

Town of Lockeport

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Our Mission Statement: *My Town*

Lockeport- where we partner to build a prosperous future with services that provide value and a quality of life in which we take pride.

Retaining 2 Canada 150 Family Events

Council will continue two Canada 150 events from last year. We will sponsor Beach Day which will happen on the Saturday during Sea Derby weekend. This will include similar activities such as kite flying, BBQ and live music.

The second event is the Mummer's Parade which will happen on the last Saturday in December. We hope to make it an annual event. This will depend on the level of participation. Last year there were 30 Mummies. We hope there will be more Mummies this year. There will be snacks and live music to dance to or just to enjoy.

These are family events. Encourage your children and grand children to participate. And YOU too!

Paying your taxes on-line

The Town has set up on-line banking with our RBC bank in Lockeport so that you can pay your taxes on-line. The three local banks you will be able to use are RBC, CIBC and Scotia Bank. You can pay by debit or by credit card. The transaction fees are billed to you, the user. We will not have debit or credit card service at the Town Office. You can still pay by cash or cheque at the office. (Please note: CIBC and Scotia Bank services are yet available.)

Looking Down the Road

Lockeport has a real need for more tourist accommodation; especially for short one or two night stays. The cottages can't handle all the need. Another need is a year-round restaurant. In order for a business to be profitable it needs local support if it is to be open year-round. Small towns throughout North America are experiencing similar challenges: aging populations, lack of employment to keep young families in the area, declining enrolment in our schools, insufficient rental housing, and shopping outside their community.

It takes investment. Lockeport has great potential. It's economic history is one of cycles and this is rarely predictable.

One thing citizens could do is house an international student. You are paid for this and you support our high school. Three years ago there were 10 international students attending LRHS. This was a huge benefit to the school and to the local students.

Climate change has had a significant impact this past winter. The higher tides and the high winds have caused damage and the Town is planning for future challenges. Engineers have suggested that the Town needs to secure the causeway since this is our only access.

Next, consider providing an emergency access via Calf Island Road and Bridge Street. This would also become a walkway. The trestle trail would be a third priority because of costs and the fact that it would be walkway only; whereas a second access would be both an emergency roadway and a walkway. Community input and priorities will need to be sought.

We do have a grant application before the Federal Gov't for a design study to secure the causeway. The reality is that present day projects require preliminary engineer reports which cost thousands of dollars before the actual work can happen or to apply for grants.

Council has corresponded with NS Power to request a fix to the grid which regularly affects Church Street and parts of John Street when there is a power outage. Our sewer station is part of this grid and there could be grave consequences should the rest of town have power and therefore sewage is moving to the station which is without power. They have acknowledged our concerns and write that they will address the problem.

What do you see down the road?

Council is always open to your input.

June 2018

Spring/Summer Newsletter 2018

From the Mayor's Office

Town of Lockeport



Your Council

- *Mayor*
George R. Harding
- *Deputy Mayor*
Joann Swimm
- *Councillor*
Dayle Eshelby
- *Councillor*
Dawn DeMings-Taylor
- *Councillor*
Kent Balish



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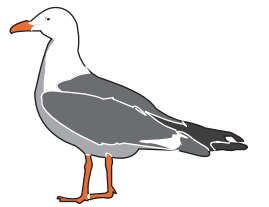
Message from the Mayor

A vibrant community depends on most citizens contributing to the well-being of the whole. This is not an easy sell. We tend to look out for ourselves. It is true that we need to take care of ourselves before we can help others. Once this is done we should look for ways to help others.

Have you considered sharing your home. Goggle Home Share program. You share your home with others and in return they pay some rent but also contribute to the upkeep of the home i.e. gardening, mowing, etc. Is this something others could do? It's a win/win, you get some help and company and the town's population increases.

Would you consider having an International Student live with you for the school year or part of the year? You are paid to have a student.

Dayle Eshelby is the Lockeport contact 902-656-2444.



Co-operation Works

Your Council is always interested in co-operating with other municipal units.

In the Summer 2016 Newsletter I wrote about the Town of Shelburne and the Town of Lockeport putting in a joint proposal to the Provincial Government to complete a study of the condition of our sewer systems and that we were approved for 50% funding.

As a result of this co-operation the Province selected the two Towns to participate in their Asset Management Pilot Project. Engineers have completed assessments of our infrastructures such as water, waste water collection, roads

and trails. This is at no cost to our two Towns. We are awaiting the report so that we can make decisions on improvements and upgrades.

Another project is with AIM—Atlantic Infrastructure Management Network. This project is at the application for funding stage but is almost certain to be approved.

Lockeport is involved in a 2 year Sea Level-Rise Project through the Clean Foundation. The participating Municipalities are: Kings, Digby, Halifax, Cumberland, Annapolis, Yarmouth and Lockeport, This project has no cost to the Town other than travel costs.

Another possibility is teaming with the Municipality of the District of Shelburne (MDS) to jointly employ a Climate Change Coordinator. This would be a 2-year position and 80% of the cost would be covered by a grant.

Your Council is being very proactive in working to meet the challenges facing Lockeport now and in the future.

Council will need current and professional data from these initiatives to guide us in our planning and financing remediation projects whether it be sewer upgrades or coastline reinforcement.

Health and Wellness

The Importance of Water

Why does our body need water? Here are a few reasons:

- Water helps to give us life and energy
- Water prevents DNA damage
- Water helps us to digest
- Water transports all substances inside the body
- Water helps to clear toxic waste from the body
- Water lubricates our joints and lean muscles

Did you know that up to 75% of North Americans are chronically dehydrated? At birth we are about 78% water but as adults it drops to 60% and many seniors are only 50%. Our human brain is made up of over 70% water and when we are hydrated we become more focused and creative. When hydrated our body burns 2% more fat than when we are dehydrated. Bones are 31% water and the cartilage between joints is 60-80% water. As you can see there are many reasons why we need to make sure we keep our body hydrated. Our body is composed of 78% by volume of fluid; and 90% of this fluid is pure distilled water; 8-9% is protein; and 1% is composed of substances our blood has picked up. So drink your quota of water daily. Info from H/D Hallelujah Diet Canada

The Lockeport Medical Centre, 44 Spruce Street, provides an important convenience for blood collection services on Wednesdays from 8 a.m. – 10 a.m.

The Medical Centre in the past has had a Nurse Practitioner working one day a week. It has been over a year since NS Health Authority discontinued this service because of lack of personnel.

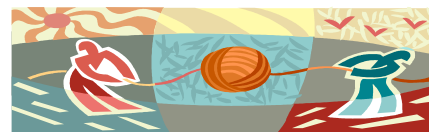
NS Health Authority has told Council that a Nurse Practitioner should be providing service in Lockeport by the end of July or early August. I hope this materializes. The NSHA is not a

good communicator and struggle with acquiring staff. So Lockeport could be told that we will have to wait. If this happens we would be 2 years without this service. That’s a long time!

When we had this service it was fully utilized. There is a need and it is not unreasonable to expect a community-based service for one day a week.

Good healthcare should be #1.

Let’s not tug and pull but work together.



Accessibility Projects

The Town has received two Federal grants to upgrade our buildings so that they are accessible to persons in wheelchairs or have difficulty with stairs. We will be installing a lift at the Town Office as well as an automatic front door and a wheelchair accessible washroom. The

library will get a new deck and ramp.

One rumor had the Town’s cost at \$300,000. It is hard to believe who makes this stuff up. The cost for the Town Office renovations is \$40,000. This is a good investment for the Town. Your Council is being forward thinking. We are ahead of the curve. Legislation both Federal

and Provincial is being drafted which will require all public buildings to be accessible.

Down the road it may be very difficult for a small community like Lockeport to receive grants as governments are deluged with applications to meet the legislation.

Thank your Council.

Internet Fiber Optics

Lockeport has been included in the Municipality of the District of Shelburne (MDS) plan to provide high-speed internet to more of its citizens in 2019. Having a hub in Lockeport will enable more efficient service to East Green Harbour, West Head, and Sable River, as well as Lockeport.

Our cost will be \$100,000 which is a bargain being bundled with MDS. We will spread this over three years. MDS will help us finance this up-front and permit payment over the 3 years. This is another example of co-operation and the willingness of Municipal Units to work together for the benefit of the region.

The fiber optics provided by Bell will allow you and businesses to compete worldwide. Lockeport will be in a position to have homebased business opportunities. High-speed internet is becoming essential to a region’s prosperity. If you think having high-speed internet is a frill, think about the younger generation workforce and the global economy.

It is not known at this time if we will qualify for some of the 120 million Provincial funding just announced.

Dangerous and Unsightly Property (D&U)

This is an issue which gets the most complaints to Council. We do act on complaints. It is also an issue we addressed last year with little cooperation from many of the property owners contacted.

The Property Assessment Committee (which deals with D&U Property) and Council has proceeded with several properties. **Property owners must realize that they have a responsibility to their neighbours and to the community.**

The NS Municipal Government Act lays out the rules for dealing with D&U properties. Council is prepared to follow this process to a successful conclusion. This includes the Town issuing an order and if not complied with, the clean-up is done by the Town, a lien is placed on the property for this cost and the cost is added to the owner’s taxes.

Right is right and **Council has a responsibility to expect a reasonable standard of property maintenance and upkeep.** Council is willing to work toward solutions. Just as your neighbours are understanding when they can see that the owner of these properties are taking steps to correct the problem.

Shop locally as much as possible. It is what keeps our community alive.

Town Office During Construction

Please be advised that the Town Hall will be undergoing some renovations over the next several weeks. We are anticipating occasions when the Town office will need to be closed to the public due to safety issues. We will try to minimize the inconveniences as much as possible and we

will post a notice on the Town’s Facebook site, Website and at the front entrance of the Town Hall indicating any closures. We suggest you may want to call the Town Office at (902) 656-2216 over the next while to ensure we are open to the public at the time of your expected visit.

Thank you for your understanding.

Keep informed about events by going to the Town website. Click on “Events” and also check out www.ShelburneandLockeport.com



Our minds like to wonder about things!

July 1st Costs

July 1st is an important celebration for Lockeport and the area. It is a time for families to get together and enjoy the holiday.

There is a committee of seven who have spent many hours organizing the event. It can be a very thankless job but thankfully there are people who are willing to contribute to making it happen. Also there are many volunteers doing many jobs over the weekend.

July 1st events, including fireworks, costs on average \$34,000. Our funding comes from the Town, government grants, a \$5,000

grant from the Municipality of the District of Shelburne, and ticket sales. Last year’s Lockeport Rocks was a big money loser. This year we are offering events at which we “pass the hat” to help cover costs but does not hinder families from participating. We also ask you to purchase day passes to offset costs.

Our theme is “Where Music Meets the Sea”. Please consider entering a float or walking with a banner/costume in our grand parade and our children’s parade. Help us make this July 1st a success.

Council Meetings

Our Council meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. There is an Open Mic time and also you may arrange to make a presentation. The agenda is posted on our web site.