. Exhibition Library Gallery February 7-14. Check the website for open studio times. Closing reception, Sat. February 14, 2026, 12-2 p.m. Light refreshments served, all welcome.

The Bridgetown Reader is published weekly on Friday by TAR Publishing. The deadline for submissions to our next issue is noon Monday Feb. 2.

Current and recent issues of The Reader are available night and day, 7 days a week at www.bridgetownreader.news

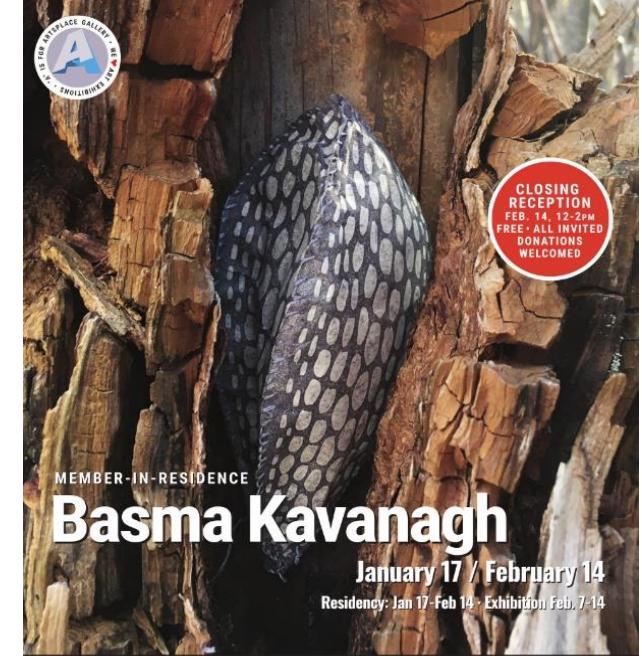
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ARTSPLACE 396 St. George St. Annapolis Royal, NS B0S1A0

Middleton March Break Camp

March 16-19, 8:30am-2:30pm at the AEES gym. Don't forget to register for March Break Day Camp - spots fill quickly! To register, visit: www.discovermiddleton.ca or Town Hall - 131 Commercial Street. Kids ages 6-12 will enjoy crafts, games, sports, experiments, and tons of activities. \$90 (Middleton residents) or \$100 (Non-residents).

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Community Calendar

Thur. Jan. 29, 2:00pm St John's

Anglican Church AGM: Please call the office for the address. 902-532-0913.

Thur. Jan. 29, 4:30-6:00pm

Lawrencetown and District Lions Club

Community Spaghetti Dinner at COGS, 50 Elliott Rd. Spaghetti dinner with meat sauce, garlic bread, tea, coffee, juice for kids and a cookie. Gluten free option available. Take out available \$10 adults, \$8 kids under 12. Free for kids under 5.

Thur. Jan. 29, 7:00pm Watercolor

Basics with Shelley! an Annapolis Valley Folk School Event at 1963 Clarence Road. Back again as there was so much interest! Tickets available here:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/barter-based-session-watercolour-painting-tickets-1980872108801>

Learn some basic techniques of watercolors - Wet on Wet, Wet on Dry and add in some ink! Watercolors and ink are a great combination! You can make an ink drawing and tint it with watercolor, or you can do a watercolor and enhance it with ink lines. We are going to let the watercolors flow freely and learn the difference between loose and tight paintings. We can also use the spatter technique to create a fun background.

If this is your first time attending a barter-based skills-trade class, note that attendees are encouraged to bring an item(s) to offer in exchange for the knowledge shared in addition to any supplies required for the class. Our facilitator's preferred items are Jams/jellies/wool/coffee/honey/baked goods ..no, allergic!, wine. There is no fee associated with this ticket but please do not just indicate "coming" on the event - we've found this is not an accurate capture of attendees. If you have any difficulty registering, you can send us an email at avfolkschool@gmail.com message us on Facebook or call Maureen at 902-309-0224.

Fri. Jan. 30, 10:00am Weekly Tai Chi

classes at the Centrelea Community Hall, 3495 Highway 201. Bring indoor slippers or shoes. Drop ins welcome. Good for balance, posture and relieving stress. Instructor Jamie Edwards of Empty Hand Martial Arts. \$75 for 10 week pass that does not expire. More info @ 902-448-2483 *

Fri. Jan. 30, 10-11:30am Community

Coffee, every Friday @ Lower Granville Hall (3551 Granville Rd., Port Royal). Come out and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and bring a snack to share if you are able. Meet a neighbour, make a new friend. Everyone is welcome. \$2/person donation for the Hall.

MUSICIANS WANTED

Songwriters ♪ Singers ♪ Music Lovers

Meet local musicians, test out new songs, and play or practice with other musicians at the 7Arts Open Mic Song Circle, hosted by Maura and Geoff. No registration needed. Free event.

All instruments & skill levels welcome.

Friday, January 30
1:00 - 3:00 pm

At 7Arts
619 Central Ave
Greenwood, NS

www.7arts.ca/veterans
info@7arts.ca
902-765-7278

TRUE PATRIOT
LOVE

7Arts

Fri. Jan. 30, 5:30-9:00pm Pub Night at the Bridgetown Legion, 22 Jeffrey Street. Music by Delusion Road (music starts at 6:30). BVFD Draw night. Bar open 2-10:30.

Fri. Jan. 30, 7:00pm Jam Session every Friday Evening at the Youngs Cove Community Hall, 5407 Shore Rd. *

Sat. Jan. 31, 9am-1:00pm Annapolis

Royal Winter Farmers Market indoors at St. Luke's Parish Hall (340 St. George St, Annapolis Royal, accessible from both St George St and Victoria St)!

Sat. Jan. 31, 12-1:00pm Pastel Butterfly

Bookmark Craft A colourful way to keep your place! Make a beautiful butterfly bookmark. Ages 16+. Registration is required. In the DeVenney Room at the Bridgetown & Area Library. 902-665-2758, 38 Queen Street. If you sign up but are unable to join in on the day, please cancel your spot as we have a waitlist.

Sat. Jan. 31, 12:30pm T & D Kitchen

Jam Saturdays, 1407 Inglisville Road, Lawrencetown at the Community Hall. All are welcome! Doors open 12:30, music from 1:30-4:30. \$2 for entry. Snacks, tea /coffee are included in the price. *

Sat. Jan. 31, 1-3:00pm Fire Pit in the

Parking Lot @ Lower Granville Hall (3551 Granville Rd., Port Royal). Bundle up in your warm jacket and join us around the fire. We will be hosting this outdoor event, complete with a fire pit, hot drinks (coffee, tea, hot chocolate), hot dogs, and s'mores. We will have supplies on hand; you provide your roasting know-how. If bringing children, please make sure to keep a good eye on them around the fire. Bring your outdoor chairs and sticks for roasting. Everyone is welcome to attend this event. Donations welcome.

Sat. Jan. 31, 2:00pm Barter Based Session: Spoken Words with Writer's

Ink, an Annapolis Valley Folk School event at 3777 Clarence Road, Clarence. Come on out to welcome our local writers group: Writer's Ink! Grab a friend and bring a cup of java to the School house on Clarence for an afternoon of Spoken Word from our very own local Writer's Inc group. Get tickets here:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/spoken-words-in-the-school-house-with-writers-ink-tickets-1980132436421>

Writer's Ink is a group of local writers that are going to come and read excerpts of their writing to us. It will be a great way to spend a winter's afternoon. While getting to experience our local talent! Grab a friend and come on out! If the weather causes an issue we will gather February 28 same place same time. Barter items for this event are: Items for AVFS Pantry including cereal, canned meat, veggies, fruit, granola bars, milk, bread.

There is no fee associated with this ticket but please do not just indicate "coming" on the event - we've found this is not an accurate capture of attendees. If you have any difficulty registering, you can send us an email at avfolkschool@gmail.com or message us on facebook. Looking forward to seeing you!

Sun. Feb. 1, 11:00am Bridgetown

Baptist continues to worship weekly. Join us on Sundays at the Royal Canadian Legion, 20 Jeffery St., for a joyful time of worship. 902-665-2506. 10:30 for prayer and 11am for worship! bridgetownbaptist@gmail.com.

Sun. Feb. 1, 11:00 am Worship Service.

Celebrate God's presence with us at St. George & St. Andrew United Church, 393 St. George St. Annapolis Royal 902-532-7954. Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds. *

SOOFSTOCK Presents

Performances By
Still River
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Lorne Allan & Sue Littleton
Giving Nature a Voice.



Saturday, February 21st

2 - 5 PM

Macdonald Museum,
21 School Street, Middleton,

Pay What You Can

(Suggested \$20)

David Bowlby

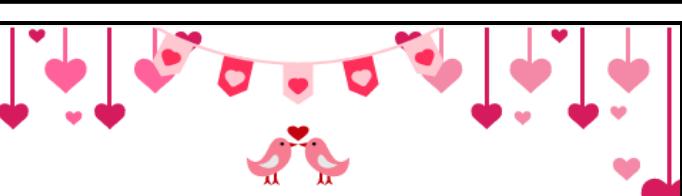
MLA - Annapolis



mladavidbowlby@gmail.com

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Valentine's Dinner

Please join us for a Free Community Valentine's Day Spaghetti Dinner, all welcome!

February

14

4-6 pm

120 Parker Mountain Road, Annapolis Royal
Optional: bring a small foodbank donation

Please RSVP to:
susanne2426@gmail.com



Welcome to CORAH!

Centre of Rural Aging and Health (CORAH) is a community hub and active living centre for older adults (55+):

- A place to connect with others, exercise the mind and body, and empower oneself!
- Social, cultural, educational, & recreation programs: weekly fitness classes, creative art groups, presentations and more!
- Free or low-cost programs focused on healthy living and wellness

Location: CORAH at NSCC Middleton Campus
Contact: corah-avc@nscc.ca or 902-825-5215



55+



Find us on Facebook
facebook.com/corahHUB

New Year, New Page: An Intro to Bullet Journaling

Join NSCC's Elizabeth Garcin to learn more about Bullet Journaling made simple:

- Explore the basics of Bullet Journaling
- Discover a tool for memory, mindfulness and lifestyle management
- Use Journaling to organize tasks, track goals, and live with intention in 2026!

THURSDAY February 05 *10:00am – 12:00pm*
Location: CORAH at NSCC Middleton Campus
Register: corah-avc@nscc.ca OR 902-825-5215

Journals Available for SALE – or Bring Your Own.

FREE
corah

Love Where You Live: Community Mapping With Purpose

Join NSCC Geomatics Instructor Ed Symons, NSCC students & CORAH for an exciting project:

- Map local assets like green spaces, health resources, cultural and community hubs.
- Identify local challenges and reframe them for positive change.
- Your participation supports student learning and community development.

THURSDAY February 12 *9:30am – 11:30am*
Location: CORAH at NSCC Campus
Register: corah-avc@nscc.ca OR 902-825-5215


FREE
corah

Rug Hooking: Loops & Laughs

Join the CORAH Rug Hookers:

- **Beginners** – Come out and learn with us!
- **Experienced Hookers** – Share your skills, learn new techniques, and inspire others
- **Everyone** – No pressure, just fun! Enjoy great company, creative energy, and lots of laughs!

WEDNESDAYS: *1:00pm – 3:00pm*
Winter/Spring 2026: February 11 – June 03
Location: CORAH at NSCC Middleton Campus
Register: corah-avc@nscc.ca OR 902-825-5215

Free to Join!
Registration numbers limited.
Starter kits available.

FREE
corah

Try it Out: Snowshoes & Kick Sleds

Join the Annapolis County Winter Active Team and CORAH for a guided snowshoe:

- Try out snowshoes, kick sleds, or both
- Receive guided instruction and support
- Borrow or bring your own equipment
- Beat the winter blues, get active, have FUN!

Location: Middleton Rotary Raceway Park
Meet: Parking lot at 337 Marshall Street, Middleton
THURSDAY February 19 *11:00am – 12:30pm*
Register: corah-avc@nscc.ca OR 902-825-5215

FREE

FREE

FREE
corah

Foot Care Nurse

Weekly Foot Care Clinic at CORAH
Treat your feet! Book an appointment with Lillian Terrio-Vogler of Terrio Foot Care
Benefits: pain relief and comfort, improved circulation, prevents infection & more!

By Appointment:
TUESDAYS between 12:00pm – 4:00pm
To book an appointment: 902-690-5474
Location: CORAH at NSCC Middleton Campus
\$45 for Basic Foot Care / Advanced / Diabetic

Payment Options:
Cash /
Cheque /
E-transfer

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The Science and Magic of Music

Join musician and educator Wendy Hardman for inspiring stories, science-backed insights, and hands-on activities to show how music can boost mood, reduce stress, and spark creativity:

- An interactive, uplifting session reveals music as a tool for ease, joy, connection, wellness.
- Experience music through fun exercises!
- Share stories and adventures connected to music! Leave with tested strategies to harness the 'magic' of music for your own well-being.

WEDNESDAY February 04 *10:00am – 11:00am*

Location: CORAH at NSCC Middleton Campus

Register: corah-avc@nscc.ca OR 902-825-5215

FREE   

Wired Wisdom: Tech Talk Trivia!

Join Deb McBean for an afternoon of fun:

- Test your tech knowledge in a fun and supportive environment!
- Review the basics: cell phones, tablets, and digital dilemmas
- Join us for Tech Talk terminology trivia

FRIDAY February 06 *1:30pm – 2:30pm*

Location: CORAH at NSCC Middleton Campus

Register: corah-avc@nscc.ca OR 902-825-5215


FREE
corah

Quilting and Sew Much More!

Join the "Sew-Easy-to-Give" Guild:

- Join a lively team of 20+ volunteers
- Help create beautiful quilts for our community
- Share your skills or learn something new!
- Non-sewers are welcome!

TUESDAYS *12:30pm – 3:15pm*

Winter/Spring 2026: February 10 – May 05

Location: CORAH at NSCC Middleton Campus

Register: corah-avc@nscc.ca OR 902-825-5215


FREE
corah

Join the CORAH "Cast-Offs"

Have Fun at the Friday Knitting Group:

- Bring your own knitting projects: Enjoy a relaxed and self-guided environment with great company
- Connect with other knitters: Join a warm, welcoming community where you can share ideas, get tips, and receive support

FRIDAYS *1:00pm – 2:30pm*

Winter/Spring 2026: February 13 – June 05

Location: CORAH at NSCC Middleton Campus

Register: corah-avc@nscc.ca OR 902-825-5215

Free to Join!
Registration numbers limited.

FREE
corah

Guided Group Snowshoe

Join the Annapolis County Winter Active Team & CORAH for a guided snowshoe:

- Practice snowshoeing and learn more about the natural world during this guided activity
- Borrow or bring your own equipment
- Beat the winter blues, get active & have FUN!

Location: Riverside Park, Middleton

Meet: Parking lot at Riverside Park, Bridge St., Middleton

THURSDAY February 26 *12:30pm – 2:00pm*

Register: corah-avc@nscc.ca OR 902-825-5215

FREE 
FREE

FREE
corah

Got an idea about a presentation topic or activity for CORAH?

Would you be interested in presenting or facilitating an activity? Or do you know of someone who may like to present? If so, we'd love to hear from you! Share your ideas with us at:

corah-avc@nscc.ca


corah

Sun. Feb. 1, 11am-2:00pm Farmers and Crafters Market

, every Sunday at the Lions Club at 948 Hwy 1, Deep Brook. Local vendors and farmers. New vendors always welcome.

Sun. Feb. 1, 2:00pm The **Centrelea United Baptist Church** is holding weekly worship services at the **Centrelea Hall** for the winter months. Services are at 2pm, except adjustment to time or location will be made for February 15th and March 15th, as these are SOOF Sundays at the Hall. Watch for notices about plan for these weeks. Everyone is welcome. For more information about the church, services or our beliefs, please text or phone Pastor Elizabeth Legassie at 902-526-2493.

Sun. Feb. 1, 7-9:00pm Fun Darts, every Sunday evening at the Bridgetown Legion, 20 Jeffery Street. \$3 entry returned in prizes.

Sun. Feb. 1, 7-9:00pm Snow Moon Howl Join Annapolis Royal Recreation for an outdoor event celebrating community recreation, nature, and the February full moon (known as the Snow Moon). There will be snowshoeing or hiking, kicksledding for kids and adults courtesy of the County of Annapolis Winter Active Team, hot cider, a bonfire, and headlamps provided for a trek around the French Basin Trail! For more information, or in the event of severe weather, please call 902-955-1205. French Basin Trail, 112 Prince Albert St.

Mon. Feb. 2, 10-11:00am Indoor Fitness Walking

@ Lower Granville Hall (3551 Granville Rd., Port Royal). Drop in every Monday and/or Thursday for an indoor walk. These basic low-impact cardio walking videos exercise the whole body (We usually walk 2-3 miles which is 30 or 45 minutes). These videos incorporate walking in place, knee raises, kicks, side and back steps, arm movements and so much more. \$2 Donation Suggested. *

Mon. Feb. 2, 10am-12:00pm Memoir Writing

Group meets every Monday morning in the music room at the Annapolis Library to share chapters of their memoirs for friendly discussion. No workshops. Everyone welcome.

Mon. Feb. 2, 12:00pm Join the Town of Middleton for a Flag Raising in honour of African Heritage Month

at Centennial Park and featuring a djembe drumming group. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Mon. Feb. 2, 7:00pm Young Adult Bible Study, weekly, at Salvation Army Church, Bridgetown. Are you a young adult (age 18-40ish) interested in meeting other young adults in the area and studying God's word together? This is the group for you! Light refreshments will be provided. All are welcome! Bring a friend! Please email Carrie at bridgeowntbaptistyoungadults@gmail.com with any questions. *

Mon. Feb. 2, 7:00pm Valley Lions Radio Bingo

(VLRB) is a Media Bingo broadcast on Annapolis Valley Radio, AVR 97.7FM and other AVR stations from Digby to Windsor, every Monday night from 7-8pm. Bingo Cards are sold through valley retail locations. Info at www.vlrb.ca *

Mon. Feb. 2, 7-9:00pm Craft Club @ Lower Granville Hall (3551 Granville Rd., Port Royal). Now EVERY Monday night! Calling all Fibre artists. Join us at the Hall for a Stitch'n'Bi*ch. All skill levels welcome. Knit, crochet, embroider, felt, mend, sew, quilt, spin, weave, needlepoint, rug hooking... We will put the kettle on. Bring your project and \$2 Hall donation. *

Tues. Feb. 3, 9:30-10:30am Yoga with Esme at Brickton Community Hall (12062 Hwy 1, Brickton) Mats provided. For more information or to register, contact Esme at 604-537-5665. *

Tues. Feb. 3, 10-11:00am Senior Exercise Class at the Bridgetown Legion. Certified instructor. Work to your own comfort and ability level. Please bring resistance bands and hand weights if you have them. \$4 per class. Come for fun while being active! Newcomers always welcome. *

Tues. Feb. 3, 11:15-12:15pm Hatha Flow Yoga

@ Lower Granville Hall (3551 Granville Rd., Port Royal). Build strength and flexibility with a flowing practice that links breath with movement, including standing poses and floor stretches. This new 5-week session (Jan 13th - Feb 12th) has expanded to 2 days per week (Tuesdays and Thursdays)! Register in person at the first class. 1 class per week is \$50, or 2 classes per week is \$100, or drop in for \$15 per class. No experience needed – all levels welcome.

Tues, Feb. 3, 12:30-1:30pm Chair Yoga @ Lower Granville Hall (3551 Granville Rd., Port Royal). Perfect for those with hip, knee, or balance concerns. Gentle, supportive, and accessible. This new 5-week session (Jan 13th - Feb 12th) has expanded to 2 days per week (Tuesdays and Thursdays)! Register in person at the first class. 1 class per week is \$50, or 2 classes per week is \$100, or drop in for \$15 per class. No experience needed – all levels welcome.

Tues. Feb. 3, 1-3:00pm The Annapolis East Seniors Card Group, meet at NSCC Middleton.

Tues. Feb. 3, 1:30-4pm Jam Session at Parker Hall, Victoria Vale, across from the church, every 2nd Tuesday. Doors open at 1:00. Come out for an afternoon of music, fun and refreshment and support the Hall. Next Jam Feb. 17*

Tues. Feb. 3, 7:00pm Bridgetown Area Garden Club's monthly meeting. Attention gardeners and gardens-in-training! Shed your winter blues with the perfect antidote: movie and trivia night. Join us—new members welcome!—at St. James Anglican Church hall, 289 Granville St., Bridgetown, for movie night and trivia. Bring a friend, bring a trivia team! See you there!

Tues. Feb. 3, 7:15-10:15pm Middleton Legion Bingo Tuesdays at 205 Marshall Street.

Wed. Feb. 4, 10:00am NS Walks Annapolis Royal

Wednesdays at 10am. Are you interested in getting some exercise, at your pace, with friendly people, and in picturesque surroundings? Join our Walk Group! We meet every Wednesday at 10:00am at the Annapolis Royal Farmers' Market parking lot. Walkers of all ages and abilities are welcome. For further information, call (902) 250-0429.

Wed. Feb. 4, 10:00am NS WALKS

BRIDGETOWN a walking group for all levels and abilities If you are looking for motivation to get out for a bit of exercise and to socialize come join us. Walkers meet at the Library every Wednesday at 10:00 am. All are welcome Registration is not required. For more information check our Facebook Group NS WALKS BRIDGETOWN

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Wed. Feb. 4, 2:00pm The Clements

Historical Society will be holding its regular monthly meeting at the Royal Canadian Legion, Clementsport, NS, Hwy #1, in the Upper Hall. Local author, historian and genealogist Denise Rice, will be sharing her insights and knowledge through her presentation "Talking About Rose Fortune". At this first meeting of the Clements Historical Society for 2026, there will be an opportunity to renew your annual membership. We welcome new members as well. The membership dues remain at \$10 per person. Cash and E-transfer will be available. Refreshments welcomed and served. Everyone is welcome.

Wed. Feb. 4, 7:00pm Brickton Community Hall Jam Sessions

Every Wednesday @ 7. Free will offering. All welcome. *

Wed. Feb. 4, 7-9:00pm Fun Cribbage every Wednesday evening at the Bridgetown Legion, 20 Jeffery Street. \$6 entry returned in prizes. All welcome. *

Wed. Feb. 4 and Fri. Feb. 6, 7:30-9:30pm

Bridgetown Pickleball at BRCS. Entrance on north end of school (NOT the main entrance). Please bring a change of footwear. \$2 per night. Newcomers always welcome! Questions? 902-665-4353 or 902-665-4308.

Wed. Feb. 4, 8:00pm Al-anon Meeting, for

relatives and friends of alcoholics, at the First United Baptist Church at 762 George Street, Annapolis Royal, every Wednesdays at 8pm. Please enter through the front door.

Thur. Feb. 5, 10-11:00am Indoor Fitness

Walking @ Lower Granville Hall (3551 Granville Rd., Port Royal). Drop in every Monday and/or Thursday for an indoor walk. These basic low-impact cardio walking videos exercise the whole body (We usually walk 2-3 miles which is 30 or 45 minutes). These videos incorporate walking in place, knee raises, kicks, side and back steps, arm movements and so much more. \$2 Donation Suggested. *

Thur. Feb. 5, 2:15-4:15pm Caregiver

Support Group meets at the Kingston Library, 671 Main St. Do you give unpaid care to a parent, spouse, child, friend, or relative due to frailty, advanced age, chronic illness, mental illness, or disability? You are not alone! The NS Caregivers Support Group meets on the first Thursday of each month. It is facilitated by trained staff members who offer a confidential, friendly atmosphere for you to discuss your experiences and receive helpful information in a supportive environment. For more information and to register, call Jennine Wilson, 1-877-488-7390 (toll-free).

Thur. Feb. 5, 6:30-8:30pm Craft & Chat at the Paradise Community Hall.

Join us for a cozy and creative gathering held on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at the Paradise Community Hall (10300 Hwy #1, Paradise). Whether you're into knitting, painting, diamond art, scrapbooking, or any other craft - bring your project along and we'll put the kettle on! \$5 per person with all proceeds to help support the hall. *

COUNTY of ANNAPOLIS
NATURALLY ROOTED

Residents of the East End Planning Area Public Hearing

TAKE NOTICE that the Municipal Council will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** on its intention to adopt the East End Planning Area Secondary Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw. You are invited to attend and speak or ask questions concerning these proposed planning documents.

Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026

Time: 11:00 AM

Location: Municipal Administration Building, 752 St. George St., Annapolis Royal (Council Chambers)

Any interested persons who wish to speak on the matter are welcome to make respectful comments or express concerns and may register at the door prior to the meeting start time. A copy of the proposed planning documents may be viewed on the Municipality's website or by visiting the Municipal Administration Building, 752 St. George St, Annapolis Royal weekdays, except public holidays, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm or the Municipal Satellite Office, 291 Marshall Street - Unit 4, Middleton Wednesdays and Thursdays, except public holidays, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

For further information, please contact:
Barbara Boateng, Manager of Planning
Phone: (902) 526-0478
Email: bboateng@annapoliscounty.ca

www.AnnapolisCounty.ca



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Fri. Feb. 6, 9:30-11:30am Veteran's Lodge Buddy Check

coffee. This event is open to all Annapolis Valley Veterans and serving members. This is a FREE event for Veterans. Register by emailing thieveteranslodge@gmail.com. At the 7Arts Centre 619 Central Ave, Greenwood. *

Sat. Feb. 7, 8-10:00am Lions Big Breakfast at the Bridgetown Legion, 20 Jeffery Street. Come and join us for Breakfast. We'd love to see you. Free will offering as always.

**Annapolis Royal and Bridgetown Taxi Marks 14 Years of Service**

Annapolis Royal and Bridgetown Taxi is celebrating 14 years of service this April, continuing its commitment to reliable, professional transportation. With over 45 years of combined experience in the travel industry, Brian offers competitive, cost-effective fares with excellent, personalized service.

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Annapolis Royal or Bridgetown to Valley Regional Hospital - Kentville \$140.00
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Bridgetown to Middleton - \$35.00
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Sat. Feb. 7, 10:00am St Mark's Anglican Church AGM at St Mark's.**Sat. Feb. 7, 10am-2:00pm Hearts & Crafts**

Market at the Wilmot Community Centre, 13972 Highway 1. Sponsored by Nova Scotia Pantry. Cupid Photo Booth, Kids Craft Station, Goodie Bags for each family, lots of amazing food and craft vendors and so much more! Free admission. For more info and to register as a business email novascotiapantry@hotmail.com Check us out at www.novascotiapantry.com Your one stop for local handcrafted products from Nova Scotia.

Sun. Feb. 8, 2-4:00pm Galentine's Paint

Day with Sarah. Celebrate the love of a great friend and create a shared memory together. Cost is \$35 per person. All supplies included! Registration is required by emailing info@7Arts.ca. 7Arts Centre, 619 Central Ave, Greenwood.

Mon. Feb 9, 12 noon Do You Live Alone?**Join us for a Luncheon at the Salvation**

Army Church on Rink Street. Bridgetown Baptist is hosting a time of food and fellowship, so please join us, bring a friend and come in out of the cold! 902-245-8078

Mon. Feb. 9, 2:00 pm Financial Planning and Banking Information Presentation

Lawrencetown and Area Seniors Association invites you to attend this special presentation being held at the Lawrencetown Legion, 490 Main St. The presentation will include answering questions. Everyone welcome.

Tues. Feb. 10, 9-10:30am or 11am-12:30pm

Gouache for Beginners. Join artist Jenna for this fun and informative Gouache for Beginners class. Gouache is an opaque, water-based medium that shares characteristics of both watercolour and acrylic paints. No experience necessary. Cost is \$35. All supplies included. Registration required by emailing info@7Arts.ca. If this feels too early, you're in luck! A repeat of this class will take place at 11am. Please specify which time you'd like when registering. At 7Arts Centre, 619 Central Ave, Greenwood.

Tues. Feb. 10, 1:00pm The Annual Meeting

of the Mountains & Meadows Fund will be held at the DeVenney Room of the Annapolis Valley Regional Library, Bridgetown. Please RSVP by calling 902-840-0504 in case the meeting must be cancelled due to inclement weather.

Wed. Feb. 11, 1-3:00pm Senior's Day at the Bear River & Area Community Health Clinic, 1112 River Rd. This recurring monthly event falls on the second Wednesday of each month and is intended as a time to catch up with old friends and meet new ones! Enjoy light refreshments and rotating activities through the year. Free will donation at the door. *

Wed. Feb. 11, 2-4:00pm Genealogy Coffee

Club Join us for an afternoon of socializing and storytelling at the O'Dell House Museum & Genealogy Centre as we celebrate one year of socializing and storytelling! Explore the Annapolis Heritage Society genealogical resource library and learn about our offerings. Engage with other genealogy enthusiasts and family historians in the community. Ask your burning questions or share research roadblocks you've encountered. Tell us about your favourite family history discoveries. Light refreshments will be provided. We hope you drop by and join the conversation! 136 St. George Street, Annapolis Royal.

Wed. Feb. 11 Fellowship Valentine's Dinner

in support of our Blessing Box in front of St. Luke's Church, 360 St. George Street. A "Family Style" 1/4 Chicken Dinner served with Salad, Oven Roast Potatoes, Glazed Vegetables, Death by Chocolate Dessert. Tickets sold in advance \$25. Please call (902) 526-0146 for tickets.

Thur. Feb. 12, 11:30am Please join us for the **Best Years Fellowship for Seniors** at the Hillsburn United Baptist Church, 3686 Shore Road West, Hillsburn. There will be a free lunch. Charlie and Jennifer Thibodeau will be providing the entertainment. Hope you can join us.

Page 5

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Thur. Feb. 12, 6:30-8pm

Valentine's Texture Art. Join us for this fun Valentine's themed texture art workshop. Each participant will get to complete two 5x7" canvas paintings. Cost is \$35 per person. No experience necessary. All supplies included. Registration is required by emailing info@7Arts.ca. 7Arts Centre, 619 Central Ave, Greenwood.

Thur. Feb. 12, 7:00pm The **Clarence 4-H Club** meets at the Clarence Hall on the second Thursday of each month at 7pm. New members and leaders are always welcome! For more information call Shanda at 902-824-2835.

Sat. Feb. 14, 4-6:00pm

Valentine's Dinner The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints invites you to a Free Community Valentine's Day Spaghetti Dinner at 120 Parker Mountain Rd., Annapolis Royal. All welcome. Optional, bring a small foodbank donation. Please RSVP to susanne2426@gmail.com

Sat. Feb. 14, 5:00pm Monthly

Potluck at the Round Hill Hall, second Saturday of the month. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sat. Feb. 14, 7:00pm Valentine's Day

Country Dance at the Bear River Royal Canadian Legion, 1877 Clementsvalle Rd. Doors open at 6:45pm. Featuring Revelstoke Power Supply & Bill Ricky. Save the date and elope in Bear River! Two country bands are coming from Halifax to celebrate a romantic evening in Bear River. Wear your best bride and groom attire. Admission \$15 or Pay What You Can. Advance tickets at Bear River Grocery.

Sun Feb 15 SOOF Soup Sunday Join Save Our Old Forests at the Centrelea Community Hall (3495 Highway 201) for our February SOOF Soup Sunday! Doors open and lunch is served starting at 12 pm. Shortly after 1pm, Guest Speaker Sadie Beaton will facilitate a conversation about what the Treaties of Peace and Friendship mean today. You can also pick up a belated Valentine for the pottery lover in your life; Ray Mackie's "Seconds" will be available for Pay What You Can (proceeds to SOOF). Free lunch. All Welcome. Donations to the Hall appreciated. saveouroldforests.ca/event/20260215-soupsunday/

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See Special Event Menu online for all the delicious details.

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Restaurant is temporarily closed and will re-open February 12th
Winter hours are Thursday to Monday from 4:00 - 8:00

2433 Mount Hanley Road, Mount Hanley, Nova Scotia | 902-825-2588

Sun. Feb. 15, 1-2:00pm National Flag Day

Courtyard Bonfire at the Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens. Gather 'round the bonfire with hot chocolate & marshmallows and sing along to an iconic Canadian playlist. Be sure to wear Red and bring something with a Maple Leaf if you can! Many of you may wish to complete your afternoon in the cozy King's Theatre, enjoying "The Choral", a great film starting at 2pm. The timing will allow you to do both, or you may choose to linger at the Gardens for a while. Lots of options! By donation. 441 St. George St.

Sun. Feb. 15, 5:00pm Potluck Supper &

Dessert Auction, Round Hill Hall, 1689 Hwy 201, Round Hill, NS. Come on out and meet members of the community, enjoy some delicious food, and bid on delicious desserts! All welcome. Free Will Offering.

Mon. Feb. 16, 1:30-3pm Care Givers Support

Group (for people who care for loved ones with dementia) The group meets the 3rd Monday of the month, except July and August, from 1:30 - 3:00pm, at St George & St Andrew United Church, 393 St George St, Annapolis Royal, (at the lights), Office Door, side entry. Contacts: Art Jones - 902-532-0784; Lou Fletcher - 902-532-2377.

Mon. Feb. 16, 7:00pm The Annual General

Meeting of Twelve Baskets Food Bank will take place at Nictaux Baptist Church (8836 Highway 201 in Nictaux). This meeting is open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend.

Tues. Feb. 17, 4-6:00pm All Saints Church

will be holding a **Shrove Tuesday Supper** in All Saints Church Hall, 521 Pleasant St., Kingston. Cost : \$ 12. Menu includes scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausages, tea & coffee. Dine in or take out!

Tues. Feb. 17, 5-6:30pm The Anglican Parish of Bridgetown is planning a **Shrove Tuesday**

Pancake Supper at St. James Anglican Church, Bridgetown. The menu will feature pancakes and sausage, a light dessert with juice, tea and coffee. The meal will be served between 5 and 6:30pm. A free-will offering will be collected at the door.

Tues. Feb. 17, 10-11:30am

Watercolour & Mixed Media

Workshop. Experiment with watercolour and mixed media techniques. This is a guided workshop with artist Jenna. No experience necessary. \$35 per person. Registration is required by emailing info@7Arts.ca. 7Arts Centre, 619 Central Ave, Greenwood.

Wed. Feb. 18, 6-7:30pm Achieving Good

Mental Health Join us at Upper Clements Hall for a clear, grounded conversation on mental health – what it is, why it matters, and how to strengthen it in everyday life. You'll learn practical ways to prevent unnecessary suffering and build resilience, even through winter's challenges. Presented by guest speaker Tim Wall, a therapist, educator and resource developer with over 35 years' experience in the field of post-traumatic stress. Upper Clements Hall, 2951 Hwy 1.

Thur. Feb. 19, 6:30-8:30pm Craft & Chat at

the Paradise Community Hall. Join us for a cozy and creative gathering held on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at the Paradise Community Hall (10300 Hwy #1, Paradise). Whether you're into knitting, painting, diamond art, scrapbooking, or any other craft - bring your project along and we'll put the kettle on! \$5 per person with all proceeds to help support the hall. *

Sat Feb 21 SOOFSTOCK Presents "Music at

the Museum" Save Our Old Forests (SOOF) is excited to invite you to our first concert of 2026: Music at the Museum! We hope you can join us for an afternoon of uplifting harmonies and joyful instrumentals featuring performances from Still River, Lorne Allan & Sue Littleton, and Permanent Resonance. Tickets are Pay What You Can (suggested \$20) at the door. Doors open at 1:30pm and music starts at 2pm. Macdonald Museum (21 School Street, Middleton).

Sat. Feb. 21, 1-1:45pm Monthly Death Cafe in the Dugua Room at the Annapolis Royal Library. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Come to One or Come to All. *

Tues. Feb. 24, 10-11:30am Acrylic Workshop.

Guided by artist Jenna, each participant will be completing an 8x10" canvas acrylic painting. No experience necessary. \$35 per person. Registration is required by emailing info@7Arts.ca. 7Arts Centre, 619 Central Ave, Greenwood.

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Tues. Feb. 24, 12:00pm Free Lunch and

Fun at Annapolis Royal United Baptist Church, 762 St George Street, Annapolis Royal. Come and join us.

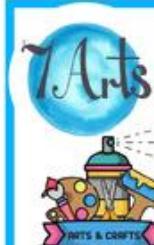
Sun. March 1, 1:00pm Snowshoe / Winter

Walk at Kejimkujik National Park, sponsored by Annapolis county Recreation. Meet at Mill Falls Parking lot (right after Visitor Centre). Join us for refreshments and a fire after the walk. Contact winteractive@annapoliscounty.ca or 902-532-2142 for more info and updates.

Sun Mar 15 SOOF Soup Sunday Come join

Save Our Old Forests at the Centrelea Community Hall (3495 Highway 201) for our March SOOF Soup Sunday! Doors open and lunch is served starting at 12 pm. Shortly after 1pm, Guest Speaker Keith Egger will host a talk about Postfire Mushrooms and what role fungi play in the postfire ecosystem. Ray Mackie's "Seconds" will be available for purchase by donation (proceeds to SOOF). Free lunch. All Welcome. Donations to the Hall appreciated. saveouroldforests.ca/event/20260315-soupsunday/

Want to advertise? We distribute print copies from Middleton to Annapolis Royal, plus we post the entire contents of each issue here to our web site and on our Facebook page. Reach us through the contact form at www.bridgetownreader.news, through Facebook/ Bridgetown Reader, email readerpublishing@outlook.com or call or text 902-824-0412. Submissions are due by noon on Monday before that Friday's issue.



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#1008	Vertical	8" H x 6.5" W	\$52.00
#1009	Horizontal	3-1/4" H x 4" W	\$14.00
#1010	Horizontal	2" H x 4" W	\$8.00
#1011	Vertical	4" H x 2-1/2" W	\$10.00
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We will gladly quote non-standard sizes. There is a 15% discount for 8 or more ads paid in advance.



Notice of 2nd Reading and Passing of the Building By-law Vending By-Law Board of Police Commissioners By-law

TAKE NOTICE THAT Annapolis Royal Town Council will hold 2nd reading and passing of the following By-laws at the February 18, 2026, 6:00 p.m. Council meeting:

*Building By-law
Vending By-law
Board of Police Commissioners By-law*

Persons wishing to make a presentation, verbally or in writing, at the Council meeting on February 18, 2026, must contact administration at the phone number or email below by February 13, 2026.

Copies of the proposed bylaw are available at Town Hall, or by emailing admin@annapolisroyal.com

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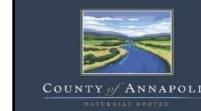
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Coming to King's Theatre

902-532-7704 209 St. George Street, Annapolis Royal www.kingstheatre.ca

Sat. Jan. 31, 7:00pm Hamnet (film, PG) After losing their son Hamnet to plague, Agnes and William Shakespeare grapple with grief in 16th-century England. A healer, Agnes must find strength to care for her surviving children while processing her devastating loss. From Academy Award® winning writer/director Chloé Zhao, Hamnet tells the powerful story of love and loss that inspired the creation of Shakespeare's timeless masterpiece, Hamlet. Starring Jessie Buckley, Paul Mescal, Zac Wishart, and Emily Watson. Tickets: \$11.95 Adult, \$7.95 Youth (under 18).

Sun. Feb. 1, 2:00pm Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour comes to Annapolis Royal!!! Banff Mountain Film Festival is one of the largest and most prestigious mountain festivals in the world. Hot on the heels of the Festival that is held every fall in beautiful Banff, Alberta, the Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour hits the road. With stops planned in over 600 communities and more than 40 countries across the globe, the Banff World Tour celebrates amazing achievements in outdoor storytelling and film-making worldwide. Discover the world's wildest places on screen – from towering peaks to untamed rivers, from life-changing expeditions to edge-of-your-seat action. Tickets: \$25.00 Adult, \$15.00 Youth (under 18)

Fri. Feb. 6, 7:30pm The Heterosexuals (live performance) A deep-dive into the shocking world of Heterosexuality! THEY WALK AMONG US! But where did they come from? And what do they think they're wearing?! Find out in this explosive solo show based on undercover research gathered while posing as one of their own! Combining elements of storytelling, satire, comedy, and deep personal humiliation, The Heterosexuals is here to spill the T on what The Queers really think about The Straights.

The latest solo show from tour-de-force writer/performer Johnnie McNamara Walker has wowed audiences and sold out houses across Canada as well as touring internationally to Ireland and the US, including an Off-Broadway run at The SoHo Playhouse in NYC. Walker is a writer and performer from Toronto who has been producing work for the stage for twenty years. Recommended for audiences 13+. Light cursing and sexual content. Tickets: Adults \$45, Supported \$25, Youth \$15.

Sat. Feb. 7, 7:00pm Song Sung Blue (film, PG) Based on a true story, two down-on-their-luck musicians (Hugh Jackman and Kate Hudson) form a joyous Neil Diamond tribute band, proving it's never too late to find love and follow your dreams. Tickets: \$11.95 Adult, \$7.95 Youth (under 18).

Sun. Feb. 8, 2:00pm Tong Wang (live performance) Thrilling Canadian pianist Tong Wang is a dynamic artist whose work spans styles, genres, and communities. A prizewinner of the International Chopin Golden Ring Competition and recipient of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal of Performing Arts, she has performed with the Edmonton and Red Deer Symphony Orchestras, toured internationally, and brought music to schools, senior homes, and hospitals.

Beyond the stage, Tong is deeply engaged in social and cultural initiatives. She has led multimedia projects, co-founded innovative ensembles, and launched the Windwood Music Festival to bring chamber music into rural communities. Tickets: Adults \$30, Youth \$10.

"Pompous fools drive me up the wall. Ordinary fools are alright; you can talk to them and try to help them out. But pompous fools – guys who are fools and covering it all over and impressing people as to how wonderful they are with all this hocus pocus – THAT, I CANNOT STAND! An ordinary fool isn't a faker; an honest fool is all right. But a dishonest fool is terrible!" — Richard P. Feynman, physicist and lecturer

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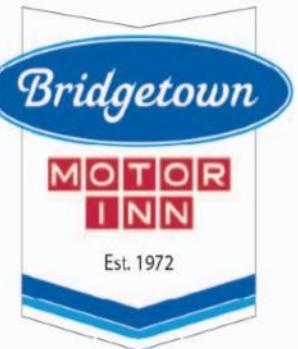
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March 8 vs Truro | 3 pm

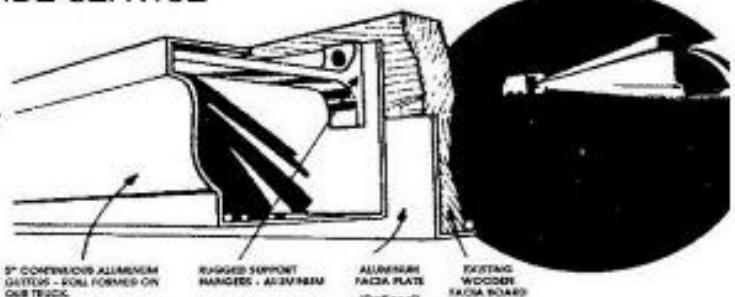
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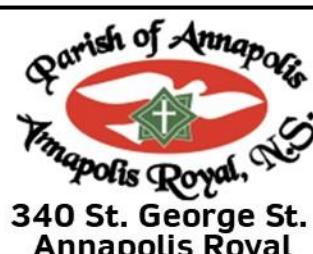
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Sunday, February 1

10:00AM

St. Luke's Anglican Church,
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Father Jordan Draper

Second Sunday after Epiphany
Holy Eucharist
All Welcome!

Wednesday, February 4
10:00am
Holy Eucharist

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PRIZES FOR BEST COSTUME/SWIMSUIT
HOT MULLED BEER
12PM-2PM

SUN
FEB 8TH

I ❤ KARAOKE PARTY W/
ALEXANDRA DAWN RODGERSON
7PM-10PM

SAT
FEB 14TH

PINTS & PURRS FOR THALIA BARN CAT RESCUE
BRUNCH FOR 2 / BEER FLIGHT/PHOTO SHOOT
\$100/COUPLE
TICKETED EVENT

SUN
FEB 15TH

SEE FACEBOOK PAGE/WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO

BEER CLUB
SOCIAL MEET UP
6PM-8PM

THU
FEB 19TH

RESCUE PURRS DAY
CATS FOR KEEPS
ADOPT•FOSTER•VOLUNTEER
6PM-8PM

THU
FEB 19TH

LIVE MUSIC W/
MIC'D UP
NO COVER 7PM-9PM

THU
FEB 21ST

NEW NEIGHBOURS ANNAPOLIS VALLEY
MEET NEW FRIENDS
RESERVE A SEAT

SAT
FEB 26TH

RSVP ROB: ROB@ROBSCHELLENBERGER.CA
530PM - 9PM

SAT
FEB 28TH

KINGSTON CROKINOLE TOURNAMENT NIGHT
330PM-430PM FREE PLAY
6PM-830PM TOURNAMENT
REGISTER AT

KINGSTONCROKINOLE@GMAIL.COM
\$10 ENTRY CASH PRIZES

2026 Annapolis County Community Events Guide

Submission Process

In preparation for our 2026 Annapolis County Community Events Guide, submissions of County events are now being accepted online! The online form guides you through the process to ensure all required information is included, such as the name, contact person, date and time of the event. In addition, there is also a space available to provide a short description of your event. The form is available at www.annapoliscounty.ca

Event Submission Deadline: Friday, February 11, 2026, 4:30 pm

*Please try and keep descriptions at a maximum of approx. 150 words to accommodate for all submitted events. Descriptions that exceed the maximum word allowance may be edited for space purposes.

Submit a photo and it may be chosen to be published in the 2026 Annapolis County Community Events Guide! Submit your best photo(s) online about Annapolis County! Photos submitted should be in the .jpg format and be a minimum of 150 DPI to a maximum of 300 and include the person or group who submitted the photo(s). Please email photo(s) to guide@annapoliscounty.ca

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SUN	CLOSED

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Community Health Board



Volunteering provides:

- an opportunity to help your community
- leadership experience
- resume building
- networking opportunities
- learning opportunities

The Annapolis Community Health Board (CHB) is a committed group of volunteers who are working together to improve the health of communities in Annapolis County. The CHB focusses on community well-being, helping to support many community-based projects and partnerships. This includes providing grants and advocating for everyone to be able live a healthy life in our community.

For more information visit

www.communityhealthboards.ns.ca/get-involved

or contact Anjanette.LeMay@nshealth.ca / 902-824-6762

The Community Health Boards are committed to being groups that are free of discrimination, value diversity and are representative of all our communities. Nova Scotia Health's Priority Populations are defined as follows: Indigenous Peoples; People of African Descent; Persons with Disabilities; Immigrants; and persons belonging to 2SLGBTQIA+.

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Annapolis County Council

Highlights

January 20, 2026

West Dalhousie Wildfire (After Action Report)

Report – Municipal Council received the West Dalhousie Wildfire After-Action Report (AAR) as information.

BCRA Funding Request – Municipal Council authorized the procurement of a new Ice Resurfacer with funds from the Max Young Fund.

Annapolis County Joint Accessibility Plan

2026-28 – Municipal Council approved the Joint Accessibility Plan 2026-2028, which will be submitted to the NS Accessibility Directorate as the approved plan to guide actions over the next 3 years.

Approval of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Plan

2026-28 – Municipal Council approved the 2026-2029 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Plan as amended to include all equity deserving communities or groups in portions of the document, as discussed by Council.

Adoption of Communications Strategy

Municipal Council approved the Municipality of the County of Annapolis Communications Strategy 2026-28, as presented.

Citizen Appointments to Committees

Municipal Council approved the appointment of John Smith to the Source Water Protection Advisory Committee, effective immediately, for a term ending October 31, 2026.

Planning Advisory Committee – Municipal Council approved first reading of the East End Secondary Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw, and set a public hearing date of February 17, 2026, 11am, at the Municipal Administration Building.

Policy: Amended

- Policy 120 Code of Conduct for Elected Officials
- Policy 114 Council Remuneration
- Policy 135 Fees

Bylaw: Approval

- Bylaw 11 Building

Public Hearing: Former Reuben Potter

Property - Request to Deregister – Municipal Council approved the deregistration of the vacant lands previously associated with the Reuben Potter House property on Quarry Rd., Clementsvale, and will send notice of the deregistration to the registered owner and a copy deposited to the Registry of Deeds.

More information, including agenda packages and meeting video at www.annapoliscounty.ca.

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Skilled Trades & NS Apprenticeship Information Session

Learn how to start a career in the skilled trades and explore local apprenticeship pathways.

Wednesday, February 11
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Nova Scotia Works Centre PeopleWorx
298 Marshall Street, Middleton

What this session will cover:

- Pathways into Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship
- How apprenticeship works in Nova Scotia
- How APTEC, Nova Scotia Works and the Valley Connector Program help job seekers connect with local employers.

Who should attend?

- Job seekers interested in skilled trades
- Individuals exploring apprenticeship as a career option.
- Anyone unsure where to start in the trades

Presented in partnership with:



Felker Hall Community Center Regular Weekly Activities

734 Broadway Ave, Cornwallis Park
Email address:
cornwallispark@outlook.com

Sunday -

Darts – 2:00-4:00 Jim 902-638-3175 or Marty 902-638-3164

Monday -

Keep Fit and Healthy Classes
8:45 - 9:45am Carole 902-376-2055
Line Dancing Intermediate 10:00 – 11:00am To register, please contact Durline at 902-532-3035 or email dance.canada@explorerguide.ca
Hatha Yoga 11:30am – 12:45pm Dani 1-250-951-7353

Tuesday -

Library open 1-3pm.
Jackie 902-340-0007
Zumba 6:30 – 7:30pm \$7 per session Wendy 902-532-7736

Wednesday -

Keep Fit and Healthy Classes
8:45-9:45am Carole 902-376-2055
Line Dancing Intermediate 10:00 – 11:00am To register, please contact Durline at 902-532-3035 or email dance.canada@explorerguide.ca

Thursday -

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
8am weigh in and 8:30 meeting. Contact Maritza 902-247-1473

Cribbage 1pm-3:00

Pete 902-376-2007

Friday -

Keep Fit and Healthy Classes
8:45-9:45am Carole 902-376-2055
Line Dancing Intermediate 10:00 – 11:00am To register, please contact Durline at 902-532-3035 or email dance.canada@explorerguide.ca
Chair Yoga 11:30am – 12:45pm Dani 1-250-951-7353

Meat Bingo – 7pm, Doors open @ 6pm Gina 902-526-2694 or ontheshore4@outlook.com

For information on CORAH presentations and sessions please contact Gail gailrogw@gmail.com For Hall Rental contact Marty @ 902-638-3164

Help When It's Needed

• 9-8-8: Suicide Crisis Helpline,
Ligne d'aide en cas de crise de suicide. Call 988 or visit: <https://988.ca/>

• 211 Nova Scotia: Call 211 or visit <https://ns.211.ca/>

• Kids Help Phone: Call 1-800-668-6868 or text CONNECT to 686868, visit: <https://kidshelpphone.ca/>

• Nova Scotia Health Mental Health and Addictions Program. Call 1-888-429-8167 or visit: <https://mha.nshealth.ca/en>

• Hope for Wellness Helpline (for Indigenous Peoples): 1-855-242-3310, visit: <https://www.hopeforwellness.ca/>

Always in an emergency, call 911.

Community Calendar and Bulletin Board items, News, Business Notes, & Rentals, are all FREE.

Call or text 902-824-0412, email us at readerpublishing@outlook.com message us on Facebook or use the contact form at www.bridgetownreader.news.



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SUNDAY PM WORSHIP - 5PM

WEDNESDAY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY - 7PM

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4730 Hwy Granville Ferry 902-532-2273

- As I try to accommodate folks cancelled from the last snowstorm we were slammed with another storm earlier this week. It creates a domino effect, so I appreciate your patience and support getting them all looked after.
- NEW bunch of Pens have finally arrived, drop in to pick up yours!

Valentine's Day Giveaway! ❤

Buy a gift certificate between now and Saturday, Feb 14 at 11:00 and you'll be entered to win a basket packed with fun stuff, ready for you to re-gift!

Anna/Royal - The Annapolis County Tax Sale will be held on Thursday, March 5th, 2026 at 10 am, at the Annapolis Royal Volunteer Fire Dept, 5 St. Anthony St. Visit <https://annapoliscounty.ca/tax-finance/tax-sale/2271-march-2026-tax-sale>.

Anna/Royal - The Snow Moon Howl Community Recreation Event. Sun Feb 1st @ 7 pm Anna/Royal Skatepark #112 Prince Albert Rd. - Free for all ages

Snowshoeing and kick sledding for kids AND Adults courtesy of the County of Annapolis Winter ACTIVE Team. Hot cider, a bonfire, and snowshoes and headlamps provided for a trek around French Basin Trail! Call for more info, 902-955-1205

Anna/Royal - The Potting Shed Flowers and Plants are staying open longer hours on Sat. Feb 14th for your shopping pleasure at 27 Church St. Open Mon - Fri 10 - 4 pm. Don't delay...Call today, 902-532-1442! also ask them when they are moving to their new location across from King's Theatre.

Anna/Royal - Did you attend the 2025 Natal Day Weekend Events? Volunteers are already back at the table, they need a few people for the Carnival, a few on the Fundraising Committee, and the stamp passport. Stay tuned on FB Annapolis Natal Day Page to watch for the next meeting date.(Once a month) or here.

Anna/Royal - Two-night Beginner Swing Dance Workshop, Dance Fun 'N' Fitness with Durlene. Monday evenings Feb 9th & 16th 7 - 8 pm. Register at www.maritime-motion.com (gym membership not required) & 75 (+ tax) Total per couple! Or Email Dance.Canada@ExplorerGuide.ca

Anna/Royal - Decade's Past (behind the drugstore) will be taking a winter break from Jan 17 until March the 4th. Their location across from Dunrobin Campsite at the 'The Barn' is Fridays & Saturdays 10:30 - 4, by appt otherwise. 902-312-1345.

Belle Isle Market - located at #6748 Hwy # 1 Bellisle is open 9 - 9 daily. Midway between Granville Ferry and Br'town on the river side. Plenty of Breads and sweets, dozens of farm fresh eggs plus MUCH, Much More.

Bridgetown - due to cold and winter weather, the CUPE 3876 meeting at 2 pm, has been rescheduled for Sun Feb 1st. BRCS.

Bridgetown - Valentine's Dance Sat Feb 14th 8 pm - 1 am, at Royal Canadian Legion Br #33. \$15 at the door. Cash Bar, debit machine available, credit cards not accepted. Tickets call 902-665-2820 Music starts at 9 pm with Joker's Right.

Bridgetown - AP Accounting is hiring 2 persons for the Br'town office of Publow's Consulting. \$18 - \$21 hourly (to be negotiated) 35- 45 hours per week. Starts ASAP. Advertised until Feb 6th. (902) 907-2129 or apply in person #4730 Granville Rd. location.

Hillsburn-Crow's Nest is HIRING- Server and kitchen staff. Resumes can be emailed to shoreroadseafood@gmail.com, sent through private message, or dropped off at #3931 Shore Rd West., Hillsburn.

Kingston - Looking to get outside this winter? Free snowshoe and cross-country ski loans, available for up to one week at a time. Pick up location- Village Office, 655 Main St. Mon - Fri 8a - 4 p Questions Email recreation@kingstonnovascotia.ca 902-765-2800.

Lunns Mill Beer Company - a Valentine's celebration with great food, local beer & a cause close to our hearts. Sun Feb 15th from 12 - 3 pm. Treat your partner, best friend, or favorite human to a Valentine's brunch experience- all while supporting Thalia Barn Cat Rescue. \$100 a couple. Also 50/50 Draw, Raffles , Sponsor - A-Paw, Fun, lighthearted cat themed trivia with prizes. Must be purchased in advance at www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/pints-and-purrs-valentines-brunch.

Upper Clements Hall - is the place to get some shopping done from the many vendors set up waiting for you on Sat Feb 14th from 10 - 3 pm. The theme is 'Chocolate'.

Upper Clements Hall will also be hosting a public meeting with Guest Speaker Tim Wall, Mental Health Expert on ' Achieving Good Mental Health' Wed Feb 18 from 6 - 7:30 pm. You'll learn practical ways to prevent unnecessary suffering and build resilience, even through winter's challenges. Visit UpperClementsHall.ca

THANK YOU to the linemen and road crews who keep the lights on and roads safe. Also THANK YOU to the Volunteer Firefighters fighting the frigid temperatures, weather/road conditions.

Events and Activities for This Month

Town of Middleton
Heart of the Valley



IN FEBRUARY

FEB

21

EVERY
TUES.

EVERY
WED.

EVERY
THURS.

JAN 28-
FEB 5

REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN

COMMUNITY WALK/SNOWSHOE WITH SOUTHWEST NOVA BIOSPHERE

Riverside Park | Time to be announced (check Facebook and discovermiddleton.ca) | Rain date will be Feb. 22 | Join a guided bioblitz walk using the iNaturalist app to explore, photograph, and help document flora/fauna | There will be prizes | To register, email: mpal@town.middleton.ns.ca

TITAN TRAINING

AEES Gym | 6:00pm | 8 functional workout stations | Led by a certified trainer | For beginners or advanced | To register, email: mpal@town.middleton.ns.ca

DROP-IN JUDO AND OPEN GYM

Start date to be determined - watch Facebook and discovermiddleton.ca for updates | 6:00pm-8:00pm | AEES Gym | For AEES students and their families only | Learn basic judo skills and principles or come for open gym time to do whatever you want with friends and family | Children MUST be accompanied by an adult | Drop-in only

CORE CONNECTIONS, ZUMBA + SENIOR WALKING

Zumba:

- Middleton Firehall | 6:30pm | Free | To register, email: mpal@town.middleton.ns.ca

Core Connections:

- Middleton Firehall | 7:15pm | \$50 for a punch pass | To register, email: mpal@town.middleton.ns.ca

Senior Walking:

- With CORAH at NSCC | 9:00am-10:00am | To register, email: corah-avc@nscc.ca

COMMUNITY SCAVENGER HUNT

Beginning Jan. 28 | Look for details of where to start the scavenger hunt on our Facebook page and discovermiddleton.ca | For more info., email: mpal@town.middleton.ns.ca

MARCH BREAK DAY CAMP

Tropical Vacation Theme | Ages 6-12 | \$100 for Non-Middleton residents and \$90 for Middleton residents | March 16-19 - 8:30am-2:30pm | To register, visit: discovermiddleton.ca or email: events@town.middleton.ns.ca

EAST COAST VINTAGE HOMES

- tiny home construction
- transformation of existing structures
- off-grid consultation
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Angela Hutchinson (902)-308-0788
Gary Hurlock (902)-308-2034

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## Bulletin Board

**Looking for something? Buying, selling, giving away, renting? Listings are free. Email [readerpublishing@outlook.com](mailto:readerpublishing@outlook.com) call or text 902-824-0412 or use the contact forms at [www.bridgetownreader.news](http://www.bridgetownreader.news)**

**For Sale:** 2 pair snowshoes, old fashioned webbing style. One pair with harnesses, \$100. Second pair without for \$75. All about 42" long. 902-824-1886

**For Sale:** CDs 107 discs with 1404 songs and 2 music videos. One CD is an import from Italy (not available here Guns n Roses) never opened with original price tag \$34.28. Excellent condition. \$50 for all, (only \$0.04 a CD) OBO. Call 902-955-0535.

**For Sale:** Hot air popper Popcorn Maker, oil-free with cup to measure kernels and melt butter, convenient countertop design, durable & see through chute directs popcorn into serving bowl. Convenient on/off switch. \$10 OBO. Call 902-955-0535.

**For Sale:** 1999 Sunfire convertible, auto. Never driven in winter 88,000 km. Excellent condition. Asking \$6,000. 902-245-3697.

**HOMETOWN HANDYMAN** - 902.760.0121 - [HTHAnnapolis@gmail.com](mailto:HTHAnnapolis@gmail.com) - Home Repairs, Drywall, Painting, Home Electronics, Computer Repair!

**For Sale:** DeWalt 682 Plate Joiner Kit. Never used and still in carrying case. Valued now around \$400 and selling for \$150. 902-532-8688

**Wanted:** Hard shell dog carrier appropriate for a large breed dog (German shepherd). Call 902-532-8301

**Looking For:** Winter dog vest for large dog. Also wanted woman's winter boots, size 10 or 11. Annapolis Royal area. 902-532-8201

**For Sale:** Knit Afghans, Rippling Waves pattern, 4' x 5'. Also, several handmade quilts for double bed. 902-825-6826

**Needed:** Someone to help me with a crochet pattern, Bridgetown area. 902-266-8246

**For Sale:** 4 winter tires mounted on rims with low mileage. Includes the sensors. They fit a Ford Ecosport car. I would like \$400 for them. (902) 824-0089.

**For Rent:** Available immediately, one bedroom apartment, central Bridgetown, no pets or smokers. Heat, hot and cold water, electricity included. \$1100 monthly. 902-308-3003

**Community Pantry:** St. George and St. Andrew United Church, 393 St. George St. in Annapolis Royal (by the traffic lights) has set up a Community Pantry for those who may be in need. Please, take what you need, or leave what you can. Food, toiletries, outerwear, pet food, and/or cleaning supplies may be available. Please note that due to the winter weather, canned goods in water are not recommended.

**Looking to Buy:** Mandolin case. F shape. Must be in good condition. Contact 902-584-3370.

**For Sale:** 1 MainStays brand white window blind purchased at Walmart, venetian style with slats size 36" wide and 48" long, never used. Purchased too short length, needed 60" length. Box, instructions and hardware included. Original price \$29.79 before taxes, asking \$25 - no tax. Phone: 902-665-4372

**Sports Cards and Collectibles For Sale:** All sports cards, signed collectibles, figurines, magazines, jerseys and tons more. Located in Port Wade- ten mins up Granville Road from Annapolis Royal. Contact John/Rebekka at 604-809-2201. Call or text anytime to arrange to come up.

**Looking to Buy:** Mobile home in good condition that can be moved. Larger the better. 902-309-1299.

**For Sale:** Yamaha PSR 299 full keyboard with stand. Great condition. Paid \$800, asking \$500 or best offer. Three pairs men's cowboy boots, size 7. 902-825-4523

**For Sale:** Utility trailer. 4'2" x 8' New tires, wheels, and bearings. Also has a loading ramp and is in good condition. Asking \$1400 obo. Call 902-526-0455



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**Looking to Buy:** Used golf carts - Yamaha, Club Car, EZ-Go. 902-245-2475

**For Sale:** ATV SNOWTRACKS Commoplast T4S System. 3 mounting kits for various ATV's included. Rarely used, no visible wear. \$2500. No tax. Contact 902-638-3376 or [email..marilynruh52@gmail.com](mailto:email..marilynruh52@gmail.com)

**Wanted:** We are buying scrap gold, silver, old coins and collections. Top dollar paid. Over 40 years' experience and professional testing equipment. Please call to set up an appointment at our shop or always happy to do house calls. Call Stephen or Jacqueline at 902-308-0594

**Wanted:** We are accepting quality consignments for our upcoming antique and collectible auctions. We do house calls or accept drop offs at our shop. Please call Stephen at 902-308-0594 or check our website at [harrisandsonsauctions.com](http://harrisandsonsauctions.com)

**For Sale:** Deer hunting scope, IOR Bucuresty. 2.5 x10-42 mm with 30mm tube. European style focus on eye piece & fixed parallax at 100 yds. Reticule ,7A & adj, MOA. \$450. Target scope, Leupold Vari-x3. 6.5 x 20 -40 mm, one inch tube. Forward parallax adjustment & Target Knobs with plex cross hair. \$450. If interested contact, [hloegler@outlook.com](mailto:hloegler@outlook.com) or Ph. 902 825-1545.

**Free Piano!** Classic Upright Kingston Wormwith Piano (built circa 1907-1919) Piano needs tuning. In private home in Annapolis Royal. Must come to pick up. Please call 902-340-1849.

**Services Offered:** Will do grocery shopping and/or pick up services as well as house cleaning- laundry, dishes, sweeping, mopping, cleaning kitchens, bathrooms etc. Willing to travel to Greenwood, Bridgetown, Annapolis Royal and up Granville road. \$ Charge will depend on distance and services needed. Contact Rebekka Sabean, 604-809-2201, text or call.

**Community of Clarence Bottle Drive:** The Community of Clarence continues to ask people to donate their refundable bottles behind the Meeting House, 2659 Clarence Road or in front of the barn across from 2847 Clarence Road. All proceeds go towards continued restoration of community buildings and community activities For inquiries email - [inquiries.clarencecommunity@gmail.com](mailto:inquiries.clarencecommunity@gmail.com) or call 902-824-3181.

**For Rent:** 1 bedroom in private home in Bridgetown. Short term. No pets, no smoking. Prefer mature woman. Will need references. \$500. 902-309-1428

**For Rent:** Storage lockers available in Annapolis Royal. Secure. Easy access. Call 902-521-4986.

**Condo Available for Rental:** 2-bedroom, 2 bath condo at the Academy in Annapolis Royal, large deck, 6 appliances. \$1,600 per month plus power. Phone 902-532-8337.

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**Community Calendar and Bulletin Board items, News, Business Notes, & Rentals, are all FREE. We only charge for display ads.**

**Cupid Candy Gram** Do you have a friend or family member working in or staying at the Soldiers Memorial Hospital? Why not remember them with a Cupid Candy Gram\*? To do so, go to the Carousel Gift shop at the hospital between 10am and 4pm daily, Monday to Friday where you can fill out an information card with the recipient's name and location at SMH and complete the message tag, then the Auxiliary member will deliver your gift on or before Valentine's Day. You may also send it anonymously. Cost is \$5, cash please. Deadline to order is Friday February 6. Proceeds go to SMH Auxiliary projects! Happy Valentine's Day! \*(Gift Bag of sweets. Deliveries within SM Hospital, Primary Care Clinic, and Middleton & Area Family Medical only.)

The **Annapolis County Community Grants Program** is now open and accepting applications. Funding is available for community facilities and projects that strengthen well-being and bring people together.

Community Facilities: up to \$20,000

Community Projects: up to \$5,000

Deadline is April 1, 2026 (no exceptions)

Eligible applicants include registered charities and not-for-profit organizations. Find details and apply online at <https://annapoliscounty.ca>

**Primary and Pre-Primary Registration** From January to May, schools invite families in our region to register children who will be eligible for Primary or Pre-Primary in the next school year. Families are encouraged to register as early as possible during the January to May Preprimary/Primary registration period, both to help with planning for the new school year and to ensure children have opportunities to join orientation events.

To register for Pre-Primary, a child must be at least four years old by December 31 of the year they enter the program.

To register for Primary, a child must be at least five years old by December 31 of the year they start school. <https://avrce.ca/registration>

**Belles Blessing Community Pantry** is always open! We have a LOT of fresh produce, please help yourselves. The frozen soup freezer is full as well. If anyone can donate to the nonperishable pantry we need cereal, toilet paper, Kraft dinner, stove top stuffing, gravy and packaged potatoes. 4841 Shore Road West, Parker's Cove

**Struggling with your weight?** Why not join a fun and supportive TOPS group. We are located in Bridgetown and meet at the Inglewood Community Hall, 246 Inglewood Rd. Wednesday's at 5 for weigh in with meeting starting at 5:30. All are welcome at any age. Take some time to look after yourself. You are worth it !

**BRIDGETOWN PHARMASAVE**  
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- Books You Mean to Read But There Are Others You Must Read First
- Books Too Expensive Now and You'll Wait 'Til They're Remainedered
- Books ditto When They Come Out in Paperback
- Books You Can Borrow from Somebody
- Books That Everybody's Read So It's As If You Had Read Them, Too
- Books You've Been Planning to Read for Ages
- Books You've Been Hunting for Years Without Success
- Books Dealing with Something You're Working on at the Moment
- Books You Want to Own So They'll Be Handy Just in Case
- Books You Could Put Aside Maybe to Read This Summer
- Books You Need to Go with Other Books on Your Shelves
- Books That Fill You with Sudden, Inexplicable Curiosity, Not Easily Justified
- Books Read Long Ago Which It's Now Time to Re-read
- Books You've Always Pretended to Have Read and Now It's Time to Sit Down and Really Read Them"
- Italo Calvino, from *If on a Winter's Night a Traveler*

### "Getting to Know" ... You!

You are invited to send us a short piece about your business or organization. The Bridgetown Reader welcomes articles of up to 500 or so words that would introduce you to the community; we call these stories "Getting to Know..." and they are free for one-time inclusion. Whether your business or group is large or small, we want to help spread the word about what you do, where you are, and how people can get in touch with you. Let us hear from you. Reach us through the contact form at [www.bridgetownreader.news](http://www.bridgetownreader.news), through Facebook/ Bridgetown Reader, email [readerpublishing@outlook.com](mailto:readerpublishing@outlook.com) or call or text 902-824-0412.

## Middleton Town Council Draft Minutes January 19, 2026

A regular monthly meeting of Middleton Town Council was held in-person at the Town Hall, via Facebook Live, on Mon. Jan. 19, 2026, at 7:00pm.

### PRESENT:

Chairing the meeting, Mayor Gail Smith; Deputy Mayor Gary Marshall, Councillors Sandra Fournier, John Bartlett, Bernadette Knapp, Jonathan Archibald and Dan Smith; Chief Administrative Officer, Ashley Crocker; Director of Finance Leah Profitt, and Recording Secretary, Sara Marceau.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. **CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION:** Deputy Mayor Marshall presented Mayor Gail Smith with a Certificate of Recognition for 10 years of being on Council.
3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** 260119.01 It was moved and seconded that Council approve the agenda as circulated. **Motion carried.**
4. **PROCLAMATIONS:** Mayor Smith proclaimed February 2026, as African Heritage Month in the Town of Middleton.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** 5.1 Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes 2025.12.15 Council Meeting Minutes. The minutes were approved with corrections.
6. **ANYTHING BY CITIZENS:** Nothing to report.
7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

### 7.1 PAC Recommendations

a. RFD 007-2026 Northlands Secondary Planning Strategy. CAO Crocker provided Council with a brief overview of the Northlands Secondary Planning Strategy.

**260119.02** It was moved and seconded that Council directs staff to initiate work on amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and Land Use By-law (LUB) to consider a development proposal on the Parsons lands within the Northlands Secondary Plan area. Staff is further directed to work with Parsons Investments Ltd. to fully understand its proposal and to use the principles, approaches, and technical work from the Northlands Secondary Planning Strategy to the greatest extent possible when preparing recommendations to Council. **Motion carried.**

• Council discussed concerns over areas included for development where owners are uninterested, miscommunication with Fathom on project scope, and money spent on a Secondary Planning Strategy which may not be approved. Councillors emphasized ongoing coordination with Parson's Investments Ltd and engaging the developer for compromise.

### 7.2 RFD 001-2026 Appointment List Update

CAO Crocker provided a brief overview of the Appointment List Update.

**260119.03** It was moved and seconded that Council, on recommendation from the CAO, appoint Jennifer Daniels as the Alternate REMO Coordinator for the Town of Middleton. **Motion carried.**

Councillor Knapp asked whether the Audit Committee advertisement is ready to proceed.

**ACTION:** Recording Secretary Marceau to add "Vacant" to the appointment list since one member has resigned from the Audit Committee.

**260119.04** It was moved and seconded that Council approve the 2026 Appointment List, as amended and presented. **Motion carried.**

### 7.3 RFD 002-2026 Code of Conduct Investigator

CAO Crocker provided brief overview of Code of Conduct Investigator RFD.

**260119.05** It was moved and seconded that Council appoint Burchelle Wickwire Bryson LLP as the Code of Conduct Investigator and that the CAO is authorized to enter into a 2-year contract for services. **Motion carried.**

• Councillor Smith inquired whether the term is fixed and if there is no annual fee for being on retainer.

### 7.4 RFD 003-2026 Grants to Organizations Policy

CAO Crocker gave a brief overview of the Grants to Organizations Policy.

**260119.06** It was moved and seconded that Council approve the replacement of the existing Grant Administration Policy with the Grants to Organizations Policy as presented. **Motion defeated.**

There was a lengthy discussion around the Grants to Organization Policy. Council discussed policy adjustments for one-time and community grants. Councillor Bartlett raised the need for an end date tied to the budget. CAO Crocker noted deadlines existed on forms rather than in the policy and reporting back on amounts will be part of the application. Councillor Archibald clarified the policy applies to capital campaigns or projects, not specific organizations. Councillor Smith emphasized that council should retain authority over all grants, including smaller amounts. Deputy Mayor Marshall expressed that the concern is \$1-\$5,000 grants.

**ACTION:** CAO Crocker to revise the policy, adding a clause in section 4 that all one time requests require council approval.

**260119.07** It was moved and seconded that Council approve the replacement of the existing Grants Administration Policy with the Grants to Organizations Policy as amended to include that all one-time grants, and community grants be approved by Council. **Motion carried.**

### 7.5 RFD 004-2026 Employee Benefits Policy

CAO Crocker provided a brief overview of the Employee Benefits Policy.

**260119.08** It was moved and seconded that Council approve the revised Employee Benefits Policy as presented. Motion carried.

• Councillor Archibald inquired about the definition of a floating holiday. o Active Living Coordinator Fenton clarified that it used to be a day off for an employee's birthday, but because some birthdays fell on the weekend, it was changed to a floating holiday.

## A weekly 50/50 draw



## Rotary Gold Mine 50/50

Rotary



Club of Middleton

All proceeds support Rotary projects and local charities.

### HOW IT WORKS

Register at a Vendor.

Play before noon Friday by either:

- 1) Placing a yellow sticker on a toonie with your registration number and depositing it in the Rotary box at the Vendors location.
- 2) Placing a cash bill (min. \$10) or a cheque in an envelope provided by the Vendor. Include your name and registration number on the envelope and place the completed envelope in the Rotary Box.

Note: \$10 will cover you for the upcoming 5 draws (a "prepayment").

The weekly draw is made from all the registered numbers.

### PARTICIPATING VENDORS

#### Bridgetown

- Graves Freshmart
- Pharmasave
- Esso Go! Store (at Hwy101 Exit)

#### Lawrencetown

- CRIA Gas & Store

#### Wilmot

- Gouchers FarmMarket
- Spurr Brothers Market & Cidery

#### Middleton & area

- Heather's 'Your independent Grocer'
- Pharmasave
- Fundy Spray Kwik-Way
- Needs (Nictaux & Middleton)
- Home Hardware
- PetroCan
- Foodland

#### Kingston/Greenwood

- Pharmasave
- Needs (Central Ave)
- Scotiabank
- Needs (Kingston)
- Greenwood UltraMar

#### Aylesford

- Needs

#### Auburn

- Burt's Kwik-Way

Again, Thankyou for supporting our work!

You are helping to make a difference in your community.

-Rotary Club of Middleton

[www.rotaryclubofmiddleton.com](http://www.rotaryclubofmiddleton.com)

All players must be 19 years of age or older. Licence# AGD- 100451-26

### 7.6 RFD 005-2026 Events for 2026

CAO Crocker provided a brief overview of the Events for 2026.

CAO Crocker proposed the following actions moving forward:

- Proceed with the Shad Derby.
- Proceed with Canada Day, with Council providing direction on children's activities.
- Proceed with the Heart Run and Century Ride.
- Proceed with the Haunted House and Witch Walk.
- Meet with the MacDonald Museum to collaborate on events.
- Proceed with the Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting.
- Staff recommendation: host a Family Fun Day in July for 2026 and work to establish a volunteer committee for 2027 to revive the Heart of the Valley Festival.
- Councillor Smith noted that the Haunted House and Witch Walk are currently scheduled for Saturday and Sunday this year and asked for clarification on whether the intended dates are Friday and Saturday, October 23 and 24.
- o Staff responded that the dates should have been October 23rd and 24th
- Councillor Fournier expressed appreciation for how thoroughly the proposal was prepared.
- Councillor Knapp suggested exploring volunteers and local talent for events, noting that this could reduce costs. Councillor Knapp proposed starting sponsorships now.
- Councillor Bartlett supported the idea of requesting sponsorship on a yearly basis.
- o Active Living Coordinator Fenton suggested that some businesses may prefer certain events and proposed using a checklist to accommodate preferences.
- Deputy Mayor Marshall emphasized that sponsorship efforts need to begin before April and fundraising should start immediately, noting there is insufficient time to plan a full festival. He also recommended separating the Tree Lighting and Parade events, as in 2025 they concluded by the end of November.
- Mayor Smith agreed, suggesting the events be separated and scheduled closer to the holiday season.
- o CAO Crocker confirmed that the Tree Lighting can remain on November 27th, and another date in December will be set for the Parade.
- CAO Crocker proposed Saturday, July 18 as a Family Fun Day and noted plans for the 2027 Heart of the Valley (HOTV) Festival.
- Deputy Mayor Marshall suggested that for Canada Day, the Town could collaborate with the MacDonald Museum to enhance children's activities.
- Councillor Archibald supported having one major event per season and emphasized setting schedules early, recommending that they be shared with local businesses in advance.

### 7.7 RFD 006-2026 Fire Department Utility Truck

CAO Crocker gave a brief overview of the Fire Department Utility Truck.

**260119.09** It was moved and seconded that Council approves the transfer of the fair market value of the old fire department utility truck to the Fire Capital Reserve account funded from either the sale of the old truck, or a transfer from the General Capital Reserve account, in the event the truck is transferred to the Public Works Department. Motion carried.

• Deputy Mayor Marshall clarified for the public that the actual proceeds were generated through fundraising efforts.

(article continued on back page)



# KING'S THEATRE

## COMING EVENTS



**HAMNET**  
TIFF winner: People's Choice. Golden Globe  
winner: Best Actress, Jessie Buckley  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 31<sup>st</sup> @ 7:00 PM



**THE HETEROSEXUALS**  
Johnnie McNamara Walker's  
off-broadway hit comedy show  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 PM



**TONG WANG**  
Thrilling Canadian pianist.  
In partnership with Debut Atlantic  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8<sup>th</sup> @ 3:00 PM



**CHARLIE THE WONDERDOG**  
Charlie learns that real heroism comes from  
courage, kindness & believing in yourself  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 PM



**IS THIS THING ON?**  
Will Arnett & Larura Dern navigate midlife divorce  
in their own way. Directed by Bradley Cooper  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM



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**BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL**  
The World's Best Mountain Films. Official  
sponsor: Still Fired Distilleries  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1<sup>st</sup> @ 2:00 PM



**SONG SUNG BLUE**  
Based on the true story of two musicians  
who form a Neil Diamond tribute band  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM



**A PRIVATE LIFE (Vie Privée)**  
Psychiatrist (Jodie Foster) mounts a private  
investigation into the death of her patient (FR/EN)  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM



**THE CHORAL**  
They were divided by war, he united them  
in song. Starring Ralph Fiennes  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 PM



**RUM RAGGED**  
Newfoundland Trad.  
JUNO Award nominees & ECMA winners  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21<sup>st</sup> @ 7:30 PM



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discount, no additional  
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(continued from page 14)

**7.8 RFD 008-2026 Housing Accelerator Fund**  
CAO Crocker provided a brief overview of the Housing Accelerator Fund RFD.

**260119.10** It was moved and seconded that Council direct staff to investigate the possibility of reducing or eliminating building and development fees with the goal of reducing barriers to housing development. Motion carried.

There was a lengthy discussion around the Housing Accelerator Fund.

Council discussed the financial implications of the matter, including the amount involved and comparison data with Annapolis County. Debate focused on staff capacity and timing, with concerns about prioritization given the Northlands situation. Councillors emphasized the potential benefits of the initiative for the town and the importance of encouraging development, property tax growth, and clear, transparent processes. Councillor Smith declared a conflict of interest and temporarily left the table. Staff confirmed the Town is on track with the initiative.

### 7.9 2025-26 Capital Projects Update

CAO Crocker provided a brief overview of the 2025-26 Capital Projects Update.

### 7.10 Information Report – Temporary Borrowing New Reservoir

CAO Crocker gave a brief overview of the Information Report for Temporary Borrowing New Reservoir.

- Councillor Knapp asked whether any response had been received regarding the tariffs.
- o CAO Crocker advised that a credit will be applied to the most recent invoice.

### 7.11 Information Report – Budget Schedule for 2026-2027

#### 8. REPORTS

#### 9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 December 19, 2025, Letter from Build Nova Scotia re: Public Housing Development

9.2 December 15, 2025, Letter from Kim Masland re: End of the Bottled Water Reimbursement Program.

9.3 January 15, 2026, Letter from Pastor Jeff Milne re: Doors to Hope Society Dissolution Notice.

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 10:04pm.

(The above information is an unapproved draft of minutes and has been edited. More info, including minutes and agendas, are available at [www.discovermiddleton.ca](http://www.discovermiddleton.ca))

### Funding for 2SLGBTQIA+ Community Groups

A new funding program is helping the Province deliver on its commitment to the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. The 2SLGBTQIA+ Community Impact Grant program will provide flexible funding to help strengthen the capacity, stability and long-term impact of community-based organizations across the province that serve 2SLGBTQIA+ Nova Scotians.

The program stems from the Province's 2SLGBTQIA+ Action Plan, released January 8.

"This investment reflects our commitment to moving from planning to action," said Attorney General and Justice Minister Scott Armstrong, Minister responsible for the Office of Equity and Anti-Racism. "By supporting the organizations that serve and advocate for 2SLGBTQIA+ communities, we are helping to build a province where everyone feels safe, respected and able to fully belong."

Community-based organizations can apply for a grant of up to \$25,000 per project, with \$150,000 available in total. The grants will support core and administrative costs, helping recipients do their work, grow sustainably and better serve underrepresented and underserved communities, including those in rural areas.

To be eligible, organizations must:

- be a registered not-for-profit or charity based in Nova Scotia
- have a primary mandate or sustained focus on serving 2SLGBTQIA+ communities
- feature 2SLGBTQIA+ leadership at the board or staff level
- show how funding will strengthen organizational capacity and community impact
- demonstrate collaboration or intersectional approaches to equity and inclusion.

Applications will be reviewed by the Office of Equity and Anti-Racism with support from a cross-government committee.

<https://www.novascotia.ca/government/equity-and-anti-racism>