

Dear Eastport Residents,

Mayor's Message

As we conclude a busy year and look forward to the new one, it is an opportune moment to reflect on our collective accomplishments and express gratitude for all we have experienced in 2025 across Eastport and the Peninsula. Our community, and the Peninsula has witnessed significant growth, and together, we are actively shaping a brighter future.

This year also marked the centennial of women's suffrage, which has been particularly poignant for me as a female mayor, working alongside dedicated women councilors and staff. With a special election on the horizon, it is imperative that women in Eastport exercise their right to vote in the upcoming special election to fill the remaining four seats of council - and of course our male counterparts votes are equally important!

While our term in office has passed it's expiry date, and is certainly drawing to a close with a special election on the horizon I extend heartfelt thanks on behalf of the council-elect for entrusting us with the privilege of representing you. Over the past four years, seven distinct personalities have united with a singular, unwavering goal: the betterment of our cherished town. Your support throughout our term has been invaluable.

I am especially grateful to the council for electing me as Mayor. I hope that the trust you placed in my leadership has met your expectations and that I have contributed positively to guiding the council forward. This term has shown that perseverance and collaboration can lead us far, and together, we can ensure a brighter future for the Town of Eastport and the Eastport Peninsula.

As the holiday season approaches, I wish you all a Merry Christmas filled with joy, warmth, and cherished moments with family and friends.

Warm regards, Kim



Garbage and Recycle Collection: Christmas and New Years

Due to the Waste Management site closures, garbage and recycling will be collected on the following dates:

Wednesday, December 24th, 2025 Wednesday, December 31st, 2025

Garbage and Recycling must be out in an appropriate bin by 8AM the day of collection

Eastport Events:

Regular Weekly Events:

- <u>SUF BINGO</u> every Monday @ 8 pm
- <u>RECREATION BADMINSTON</u> every Wednesday starting at 7pm @ Holy Cross School
- <u>LEFT, RIGHT, CENTER GAME</u> every Wednesday starting at 8 pm @ Fire Hall

December Special Events:

December 13: <u>Fundraiser at Boulder Creek Market</u>, Grab a Fire House Sandwich & Picture's with Santa 11am-3pm

December 14: Santa Claus Parade @1:30pm School to Motel, back to SUF for visit with Santa and Lootbags

December 14: Eastpen Player's Christmas Pageant 7pm @ Holy Cross Church

December 26: Boxing Day Dance (a) Royal Canadian Legion

Snow & Ice Safety

As we embrace the winter season, it's crucial to prioritize safety amidst the challenges of snow and ice. Our community is committed to ensuring clear and safe roads, with snow clearing operations scheduled to begin once snow accumulation reaches 5 centimeters, and will be repeated as necessary. In addition, our Public Works staff are on standby to manage ice control promptly, ensuring roads and pathways remain as safe as possible. For pedestrians, we highly recommend wearing ice cleats or grips on your boots to enhance traction and reduce the risk of slipping. Let's work together to navigate the winter months safely and responsibly.



2025 Tax Bills

The 2025 tax payments are now past due. Please be advised that if payment was not received by July 1st, interest charges will be applied to your account. The Town of Eastport operates on a service-based budget, making timely tax payments is crucial for sustaining optimal services for all residents. If you need to discuss payment arrangements, please contact the Clerk's office at 677-2161. We offer various payment options for your convenience, including cash, cheque, Visa, Mastercard, debit, and EMT.

Permits, Permits, Permits

Attention Residents: Please be eminded that any land development within our municipal boundaries requires a development permit, obtainable from the Town Clerk's office for just \$10. This applies to all activities including clearing land, exterior renovations like replacing shingles, siding, windows, and doors, extending existing structures, or adding new features such as patios. Additionally, new developments such as fences. sheds, and garages also necessitate a permit. Typically, straightforward applications are quickly approved by the Town Clerk. However, if your project involves complexities beyond the norm, your application will need to be reviewed by the council for approval. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that all developments adhere to our community standards and regulations.

Town Office Staff & Contact Info

The Town of Eastport's office provides essential services to its residents and is staffed by a dedicated team. The Town Manager, Greg Moss, can be reached via email at townmanager@eastport.ca. For matters requiring the Town Clerk's attention, Denise Hickey is available at townclerk@eastport.ca. For general inquiries, Chelsea Crisby can assist via info@eastport.ca. Residents can also contact the office by phone at 709-677-2161 or visit in person at 69 Church Street. The office welcomes the public from Tuesday to Friday, operating from 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., ensuring accessibility and support during these hours.

Celebrating Public Service Marvin Bull, who has dedicated 40 years as PW Supervisor, significantly impacting our community; Art Crisby, retiring after over 30 years on the council, known for his many roles; and Shannon Powell, a councilor for 12 years, advocating for community needs. We express our gratitude to Marvin, Art, and **Shannon for** their exceptional service and

commitment to

improving our

community.

<u>IT'S BUSINESS AS USUAL UNTIL THE SPECIAL ELECTION</u>

In light of recent events, it is completely understandable for residents to feel uncertain about our municipal leadership. However, please be assured that the council-elect is actively working for you. With only three candidates nominated for the Municipal Election, they were declared elected by acclamation, in accordance with section 20 of the Elections Act. Yet, further complexities arose from the requirement in section 10 of the Act, which mandates a quorum that these three individuals do not currently meet to commence their duties. Fortunately, the Minister of Municipal Affairs recently announced that the SPECIAL ELECTIONS for Municipalities in Newfoundland and Labrador will take place on February 10, 2026. Following this, the three elected by acclamation will be sworn into office, alongside the four additional members elected on that day!

It is crucial for our Town to have a complete council, which consists of seven diverse personalities collaborating for our collective benefit. If you have considered running for council, we encourage you to reflect more deeply on this opportunity! If you possess any of the following traits—critical thinking, a willingness to learn, the ability to work respectfully with others, and a desire to ensure sustainability and promote growth for our Town—these qualities will be invaluable for a new council to collaborate and achieve the best possible outcomes. Think about it! Stay tuned for upcoming announcements regarding nomination day in the Town of Eastport! Step forward and make a difference!

Looking Ahead to 2026 and Beyond: Key Developments for Our Community

As we set our sights on 2026, several important changes are anticipated that will significantly influence our community's infrastructure and governance.

Fresh Perspectives and Initiatives

- The upcoming announcement of nominations (stay tuned for the date) and the election day on February 10th will introduce a new council. Enhanced Management
- To boost efficiency and service quality, a new structure for management and administration will be implemented, ensuring that business is conducted promptly and effectively.

In-House Services Transition

- This year marks the beginning of our transition to in-house staff for essential services like snow removal, starting with town properties such as council facilities, depots, beaches, rinks, and hydrants. By 2026, we will shift to in-house staff for garbage collection.
- As two Public Works staff approach retirement, plans are underway to hire a trainee early in the new year, who will eventually step into the PW Supervisor role upon Marvin's retirement.

Infrastructure Maintenance

• Critical infrastructure maintenance and upgrades are on the agenda, including the cleaning and repair of the water tower. The council is also gathering information to make informed decisions regarding the installation of a generator backup system at the wellhead, ensuring an uninterrupted water supply during power outages. This will require careful planning and collaboration with our neighbor and partners, the Town of Sandy Cove. MCWP funding will also be sought to address the water and sewer lines along Church Street which have surpassed their it's life span.

Environmental Strategies

- The town is committed to tackling environmental and weather-related challenges through a strategic plan focused on mitigation and restoration.
- Repairs to the High Tide Trail will require reassessment and planning, as well as looking for funding opportunities to do the work.

Collaboration with Neighboring Communities

- Our ongoing collaboration with other communities on the Peninsula emphasizes our commitment to working together through shared services and a regional approach to common challenges.
- The Town of Eastport, being the most populated and central hub of the Peninsula, plays a crucial role in this collaboration. We are already partnering closely with Sandy Cove on a Joint Water agreement, as well as with Happy Adventure and Salvage on Shared Services.

We are excited to see how these initiatives will continue to develop, fostering growth for everyone. The potential for greatness on the Eastport Peninsula is immense, and we are eager to support that growth as we move forward through the next four-year term.