

# **Mayor's Newsletter**

January 2023 Mahone Bay, NS



Happy New Year Mahone Bay!

Town Council and Staff wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous 2023.

# **Dog Tags**



Introducing Zoe Veinotte! Zoe is the holder of 2023 dog tag #001.

Zoe wants to remind you to be sure and get your dog's new tag ASAP.

Annual Dog Registration is mandatory in Mahone Bay and FREE because we want to be sure that we have the most up to date information on your pooch. If your dog doesn't have their 2023 dog tag, come in today (Reminder: we have dog cookies!). Or you can email or phone and we can arrange to mail your tag to you.

#### <u>Christmas Tree Delivery</u>

Mahone Bay's 2022 natural Christmas Trees were once again delivered to P&P Pastures Homestead.



# Winter Parking



Please remember that vehicles that obstruct snow clearing and/or winter road maintenance are in violation of the Motor Vehicle Act section 139 and are subject to

being ticketed and/or towed at the expense of the owner.

#### 2023 Calendars

The Town of Mahone Bay 2023 Solid Waste and Council & Committee calendars have been delivered to all Mahone Bay residents. If you would like an additional copy, please visit or contact town Hall.



# View from a Plow



Please remember that snow removal equipment is very large and needs lots of space to maneuver. In most places, plows do not have room to drive around a parked vehicle. It is also important to remember that visibility from the driver's seat of the plow is very different than that of a personal vehicle.

#### Food Bank

Local food banks are happy to benefit from the generosity of the community during the holidays, but



please don't forget the importance of food bank donations all year round.

Non-perishable foods and monetary donations can be dropped off or mailed to Mahone Bay Area Food Bank c/o The Mahone Bay Centre, PO Box 489, 45 School street, Mahone Bay NS BOJ 2EO.

# **Grants to Organizations**



Mahone Bay Town Council will soon begin their annual budget deliberations. Part of these discussions will include

a review of applications for Grants under the Town's Grants to Organizations Policy.

To learn more about this policy visit the Bylaws + Policies page of the Town website.

#### Invitation to Serve

We still have openings for volunteers on the following committees: Asset Management Committee: Audit & Finance Committee:



Climate & Environment Committee; Heritage Advisory Committee; Planning & Advisory Committee; and the Community Logo Development Steering Team.

Learn more about these committees and how to apply on the Committee page of the Town's website

https://www.townofmahonebay.ca/committ ees.html

#### Access to Meters



Please ensure that your power and water meters are unobstructed so that staff have safe access to read and/or maintain your meter.

When removing snow from your driveways and walkways this winter, please remember to not pile snow in front of your meters. Offleash dogs can also impede staff's ability to safely access your meter.

# Winter Preparedness

As winter weather approaches, we should all take some time to look at the Emergency Preparedness website.

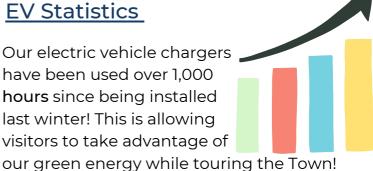


REMO (Lunenburg County Regional Emergency Management Organization) has a website with great local information on how to prepare for a storm, what to do in case of emergency, and to keep you up to date in a local emergency.

Go to lunenburgremo.ca to check out this great local resource.

#### **EV Statistics**

Our electric vehicle chargers have been used over 1,000 hours since being installed last winter! This is allowing visitors to take advantage of



You can find these chargers located at Town Hall, Clairmont Street (by the Pharmasave), Main Street (at Clearway), the Mahone Bay Centre, the Mahone Bay Civic Marina, and the new Fire Station.

#### **Bandstand Survey**

Lots of improvements have been made to the Michael O'Connor Memorial Bandstand property but we're wondering what other ideas might be out there.



Do you enjoy attending events at Mahone Bay's bandstand and want to have a say in future plans for improvements? Visit the notices page of the Town's website, www.townofmahonebay.ca to find the link to complete a survey and share your thoughts and opinions.



Have you registered for CodeRED, the Town of Mahone Bay's mass notification system?

The free service allows us to get emergency messages out into the community. You can register by clicking the CodeRED link on the home page of the Town's website.

#### Trash 2 Cash



Do you have a lot of postholidays refundables to get rid of? Please consider donating them to Trash 2 Cash 4 Charity.

This local charity collects refundable recyclables and donates the funds to the Mahone Bay and Area Food Bank and the 3 Churches Foundation. If you would like to donate your post holiday refundables to this great cause please contact JayMe Rowat, (902) 233-8358.

#### **Rate Application**

For the first time in nearly 15 years, the Town of Mahone Bay is applying for a significant increase in electrical rates.

The cost of power has skyrocketed in the volatile global energy market. While the Town generates 42% of the electricity used by the customers of our electric utility, we are still required to purchase electricity to meet the remainder of our electricity needs. making us subject to the market.

In the time since the Town made our application to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB), the Province has stepped in with amendments to the Public Utilities Act which limit the increases that Nova Scotia Power is able to pursue.

To be frank, we don't know what this will do to the real cost to us to purchase power. The decision of the NSUARB regarding the rate application by Nova Scotia Power will not be known until the new year. The NSUARB Public Hearing will be held in Mahone Bay on February 14th and by that time the outcome of the Nova Scotia Power application will be known and the NSUARB will take that into consideration when they make their ruling.

We are aware that what will undoubtedly be a significant increase in the cost of electricity is an additional burden at a time when the cost of living is rising quickly, but it is out of our control. The Mahone Bay Electric Utility does not have shareholders and does not run as a for-profit; therefore there is no margin to buffer or defer costs. If the increased costs are not charged to the user, the only backstop is the taxpayer.

Contact Town Hall and/or look on our website for information on the NSUARB Hearing in Mahone Bay on February 14th.



# To Mahone Bay From Kenya!

Please join us for a conversation about community, in anticipation of the arrival of international healthcare workers coming from Kenya to join our team at Mahone Nursing Home.

Learn about who is coming, why and how they are joining us and how the community can help to create a welcoming community.

And hear from our special guest, Bahati Ernestine, one of the first international healthcare workers to come to Nova Scotia via the same program, who now resides in Pictou County.

MacLEOD

February 2nd, 7pm

Mahone Bay Centre
Large Conference Room
45 School Street, Mahone Bay
In the event of inclement weather it will be postponed

To register or with questions contact Tina Hennigar by text or phone at 902-523-5725 or by emailing: Tina.hennigar@macleodgroup.ca

# Assessment Roll

Notice of Assessment documents were mailed to all Mahone Bay property owners this week.



These assessments are completed by PVSC (Property Valuation Services Corporation). PVSC is a not-for-profit organization responsible for assessing all property in Nova Scotia as mandated under the Nova Scotia Assessment Act. These assessments are used to determine property taxes.

You can expect the first 2023 tax bill installment this April. For more information on property assessments go to pvsc.ca.

# **Public Input Session**



Now that the in-person gallery is open to the public again, the Public Input Session is also in-person. The 15

minutes prior to the start of regular Council meetings is an opportunity to share your opinions with Council.

# **Upcoming Dates**

Jan 10 - Council Meeting

Jan 19 - Asset Management

Committee Meeting

Jan 19 - Audit & Finance Committee Meeting

Jan 23- Policy & Strategy Committee Meeting

Jan 26 - Police Advisory Board Meeting

Jan 26 - Council Meeting

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