



DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN STRATFORD

Want to learn about Dutch culture? Discover the cultural customs, traditions and heritage of the Netherlands on page 16.



TOWN OF STRATFORD 30TH ANNIVERSARY

The Town of Stratford's commemorative book is now available for purchase, while supplies last. Read more on page 12.



FALL FEST

Mark your calendars for Fall Fest 2025! This much-loved family event is coming up on September 27-28!



TownTalk

BUILDING THE BEST COMMUNITY POSSIBLE

WWW.TOWNOFSTRATFORD.CA

FALL 2025 EDITION



Town of Stratford 30TH Anniversary Celebration



MAYOR'S MESSAGE



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

As summer draws to a close, I hope everyone had the chance to enjoy time with family and friends, whether through travel, outdoor activities or simply relaxing close to home. Now as we welcome the crisp days of fall and prepare for winter's arrival with its beauty and its challenges, it's a time to reflect on the positive momentum in our community and look ahead with optimism. Several exciting developments are underway or have recently been completed in Stratford and I'm pleased to share some key highlights.

We've seen great progress at our Community Campus, with the near completion of brand-new sports fields. These much-anticipated facilities will support a wide range of athletic programs and recreational activities for residents of all ages starting next season.

The new Atlantic Pickleball Club will officially open their doors later this year, providing another excellent opportunity for active living and community connection. Pickleball is one of the fastest-growing sports in Canada and we're proud to be supporting it right here in Stratford.

On the education front, the Province is continuing with the construction of the new Stratford High School, which is scheduled to open in September 2027.

Our Stratford Business Park is growing, with plans for a major expansion now underway. This development is a strong signal of economic vitality and job creation in our community, and we look forward to welcoming new businesses and entrepreneurs to Stratford.

We're also making progress on transit accessibility, with new routes soon to be introduced that allow for travel to and from locations within Stratford. This is a meaningful step in our efforts to provide residents with more sustainable and convenient transportation options.

Work is ongoing to implement a new Official Plan and Development Bylaw, which will guide future growth and land use in ways that reflect our shared values and addresses the great need for housing variety for all income levels in our community.

Lastly, we continue to prioritize active transportation and outdoor connectivity. New walking and cycling trails are being added throughout the Town to promote healthy lifestyles and make Stratford even more accessible and enjoyable for everyone.

Together, these initiatives represent our commitment to building a vibrant, inclusive and sustainable community. Thank you to all who contribute their time, ideas, and energy to make Stratford such a great place to live.

As our 30th anniversary continues, I wish you a safe, healthy and happy fall season ahead where you can explore Stratford and enjoy all we have to offer.

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)

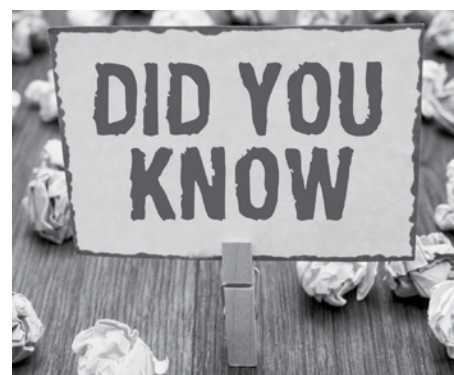


[town.of.stratford](https://www.instagram.com/town.of.stratford)



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

INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT



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Fall is the time of year when wildlife may start looking for winterized accommodations. Help protect your home by making sure all windows, doors, and other gaps and cracks are secure and ensuring you do not leave food, water, or shelter accessible to them.

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.

The Infrastructure Department was busy this summer, either directly or indirectly, with numerous projects, which are at different stages of development. Some of these projects include the extension of McCarron Way and Myrtle Street, Kelly Heights Phase 3, Irving Avenue apartments and commercial space, and the Community Campus sewer lift station and overhead street lighting.



McCarron Way Extension

This summer, Stratford Utility repaired a watermain under the Trans Canada Highway at the Kinlock Road intersection. The work took place while the Province upgraded power and lighting at this location. Utility staff continue their summer maintenance on watermain valves and seasonal hydrant flushing as well as locating and raising sanitary sewer manholes and relining old sewer mains.



Watermains flushing at John Joe Sark Drive, Stratford

> Aptos Sewer Forcemain & Lift Station Decommissioning

The Utility is in the process of upgrading the Zakems sewer lift station and sewer forcemain, which will allow for the decommissioning of the Aptos sewer lift station. Work will take place on Brandy Lane, Carrington Drive and Aptos Drive, with plans to complete the work this year.

On the municipal water side of operations, Stratford Utility will install additional hydrants along Shakespeare Drive and Williams Gate for increased firefighting

protection. A section of watermain at the Trans-Canada Highway and Jubilee Drive intersection will be repaired this year as well.

> Additional Hydrants

Along with the recent addition of a second water reservoir for added water storage, the Utility has been budgeting annually to install additional hydrants to enhance fire-fighting capabilities. Work was recently completed this summer to install 15 new hydrants and we hope to continue adding hydrants each year, as budget is available.

> Maintenance

Staff have been busy all summer maintaining grass, flowers, buildings (both inside and out), parks and playing fields. As the town grows, so does our infrastructure and maintenance workload. Public Works recently replaced their oldest tractor and grass cutting machines with new equipment.

> Active Transportation Paths

Last year, a new multipurpose paved path was installed through the Michael Thomas Waterfront Park. The path allows users to access the waterfront park from the Stratford Road or the Trans-Canada Highway paths.

The paving of the last section of this multipurpose path was completed in early summer and new markings by the Stratford Road section delineate between the shared multipurpose path and the Utility maintenance driveway.

Contractors are completing the installation of a paved multipurpose path on Glen Stewart Drive, along front of the schools. Reinstatement will be completed this fall. This work involved removing the old sidewalk and installing a wider dedicated paved path to connect the existing paths. The work is completed in partnership with the Province and provides a safer path for children and adults along this busy section of town. We would like to thank the Province for their continued support in developing our Active Transportation network in Stratford.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

Did You Know?

It is prohibited 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 sanitary sewer system.

There is a cost associated with the treatment of sewage and minimizing the amount of discharge that does not require treatment is both cost-saving and efficient. For more information, read the Town's Water & Sewer Customer Service Regulations Bylaw.

> Sump Pump Rebate Program

With fall setting in and the potential for more frequent wet weather arises, now is a good time to check your sump pump.

The Town initiated a sump pump rebate program in 2024 and we are pleased to announce that the program will continue through to March 2026. Residents who currently direct their sump pump water into the Town's sanitary sewer system may be eligible for up to a \$2,000 rebate to redirect their sump pump and install a battery backup system for their sump pump.

For more information, please contact: ckoughan@townofstratford.ca

> Speed Humps & Speeding

The Town has been installing temporary speed humps throughout the summer to increase safety on our streets. We have developed a Request For Speed Hump policy to help streamline the request process. Staff use provincial standards, industry guidelines and factual radar data to determine if speed humps are permitted on a particular street or if speeding is limited to a small number of cars as opposed to a larger speeding

issue. As always, if you see speeding in your area, please contact the Stratford RCMP at **902-367-9300**.

> Town Roads & Ditch Infilling

Please note that all roads, streets and ditches in Stratford are owned by the Province. We thank the Province for completing paving on Harlandview Drive, Clifton Road, Duffy Road, Keppoch Road, and Marjorie Crescent this summer.

As fall and winter approach, please keep in mind that the Province are also responsible for clearing snow from the streets and keeping storm water drains clear.

Please note that any issue with snow clearing on the streets or storm water back-ups can be directed to the Provincial Department of Transportation and Infrastructure at **902-368-4770**.



DO YOU HAVE A SUMP PUMP?





Is it connected to the Town's sanitary sewer system?



If so, we are offering rebates to become compliant with our bylaw



Licensed plumber will redirect your discharge pipe and install a battery backup system



Upon proof of completion, you will receive rebates of up to \$2000

Sump Pump Redirection Rebate Program

Learn more about why this is important and how to participate. Let's work together to ensure we minimize our outgoing flows.



More info at: www.townofstratford.ca
or email Charlie at ckoughan@townofstratford.ca





NIGHTTIME VISIBILITY

As it gets darker out, we would like to remind you to make yourself more visible to drivers when you are out and about.

The more you make yourself look 'human' at night, the safer you may be. Wear reflective gear and place them on the moving parts of your body to help drivers see that you are a person, and not a stationary post or object.

Stay safe!

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & HERITAGE UPDATE

> The Building Bylaw and National Building Code

Last year, the Town of Stratford mended 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 layouts and individual truss design
- Site Plan/Grading Plan
- Letter of Authorization
- Additional information may be required

*** PLEASE NOTE THAT PRELIMINARY PLANS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED ***

The Planning Department would like to remind residents of the following to best prepare for their projects:

All deck construction in Stratford requires a deck permit. This includes new construction, replacement of existing decks, as well as major repair work. For clarification, please contact the Building Official.

Helical Piles (also known as screw piles, screw anchors, or helical piers) may be used to support decks with submission of the engineer-stamped design prior to approval as per Building Code requirements.

- Any decks supporting a hot tub must have an engineer-stamped design for approval.

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 June 2025, the Planning Department has issued a total of 57 development permits. The following table shows a summary of development activities between January and June 2025.

> Mobile Vendors Bylaw (formerly Street Vendors Bylaw)

The Town has engaged MRSB Group to undertake the development of a new Bylaw to permit small street vendor businesses to operate in the Town. Street vendors are typically prepared food-oriented businesses and often located in parking areas.

During October 2024, MRSB hosted an online survey and held a public



open house with the results of the survey showing that there is a lot of support and interest in seeing these new businesses in the Town. On May 14, the new Mobile Vendors Bylaw received 2nd Reading and Adoption at Town Council. The adopted Bylaw is waiting on signing off by the Minister.

> Housing Accelerator Fund

On March 14th, 2024, the Town entered into an agreement with the Federal Government, 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 following is an update on the initiatives and planning projects that were developed as part of the agreement:

SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT PERMITS
January 1, 2025, to June 30, 2025

Permit Type	No. of Permits	Estimated Value
Single Detached Residential	16	\$8,238,050
Single Detached Additions / Renovations	12	\$1,238,000
Duplex / Semi-Detached / Stacked-Semi	1	\$700,000
Duplex / Semi-Detached / Stacked-Semi Additions / Renovations	0	\$0
Townhouses / Stacked TH / Apartments	0	\$0
Accessory Buildings	7	\$65,500
Accessory Structures (Pools, Decks, Fences, Solar Arrays)	14	\$180,992
Demolitions	3	\$15,050
Commercial (New / Renovations.)	2	\$2,413,000
Industrial (New, Renovations, Additions)	0	\$0
Signage	1	\$5,000
Other	1	\$300
Institutional (New / Renovations)	0	\$0
Totals	57	\$12,855,892

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & HERITAGE UPDATE



> Official Plan Review Update

The Town has engaged Upland Planning + Design Studio to undertake the review and the amendment of the Town's Official Plan and Zoning and Development Bylaw. Upland began working on the initial visioning of the project in September, then between September and December, engaged with stakeholders, elected officials and hosted an online survey.

This winter, Upland Planning held five public open house engagements on five focused topics: Housing, Transportation and Recreation, Culture and Heritage, Employment Lands and Development, and Environment and Agriculture. A copy of all the reports is available at shape.townofstratford.ca, along with the What We Heard Report from the Phase 1 Visioning engagements. The Town is looking forward to receiving a 1st Draft of the new Official Plan and Zoning and Development Bylaw from Upland towards the end of Summer 2025 with public engagement this fall. Please come out to these sessions and be a part of shaping our future.

>Short-Term Rental Accommodation Bylaw

The Town has engaged ATN Strategies to undertake the development of a Short-Term Rental (STR) Accommodation Bylaw to regulate this activity in our community. Examples of STRs include online tourist accommodation platforms such as Airbnb, Vrbo, and Booking.com. As part of this important process, the Town co-hosted a public open house on November 20, 2024, along with an online survey to obtain community input to ensure that the bylaw reflects the diverse perspectives and needs of our community. A public meeting is anticipated to be held in August.

>Permit-Ready Housing Plans

The Town has engaged Formed Alliance Architectural Studio (FAAS) to establish the Town's first housing catalogue set of permit-ready housing options. The catalogue will be a collection of "Missing Middle" housing types that will be made available to purchase from the Town's planning department. These plans will be something completely new and different to the Town, which we hope will provide a step up for small developers and landowners looking to help with the housing needs. As we move towards addressing the housing needs of the Town, creating a catalogue of missing middle housing types will help speed up the process and reduce design fees for those looking to build. The plans will be designed to be more cost efficient in relation to constructions cost and with non-profit organizations in mind.

The housing plans are expected to take up to 6-8 months to complete with the first set of plans intended to be available in late summer 2025. FAAS will be working through a study of the existing housing types in Stratford and public engagement over the next few months.

> Online E-Permit System

As part of the Housing Accelerator Fund Initiatives, one of the Towns' goals was to provide an online e-permit system. The implementation of an e-permit system will aid in streamlining applications and processing times. Town Planning staff are currently in the early stages of learning the system and process with rollout of the e-permit system planned for fall 2025.

> Planning Fees for Affordable Housing Developments

One of the major elements of the Federal Government for the Housing Accelerator Fund was to provide easier access to affordable housing for non-profit organizations. The Town took the initiative to help alleviate some of the barriers for non-profit organizations with Town Council passing a resolution to remove development fees for NGO's, non-profit and Provincial entities providing affordable and supportive rental housing. Organizations must present a business plan in which they state that the rent for these units does not exceed 30 percent of gross annual household income for low-income households.



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.

RECREATION, CULTURE & EVENTS

STORM CLOSURE
POLICY

When winter storms arrive and you are unsure whether the Stratford Town Centre (including the Gymnasium and Fitness Centre) are open, please be aware that we follow the Provincial Government offices for Charlottetown's cancellation or delays. Our cancellations are also sent to local radio stations (CFCY, Ocean 100, CBC, Q93, Hot105.5) and are posted on the Town's social media accounts immediately upon a decision being made. We also try to update the Town's website; however, the Town's social media pages are your best places to look. Since cancellation notices may be reported by media later than when the doors to the Recreation Centre normally open in the morning, we suggest you call 902-569-6250 for the latest updates on any storm-related event.

STRATFORD
YOUTH CENTRE

The Stratford Youth Centre provides a safe, supportive space for youth in Grades 5–12 to take part in social activities, clubs, and special events that foster confidence, personal growth, and future-ready skills. It also promotes volunteering, community involvement, and youth empowerment by giving members a voice and the chance to make a meaningful impact.



Membership is free and includes access to the Youth Centre, clubs, events, and weekly member meetings. To maintain membership, youth must participate in community volunteering and fundraising. Parental involvement is encouraged to support Centre activities and events.



Youth members must complete at least 20 volunteer hours each year, which may include event support, fundraising, or helping local nonprofits. Hours are tracked and can be added to resumes as valuable experience. Volunteer opportunities are shared in weekly meetings and parent emails, and members may earn prizes and awards for their service.

To become a Stratford Youth Centre member, visit our website to learn more and register. Registration opens in late August or early September and stays open until the program is full.

The Stratford Youth Centre offers a variety of free clubs exclusively for members. For more details or to join, visit www.stratfordyouthcentre.com.



> Drop In Schedule

Stratford Youth Centre members can drop in and hang out during scheduled times:



Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays
3:00pm - 8:00pm
July 5 - August 23
For Grades 5 - 12

The Centre closes if school is canceled for weather. This schedule is subject to change - visit www.stratfordyouthcentre.com for updates.

> Party Packages at Stratford Youth Centre

The Stratford Youth Centre offers a variety of party packages on select Saturdays and Sundays. We offer different themed party packages or just a basic space rental. All party bookings are for 2 hours, which also include an additional 15 minutes before and after for setup and teardown.

For details, availability and bookings, visit www.stratfordyouthcentre.com



RECREATION, CULTURE & EVENTS

YOUTH PROGRAMS

> Instructional Ice Hockey
"Skills and Drills"

Saturdays
7:00am - 8:00am
October 4, 2025 - March 28, 2026
Pownal Rink
Participants can be grades K-6
\$90 / participant

The Youth Ice Hockey program is available for children, who are not currently involved in a minor hockey program, to enjoy recreational play. Space is limited to 25 participants. Mandatory equipment include helmet, neck protector, stick, and skates. Register at the Stratford Recreation Reception Desk or online at www.townofstratford.ca before October 7.



ADULT PROGRAMS

> Co-Ed Recreational
Volleyball

Mondays
8:15pm - 9:45pm
September 8 - December 29, 2025
Stratford Town Centre
\$45 / participant

Recreational volleyball league for those 18+ years of age. This fun and social program is open to all skill levels and abilities. Min. 12 participants/Max. 24 participants. Players must pre-register to play, no drop-ins please.

> Pickleball

This program is for all skill levels (beginner to advance play together) and considered non-competitive. Pickleball is a paddle sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and table tennis. The basic equipment (ball & net) is provided by the Town of Stratford. Every ability is welcome and open to 16+ years of age. Must have your own racquet! Various days & times available. Players must pre-register to play, no drop-ins please.

> Active Aging 55+
Fitness Class

Wednesdays
9:00am - 10:00am

Sept. 10 - Oct. 15 (Session 1)
Oct. 22 - Nov. 26 (Session 2)
Town Centre Stage
\$30 / session and person

Join this active aging total body workout for a focus on mobility, balance, core strength and everyday movement. We will use chairs, resistance bands, dumbbells, and body weight exercises. All fitness levels and mobility are welcome and encouraged to participate. Adaptions to exercises will be offered.

> Drawing Classes

Mondays
7:00pm - 9:00pm
October 6 - December 1
Online
\$95 / person (supplies not included)
Stay in and learn how to draw online! Our instructor will guide you to execute your drawing with confidence.

> Beginner
Watercolour Classes

Tuesdays
7:00pm - 9:00pm
September 30 - December 2
Gertrude Cotton Centre
\$125 / person (supplies not included)

This program is aimed at anyone interested in learning watercolour and will include step by step exercises to help you complete your watercolour paintings on your own and with confidence.

> Urban Sketching

Wednesdays
7:00pm - 9:00pm
October 1 - December 3
Online
\$115 / person (supplies not included)

You will get to learn and practice line and colour techniques, perspective, linework, colour and texture, framing and depth, colour theory, working in grayscale, and more!

> Felting 2D & 3D

Thursdays
7:00pm - 9:00pm
October 2 - October 23
Gertrude Cotton Centre
\$80 / person (supplies included)

Learn to transform wool into stunning flat designs and sculptural creations - perfect for beginners and creatives of all levels.

STRATFORD DOG FUN
PARK

Located next to Stratford Town Centre, the Stratford Dog Fun Park is available to all residents free of charge.

The park is open from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm daily and there are agility toys, benches and a picnic table for your enjoyment. All users are asked to clean up after their pets and to respect park rules. All dogs must remain on-leash until inside the dog park, this includes to and from the parking lot.

TOWN OF STRATFORD
OFFICE HOURS

Summer office hours
(8am to 4pm)
will end on Friday,
September 26th, with regular
office hours resuming from
8am to 4:30pm.

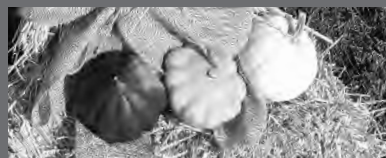


Remember to change the
batteries in your smoke
alarm this fall when you
change your clock!

RECREATION, CULTURE & EVENTS



UPCOMING EVENTS



FALL FEST

Date: September 27 – 28

Time: 1pm – 5pm

Location: Robert Cotton Park
(57, Bunbury Rd.)



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Date: November 11

Time: 10:45am

Location: Stratford
Town Centre

> Soft Pastels

Thursdays
7:00pm – 9:00pm
November 13 – December 4
Gertrude Cotton Centre
\$80 / person (supplies included)

Explore rich colors and blending techniques to bring your artwork to life – ideal for all skill levels.

> Intermediate Watercolour Classes

Saturdays
10:00pm – 12:00pm
October 4 – December 6
Online
\$115 / person (supplies not included)

Ideal for those with previous watercolour painting experience!

Program Registration

You can register for recreational programs with the Town Centre Attendants at the Recreation Reception Desk. You can also view upcoming programs and registration dates and create a personal account to register or pay for the program you'd like to sign up for directly from our website at www.townofstratford.ca. If further information is required, please call **902-569-6250**.

> Town Centre Gymnasium

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 and remember to wear clean, indoor sneakers in the gym and track/fitness area.

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



> Town of Stratford Poppy Project

The Stratford Poppy Project has exceeded the initial goal of 4,000 poppies with our tally currently at over 10,000 poppies! A huge thank you to all those who have participated in this project. We have received poppies from residents in Stratford, the wider community on PEI, and even across shores!

We are now looking for volunteers to help fasten the poppies to the netting in October, which will then be draped during Veterans' Week in the leadup to Remembrance Day. If you wish to volunteer, please contact Melanie Weatherbie at 902-569-6925 or email mweatherbie@townofstratford.ca



AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2025 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Volunteers are – and always will be – an essential part of our community. This year, on Canada Day, we recognized these amazing individuals.



Kristina Dowling

(2025 Neil and Gail MacDonald Volunteer of the Year Award)

Kristina was recognized for her many efforts to make our community, especially the school community, a better place. She has been an active member of various home and school associations and has been a big part of the fundraising efforts for playgrounds, the annual craft fair, and during this past school year, she took on a leading role to organize the grade nine semi-formal prom at Birchwood Intermediate.

Thank you for all you do for our community and beyond, Kristina!

Mara Duncan

(2025 Stephen J. McQuaid Memorial Youth Award)

Mara has been an active member of the Stratford Youth Centre since 2021 where she has contributed 675 volunteer hours back to our community. At the Stratford Youth Centre, she is a member of Leadership Club, Garden Club, Executive Committee, Drama Club, among others, and actively volunteers for fundraisers, community events and other activities.

Well done, Mara! Thank you for being a great role model!



WATER SCHOOL

Another year of Water School has wrapped up! Since 2011, the Town has been offering this program to Grade 5 students in Stratford, and it has since expanded to include schools in Charlottetown and Cornwall. Water School is a fun and interactive full-day program where students learn all about water – where it comes from, how it flows through nature, and why it is important to protect it. The program covers everything from conservation and watersheds to the water cycle, wetlands, forests, and buffer zones.

At the end of the day, students are encouraged to create a drawing inspired by what they have learned. Each year, 12 winning drawings are selected and featured in the annual Water School calendar. Winners are then invited to a council meeting for a special celebration where the Mayor presents each of them with a certificate.

THE WINNERS OF THE 2025 ART CONTEST ARE:

Charleigh Roberts – January

Raphael Nguyen – February

Caleigh Cameron – March

Naty Santana – April

Lexy Arsenault – May

Henry MacDougall – June

Meadow Dunsford – July

Freya He – August

Jacie But – September

Neriah Varghese – October

Adalynn Bernard – November

Addyson Panelas – December



TOWN INITIATIVES

**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.

The goals of this program are to make good quality trees more accessible to residents, encourage tree planting and care, and increase Stratford's urban canopy, especially along our streets.

**> Forest Management Plan**

As part of our Forest Management Plan, the Town has planted around 1,000 trees on town owned properties this year. These trees help strengthen our green spaces, improve biodiversity, and boost Stratford's ability to handle the effects of climate change. These planting efforts have taken place in key areas like Fullerton's Creek and Kinlock Creek to restore natural buffers and expand our forested areas.

**> Erosion and
Sediment Control**

Erosion from development sites is a challenge across PEI. When too much sediment washes into our streams and wetlands, it can harm water quality and wildlife. Town of Stratford, in partnership with the Stratford Area Watershed Improvement Group (SAWIG), have been monitoring water quality at several sites. After major rainfalls, we collect samples to track sediment levels and ensure developers are doing their part to protect our natural environment.

> Results Matter

The Town of Stratford has updated its yearly performance data for 2024



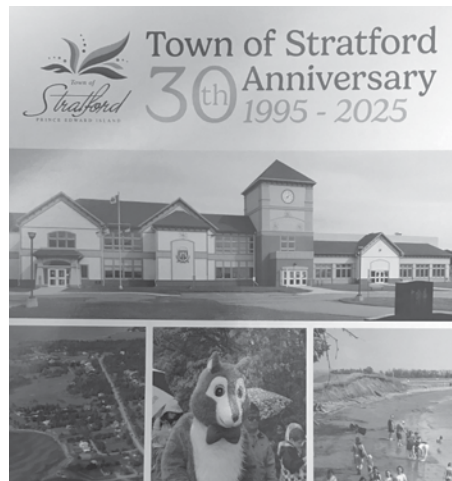
on the Results Matter platform. This performance management system tracks progress toward Stratford's long-term goals and ensures accountability in the work of staff and Council. To explore how the Town is performing and view project updates, visit www.resultsmatter.townofstratford.ca.

In addition, the results from the most recent Annual Resident Survey are now available on the Town's website. To see what residents had to say, visit www.townofstratford.ca.

**> Stratford's 30th Anniversary
Commemorative Book**

To honour this milestone, 15 local youth partnered with 15 long-time Stratford residents to write and preserve personal stories that reflect the town's rich history, deep connections, and vibrant community spirit. Whether you're a long-time resident or new to Stratford, this beautiful anniversary book is a meaningful way to connect with the people and moments that shaped our town.

Copies are now available for purchase at just \$15 each, while supplies last! You can pick up your copy at the Stratford Town Centre, Monday through Friday, between 8 AM and 4 PM.



GARDENING TIPS FROM THE TOWN'S HORTICULTURIST

**It's hard to imagine that we are soon heading into fall again!**

The fall season is an "unbe-leaf-able" time of the year and a great opportunity to get out and start your garden chores while the weather is favourable.

One of the best ways to extend the garden harvest time is by storing vegetables. Have you ever experienced after you harvest your vegetables that they dry out and lose their crispness? Well, there are ways of ensuring that your harvest will last you months into the cooler season. Besides, this is one of the benefits of growing your own garden. Try the following tips:

- Harvest on a cool day and allow the vegetables to dry out for a few hours before putting them into storage, this is known as the "curing" process. If necessary, you can gently rinse them with cool water to get rid of extra soil, but the vegetables don't have to be fully cleaned of soil until just before you cook them.
- Find a cool, dark, and dry location such as an unheated basement. Surrounding the plants with peat moss or even cardboard type of material will also prevent them from drying out. Occasionally, you can even lightly mist the vegetables to ensure that they keep their crisp texture.
- To preserve your vegetables, you can try par boiling (not fully cooked) for 2-3 minutes. Once done, let them cool off before spreading them on a cookie sheet, and putting it in the freezer overnight. The next day, the frozen vegetables can be bagged into freezer bags. This process works well, especially with beans.

- Many people love to bottle/pickle vegetables, which is another ideal process to have your produce last throughout the winter. It helps you save money and is easy to do.

Late summer to early fall is the time to plant hard neck garlic bulbs, lettuce, as well as other types of fast maturing greens, and fall bulbs such as tulips or daffodils for early spring to late spring colour.

Consider digging up and storing your tender plants such as Dahlias and Canna lilies that you can save for the next season, which will help produce an even bigger plant the following year. Annual plants such as Geraniums, Dracaenas, and Vinca vines can survive indoors over winter, if you have the space to accommodate them. This will help save you money and these plants will also have a bigger yield the following year. Our plants are more resilient than they use to be due to our ever-changing climate.

Hopefully you're inspired as to how to add color to your home and have a successful harvest during the transition of seasons. With a little research and planning, you can have beautiful and bountiful gardens at your home year-round. "Leaf" your worries behind and "fall" into some fun!

**DON'T FORGET
YOUR RAIN BARREL**

As you complete your fall clean up, please remember to prepare your rain barrel for the winter by placing it upside down or storing it in a location where it will not collect water. Rain barrels left in place will fill with water, freeze, and then likely crack when temperatures warm again.



LET'S TALK EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PREPAREDNESS



Emergencies can happen at any time. Sometimes affecting only an individual or singular property such as a house fire, sometimes the wider community like we saw in 2022 with Hurricane Fiona. No matter what time of year, we want you to be prepared with these actions you can take now.

Let's start with some basics that we all should be thinking about.

Have an emergency plan (and share it with all family or household members), which should include:

- Identifying safe escape exits from the property and safe locations in the neighborhood to go for help
- A designated meeting place to reunite after exiting
- A safe location for documentation such as health, insurance and other personal information to be stored
- Age-appropriate teaching of emergency phone numbers, emergency contacts, etc. for children
- You can find online resources to help you write out your plan at: getprepared.gc.ca



ALWAYS CALL 9-1-1 IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING AN EMERGENCY

If you plan to utilize a generator in an emergency be sure you test it out and know how to safely operate it. You will need to have a fuel source on hand for it which should be purchased prior to a forecasted weather event.

Immediately following an emergency, when it is safe to do so, check on your neighbours especially those who live alone, are elderly, or who have mobility or health concerns.

> Stock your 72-hour emergency kit with:

- Water - minimum of 2L per person/per day
- Food - Keep items that won't spoil in a dedicated location along with a can-opener and other tools that may be required. Think of items that can be eaten without requiring electricity such as canned meat/fish, dried fruit or nuts, energy bars, etc. (check and update your kit at least annually)
- Batteries to operate a radio and flashlight (don't forget about the radio and flashlight too)
- First aid kit
- Some cash in case of prolonged outages
- Toiletries, hand sanitizer and utensils
- Additional items may be included (or added prior to a forecasted event) such as a whistle (in case you need to get attention), duct tape (to tape windows, doors, etc.), basic tools (hammer, wrench, work gloves), change of clothes, garbage bags/tarp, a solar power bank, etc.)
- Don't forget about medication/prescriptions, items required for your pets or children (particularly babies/toddlers) and a list of phone numbers (in case you can't access your mobile phone where you likely have them stored)



LET'S TALK EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PREPAREDNESS

Whether an emergency arises quickly or is one that you have time to prepare for, accurate and timely information is important. Get your information from reliable sources such as local news outlets, municipal or provincial government, emergency providers such as police or fire departments, electric utility, etc., and on PEI the Prince Edward Island Emergency Measures Organization (PEI EMO) are all potential emergency information providers.

Each emergency situation will be different. For events that are forecast and provide us with time to prepare, residents should take the time to do so each and every time. Being prepared can help reduce some of the stress the situation creates, allow you to feel some control over the situation, and should you need to act quickly, you will have what you need easily accessible and ready to go.

In the Town of Stratford, we have three potential reception center locations that may be opened to assist residents following an emergency. These locations, their operating hours and the facility use will be shared with residents and will change depending on the situation. The locations are: Stratford Town Centre at 234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford Emergency Services Centre at 4 Georgetown Road, and Cotton Center at 57 Bunbury Road.

Town of Stratford staff regularly discuss, update, and prepare for emergencies. We have an executable plan in place and a team ready to engage if and when we need to, alongside our various community partners. When forecasted weather events are being watched, we receive regular updates from the PEI EMO office, and we begin to take steps to prepare as best we can as well.

The most important thing residents can do is spend the time to get prepared when there is no emergency. Preparing and planning ahead of time for a minimum of 72-hours (three days) is the recommended timeframe that individuals and families should be able to be self-sufficient for following a disaster. **This allows for:**

- A smoother transition through the initial chaotic period
- Reduces the burden on emergency responders enabling them to focus on those most in need at a critical time
- Lessens the response required at a time when services may be overwhelmed, delayed or simply in need of time to assess the situation
- Allows time for the safety of a street, facility or other component to be properly checked and information reported for safe movement within a community by residents

We thank residents for doing your part to be prepared. The more we can all give some thought and planning to this, the better we will all be if (or more likely when) an emergency arises.



ONLY SHARE INFORMATION FROM RELIABLE SOURCES

Stay out of the way of emergency responders or other essential services providers. Whether following an emergency or weather event, or during an active situation please stay away and allow the work by those responding to take place.

Remember to be kind. These situations are hard on everyone and those you encounter are likely doing their best at the given time while being often away from their own family and home to help others.



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 **Dutch** community members and celebrate their rich culture.

The Netherlands, often informally referred to as Holland, is a small (only 7.5 times bigger than PEI) but culturally rich country located in northwestern Europe. Known for their pragmatic mindset, community spirit, and appreciation of order and beauty, Dutch culture is a blend of historical continuity and modern thinking.

> Cultural Values and Social Customs

Dutch society values egalitarianism, personal responsibility, and direct communication. Honesty is preferred over formality, and traits like punctuality, modesty, and practicality are deeply respected.

A unique cultural concept is *gezelligheid*, an untranslatable word that conveys a sense of warmth, coziness, and togetherness, found in social gatherings, meals, and at the heart of many Dutch experiences.

> Traditions and Celebrations

Among the most important and well-loved traditions is King's Day (*Koningsdag*), celebrated on April 27th. It is a vibrant national holiday where people wear orange and enjoy street markets, music, and parades.

Another cherished tradition is *Sinterklaasavond* on December 5th, when children leave out shoes for small gifts from *Sinterklaas*, a bearded figure who arrives from Spain by steamboat in mid-November. The celebration highlights kindness and humor, with gifts often accompanied by playful poems.

> Cuisine and Daily Rituals

Dutch cuisine is known for its simplicity, heartiness, and regional variety. Meals often feature potatoes, seasonal vegetables, and meat or fish. Traditional favorites include *stamppot* (mashed potatoes with vegetables), *erwtensoep* (thick pea soup), and haring (raw herring with onions or pickles).

Sweet treats are beloved, with *stroopwafels* (waffle cookies with caramel), *poffertjes* (mini pancakes with butter and sugar), and *oliebollen* (fried dough balls) being popular, especially on New Year's Eve.

A cherished daily ritual is *koffietijd*, a mid-morning or afternoon coffee break, often enjoyed with a small cookie and good company.

> Art, Design, and Innovation

The Netherlands has greatly influenced art and design, with masters like Rembrandt, Vermeer, and Van Gogh. Dutch modern design, from De Stijl to contemporary architecture, is known for its minimalist, functional style.

The country is also renowned for landscape engineering. With much of the land below sea level, its windmills, dikes, and canals reflect centuries of pioneering water management.

> Bicycles and Everyday Life

Cycling is deeply embedded in Dutch culture. With more bikes than people, the Netherlands is considered the most bike-friendly country in the world. Bicycles are used for commuting, grocery shopping, and

even transporting children, reinforcing values of sustainability, efficiency, and accessibility.

Fun facts

- The Dutch are considered the tallest people in the world. Men average a height of 183.8 cm (6 ft 0.5 inches) and women 170.4 cm (5 ft 7 inches).
- A significant portion (about 1/3) of the Netherlands is below sea level, with some areas even as low as 4 meters (13 ft) below.
- The Dutch made carrots orange as a tribute to the House of Orange (Royal family).
- The Dutch invented the first stock market in the world.
- The Netherlands was the first country to legalize same-sex marriage.
- Approximately 30% of the Dutch babies are born at home.
- The Dutch invented Gin.
- About 18.3 million people are living in the Netherlands.
- The Netherlands has 12 provinces. Noord (north) and Zuid (south) Holland are just 2 of the 12.



Our THANKS to Melvin van Doorn for
writing this article on behalf of the
Dutch Canadian Association of PEI!

SEPTEMBER 30TH IS NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

This day provides an opportunity for Canadians to acknowledge and commemorate the legacy of residential schools. The Town of Stratford is dedicated to reconciliation and encourages all residents, staff, and stakeholders to deepen their understanding of our shared history and progress in their own reconciliation journey, regardless of where they currently are on this journey.

Visit www.lnuey.ca for more information and resources.

MP KENT MACDONALD



Hello good people of Stratford!

It's my pleasure as your Member of Parliament to include a message here in the Fall 2025 edition of Town Talk.

I've spent a lot of time in Stratford during my first months as your Member of Parliament. Recently, I was happy to visit Stratford Occupational Therapy with the Honourable Jill McKnight, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence. I've also had productive meetings with Mayor Steve Ogden and CAO Jeremy Crosby to discuss how I can support initiatives and projects for the Town of Stratford. But it's not all business meetings! I was pleased to say a few words at the flag raising ceremony on Canada Day, and I enjoyed a slice of cake at the Town's 30th Anniversary.

I'm proud to highlight some of the recent federal investments helping Stratford grow sustainably and affordably. Earlier this year, the Government of Canada announced a \$21.6 million low-interest loan through the Apartment Construction Loan Program to build 60 new rental units at 9 Irving Avenue — a key step toward meeting local housing needs. Stratford will also benefit from over \$2.8 million annually for the next decade through the Canada Public Transit Fund, supporting the expansion and modernization of public transit services in the capital region, including T3 Transit routes that serve the town. These investments are about delivering real results — more housing, better transit, and a stronger future for our community.

Please never hesitate to reach out to my office. We're here to help with immigration, citizenship and passport services, Canada Revenue Agency issues, Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security, Employment Insurance, Canada Student Loans, and Veterans' Benefits.

You can reach me at kent.macdonald@parl.gc.ca and my constituency office at 902-838-4987. My constituency office is located at 551 Main Street, Montague, on the 2nd floor in Suite 202. My team is available Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm.

It's an honour to be your Member of Parliament, and I look forward to working for you.

Sincerely,
Kent MacDonald MP
Cardigan Riding

Welcome, please
share our roads.



SLOW DOWN, MOVE OVER,
THINK OF OTHERS

RESPECT
IT'S A TWO WAY STREET

IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL TIME!

Watch for those big yellow buses; they are easy to spot, and they give motorists plenty of warning with yellow and flashing red lights. Be prepared to stop!

Kids are out and about — take note of crosswalk locations and be extra careful during school hours!

GET YOUR LAWN SIGN OUT!

With school commencing, there is no better time to remind motorists to "slow down, move over, and think of others". Get your lawn sign out!



STRATFORD TRIVIA

(Answers on the next page)



- 1 - Visit Stratford Town Centre Who is the foyer named after?
- 2 - Time for a stroll. This new park includes a boardwalk and a fountain named after who?
- 3 - We have two churches that were built very close in time back in the 1800's – Can you name them and find the year they were built?
- 4 - There are art installations across our community – can you visit all of them? (Check our website to see the full list but see how many you can come up with before you look?)
- 5 - A new school is under construction – what street do you find it on?
- 6 - Where can you find a sports field, a natural playground structure, a walking trail and a lookout platform?
- 7 - Check out the new mural art installation on a shelter in this park. What is found in the mural?
- 8 - Visit the park that allows you to get down to the beach. What event is commemorated on a panel inside this park?

JILL BURRIDGE, MLA



Dear Residents of Stratford,

As autumn arrives, I want to share updates from our community and government.

> Supporting Our Emergency Services

Our Crossroads Fire Department is vital. We're working to secure a replacement ladder truck, crucial for Stratford's growth, and exploring ways with the province to reduce financing costs for this essential capital investment.

> Advancing the Community Campus Development

In concert with the Town of Stratford and MP Kent MacDonald, we are working together to secure multi-level government investment for our community campus development. We've made great strides on underground services and road infrastructure, and will work to continue this partnership for above-ground facilities, including our planned wellness centre, a vibrant hub for all ages. These community amenities located on one site with our schools and other private ventures will be a jewel in our community. You can support at an individual level by visiting the Community Foundation of PEI and searching for the Stratford Community Campus fund.

> Upcoming Legislative Session: Focusing on Key Pressures

This fall, we're back in the Legislature focusing on legislation and our capital budget. We continue to prioritize schools, hospitals, health centres, and housing, areas facing significant

pressures from an aging population, population growth, climate change, and aging infrastructure. Crucial investments in foundational digital infrastructure as we try to keep up to technological advancements will also enable us to deliver services more efficiently and provide better data for decision-making.

> Embracing Fall in Stratford

Fall is my favourite season, and I hope to see many of you at the upcoming Fall Fest or around town. Let's continue to support our local businesses – choose local when buying; Stratford has fantastic options!

> Connecting With You

Your input is invaluable. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions, concerns, or ideas. My constituency office is open Mondays or by appointment.

Contact Information:

Phone:

902-213-2297

Email:

jsburrigemla@assembly.pe.ca

Office Location:

On Mondays, you can find me in the conference room downstairs at the Emergency Services Centre.

Wishing you and your families a healthy, happy, and productive fall season.

Sincerely,

Jill Burrige

MLA District 6 Stratford-Keppoch



JENN REDMOND, MLA



Warm Fall Greetings to All!

As we welcome a new school year, we are filled with excitement, hope, and a renewed commitment to nurturing the minds and hearts of students. The start of school is a special time—a fresh chapter filled with opportunities for growth, discovery, and connection.

We recognize the vital role that families play in the educational journey. Your encouragement, involvement, and partnership are the foundation of a thriving school community. As we work together to support our children, we also want to highlight the incredible dedication of our educators, school staff, and bus drivers.

Fall brings a new season filled with vibrant colors, crisp air, and countless opportunities to come together as a community. It's a time for cozy gatherings, festive events, and meaningful connections. We're fortunate to have so many fantastic community events on the horizon—each one a chance to celebrate, engage, and enjoy the best of what this season has to offer. I look forward to seeing everyone out making the most of the cooler weather and enjoying the events.

I hope you and your family had a wonderful summer and an opportunity to enjoy our beautiful province! It was such a pleasure to reconnect with so many of you as I made my way through the district. I truly appreciated the time you took to share your thoughts and stories with me—your insights and experiences are invaluable.

Throughout our conversations, it was clear that key issues like safer roads, affordability, and access to quality healthcare remain top of mind for many. Please know that I remain deeply committed to working on these priorities and advocating for meaningful improvements that reflect the needs of our community. As we step into a new season filled with fresh energy and opportunities, I look forward to continuing these important

conversations and building a stronger, more connected community together. Non-profit organizations play a vital role in our communities across Prince Edward Island, driven by purpose, powered by people, and committed to making a difference. I'm proud to support the incredible work these organizations do every day to meet urgent needs, uplift vulnerable populations, and create lasting change. Through the Employment Development Agency in my department, we were able to support approximately 800 placements this year to support the non-profit sector. These organizations often operate with limited resources, yet they consistently find creative ways to meet complex needs, build trust, and drive meaningful change. I have enjoyed the opportunity to visit and learn from their experiences over the summer months.

Access to affordable post-secondary education is essential for building a strong, inclusive, and future-ready society. Whether it's university, college, apprenticeship training or adult education, every student deserves the opportunity to pursue their goals without being held back by financial barriers. Our government has made important investments in post-secondary education. Bursaries like George Coles and Marion L. Reid make post-secondary studies for Island students more affordable. We have raised these bursaries to \$3500 per year and have assisted approximately 2,300 students this year.

Prince Edward Island has a vibrant post-secondary education sector that plays a vital role in shaping our province's future. The University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI), the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC), Holland College, Collège de l'Île, and the new Faculty of Medicine are not only centers of learning—they are powerful economic drivers and community builders. We are so fortunate to have these world-renowned facilities in our province training the best in the world.

I was pleased to announce the recent expansion of presumptive cancer coverage for firefighters. Firefighters put their lives on the line every day to protect our communities, and they deserve our full support.

As of June 2025, the province has added five more types of cancer covered under the Workers Compensation Act. This brings the total number of covered cancers to 19, offering greater peace of mind to both career and volunteer firefighters across the Island.

This investment reflects a growing understanding of the long-term health risks firefighters face and the increasing diversity within the firefighting workforce. It's a meaningful step toward ensuring that those who protect us are protected in return.

Thank you for the opportunity to support and advocate for the residents of District 5. It is truly an honor to be your voice. Please reach out anytime, Jenn Redmond – jlredmondmla@assembly.pe.ca

Sincerely,

Jenn Redmond

MLA Mermaid-Stratford



TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Mayor Michael Farmer
2. Michael Thomas
3. Cross Roads Christian Church (built 1836-1839) and Clifton United Church (built 1848)
4. 24 pieces to visit
5. John Joe Sark Drive
6. Fullerton's Creek Conservation Park
7. Look for the Dragonfly, Fox and Lady Slippers
8. First Transatlantic flight (Tea Hill Park)

STRATFORD AREA WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT GROUP



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.

> SAWIG Healthy Headwaters Project

We are excited to share more about our ongoing Healthy Headwaters Project funded in part by the PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund! The goal of this project is to improve headwater health and knowledge within the Stratford and Area Watersheds, the steps we have taken to do so are:

- Conducting headwater assessments to determine what each could benefit from
- Planting 500 native trees and shrubs
- Invasive species removal
- Instream blockage removal
- Creation of educational media to share on our platforms

The health of our headwaters heavily impacts the health of the stream through temperature and nutrient regulation as such they are one of the most important parts of our freshwater ecosystems and a priority for protection.



> SAWIG Nature-Based Solutions to Shoreline Erosion Community Engagement Program

As part of the Climate Challenge Fund funded by the Government of Prince Edward Island, we are working to encourage coastal property owners to utilize nature-based solutions where applicable to protect against erosion through the distribution of informative resources, conducting site visits, and planting trees and shrubs on coastal properties.

By engaging local community members through education and outreach we aim to improve erosion control across our watersheds and improve climate resilience. This year we will be planting 750 native trees and shrubs and assessing a variety of coastal properties.

> Do you have a coastal property in one of our watersheds?

We would be happy to conduct a free site assessment that could then qualify you for free trees and shrubs which we would plant on your property! If interested, please email projectmanager@stratfordwater.com



We are incredibly thankful to the Climate Challenge Fund for making this project possible!

> Canada Day



SAWIG set up an educational booth at the Canada Day celebrations July 1st, organized by the Town of Stratford. We brought some taxidermy birds and animals from the Department of Forest, Fish and Wildlife to display at the booth to educate children about some iconic Canadian wildlife and teach visitors about some of the activities SAWIG undertakes. We also held our annual raffle in conjunction with the Canada Day event. We would like to extend a big thank you to all those who participated in the raffle!

> Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund

As part of our NSCSF we helped plant 300 trees to improve the buffer surrounding Keppoch marsh with the Town of Stratford staff. We are also conducting wildlife surveys, taking Total Suspended Solids (TSS) samples after rain events, and conducting Eelgrass monitoring. We are excited to continue learning more about our salt marshes and ways in which we can help enhance them.

Thank you to our funding partners, members, and community that make the work we do possible!

RCMP IN STRATFORD



Royal Canadian Mounted Police



Every week PEI RCMP receives reports of fraud on online classified sites. Most Islanders are familiar with online classified platforms where people and businesses can post goods, and services for sale. These platforms act as a marketplace, connecting buyers and sellers directly and can be a convenient way to find used goods and sell your unwanted items, but these sites also struggle with an abundance of fraud. Here are some quick tips to help protect yourself while using online classifieds.

> General Safety Tips

- The most common type of fraud is when someone sends money and does not receive the item. Never send money before you can see the item in-person. If you can't see it in-person, it probably does not exist.
- Check the buyer/seller's profile. Be cautious of new accounts, limited activity, or accounts with little personal information.
- Avoid switching to text or third-party messaging apps. Staying on the platform gives you a record if anything goes wrong.

- Avoid sharing personal information. Never give out your home address, banking info, or SIN. Keep your details private.

- Trust Your Instincts. If something feels off, it probably is. Don't proceed with a deal that makes you uncomfortable.

> Meeting In-Person

- Meet in Public, Well-Lit Places
- Prefer police stations or community "safe zones" for exchanges. Some cities offer monitored spots for online transactions.
- Bring a Friend. If possible, take someone with you. At minimum, tell someone where you're going and when you expect to return.

When shopping through these platforms, never send money to someone without first seeing the goods you are interested in and confirming the person you are dealing with is real. Meet them in a public place, if possible. And finally, if it's too good to be true... it probably is.



BE COURTEOUS WHEN PARKING AND DON'T:

- Park too close to a driveway
- Impede sightlines
- Block a fire hydrant
- Park on or block any portion of a sidewalk or active transportation trail
- Forget to check for cyclists, kids, or others sharing the street

HELP MAKE OUR STREETS SAFE FOR ALL USERS

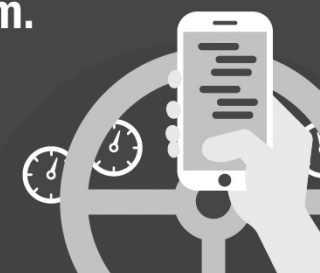


DID YOU KNOW?

Most distracted driver-related fatalities occur between 3–6 pm.

(Traffic Injury Research Foundation, Canada)

RESPECT
IT'S A TWO WAY STREET



STRATFORD COMMUNITY GROUPS

> Stratfords of the World

STRATFORDS OF THE WORLD



From September 22-28 2027, Stratford, PEI is honoured to host the next Stratfords of the World Reunion. Delegates from the UK, Ontario, Connecticut, USA, Australia, and New Zealand will be gathered for a fun filled week. The upcoming reunion in PEI will include events such as a Civic Luncheon, a banquet, a tour around PEI and a Church Service but there is



STRATFORD & AREA FOOD DRIVE MOVES TO OCTOBER!

The 35th Annual Stratford & Area Food Drive, in support of The Upper Room Hospitality Ministry, will be held on Saturday, October 18, 2025 (9:00am - 2:00pm) at various drive-thru locations (to be announced). Volunteers will accept non-perishable items or monetary donations. For apartment building residents, food collection boxes will be placed at your main entryways early the week of October 12 and will be picked up the morning of October 18. Most-needed items at the Food Bank are cereal, canned meat/soup/fruit/vegetables, peanut butter, condiments, cookies, crackers, coffee/tea, juice, granola bars, baby formula/food, diapers, personal hygiene products and gluten free products. Stratford & Area residents, let's show our support of fellow Islanders in need as we work together to help fill the shelves of The Upper Room. For more information or to volunteer, please call Elaine at (902) 569-4769 or e-mail holyfamilypastoralunit@bellaliant.com.

much more in the planning stages. Attendees are responsible for organizing their own travel to and from PEI and there is a registration fee to cover some of the cost of the hospitality. Accommodation is free as it is provided on a home stay basis although you can make your own arrangements if you prefer. Delegates are billeted with local families and most meals are provided.

For updated information, please visit our Facebook page "Stratfords of the World Reunion, PEI, September 2027." Our next meeting will be held at the Stratford Town Centre on Wednesday, October 15 beginning at 6:00pm. If you would like more information, please email Chair Debbie Reid at debbie.reid1234@outlook or phone 902-367-0450.

> Stratford Meals on Wheels

For the past three years, Charlottetown Meals on Wheels has been honored to deliver nutritious meals to our Stratford members. We are thrilled to announce that Stratford now has its own dedicated Meals on Wheels program! This initiative aims to provide Stratford residents with enhanced meal delivery services, fostering greater community support and well-being. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Charlottetown Meals on Wheels team for their unwavering support and look forward to seeing Stratford's program flourish. To learn more or to sign up for meal deliveries, please call Sandra at **902-314-8401**, or simply dial 2-1-1. This service will connect you with all the information you need about Stratford's Meals on Wheels program.

> Stratford Army Cadets

The Stratford Army Cadets meet on Wednesday evenings, from 6pm-9pm, at the Stratford Town Centre. This program runs from September to June



and is for youth ages 12-18, with no cost to join. For more information, please email 20armycadets@gmail.com or connect with us on Facebook ([20stratfordarmycadets](https://www.facebook.com/20stratfordarmycadets)).

Adventure - Outdoors - Snow Shoeing - Canoeing - Hiking - Leadership - Citizenship - Camping - Biking - Expeditions - GPS - Maps and Compasses - plus much more!

> 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**.



It starts with Scouts.

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

> Pulmonary Fibrosis 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 Stratford Town Centre. Please feel free to call **902-626-7014** for more information.

> Mayflower Seniors Club

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

STRATFORD COMMUNITY GROUPS

and a group have a guitar jam. Friday evening is crokinole and the Lions Club holds a ceilidh every second Sunday of the month. All seniors aged 55+ are welcome to join our club. Please call Bruce Fitchett at **902-370-2295** for membership information.

> Stratford Community Fridge

The Stratford Community Fridge is operated by Gifts from the Heart with current operating hours for use and donations from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. All food donations are welcome! If you are interested in volunteering (stocking and organizing the fridge, serving the public, and checking for expiry dates and cleanliness), you can choose either mornings or afternoons shifts, once a week or a few times a month. Please inquire about volunteering or other related questions to 902-628-6871.



> 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: rafflebox.ca/raffle/peifirefighters

> Citizen on Patrol - Stratford

Citizen 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 the RCMP in Stratford by reporting any observed suspicious activity. 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.



To be eligible to participate in the program, COPS volunteers must be at least 18 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, please visit our website at stratfordcop.wordpress.com or email us at copstratford@gmail.com. You can also follow us on X, formerly Twitter (COP_Stratford).

> Stratford and Area Lions Club

The Stratford and Area Lions is a community-focused organization dedicated to making a positive impact through volunteerism and charitable initiatives. The club supports a variety of local causes and initiatives and brings together individuals who are passionate about giving back and improving the lives of people in Stratford and surrounding areas.



The Stratford and Area Lions Club is always welcoming new members. If you are interested in community service and meeting new people, please get in touch with any Lions member or call Avery Blaxland at **902-569-2409**.

> Stratford Community School



The Stratford Community School has something for everyone. It is a great place to learn a new skill or hobby and meet new people. Community School begins Wednesday, September 24th and runs for 10 weeks. It will be held at Stratford Elementary School. Registration is on September 24th

beginning at 5:00pm and classes will begin the same night starting at 6:30pm. Classes run from 6:30 - 8:30pm.

There are a variety of classes - for a complete list of classes visit the Town of Stratford website or the PEI Community School website at peicommunityschools.com.

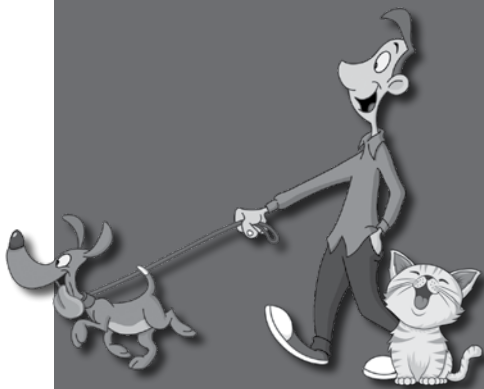
Anyone interested in teaching a course, volunteering, or looking for information, please contact Kathy Livingstone at **902-393-0737**.



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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.



STRATFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY



BE NEIGHBOURLY AND
ENSURE YOUR PET IS NOT
BEING A NUISANCE TO
YOUR NEIGHBOURS!

Pet owners should refrain from letting their pets visit the yards of those around them, whether while on a walk or by leaving them to wander on their own.

Please respect your neighbours and find ways to keep your pet on your own property. Don't forget that is against our bylaw to allow your dog to be off leash anywhere except for the owner's property or the Town's dog park. This includes all our parks and trails.

Cleaning up after your dog is also part of being a responsible dog owner. Please dispose of the dog poop bag in the garbage – these do not compost and are NEVER to be left along the side of roads, trails, and sidewalks!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
COOPERATION!



HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday: Closed
Tue & Wed: 9:30am - 8:30pm
Thu to Sat: 9:30am - 5:30pm
Sunday: Closed

Did you know you can borrow tools, bike repair kits, mental health information kits, instruments, a telescope, snowshoes and more at the library?

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

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!

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

> **Wiggle, Giggle, Read**
Songs and rhymes for babies and toddlers. A gentle way to introduce little ones to the library.

Ages 0-3

> **Family Storytime**
Stories, songs, and rhymes for kids and their grown-ups!

Ages 3-5

> **PD Day Fun Day**
New tech, science or art experiments, activities, and fun every No School Friday!
Call the library for more information.
Ages 6-12

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

STRATFORD BUSINESS



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!

ChengDu Szechuan Fusion
Health Within Holistic Centre

Think Local.
Spend it here to keep it here.



COMMUNITY RESOURCES DIRECTORY

ORGANIZATION	CONTACT	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
50+ CHAIR/YOGA/CARDIO STRONG with JOAN	Call 902-213-6187 or email bfitjv@gmail.com	Fitness for 50+
Big Brothers Big Sisters of PEI	Website: www.bbbspei.ca Email info@bbbspei.ca or call 902-569-KIDS	Youth mentoring and volunteer opportunity
Canadian Tire Jump Start	Contact Kidsport PEI at 902-368-4110 or Recreation PEI at 902-892-6445	Help kids in need (ages 4-18) participate in organized sport
Citizen on Patrol - Stratford	Email copstratford@gmail.com Website: stratfordcop.wordpress.com	Volunteer program for community safety. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old.
ElderDog PEI	Call 902-969-2926 or email elderdogpei@gmail.com	Help with senior dogs (for seniors): dog walks, travel to vet appointments, and temporary or permanent rehoming
Go!PEI	Email rarsenault@townofstratford.ca	Support program for healthy lifestyle change and volunteering opportunity
Hospice PEI	Call 902-368-4498 or email hpcap@hospicepei.ca	Support families through hospice support and care programs
Immigrants & Refugees Services Association of PEI (IRSA)	Call 902-628-6009	Help for newcomers (immigrants and refugees) and volunteering opportunity
Island Karate Club	Email Sensei Kirk Dalziel at kdalziel@upei.ca Website: www.islandkarate.com Facebook page: (Island Karate Club)	Classes are Monday and Thursday nights at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Hall.
Kidsport Fund	Call 902-368-4110 Website: www.kidsportcanada.ca	Help kids in need participate in organized sport – offered through Sports PEI
Mayflower Seniors Club	Call Bruce Fitchett at 902-370-2295 for membership information	Senior activities
Privateers Football Club	Website: https://footballpei.ca/members/charlottetown/	Tackle football in U12, U14, U16 and U18 divisions
Reach Foundation	Call 902-620-0000 or email info@reachfoundation.ca	Support youth (under 30) from mental health or addictions challenges
Seniors College of Prince Edward Island	Email seniorscollege@upei.ca	Seniors Online Courses - To become a member, register at www.seniorscollege.ca
Seniors Navigator	Call 902-213-5820 or email seniors@gov.pe.ca	Support for seniors and their families. First Tuesday of the month from 10am-12pm at Stratford Public Library
Special Olympics PEI	Call 902-368-8919 or email sopei@sopei.com Website: www.sopei.com	Opportunities for individuals with an intellectual disability to participate in sport and volunteer
Stratford and Area Lions Club	Call Avery Blaxland at 902-569-2409	Volunteering opportunity
Stratford and Area Watershed Group	Call 902-367-3605 Website: www.stratfordwater.com	Protection and conservation of natural areas in Stratford and surrounding regions
Stratford Army Cadets	Email 20armycadets@gmail.com Facebook: (20stratfordarmycadets)	For youth ages 12-18 (no cost to join)
Stratford Community Choir	Call or text 902-367-6912 or 902-672-1814	Choir activities
Stratford Community Fridge	Call 902-628-6871	Volunteering/Donations opportunity. Operating hours Monday thru Friday, 9am to 5pm
Stratford Community School	Call Kathy Livingstone at 902-569-3098 or email stratfordcommunityschool@gmail.com	Courses & learning
Stratford Meals on Wheels	Call Sandra at 902-314- 8401 or dial 2-1-1	Meal delivery services
Stratford Public Library	Call 902-569-7441	Local Library (25 Hopeton Road, Stratford)
Stratford Scout Group	Call Steve Ellis at 902-218-4885 or email peislander1@hotmail.com Website: www.scouts.ca	Youth activities and volunteering opportunity

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 inquires	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 inquires 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.

STRATFORD TOWN TALK
PODCAST



New episode drops bi-weekly on Thursdays!

Get all your Town of Stratford info, programming, events and more in one spot!




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www.t3transit.ca

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Monthly pass: \$10

Adult
One-way fare: \$2
Monthly pass: \$20

Children
18 and under ride FREE

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

These discounts are made possible
with funding from the Province



NEW RESIDENT MEETUP

Are you a new resident of Stratford?

If you have recently moved to Stratford from elsewhere on PEI, within Canada, or internationally, let us welcome you and your family as you make Stratford your new home!



Saturday, September 13, 2025
10:00 - 11:30am
Stratford Town Centre
(234 Shakespeare Drive)



- Meet with Town of Stratford Mayor and Council.
- Learn more about the Town and our recreation facilities and events.
- Find out about volunteering opportunities.
- Meet some of the community groups and organizations in Stratford and find out what they have to offer.
- Connect with other new residents in the community.