



# Municipality of the District of St. Mary's Newsletter

February 2022 [www.saint-marys.ca](http://www.saint-marys.ca) (P) 902-522-2049 (F) 902-522-2309

## Meetings of Council

The next regular meeting of Council is Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 4:00pm. The Committee of the Whole meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm. Provincial Covid-19 guidelines will be followed. Agendas, minutes and audio files are available at [www.saint-marys.ca](http://www.saint-marys.ca).

## St. Mary's Municipal Office

The St. Mary's Municipal Office is once again open to the public during regular business hours. The Municipal Office, Transfer Station and Recplex will be closed on February 21st, 2022 for Heritage Day.

## Property Valuation Services

We want property owners to be aware that their 2022 Property Assessment notices were mailed on January 10th, 2022 and that our assessors are available to discuss assessments and answer their questions.

**Jan. 1, 2021** - 2022 assessments reflect property value as of January 1, 2021 based on market value sales that occurred during the 2020 calendar year

**Dec. 1, 2021** - 2022 assessments also account for physical changes (like renovations, additions, damage or demolitions) made to a property by Dec. 1, 2021

**Dec. 30, 2021** - The 2022 assessment role was sent to Nova Scotia's 49 municipalities on Dec. 30, 2021

**Jan 10, 2021** - PVSC mailed over 638,500 Property Valuation Assessment Notices to Nova Scotia property owners on Jan. 10, 2021.

**Feb. 10, 2021** - Assessment appeals must be received by midnight on February 10, 2022. Signed appeal forms can be submitted by mail, fax, email or in a secure drop box outside a PVSC office in Dartmouth, Truro or Sydney.

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The deadline for the March issue of the Municipal Newsletter is Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. Submissions can be faxed to 902-522-2309 or emailed to [recreation@saint-marys.ca](mailto:recreation@saint-marys.ca)

St. Mary's Municipal Transfer Station is open Monday, Tuesday, Friday & Saturday from 9:00 am –4:30 pm.

Eastern Shore Cartage  
1-800-261-0372

## February 2022 Solid Waste Collection

<b>Tuesday</b> (Zone 1)	<b>February 1</b> 1 Bulky Item & Garbage	<b>February 8</b> Recycling	<b>February 15</b> 1 Bulky Item & Garbage	<b>February 22</b> Recycling	<b>March 1</b> 1 Bulky Item & Garbage
<b>Wednesday</b> (Zone 2)	<b>February 2</b> 1 Bulky Item & Garbage	<b>February 9</b> Recycling	<b>February 16</b> 1 Bulky Item & Garbage	<b>February 23</b> Recycling	<b>March 2</b> 1 Bulky Item & Garbage
<b>Thursday</b> (Zone 3)	<b>February 3</b> 1 Bulky Item & Garbage	<b>February 10</b> Recycling	<b>February 17</b> 1 Bulky Item & Garbage	<b>February 24</b> Recycling	<b>March 3</b> 1 Bulky Item & Garbage

**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.

# Municipal News

## 2022/23 Grants to Organizations Applications

The Municipality of St. Mary's provides grants to organizations annually through an application process to Council with focus on capital projects. Organizations must be active with Registry of Joint Stocks, and must be located within the Municipality or serve/benefit residents within the Municipality. The Grants to Organizations deadline for applications is **February 15th, 2022**. You can find a copy of the policy and the application form on our website [www.saint-marys.ca](http://www.saint-marys.ca) or pick up a copy at the Municipal Office. See grant form attached.

## Accessibility Advisory Committee

Are you looking to make a difference in your community? Please consider serving as a volunteer member of the Accessibility Advisory Committee. At least one half of the members of the advisory committee must be a persons with a disability or represent an organization that represents people with disabilities. Disability includes a physical, mental, intellectual, learning, or sensory impairment - including an episodic disability that, in interaction with a barrier, hinders an individual's full and effective participation in society. Application are available at the Municipal office or by email. For more information please contact Mallory at [mallory.fraser@saint-marys.ca](mailto:mallory.fraser@saint-marys.ca) or 902-522-2598.

## Municipal Notification System

The Municipality is pleased to announce it has implemented the Voyent Alert Notification service to keep residents informed during times of crisis and for day-to-day notices. Notifications can be sent to a landline, cellphone, or email. You can self-register at [register.voyent-alert.com](http://register.voyent-alert.com) and choose what type of notifications you would like to receive. For more information please call the Municipal Office, 902-522-2049.



## Call for Land Assessment & Development Incentive Committee Members

The Land Assessment & Development Incentive Committee is looking for new members to join us! As a member of this committee you will work with staff and council members to explore opportunities for land assessment & development incentives. Please contact the Municipal Office at 902-522-2049 if you are interested in joining this committee by February 12, 2022.

## Rink Revitalization Funding

The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's is excited to announce that it has received funding through the Provincial Rink Revitalization Grant program to upgrade all of the lights at the Recplex to energy efficient lights. The project will take place this spring and will help make the facility more energy efficient and sustainable for the future. This project is made possible through funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage.

## Recreation Master Plan

The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's is working towards completing a Master Plan for its Recreation Department. A request for proposals was issued in January and a consultant team should be chosen in early February. Keep an eye on ways you can contribute to the plan and help move our recreation department into the future!

## SRCE Celebrates Family Literacy Day

The Strait Regional Centre for Education invites students, staff, families, volunteers, and community partners to celebrate Family Literacy Day on Thursday, January 27, 2022, and throughout the year, by setting aside time to read with children and youth and inspire them to become lifelong readers. For more information please visit <https://srce.ca/content/srce-celebrates-family-literacy-day-january-27-2022-and-throughout-year>.

# Recreation

## Recreation Programming Resuming

Recreation Programs will resume in the month of February. Under current provincial restrictions, most programs will have the following rules: Participants over the age of 12 must have proof of vaccination, Maximum of 10 participants for indoor spaces, masking and social distancing. All programs that are offered by the Municipality will follow these rules, as well as current COVID19 restrictions in place at the time of the program. If you have any questions about these regulations or our programs, please call 902-522-2598 or email [recreation@saint-marys.ca](mailto:recreation@saint-marys.ca)

## Learn How to Figure Skate

The Community Development and Recreation Department will be hosting a free Learn to Figure Skate Program on Wednesdays from 6-7pm at the Recplex Starting on February 2nd. Call 902-522-2598 or email [recreation@saint-marys.ca](mailto:recreation@saint-marys.ca) to learn more or to register your child. This program is open to all school aged children (P-12). This program requires proof of double vaccination for those ages 12 and up. There will be a maximum of 9 participants for this program. Parents must drop off children ready to go on the ice. No spectators are permitted.

## Free Skates

Free skates will return to the St. Mary's Recplex in February. Skates will take place on Wednesday's from 2:30-4:30pm and Saturday's from 12-2 pm. Proof of Vaccination is required for participants 12 and older. Skates of all sizes are available to rent free of charge at the Recplex as well as helmets (sizes limited). There will be a maximum of 50 skaters per skate. Once capacity is reached, there will be no more allowed to enter the rink. Please call 902-522-2598 to reserve your spot for Free Skates. Drop ins are permitted but cannot be guaranteed a space.

## St. Mary's Oldsters Skate

Are you 55+? Join us at the Recplex for a free skate on Thursday mornings from 10 – 11 am. No pre-registration required, there is a maximum of 50 people on the ice for this program. Call 902-522-2598 or email [recreation@saint-marys.ca](mailto:recreation@saint-marys.ca). All provincial COVID19 protocols will be followed.

## Female Fun & Fitness

Female Fitness & Fun will begin again on Feb. 9th and run weekly on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Each week we will participate in one hour of physical activity followed by an hour of a creative activity. For participants that require child care, there will be an open gym for youth aged 4-12. This program is for women 18+. Pre-registration on a weekly basis is required for this program. Due to COVID19 regulations, there is a cap on this program of 10 each week, as well as 10 spots for childcare programming. To register call 902-522-2598 or email [recreation@saint-marys.ca](mailto:recreation@saint-marys.ca). Proof of double vaccination is required.

## Equipment Rentals

All equipment rentals are free. Damage deposits are required – return your equipment damage free and you will receive your deposit back. Contact 902-522-2598 for more information.

## Winter Walking Challenge

Our Winter Walking Challenge is officially underway! We have over 40 participants who are prepared to brave the weather and get outside to walk. Reminder to all participants, track your daily steps and log them on your tracking sheets. Send your daily totals for each week by 11:59p.m. on Saturday's! Totals can be sent by email to [recreation@saint-marys.ca](mailto:recreation@saint-marys.ca) or texted to 902-870-9882. Pedometers are free to rent and are available at the Municipal office. Good luck and have fun!

## Winter Play Box

The Municipality is building a brand new play box that will be added into rotation and moved throughout the Municipality. Play boxes are full of recreational equipment to help community members enjoy outdoor spaces and get active. The new playbox will be located in Ecum Secum at the site of their future park! The current playbox is located in Port Bickerton. Both boxes will be filled with equipment to help you enjoy the winter weather!

## Reconnect with Winter Kits

The Recreation department is working on developing Reconnect with Winter Kits. These take home kits will be full of fun activities and equipment to help youth reconnect with winter! Kits will be free and available for pick up at the Municipal office. Keep an eye on the Municipal Facebook page and the website for more information and availability.

# Economic Development

## Business Supports/Grants

### Local Lockdown Program

The Local Lockdown Program is a way businesses, charities, and non-profits affected by a qualifying public health restriction can be eligible for wage and rent support through the Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Program (THRP). You do not have to be in the tourism, hospitality, arts, entertainment, or recreation sectors to be eligible for this support. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/wage-rent-subsidies/local-lockdown-program.html>

### Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Program (THRP)

As a business, charity, or non-profit in Canada who has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, you may be eligible for a wage subsidy, a rent subsidy, or both through the THRP.

You may qualify if you are either part of the tourism, hospitality, arts, entertainment, or recreation sectors, or affected by a qualifying public health restriction <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/wage-rent-subsidies/tourism-hospitality-recovery-program.html>

### Hardest-Hit Business Recovery Program (HHBRP)

Eligible organizations, regardless of their sector, may qualify for the HHBRP if they don't qualify for the Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Program (THRP). To qualify for the HHBRP, you must meet the following two conditions: You have a 12-month average revenue drop from March 2020 to February 2021 of at least 50% and you have a claim period revenue drop of at least 50%. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/wage-rent-subsidies/hardest-hit-business-recovery-program.html>

### Canada Recovery Hiring Program (CRHP)

As an employer in Canada who continues to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, you may be eligible to apply for a subsidy to cover part of your wages as you hire new employees and increase existing employees' wages or hours. Each claim period, eligible employers can claim either the higher of the CRHP, or the wage portion of: the Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Program (THRP), or the Hardest-Hit Business Recovery Program (HHBRP). Before October 24, 2021, eligible employers could claim either the CRHP or the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS). <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/wage-rent-subsidies/recovery-hiring-program.html>

### Coronavirus (COVID-19): Sector Impact Support Program

The Sector Impact Support Program provides a one-time grant of up to \$7,500 to help small business owners that have been impacted by the new province-wide public health restrictions.

Eligible businesses include:

- restaurants offering in-person dining service
- bars or licensed drinking establishments (including tasting rooms and craft taprooms)
- fitness establishments (including gyms and yoga studios) and sport and recreation facilities (excluding municipally owned or operated facilities)
- businesses and organizations offering indoor recreation and leisure activities (including climbing facilities, dance classes, escape rooms, go-carts, indoor arcades, indoor play spaces, music lessons, pottery painting, shooting ranges and holiday craft markets)
- live performing arts facilities
- boat and walking tours
- private museums

Eligible businesses receive a one-time grant based on gross payroll cost or gross revenue in November 2021. Applications for the Sector Impact Support Program are open. Before submitting your application, Review the application guide here: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/sector-impact-support-program/>

## Employment Opportunities:

Are you a local business looking for local qualified employees to fill positions with your company? If so, you can use this space to advertise your current employment opportunities and help to connect local workers with local employers! For more information contact Marissa Jordan, Economic Development Officer at 902-522-

## Business Resources:

### Guysborough County Community Business Development Corporation

The CBDC Learning Library offers a variety of learning opportunities for clients and rural small business owners or aspiring entrepreneurs. Some of these free business training modules that are available on demand include:

- ⇒ Marketing Strategy
- ⇒ Finding Funding and Financing
- ⇒ The Basics of Management
- ⇒ Employment Law
- ⇒ Bottom Line Growth
- ⇒ Digital Marketing
- ⇒ Overview of Financial Statements

There are many more to choose from in the Learning Library which can be found on the CBDC website at <https://cbdc.ca/en/learning>

PO Box 199, 46 Main Street, Guysborough County, NS B0H 1N0  
Guysborough Office: phone: (902)533-2770 fax: (902) 533-2016  
Email: [wanda.macdonald@cbdc.ca](mailto:wanda.macdonald@cbdc.ca)



### Tourism- Business Tools & Resources:

Many St. Mary's businesses rely on tourism during the warmer months. The below resources are a great way to start preparing for a new season. All resources/programs are available at <https://tourismns.ca/business-tools-resources>

#### Business Coaching

- *Business Development* - Get one-on-one coaching to start or grow your business. Their business development team offers market research insights and industry best practices to help you become more competitive, and can help you navigate available resources.
- *Experience Development* - Learn how to identify the customers who are most likely to be interested in what you offer. They will help you set your business apart from the competition by coaching you to create experiences that help travellers connect with Nova Scotia's people, places, and culture. Their experience development team can guide you through creating, planning, and pricing travel experiences that will help raise your profile, attract customers, and contribute to your business goals.

#### Tools & Resources

- *Tool Kits* - Whether you are looking to develop a new experience to sell to visitors, or hoping to expand your marketing and sales channels, available toolkits provide the information and resources you need to get started.
- *Business Guides* - Use their online guides to get started or expand your business activities. Each guide provides practical advice, best-practices, and further resources to help you whether you are new to the tourism industry or a seasoned operator.
- *Webinars* - Get practical advice on business planning, website optimization, marketing, research insights, developing experiences and packages to appeal to Maritime travellers, and more. These one-hour webinars feature panelists with a range of expertise to help you navigate the COVID-19 pandemic and come out even stronger.
- *Digital Technology Resource Hub* - DigiPort is a one-stop resource to access services, training, and support to improve your online presence and digital marketing

# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## St. Mary's District Food Bank

Please contact 902-833-2920 if you are in need or know of a need in the community. Confidentiality is strictly upheld. Boxes to receive food donations are located at Clover Farm & St. Mary's Hospital. Please check the best before date. Cash donations can be sent to St. Mary's District Food Bank, P.O. Box 102, Sherbrooke, NS, BOJ 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!

## MacMillan's Depot Recyclables Pick Up

MacMillan's Mobile Depot will be having a recyclable collection on February 12th and 26th starting at 10 am. It will be located at the St. Mary's Recplex.

## Guysborough County Adult Learning Association

We offer the opportunity to upgrade your skills (math, reading, writing, computer, GED prep, etc.). Online learning is available now; in-class learning will develop based on Covid-19 protocols. We strive to meet your learning needs. For more info call 902-533-4252 (GALA office) or 902-783-2360 (Louise- District of St. Mary's GALA Instructor).

## Guysborough County Community Health Board

The Guysborough County Community Health Board is looking for new recruits to join their volunteer team. If interested check the Community Health Board online or call Dorothy Bennett at 902-867-4500 ext. 4272.

## Eastern Counties Regional Library

Did you know? Eastern Counties Regional Library offers a great selection of library services that you can access online. Your library card gives you access to ebooks, audiobooks, movies, magazines, newspapers, music, and more. You can also learn a new skill, a new language, or get reading recommendations for your next great read. Get started today at <https://ecrl.ca/digital-library-services>.

Need a new library card? Visit <https://ecrl.ca/using-the-library/registration> to register online. Register in-person during library hours: 9:30am-12:00pm and 12:30pm-3:00pm Wednesday to Friday.

To learn more about library services, visit the library, call us at 902-522-2180, email us at [sherbrooke@ecrl.ca](mailto:sherbrooke@ecrl.ca), or visit our website at [ecrl.ca](http://ecrl.ca)



## Sherbrooke Opportunities Society (SHOPS)

Thank you to everyone who has supported SHOPS throughout these past few months of fundraising! Because of you we were able to access quality programming and keep our room a safe, happy place for our Participants to thrive! Please note that for our Toonie Draw, toonies must be played by each Tuesday at noon! Also, reviews are in and our fire starters have been really growing in popularity! Please contact Mallori ([ed@shopsonline.ca](mailto:ed@shopsonline.ca)) or Dee ([pa@shopsonline.ca](mailto:pa@shopsonline.ca)) to buy yours! You'll never have to use paper to start a fire again! Stay safe, friends!



## Kids First at St. Mary's Education Centre/Academy

**Tuesdays** – The 3+ program is on hold for the time being!

**Wednesdays** – St. Mary's Kids First Parent/Drop-in program takes place on Wednesday's, from 9:30-11am. Families with children age birth to six years are welcome. Due to Covid 19, space is limited, registration required. Call/text 902-870-7437 or email [parentingjourney@kids1st.ca](mailto:parentingjourney@kids1st.ca)

The Guysborough County Prenatal Program is open to all women expecting a baby who live in Guysborough County. Self-referrals are welcome! Call 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 16 years. Self-referrals are welcome. For more information call Paula at 902-870-7437 or email [parentingjourney@kids1st.ca](mailto:parentingjourney@kids1st.ca)

All participants of Kids First programs must follow Covid 19 guidelines to attend programs.

# CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES

## St. Mary's Pastoral Charge— The United Church of Canada

### Sundays in February

9:30am Bethany, East River St. Mary's  
 11:00am St. John's, Sherbrooke  
 7:00pm Kirk, Glenelg

## Goshen Gospel Church

20672 Hwy 316, Goshen. johnluten3@gmail.com  
 902-783-2972 or 902-318-0711

Our services to the community:

Sunday- 9:45 am: Worship Service on Zoom  
 11:00 am: Worship Service in our Church building.

Wednesday- 1:00 pm: Midweek Bible Study & Prayer at our building.

Wednesday to Saturday: Bible Study Devotional  
 If you would like to receive an invitation to our zoom service, please send a request. We will be glad to include you. If we can help in anyway, let us know.

## Indian Harbour Lake Pentecostal Church

Due to current COVID19 restrictions, our services are currently being held on Zoom on Sunday's at 10:30am.

To find out more information on these services, visit our Facebook Page at

<http://www.facebook.com/ihlpentecostalchurch>,

Email: [ihlpentecostalchurch@gmail.com](mailto:ihlpentecostalchurch@gmail.com) or Phone at 902-318-0066 and ask for Sean.

## Catholic Church of Sherbrooke

Parish Priest— Fr. Lazarus , 902-776-0228

Please get in contact for an updated service schedule.

## Anglican Parish of Liscomb/Port Bickerton

902-522-2510 Join us on Facebook for online worship, service schedule, bible study information, announcements, and special services. <https://www.facebook.com/AnglicanParishLiscombPortBickerton>

**February 6<sup>th</sup>** 9:00 am St. Paul's, Port Bickerton

11:00 am St. Thomas, Indian Harbour Lake

**February 13<sup>th</sup>** 9:00 am St. Luke's, Liscomb

7:00 pm St. Paul's, Port Bickerton

**February 20<sup>th</sup>** 11:00 am St. Luke's, Liscomb

7:00 pm St. Thomas, Indian Harbour Lake

**February 27<sup>th</sup>** 9:00 am St. Thomas, Indian Harbour Lake

11:00 am St. Paul's, Port Bickerton

7:00 pm St. Luke's, Liscomb

## United Baptist Church

Rev. Scott Chandler.

Service is at 3 pm.

Feb. 6: Port Hillford

Feb 13: Port Hillford

Feb 20: Port Bickerton

Feb 27: Port Hilford

## Bethel Community Church

1369 Hwy 7, Lochiel Lake

Contact Pastor Freda Steeves for an updated service schedule for this month.

[www.bethelcommunitychurch.ca](http://www.bethelcommunitychurch.ca)

# Community News & Events

## St. Mary's District Lions Club

Due to the recent Covid outbreak our Regular Bingo will not be opening until restrictions change. Please watch our Facebook page for further updates. (District of St Marys Lions Club).

St. Mary's District Lions Club has received a grant from the NS Department of Communities, Culture and Heritages to update/modify our electrical panels and cabinets/countertops. This work is almost completed. A new electrical panel has been installed, new commercial stove has been purchased, new countertops have been installed, a new fridge installed, and cabinet drawers repaired. The entire kitchen has been painted. We are now better equipped to meet the needs of our

## Port Bickerton Community Play Space

Thank you to Councillor Jim Harpell for the donation to our space. Our group was also successful in applying to a special grant from the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's. We are looking for a local craftsman to build a mud kitchen for our space. Please see the Port Bickerton Community Centre Facebook page for more details.

## Goshen Community & Recreation Centre

The Goshen Community and Recreation Centre is currently closed to the public.

## St. Paul's Willing Workers

The St. Paul's Willing workers are planning to hold a senior social event on February 15th from 10am-3pm at the Port Bickerton Community Centre. This event will be dependent on COVID19 restrictions at the time of the event. For more information, call 902-522-2598. Proof of Vaccination, masking and distancing will be required for this event.

## IHL/ Jordanville Community Centre

Complimentary "Take-Out Senior's Dinner", Friday, Feb. 11, at the IHL Community Centre. Choice of Corn Chowder or Beef Stew, both served with tea biscuit and a dessert. Please call to place your order, Doreen MacDonald, 902-522-2369, via e-mail at [jmordan1962@gmail.com](mailto:jmordan1962@gmail.com), or place your order by Inbox Messaging our new IHL-Jordanville Community Centre Facebook Page at: <https://www.facebook.com/ihljordanvillecc>. Pick-up time is between 11:30am and 1:30pm. Please let us know if you require delivery and it will be arranged :)

## Maple Manor Bake Sale

Visit Clara Wulf every Friday between 11 am – 3:00 pm at Maple Manor for fresh baked goods.

## St. Mary's ATV Club

2022 Registrations are in! Thanks to Fraser's Garage, you can stop in and get yours done today! Also, be sure to get your 50/50 tickets for the ATVANS monthly draw!!! Be sure to choose St. Mary's ATV Club when you buy your tickets- 40% of sales comes right back to your local club!! Please note, monthly meetings of the ATV Club will resume as COVID19 Restrictions allow. Please keep an eye out on the monthly newsletter for the next meeting date.

## Happy Birthday!

On February 15th we want wish Margie Jewers a Happy 80th Birthday! Your only as old as you remember you are.♥

## Goldenville Heritage Society

A Heritage Goldenville Salute! Hats off and three cheers! A great big thank you to the Old Fashioned Christmas Committee for allowing us to host a "Sourdough Breakfast". As well, our wonderful sponsors: HLM Realities Limited (Roger Sanford/Liz MacFarlane), Bev Cameron - our resident artist, Megumagold Corporation, St. Mary's District Lion's Club, Our amazing Volunteer Team - Wow!

A Limited number of Bev Cameron's prints are still available to adorn your home with the history of our district: The Goldenville Goldmine Works. Please Contact Keith Gallant at 902-328-4516/Neil Black 902-522-2265. Be safe in our District of St. Mary's.

## Ecum Secum Community Park

We want to thank everyone for their support and orders from our most recent sweater sale. Another thanks to the volunteers who helped to build the new shed at the park. We couldn't have done it without you. We will be selling tickets on a beautiful blanket valued at \$350. Get in touch with a committee member to find out how to purchase.

As we continue with our efforts to build a space, we will be applying for government grants. Please help us in these efforts by writing a letter of support for the new park and sending to Kerri at [recreation@saintmarys.ca](mailto:recreation@saintmarys.ca). Everyone who submits a letter will be entered in a draw for a custom sweater as a thank you.

You can make a donation to our project at anytime by sending an etransfer to [esplaygroundfundraiser@gmail.com](mailto:esplaygroundfundraiser@gmail.com).

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more details.

Dear Community,

November 22<sup>nd</sup> as I watched my home and factory burn to the ground it felt like the world was ending. Right away, though, our amazing community members . . . YOU . . . wrapped me and The Soap Company of Nova Scotia Ltd. in a great big hug!

That night my mum, Nancy, opened her home to me, where I remain. I am so grateful for the lovely place to rest and gain the energy needed to figure out next steps.

The business also had many home offers. Special thanks to Whitney Kubas and the Frasers, who offered up space, to so many folks who suggested places, and the Municipality that connected us with St. Barbara (Atlantic Operations), where we set up initially in the old fire hall.

This allowed for soap to be made, while we figured out a more permanent solution. I'm excited and grateful to announce here now that we have leased the former St. Mary's River Smokehouse from Cooke Aquaculture.

Because of the support from family, friends, neighbours, business owners, community members and leaders all energy can now focus on rebuilding the business and the employment opportunities it provides.

Please know that I will find a way to pay your generosity forward in a meaningful way. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I am deeply grateful and humbled. Leigh McFarlane.

# February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Shops Toonie Draw Deadline - Noon	2 Kids 1 <sup>st</sup> Parent Drop in 9:30-11am Free Skate 230-430 COTW Meeting 4pm Figure Skating 6pm	3 Oldsters Skate 10- 11am	4 MM Bake Sale 11-3	5 Free Skate 12-2  Walking Challenge Tracking Submission (by midnight)
6	7 Shops Toonie Draw Deadline - Noon	8 Shops Toonie Draw Deadline - Noon	9 Kids 1 <sup>st</sup> Parent Drop in 9:30-11am Free Skate 230-430 Figure Skating 6pm Female Fun Fitness 630-830	10 Oldsters Skate 10- 11am  PVSC Assessment Appeal Deadline	11 MM Bake Sale 11-3  IHL Senior Takeout dinner 1130-130	12 Bottle Depot 10am Free Skate 12-2  Walking Challenge Tracking Submission (by midnight)
13	14 Council Meeting 4pm  Happy Valentine's Day St. Mary's!	15 Port Bickerton Senior Social 10-3pm Shops Toonie Draw Deadline - Noon  Municipal Grants to Organizations Deadline	16 Kids 1 <sup>st</sup> Parent Drop in 9:30-11am Free Skate 230-430 COTW Meeting 4pm Figure Skating 6pm Female Fun Fitness 630-830	17 Oldsters Skate 10- 11am	18 MM Bake Sale 11-3	19 Free Skate 12-2  Walking Challenge Tracking Submission (by midnight)
20	21 Heritage Day  Municipal Office, Transfer Station, Recplex Closed	22 Shops Toonie Draw Deadline - Noon	23 Kids 1 <sup>st</sup> Parent Drop in 9:30-11am Free Skate 230-430 Figure Skating 6pm Female Fun Fitness 630-830	24 Oldsters Skate 10- 11am	25 MM Bake Sale 11-3	26 Bottle Depot 10am Free Skate 12-2  Walking Challenge Tracking Submission (by midnight)
27	28					