

## **Mayor's Newsletter**

March 2021 Mahone Bay, NS

### Greenhouse Gas Action Plan



We are excited to present a Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Action Plan for review before the plan returns to Council for approval.

Over the past year, the Town has been collecting data related to greenhouse gas emissions and has worked closely with Town partners to model the Town's emissions profile and develop preliminary action items and targets to propel the Town towards a carbon neutral future.

We hope that you'll join us for a Virtual Open House session via zoom on March 10th, at 7pm for an overview of the Plan followed by time for your questions and comments. This session will be recorded to view at a later date. The Zoom link is available in the Notices section on the Town website. The draft plan is available on the electric utility page of the Town website.

### <u>Thank-you For Your</u> <u>Participation!</u>

It's official! The new Mahone Bay and District Fire Station will be red.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to participate in the survey!



# Michael O'Connor Memorial Bandstand

The Town of
Mahone Bay has
already
completed two
phases of
renovations on
the Mahone Bay
bandstand, one
of which
included giving it
the name
Michael



O'Connor Memorial Bandstand, in honour of a Mahone Bay resident that gave so much to our music community.

Phase I involved structural renovations; Phase II involved accessibility upgrades (including the walkway and bleachers) and a new roof.

We're looking ahead to Phase III – making further improvements to the Michael O'Connor Memorial Bandstand, and part of this project is to hear from the people of Mahone Bay about the possibilities for this special part of life in Mahone Bay.

To review the Bandstand Engagement Plan Staff Report to Council and take part in our survey, please visit the Park & Greenspaces page of the Town's website.

Mark your calendars, we will be hosting a Zoom public engagement session on Wednesday, March 24th. The Zoom link can also be found on the Parks & Greenspaces page of the Town's website.

### A Message from the Mayor

Since March of 2020 Town Council has continued to meet regularly, participate in committees and work with other municipalities on common issues. This work has primarily been done online.

Citizens choose candidates through the ballot box to represent them at the council table. The six Councillors and the mayor are not tasked to satisfy a particular group of citizens. There are no constituencies in Mahone Bay. There is not a Councillor representing only the business community nor a Councillor representing people living on a particular street. Each member of Council represents every person in town equally. Council is the voice of approximately 850 electors. Council decisions are for every citizen living in the town.

Mahone Bay Town Council and staff strive to do what is right for our community. Citizens have often disagreed with decisions Council made. Citizens did not unanimously support past decisions to create a water treatment system nor a sewage treatment plant nor our own source of 'green' electricity.

Councillors cannot react to the choice some citizens may make. Councillors must understand the issues, listen to citizens' comments, and consider those inputs. Ultimately the Councillors should choose to do what they believe works for the entire town.

Some people may not agree. All citizens can take solace that the Councillors choose what they genuinely believe is the right option for Mahone Bay.

#### **PAA Project**

The Town of Mahone Bay is conducting a pilot project to remove chlorine from our treated wastewater. Ultimately this means less chlorine in our harbour.

This project will test the effectiveness of Paracetic Acid (PAA) as a chemical disinfectant in our treated wastewater effluent.

The Town is working in close cooperation with government regulators as part of our ongoing commitment to higher standards.

PAA is a disinfectant commonly used in the food industry.



The Town currently uses chlorine as a disinfectant on treated wastewater effluent prior to its release. Our goal is to remove chlorine from the treated effluent.

#### **Community-Wide Bicycle Route**

Have you read the CBCL Transportation Plan report and Bicycle NS Bikeway Concept Designs Report on the Plans & Reports page of the Town's website?

Watch for a call for participation in late spring/summer we will be looking for public participation in the development of a 2021/22 project for a community-wide, all-ages cycling

route in Mahone Bay.

#### Have You and Your Dog Met Al?



Our By-law Enforcement Officer, Al, is talking to people about the importance of keeping dogs on leash and remembering to stoop and scoop.

(Hint: he may have dog treats!)

#### <u>Plan Mahone Bay Update</u>



Plan MB documents are now available on the Plan MB website, www.planmahonebay.ca.

Town Staff along with Upland Planning & Design Studio are working together to develop draft by-laws, these by-laws will go to the public for feedback before being considered by Council.

#### <u>Paper Bags</u>



As you gaze out on your yard and dream of spring, remember to stock up on paper leaf collection bags. Leaves will not be collected when in plastic bags, only paper bags and green bins.

#### Reminder - Winter Parking



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

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

#### **NEW - Public Input Sessions**

As part of the Town's newly amended Council Policy, 15 minutes has been added ahead of each council meeting. If you have a question or concern that you would like to voice to



Council, this is an excellent opportunity to do so. The link to the session is available 3 business days prior to the meeting, it can be found on the Town's Facebook page and website.

#### <u>Important Dates</u>

\*Council and Committee meetings continue to take place via videoconferencing due to Covid-19

March 9th - Council Meeting - 7pm
March 15th - Cemetery Committee Meeting
March 18th - Asset Managememt Meeting
March 25th - Council Meeting - 7pm
There's a new way to have your say ask us how to join the Public
Information Session 15 minutes before
the start of regular Council Meetings.

#### **Electronic Newsletter**

Have you signed up to get the Mayor's Newsletter by email? Enter your information using the prompt at the bottom of every website page.







# century. The Town is planning to protect our waterfront infrastructure but we will require Provincial and Federal assistance to make it happen.

Much of our community sits along a shoreline that is expected ro rise between one and four feet this

#### **CULVERTS, DITCHES, & BROOKS, OH MY!**

Stormwater drains into the harbour through brooks, streams, and ditches. Town crews work hard to maintain our culverts, storm drains, and bridges. Residents play a key role, managing stormwater on their properties.





#### LIVING SHORELINE

Storm surge can wreak havoc on unprepared coastline. Breakwaters and living shoreline improvements can blunt wave impacts. We can protect our coastal assets from erosion while enhancing the environment and marine habitat.

#### Together we can weather this storm!

Managing stormwater is an increasing challenge and one the Town cannot undertake on its own. With residents making an effort to reduce stormwater impacts on their neighbours and Federal and Provincial funds to support improving our shorelines and protecting our downtown and our iconic churches, together we can adapt to the impacts of climate change and keep our heads above water.



Mahone Bay

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