



STRATFORD TENNIS CLUB

Introducing a new club in Stratford! Read more on page 9.



TOWN OF STRATFORD 30TH ANNIVERSARY

The Town is 30 years old! Read more on pages 14-15.



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Nominate a Stratford resident who has contributed to improving our community. Find out more on page 12.



TownTalk

BUILDING THE BEST COMMUNITY POSSIBLE

WWW.TOWNOFSTRATFORD.CA

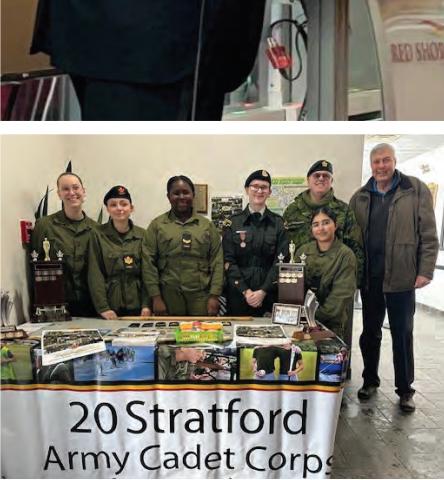
SUMMER 2025 EDITION



CANADA DAY

NEW LOCATION

Join us at Michael Thomas Waterfront Park!



MAYOR'S MESSAGE



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

Welcome to warmer temperatures and longer, sunnier days after an eventful winter for our town. By the time you read this, Canada will have elected a new government, and Stratford will have a new Member of Parliament (MP). We hope the new federal government will finalize funding for the much-needed Wellness Centre at our Community Campus. Additionally, we anticipate the completion of plans for a new Junior High School in the near future, which Stratford urgently requires to meet the needs of our growing population, and are excited about the progress on the construction of the high school.

As we enter this new season, your Council and I remain hopeful and optimistic about progress on several key priorities:

- **Wellness Centre** – The Province of PEI has pledged full support and funding for our Wellness Centre and while we have worked very hard to also secure the necessary federal funding we have not yet received a response. We will continue working with our new MP to ensure Stratford receives an acceptable level of federal funding. Local fundraising is underway, led by a generous \$500,000 donation from the Provincial Credit Union for a new Youth Centre that provides vital programming for our young residents.
- **Housing** – The new Official Plan and Zoning and Development Bylaw will be finalized this fall. Many new housing units have been added, and we are on track to meet our targets while ensuring Stratford remains affordable, sustainable, and attractive to families and businesses.
- **Infrastructure** – We have applied for federal and provincial funding for sewer and water infrastructure to support housing growth and are ready to begin work as soon as funding is approved.
- **Climate Change Preparedness** – Backup power is being installed at major pumping stations to ensure they remain operational during outages, strengthening our resilience to extreme weather, and protecting essential services and the environment.
- **Business Park Expansion** – Interest in our new Stratford Business Park lots has been continuing, which will lead to more jobs and economic growth. This expansion highlights Stratford's appeal for business, investment, and innovation.

This year, we celebrate Stratford's 30th anniversary! What began as five small rural communities has grown into a thriving town with a rich culture and an exceptional quality of life. Over three decades, Stratford's progress has been remarkable, yet our strong sense of community remains unchanged.

Since incorporation, Stratford's population has more than doubled, yet we have maintained our small-town charm. Our residents are dedicated volunteers, show mutual respect at public meetings, and embrace collaboration. This community spirit makes Stratford a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family.

Looking ahead, Stratford's journey will continue with growth, opportunity, and success. Together, we will keep building a town that is beautiful, welcoming, and vibrant for future generations. With the support of our residents, we will achieve even greater things—imagine that!

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



@StratfordPEI



town.of.stratford



@townofstratford

INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT



Under the Town of Stratford's Dangerous and Unsightly 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.

More information about this bylaw is available at www.townofstratford.ca

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.

UTILITY

> Subdivisions

In Stratford, developers are required to install sewer and water systems during development. Stratford Utility takes over the systems only after they are tested and approved. This summer, extensions are proposed on McCarron Way, Foxwood Flourish, and Kelly Heights while several other developments are in the concept phase.

> Completing 2024 Projects

Reinstatement work will be completed on the Corish sewer force main upgrade along MacKinnon Drive, including repaving of the active transportation path and driveway access to the sewer lift station on Stratford Road, by the Esso car wash. Contractors will also complete water, sewer, and electrical work within the Community Campus.

> 2025 Projects

The Utility is following through its plan for backup power at sewer lift stations. Work was tendered recently for the addition of five sewer lift station backup generators.



Existing Bunbury Road Sewer Lift Station Generator

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.

> Sump Pump Rebate Program

The Town of Stratford initiated the sump pump rebate program in 2024, which will continue through 2025 until funds are depleted. Residents who currently direct their sump pump water into the Town's sanitary sewer system may be eligible for up to a \$2000 rebate to redirect their sump pump and install a battery backup system for their sump pump. For more information, please contact ckoughan@townofstratford.ca.

SUMP PUMP REDIRECTION REBATE PROGRAM

Why participate?

- Compliance with existing bylaw
- Reduce unnecessary wastewater flows being treated by sanitary system (reducing volume pumped to Charlottetown Pollution Control Plant)
- Climate change mitigation
- Reduce the overload of systems during high rain/melting events
- Have a battery back up system installed

Learn more: www.townofstratford.ca

REBATES UP TO \$2000

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.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

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 DEPARTMENT

> Maintenance

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

> Active Transportation

This summer contractors will replace the existing sidewalk on Glen Stewart Drive, in front of the two schools, with a new wider paved multi-purpose path. This will then complete the dedicated active transportation path from Stratford Road to Kinlock Road, along Glen Stewart Drive and MacKinnon Drive.

The Town has applied for shared funding for several other locations, but at this point, have no definite project approved yet.

The Town has partnered again with Trans Canada Trail, who have provided funding to continue trail maintenance along the Trans-Canada trail. We thank them for their continued support of our Active Transportation Maintenance and Development Plan.

> Glen Stewart Drive & Stratford Road Intersection

The Province of PEI has made the Town aware of plans to make improvements at this intersection this year. They are currently in the project design phase and hope to have more information soon on timelines and proposed intersection changes.

> Speed Signs/Speed Humps

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

locations where issues are known to exist. The Town has a process for requesting a temporary speed hump, which requires a written request to be filled out by the person requesting the speed hump, and some guidelines to be met for final approval. Further information can be found on our website or by calling **902-569-1995**.

> Town Streets, Ditch Infilling, and Culverts

All roads, streets and ditches in Stratford are owned and maintained 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 note that any request to infill your ditch or replace a raised culvert must be directed to the Provincial Department of Transportation at 902-368-4770.*



> SPEEDING ENDANGERS EVERYONE ON THE ROAD

We ask and encourage everyone to drive responsibly. Please show respect to everyone on the road. If you want to report a speeding incident, please call the Stratford RCMP at

902-367-9300

(non-emergency line).



Not in your pipes!

Municipal sanitary sewer system pumps are not equipped to remove the following products from the wastewater.

Remember NEVER flush:

- Hazardous products used in home maintenance (such as paint, cleaning products), gardening products (fertilizers), or automobile care products.
- Fats, cooking oils, essential oils, polishing oils or motor grease
- Personal hygiene products (such as cotton buds/pads, disposable towels and others)
- Pharmaceuticals of any kind (pills or liquid)
- Woven fabric (such as disinfecting wipes, baby wipes, or any so-called "flushable" wipes)

These can cause major problems for pipelines and cause sewer backups in your home (resulting in an expense to the homeowner).

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE

> The Building Bylaw and National Building Code

Last year, 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

The Planning Department would like to remind residents of the following for the upcoming building season to best prepare for their summer 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.

> 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, 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. The bylaw is expected to be approved by mid-2025.



> Development Permits

From January to March 2025, the Planning Department has issued a total of 15 development permits. The following table shows a summary of development activities between January and March 2025.

SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT PERMITS January 1, 2025, to March 31, 2025

Permit Type	No. of Permits	Estimated Value
Single Detached Residential	4	\$2,983,050
Single Detached Additions/Renovations	3	\$320,000
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	1	\$5,000
Accessory Structures (Pools, Decks, Fences, Solar Arrays)	3	\$69,400
Demolitions	0	\$0
Commercial (New/Renovations,)	2	\$2,413,000
Industrial (New, Renovations, Additions)	0	\$0
Signage	1	\$5,000
Other	0	\$0
Institutional (New/Renovations)	0	\$0
Totals	15	\$6,495,450

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE



> Housing Accelerator Fund

On March 14th, 2024, The Honorable Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, officially announced that the Town has 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:

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 5 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.

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 20th, along with an online survey to obtain community input to ensure that the bylaw reflects the diverse perspectives and needs of our community.

Community input from residents, families, businesses and STR hosts will play an important role in shaping a bylaw that balances the interests of all involved.

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 construction costs 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 for the summer of 2025.

Online E-Permit System

As part of the Housing Accelerator Fund Initiatives, one of the Town's 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 summer 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



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

9-week summer camp
July 2 - August 29
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. Please check www.townofstratford.ca for weekly availability. For more information, please contact the Recreation Department at 902-569-6250.

> Under 4 Soccer

Saturdays
9:00am - 12:00pm
(45 mins sessions)
July 5 - August 23
Location: Business Park Mini Field
Age: 4 (born 2021)
Cost: \$85

Our under 4 soccer program is designed for fun and learning. Through game and play, children will learn the basics of soccer. Registration is open online or in person at the Stratford Town Centre.

> Intro to Sports

Tuesdays, July 8 - August 26
Time: 5:30 - 6:15pm (3 years old)
Time: 6:30 - 7:15pm (4&5 years old)
Stratford Town Centre Gym
Ages: 3-5 years old (must be 3 y/o before the start of the program)
Fee: \$85

This program introduces the fundamentals of soccer, basketball, tennis, and baseball. Every 2 weeks will be dedicated to a different sport. Registration is open online or in person at the Stratford Town Centre (max. of 20 in each group). Parents are asked to help each week.

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).

> Tennis (Pondside Park)

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).

> Town Center 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.

> 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.

> Scent-free

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



RECREATION, CULTURE & EVENTS

STRATFORD TENNIS CLUB



For Youth and Adults at Pondside
Tennis Courts!

2025 Membership Fee is \$48 per player.

The Stratford Tennis Club is a Not-for-Profit Corporation.

Volunteers Needed!

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the positions below, please email thestratfordtennisclub@gmail.com.

- League evening convenor or assistant
- Tournament director or assistant (hosting the Stratford Open May 30-June 1)
- Board member
- Social & hospitality lead or assistant

Schedule of Play

		May - June	July - September
Advance Dbles	Mon	5pm-9:30pm	4pm-9:30pm
Intermediate Dbles	Tues	6pm-9pm	5pm-9pm
Novice Dbles	Wed	5:15pm-9pm	5:15pm-9pm
Themes	Thurs	6:30pm-8:30pm	6:30pm-8:30pm
Social Dbles	Fri	5pm-8pm	5pm-8pm
Sat Dbles	Sat	9am-12pm	9am-12pm



Register on www.townofstratford.ca to become a member of the Stratford Tennis Club. Members need to be also registered with Tennis PEI to play (www.tennispei.ca).



HAVE YOU VISITED OUR SPLASH PAD?

The Town of Stratford Splash Pad is operational from late June to early September (watch our social media pages to find out when it opens/closes for the year) and is located at Stratford Town Centre (234 Shakespeare Drive). When it is open, the splash pad is operational from 10am - 8pm daily. It's a great spot for families to enjoy some cool water sprays during hot summers.



LOOKING FOR A GREAT OUTDOOR SPOT THIS SUMMER?

Visit Fullerton's Creek Conservation Park, where families can enjoy the 4km trail and kids can have fun at the natural playground located in the park! The playground was designed to mimic the foxes' natural habitat, with open layouts, a variety of spatial experiences, and elevated vantage points for adult supervision.

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



LET THE FUN AND EXPLORATION BEGIN!

RECREATION, CULTURE & EVENTS

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, Michael Thomas Waterfront 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.

> Public Art

The Town of Stratford is excited to introduce new public art in our community this summer. Mural Artists will be painting in the following locations:

- Pondside Park Building, July 20-26, Lacey and Layla Art
- Utility Building, Michael Thomas
- Waterfront Park, July 27-August 3, Lacey and Layla Art
- Barn, Cotton Park, August 4-18, ABSEN/John McPartland

Mural Artists were chosen based on RFP submissions, community and committee feedback, experience, and quality of work. If you missed giving your feedback for public art this time around, there will be more opportunities for interested community members to meet to discuss and select future

public art. For any artist interested in the opportunity to mentor with Lacey and Layla Art this summer, please contact Melanie at mweatherbie@townofstratford.ca.

> Fire Safety

With another hot summer on the horizon, we encourage residents to explore the FireSmart Canada program to learn how to protect your homes and properties from fires. Visit www.firesmartcanada.ca to learn more.



> Pride in the Park

**PRIDE
IN THE PARK**

Join us to celebrate PRIDE PEI with a family fun event full of joy and colour to demonstrate support for equality in our community!

Sunday, July 27, 2025
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM
Michael Thomas Waterfront Park

Highlights:
 BBQ presented by Town of Stratford Council - Kite Flying - Face Painting - Children's Foam Pit - Mini Dance Class - Rainbow Bracelet Making - Flag Raising - and more!

RECREATION, CULTURE & EVENTS

> Town of Stratford Poppy Project

Everyone is invited to crochet or knit poppies for the Town of Stratford Poppy Project. Our goal is now 8000 poppies, which will be tied on netting to drape and be displayed at Stratford Town Centre for Veterans' Week, including Remembrance Day on November 11, 2025. If you are interested in picking up yarn, attending a workshop to learn to crochet poppies, and/or wishing to volunteer to tie poppies to the drape, please contact Melanie at mweatherbie@townofstratford.ca. No poppies will be sold during this process. All crochet and knit poppies will be displayed in honour and remembrance of Veterans.



The Poppy Design is a registered trademark of The Royal Canadian Legion (Dominion Command) and is used with permission.

Looking for things to do in our community? Here's a Summer Inspiration List!

- Join us at Michael Thomas Waterfront Park for Canada Day
- Visit Off the Wallz Stratford for some active fun
- Collect food items to donate to the Community Fridge
- Find an organization to volunteer with in Stratford
- Borrow an activity kit from the Stratford Public Library
- Have a picnic at Kinlock Beach, Cotton Park, or Tea Hill Park
- Cool off at the Stratford Splash Pad
- Sign up with the Stratford Tennis Club for outdoor tennis play
- Take up a class/workshop in the community
- Ride your bike and enjoy our active transportation paths
- Sign up and become a member of the Stratford Area Watershed Group
- Try out the disc golf course at Stratford Town Centre
- Visit the natural playground at Fullerton's Park
- Enjoy a sunset stroll on the boardwalk at the waterfront
- Pick up takeout from any Stratford restaurant
- Explore a trail in Stratford you haven't walked before
- Visit all the neighbourhood playgrounds in our community



REMINDER TO DOG OWNERS

As you enjoy the trails and side-walks in our Town, please be a responsible dog owner by cleaning up after your dog and taking the dog poop bag with you to dispose of in the garbage. These are NEVER to be disposed of along the side of our roads, trails, and sidewalks.



TOWN OF STRATFORD SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Town offices will open from **8am to 4pm**, Monday through Friday, starting Monday, June 2nd and ending on Friday, September 26th.

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!

2025 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 2nd, 2025. 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 Stratford's freshwater resources is essential as our community continues to grow.



The Town is proud to support several water conservation initiatives that help residents reduce water use at home. Check out our website for more information.

In March, we participated in "Fix-a-Leak Week" in collaboration with the City of Charlottetown and the Town of Cornwall. This initiative encouraged residents to learn more about water conservation. The initiative was a success, with great community participation and some prizes won by residents!

> Forest Management Plan



The Town of Stratford is beginning to implement the recommendations of our Forest Management Plan, with the goal of enhancing biodiversity, improving climate resilience, and strengthening green spaces across our community.

Over the coming months, we'll be planting native trees and shrubs in key areas throughout Town-owned properties. These efforts support healthy ecosystems and provide long-term benefits for both people and wildlife.

> Community Gardens

The Town's community gardens are officially open for the season! These shared spaces support local food security, environmental stewardship, and community connection.

The Town of Stratford maintains a dedicated garden plot again this year, with all produce grown in this space being donated to community members in need. It's one more way we're working together to build a healthy, sustainable, and supportive community.



> Results Matter

This summer, the Town of Stratford will update its yearly reporting platform, Results Matter. This performance management system 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.

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

Below are some examples of the type of information available on the Results Matter website.

- Transit usage in our community
- Number of interpretive signs and public art installed in the Town
- Number of business units and commercial assessment in the Town of Stratford
- Resident satisfaction with the governance of the Town; accountability for actions taken and complete transparency in decision making.
- Program participation in Stratford Town programming
- Potable water quality and water consumption information.
- Number of water & sewer units serviced by the Town
- Residents' perception of neighbourhood crime and safety
- Number of trees planted and the preservation of natural areas in our community
- And many more interesting pieces of information!



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: jcorcoran@townofstratford.ca or register in-person at Stratford Town Centre Offices or the PEI Humane Society

STRATFORD'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY



30TH ANNIVERSARY LOGO

A logo was developed to recognize this anniversary milestone. The logo will be used throughout the year for Town communications, including social media, to mark 2025 as a meaningful year for our community.



History of the Town of Stratford

In early times, the Stratford area was a Mi'kmaq summer camping location. By the 1750s, Acadian families settled in the area and started economic activities, such as farming, shipbuilding, and brick making, followed by settlers of Scottish and English descent. The fertile land continued to attract small farmers and by the 1800s, small communities began to emerge. These communities formed the backbone of what would eventually become the modern town.

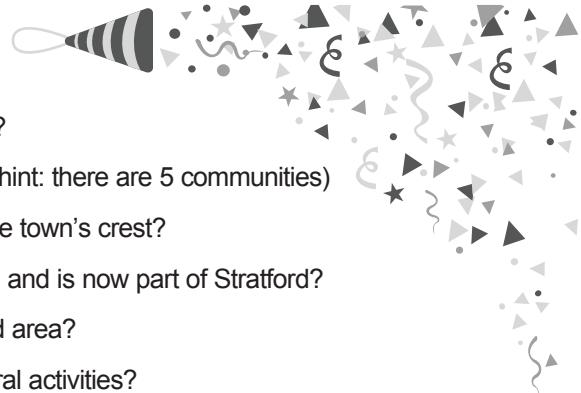
Back then, the area was connected to Charlottetown by ferry, and later by the Hillsborough Bridge, which greatly influenced development, enabling Stratford to become a residential suburb for people working in Charlottetown.

Stratford officially became a town in 1995, through the amalgamation of the former communities of Bunbury, Southport, Cross Roads, Keppoch-Kinlock and the unincorporated area of Battery Point. Since then, the town has grown rapidly. Today, Stratford is known for its welcoming neighbourhoods, active community life, and commitment to sustainable development.

Stratford Trivia

(Answers can be found on the next page)

1. In what year was the Town of Stratford officially incorporated?
2. What were the former communities that made up Stratford? (hint: there are 5 communities)
3. What is the meaning of the word "Stratford," as reflected in the town's crest?
4. Which former community was known for its summer cottages and is now part of Stratford?
5. Who was the first premier of PEI associated with the Stratford area?
6. Which community within Stratford was known for its agricultural activities?
7. What does the town's official crest symbolize?
8. What street in Stratford is named after an English poet and playwright?
9. What street is named after a ship's captain (who also captained The Bunbury) and ship builder in the community?
10. He built most of the homes in Reeves Estates and has a street named after him. What is his first name? (hint: last name is MacDonald)
11. What is Jubilee Road in Stratford named after?
12. The subdivision on MacIntosh Drive was owned by Malcolm Reeves. What was the land used for before it was developed?
13. What park is named after Island Mi'kmaq long-distance runner and long-time Stratford resident?
14. Can you name the current and past mayors of Stratford? (hint: there are 4 in total)
15. What street named in 2012 honours the contributions of PEI's Black Community (named in honour of the family)?



STRATFORD'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY



Until at least 1865, Mason Road was the sole entry into the community of Bunbury, entering from Cross Roads to the south. By 1880, a beach road connected the west end of Bunbury Road to Southport. Mason Road was named after the Mason family, which began with William Mason, who emigrated from England.

"From our humble beginnings to becoming one of the fastest-growing communities in PEI, Stratford's 30-year history is a testament to the strength and spirit of our residents. As we look to the future, we remain committed to fostering a vibrant, sustainable, and inclusive community for all." – Mayor of Stratford, Steve Ogden

> Legacy Book Project

As part of the Town of Stratford's 30th anniversary celebrations in 2025, the Stratford Legacy Book Project was developed as a meaningful and creative way to mark this milestone and honour the many residents who have helped shape our community.

Led by the Town's Diversity and Inclusion Sub-Committee and partially funded by the PEI Seniors' Secretariat, this intergenerational initiative was designed to bring together 15 long-time residents of our community and 15 youth residents in grades 5 through 12 to engage in conversations and preserve personal stories that reflect the heart and spirit of Stratford.

Following a public call for nominations, community members were invited to take part in the project. Local youth interviewed adult residents, capturing their memories, reflections, and experi-

ences of life in Stratford. The resulting written stories, each no more than 1,000 words, were curated and compiled into a special commemorative book. This anniversary book serves as both a tribute to the past and a gift to the future: a way for upcoming generations to connect with the people and stories that have shaped the town they call home.

The book was officially launched in May 2025 at a community event celebrating the Town's 30th anniversary. Copies are now available at Town of Stratford offices.

> Thank-You to the following Participants! (listed in pairs)

- Bill MacPhee & Remy Durocher
- David Ing & Kensi Gallant
- Don Chandler & Iker Cordero
- Edward Robillard & Alex Ma
- Edith MacLeod & Lachlan Gillan
- Glen Leigh MacEachern & Zoe Citrome
- Gordon Lawlor & Kyla Ssemanda
- Jack Reddin & Regan Smith
- Jean Hender & Breanne Deelstra
- Leslee Sack & Natalie Waters
- Marva Sweeney-Nixon & Sophie Spilchen
- Michael Farmer & Thomas Herink
- Patricia Mella & Edie Duncan
- Ray Stewart & Kethcia Kannelite Kesari
- Stuart Shepherd & Nick Zhang

"This project reminds us of our shared journey and the legacy we are building for future generations. As Mayor of Stratford, I am grateful to all those who have contributed their voices and memories and to the youth who have taken the time to listen, learn, and preserve these stories with care and respect." – Mayor of Stratford, Steve Ogden



TRIVIA ANSWERS

- 1. In 1995
- 2. Bunbury, Southport, Cross Roads, Keppoch-Kinlock, and Battray Point
- 3. "Road over Water"
- 4. Keppoch
- 5. Francis Haszard
- 6. Bunbury
- 7. The crest symbolizes the five founding communities and growth, featured in elements like maple leaves and budding branches
- 8. Shakespeare Drive
- 9. Captain James Crescent
- 10. Dewar MacDonald (Dewar Drive)
- 11. In honour of the late Queen's Golden Jubilee
- 12. An apple orchard
- 13. Michael Thomas Waterfront Park (named after Michael Jenkins, and David Dunphy were: Michael Farmer, Kevin Ogden and former mayors Shepard and Kesiach Wilson that Edmund Fanning brought with him to PEI. Their son, Benjamin, continued the Shepard family name on PEI)
- 14. Current mayor is Steve Thomas
- 15. Sheppard Drive (David Sheppard and Kesiach Wilson were two of the four slaves that Edmund Fanning brought with him to PEI. Their son, Benjamin, continued the Shepard family name on PEI)

GARDENING TIPS FROM THE TOWN'S HORTICULTURIST

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!



Gardening Tips

By now, we hope that you are “**planning**” your vegetable garden and perennial flower beds. With the increasing cost of food, it is even more important now to grow your own food. In doing so, you get to decide how to grow it and what to use as an organic way of dealing with pests and diseases.

The Town of Stratford held a gardening workshop this past winter and it was a pleasure to meet some fellow gardeners. It was four nights of fun, hands-on learning. This was a beneficial way to get started on growing plants (such as peppers and celery) that need to be planted early to reach maturity before the last frost for the season (typically around June 10th on PEI). If you do decide to start plants early next year, consider investing in a set of grow lights to help your plants grow strong and sturdy. You may even find them on sale this time of year!

Planning and planting your garden take time but use this time to really get to know your space and enjoy the feeling of being out in nature. When purchasing seeds, you may want to consider heirloom or open-pollinated ones. This means you can grow the plants, then save the seeds from them once they reach maturity, and plant

again the following year to achieve the same type of plant. This makes your garden more sustainable and reduces costs.

Whether you have a large or small space for growing, you will be amazed of what you can grow in that space. Some gardeners find growing in rows from north to south directions the best, as plants enjoy the full advantage of light. Others divide their gardens into square blocks where they grow a small amount of each vegetable in these spaces. This is known as square foot gardening. Growing plants that benefit one another, such as carrots with onion, tomato with basil, and cucumbers and beans, is known as companion planting. This is advantageous as it helps the plants grow healthier when next to the companion and reduces pest issues in a natural way.

If you do not like weeding, consider growing your vegetables in containers instead. Container-grown vegetables save time as they do not require weeding. They can also be convenient when grown right on your doorstep or patio deck. Certain types of plants can be grown vertically, such as beans and cucumbers, ideal for maximizing your space.

So, go ahead—start your home vegetable garden and see how much fun growing your own food can be. Take a “**leaf**” of faith!



Dispose of Invasive Plants Properly!

Do not put invasive plants in your compost cart when disposing of them. They should always go in your waste cart. Place invasive plants in a clear plastic bag and secure the bag. Write the plant name (or “invasive plant”) on the bag before placing it in your waste cart.

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

Mexico is a colourful and diverse country, rich in history, traditions, and flavours. With a population of over 126 million people and more than 60 Indigenous languages still spoken today, Mexican identity is a blend of Indigenous roots, Spanish heritage, and African influences. The result is a culture that is warm, welcoming, and full of life.

Here are some highlights about Mexican customs and traditions that help paint a picture of this beautiful culture:

> Hospitality is Everything

In Mexico, guests are treated like family. If you ever visit a Mexican home, do not be surprised if you are offered a warm meal, a drink, and lots of smiles—right away. It is all part of the culture's emphasis on generosity and connection.

> Food is not Just Food; it is Tradition

Mexican cuisine is deeply regional and full of soul. Tacos, tamales, pozole, mole, and enchiladas are just a few dishes that have become staples in many parts of the world. Street food is also a huge part of everyday life, with vendors serving everything from “elotes” (grilled corn) to sweet churros.

> Día de Muertos (Day of the Dead)

It is one of the most meaningful and visually striking celebrations in Mexico. Held on November 1st and 2nd, families honour their departed loved ones with altars decorated with candles, marigolds, sugar skulls, and favorite foods of the deceased.



It is a time of remembrance and celebration, not sadness—a way to keep memories alive across generations.

> Mexico's Independence Day (September 16th)

Often mistaken for Cinco de Mayo (May 5th), the Mexican Independence Day commemorates the start of the independence movement in 1810. The night before, families and communities gather to hear the traditional “Grito de Dolores” (The Cry of Dolores)—a symbolic call for freedom, echoed across plazas nationwide.

> Traditional Clothing Reflects Local Identity

During festivals, you may see people wearing embroidered blouses, “rebozos” (woven shawls), or “charro” suits. These outfits are often worn while performing folk dances like the “Jarabe Tapatío” (the Mexican Hat Dance) to the sounds of lively mariachi music.

> Family is at the Heart of Everything

In Mexican culture, family ties are strong and multigenerational, with a lot of respect for elders. Family gatherings—often loud, filled with laughter, and full of food—are an essential part of life.

> Mexico City is Full of Stories

Built on the ruins of the ancient Aztec city of Tenochtitlán, Mexico's capital is one of the oldest in the Americas. It is also one of the largest cities in the world—and interestingly, it is slowly sinking because it was built on a lakebed!

> Mexico Cuisine is UNESCO Recognized

Mexico's food traditions are listed as Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO. This recognition honours the cooking techniques, community rituals, and ancestral knowledge passed down through generations, especially in the making of dishes like mole and tamales.



Our **THANKS** to Latinos Association of PEI and Erick Corona for sharing the richness of Mexican culture with us!



SHARE YOUR STRATFORD SPIRIT!

Is there someone in the community you want to say "Thank You" to?

These can be anything from the simple, everyday achievements that often go unrecognized (but not unnoticed) or a community contribution that deserve recognition!

Fill out a form on our website to identify this person (and please include their address) and the Mayor will personally write a handwritten note to this outstanding individual to thank them!

JENN REDMOND, MLA

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.



Welcoming the Warmer Months

Winter brought many wonderful opportunities for us to get outside and enjoy all the snow-related activities that make our community special. From local rinks to neighborhood events, it was a season full of connection and shared experiences.

Over the past few months, I've had the privilege of meeting many of you, whether at community events, constituency days, or simply around town. Your feedback, ideas, and suggestions have been incredibly valuable, and I'm excited to continue working together to bring these ideas to life.

This spring, we hosted our district Annual General Meeting (AGM), and it was fantastic to reconnect with everyone who was able to attend. Thank you for taking the time to engage - it's always energizing to see our community come together.



As the Minister Responsible for the Status Women, I was pleased with the recent announcement of the bilateral agreement between the Federal and Provincial governments to support women's access to contraceptives.

This initiative empowers women and all individuals who rely on these contraceptives in PEI with the freedom and confidence to make informed choices about their health.

During the Spring Legislative Assembly, the Minister of Finance introduced the 2025-2026 operating budget for Prince Edward Island. This budget highlights the priorities that matter most to Islanders: healthcare, housing, affordability, and economic growth. There is continued investment in both early years and school aged childcare, increased funding to the George Coles Bursary, continued access to affordable transit transportation, and more. These financial investments will play a crucial role in helping our community thrive, and I'll be closely following their rollout to ensure our local needs are heard and met.

As we move into summer, I look forward to continuing our conversations and seeing many more of you at upcoming events and around the community.

Let's stay connected! Please feel free to reach out anytime by phone on 902-213-2297, by email at jredmondmla@assembly.pe.ca, or in person at my constituency office located at Stratford Emergency Services Centre on Mondays from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, or at other times by appointment. You can also follow me on Facebook (Jenn Redmond, MLA for Mermaid-Stratford) for updates on upcoming events!

Here's to a great summer ahead!

Sincerely,
Jenn Redmond
MLA Mermaid-Stratford

JILL BURRIDGE, MLA



Trump, Trade & Tariffs

Trade and tariffs have dominated the year, creating uncertainty and raising questions about the future. While we stay mindful of developments to the south, we focus on what we can control.

On April 10, we tabled the 2025–26 operating budget, which includes \$42 million dollars for tariff contingency and a working capital fund. These funds aim to provide direct support—it won't make companies whole, but a meaningful step forward. We're committed to working with business and industry leaders to ensure these programs meet real needs. If you have ideas, concerns, or questions, please reach out—we can set up a meeting within a week.

Key Highlights from the Operating Budget that Stratford residents may find of interest:

Income Tax relief: \$12.4M annually for businesses (corporate), \$9.5M for individuals (personal)

Bursary increases: George Coles and Marion L. Reid increased to \$3,500 – if you have kids heading to post-secondary, ensure you have looked through the details on both.

Home care: Permanent Self-Managed Care Fund and expanded At Home Caregiver Grant—\$10M+ investment. We have had several calls on these funds.

Childcare: Over \$10M to create or convert affordable childcare spaces, including new family home centers—a key need in Stratford. Operators interested in more information are encouraged to reach out.

Healthcare Update

Despite workforce challenges, we're making progress. We have 41 physicians signed in 2024 (13 in family medicine); 31 already practicing, 9 begin in 2025, and 1 in 2026, and we have 8 additional physicians signed in early 2025. This results in a net gain of 21 physicians in 2024.

PEI is also leading in healthcare workforce growth. According to the 2023 CIHI report, our supply of nurse practitioners grew from 7.6 per 10,000 in 2014 to 37.5 in 2023—more than double the national rate. Most NPs work with Health PEI, strengthening access to care for Islanders.

Progress is being made. Recruitment has been significantly improved, and it goes beyond doctors and nurse practitioners but to all key components of the health system including nurses and allied health professionals. Education support and pathways continue to be expanded to bring more Island students into the health workforce.

Looking Ahead

As we move into the warmer months, I hope you take the time to enjoy everything a PEI summer has to offer—whether it's a walk on the beach, a backyard BBQ, or cheering on our kids at a soccer or ball game. I'll also note that more than any other year, let's do what we can to support our incredible local businesses.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or my assistant, Danielle Sobey:

Email: jsburridgemla@assembly.pe.ca

Danielle: danielleesobey@gov.pe.ca

Phone: 902-213-2297

Let's keep the conversation going and have a safe and happy summer.

Sincerely,
Jill Burridge
MLA District 6 Stratford-Keppoch



.....

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 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.

We have had a busy spring and are looking forward to all the projects and activities we have planned for the 2025 field season. Here are some spring highlights and projects we will be working on this year:

> New Office Location

The SAWIG office is now located at 57 Bunbury Rd, Stratford PE C1B 1T8 in the Gertrude Cotton Building. Thank you so much to the Town of Stratford for making this space available to us – we appreciate your continued support.

WANT TO BECOME A SAWIG MEMBER? IT'S FREE!

Fill out a membership form on our website. By becoming a member, you become part of and support an organization that is striving to make a positive impact in the community and improve the ecological integrity of Stratford, Alexandra, Mt. Herbert, Hazelbrook, Pownal, and Earnscliffe.

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

- stratfordwater@gmail.com
- Stratford Area Watershed
- @stratfordwatershed
- www.stratfordwater.com
- (902) 367-3605

> PEI Science Fair



On April 8th, 2025, SAWIG attended the PEI Science Fair to provide hands-on activities to grade 7-12 students. Using the PEI Watershed Alliance's stream table, students learnt about stream dynamics, watershed management, and more!

> Water School



It was a busy April with Water School running throughout April at the Emergency Services Centre in Stratford.

This program began in 2011 and it is always a SAWIG highlight to help teach and run the program, so that approximately 500 grade 5 students from around Stratford and Charlottetown can learn about water conservation and watersheds.

SAWIG is proud to be part of such an impactful program that helps shape the environmentalists of tomorrow!

> SAWIG Healthy Headwaters Project

As part of a Wildlife Conservation Fund project, SAWIG will be looking at headwaters around our watershed boundaries to implement ways in which to improve the health of such an important part of freshwater systems. This will include performing assessments, some tree/shrub planting, invasive species removal, and the removal of any blockages negatively impacting our headwaters. We are excited to get started on this project and are thankful for the support of the Wildlife Conservation Fund.

> Saltmarsh Project



As part of our Nature Smart Climate Solutions fund project, we will continue to monitor the Keppoch Marsh (Kinlock Beach) area, which includes performing eel grass monitoring. Eel grass is such an important carbon sequestering aquatic plant, and we hope to learn more about the eel grass population in Stratford.



THANK YOU!

Thank you so much to all our generous members, sponsors, and funders who continue to support the work that we do.

RCMP IN STRATFORD



As the weather warms up and we wait in anticipation and excitement for all this summer will bring, now is the best time to remind ourselves all the ways to remain safe as the temperatures rise. The P.E.I. RCMP urges you to remember these 4 areas to protect yourself.

> Summer Safety for Cyclists

As more Islanders are hitting the roads and trails on two wheels, remember to:

- Wear a helmet, always: It's smart, and is law for riders of all ages.
- Use hand signals: Always let drivers know when you are turning or stopping.
- Ride on the right: Stick to the same direction of traffic and stay as far to the right as possible.
- Be visible: Wear bright clothes, lights, and reflectors at dusk or in low visibility.

> Summer Scams to Watch Out for: Don't Get Burned

Longer days, warmer nights, and unfortunately seasonal scams. Remain alert for these trends:

- Vacation rental scams: If that cottage deal seems too good to be true, it probably is. Verify listings and don't send e-transfers to strangers.
- Fake events tickets: Only buy festival or concert tickets from trusted vendors.
- If something feels off, please trust your instinct.

> Summer Checklist Safety Edition

P.E.I. summers are hard to beat, but to ensure maximum enjoyment, take note of this checklist.

At the beach:

- Swim in supervised areas
- Keep a close eye on children around water.
- Watch out for changing tides and currents.

Boating:

- Always wear a life jacket.
- Don't drink and drive. Yes, that includes boats.
- Make sure your vessel has the required safety gears.

Campfires & BBQs:

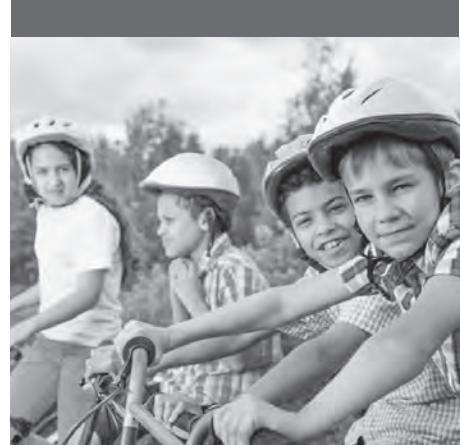
- Follow local fire bans and regulations.
- Never leave a fire unattended.
- Keep water or an extinguisher nearby, just in case.

> Speeding into Summer

With tourists and locals out exploring the Island, remember:

- Slow down in high foot-traffic areas.
- Watch out for pedestrians at crosswalks, near waterfronts, and at tourist attractions.
- Stay patient, rushing won't get you there faster, but it might get you a ticket.

Let's make summer 2025 safe, sunny, and siren-free.



ATTENTION: CYCLISTS

With the summer season, we expect to see more people out on their bikes. Please respect the rules of the roads and users.

- Remember to always 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.

STRATFORD COMMUNITY GROUPS

STRATFORD COMMUNITY CHOIR CELEBRATES 25 YEARS



The Stratford Community Choir is celebrating its 25th Anniversary and is inviting everyone to its celebration concert on June 1 at 2:00pm at Spring Park United Church in Charlottetown. Directed by Lori Linkletter, the choir is working hard to produce a memorable event. The celebration concert will present some great choral singing, featuring several genres. Kelly Mooney, a former charter member, is also joining us as a special guest. Tickets are available from choir members or at the door. Ticket prices are \$15.00 per individual and \$20.00 a family.

This choir was the dream of Dunstan MacDonald, who wanted a choir in the Stratford area. With the help of his wife, Heather, friends Neil and Gail MacDonald, and the mayor of that time, Michael Farmer, that dream came to fruition in 1999. The Town of Stratford supported the choir initially and they were ambassadors for the town at several "Stratfords of the World" cultural gatherings worldwide. The choir has sung at many venues over the years and has earned awards in numerous music festivals.

> Stratfords of the World

Please join us in 2027, from September 22-28, for the next Stratfords of the World Reunion taking place in Stratford, PEI. Sister Cities Organization includes six Stratford's in five countries: United Kingdom, Ontario and PEI Canada, New Zealand, Australia and USA. The reunion, held every two years, bring citizens of all the Stratford's together in the designated Stratford hosting the event. Each town is scheduled to be the reunion host approximately every twelve years. The most recent reunion was held in Stratford, Taranaki, New Zealand, in January 2025. The result: friendships that last over time and distance, and appreciation for the way of life in other countries.

Planning is underway for the 2027 reunion in PEI. All are welcome to participate, and volunteers are needed (please note you do not have to be a resident of Stratford to get involved). For more information, please contact Chair Debbie Reid at debbie.reid1234@outlook.com or **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 20armyca-dets@gmail.com or connect with us on Facebook (20stratfordarmyca-dets).

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**.

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.

STRATFORD COMMUNITY GROUPS

> 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 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**.

2025 HERITAGE AWARD

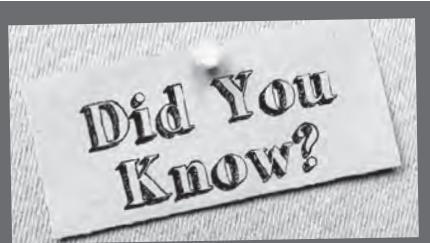


The Town of Stratford Heritage Sub-Committee was one of 20 individuals and 8 groups to receive the 2025 Heritage Awards from the PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation for the work they did in memorializing the service of Canadians in both World Wars. This work ensures the sacrifices and contributions of our veterans are honoured and never forgotten.

Congratulations for this well-deserved award!



STRATFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY



WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT PLANNING?

Be sure to check out the FREE Planning 101 courses, which were developed as part of the Shape Stratford project. A great way for you to learn what planning is, why we plan in our communities, how it works, and how it is applied. This series of short courses are available at shape.townofstratford.ca.



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!

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday:	Closed
Tue & Wed:	9:30am - 8:30pm
Thu to Sat:	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 peplis.overdrive.com/ to check out some of the thousands of titles that are available without a trip to the library!



Library Events

> Nature Club

Stories and nature-themed activities in the beautiful parks of Stratford. Registration required.

Ages 6-12

> Maker Magic

Discover new crafts and join us for stories! New crafts and activities each week, for all ages and crafting ability.

All ages

> Sensory Stories

Discover a new way to experience stories in an interactive environment with Ashley.

All ages

> 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

> STEAM Fun for Everyone

New experiments, activities, and fun every week!

Ages 6-12

> Teen Writers Group

Share your stories, express yourself, and keep up your skills through the summer.

Teens only

Giant board games, prizes, scavenger hunts 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

Dynamic Monitors

Keough O'Brien Shea Chartered

Professional Accountants

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.bbbbspei.ca Email info@bbbbspei.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 hpc@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 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 Inquiries	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 Inquiries	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.

**See your
business
here in the next
issue.**

Contact Wendy at
wwatts@townofstratford.ca
to learn more
about advertising
in Town Talk!



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

A few ideas to begin your emergency preparedness:

- Access the province's Emergency Preparedness Guide (download or print to have this useful resource at your fingertips)
- Put together a 72-hour emergency kit and check on your kit periodically in case any item needs replacing.
- Talk to your kids about emergencies (explain the different kinds and involve them in your planning).
- Make a plan (what would you do if there's an emergency and the family isn't together? And what if cell phones don't work?)

Spread the word! Encourage your friends, family and neighbours to prepare as well.



**Take
Transit
Today!**

902-566-9962 (ext 105)
www.t3transit.ca

Senior | Student
One-way fare: \$2
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





TOWN OF STRATFORD CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS



JULY 1, 2025, FROM 1:30 - 4 PM

NEW LOCATION: MICHAEL THOMAS WATERFRONT PARK

- Live Entertainment: Mi'kmaq Heritage Dancers, Tiffany Liu Trio, Chinese Society of PEI Dragon Dancers, Havenwood Dance Studio, and more!
- Bouncy Castles
- Face Painting
- Children's Foam Pit (please remember to bring a towel)
- Strawberries and Ice Cream
- Cake
- And lots more!



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien

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.