



Village of Baddeck

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www.baddeckvillage.ca

Commissioners Acclaimed: Full Commission Now in Place

Commissioner Gary Crowder reoffered, and was acclaimed into his position for another three year term. Bonnie Whyte put her name forward, and was acclaimed into the remaining three year term. Commissioners Crowder and Whyte took their oaths of service, and the village commission is now functioning at full capacity with five commissioners committed to collaborating at the commission table.

Annual General Meeting Report

The Village **Annual General Meeting** was held on June 18, 2024. We thank those who attended as we looked back on the last year.

We encourage everyone to have a look at the Strategic Plan (available on the website www.baddeckvillage.ca or by contacting the office) as that will guide our work going forward. Our focus is on sustainability, accountability and transparency as we address Utility Management (Waste Water Treatment & Water Treatment & Distribution), Financial Planning & Administration, Public Spaces Management (Wharf, Boardwalk, Kidston Island, Community Club property), Community Engagement, Monitoring and Evaluation and Continuous Improvement.

The financial statements for fiscal year 2023-2024 were presented by MNP, and the draft budget for the upcoming fiscal year (2024-25) was presented. We are anticipating a balanced operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Our budget reflects the priorities identified in the village strategic plan. We look forward to embarking on another year with a great team of Village employees and volunteers.

Waste Water and Water Treatment: Capacity and Conservation

As previously mentioned, the Village of Baddeck is experiencing capacity issues within our water and waste water treatment systems.

In 2023, we exceeded allowable withdrawal levels set by the Department of Environment from our well system in March, July, August, September, October, November and December. We need to ensure that we can continue to provide water to our users and we are asking that we all conserve water where possible. We will be adding some conservation information to our website – please check for leaky taps, turn off taps while brushing teeth, consider low flow shower heads and toilets, and use less water on lawns. Public Works participated in leak detection training in June, and will be actively using that training to try to detect and repair leaks efficiently.

Similarly, at our waste water treatment plant, we had 15 bypass events in 2023 (ranging in length from 6.75 hours to 116 hours) that required reporting. Waste water goes through the UV and filtration system but does not go through the settling tanks before being discharged during those events. Those events generally occur during heavy rain or snow melt events and happened in January, February, March, May, June, July, August, November and December. We encourage you to ensure that storm water around your property is not being directed into the sanitary sewer system.

We are currently unable to approve new users onto either system as we need to protect capacity for current users and adhere to environmental standards. We have a request for proposals out for an engineering study to assess both systems and we will continue to monitor and assess as we develop a capital plan. We are collaborating with Eastern District Planning, the Municipality, and our MLA and MP as we recognize the impact these systems have on our region.

Please reach out with concerns, comments or questions to the Baddeck Village Commissioners.

Jennifer MacDonald, Chair commissioner.macdonald@baddeckvillage.ca
Gary Crowder, Vice Chair commissioner.crowder@baddeckvillage.ca
Ken MacKinnon commissioner.mackinnon@baddeckvillage.ca
Dan McNeil commissioner.mcneil@baddeckvillage.ca
Bonnie Whyte commissioner.whyte@baddeckvillage.ca

THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS – THOSE WHO SERVE AS COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON WATERFRONT BADDECK COMMITTEE, AUDIT COMMITTEE, ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE, SOURCE WATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE, COMMUNITY CLUB COMMITTEE, THOSE WHO COME TO MEETINGS, SUPPORT & PARTICIPATE IN PROJECTS AND WORK TOGETHER TO SUPPORT OUR VILLAGE COMMUNITY.
WE SEE YOU AND APPRECIATE YOU.

Water Utility Billing

You can expect your first water bill with the new UARB mandated in July, and consistently quarterly going forward. Methods of payment are located on the bottom of your invoice.

Village Taxes

As has happened the last several years, the Village of Baddeck will be sending out a tax bill, separate from the Municipal tax bill. There will be no rate increase this year. The fire protection rate has gone up to 9.6 cents per \$100 of assessment as a result of the UARB order. You can expect your tax bill by August 16. Methods of payment are located on the bottom of your invoice.

Timely payment of accounts makes village operations sustainable, and we have implemented clear policies around accounts in arrears. Statements sent monthly to past due accounts (water and property tax) will be charged \$10/statement for emailed statements and \$15/statement for mailed. Interest on past due water and property tax accounts will be 1.25% every 30 days past due. Some customers have been paying village bills to the Municipality, so please ensure that you have the correct payment information. Please contact the village office with any questions at info@baddeckvillage.ca or 902-295-3666.

Baddeck Quest

After the resounding success of last year's "Baddeck Quest" event, we are thrilled that Rhonda Kay-Buchanan and a team of enthusiastic volunteers are taking on the project for another year! The activity-based scavenger hunt for all ages, will return on August 11. If you are part of a community group that does something fun, please consider hosting an activity. Proceeds from this event support the Boardwalk reconstruction. For more information on how to volunteer or host, email waterfront.intern@gmail.com before August 1.

Regular public meetings of the Village Commission are held on the second Wednesday of the month, at 6:30 p.m. in the Village Office (492 Chebucto Street). Everyone is welcome to attend. Here are the meeting dates for the next few upcoming meetings. You can find agendas and minutes on the website.

July 10, 2024

August 14, 2024

September 11, 2024

October 9, 2024