

Town of Eastport

Fall Quarterly

Happy Autumn!

Council and staff would like to extend a warm welcome to any newcomers to the Town of Eastport. Regardless of where you've moved from, we hope that you are settling in and are happy to now call Eastport home! We look forward to seeing all residents out and about enjoying community events this fall.



The Authority of Council is vested in the Municipalities Act, 1999. In addition, the Municipal Conduct Act provides clear direction for Municipalities in respect to Conflict of Interest. Adhering to these regulations, the council for the Town of Eastport currently has a vacated seat. Which mean there will be a By-Election!

Nomination Day for Town of Eastport By-Election
September 7th, 2023
8am-8pm Town Office

By-Election for the Town of Eastport to be held
September 28th, 2023
8am-8pm Town Office

Better late then never, isn't that how the saying goes? In March the EPVFD held an election of Fire Chiefs during the AGM. We are pleased to introduce to you:

Fire Chief ~ Kirk Bull

Deputy Fire Chief ~ Sean Turner

Assistant Deputy Fire Chief ~ Jeff Jewison

For Emergencies call 911 or 709-677-2222

AUTUMN EVENTS IN EASTPORT

Just because summers almost over, doesn't mean the fun's done! Autumn in Eastport is an exciting time of year!

SEPTEMBER 19
TARGA NL

<https://targanfld.com/targa-2023/>

SEPTEMBER 22-24
DAMNABLE TRAIL FESTIVAL

<https://damnabletrail.com/>

OCTOBER 6-9
EASTPORT PENINSULA AGRICULTURE EXHIBITION

OCTOBER 31 HALLOWEEN

NOVEMBER 5
GUY FAWKS NIGHT
(PENINSULA BONFIRE @6pm)



OUR COUNCIL & STAFF

Mayor:
Arthur Crisby

Deputy Mayor:
Vacant

Councilors:
Monica Bull

Roger Bull
thesailorsinn@gmail.com

Benjamin Patey
benwpatey@gmail.com

Kimberly Powell
kim.powell@eastport.ca

Shannon Powell

Town Clerk/ Manager:
Chantal Lynch
townclerk@eastport.ca

Part-Time Clerical Assistant:
Chelsea Harris

(Casual/Call-In Clerical Assistant)
Denise Hickey

Public Works Supervisor:
Marvin Bull

Public Works Employees:
Harvey Senior
Geoffrey Heffern

(Casual/Call-In Maintenance)
Stephen Durdle
Ches Crisby
Gary Powell

Janitorial:
Sheila Dyke

Office:
709-677-2161 (P)
709-677-2144 (F)

website:
www.eastport.ca



If you have not already registered for Voyent Alert, we encourage ALL residents to do so! Whether you are seasonal or a year round resident, this alert system will provide a means of communication for both emergency and non-emergency information!

Are you thinking of becoming a Candidate in the upcoming By-Election?

Wondering what it's all about?

Being on council can be a very rewarding experience! To be effective as a Municipal Councilor you must be informed on all matters coming before council. During meetings you have a responsibility to take a position on all matters - you must communicate your position in a reasonable way, listen with an open mind and respect other councilors positions. Putting aside personal feelings, you must vote for what is in the best interest of the Town. It is the responsibility of councilors to identify the towns needs, prioritize which is most important, devise a plan on how to best provide it, and raise the money to implement it. Balancing what's best for the community, communicating with the public, while maintaining provincial -municipal relations through enforcing procedures and complying with legislation. Interested in learning more, stop by the Town Office prior to September 7th and ask for more information or visit <https://www.gov.nl.ca/mpa/files/Municipal-Council-Handbook-2021.pdf> to learn about the role of a councilor.

Council Highlights



Council initiatives over the past six years...

In **2017** Samson's Road was the first in over a decade to be paved in the Town of Eastport. New signage was also started in 2017 which included a Welcome sign, Maintenance Depot sign and Street signs.

In **2018** shared services with the towns of Happy Adventure & Salvage were established, this has continued to evolve into a mutually beneficial public works and maintenance agreement for all parties. In 2018 efforts were taken to re-establish the EP Rec & Wellness committee. As a result of this, much work has been accomplished around the recreation grounds. A new Town of Eastport website was designed in 2018.

In **2019**, council purchased a F250 pickup and sander, allowing sanding to be done by staff. With the upfront cost of approximately \$52,187 for the purchase of equipment, savings in the first season were approximately \$15,000 from 2018-2019! Since then, sanding has cost the Town an estimated \$50,000; which compared to the four preceding years when it cost the Town approximately \$221,200 for a private contractor. That's an enormous savings of over \$150,000!

In **2020** Penney's Road was paved. Council also awarded a contract for the expansion of the Fire Hall, this was funded through the Covid Stimulus funding program. Under this umbrella of funding, the Northside Beach rejuvenation project began, which to date includes a washroom, privacy fence and parking lot lighting, plus new signs to both Northside and Eastport Beaches.

Throughout **2018-2022** council applied for various funding opportunities and carried out an assortment of work, including shingling various municipal buildings and installing a septic system & washroom at the Town Depot. A warming hut and washroom were built at the rink, along with installing lights. Boardwalk was placed in sections of the trail around school house pond, along with an arbor and bench at the entrance. The trail was then renamed in memory of a past town employee Art Hunter. Recognizing the importance of tourism to the Town, council fully supported the Eastport Peninsula Recreation & Wellness committee efforts in placing the Mobi-Mats on both beaches, ensuring accessibility for all. Council is also committed to maintenance of High Tide Trail, part of the world renown Damnable Trail system.

In **2022**, with 90/10 cost shared MCWP funding, the Town replaced water and sewer mains, which include road rejuvenation along a section of Main Street from Northwest Brook lift station to Parkara Apartments. A new communication system was installed in the water tower, which was vital to ensure water services for the Town.

Although a lapse in annual auditing has occurred between **2019-2021**, council is committed to rectifying this and is working closely with an independent auditor. Throughout this time, we've been working diligently to ensure capital works plans are in place for when funding is available.

Despite facing various challenges such as a By-Election in 2019 introducing a new clerk/manager in 2021, Covid -19 shutdowns, staff injuries, a General Election in 2021 and a By-Election in 2023, we want to assure you that council is committed to residents and always working for you!



What's in store...

Council will continue working to ensure fiscal responsibility and compliance with legislation. Defining a long-term capital works plan will better prepare the Town to seize funding opportunities as they arise, allowing us to continue working to improve underground infrastructure. A section of water and sewer main replacement and road rehabilitation from Church St & Sandy Cove Road, to Burden's Road and including a section of Main Street to the Interfaith Seniors Complex has been identified for replacement. This project is estimated to cost 2 million plus and council has earmarked money to cover a cost shared project, which will hopefully see Government approval for 2024-2025. There will be an RFP to have a Waste Water System study completed in 2024 which will show the way forward with the sewage treatment plant retro fit/replacement and town sewer main expansions/replacements. This study will also lend to planning efforts for paving municipal side roads. The Damnable Trails system has been a big boost to tourism in this area. Council believes that our region and our town will see growth in this sector and we intend to be a part of that growth. Conversations will continue around issues such as economic development, recreation and wellness, long-term affordable housing.

The ever present issue of erosion on Bank Road and possible mitigation efforts need a closer look, and a long-term solution. Growing our shared services with Happy Adventure and Salvage is important for us. The towns are exploring funding opportunities for the purchase of equipment in our Public Works department. If approved, it is expected to provide savings in water, sewer and road budgets, by eliminating the need for private contractors in many of these capacities, redirecting that money to other services. Engaging with residents is important to council - we will continue to host and participate in community and Peninsula events. We are committed to a Quarterly Newsletter to keep residents apprised of what's happening, and we continue to welcome anyone from the public to attend regular council meetings. We look forward to welcoming a new elected member and working together for the betterment of our residents.

Council would like to express sincere appreciation to ALL

Town employees; these past few months have been trying for various reasons and they have all risen to the task going above and beyond to ensure services to residents!



Monthly Public Council Meeting Schedule

September 13th
October 11th
November 8th

Members of the public are welcome to attend regular council meetings.

To address an issue with council, you must give notice to the Town Clerk's office by the Friday prior to the meeting.

The Beaches Library

Beaches Library is open to the public.

The revised hours are:
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
2-4 pm
Saturday 1:30-3:30pm

