



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's April Newsletter 2025

www.saint-marys.ca Phone: 902-522-2049 Fax: 902-522-2309

Meetings of Council

The next regular meeting of Municipal Council is Wednesday, April 16 at the Municipal Office in Sherbrooke at 6:00 pm. Committee of the Whole meetings will take place Wednesday, April 2 at 6:00pm and Wednesday, April 16 at 6:30pm. in Council Chambers. Agendas, packages, minutes and audio files are available at www.saint-marys.ca. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place April 2, 2025 at 7:00pm

Warden's Message

Spring is here (finally) longer, warmer days gives us all opportunities to get out of our homes and attack all those chores we have been putting off or "thinking" of doing. Disclaimer: I have been "thinking" about a whole lot of them. This is also a good time to actually think and consider some service to our community. This is never a chore. There are many opportunities to contribute to the health and growth of St. Mary's now and for the future. Here are just a few you might consider joining and contributing;

Community Health Board: CHB's work together to improve health & wellness where we live, work, play and learn. They gather ideas and share information about how to improve and promote health & wellness close to home. CHB's advocate for actions to promote and improve health & wellness based on what communities say is most important. They also provide grants to projects that contribute to the vibrance of our community. To learn more, you can contact Dorothy Bennett at Dorothy.Bennett@nshealth.ca or Councillor Emma Tibbo at emma.tibbo@saint-marys.ca who sits on the board.

Guysborough Adult Learning Association: The Guysborough County Adult Learning Association is a volunteer organization committed to providing free adult education opportunities throughout Guysborough County by promoting life long learning, identifying individual learning needs, and improving accessibility in cooperation with all other related organizations. Even now GALA serves our local residents with computer education, senior and family literacy programs, and more, weekly in Sherbrooke and Goshen. GALA is looking for folks committed to the educational betterment of the community to serve on their board. For more information contact Donna Casey at donnac@guysboroughlearning.ca or me (I proudly serve on this board.) Email james.fuller@saint-marys.ca

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Anti-Hate & Accessibility Advisory

Committee: (That's a mouthful!) This is a municipal committee with a mandate to ensure that all public areas, programs, and policies are free of all barriers to participation. Formally focused on accessibility to buildings and programs, this committee strives to remove roadblocks due to race, religion, or orientation. Sounds like a lot, but worthwhile. For more information contact our Director of Community Development, Mallory Fraser at mallory.fraser@saint-marys.ca

There are always folks who want change, but don't want to change. There are but a few opportunities to be that change!

In other news, the Municipality has submitted the permit request for disposal of C&D materials and are awaiting (still) a response. Plans are being made for summer camps and our Canada Day celebrations, and much more. You'll find something to do in the newsletter, take advantage of the better weather and enjoy.

Garbage Collection Schedule

The Municipality would like to inform residents that the garbage collection schedule will no longer be featured on the front page of the newsletter. To better serve our community, there will be a detailed garbage collection schedule included every 3 months at the back of the newsletter.

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Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the May Municipal Newsletter is Wednesday, April 16 at 4:00pm. Submissions can be dropped off in person at the Municipal Office, faxed to 902-522-2309, or emailed to newsletter@saint-marys.ca.

Municipal Transfer Station

The St. Mary's Transfer Station is open Monday's from 9:00am to 4:30pm and every second Saturday from 10:00am to 3:00pm. Visit saint-marys.ca/facilities for more information. Transfer Station is open Saturday, April 5 and Saturday, April 19. The Transfer Station will be closed Monday, April 21 for Easter Monday.

MacMillan's Recyclable Pickup

Recyclable collection will take place on the second and fourth Saturday monthly starting at 10:00am. at the St. Mary's Recplex.



Municipal News

Municipal Facilities Closure

The Municipal Office and Municipal Transfer Station will be closed Friday April 18, for Good Friday and Monday April 21 for Easter Monday.

RCMP: From the Cruiser Report

This newsletter details what the RCMP in our area have been up to including traffic control, assisting the public, crimes against property, crimes against persons, road safety and more. To read the "From the Cruiser" Report please visit <https://www.saint-marys.ca/protective-services.html>.

Joint Council Meeting - April 9, 2025

The Municipality is hosting a joint council meeting with the Town of Mulgrave and Municipality of the District of Guysborough on April 9, at 6:00pm at the Sherbrooke Village Exhibit Centre.

General Government Grants Policy

Municipal Council has approved amendments to the eligibility requirements for the General Government Grants policy, this will allow for more groups and organizations to be eligible. There will be an extension for applications to May 14, 2025.

Low Income Property Tax Exemption

The Low Income Property Tax Exemption form is available on Page 10. Deadline to apply is December 31, 2025.

Community Development & Recreation

Mallory Fraser, Director of Community Development & Recreation
mallory.fraser@saint-marys.ca 902-522-2598

Open Gym

Looking for a way to stay active and have fun? Come out to Open Gym every Wednesday evening at the SMECA small gym from 6:00pm to 8:00pm! Whether you're shooting hoops, practicing volleyball, or just looking for a space to get moving, the gym is open for everyone to enjoy. This is a great chance to connect with others, stay fit, and make the most of your midweek evening. All skill levels are welcome, so bring your energy and enthusiasm! No registration required - just show up and join the fun. For more information, contact Mallory. See you at the gym!

St Mary's Co-Ed Adult Recreation Softball League

Are you looking for a fun way to stay active, meet new people, and enjoy some friendly competition? The Department is exploring the idea of starting an Adult Co-Ed Recreation Softball League in St. Mary's! This league would offer a casual, recreational atmosphere where no experience is required. Games would take place weekly in the spring at local fields throughout the Municipality, with affordable registration fees to make participation accessible to all. Community feedback is essential to determine interest. Would you play? Would you umpire? Could you form a team? What days and times work best for games? Any other ideas or suggestions? Help spread the word and share your thoughts to bring this idea to life! For questions or to provide feedback, contact Mallory.

Girls Group

Are you in grades 7-9 and looking for something fun after school? Join us every Wednesday from 2:30pm-4:00pm at SMECA for the Girls' Group Recreation Program! Enjoy sports, crafts, games, and more in a supportive and welcoming environment. Don't miss out on the chance to connect with friends and try new activities! For more info or to sign up, contact Mallory.

St. Mary's Easter Egg Hunt at Sherbrooke Village

Hop on over to Sherbrooke Village on Saturday, April 19, at 10:00am for the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's Annual Easter Egg Hunt! This fun-filled event is open to all ages, with a special hunt for young children in Heritage Park, generously sponsored by the Whale Sanctuary Project. This free event will take place rain or shine, so dress for the weather and don't forget to bring your own basket or bag!

St Mary's Co-Ed Youth Recreation Softball League

Plans are underway to launch a Youth Co-Ed Softball League and T-Ball Program in St. Mary's, providing a fun and supportive environment for kids of all skill levels to learn and enjoy the game. The program will include a T-Ball division for ages 2-4, offering a great introduction to the sport, and a softball league with two divisions for ages 5-10 and 10-15, focusing on skill development, teamwork, and fun. To make this program a reality, community support is essential. Volunteers are needed for coaching and support roles, with no prior experience required—just a passion for helping kids and building a positive recreational program. All volunteers must provide a Criminal Record Check, Vulnerable Sector Check, and Child Abuse Registry Check. Community input is also important in shaping this initiative. If you're interested in signing your child up, volunteering, or sharing preferences on game days and times, please contact Mallory or complete our survey. With enough support, this program can be a great addition to the community!

Step Into Spring Walking & Rolling Challenge

Shake off the winter blues and step into a healthier you this April and May! Join our Spring Walking Challenge and stay active all season long. Whether you enjoy walking through blooming trails or taking laps around your neighborhood, every step counts!

Economic Development

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture NSFA

April 3 from 11:30am-12:30pm Upcoming Farmer Focused Webinar Session with Nova Scotia Loyal NSFA is hosting a webinar focused on leveraging the NS Loyal Program for Farm Marketing. This session will provide an overview of the program, benefits, and practical steps for farms of all sizes to leverage the NS Loyal brand to increase market reach and consumer engagement. Want to learn more? Register here. <https://nsfa-fane.ca/event/webinar-leveraging-the-ns-loyal-program-for-farm-marketing/>

Digital Nova Scotia- TDAP Program

Digital Nova Scotia partnered with Tourism Nova Scotia to help connect tourism businesses with digital service providers that can help them develop or enhance effective digital marketing tools. It's an exciting project that gives our tourism businesses the opportunity to collaborate with the digital community in our province. Approved tourism businesses will be eligible for 100% of the cost of services from a qualified digital service provider, up to a maximum value of \$5,000 including HST.

Applications for the 2025-26 Tourism Digital Assistance Program are open. The deadline to apply is Thursday, April 3, 2025. Visit <https://tourismns.ca/tourismdigitalassistanceprogram> for more information.

Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency

Skilled tradespeople are at the forefront of Nova Scotia's growing economy and with Apprenticeship, there are more than 70 exciting skilled trade careers to choose from. From carpenters, powerline technicians, machinists, boat builders, hairstylists, ironworkers and beyond. If you have a passion for construction, motive power, industrial/manufacturing, or the service industry, you can achieve success with apprenticeship. To learn more go to: <https://www.nsapprenticeship.ca/get-started/get-started>

Young Farmers Leadership Development Opportunity

Nova Scotia Young Farmers recognizes the importance of continuous learning and networking in agriculture. By attending conferences, young farmers can build leadership skills, meet new people in the industry, and gain insights into emerging trends, innovative practices, and new technologies that can enhance their farming operations and the industry in general. This opportunity is designed to empower young agricultural professionals, strengthen the industry, and foster a culture of knowledge-sharing within the local farming community. Investing in young farmers today ensures a more resilient and sustainable future for Nova Scotia's agricultural sector. This leadership development opportunity will support young farmers in attending national or local agricultural or leadership conferences to enhance their knowledge, skills, and networks. Successful candidates can have registration, accommodation, and travel expenses provided, go to website for details. <https://nsyoungfarmers.ca/resources-2/>

2025 Tourism St. Mary's Nova Scotia

Coming soon! The municipal District of St. Mary's is building a new dedicated tourism website to showcase all St. Mary's has to offer visitors. Keep an eye on the municipal website and Face-Book in the coming weeks for a detailed announcement on how businesses and organizations can sign up to participate in having their business showcased. If you haven't provided the municipality with your business email address, please do so to get on the distribution list.

Shake Up Winter Conference

Coastal Nova Scotia's annual Shake Up Winter conference is taking place on Thursday, April 10 and Friday, April 11 at the Pictou County Wellness Centre. To purchase tickets, please visit this link: <https://coastalnovascotia.ca/event-directory/shake-up-winter-and-the-buoys/>.

The Buoys

Coastal Nova Scotia's annual awards gala, The Buoys, is also taking place on Thursday, April 10 at the Pictou County Wellness Centre. To purchase tickets, please visit this link: <https://coastalnovascotia.ca/event-directory/shake-up-winter-and-the-buoys/>.

More Opportunity for Skilled Trades and Occupations (MOST) Nova Scotia Tax Refund

You can apply for the MOST Tax Refund for the 2024 tax year starting March 10, 2025. The More Opportunity for Skilled Trades and Occupations Tax Refund isn't part of your Canada Revenue Agency personal income tax forms (you don't apply for the tax refund when you file your income tax). The refund is administered by the Government of Nova Scotia (not Canada Revenue Agency). The MOST Tax Refund helps attract and retain youth to work in Nova Scotia in industries experiencing labour shortages. The refund returns the provincial portion of income tax paid on the first \$50,000 of income earned by workers in eligible trades and occupations who are under 30. For information go to the government website link <https://novascotia.ca/MOST>

EV Chargers—Sherbrooke

The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's in partnership with Nova Scotia Power announced plans to expand the availability of electric vehicle charging stations located within Sherbrooke. Construction will begin soon on three fast-charging units to be located in the parking lot of the municipal building located at 8296 Highway 7. These units will be available twenty-four hours a day and Nova Scotia Power will install lighting for evening and night-time use.

Innovation, Science and Economic Development

Canada Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) works with Canadians in all areas of the economy and in all parts of the country to improve conditions for investment, enhance Canada's innovation performance, increase Canada's share of global trade and build a fair, efficient and competitive marketplace. Visit: <https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/ised/en>

Congregational Services

Calvary Faith Church, Sonora

Weekly Bible Study and Prayer Meeting Wednesday at 7:00pm. Pastor Wayne Bray; 902-522-2520
Sunday Services as follows:
April 6 at 11:00am
April 13 at 6:00pm
April 20 at 11:00am
April 27 at 6:00pm

Indian Harbour Lake Pentecostal Church

Pastor Terry Rideout
April 06 at 10:30am
April 13 Palm Sunday at 10:30am
April 20 Easter Sunday at 10:30am
April 27 at 10:30am
Easter Greeting: Wishing you and your family a blessed and Holy Easter! May this beautiful day be a Testimony to God's love and Glory.

St. Paul's Catholic Church Sherbrooke

Mass Time: Sunday at 11:30am
Parish Priest: Fr. Tom Stephan
Cell: 437-366-0731
Email: tomstephan1june@gmail.com
The Parish Council Chairperson: is Rennie Beaver, you can reach him at 902-833-2341.

St. Mary's United Pastoral Charge

Sundays in April, Kirk, Glenelg at 9:30am, Bethany/Zion, East River St. Mary's at 11:00am & St. John's, Sherbrooke at 6:30pm

Women's Bible Study: 10:00am on Thursdays at St. John's.

Men's Group: 7:00pm Wednesdays at St. John's.

UCW: First Thursday of every month at Jo-Ann MacGrath's in Aspen

JAM Club: Jesus And Me (our charge's program for children and all ages Sunday school) at 2:00pm, every second Sunday at Kirk. This year's theme: "Team Jesus!"

Youth Group: (our charge's program for youth, grades 9-12) from 7:30-9:00pm every second Friday at Kirk.

The Living Room: join us in a relaxed, living room/cafe atmosphere, for contemporary worship, prayer, praise, and time for just being together as community! Held in the lower hall of St. John's United Church.

Finding Freedom AA Closed* Meeting: Thursdays, 8-9:00pm at St. John's United Church, Sherbrooke. *Closed means attendance is limited to those who have a desire to stop drinking.

United Baptist Church Services

Service is at 3:00pm for the month of April at the Port Hilford Church. Rev. Scott Chandler.

Community Services

Nova Scotia Early Childhood Development Intervention Services (NSECDIS)

NSECDIS provides province-wide specialized services to families of young children between birth to school entry, who are experiencing delays in their development or are at biological risk for delays.

Our Services Include: Information to support your child's development, connections to services in your community, home visiting services, service coordination and program, planning for your child and family, consultation to child care and other, community programs, assistance with your child's transition to community programs, including pre-primary & primary

Additional Services: Toy Libraries, Resource Libraries, and Family Events. Visit: www.NSECDIS.ca or call: 1-844-292-6730. Funded by the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development. There is no fee for our services.

St. Mary's District Food Bank

Please contact 902-833-2920 to access services. Confidentiality is strictly upheld. There is a donation box at Clover Farm. Please check the "best before" date. Cash donations can be sent to St. Mary's District Food Bank, P.O. Box 102, Sherbrooke, NS, B0J 3C0. Donations are a great gift option and a card will be sent stating that a gift donation has been made. Thank you for supporting your local Food Bank.

Sherbrooke Opportunity Society (SHOPS)

SHOPS offers laundry service at \$7 a load, this includes wash, dried & folded. SHOPS also offers confidential shredding at \$1 per pound. You can give us a call at 902-318-7467 or send us a message on our Facebook page Sherbrooke Opportunities Society – SHOPS. Reminder that our toonie draw collection happens on Tuesdays at Noon so play your toonies before then by dropping by SHOPS or in any of the boxes throughout our community. If you have any questions regarding your toonie please give us a call. Thank you for supporting SHOPS.

NS Burn Safe

During wildfire risk season (March 15 to October 15), no domestic brush burning or campfires are allowed between 8:00am and 2:00pm. Burn restrictions are updated daily at 2:00pm (you also need to follow municipal by-laws for your area). To report a wildfire or violations of the fire restrictions, call 1-800-565-2224 or 911. Check before you Burn (2:00pm daily), Red: No Burning, Yellow: Burn after 7:00pm, Green: Burn after 2:00pm, Fires must be out by 8:00am the following day.

https://novascotia.ca/burnsafe/?fbclid=IwY2xjawJFFg5leHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHSGMacMFBVitz0gFGjPIpfrtIY0Rtj93EQfWaH-WmlrAt-HLFsUbQyxGlw_aem_BtgfDGRkchAYPDiws7IWkA

Community Services

Eastern Counties Regional Library (ECRL)

Visit Sherbrooke Public Library this winter and escape the chill into a new world! Discover a new favorite, take a brain break with our selection of word puzzles and coloring sheets, or bring a friend and try some of our puzzles or board games. Don't forget to stop by to restock on menstrual or incontinence products for you or someone you know!

Tuesday from 9:00am-12:00pm & 12:30pm-2:30pm

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 12:30pm-5:30pm

Saturday from 9:00am-12:00pm & 12:30pm-2:30pm

Visit the library to use the computers, browse and borrow books, movies, and more. We also have a Community Use Room that individuals or groups can book (free of charge). Find up-to-date information about your local branch at <https://ecrl.ca/locations/sherbrooke-public-library>

For more information about library services, call us at **902-522-2180**, email us at sherbrooke@ecrl.ca, or visit ecrl.ca. Stay current by following ECRL on social media: [facebook.com/ECRLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/ECRLibrary) | twitter.com/ecrlibrary.

NS RCMP

Violence can occur in relationships of intimacy, kinship, dependency or trust. It can range from physical, emotional, financial, and sexual abuse to neglect. It can affect anyone and include any family relationship. Learn more about the signs and forms of violence in relationships, and how to help prevent and respond to it. Visit: <https://rcmp.ca/en/relationship-violence> for more information.

Naomi Society

Naomi Society supports women, children, and all genders through trauma-informed community prevention, outreach, support, and advocacy. We provide services to those who have experienced domestic, family, intimate partner, and sexual violence. For more information call 902-863-3807 or visit <https://naomisociety.ca/>

Kids First Programs

Gas cards are available to help with transportation costs when requested.

Tuesdays at Kids First in Sherbrooke— Three + drop-off program open to all children age 3 by December 31, 2024. Please call/text Paula at 902-870-7437 or email parentingjourney@kids1st.ca if you would like to register your child. 9:30am -11:00am.

Wednesdays at Kids First in Sherbrooke— Play group open to all parents/caregivers and children age birth to six years. 10:00am -11:30am. Healthy snack provided. 10:00am-11:30am. For more information on these programs- text/call 902-870-7437. Follow us on Facebook at St. Mary's Kids First Programming for update information

The Guysborough County Prenatal Program is open to all women expecting a baby who live in Guysborough County. Self-referrals are welcome! Call Emilie 902-533-3881 or toll free at 1-888-533-3881 for more information. **The Parenting Journey Program** is a support for parents with children up to 18 years. Self-referrals are welcome. For more information text/call Paula at 902-870-7437 or email parentingjourney@kids1st.ca

Community News & Events

St. Mary's ATV Club

The St. Mary's ATV Club has changed the meeting night to the second Wednesday of every month. The St. Mary's ATV Club needs the support of its members. You can show your support by attending the regular monthly meetings at the Indian Harbour Lake/Jordanville Community Centre at 6:00pm on April 9, 2025. You can also purchase 50/50 ticket(s) for the ATVANS monthly draw and choose St. Mary's ATV Club. When you select St. Mary's ATV Club, 40% of the sales goes to the club. 2025 registrations are now available at Fraser's Garage and from Milton Gallant. All you need to register is your ATV license number, make, model and year of you ATV. Register now and support the St. Mary's ATV Club.

Stillwater Community Center

Spring Meeting at Stillwater Community Center Sunday May 4 at 2:00pm. 9558 Hwy 7

May 18 Military Rifle shoot, DNRR range 9240 Hwy 7 9:00am -3:00pm register before 1:00pm.

June 7 Canadian Restricted Safety Course, Stillwater Community Center. 9558 Hwy 7. Start 9:00am. Register online and pay online at safetyservicesns.ca.

Earth Day 2025: Annual Port Hilford Clean-up

Dear friends and residents of the Port Hilford area, on Saturday, April 19, we invite you to join us for our annual cleanup of the Port Hilford roadsides and shoreline. From 9:30am to 11:30am, we will be cleaning the ditches and the beach. Even if you can offer an hour of your time, it would be gratefully appreciated. You do not need to be a resident of Port Hilford to participate. If interested, please join us at the Port Hilford Beach parking lot at 9:30am. Please bring gloves, safety jacket and garbage bags.

St. Mary's District Lion's Club

St. Mary's District Lions Hall is in need of a new roof. We will be holding fundraisers over the next while.

Our first will be a Rock-a-thon Saturday April 26, 2025 called Rock for the Roof!

Over the next month our members will be accepting pledges. Thank you for your support.

Bingo: St. Mary's District Lions Weekly Bingo is starting up after a Winter Break.

Wednesday April 2, Doors open at 7:00pm. Games start at 7:30pm.

Community News & Events

Guysborough County Home Support Services

Guysborough County Home Support Agency is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors.

Our mission is to provide home support services to the unmet, authorized needs of clients to enable them to remain independent in their own home as long as possible. Contact: 902-533-3655 or visit:

guysboroughcountyhomesupport.ca

St. Mary's Community Choir—An Invitation to all Who Enjoy Singing

We are looking forward to getting together for practicing and performing various styles of music; Folk, Gospel, and Celtic, this spring and summer. All suggestions are welcome. Visit the Facebook page at St. Mary's Community Choir or contact Deborah Banks at banks57@gmail.com to be added to our mailing list, which will include rehearsal dates, times and place.

Stillwater Community Centre

The Stillwater Spring Card Parties will begin on Friday, April 4 and ends on June 27.

Please join us for some fun and an evening of cards.

Open Friday nights at 7:30pm. Doors open at 7:00pm.

Artworks East - Community Showcase!

Art Exhibit Featuring Community Artists at ArtWorks East
An art exhibit showcasing the works of community members who have participated in ArtWorks East workshops will be held at the Chedabucto Lifestyle Complex. The exhibit will run for two weeks, beginning April 26, and will be displayed in the facility's foyer during regular hours of operation.

Exhibit Launch: Saturday, April 26, from 2:00pm-4:00pm

Join us for the official exhibit launch in the CLC gymnasium. The event will feature hands-on workshops with expert instruction in stained glass, weaving, wood burning, collage, and more - perfect for all ages and skill levels. Free Admission & Prizes

The event is open to everyone and free of charge.

Participants will also have the chance to win door prizes, including art supplies.

Save the Date: Saturday, April 26, from 2:00pm-4:00pm

Chedabucto Lifestyle Complex 60 Green Street,

Guysborough

Coffee and Connection

Every Friday at 10:00am-12:00pm at the Greenfield Oldsters Clubhouse, Melrose. Join us for a warm and welcoming morning of connection and community building! Whether you're interested in organizing local bulk purchases, catching up with neighbours, or simply enjoying a cup of coffee or tea, this is the perfect opportunity to meet new people and strengthen community bonds. Kids and babies are invited to join in the fun. Stay Connected: For updates and more community events, visit our "Coffee and Connection" Facebook page.

Goldenville Interpretive Centre - Heartfelt Thank You to Our Volunteers, Sponsors, and Community

On behalf of the Goldenville Interpretive Centre, we extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who made our recent Pancake Supper a resounding success.

First and foremost, to our incredible volunteers - your dedication, hard work, and passion are truly the foundation of everything we do. Whether you were setting up, serving, cleaning, organizing, or lending a helping hand in countless other ways, your efforts did not go unnoticed. Your generosity of time and spirit is what makes these events not only possible but truly special. We cannot thank you enough for your unwavering support.

To our generous sponsors—The Municipality of St. Mary's, Sherbrooke RBC, Soap Company of Nova Scotia, and Highland Building Supplies and Neil Black and Deb Findlay for the delicious home made baked beans — your contributions make a tremendous difference. Your commitment to supporting local initiatives ensures that we can continue preserving our history and bringing people together.

A special thank you to *The Night Owls* for providing fantastic entertainment and to Deb, Donnie, Nora and Andy from the *St. Mary's District Lions Club* for your ongoing dedication to our community.

Most importantly, thank you to our wonderful community for attending, participating, and showing your support. Events like these not only help sustain the Goldenville Interpretive Centre, preserving our region's rich history, but they also bring us together, strengthening our sense of connection and shared heritage. Your generosity, enthusiasm, and community spirit ensure that we can continue to celebrate and protect our local history for generations to come. From the bottom of our hearts—thank you!

Seed Swap at Sherbrooke Village

Date: April 5, Time: 10:00am-12:00pm.

Location: Sherbrooke Village Exhibit Building Join us for a fun morning of sharing and discovering new seeds! Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, this event is perfect for connecting with fellow garden enthusiasts and expanding your garden's variety.

Stay Connected: For more updates and community events, join our "Coffee and Connection - District of St Mary's" Facebook page.

Let's cultivate community and a love for gardening together! Feel free to share this post with friends and neighbors to spread the word!

Country Harbour Gun Club

April 13 Spring Prize Bingo. Starts at 2:00pm

April 19 Country breakfast. 8:30 and 10:00am

Adults. \$12. Children \$5

April 26 ATV Rally. Registration starts at 10:00am.

Leaving at 11:00am. Entry Fee. \$15 per person

Community News & Events

The Guysborough County Community Health Board Wellness Fund Application Open

Nova Scotia Community Health Boards consist of community volunteers dedicated to improving health and wellness where we live, work, play, and learn. By gathering input from local residents, we share valuable information to help enhance and promote health and well-being in our communities. Our work focuses on factors that influence health, such as income, food security, access to affordable housing, education, and a sense of belonging, among others. The CHB shares this knowledge with Nova Scotia Health, IWK Health Centre, and community organizations, as outlined in the Health Authorities Act, Section 62. **The Guysborough County CHB** is particularly looking for community members from the St. Mary's District to represent the interests of your area at our table. We meet once a month from September to June, with a Zoom option available. We cover expenses such as dependent care, travel, and any other costs associated with attending our monthly meetings. Membership is open to individuals from high school (Grade 9 and up) through to seniors. As a Nova Scotia Health volunteer, you will have the opportunity to bring your community's health and wellness perspective to our discussions. Check out our provincial site: <https://www.communityhealthboards.ns.ca/> For more information or if you'd like to join us for a meeting or two to see what we're currently working on, please contact our Coordinator Dorothy Bennett at dorothy.bennett@nshealth.ca. We look forward to hearing from you!

Culture Club Sherbrooke Literature Event - Book Reading

Sunday April 13, 3:00pm-4:00pm
"Voltaire's Workshop" The Sources of "Candide" with Autor Edward M. Langille, retired French language and literature professor (StFX), a leading Voltaire scholar, and research fellow at the Voltaire Foundation, University of Oxford - lives in Sherbrooke NS now! Voltaire (1694-1778) was a French writer, essayist, and philosopher. He was known for his wit, satire, and defense of civil liberties. He advocated for freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and separation of church and state.

"Hip Hop Music Session"

Saturday April 26, 7:00pm-8:00pm
with Angel Ann Julian "AJ the MC"
Angel is an African-American and Mi'kmaw indigenous singer-songwriter from Pictou Landing First Nation located just outside of New Glasgow. As a musician Angel enjoys the writing process and taking her experiences and sharing them with the music and expressing her ideas to listeners. Angel has been nominated for Music Nova Scotia indigenous artists of the year 2024. linktr.ee/ajthemc. Admission free - Donations welcome!

St Mary's Garden Club

Meetings are the second Monday of every month at 7:00pm at Maple Manor.

The Guysborough County Community Health Board is seeking Active Concerned Citizens to join our team **Do you have a project idea that would help improve your community's health and wellbeing?**

The Nova Scotia Community Health Board 2025 Wellness Fund Grants are now opened, and they will be accepting application until April 30th, 2025.

- Each year, Nova Scotia Health designates funds for each CHB in the province to distribute as Wellness Funds (WF).
- These funds are for non-profit groups working to improve health in their communities and must address the health priorities identified by the CHBs in their current community health plan.
- Priorities from the 2025 -2029 Eastern Zone Community Health Plan includes **Affordability and Accessibility under the areas of Income, Housing, and Food.**
- WF grants are intended to support the implementation local community projects that use a population health approach in addressing the Social Determinants of Health, such as income, education, social supports, early childhood development, etc.
- Community projects, that fit the criteria above can receive up to \$3000 in funding.

For more information about the WF application and criteria, please visit our web page at <https://www.communityhealthboards.ns.ca/wf-intro>
For more information or if you'd like help with your application, please contact our Coordinator Dorothy Bennett at dorothy.bennett@nshealth.ca. Apply now! We look forward to hearing from you!

Sherbrooke & Area Volunteer Fire Department

At a meeting of Sherbrooke & Area Vol. Fire Dept. held on March 4 the Fire Tax Levy was increased by a majority vote by members.

Approved motion was as follows:

"Increase flat Rate to \$100.00 all Residential/Resource/Commercial AAN's assessed over \$10,000.00".

This increase was required to operate fire hall and obtain updated equipment. There will be a public Rate Payers Meeting April 8 at 7:00pm at the fire hall 91 Old Road Hill for those residence that live in areas served by the Sherbrooke & Area Vol. Fire Dept.

Kenny Pye, Fire Chief

Pretty Archie Live at St. James Presbyterian Church

Sherbrooke Village is proud to present Pretty Archie live at St. James Presbyterian Church on **Friday, April 11**, Doors open at 6:30pm show starts at 7:00pm. Tickets are available for \$25 plus tax online at sherbrookevillage.ca, at the Sherbrooke Village office, and at the door. Known for their energetic blend of folk, bluegrass, country, and East Coast roots music, this 5-piece, Cape Breton-based band delivers raw, heartfelt performances that resonate with audiences across Canada. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Join us for an unforgettable evening of music in a historic and intimate venue.

Community News & Events

Port Bickerton Lighthouse

The Port Bickerton Lighthouse Association is having its regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 31 at the community center. Meeting starts at 7:00pm. Our meetings are always held on the last Monday of the month and they are open to the public. We believe this is a worthwhile project and it is important to our local economy. We need more public participation in order to move forward and grow. Our biggest need right now is a secretary to complete our executive. If anyone feels they have anything to offer, don't be shy. Contact: Don Dodge, at 902-364-2967.

Indian Harbour Lake/Jordanville Community Centre

The next meeting is April 21, 2025 at 7:00pm. Potluck supper at IHL/Jordanville Community Centre on April 5, 2025 from 4:00pm-6:00pm, \$15.00 per plate, children under 10 free. All proceeds from this supper are going to the Sherbrooke & Area Fire Department for a new truck.

Tea & Talk

April 23 at 1:00pm, Sherbrooke Village Exhibit Centre Heritage Goldenville Society members present Goldenville: A Bustling Mining Community. If you have stories and photographs to share, please bring them along. There will be a round table discussion following the presentation. For more information contact Angie at 902-522-2400 extension 28.

Liscomb VFD Rate Payers Meeting

The Liscomb VFD is holding their annual rate payers meeting on Wednesday April 2, 2025 at the Liscomb Legion, 31 MacKinley Point Rd, Liscomb, NS at 6:30pm.

Ecum Secum Fire Hall

April 4 - Auction at the firehall on 7:00pm. We will be selling tickets on \$200 worth of scratch tickets, a 50/50 draw and a dessert walk!

April 7 - 50/50 chip Bingo with complimentary snacks, tea and coffee. Each bingo card is \$0.25/each. The jackpot game is winner takes all.

Also, the Fire Department has started selling tickets on "Lobsters for Mom", multiple draws of 15lbs of lobster in time for Mother's day. If you'd like any tickets please reach out to Tiffany at 902-347-2110.

Greenfield Oldsters:

Auction 45's: The Greenfield oldsters Club is hosting Auction 45's on Tuesday afternoons at 1:00pm. There will be 8 rounds of 8 hands per round. Admission is \$5.00 per person, with a 50/50 draw and cash prizes. If you are interested or have questions, contact Gloria MacKeen at 902-870-1512.

Cribbage: The Greenfield Oldsters Club is hosting Cribbage at Greenfield oldsters Club Thursday evenings. Registration starts at 7:00pm and cards at 7:30pm. No partner necessary. Admission is \$5.00 per person, with a 50/50 draw and cash prizes. There will be 8 games. If you are interested or have questions, please reach out to John Watson by email at john.jd.watson@gmail.com or phone at 902-823-2247.

Office Space Available: The Greenfield oldsters Club has an office space available for lease, 7575 Highway 348 in Melrose. The space is approximately 200 square feet and includes heat and lights. The tenant would have access to the washrooms and kitchen. There is ample parking available as well. Interested parties are asked to contact John Watson by email at john.jd.watson@gmail.com or by phone at 902-823-2247.



For Sale: Zamboni 520

Zamboni information and tender application form. (Page 9)

Minimum bid of \$2,500 plus HST.

Please send all bids to PO Box 296
8296 Hwy 7 Sherbrooke NS B0J 3C0

For Sale: Zamboni 520

The Municipality is selling a 1999 propane powered Zamboni model 520 ice resurfer. This machine has approximately 11,800 running hours. Has brand new studded winter tires installed last year and comes with a spare set of studded winter tires. This machine will also come with 6 spare cutting blades. This will not come with any propane cylinders, this is the buyers responsibility. Always stored in doors. Has had a lot of new parts installed over the past 2 years. Bids will be accepted until April 25, 2025 at noon with a minimum bid of \$2500 plus HST. Where is, as is and the delivery will be at the expense of the purchaser. Full purchase price to be paid within 3 business days from the successful award and buyer has 1-2 weeks to remove the machine from the facility.



TENDER FORM –April 25, 2025

Zamboni Sale by Sealed Tender

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE #: _____ E-MAIL: _____

BID AMOUNT (Minimum bid of \$2,500) _____

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____

Summary Instructions for Sealed Tenders; by signing above the bidder agrees to the Zamboni Sale by tender instructions listed below.

1. One tender form per bidder shall be submitted.
2. The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's makes no representations or warranties to any purchaser regarding the Zamboni offered for sale for any particular use being sold on an "as is" basis.
3. The successful bidder will be given three full business days after the awarding of the tender to pay amount in full.
4. Faxed/electronic tenders will not be considered.
5. Sealed bids must be received at the Municipal Administrative Office by April 25, 2025, at noon.



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Box 296, 8296 Highway #7, Sherbrooke, NS B0J 3C0

PHONE: (902) 522-2432

FAX: (902) 522-2309

**** Press Release ****

The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's has received official notice that its application to receive Federal funding of \$775,560.00 via the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Housing Accelerator Fund to support local housing development programs has been approved.

The funding will be used over a period of three years on multiple initiatives designed to create quality and affordable homes. The municipality's goal, via the HAF funding, is to make at least 20 units of new housing attributable to the program and set upon a path for continued growth over the next 10 years.

The HAF funding is well-timed to support the next steps in the municipality's neighbourhood concept plan that was created last fall. One of the goals of this plan is to develop 50 acres of municipally owned land beside Stonewall Park in Sherbrooke for housing. The municipality also invited the Nova Scotia Department of Long-Term Care to consider locating the expected new Sherbrooke long-term care home in the neighbourhood concept subject land.

Planned expenditures include approximately \$300,000 to be spent on improvements to capacity, efficiency, and growth viability of water and wastewater utilities so that they are better enabled to support more housing.

\$127,000 is planned for new tools and resources that will enable the municipality to work effectively with developers and provide improved permit service, including e-permitting and more collaboration in support of developers.

\$62,000 is planned to support partnerships with affordable housing developers operating under a development agreement with the municipality to complete related studies and plans.

Finally, at the end of the three years, the municipality will receive approximately \$194,000 of the overall funding grant so that it can continue housing initiatives beyond the end of the three-year HAF program.

"St. Mary's is excited to have received this funding," said Warden James Fuller. "This will provide much needed assistance toward our goal of providing quality, affordable housing in our community. We want to thank the Federal Government, the CMHC Housing Accelerator Fund."



Application for Residential Low Income Property Tax Exemption 2025/2026

The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's provides assistance to homeowners to help pay their residential property taxes. Qualified applicants will receive a credit which is applied directly to the tax account

To Qualify:

- You must be a **Canadian citizen and permanent** resident of St. Mary's Municipality and
- Own the assessed property and occupy it as your home and
- Prior year's property taxes must be paid in full
- Annual income from all sources for the previous calendar year for yourself, spouse, and other family members that reside in the same household was equal to or less than annual amount set (based on line 150 of the income tax *Notice of Assessment*)

Exemption Value:

The exemptions provided will be based on the following income levels:

Household Income Range	Tax Exemption Amount
\$25,001-\$29,000	\$200
\$20,001-\$25,000	\$250
\$15,001-\$20,000	\$300
\$0-\$15,000	\$350

How to Apply:

- After you have filed your personal income tax return for 2024 and received your Notice of Assessment from Canada Revenue Agency, complete the Municipal Application for Residential Low Income Property Tax Exemption form
- Attached copies of the 2024 Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) Notice of Assessment for each adult residing in the home
- Sample Notice of Assessment from Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)

Canada Revenue Agency / Agence du revenu du Canada
NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT T451 E (08)

Date	Name	Social Insurance no.	Tax year	Tax centre
May 5, 2007	Jane Doe	123 456 789	2007	Shawinigan QC G9N 7S6

Summary 000000

Line	\$ Amount
150 Total Income.....	00,000
Deductions from total income.....	000
236 Net Income.....	00,000
260 Taxable Income.....	00,000

A green arrow points to the value 00,000 on line 150.

- If you do not have your CRA Notice of Assessment for 2024 you can call 1-800-959-8281
- Applications must be received by the Municipality no later than December 31, 2025
- Applicants must re-apply each year.

Donation Drive

in support of:



ST MARY'S
HORSE & FARM
CLUB

Drop Off Dates:

Tuesday, April 1st – 9am-noon
Friday, April 4th – 2pm-5pm
Tuesday, April 8th – 9am-noon
Friday, April 11th – 2pm-5pm
Tuesday, April 15th – 9am-noon
Saturday, April 19th – 9am-noon

Drop Off Location:

8000 Hwy 7, Sherbrooke (The Soap Company of
Nova Scotia)

What are we collecting?

Clothes - men's, women's, childrens, outerwear, footwear, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, belts, backpacks, etc.

Household Textiles - Bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

Small Household Goods - Kitchen items (such as pots/pans, dishes, silverware, glasses, serving pieces and hand-held appliances), home decorative items, knick-knacks, toys, games & small electronics.

Books & Media - paperback, hard cover - all genres

*media needs to be boxed separately

*no encyclopedias or textbooks

The majority of the donations will be sold to Value Village.
Some will also be used for sales (online & in person) & a penny auction

**Follow us on Facebook @ St. Mary's Horse &
Farm Club**

FUNDrive* Coordinator

Megan

(902) 318-3560

Stmaryshorseandfarm@gmail.ca

Please use bags for clothes and textiles and tightly pack boxes of small household goods. Separate books from household goods and media. All items must be clean and in sellable condition.



SMART-GO

ST. MARY'S ASSOCIATION FOR RURAL TRANSIT

REDUCED TRAVEL FARES

SAVE UP TO 70%!

CALL TO APPLY!

**PHONE LINES OPEN:
MON-FRI 10AM TO 3PM**

(902) 522-2000

or email info@smart-go.ca

Discount based on household income



Solid Waste Winter 2025 Collection Schedule

Eastern Shore Cartage: 1-800-261-0372 or 902-885-2382



Tuesday ZONE 1	Wednesday ZONE 2	Thursday ZONE 3
April 1 Recyclables Only	April 2 Recyclables Only	April 3 Recyclables Only
April 8 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	April 9 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	April 10 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item
April 15 Recyclables Only	April 16 Recyclables Only	April 17 Recyclables Only
April 22 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	April 23 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	April 24 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item
April 29 Recyclables Only	April 30 Recyclables Only	May 1 Recyclables Only
May 6 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	May 7 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	May 8 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item
May 13 Recyclables Only	May 14 Recyclables Only	May 15 Recyclables Only
May 20 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	May 21 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	May 22 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item
May 27 Recyclables Only	May 28 Recyclables Only	May 29 Recyclables Only
June 3 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	June 4 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	June 5 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item
June 10 Garbage & Recyclables	June 11 Garbage & Recyclables	June 12 Garbage & Recyclables
June 17 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	June 18 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	June 19 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item
June 24 Garbage & Recyclables	June 25 Garbage & Recyclables	June 26 Garbage & Recyclables
July 1 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	July 2 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item	July 3 Garbage and 1 Bulky Item
July 8 Garbage & Recyclables	July 9 Garbage & Recyclables	July 10 Garbage & Recyclables

ZONE 1: New Chester, Ecum Secum, Liscomb to Sherbrooke including Sonora and Old Road Hill.

ZONE 2: East Loon Lake, Smithfield, Denver, Newtown, Glenelg Church Rd, Aspen, to Goshen to Borneo Rd inclusive.

ZONE 3: Hwy 211, IHL to Port Bickerton, Stillwater, West Melrose, Lead Minds Rd, to Waternish inclusive.

QUESTIONS? Call Eastern Shore Cartage 1-800-261-0372 or 902-855-2382

*Weekly Garbage Pickup: June 1 – September 31

*Bi-Weekly Garbage Pickup: October 1 – May 31

To view the garbage schedule visit: <https://www.saint-marys.ca/waste-management.html>

