Mayor's Newsletter



<u>Message from the Mayor</u>

I am excited to announce that the Mahone Bay Town Council has adopted a new logo for the Town of Mahone Bay.



In 2022 the Town Council established the Community Logo Development Steering Team with a mandate to develop a new logo for recommendation to Council. After significant public consultation the Steering Team provided its recommendation to Council's February 29th , 2024 meeting.

I want take this opportunity to thank the public members of the steering team, who volunteered their time over the past year, as well as Chair Councillor Suzanne Lohnes-Croft. I would also like to thank all the community members who gave us their input on the logo.

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.

The deadline to submit an application is March 31st. To learn more about this policy visit the Finance page of the Town website. Join Councillors Penny Carver and Suzanne Lohnes-Croft for She Should Run, a special International Woman's Day open house!



Where? Mahone Bay Town Hall, 493 Main Street

When? March 8th, 1pm – 4pm What? Chat with women councillors, past and present, and tour Town Hall Who? Those who identify as women Why? 2024 is a Municipal Election Year in Nova Scotia

Questions? Contact Town Hall 902-624-8327 inquiries@townofmahonebay.ca

**This event is sponsored by the Nova Scotia Status of Women

Volunteers Wanted

Are you looking for a way to serve your community? The Mahone Bay & District Fire Department is always on the lookout for new



members to join their ranks and offer an invaluable service to the community.

There is also a junior fire department for youth ages 12 to 18. This is a great opportunity and introduction to firefighting and an exciting way to learn new skills.

To learn more about the work of the Department or to find out how to join, send an email to mbdfd.admin@ townofmahonebay.ca



<u>2024 Dog Tags</u>

Buttercup wants to let you know that you can now pick up your 2024 dog tag at Town Hall.



It is mandatory in Mahone Bay to register your dog each year. Registering your dog annually ensures that we have the most upto-date information in case we ever need to get your pooch back home.

Registering is quick and easy and FREE! You can stop by Town Hall and pick up your tag(s) in person, or give us a call or send an email and we can arrange to mail your tag(s).



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.

Volunteers Needed!



We're seeking volunteers to be the frontline staff for the Comfort Centre at the Mahone Bay and District Fire Department.

A Comfort Centre is a place where people can go for warming, cooling, electricity, washroom and other amenities during an emergency situation.

The volunteer application and the Town of Mahone Bay Comfort Centre Operating Procedures can be found at, townofmahonebay.ca/emergency-services

If you have questions, please contact Eric Levy at eric.levy@townofmahonebay.ca.

Summer Internship Opportunities

The Town of Mahone Bay, through the support of the Clean Foundation, is seeking two summer interns.



These are both 15-week positions that start in mid-May and go until the end of August. We are looking to hire a Climate Adaptation Intern and a GHG Inventory Intern. To read the job descriptions, visit our website,

www.townofmahonebay.ca under the Town Hall tab, then go to the Climate and Sustainability page.

Job applications are being accepted now, through the Clean Foundation Summer Internship Job Board and the deadline to apply for these jobs is Wednesday March 13, 2024.

<u>2024-25 Budget</u>



Council will start their annual budget deliberation process in April. Budget meetings will be live streamed on the Town's YouTube Channel.

Compost Bin Liners

While compostable bags and biodegradable bags may be advertised as fully compostable, they are not. They get tangled up in equipment and contaminate curing compost piles. This adds to staff time and expense at our solid waste site.

Please consider using brown paper bags or cardboard liners instead of "compostable" bags.



Bags visible in curing compost pile



Bags tangled in grinder

Can We See Your Address?



The Town of Mahone Bay has a Civic Address By-law which states that every property owner is responsible

to post the civic number of the property on the same side of the road as the building with that number.

Civic numbers shall be on both sides of the sign and perpendicular to the street. The numerals shall be white on reflective blue background.

The civic number shall be posted on a dedicated vertically mounted post, no further than 1m (3') from the edge of the road, and between 1m and 1.5m from the road surface.

Learn more about the Civic Addressing Bylaw on the Town website at

townofmahonebay.ca/by-laws-policies, or contact Town Hall to order your civic address sign. They're quick and easy to order and cost only \$14!

Invitation to Serve

We still have openings for volunteers on the following committees: Asset Management Committee; Climate & Environment Committee; Heritage Advisory Committee;

Planning Advisory Committeee.

Serving on a committee of Council is an excellent way to voice your opinion on a topic that is important to you.

To learn more about these committees and how to apply on the Committee page of the Town's website townofmahonebay.ca /committees

<u>Message from The Festivals of</u> <u>Mahone Bay</u>



The Festivals of Mahone Bay have chosen 2024 dates for Mahone Bay's much loved festivals and are also planning new events. If you would like to help out we want to talk to you about it!

Located in Pioneer Hall, Trinity United Church," The Bay Hive" a community art space, is open! Volunteers who make creations for the Scarecrow and Father Christmas Festival need unique and vintage clothing & accessories, wigs, purses, shoes, hats, fabric & crafting supplies.

Help us bring future scarecrows to life! We are at <u>festivalsofmahonebay@gmail.com</u>

<u>Strategic Plan Review</u>

Mahone Bay Town Council will soon begin the process of conducting their annual review of the Town's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan and we want to hear your thoughts!



Go to the Plans, Reports + Studies page of our website, www.townofmahonebay.ca, to read the Strategic Plan. Send us your thoughts by mail, email, or even drop off your comments at Town Hall.

Upcoming Dates

March 13 - Climate & Environment Committee March 12 - Council Meeting March 13 - Heritage Advisory Committee March 14 - Asset Management Committee March 25 - Policy & Strategy Committee March 28 - Council Meeting March 29 - Office Closed (Good Friday)

Rate Increase

In December of 2023, the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB) approved a Nova Scotia Power flow through rate which came into effect on January 1, 2024. This increase is necessary to recoup increases from NS Power at an additional 2.59%. This increase only effects power consumed after the 1st of January, no matter your billing cycle.

We understand that this increase added to other recent increases will be a financial adjustment for the Town's electric utility customers. To help ease the impact, you have the option to set up monthly installment payments on your account for the next 12 months. Contact Town Hall to find out more.

Dogs on Leash



Are you ready for a nice winter walk with your pooch? Do you have a leash? Are you prepared to stoop and scoop?

Leashes and cleaning up behind pets are the law in Mahone Bay.

Winter Preparedness

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



REMO (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.

Seniors Care Grant

This grant helps lowincome seniors with the cost of household services like lawn care, snow



removal, grocery delivery, transportation and small home repairs. Seniors can also apply for help with costs associated with health care services like physiotherapy and mental health support. Grants are \$750 per household. If you qualify, you can apply until March 31, 2024. To learn more visit www.novascotia.ca

Home Heating Rebate

The Province of their Heating



Assistance Rebate Program to help lowincome Nova Scotians with the cost of home heating. For more information visit, https://beta.novascotia.ca/apply-heatingassistance-rebate-heating-assistancerebate-program

Vial of Life



The Vial of Life program helps emergency personnel get important medical facts about you during a health crisis in the home.

When paramedics or other emergency personnel come to your home, they will look for the vial of life symbol. This tells them that vital information is available to help them understand your medical condition(s) & provide the best treatment for you. The vial also identifies who you want notified in the event of an emergency.

Pick up your Vial of Life at Kinburn Pharmasave!