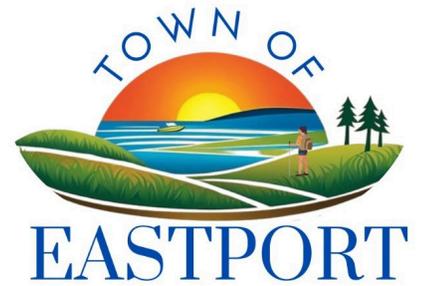


# Town of Eastport Newsletter



January 2026

## End of Term Thanks!



As the 2021-2025 council term concludes, we express gratitude to the mayor, deputy mayor, and all councilors for their dedication to Eastport. Their meaningful discussions and debates have significantly advanced the community's quality of life. Special recognition goes to Councilor Arthur Crisby for over three decades of exceptional service. Thank you all for your commitment to improving Eastport for everyone.

## Special Election

### February 10, 2026 8am-8pm Eastport Council

Like many communities across the island, the Town of Eastport faced challenges on Nomination Day, held on October 2nd, resulting in an insufficient number of nominees to form a council. Consequently, a **Special Election has been scheduled for February 10th, 2026.**

On October 2nd, three candidates were nominated: Jackie Crisby, Amanda Handcock, and Karen Powell. Although these individuals were acclaimed, they had to await the Provincial Government's designation of a date for the Special Election before assuming their positions on the council. As a result, the current council's term had been extended for an additional four months.

The upcoming election on **February 10th** aims to fill four vacancies. A total of seven nominees will appear on the ballot, allowing residents to vote for up to four individuals. Voters may choose one, two, three, or four candidates, but exceeding four votes will lead to a spoiled ballot. It is imperative for residents to participate in the election on February 10th to ensure that these four positions reflect the preferences of the community.

Nominees are: Lynda Babstock, Sheila Dyke, Michelle Hynes, Peter Moss, Kim Powell, Shannon Powell and Janine Rogers  
Good luck to you all!



## Water & Sewer

Public Works staff are monitoring the Town's septic treatment plant outflow after installing an outflow meter in early 2025. Following a twelve-month observation, the results should help the council with plans to ensure compliance with regulations and future standards by 2040.

The oldest water infrastructure, from Church Street and Sandy Cove Road to Burden's Road and Main Street, has outlived its usefulness. This has council should seek Municipal Capital Works Funding for a three-phase replacement project, partially co-funded with Sandy Cove.

Additionally, a backup generation station at the Wellhead is being researched to maintain water system power amid frequent outages, making it a priority.

In 2026, the Water Tower will undergo repairs and cleaning at an estimated cost of \$30,000, following a tank inspection. The Town Manager is coordinating the timeline, with updates for residents as they become available.

Throughout 2025, the Firettes (Friends of the Fire Department) spearheaded an ambitious fundraising campaign aimed at renovating the outdated and inefficient interior of the Fire Hall.

Thanks to their dedication, the upper level of the Fire Hall has been fully transformed. This was no easy feat, with much of the labor carried out by the volunteer firefighters themselves.

We eagerly anticipate an open house event, where the public will have the chance to admire the remarkable work that has been completed. Until then, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Firettes for their fundraising and planning efforts!

Many thanks to all who supported their fundraising efforts!

Fire Hall Renovations

## Household Waste Collection

The Council has worked to enhance service delivery in the Town. After evaluating waste management options in 2024, it was decided to contract services in 2025, but the outcomes were not significantly different. Starting in 2026, the Town has switched back to in-house waste collection, with weekly garbage collection handled by laborers instead of senior staff. This change aims to reduce wage costs and allow senior Public Works staff to tackle more complex tasks.

## Finance & Taxes

With a debt service ratio of 6%, the Town is in a strong financial position. With 94% of revenue available for municipal services, operating expenses, and infrastructure projects, the council has managed to maintain residential mill rates at 5.75 for 2026.

Furthermore, through a comprehensive tax recovery plan, the Town has made significant progress in collecting outstanding taxes from previous years, which is anticipated to continue in 2026.

Tax invoices have been mailed, and payment of 2026 taxes can be made at the Town Office, by telephone or EMT. For more information regarding this feel free to contact the office by calling 709-677-2161 or email [info@eastport.ca](mailto:info@eastport.ca)

## Events in Eastport

BINGO - every Monday at 8pm  
SUF Hall

DICE (Left, Right, Center) - every  
Wednesday at 8pm Fire Hall

Bingo - every Thursday at 8pm  
Legion

Cold Plate Sale - orders due Feb  
9<sup>th</sup>. Graduation Fundraiser, cold  
plates available on Feb 15<sup>th</sup>.

Dance - Saturday, Feb.14<sup>th</sup> Legion

Stew Supper - March 17<sup>th</sup> hosted  
by the 50+ club at SUF

The Beaches Library is open  
every Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday from 2:00 - 4:00 pm

## Administrative Changes

The Town has faced challenges in administrative continuity since early 2025 and have reached a consensus to establish a full-time administrative assistant position in the front office, operational from Monday to Friday. This initiative aims to provide effective and uninterrupted service to residents and stakeholders. As a result, the current part-time position will be rendered redundant. It is expected this position will be filled early in February.

In addition Denise Hickey will continue her role as Town Clerk, managing council affairs and financial matters. Meanwhile, Greg Moss will maintain his position as Town Manager, leveraging his expertise in planning, technology, and communication where it is most beneficial. With Denise and Greg working part-time, in conjunction with the full-time administrative assistant, the Town of Eastport is well-positioned for efficient operations moving forward.

We extend our gratitude to part-time clerical assistant, Chelsea Crisby, for her four years of dedicated service in this role. Chelsea has been a pleasure to work with and a valued member of the team. We wish her all the best in her position as Town Clerk at Salvage and look forward to continued collaboration with her and the Town Council of Salvage.

The Administrative Team can be reached via phone at 709-677-2161 or by email:  
[info@eastport.ca](mailto:info@eastport.ca) (Administrative Assistant)    [townclerk@eastport.ca](mailto:townclerk@eastport.ca) (Denise Hickey)  
[townmanager@eastport.ca](mailto:townmanager@eastport.ca) (Greg Moss)

## Public Works Succession Planning

After 40 years of dedicated service in the Town's Public Works Department, Marvin has announced his intention to retire at the end of 2026. Coinciding with his departure, his colleague Harvey is also preparing for retirement at the same time. Following discussions within the council and consultations with the communities of Salvage and Happy Adventure, stakeholders in Shared Services, we have initiated the recruitment of a Public Works Supervisor Trainee. The successful candidate will work closely with Marvin and Harvey, gaining hands-on training in the daily operations of the Public Works and Maintenance Department. Additionally, this role will involve collaboration with the Town Manager and the administration team to ensure a smooth transition as new software for scheduling and work orders is implemented, thereby facilitating effective and efficient service delivery for residents and stakeholders.

## Driving Climate Resilience in Eastport

An initiative fully funded through a collaboration between The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Government of Canada is making remarkable progress in empowering towns like Eastport to proactively address climate risks, protect essential infrastructure, and create a more livable community.

Working alongside our partner municipality of Terrenceville and Tract Consulting, Eastport is identifying the climate risks that are most relevant to us and developing strategies to enhance our resilience.

Our Climate Readiness Initiative is progressing well, having completed the initial meeting and followed up with subsequent sessions to discuss data and gather feedback. Currently, our focus is on engaging the residents of Eastport.

Are you worried about flooding, forest fires, coastal erosion, infrastructure, or other climate change events? We invite you to share your thoughts! Below is a quick 5-10 minute survey that allows you to express your concerns regarding the impact of climate change on our services and the risks to our town. Your feedback will be invaluable in guiding the Town's planning, decision-making, and climate resilience strategies for years to come.

[Take the Survey] <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3RZFZJB>