



St. Alban's, NL



Strong Roots



The Resident Connection

Volume 3 Issue 4: Fall & Holiday Season 2015



Town of St. Alban's

"A Proud History and Hometown Strong"



SEASON'S GREETINGS

Season's Greetings to One & All ...

Your town council, council staff, all town departments and town committees extend sincere wishes for a safe and joyous holiday season to all residents, area residents, visitors to the town and area during the holidays, and everyone seeing this message. Please take every opportunity to keep community spirit strong and remember the true spirit of Christmas.

HOLIDAY SAFETY & THANKS

Thanks to the volunteer fire & rescue dept., emergency health services, our health professionals and all related support personnel for protecting our community and area by standing on guard for all. During the holiday season and all year long, safety and care is strongly encouraged in all your activities. This time of year please also use caution from safety of Christmas trees and holiday decorations to taking care during holiday celebrations.

Sincere thanks to all volunteer groups and organizations - you make the town and area stronger all year! Particularly at this time of year, the Christmas spirit from various community activities and events from tree lightings, parades, Santa treats for kids, fireworks, happy tree, church pageant, dinner theatre, school concerts, religious celebrations of all faiths, and all acts of community spirit (too many to list) are not possible if it were not for the many dedicated and supportive organizations, businesses, committees, volunteers, and individuals. It takes everyone to make our town and area a true community. The Christmas spirit is alive and well in the community, the community spirit is great!

TOWN OFFICE

Public Service Hours:

9:00 am to 4:00 pm / Monday to Friday

Office & Emergency Contact:

Phone: 538-3132

(For after-hours emergencies such as water shut off, etc. call 538-3132 to get the on call contact #s via recording.)

Email: st.albans@nf.aibn.com

Website: www.stalbans.ca

Facebook: **St. Alban's, NL**

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Council meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month (Tuesday in case of Council designated holiday).

Council meetings are open to the public. To add an item to the agenda please contact the council office. If a delegation wishes to address council, please make a request and designate a spokesperson.



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YOUR COUNCIL UPDATE

Budget 2016 and Details to Be Circulated in the New Year

Council, staff, and all departments have been reviewing short term and long terms goals as well as related revenues and expenditures. The details and highlights will be communicated in early 2016. The process of long term planning began last year and efforts will continue ongoing to that end as there are major infrastructure priorities.

Community Engagement – Thanks to All Participants

Thank you to the many individuals, organizations, and businesses that completed the on-line community design surveys, attended community organization or business engagement sessions, and/or attended the public community design workshop in November. Council acquired funding to engage a consultant firm with a focus on municipal planning and community design. The report will be received in due course from the consultant and the goal of this project is to utilize the input from the community to make our community even better long term for all from youth to seniors, from families to businesses, from roads to recreation, and much more.

A Special Thank You to Council Staff, All Departments, & Service Providers

Council most sincerely thanks all council staff, departments, and service providers for keeping our Town running. These folks keep our finances and local government in order, our critical systems running, our services in place, our public buildings and grounds maintained, our community protected, our community active, and get our essential services back on-line when unexpected events cause outages or decreased capacity. The Town is increasingly complex from regulations to legislation, from complex revenues and ever increasing costs/needs, and from increasing demands of critical systems to need for more long term projects in all priority areas. All staff and volunteers (fire and rescue, recreation, and others) are vitally important and very busy.

Bay D'Espoir Medical Centre Doctor Shortage

The Mayor is regularly communicating with Central Health and advises as per recent follow-ups that coverage of locums well into 2016 is in place as well as recruitment activities to which has been positive that ultimately should fill two family doctor positions soon. There is another Nurse Practitioner being sought as well. In the meantime, local emergency services and limited appointment coverage levels are in place, but of course not as optimum as they will be when staff levels are normalized.

Mayor's Message on New Year's Resolutions

It will soon be the time that everyone thinks about self-improvement and pledges of commitment. There are many rewarding options to make 2016 fulfilling and one of them is volunteering and service to others and the community. Now in my third year as Mayor, I have been involved by way of Mayor invites or otherwise participating in many community events, activities, meetings, celebrations, memorials, and more. The community has many great committed volunteers but there's always room for more folks to come forward or additional ones to help out our organizations. The average age of volunteers is increasing and more seniors are welcomed too but more folks in my generation and younger will also be important now and ongoing. It is very rewarding to help others and socially it is a great way to be connected with folks. I know life is busy from work, family, and other commitments but you will always be more fulfilled by lending a hand – nothing compares. No effort or deed is too small! My life has changed substantially since becoming involved with the Town and other activities. It is a life style and I have no regrets. I only try to do my part as so many others do in service to community. My whole life presently revolves around making it work in combination with my wife for the different causes she gets involved in helping out. There are so many families that do much more. Make it work for your family – there is a different opportunity waiting for everyone and every family that is in a position to be able to serve others. Best of the New Year to All!

PEOPLE FEATURE

This Issue – Let's remember and honour all those folks that passed away in the past year and prior years, particularly at this time of year. Our family, friends, neighbours, veterans and service personnel that we have lost leave their positive impact on our community, area, and beyond.

Together lets also support all folks, from youth to seniors, that could benefit from guidance, an extra hand, and/or just a smile!

Digging, Building, Dismantling, Paving, etc.? Plan Ahead and Check For Required Approvals & Permits

Don't risk your time and investment for non-compliance to regulations and/or required approvals. Improper land use impacts costs to all taxpayers as per complicated maintenance of town and effects on other properties. Council prefers to reduce the need for stop work and/or removal orders.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Fire Department: 538-3000
Emergency Services: 538-3117
Police: 882-2230
Medical Centre: 538-3244
Or to Get a # call 911
(911 is directory service)
Visit www.stalbans.ca and click the "Emergency Contacts" and "Emergency Preparedness" links in the red bar at the top of each webpage in the website.

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES?

Check out the below sites:
www.getprepared.gc.ca
www.gov.nl.ca/fes/emo/