





The global health pandemic has impacted how we deliver our events but we are up the challenge and have made adjustments following public health guidelines to make our events safer and more enjoyable! The following is a list of events that we are hosting or partnering with community stakeholders in the coming months:

Community Clean up Challenge - May 9-15th Multicultural Celebration - June 27 Annual Placentia Regatta - TBA Trunk or Treat - October 31 Santa Parade - December 4

Household Hazardous Waste Collection - Sept. 18 Canada Day Celebration - July 1 Voices of Placentia Bay - August 6-8 Light Up the Square - November 29

You can also watch for pop up events on our website! www.placentia.ca | @TownofPlacentia | info@placentia.ca | 709-227-2151

### **PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY**

In 2020 the Public Works Department focused on infrastructure improvements through own sources and through cost sharing funding programs to repair and replace priority infrastructure.

Our PW Department repaired or replaced close to 100 water lines that service residents throughout the Town while also operating and maintaining 7 separate water pumping stations/treatment facilities for our water distribution systems. The Department also operates and maintains 10 sanitary sewer pumping stations along with other municipal owned infrastructure.

Through partial funding from government agency programs and Town sources we completed 2 major projects and have awarded 2 more for engineering and completion in 2021. We installed new storm drainage system, water main and new asphalt on Burnt Woods Place to reduce flood risks from failing water main and failed drainage systems. The Town also completed the replacement of Sanitary Sewer pumping station near Blenhiem Street which included the replacement of control panel, 2 new 15hp pumps, piping and valves. This was a full retrofit of a critical system that was identified to be replaced.

During 2021, we look forward to the completion of 3 main projects that are approved and ready to begin and continuing to work towards approval of our recently applied for Capital Works projects. Dunville residents will have a new water supply in 2021 with the completion of a 3.4 million dollar



project that council has prioritized for a long time. With the addition of a SCADA system we will also upgrade our methods of monitoring our water and sanitary sewer systems with the installation of a digital programming system and instrumentation to improve asset management and assist in identifying issues early on to help establish an improved preventative maintenance program. Also in 2021 we have funding approved to replace sewage treatment station along Route 91 in Southeast and a project for renovations to Public Works facility in Argentia. Funding applied for and awaiting Capital Works approval in 2021 are Battery Road Storm Drainage System, Freshwater Sanitary Sewer Outfall Replacement and Station Road Storm Drainage System upgrades.



# acentia **Municipality of** -Photo: John Bruce

## COMMITTEE **STRUCTURE**

**CHAIRPERSON** EXECUTIVE **MAYOR BERNARD POWER** 

FINANCE **COUNCILLOR KAY SMITH** 

**PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY COUNCILLOR LORRAINE COLLINS** POWER

**CULTURE, TOURISM & BEAUTIFICATION COUNCILLOR NOELLA COLLINS** 

RECREATION **DEPUTY MAYOR KEITH PEARSON** 

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT &** COMMUNICATIONS **COUNCILLOR JANE HYNES** 

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT **COUNCILLOR JAMILEE FITZPATRICK** 

**COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE HELD** THE THIRD TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH. MEETINGS CAN BE **VIEWED ON YOUTUBE: TOWN OF PLACENTIA COUNCIL** 

**CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR COMPLETE STAFF LISTING** 

www.placentia.ca townofplacentia@placentia.ca @TownofPlacentia 709-227-2151

The Town of Placentia is pleased to provide this newsletter which includes municipal news, community event information and more!

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR**



Hello Fellow Residents.

Over the last four years the Town's financial position has improved significantly. At the beginning of 2017 the Town's long-term debt was approximately \$4.6M. Four years later, this debt is reduced to \$2.4M.

While reducing this debt with no increase in residential property taxes, we also invested \$4.6M on capital projects over the same period. For 2021, there is approved funding of \$4.7M scheduled for 2021 for the following projects. These include: The Placentia Water System Upgrade (\$3.5M), SCADA Water System Upgrade (\$421K), and Bilvet Retrofit and Upgrade

(\$792k). These projects are being done without any new borrowing. This is possible as property tax revenue has grown from \$3.6M in 2017 to an estimated \$5.7M (unaudited figure) in 2020.

In part, the revenue increase is from an improved relationship with the Port of Argentia. In 2019 an agreement was reached after a lengthy negotiation. In 2021, it is estimated that the agreement will generate \$471k for the Town of Placentia. The Town looks forward to a continued strong working relationship with the Port to see further growth and sustainability for both parties. With this goal in mind, earlier this year the Town partnered with the Port and applied for provincial funding for paving projects.

Since the last collective agreement with our workers, the Town has moved to a 7 day work week for Public Works Staff. The increased coverage allows us to maintain service levels during the weekend with reduction in costs and have staff available every day of the week instead of an on-call basis which provides less consistency in service levels.

The Town is continuing its efforts to secure additional funding from the Province and the Federal Government for the Placentia Wellness Centre to ensure that the project is funded at the original proportional shares. This project will open up recreation and community event opportunities for Placentia and we are looking forward to seeing it coming to fruition. The Placentia Wellness Centre will strengthen our community and with the other investments mentioned above it will make our community stronger and more viable in the future.

I would also like to take this time to thank all residents and businesses for your support and respect for public health guidelines during this pandemic. I would like to encourage all residents to register for a COVID-19 vaccine when the opportunity arises for you and to encourage family members to do the same.

Sincerely.

Bernie

**Bernard Power** 





## **TOWN OF PLACENTIA 2021** Placentia WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

#### NOTE:

Wednesdays - Dunville, Freshwater, Ferndale and Jerseyside

**Thursdays - Placentia and Southeast** 

- **Regular Garbage Collection Garbage and Recycling Collection**
- **Bulk Collection TBA**
- **Hazardous Waste Collection TBA**

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#### **WASTE COLLECTION INQUIRIES**

709-227-2151 ext. 0 publicworks@placentia.ca

#### **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

All waste must be ready for pick up by 7AM the morning of collection. Please ensure waste is covered.

#### FOX HARBOUR ROAD WASTE RECOVERY FACILITY

The WRF operated by Eastern Regional Waste Management. You can find up to date information on site hours online - www.easternregionalserviceboard.com

## **RECREATION & COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING**

#### Year in Review

2020 started great with plenty of recreational opportunities. Seniors in particular were getting out into the community to participate in various events, such as Music and Friends, Open Mic Night, St. Patrick's Day dance and various information sessions dealing with seniors issues. Most of these events were in partnership with the various businesses and groups from the region such as the Placentia Area Seniors for Seniors – PASS, the Placentia Chamber of Commerce, Placentia Area Development Association and the Royal Bank.

#### Some of the highlights were:

- Winter Carnival went back to the week-long format with great participation from the general public. Lots of new events enjoyed by all.
- The fitness room at Unity PARC became more popular with the community, averaging 15-20 users per day.

- Many of the Town's recreation facilities were given a fresh coat of paint.
- Partnership with PADA provided a Virtual Summer Recreation Program, which provided jobs and recreational opportunities for our youth and families during the summer. By all accounts, the program was very well done with a high participation rate.
- With most recreation facilities in the province shut down due to the pandemic, COVID protocols were applied to our community boardwalk to allow our residents to leave their homes during the pandemic to exercise in a safe environment.
- Playgrounds, Tennis Courts and Softball fields were reopened with many COVID protocols put in place to ensure the safety of the athletes and fans.
- Another successful project carried out by the Southeast Playground Committee, in partnership with the Town, saw the installation of a new splash pad in the existing Southeast playground.

- A 5000.00 donation was made to the Regatta Committee to aid in its operation.
- Unity PARC saw some big changes in its reopening as a result of the pandemic. Many protocols were developed in order to ensure the safety of all users.
- CO Detectors were purchased for Unity PARC and are to be installed when the arena shuts down for the season.
- A state of the art skate sharpener was purchased and receiving very positive feedback.
- Music and Friends Seniors Guitar Group reassembled to the delight of its 30+ members. All protocols are being followed.
- The Recreation Advisory Group (RAC) was reactivated. Its role is to evaluate the Town's recreation program and to make recommendations on how it can improve.
- COVID friendly Winter Carnival February 22 28, 2021.
- Modifications to the exercise room and its operation allowed it to reopen. These included the installation of an air exchanger and on-site supervision while open.

#### **Looking Ahead in 2021**

If conditions continue to improve with regard to the pandemic, we can slowly get back to the positive programming momentum we had pre-pandemic. Some of the other progress we look forward to in 2021 are as follows:

- Donation of a specialized swing in the Freshwater playground that will allow those children with physical challenges to enjoy the playground to a greater extent.
- Money has been budgeted to continue improvements to both softball fields.
- Another \$5,000 has been allocated to the Regatta Committee to aid in its operation.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The Economic Development Committee's mandate is to foster infrastructure and economic development in the Town of Placentia. The committee's goal is to reach out to all the stakeholders to help ensure that the necessary resources are in place to support sustainability and growth. With COVID-19 and the general downturn in the world economy, the Town has experienced some challenging times. But the community and in particular the business community has shown a wiliness to adapt. In 2021, we are hoping COVID-19 will be under control and see an improved economy. Given the committee mandate, we want to ensure that the hard and soft infrastructure is in place for the economic recovery and growth. Placentia is a unique community in Newfoundland and Labrador and we believe it has all the necessary elements to be a greater economic generator for not only the residents of Placentia but the province and Canada as a whole. Going forward it is important that we maintain the services that are available in our Town and even expand on them to continue to have the ability to provide financial benefit for all stakeholders. Having the Argentia Industrial Park, College of the North Atlantic, the Placentia Health Centre and other key services make Placentia an attractive place to do business.

In 2021 the committee will continue to engage key stakeholders in quarterly meetings. It is planned that we take the feedback given in these sessions to formulate the town's strategy to promote what we can offer and what we need to offer more.