



SUMMER DAY CAMP

Summer Day Camp registration is open! Available for campers aged 8-12. Learn more on page 8.



STRATFORD TOWN TALK PODCAST

Did you know the Town of Stratford has its own podcast? New episodes are released bi-weekly – subscribe today!



EXPLORE STRATFORD

Spend time this summer exploring our own backyard – check our parks, trails and beaches.



TownTalk

BUILDING THE BEST COMMUNITY POSSIBLE

WWW.TOWNOFSTRATFORD.CA

SUMMER 2024 EDITION

**Soak up the sun and make
unforgettable memories
this summer!**





MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Contact information for councillors is available on our website: www.townofstratford.ca

After a relatively mild winter, we are looking forward to better weather and a busy summer of progress for our Town. Following our initial priority setting exercise in the fall, staff and Council, after consultation with residents and stakeholders, have now established the Town's long, medium and short-term priorities, which have been reflected in the 2024/25 budget.

Council has agreed on a conceptual design of a Wellness Centre on the Community Campus property. At full buildout, this facility will address our longstanding lack of adequate recreational, cultural, and social infrastructure. We are actively pursuing Provincial and Federal funding for this new regional facility, similar to the assistance provided to other communities across PEI. In order to advance this project while maintaining our current services and programs, a modest tax increase was approved by Council as part of the 2024-25 budget. This was a very difficult decision during the current affordability issues facing many residents. We are confident, however, that the new Community Campus will be well worth it by providing much needed amenities for all, including youth, families, seniors, and newcomers.

Another top priority is to work to the extent possible within our jurisdiction at the municipal level to address the housing crisis. The Town will be receiving \$4.9 million from CMHC's Housing Accelerator Fund to facilitate and remove obstacles to assist in building adequate attainable and affordable housing. This funding positions us well for the upcoming Official Plan and Bylaw review, which will include several resident engagement opportunities. Information, analysis, and research will be provided and discussed with residents throughout this process, and residents' perspectives and opinions will be sought. I encourage you to take every opportunity to have your voice heard and included.

We look forward to the completion of the Michael Thomas Waterfront Park boardwalk project this summer. The park will provide a much-needed gathering place for passive recreation and outdoor activities. As well, the final stage of the Kelly's Pond rehabilitation project will be completed this summer, and a new water tower has been completed with connection work continuing. A number of other projects are underway including The Gray Group's development of the new Stratford downtown area. Please be patient as construction activity may create traffic delays and other inconveniences, but will ultimately result in a better, safer and more sustainable community.

I look forward to seeing residents throughout the community this summer, perhaps on the new boardwalk, relaxing at Tea Hill Park or at our annual Canada Day celebrations.

Sincerely,
Steve Ogden, Mayor

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Stay up to date on all the news, events and programs happening in the Town of Stratford.
Sign up for the Town of Stratford's bi-weekly email newsletter.

To join our mailing list go to www.townofstratford.ca, click E-Services on the menu bar and then E-newsletter to add your e-mail address to our email newsletter.



[townofstratford](https://www.facebook.com/townofstratford)



[@StratfordPEI](https://twitter.com/StratfordPEI)



[town.of.stratford](https://www.instagram.com/town.of.stratford)



[@townofstratford](https://www.youtube.com/townofstratford)

INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT



Under the Town of Stratford's Dangerous and Unightly Premises Bylaw (#22), property owners are required to upkeep and maintain their property year-round whether they live on the property or rent it out. This includes, but is not limited to, keeping the grass cut (not exceeding 8 inches in height) and ensuring waste is not left unattended on the property.

WHILE EVERY EFFORT IS MADE TO ENSURE THAT THE CONTENT IN THIS EDITION IS ACCURATE AND RELIABLE, WE CANNOT GUARANTEE IT, AS WE MAY BE REQUIRED TO MAKE CHANGES TO OUR OPERATIONS OR PROGRAMMING DUE TO FACTORS BEYOND OUR CONTROL.

FOR UPDATED INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL US AT 902-569-1995 OR FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

> Stratford Utility

SUBDIVISIONS

In Stratford, developers are required to install sewer and water systems during development, and when they are tested and approved, Stratford Utility takes over the systems. This summer, extensions are proposed in Clearview Estates, Reddin Meadows, Foxwood Flourish and McCarron Way, while several other developments are in the concept phase.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Work to add backup generators at our Bunbury Road and Kinlock/Keppoch Road sewer lift stations will continue from last fall. Contractors will also continue work on our second reservoir tower, which is expected to come online later this summer. The additional reservoir will help the Utility provide increased backup water capacity and increase fire flows for the community.



WATER & SEWER UPGRADES

One of our larger Utility projects this year is upgrading the sewer forcemain along Kinlock Road and MacKinnon Drive. The work is expected to start soon and be completed by late fall. We hope to add four additional sewer lift station backup generators at our larger stations as well as a tow-behind generator.

PLEASE NOTE:

Sump pumps cannot be connected to the municipal sewer system as stated in the Town's Water and Sewer Customer Service Regulations Bylaw. It is illegal to discharge any storm water, surface water, roof run-off, surface drainage, subsurface drainage, foundation drainage, or water used for heating or cooling into the Town's sewer system.

On the municipal water side, the Utility is planning to install additional hydrants in the core area for increased firefighting protection and upgrade our communications panels at the Pondside water station. A section of watermain at the Trans-Canada Highway/Jubilee intersection will be repaired this year as well.

Please note the Town of Stratford water system is operated and maintained to Provincial standards and water is tested by staff on a regular and required basis.

> Public Works

MAINTENANCE

Staff are busy with grass cutting, property and building maintenance, installing and relocating temporary speed humps, maintaining trails and other seasonal daily duties.

Some public works projects for this year include installing a greenhouse at Cotton Park for Town staff to begin growing plants over the winter months and the final phase of the restoration project in the Pondside watershed. The Town will also be tendering for the paving of the recreation-side parking lot at Stratford Town Centre and the gravel parking lot at Fullerton Park, and we have plans to add solar panels at the Town maintenance building and the Stratford Emergency Services Center.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

This summer contractors will extend the multi-use path on Kinlock Road from JK Beauty Lane to Stratford Road. This work will be completed in coordination with the sewer force main upgrades along Kinlock Road.

The Town will also pave the existing gravel path through the waterfront park, which will provide an alternate connection route, other than the Esso intersection, to access the Trans Canada Trail (TCT) path across the Hillsborough Bridge. If within budget, the Town also hopes to install a parking area at the waterfront to access this newly paved path. Additional seating will be installed at locations along the TCT in the Town. We have partnered again with our TCT funding partners to complete these two projects and thank them for their continued support of our Active Transportation maintenance and development plan.

SPEED SIGNS/SPEED HUMPS

Staff have been busy installing temporary speed humps throughout the town. In our ongoing effort to reduce speeding in Stratford, the Town continues to purchase speed radar signs and speed humps. Last

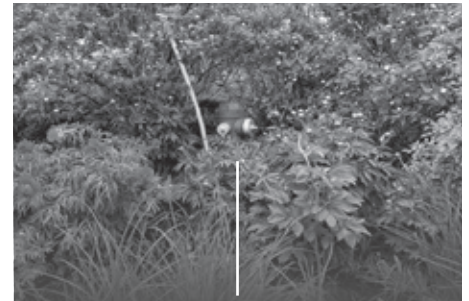
year the Town initiated a new process for requesting a temporary speed hump. A written request will need to be filled out by the person requesting the speed hump, and some guidelines must be met for final approval. Further information can be found on our website or by calling 902-569-1995.

TOWN ROADS, DITCHES, AND CULVERTS

All roads and ditches in Stratford are owned by the Province of PEI. Provincial crews are already cleaning up from winter plow, salt and storm water damage. They are also busy patching potholes and installing or replacing culverts. Please report issues related to roads in Stratford directly to the Department of Transportation for the Province of PEI.

MOTORIZED VEHICLES ARE NOT PERMITTED ON ANY TOWN OF STRATFORD TRAILS AT ANY TIME OF YEAR.

If you encounter a motorized vehicle on Town trails, please contact the RCMP to report these incidents.



FIRE HYDRANT

We have 317 fire hydrants in the Town of Stratford that form part of a complex network of pipelines and storage reservoirs in our water distribution system.

Did you know they are colour-coded based on their pressure readings? This indicates to the Utility Department and Fire Department how much flow a particular hydrant has.

Remember, **NEVER** obstruct a fire hydrant.

SPEEDING ENDANGERS EVERYONE ON THE ROAD

We ask and encourage everyone to drive responsibly. Please show respect to everyone on the road.

Residents can help the RCMP by reporting the speeder with the following information:

- time and day of the incident
- description of vehicle
- license plate number
- description of the driver

Please call the Stratford RCMP at 902-367-9300 (or 911 in an emergency).

DANGER

"Slow down, move over, think of others"

Did You Know??

All roads in Stratford are owned and maintained by the Province of PEI.

If you encounter an issue to report, please contact the Department of Transportation at 902-368-4770 or send a text message to 902-200-6649.

What types of issues can you report?

- Road snow clearing, salting or sanding
- Pot holes or other paving issues
- Traffic lights or traffic signs missing/broken (except for street name signs)
- Crosswalks
- Road blockages (trees, power lines, etc.)
- Road washouts and culvert drainage issues
- Painting of road line requests
- Damaged or missing guardrails



PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE UPDATE



DO YOU NEED A PERMIT?

Call the Town of Stratford to be sure. Staff can assist and advise you of the requirements before your project – big or small – begins!

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Should you have any questions relating to building permits or the National Building Code, please contact our Planning Department at 902-569-6255.

WHERE CAN YOU FIND BYLAW INFORMATION?

A copy of the Building Bylaw, application forms, and Fee Bylaw can be found on the Town's website, or you can pick up copies in person at the Planning Department, located within Stratford Town Centre.

> The Building Bylaw and National Building Code

In the Spring of 2024, the Town of Stratford amended the Building Bylaw, Bylaw #50, to include the adoption of the 2020 National Building Code (NBCC) and the 2020 National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings. The Building Bylaw is enforced through scheduled inspections during construction at various stages of completion. These inspections will verify work against the approved submitted plans and against the NBCC.

Any new application for a single detached development requires the following information:

- Development Application Form
- Utility Application Form
- Entrance Way Application Form
- Completed Deck Pamphlet (if using Helical Piles, an engineer stamped helical pile design is required)

- Building Plans, including floor plans, elevations, and cross-section
- Truss Package, including layout and engineer-stamped truss shop drawings
- Site Grading Plan prepared by a certified surveyor
- Letter of Authorization (if applying on behalf of the landowner)
- Any required engineering for steel beams or columns, or tall walls

*****Please note that preliminary plans will NOT be accepted*****

To ensure that your permit is ready in time for your project start date, please submit your complete application as early as possible to allow staff time to process it. Missing documents may cause delays in processing your permit.

> Development Permits

From January to March 2024, the Planning Department has issued a total of 27 development permits. The following table shows a summary of development activities between January and March 2024.

SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT PERMITS January 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024

Permit Type	No. of Permits	Estimated Value
Single Family Residential	4	\$1,705,000.00
Residential Additions, Renovations, and Demolitions	5	\$319,000.00
Semi-Detached/Duplex	2	1,150,000.00
Townhouse	1	1,000,000.00
Apartment	0	\$0
Accessory Buildings	2	\$12,000.00
Accessory Structures (pools, decks, fences)	4	\$52,500.00
Other (signage, demolition, etc.)	2	\$5,444.00
Commercial (new, renovations, additions)	7	\$1,850,000.00
Industrial (new, renovations, additions)	0	\$0
Institutional (new, renovations, additions)	0	\$0
Totals	27	\$6,093,944.00

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE UPDATE

> Official Plan Review Update



Town planning staff are finalizing a Request for Proposal (RFP) in preparation for selecting a consultant(s) to develop a Short-Term Rental Accommodations Bylaw and a Street Vendors Bylaw, both of which will be instrumental in reviewing the Town's Official Plan and Zoning and Development Bylaw. An RFP is currently being reviewed for the Official Plan and Bylaw Review to commence in the Fall of 2024.

The last full review of the Town's Official Plan and Zoning and Development Bylaw conducted simultaneously was in 2014; a full review of the Zoning and Development Bylaw occurred in 2018.

Over the past few years, there have been numerous amendments to both planning and development documents, the most significant being the Crossroads Core Area Rezoning which received final approval from the Province in 2023.

Large projects such as the Community Campus are currently underway with the main roadway connecting to Bunbury Road, and Hollis Avenue in the Stratford Business Park being finalized, as well as the new high school being constructed. Throughout the town, the construction of many forms of residential, commercial, and institutional developments are occurring as the town continues to grow and prosper.

Other projects, such as Shape Stratford and the Housing Accelerator Fund, will add to the town's diverse growth and progress, further validating

the need for a comprehensive review of the Town's Official Plan and Zoning and Development Bylaw. This will ensure that present-day activities and overall development in the town are guided by proper zoning processes, requirements, and standards to reflect the new vision for the Town through residents' input.



When buying or selling a home in Stratford, the respective lawyers will contact the Town of Stratford to transfer title on the Stratford Utility accounts.

Please note that we are unable to make changes to accounts until this information is received at the time of sale.



With another hot summer on the horizon, we urge residents to explore the FireSmart Canada program to learn how to protect your homes and properties from fires. Whether you are doing regular yard maintenance or making landscaping renovations, you can make simple choices to help protect your home from wildfires. They can be from learning what trees to avoid planting in your yard to fire-resistant vegetation and regular upkeep around your house to mitigate fire risks.

Please note that the fire season began on March 15, 2024. Remember to always check for burn restrictions for a category 1 fire (domestic brush burning). A burning permit from the Province is required for categories 2, 3 and 4 fires, and please check the Fire Weather Index for these.

FireSmart is a national program dedicated to helping Canadians understand wildfire.

Visit www.firesmartcanada.ca to learn more or contact Emily Foster, FireSmart Coordinator at (902) 368-4683 or email efoster@gov.pe.ca.



DID YOU KNOW?

Any outdoor pool with a depth of 60 cm (24 inches) or more, or with a surface area exceeding 10 square metres, whether being constructed or purchased as an inflatable kit, and that is intended for swimming/bathing, requires a development permit from the Town.

A fence of 1.8 m (6 ft.) is also required to be constructed so as to prevent unauthorized persons from entering over and under the fence. Any gate on the fence has to be self closing/self latching.



Remember to reach out to our Planning Dept. at (902) 569 6255 before you start any construction.

RECREATION, CULTURE & EVENTS



HAVE YOU TRIED OUR DISC GOLF COURSE YET?

The course starts near the Splash Pad and continues for 9 holes around the back of the Town Centre and ends near the public art piece at the entrance to the site. Discs can be signed out at the Gym Reception Desk!



LOOKING FOR A FULL BODY WORKOUT?

Try out the fitness benches! Combined these benches can help you complete 18 full body exercises, with each bench having 2 workout signs mounted next to them. The workouts are simple to follow with stick figures that guide your positioning.

> Youth Programs



STRATFORD SUMMER DAY CAMP

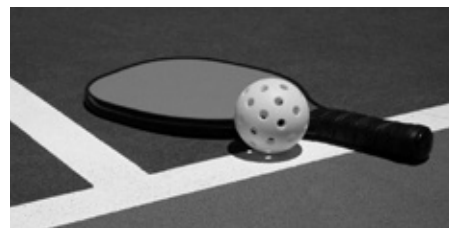
8-week summer camp
Ages 8 - 12
Max. of 25 youth per week

Each week youth will experience various activities: healthy eating, theatre, arts and crafts, sports, nature-based programs, and lots of free imaginative time. For more information, please contact the Recreation Department at 902-569-6250 or visit www.townofstratford.ca.

> Adult Programs

OUTDOOR PICKLEBALL PLAY

Outdoor Pickleball Play is available at Kinlock Tennis Courts (July - September), from Monday thru Saturday (8am - 12pm designated pickleball time or on a first come first serve basis).



PERMISSIONS TO USE TOWN FACILITIES

Groups and individuals who want to use Town facilities (which includes parks, playgrounds, and playing fields) for any reason must fill out an application and obtain permission from the recreation department. Town parks include all neighborhood parks and playgrounds as well as our major parks; Tea Hill Park, Pondside Park, Kinlock Park, Robert L. Cotton Memorial Park, and Fullerton's Creek Conservation Park. Town facilities include Stratford Emergency Services Centre, Stratford Town Centre, MacNeill Community Centre, Bunbury Rink Building and Cotton Park buildings. Town facilities are available to groups or individuals on a priority basis.

TOWN CENTRE GYMNASIUM

The Stratford Town Centre is open for Stratford residents to use seven days a week. The centre is equipped with a gymnasium, walking track, fitness centre, multi-purpose meeting rooms, change rooms, stage, and kitchen. Residents are welcome to use the fitness centre and walking track any time the building is open.

To book any of our meeting rooms or gymnasium for private use, please contact the recreation office at 902-569-6250. We ask that you please sign in and out with the gym attendants when using our facility.

Hours of Operation:

Regular hours (Sept - June)
Monday to Thursday: 6:00 am - 10:00 pm
Friday: 6:00 am - 9:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday: 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Summer hours (July - Aug)
Monday to Thursday: 6:00 am - 10:00 pm
Friday: 6:00 am - 9:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Statutory Holiday Hours:
12:00 pm - 5:00 pm



TOWN CENTRE GYM, WALKING TRACK & FITNESS CENTRE



RECREATION, CULTURE & EVENTS

> Stratford Gymnasium Track Direction and Rules

Lanes at the track are for walking and running. Directions for walking/running change daily – these are posted every day by the entrance to the track. We ask that users do not walk more than two people wide in the walking lane so that faster walkers may pass in the outside lane (running lane) when traffic allows. Indoor footwear is required.

Young children *MUST* be directly supervised by an adult if using the gymnasium track. The fitness area (equipment only) is restricted to those 15 years and older.



> Pets in the Summer

Please do not leave pets in a parked car. Parked cars can quickly reach deadly temperatures in summertime, especially when a dog's normal body temperature is around 39 degrees; just 5 minutes in the car can rise their temperature to cause irreparable brain damage or death.



SPLASH PAD

Did you know the Town of Stratford Splash Pad is operational during summer months?

Watch our social media pages to find out when the splash pad opens/closes. Remember to take a few minutes to go over the splash pad rules (installed near the entrance to the splash pad) to ensure everyone's safety.

> Scent-free

Please remember that all Town of Stratford facilities are SCENT-FREE.



PARTY PACKAGES AT THE STRATFORD YOUTH CENTRE

The Stratford Youth Centre offers party packages in 2-hour time slots on designated Saturdays and Sundays throughout the year. This program is run and staffed by older Youth Centre members (high school aged youth). Visit www.stratfordyouthcentre.com for more information.

STRATFORD DOG PARK

Equipped with agility toys, benches, and a picnic table, the Dog Park is available to all residents and their pets free of charge. Users are asked to clean up after their pets and to respect park rules.

Opening hours: 10am - 10pm

Please note that signage for dog park rules is installed at the entrance to the dog park

LET'S BIKE SAFELY!

With the warmer weather, we expect to see more people out on their bikes. Please respect the rules of the road and users.

- Remember always to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.
- Where possible, always ride on the right side of the roadway, close to the right curb.
- Be sure to ride in a single file, except when overtaking and passing another bike.
- Give extra space to large vehicles; they have larger blind spots and may not see you if you are too close.
- Never cycle down the wrong way on a one-way street.
- Install a bell on your bike to warn others you are approaching.
- ALWAYS ensure you are visible to other road users.

*Thank
you*

The Town of Stratford thanks residents and local businesses for their continued participation in our engagement activities, including the Annual Resident Survey and Annual Business Survey. Your feedback is very important to us and help guide our decision-making to make Stratford the best community possible! All reports and data from our annual surveys are posted to our website and you're more than welcome to review them!

2024 TOWN OF STRATFORD SENIOR, ADULT AND YOUTH VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

AWARD OBJECTIVES

Volunteers are - and always will be - an essential part of our community. This award is an annual award, which acknowledges and rewards a volunteer citizen who has made an outstanding contribution to our community.

The recipient will receive prizes (to be determined by Town Council) and the recipient will have his or her picture displayed at Stratford Town Center. The winner's name will also be engraved on a special trophy to honor each year's Volunteer of the Year.

ALL NOMINEES will be recognized for their volunteer efforts and will receive an official acknowledgement on behalf of the Town of Stratford.

ELIGIBILITY

Volunteering is the act of people being involved in the improvement of their surroundings. Volunteer acts can occur within a structured organization (ex. volunteering at your library) or in an informal setting (ex. raking leaves for your elderly neighbor).

Those eligible to receive this award include any individual who performs volunteer act/acts (as defined above) within the Town of Stratford community. The purpose of this award is to focus on recognizing individual citizens; however the judging committee will also accept a submission that nominates two or more people together.

SELECTION PROCESS

The Town of Stratford will oversee the award, provide title, and the way in which it is presented. A committee under the direction of the Town's Recreation Committee will select the winner.

HOW TO SEND IN A SUBMISSION

Nomination Forms can be found on the Town's web page at www.townofstratford.ca or picked up at Stratford Town Center, 234 Shakespeare Drive. Completed nomination forms may be forwarded to the Town of Stratford's Recreation, Culture & Events Department at the address below.

All submission must be signed. The annual deadline for submissions is June 3. The award will be presented annually at Town of Stratford's Canada Day celebrations.

PLEASE NOTE:

Award decisions will be selected based solely on the information provided, so it is important that all relevant information accompanies the nomination in order for the judging committee to make the best possible decision.

Submit to:
Volunteer Award Selection Committee
Town of Stratford
Recreation, Culture & Events Department

234 Shakespeare Drive
Stratford, PEI, C1B 2V8
(Or drop off at Stratford Town Centre)
Email: jpierce@townofstratford.ca



TOWN INITIATIVES

> Water Conservation

Protecting our fresh-water resources is important for sustaining our expanding community. In line with this goal, the Town of Stratford offers water conservation initiatives for residents to engage with. We have a toilet rebate program, granting residents \$50 per toilet when upgrading from a high-flow to a low-flow model, with a cap of 2 toilets per household. We also have a showerhead exchange program where residents can bring in old high-flow showerheads and receive up to 2 new low-flow showerheads free of charge. We deliver these programs in partnership with the Stratford Area Watershed Improvement Group (SAWIG).



> Erosion and Sediment Control



Controlling erosion of sediment from development sites is an ongoing issue across Prince Edward Island. Excessive amounts of sediment in watercourses negatively affect water quality, the health of aquatic organisms, and can cause costly restoration projects for future generations. The Town of Stratford, in partnership with the Stratford Area Watershed Improvement Group (SAWIG), has created a set of guidelines and a brochure to inform developers of best practices for erosion and sediment control structures and methods. We have also developed 2 checklists to be used before construction and regularly throughout the development process, especially before heavy rain events. These resources are available on our website.

> Results Matter

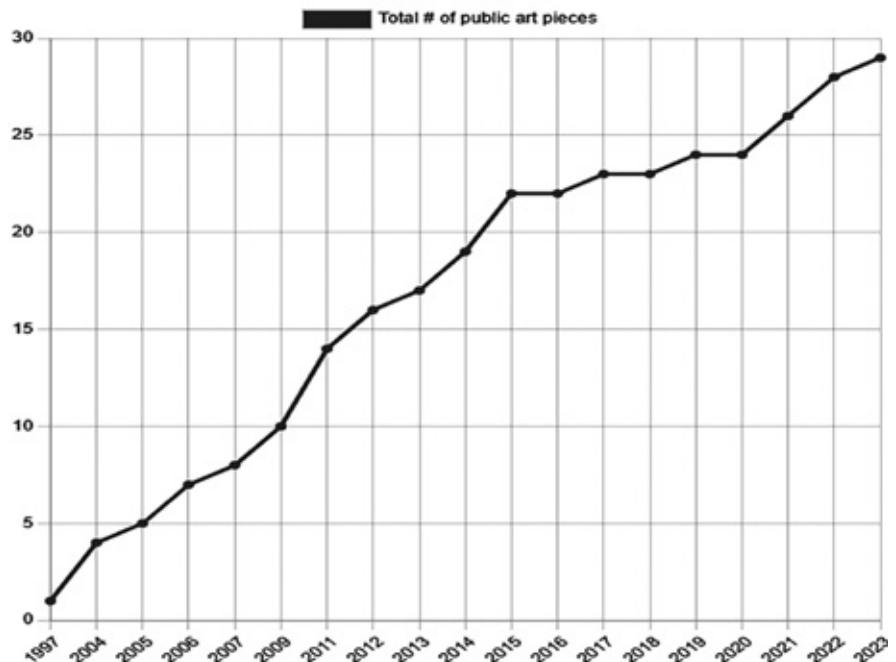
This spring, the Town of Stratford introduced its performance reporting platform, Results Matter. This performance management system, Sustainable Stratford – Results Matter, was developed to ensure that the work carried out by staff and Council aligns with the Town's sustainability vision. It measures the Town's performance, ensuring accountability to residents and stakeholders. Comprising of 15 high-level strategic objectives across four sustainability perspectives, the initiatives for each of these objectives,

and their respective key performance indicators (KPIs), this plan tracks performance and progress across Town projects and initiatives.

To find out more about Town performance and project progress, visit www.resultsmatter.townofstratford.ca.

Did you know that as at year-end 2023, the Town of Stratford had a total of 29 public art pieces installed in the community? These include artworks that were purchased, commissioned, and donated.

PUBLIC ART PIECES INSTALLED IN THE COMMUNITY



STRATFORD DOG LICENSING



Residents are required to annually register their dogs through the Dog Licensing Program, which runs from June 1 to May 31.

You can complete the Dog License form online (available at www.townofstratford.ca) and send it by email to: abulger@townofstratford.ca or register in person at Stratford Town Centre Offices or the PEI Humane Society.

GARDENING TIPS FROM THE TOWN'S HORTICULTURIST



Lawn care, no matter the season, is equally important. Ideally, we want to achieve a deep green turf with little to no weeds. Like all perennials, grass needs proper maintenance, feeding, and sometimes weeding each season. There are also certain types of grass varieties that are more suited to specific growing conditions, such as whether your location is set up for sun or shade.

When you mow your lawn, keep the blade sharp and clean and properly maintain your mower right from the start. The perfect height to promote healthy turf is 2.5-3-inch height. It may seem long, but the longer the blade, the more it will suppress weed growth.

We typically do not need to water our lawns here on PEI as we generally receive at least one inch of rainwater per week. Rainwater is the ideal type of watering our lawns prefer temperature-wise, saving energy and water utilization. You can also invest in a rain gauge to be sure how much rain you receive.

The first step in caring for your lawn in the spring is to either rake or dethatch. This basically means removing any dead or decaying material that had

been left from overgrowth from the fall and passed during the winter. By removing this matter, new grass blades will easily emerge and eliminate the risk of pests and disease that generally begins in early spring. It is best to wait until your ground soil is dry before raking to eliminate compaction on your lawn and reduce the dispersing of new natural grass re-seeding.

Have you ever heard or thought of lawn aeration? Lawn aeration allows proper air circulation, promotes a well-drained turf, and reduces compaction. You can rent these at your garden centre if you don't own a lawn aerator. They are easy to use, like pushing a lawn mower. An aerator pulls small sod plugs about an inch in length from your soil and lays them on top of your turf. This process will reduce the compaction and improve your lawn's drainage capabilities. Leaving the plugs on your lawn adds an extra layer of nitrogen naturally. It may take 1-2 weeks for the plugs to break down, but if you are not concerned about the aesthetics of your lawn, your grass will end up looking better in the "lawn" run. You can do this in mid-spring, but if you don't have the time, you can even do this in late summer/early fall.

Next is to supplement with grass seed, also known as over-seeding. As mentioned, choose the seed suited for your light conditions, whether shade or full sun. The aerated holes will enable the seed to disperse to the proper depth in your soil and provide good root establishment. The ideal time to perform this lawn care regime on PEI is mid to late May to allow the lawn to dry up from the winter and before it is over-run with annual and perennial weeds. However, it can also be carried out in late summer or early fall if you cannot get to it in the spring.

For those unsure about applying lime or fertilizer, a soil analysis will take the guesswork out of your lawn regime and prevent turf burn. Carrying out a soil analysis is an excellent investment to learn how to amend your soil at a low cost. All you need to do is take approximately a cup of soil around your property, put it in a sterile bag and drop it off at your local soil analysis lab. Within a week, you will have the results with the proper recommendations on how to amend your lawn.

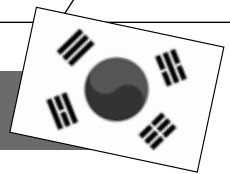
You can also feed your lawn with compost and light grass clippings that provide natural nutrients. Continually scouting your lawn for pests and diseases will also minimize further damage.

These few steps are a good place to start your lawn care routine. If you choose to do just part of it this coming season, start with your front lawn, as this will add to the curb appeal of your landscape.

Remember, gardening is all season and doesn't happen in one day!

DEALING WITH INVASIVE SPECIES

Getting ready for the planting season? If you are thinking of transplanting a plant from natural areas or digging up one from a friend or neighbour's garden, be sure to first check that you are not spreading one of PEI's invasive species. See a list at www.peiinvasives.ca.



DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

This section is brought to you by the Town of Stratford's Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

*Town of Stratford is a welcoming and inclusive community, and in this edition of Town Talk, we would like to recognize our **South Korean** community members and celebrate their rich culture.*

Although South Korea is 100 times smaller than Canada in land size, it has more than 50 million people living with a rich history and culture. South Korea witnessed a tumultuous period in modern history—the Korean War (1950 – 1953), which divided the peninsula into two nations. Since then, South Korea recovered to become a global exporter of culture and entertainment.

Here are some interesting facts about Korean culture and customs, along with some great conversation starters:

- South Korea is a society that values collective needs over individual ones. Koreans deeply respect elders and hierarchy, where even a one-year age difference commands respect. Similarly, the eldest person at the table begins eating first, followed by others. The standard greeting of “*annyeonghaseyo*” (hello) is often accompanied by a bow, and the deeper the bow, the more respect it communicates. Other customs, such as removing shoes indoors and using two hands for giving and receiving things, are embedded in Korean culture.
- Did you know that, unlike many other countries, South Korea has no official religion? 60% of the population identifies themselves as non-religious, and those who do either follow Christianity or Buddhism.
- Traditionally, Koreans use both chopsticks and a spoon for meals. Chopsticks are typically used for savoury dishes, while the spoon is used for rice and soup. Pointing with your chopsticks or lifting a bowl is considered impolite in Korea.

- Did you know Korea has its own writing system and alphabet, called *Hangeul*? It consists of letters inspired by the shapes formed when pronouncing the word.



- South Korean cuisine is a diverse and vibrant mix of flavours, textures, and colours. For example, *kimchi*, a spicy fermented cabbage side dish, is a staple in Korean food culture, with over 100 different types made from a variety of sauces and ingredients. Another popular dish is *bibimbap*, a colourful mix of rice, vegetables, and meat. As for street food, *tteokbokki*, popular with the younger crowd, is made with stir-fried rice cakes and a Korean chilli paste called *gochujang*.
- Did you know that almost half of all Koreans are called Lee, Park, or Kim? In earlier times, these names were associated with those of prestige, and when it became the norm to have a surname, they emerged as the most popular ones.

- Most holidays in Korea are family-oriented, with *Seollal* (Korean New Year) and *Chuseok* (mid-autumn celebration of harvest) being the most significant traditional holidays. On these days, many Koreans wear traditional clothing called *hanbok*, prepare unique dishes like *songpyeon* (half-moon shaped rice cakes) and *tteokguk* (Korean rice cake soup), and enjoy traditional family games.

- Fun fact: Koreans will always be a year (or two) older than you! In Korea, everyone is already one year old at birth. Additionally, on New Year's Day, everyone simultaneously turns a year older!

Our THANKS to Kim Taewoo for contributing to this article!



Good neighbours make the best neighbours!

Did you know we regularly get calls about neighbourly issues?

Our first step is to encourage neighbours to talk through these with one another. Often times a simple, polite conversation can see it resolved easily.

Our best tip: Be sure to meet your neighbours to make these conversations even easier!

Do you know your neighbours?

If not, commit to introducing yourself this week – neighbours look after one another and can lend a helping hand too when you need one!



COMMUNITY PROJECTS



> Shape Stratford

The Town of Stratford has been engaging with community partners including residents, developers, community organizations, stakeholders and others, through the Shape Stratford project. Over the past 18 months Shape Stratford has brought people together to have conversations about our growing community. Through these

conversations, research and analysis, reports, data collection, survey, and so much more, we have been able to put together a picture of the current situation and where we might be headed.

The Shape Stratford project has set the Town up for a natural transition into the Housing Accelerator Fund, including laying some of the groundwork with things like the Growth Management Strategy. As the Town continues to engage with residents on important topics related to housing, please ensure you are a part of the conversation alongside us. We truly want to hear from residents as we continue to *build the best community possible!*



> Housing Accelerator Fund

On March 14, 2024, the Honorable Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food and representative of the Constituency of Cardigan, officially announced that the Federal Government, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and the Town of Stratford have entered into an agreement, called the Housing Accelerator Fund, to provide the Town with a funding contribution of \$4.9 Million to make systematic changes to the current development regulations to remove barriers and promote new housing growth to meet the increase in population.

The Town has several initiatives that will focus on the amendment to the current Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw, that will encourage new innovative housing solutions and more efficient use of our land. Other initiatives will see the implementation of a new online e-permit system to streamline applications and process times and for a set of Pre-Approved Housing Plans that will be cost-effective for non-profit organizations and small developers. The updates and implementations of these initiatives will be coordinated over the next three years.

What does density bring to a community?

- Increased variety of community services**
- Ability to protect the environment**
- Cost savings on infrastructure to the community**
- More publicly available open space and parkland**
- Creation of living environments such as landscape and public facilities**
- More options for residents to live in the community no matter their stage, age or financial wellbeing**
- Reduced reliance on automobiles with an increase to active transportation use**
- More access to businesses and services in your community**

Source: Stantec

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

BUILD YOUR TOWN

Ever wanted to take on a developer's role for a short while?

This is your chance! Visit the 'Build your Town' page on the Shape Stratford website to imagine your own small development. What would you build? And how do your choices impact building costs? Will you pass those on to the residents or will you manage to find a balance?

Try this fun interactive simulation to find out what challenges and decisions developers need to make to bring housing to communities.

> Community Campus

The past year has been a very exciting one on the Community Campus property. The Province of PEI began construction of the new high school in January of 2024, and the site is continuing to take shape. We have also rough graded several sports fields with the intention of having them opened for next season. The small expansion to the business park at the entrance to the Community Campus off of Hollis Avenue is expected to be able to have the lots sold this year.



The main street running through the Community Campus from Bunbury Road to Hollis Avenue was named John Joe Sark Drive and will become a public road in 2024.

The Town continues to explore funding partnerships with the Provincial and Federal governments to develop a multi-use community and wellness centre. This facility is planned to include amenities such as a rink, indoor multi-use field, space for programming for youth, culture venues, and more. The Community Campus is a very exciting project in our community that will benefit residents for many years to come. We look forward to a community open house this year, where further plans will be shared.

> Michael Thomas Waterfront Park



Work is underway at the Michael Thomas Waterfront Park, where we expect to open the new wooden boardwalk and lookouts this summer. This phase of the park development will allow residents to access and enjoy the park like never before – whether sitting on a lookout enjoying the mid-afternoon view or a summer sunset, we know this park will become a popular gathering point for residents.

Further phases are planned for development in the future as funding permits. These may include amenities like a pavilion for small businesses such as a farmers market, ice cream retailer, etc., further trails and walkways on the property, picnic areas, a playground, washroom facilities, and more. We look forward to sharing more information with you as these phases are developed. You can also view the full plan on our website.



JENN REDMOND, MLA

IT'S TIME TO GET YOUR RAIN BARREL BACK OUT FOR THE SUMMER SEASON!

Rain barrels are a great investment when it comes to capturing and recycling water.

Place one beneath your downspout – 1000 sq ft of roof surface can collect 420 gallons of water in inch of rainfall!



Summer is in the air! I hope everyone had a great winter and spring season and are looking forward to a wonderful warm summer ahead.

It has been a great first year working as your MLA! I have thoroughly enjoyed getting better acquainted with the residents of Mermaid Stratford. As I reflect, there have been great learnings, great conversations, and great experiences over this past year, and I look forward to many more ahead. Through meeting with residents, I have heard the need for continuous development for active transportation, primary healthcare support, and additional support for more affordable living. I am committed to working with you and our government to move these concerns into actionable support. I heard from several residents on how they were able to access great support through some of our navigator programs and I wanted to share some of those resources with those that may want to inquire further.

PEI Housing Navigator

Telephone: (902) 368-5770
housing@gov.pe.ca

Energy Efficient Equipment Rebates

Telephone: 1-877-734-6336
efficiencypei@gov.pe.ca

Seniors Navigator

Telephone:
(902) 213-5820 / 1-866-770-0588
seniors@gov.pe.ca

Within my role as Minister of Workforce, Advanced Learning and Population, I have spent much of the last number

of months working with my department on areas of immigration, population, post-secondary pressures and opportunities, and labour workforce needs. This has been a year filled with great knowledge gathering and forward planning development that will support Islanders for a thriving future. I am continuing to focus on engaging and meeting with stakeholder groups and identifying needed support to respond to pressures they are facing in our ever-changing society. Continuing to foster these relationships is very important and will help guide our policies and priorities while building essential working relationships.

Our District 5 Executive team has been established and we are working together on a community events plan to ensure we have opportunities to gather. Please check out my MLA page on Facebook or reach out any time by phone or email.

I look forward to meeting with residents and attending upcoming summer community events. We are very fortunate to live in a community that values the importance of community, family, and friendship and offers some many great occasions to gather and connect. I am energized by people, and we are surrounded by great people!

Please feel free to reach out anytime by email (jlredmondmla@assembly.pe.ca) or phone at 902-213-9518. I am here to help support this great community.

Your voice matters and I will be your strong voice with a purpose - to advocate for you and with you, to make Mermaid-Stratford, and our province, even better.

Let's make great things happen together! Thank you!

Sincerely,
Jenn Redmond

**Hon. Jenn Redmond,
MLA District 5 Mermaid-Stratford**

**jlredmondmla@assembly.pe.ca
902-213-3577**

JILL BURRIDGE, MLA



Happy Spring everyone!

One year. Time has flown since the 2023 election, and it isn't lost on me that the next three will go just as quickly.

To continue building stronger connections with constituents this year, I have a couple of ideas I would like to launch:

- **Pop Up District Office:** We are seeing more people drop by the district office in Stratford Town Centre, which has been fantastic. I encourage more to do so and to build on this, we are hoping to do some 'pop-up district offices,' where we come to you this spring/summer. Please contact us if you are interested.
- **Email Distribution List:** A couple of residents have brought up an email list so I can share news and updates. They, like many others, are reducing their social media usage and as a result, may miss information that is shared. This communication would be short, timely, targeted news that I would consider pertinent to District 6. If you are interested in joining an email list – please reach out to us on this as well.

The priorities of this government remain focused on healthcare, housing, and affordability. We continue to invest time and money in these key objectives. Further to this, I know a concern of many in our community is population growth. In February, we reduced our allotted annual federal immigration nominations by 25% for 2024. The remaining 75% of nominations will be redistributed with a strong emphasis on health care, trades, childcare, and other key industries facing labour shortages. This will relieve pressures on public services and infrastructure moving forward.

I will take a moment here to wish everyone a great Spring/Summer. I look forward to connecting with you over the summer months.



Again, feel free to reach out to me or my assistant Danielle Sobey on any of the above items. Danielle is also in the district office Monday to Friday from 9-3. I am in the district office on Mondays. Please set up an appointment or drop by anytime.

E: jsburridgemla@assembly.pe.ca
E: danielleesobey@gov.pe.ca
Telephone: 902-213-2297

Sincerely,
Jill Burrige

Hon. Jill Burrige,
MLA District 6 Stratford-Keppoch
jsburridgemla@assembly.pe.ca
902-368-4050

FEED THE BEES

Often considered a weed,
we ask residents
to consider not digging up
or spraying
dandelions as they
are an important food
source for bees through
May and June.



Consider extending
the period between
mowing during these
months while
staying within the
Town of Stratford's
Bylaw, and keeping
grass under 8" tall.

STRATFORD AREA WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT GROUP



2024 HIGHLIGHTS



THANK YOU to Our Funders and Supporters!

The PEI Watershed Management Fund, Town of Stratford, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Nature Smart Climate Solutions, Canada Summer Jobs, PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund, SkillsPEI, Jobs For Youth, PEI Aquaculture Alliance, PEI Watershed Alliance, and the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI ...as well as all our generous contributors who have supported us throughout the years!

SAVE THE DATE

Annual General Meeting
May 15th, 2024

(Tentative) Tree Day
May 18th, 2024



SAWIG is a not-for-profit group dedicated to preserving and enhancing the Stratford Area's diverse landscape and fostering interest and participation in watershed planning.

> New Interpretive Signs

Thanks to the PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund (WCF), SAWIG staff are gearing up for an educational spring season with the creation of new interpretive signs. These signs are focusing on the importance of pollinators, winter track identification, and other animal signs. Through engaging visuals and informative content, they aim to raise awareness about the diverse wildlife and essential pollinator species that inhabit the area.



Keep an eye out this spring season at Fullerton's Creek Conservation Park, Bunbury Community Gardens, and Cotton Park for these new interpretive signs!

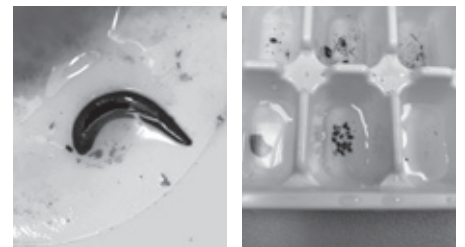
> Water School

From March 5th to March 20th, SAWIG, the Town of Stratford, City of Charlottetown, Ellen's Creek Watershed Group, and Winter River-Tracadie Bay Watershed teamed up

to hold our annual educational program. Grade 5 students from Stratford, Charlottetown, and Cornwall, engaged in hands-on activities that cover topics of water conservation, usage, and the wonders of watersheds. Thanks to the WCF, we had the opportunity to enhance Water School by introducing a new hands-on coastal and ecological model. Once again, Water School was a resounding success this year and we hope this program continues to grow all across the island!

> Macroinvertebrate Sampling

Thanks to the support of Environment and Climate Change Canada, SAWIG is able to conduct macroinvertebrate sampling in the summer. This process involves collecting small invertebrates using equipment like dip nets or kick nets. Species found include insects, crustaceans, and mollusks, from freshwater habitats. These specimens are then sorted and identified using taxonomic keys and microscopes. By analyzing the abundance and distribution of different macroinvertebrate taxa, staff can assess water quality, as certain species serve as indicators of environmental conditions and pollution levels.



If you'd like to learn more about SAWIG's projects, you can find us here:

✉ stratfordwater@gmail.com

🌐 www.stratfordwater.com

📍 Stratford Area Watershed

☎ (902) 367-3605

📷 @stratfordwatershed



RCMP IN STRATFORD

As the warmer days and longer nights of summer arrive across PEI, we are all excited about what Summer will bring! But it's also a great time to remember some super simple safety practices that will make this great season even more memorable. In this edition, PEI RCMP ask you to keep in mind 4 key areas for a safe Summer – your home or cottage, your car, your pool, and let's not forget our furry friends!

1. HOME/COTTAGE SAFETY:

- Ensure all windows and doors are securely locked when leaving your home or cottage, even if it's just for a short period.
- Consider installing motion-sensor lights around your property to deter potential intruders, you might also consider investing in a home security system for added protection.
- If you're going away for an extended period, ask a trusted neighbor or friend to check on your property regularly and collect any mail or newspapers to prevent the appearance of an empty house.

2. CAR SAFETY FOR ROAD TRIPS:

- Before embarking on a road trip, ensure your vehicle is properly maintained by checking the tire pressure, brakes, fluids, and lights.
- Pack an emergency kit including water, non-perishable snacks, a flashlight, a first aid kit, jumper cables, and a map or GPS device.
- Plan your route in advance and share it with someone you trust. Consider downloading a navigation app that provides real-time traffic updates and alternate routes.

3. POOL SAFETY:

- Town of Stratford bylaws require a fence around your pool with a self-closing, self-latching gate to prevent unauthorized access.
- Keep pool toys and floats away from the pool when not in use to prevent temptation for children to enter the pool area unsupervised.
- Learn CPR and basic water rescue skills to be prepared in case of an emergency.

4. PET SAFETY IN THE SUMMER:

- Never leave pets unattended in a parked car, even for a short period, as temperatures can quickly rise to dangerous levels.
- Provide access to shade and plenty of fresh water for outdoor pets, and avoid exercising them during the hottest parts of the day.
- Be aware of signs of heatstroke in pets, including excessive panting, lethargy, drooling, and vomiting. If you suspect heatstroke, seek veterinary care immediately.

By sharing these reminders with the public, PEI RCMP hope everyone has a safer and more enjoyable summer season!



CITIZENS On Patrol

Citizens on Patrol-Stratford (COPS) is a volunteer program designed to encourage residents of Stratford to contribute to the safety of their community. Volunteers are proud to support the excellent work of RCMP members in Stratford, by serving as an "extra set of eyes and ears" and reporting any observed suspicious activity. Committed to crime prevention, COPS volunteers patrol by car, in pairs, in residential and business areas for one or two three-hour shifts a month on Friday and Saturday nights. COPS will also patrol on occasions such as prom nights and Halloween, and support Town of Stratford events and safety initiatives.

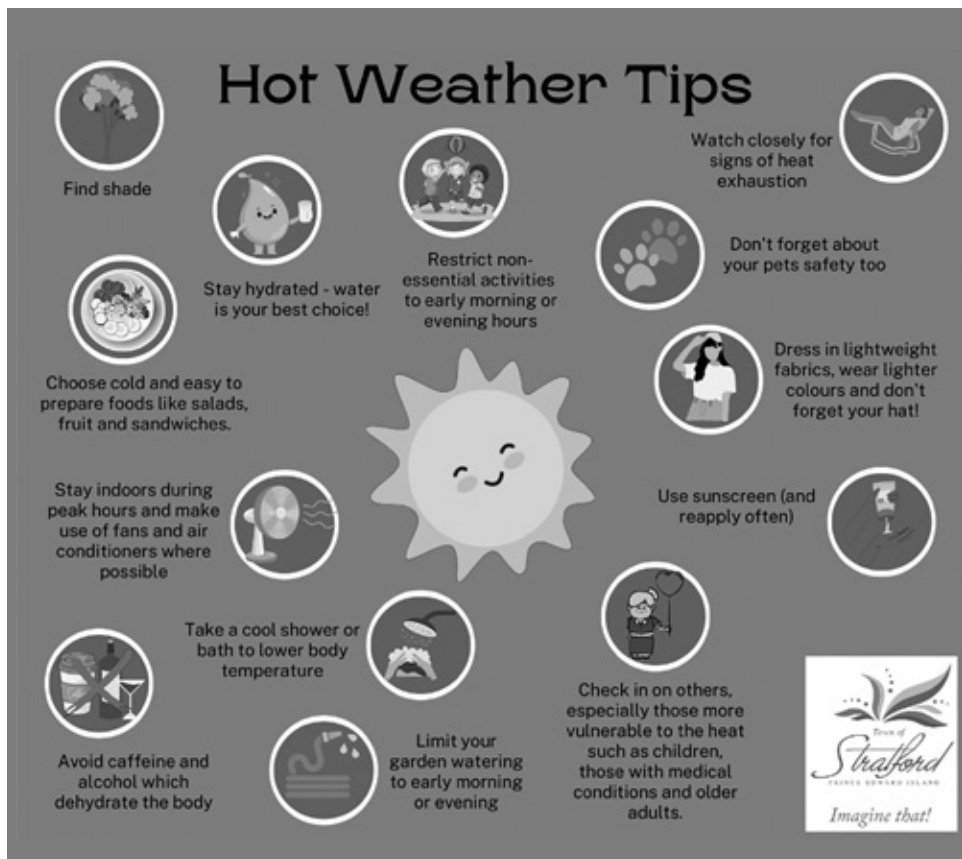
To be eligible to participate in the program, COPS volunteers must be at least eighteen years of age, undergo a criminal record check, and complete an orientation of two evenings of supervised patrolling. If you're interested in learning more or would like to go for a ride-along with volunteers to experience a shift, visit our website at

stratfordcop.wordpress.com

or email us at

copstratford@gmail.com

You can also follow us on Twitter @COP_Stratford



STRATFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY



HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday:	Closed
Tuesday:	9:30am - 8:30pm
Wednesday:	9:30am - 8:30pm
Thursday:	9:30am - 5:30pm
Friday:	9:30am - 5:30pm
Saturday:	9:30am - 5:30pm
Sunday:	Closed

It's a great time to discover Libby, the Overdrive app that gives you access to our ebook and audiobook collection. Visit peipls.overdrive.com/ to check out some of the thousands of titles that are available without a trip to the library!

Get your **FREE** library card in person, or online anytime!

Did you know you can borrow radon detectors, light therapy lamps, mental health information kits, instruments, a telescope and more at the library?

Check out our Facebook page "**PEI Public Library Service**" or website "**library.pe.ca**" for event details, collection information, book recommendations and so much more!

> Library Events (In-Person events, starting Summer of 2024)

Weekly Nature Club • Ages 6-12
Stories and nature-themed activities in the beautiful parks of Stratford. Registration required. Call the library for more information and to register.

Once Upon a Park:

Stories around Stratford • All ages
Discover new settings and join us for stories in the wild! New location each week - call to find out where to meet us! Meet at the library in case of rain.

Wiggle, Giggle, Read • Ages 0-3
Songs and rhymes for babies and toddlers. A gentle way to introduce little ones to the library.

Family Storytime • Ages 3-5
Stories, songs, and rhymes for kids and their grown-ups!

STEAM fun for everyone • Ages 6-12
New experiments, activities and fun every week! Registration required. Call the library for more information and to register.

And more! Ask about our program details or register by calling 902-569-7441, email stratford@gov.pe.ca, or drop in for a chat!

STRATFORD BUSINESS



The Town of Stratford is pleased to welcome many new businesses over the past few months. Please support businesses in our community whenever you get a chance as you shop, play, and explore!

- **JustJoes Stratford**
- **PEI Cannabis**
- **Pizza Hut Stratford**

> Town of Stratford Summer Office Hours



Town offices will open from 8am to 4pm, Monday through Friday, starting Monday June 3rd and ending Friday, September 27th.

Think Local.
Spend it here to keep it here.

THINK!
STRATFORD

STRATFORD AND AREA LIONS CLUB

Welcome to summer from the Stratford and Area Lions Club!



We hope you have had a chance to stop at our building at the Stratford roundabout to get some tasty, fresh-cooked market lobsters. We will continue to cook fresh-caught market lobsters until Father's Day weekend if you want to pick some. Remember, if you see the amber light flashing, we are open!

We have several ongoing events at the Cotton Center on Bunbury Road throughout the year. For those who enjoy playing cards, we have weekly crib play on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Give it a try—you may end up with the best hand and leave with extra cash in your pocket! The club also hosts a monthly Ceilidh every second Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Grab a few friends for a toe-tapping good time with a great lineup of local talent.

Our Canada Day pancake breakfast is back and an excellent way to start your holiday! The pancake breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. at the Stratford Town Centre. We look forward to a great turnout from the community once again this year. Be sure to drop by Tea Hill Park in the afternoon to enjoy Canada Day festivities and entertainment. Once again, our members will be BBQing complimentary hot dogs on behalf of the Town of Stratford.

This year we will host a new project called the PetValu Walk for Dog Guides on Saturday, August 31, at Stratford Town Center. The walk will begin at 11 a.m. with online pre-registration. To register, please email us at stratfordpeidogguides@gmail.com. The Lions Foundation of Canada Dog

Guides trains dogs for those who need them. The Foundation provides highly trained Dog Guides at no cost to qualified applicants across Canada.

Our motto is "We serve." - This past year, our club members racked up an excess of 5000 volunteer hours in our community. They donated over \$25,000 to a broad spectrum of local worthy causes, ranging from individuals needing medical travel aid to local children's sports teams to the hospital equipment campaign. We welcome you to look at the list of causes posted at our building when picking lobster or ask for more information from the Lions serving you! If you or someone you know in the Stratford area needs assistance, please email us at stratford.area.lions@hotmail.com or contact any Lions member.

The Lions year starts on July 1, and 2024/25 will be a remarkable year. We will be celebrating 50 years of service, and to kick off this exciting milestone, we will be inducting an all-women executive. We welcome Michele Beaton as president, Bev Aylesworth as secretary, and Mae Bovyer as treasurer.

Our club is actively recruiting new members. Please contact any Lions member to chat about becoming a Lion. Trust us, you can expect to feel an overwhelming sense of self-satisfaction, generosity, and pride when you know YOUR contribution helped to make a difference in your community—and all while having FUN doing it! Contact us any time at stratford.area.lions@hotmail.com or message us on Facebook (Stratford and Area Lions Club). We would love to hear from you!

Respectfully submitted by
Mae Bovyer, Club Secretary



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The Stratford Community Seniors Complex, located on Mutch Drive, is owned and operated by the Town of Stratford, through an operating agreement with CMHC. The building includes 15 apartment units which are rented to low-income seniors. The Town maintains an active wait list which is used when units become available. The application form is available on the Town's website or by email koconnell@townofstratford.ca.



COMMUNITY GROUPS

> Go!PEI



A community-based program that encourages Islanders to get active and eat healthy! Go!PEI provides programming in all 7 partnered communities across Prince Edward Island to support Islanders in making a healthy lifestyle change. The five main pillars of Go!PEI include walking, running, biking, hiking and healthy eating. We are currently recruiting volunteers who wish to get involved with GO PEI in program delivery. Please contact Rachel Arsenault at arsenault@townofstratford.ca



> Big Brothers Big Sisters of PEI

What if you could take a recess from your busy life and help a child succeed at the same time? Spend an hour a week with a child at their school helping them reach their full potential. You can build a child's self-esteem and confidence while having fun playing games, making crafts, or just chatting. Mentors of all ages are needed in the Stratford area, so volunteer today! To find out more, find us online at www.bbbs-spei.ca, email info@bbbspei.ca or call 902-569-KIDS.

> Stratford Community School



For any questions or information about the next Stratford Community School in Fall 2024, please contact Kathy Livingstone at (902) 569-3098 or stratfordcommunityschool@gmail.com.

> Canadian Tire Jump Start



Canadian Tire Jump Start is a charitable program created by the Canadian Tire Jump Start Charities to help kids in need (ages 4 to 18), participate in organized sport and recreation programs. Canadian Tire Jump Start helps by providing funds to help offset the cost of registration fees and equipment for recreation like swim passes, bowling passes, dance lessons, Scouts and Girl Guides, etc.

To apply, please contact one of the following organizations: Kidsport PEI at (902) 368-4110 or Recreation PEI at (902) 892-6445 or visit <http://jumpstart.canadiantire.ca/en.html>

> Kidsport Fund



The Kidsport Fund is a program offered through Sport PEI to ensure that no child is left out of organized sport due to lack of finances. For more information or to apply, call 902-368-4110 or 1-800-247-6712. Visit <http://www.kidsport-canada.ca/prince-edward-island/> or drop into the Sport PEI Office at 40, Enman Crescent in Charlottetown.



> Special Olympics PEI

Special Olympics PEI is a non-profit, charitable, sport organization. We provide year-round opportunities for individuals with an intellectual disability to participate in sport. Programs are available for athletes of all ages (starting as young as 2 years old) and abilities, in either the Community Sport Program stream (non-competitive) or the Competitive Sport Program stream (various sports offered). If you or someone you know is interested in getting involved as an athlete, coach or volunteer, or for more information, contact us at our Charlottetown office at (902) 368-8919 or by email at sopei@sopei.com or check out our website at www.sopei.com.

> Stratford Scout Group

Our mission is to help develop well rounded youth and better prepare them for success in the world. We do this by following the Scout Method which uses non-formal educational methods to engage youth in the process of their own development, giving them program activities, guidance, and tools to help them become self-reliant, confident, caring, responsible and committed to the world around them. For more information, please visit www.scouts.ca or contact Steve Ellis at peislander1@hotmail.com or 902-218-4885.



We are also in need of volunteers to help at our meetings. If you have a love of the outdoors and/or a love of working with youth we would love to have you! To register a Scout or to volunteer visit: www.myscouts.ca

COMMUNITY GROUPS



> Seniors College of Prince Edward Island

Retired or newly retired? Consider joining Seniors College of Prince Edward Island to meet new people and learn new things in a fun, safe space.

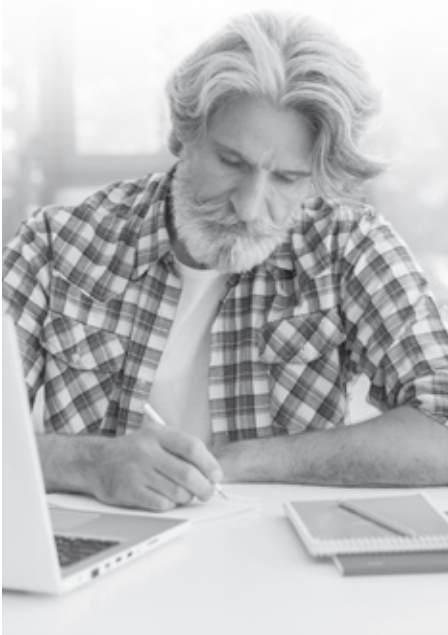
For an annual fee of \$170, anyone over 50 can enjoy an unlimited array of courses spanning three semesters. Go to www.seniorscollege.ca to see current course offerings, with new courses added yearly. Registration for the next season of classes opens Wednesday, September 4th, at 9:00 a.m.

Any questions? Contact us at seniorscollege@upe.ca.

> Support Group

Pulmonary fibrosis has a support group for anyone dealing with this disease.

We meet on the second Sunday of each month at 1pm at the Stratford Town Centre. Please feel free to call 902-626-7014 for more information.



> Mayflower Seniors Club

The Mayflower Senior's Club has completed their meetings until September. We meet on the second Monday of the month, from September to June, at 1:30 p.m. We try to have a guest speaker come in for a presentation at those meetings. This past year, we had Melanie Melanson, Senior Navigator, come in and speak to us about the various programs they offer. Lisa Dollar, Cultural Inclusion Trainer, was in to speak about the Immigrant & Refugee Services Association on Prince Edward Island. Gavin Moore from the R.C.M.P. talked to our group about fraud and scams. Our last speaker of the year was Heidi Wood from the Town of Stratford who spoke on gardening. All speakers were excellent and provided the group with helpful information. We plan to have more speakers beginning in October.

One of the highlights this past year was our Valentine's Day Lunch. The Mayflower Senior's Club received a \$250 grant from the P.E.I.S.C.F. for entertainment and speakers.

Therefore, after our meeting in February, we enjoyed the entertainment provided by Cliff Martin and Carmen Hallman and some pizza for lunch.

We are hoping to receive two grants from the Seniors' Secretariat. One of the grants will be used to go on two bus trips; one to the Western end of the island and the second to the Eastern end. These trips will be called Expedition West and Expedition East. The second grant will be used to put on a Wellness Clinic over two days.

Many activities occur during the year in the Mayflower Room at the Robert Cotton Center. On Monday, there are crafts in the morning and lawn bowling in the afternoon. Tuesday is 45's in the afternoon. On Wednesday evening, the Lion's Club has cribbage. On Thursday, we have games at 1:30 p.m., and we offer a variety of board or card games. In the evening, Cliff Martin and a group have a guitar jam. Friday evening is crokinole and the Lion's Club holds a ceilidh every second Sunday of the month. In the fall, we hope to have Chair Yoga offered. The Mayflower Senior's Club holds a Christmas Lunch meeting in December and a final Lunch meeting in June.

All seniors aged 55+ are welcome to join our club.

> Stratford Community Fridge

The Stratford Community Fridge is operated by Gifts from the Heart with current operating hours for donations and use from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm (subject to change). Please inquire about volunteering or other related questions to (902) 628-6871.



HEALTH & WELLNESS

**WE OFFER A
VARIETY OF WAYS FOR
YOU TO PAY YOUR
STRATFORD UTILITY
BILL INCLUDING:**

**THROUGH YOUR
PERSONAL ONLINE
BANKING**

**IN-PERSON AT ANY
CHARTERED BANK**

**THROUGH E-BILLING
(BY USING YOUR
CREDIT CARD ONLINE)**

**IN-PERSON DURING
OFFICE HOURS
AT THE STRATFORD
TOWN CENTRE**

**AFTER HOURS,
CHEQUES CAN BE
DROPPED OFF IN A
SEALED ENVELOPE
USING THE BLACK
MAILBOX LOCATED
OUTSIDE OF OUR MAIN
OFFICE DOORS.**

MAIL IN A CHEQUE

**BY CREDIT CARD OVER
THE TELEPHONE
AT 902-569-1995**

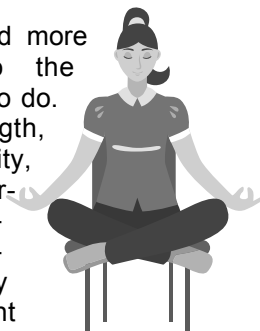
> Island Karate Club

Our classes are on Monday and Thursday nights at the Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Hall in Stratford (145 Stratford Road). For more information about class times and registering with us, please check out our website, www.Islandkarate.com or our Facebook page, Island Karate Club.



> Chair Yoga/Stretch & Tone

Get stronger and more flexible to do the things you love to do. Includes strength, balance, flexibility, mobility, endurance, and coordination training using body weight and light equipment. Includes yoga flow/seated and standing movements (bring your own stretch band). Open to VPs (vintage persons) of all levels. Registration starts 3 weeks prior to each session start date. To register, please contact Joan at 902-213-6187 or email her at bfitjv42@icloud.com.



Tuesdays at 10:50am
Session 1: starts October 1, 2024
Session 2: starts October 29, 2024



> 20/20/20 (cardio/strength/stretch)

20 minutes each of cardio, strength and stretch. Have fun doing low impact moves to music, followed by

total body strength, mobility and balance training using light equipment. Ends with total body stretch to relax and improve flexibility (bring your own stretch band and mat). Open to active VPs (vintage persons). Registration starts 3 weeks prior to each session start date. To register, please contact Joan at 902-213-6187 or email her at bfitjv42@icloud.com.

Tuesdays at 9:30am
Session 1: starts October 1, 2024
Session 2: starts October 29, 2024

> Cardio Pump

Low Impact Party – move to music! You'll get an amazing fun cardio workout followed by total body strength, mobility and balance training using bands, dumb bells, and small balls (bring your own stretch band and mat). Geared toward active VPs (vintage persons). Registration starts 3 weeks prior to each session start date. To register, please contact Joan at 902-213-6187 or email her at bfitjv42@icloud.com.

Thursdays at 9:30am
Session 1: starts October 3, 2024
Session 2: starts October 31, 2024

> Gentle Flow Yoga

A relaxing form of Hatha Yoga to increase flexibility, balance, mobility, and functional strength. Focus on breath with movement to bring mind and body together. Includes mat warm up and standing flow (bring your own mat). All levels. Registration starts 3 weeks prior to each session start date. To register, please contact Joan at 902-213-6187 or email her at bfitjv42@icloud.com.

Thursdays at 11:00am
Session 1: starts
October 3, 2024
Session 2: starts
October 31, 2024



HEALTH & WELLNESS



> Privateers Football Club

The Privateers Football Club fields numerous teams playing tackle football in U12, U14, U16, and U18 divisions. The Privateers tackle program includes youth from the Charlottetown and Stratford areas. Each of the teams has a knowledgeable and caring coaching staff dedicated to, not only teaching sport specific skills, but valuable life lessons such as teamwork, leadership, and self-confidence. To register or for further information, please visit FootballPEI.ca/members/Charlottetown/.



> Dance Stars Academy

Who Are We?

Your friendly neighborhood dance studio! DSA has been Stratford's home of safe and professional dance instruction for ages 18 months and up, providing over a decade of recreational and competitive dance excellence! Visit our website www.dancestar-sacademy.com for more information.



FIRE DEPARTMENT 50/50 FUNDRAISING DRAW

Fire departments across PEI have joined up for a weekly 50/50 fundraising draw.

Please support the Cross Roads Fire Department by selecting them from the dropdown menu when purchasing your weekly tickets at <https://rafflebox.ca/raffle/peifirefighters>

50/50

EVERY WEEK

Notice to Dog Owners

Why do I need to leash my dog in Stratford?

- It's required by Town bylaw (with the only exceptions being on your own property or in the Town's dog park).
- Not everyone, or every dog, you meet loves dogs.
- Having your dog on-leash allows you to control where your dog roams and what it potentially smells or eats.
- Your dog will not be able to run off if spooked or intrigued by something.

You are responsible for your dog at all times.
Negligence or ownership of a dog deemed dangerous can result in impoundment, fines and/or euthanization of a dog.

Please report any dog roaming freely, for their safety and those of other animals and individuals in our community, to (902) 892-1191.



PEDESTRIAN TIPS

Everyone who is not a motorist or a cyclist is a pedestrian. Please keep these tips in mind to be safe when moving throughout Stratford.

- Where available, use the sidewalk or active transportation path
- When using the road stay to the edge and walk/run facing towards traffic, moving to single file when meeting vehicles
- Cross only at designated intersections using crosswalks, crosswalk flags, following signalized lights (when available), and other safety precautions and tools available
- Do not step out from behind parked vehicles, buses, etc. and onto roads
- Assume that drivers do not see you. Pause and ensure traffic in all directions are prepared to let you cross.
- Be safe at night/early mornings. Wear reflective clothing and accessories, use a flashlight or headlamp and avoid dark clothing.





YOUR TOWN OF STRATFORD QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

INQUIRY	WHO SHOULD YOU CALL...	CONTACT INFO	NOTES
Road Repairs & conditions, snowplow inquiries, report damage caused by a snowplow, culvert and ditch inquiries	Provincial Government - Department of Transportation and Infrastructure	902-368-4770 or email roads@gov.pe.ca	Roads, ditches, and sides of roads are owned and operated by the province (D.O.T.) (excludes private roads)
Wildlife Related Inquires	Provincial Government - Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action, Forests, Fish and Wildlife Division	902-368-5000 and select option 3	The Town of Stratford staff is not trained in wildlife removal
Public Transit Services and Schedules	T3 Transit	902-566-9962	Passes can be purchased in Stratford at: Murphy's Pharmacy, Shoppers Drug Mart, and the Town of Stratford main office
Garbage Collection inquiries and to request garbage bins	Island Waste Management (IWMC)	1-888-280-8111	
Animal Control	PEI Humane Society	902-892-1190	
Safety concerns, speeding, noise issues, open burning, and trespassing	RCMP	902-367-9300	Please call the RCMP when the situation is happening. Provide helpful information such as; License plate numbers, vehicle descriptions, name of company on a vehicle, house numbers, specific times and locations.
Program Registration, Facility Bookings and gym inquiries	Town of Stratford - Recreation Department	902-569-6250	
Stratford's Public Library	Provincial Government - Stratford Public Library	902-569-7441	
Utility Bill Inquires and Payments	Town of Stratford - Finance Department	902-367-3228 or 902-569-6258	
Building Permits and Inquiries	Town of Stratford - Planning Department	902-569-6255	
Maintenance inquiries related to: Parks, Trails and Outdoor Rinks	Town of Stratford - Recreation Department	902-626-6834	
Property Tax Inquiries	The Provincial Government - Property and Land Taxes Office	902-368-4070	
Streetlight not Working	Maritime Electric	1-800-670-1012 and select option 5	All streetlight poles are numbered. This number is required when reporting an issue
Requests for additional streetlights	Town of Stratford - Public Works Department		To request additional street lighting, you are required to submit a Request for Decision Form, located on the Town's website.
School Related Inquiries	Public School Branch, PEI	902-368-6990	Although the Town and the Public Schools Branch are in the same building, they are separate offices
Pesticide Spraying Inquires	Provincial Government - Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action		
Temporary Speed Hump Requests	Town of Stratford - Public Works Department		Residents are required to submit these requests in writing. Please provide reason for the request, name, address and phone number
Permanent Speed Hump Requests	Town of Stratford - Public Works Department		
Manhole - Grated Covers	Provincial Government - D.O.T.	902-368-4770	Managed by Provincial Government - D.O.T.
Manhole - Solid Covers	Town of Stratford Water and Sewer Utility	902-940-2189	Managed by Town of Stratford Water and Sewer Utility
Crosswalks lights and traffic lights	Provincial Government - D.O.T.	902-368-4770	Please contact department directly to report issues.

Did you know?

Planning 101 is a free online course about land use planning.

It covers what planning is, why we plan, how it works and how those plans are applied.

VISIT shape.townofstratford.ca to take the course!



Our latest 'Stratford Town Talk Podcast' is now available on all major podcast platforms.

Don't forget to subscribe!



Take the Bus

Senior

One way fare \$2
Sheet of 6 senior tickets \$9*
Monthly pass \$35

Student

Monthly pass \$35

Children

18 and under ride FREE!

Adult

One way fare \$2
Sheet of 10 adult tickets \$18
Monthly pass \$45

Transit passes and adult tickets available at:

Shoppers Drug Marts • T3 Transit/Maritime Bus - 7 Mt. Edward Rd.*
Charlottetown City Hall* • Cornwall Town Hall • Stratford Town Hall*

* Available at
Murphy's Parkdale Pharmacy,
Shoppers Drug Mart Queen Street
and from bus #5 driver.

566-9962 (ext. 105)
www.t3transit.ca

These rates are made possible throughout 2022 with funding from the Province of Prince Edward Island



TOWN OF STRATFORD CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS

July 1, 2024 at Tea Hill Park, from 1:30pm to 4:00pm

EVENT SCHEDULE

- 1:30 p.m. Face Painting & Bouncies - Par-T-Perfect
- 1:30 p.m. Cultural Flavours of Canada & World Tent
- 1:30 p.m. BBQ Hotdogs - Stratford Lions Club
- 3:15 p.m. Canada Day Cake
Ice Cream & Strawberries
served by Council
- 4:00 p.m. Event closes

MAIN STAGE

- 1:15 p.m. Piper & Welcoming
- 1:30 p.m. Music by Richie Bulger & the Wannabees
- 2:30 p.m. Flag Raising Ceremony
- 2:45 p.m. Volunteer of the Year
2024 Awards Presentation

Please note that in case of inclement weather, the flagraising ceremony and selected entertainment will move indoors to the Stratford Recreation Centre, 234 Shakespeare Drive.

We acknowledge that the land upon which we gather is the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq, and we pay our respects to the Indigenous Mi'kmaq People of this territory: past, present, and future.



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien

