



THE Town Beacon

NEWS & INFORMATION FROM THE TOWN OF YARMOUTH



Garden highlights: 900 plants; 8-foot floral wreath of remembrance with banner; 2 interpretive panels; ample supply of passion and hard work.

David Sollows & Todd Muise planting their memorial garden in Cervia, Italy.

Two Gardeners, One Tribute: Yarmouth's Memorial in Cervia

The Town Beacon (TB) checked in with Yarmouth Communities in Bloom members David Sollows and Todd Muise (our outstanding Parks Supervisor) after their recent trip to the “Cervia Città Giardino” event, where they built a memorial garden under the festival theme “Flowers of Freedom, Roots of Hope.”

TB: Can you tell us how you ended up being invited to Cervia, Italy, to build a garden for this prestigious festival?

Dave and Todd: Cervia, known as the Garden City, hosts the world's largest open-air display of floral art. It began with Italian towns, expanded to other European communities, and now includes North American Communities in Bloom participants. This year Yarmouth, Stratford (Ontario) and Maple Ridge (B.C.) answered the invitation.

TB: In one or two sentences, how would you sum up your overall experience in Cervia?

Dave and Todd: It was an overwhelming, well-organized experience supported by the city and our former Communities in Bloom judge, Mauro Paradisi. We

shared our story while learning the stories of other communities. The City of Cervia graciously covered the cost of all our accommodations, meals and all of the soil and plant material we used.

TB: Can you briefly describe the memorial garden you built—size, layout and the main features?

Dave and Todd: Our memorial honored Yarmouth soldiers and promoted peace. It featured an 8-ft red floral wreath with a purple “Lest We Forget” banner across its diameter, set inside a yellow multi-pointed star and alternating wide red and white bands radiating to the garden edge. The plantings totaled almost 900 plants over 50 square metres.

TB: How did the garden's design reflect the festival theme?

Dave and Todd: Through the wreath of remembrance and our colour palette—red, white, yellow/gold and the purple ribbon—we embodied the festival's theme of “Flowers of Freedom, Roots of Hope.” While not planned, our garden's message linked naturally with neighbouring Stratford's “River of Peace” and Maple Ridge's

peace-sign garden, so the three installations together reinforced themes of peace and remembrance.

TB: We understand that your garden honours Yarmouth County soldiers who died in Italy during World War II? Can you explain how?

Dave and Todd: Our garden includes an interpretive panel that indicates the locations of Yarmouth soldiers who were killed in Italy during World War II. We had no idea where this would lead when we started. In the process of doing the research for the project, Todd discovered that in the nearby Coriano Ridge Cemetery lie four Yarmouth soldiers - all with connections to members of our Yarmouth Communities in Bloom committee. We took an opportunity to visit that cemetery and honour

those men with a wreath and flags. The interpretive panel includes a QR code that takes people to the website of the Wartime Heritage Association and our town website where the 32 soldiers from Yarmouth County buried in Italy are named and recognized.

TB: Did you use any plants, materials or symbols that tie directly to Yarmouth or Nova Scotia?

Dave and Todd: We used 100 strips of Nova Scotia tartan with pins for Canada, Nova Scotia, Yarmouth Town, Yarmouth County and Argyle, and 200 Veterans Affairs pins showing two poppies with a maple leaf to honor those who paid the price for peace. The interpretive panel included QR codes linking to the Town of Yarmouth site,

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From the Mayor's Desk



JMood

Photo: Mayor Mood holds her youngest grandchild, Silas, who is loving Frost park.

“WHY?”

When I began my Mayoral journey nearly 14 years ago, my information scope on many of the logistical municipal issues was, well, limited. As a leadership expert, leading would be the easy part. Learning the ins and outs of the wild ride of municipal life would come with time and a deep desire to learn. One doesn't have to know everything, but the importance of being surrounded by a team that has the answers is vital. Thankfully I've been blessed with a great team! It's a standing joke that at my first Council meeting, I whispered to my CAO, "I've never run a meeting." He answered, "Just follow Roberts Rules and you'll be fine," to which I responded, "Who the heck is Robert?" If you don't get it, google Roberts Rules. I'm still laughing.

Thankfully, I don't embarrass easily. As long as I learn through any missteps or lack of understanding, it's a win. I'm often asked what helped most in my (still) learning journey. My answer is one word: **WHY**.

Within my first week, I walked into my CAO's office and with frustration in my voice, said, "Why on earth do we 'X'?!? Feel free to fill in the 'X' with a question you've asked about the Town, because we've all asked many. It was meant to be a rhetorical question, no answer required. We needed to put a halt to the issue I had "asked" about

because I could not for the life of me understand why things were done that way. His answer was the beginning of a learning process that has guided my path since then: "Great question, Mayor... WHY?" He smiled and I knew I was about to get appropriately schooled. Another great moment on the learning train! And oh, how I love that question, when asked with the intent to genuinely understand the issue at hand: **WHY**.

I get questions every day in any number of forms. Some are kind and are genuinely seeking answers. Some come with various levels of frustration. Many have come in such hateful forms of accusation that they can't be repeated here. Others come, like my first question did, with a simple lack of understanding of the situation, but not necessarily with an open mind to receiving the answer. I welcome every single one. My intent here is to help us as a community by encouraging the most inquisitive, information-gleaning question: **WHY**. That one question, asked for the right reasons, has the ability to mitigate a plethora of arguments, frustration and misunderstandings and help our community come together in such great ways.

There's no possible way to answer all questions in this column, but let's cover a few, understanding you each have your own!

WHY does the Town not spend more on paving roads?

First, in comparison with other towns and cities across the Province and Country, we're in good shape. Yes, hard to believe, but we are. We have a budget for paving but the issue is that we are over 265 years old, so bigger paving projects means we have to dig below and tackle the older-than-the-dirt-it's-covered-in infrastructure: water/sewer pipes and more. Projects are in the millions of dollars. The only way to do more is to tax higher, and we won't do that. So we continue to seek funding opportunities and a fair and equitable roads program. As it stands now, the Province looks after rural roads (outside of towns), but Towns (all of them) are on their own to pay for paving, sidewalks, plowing and more. Until a fair and equitable way to do this is implemented, we stick to what we can do without overcharging our residents.

WHY are taxes so high? They're not. Our Town taxes are right in the middle Provincially – half are lower than ours and half are higher. We are where we should be for a town our size. And we hit wayyyyy above our weight when it comes to services we provide. That's testament to the strong team keeping us financially on track and to our many amazing inter-municipal agreements with our neighbors. Together we can do more!

WHY doesn't the Town build more housing that is needed?

Because it's the Province's mandate to look after housing. It's like asking a restaurant to fix cars. Two separate entities. What the Town does is "set the table": we do the land planning, work with the developers to get the job done, and much, much more. But we do not build housing. We advocate for it. And look what's landed in the last few months! Check out the Planning & Development update on housing and other projects on page 6. We're well on our way!

WHY is beautification so important?

I love this question. It's **HUGELY** important. Want more funds available for more services? That happens through taxation. Taxation happens when people build, set up businesses, update properties, etc. No one is going to set up a business between two places that look like they should be torn down. So we paint. We fix. We beautify. Many folks move into the community with the expectation of amenities. So we set those up as well, for the benefit of everyone. We don't all have to like everything that's done. But understanding **WHY** goes a long way towards alleviating some of the comments that serve only to turn folks away, instead of drawing them to us for all the right reasons. The work done on Main Street, yes, including the bumpouts that some love to hate and others fully understand and appreciate, has brought us international recognition. That in turn brings developers and more people choosing Yarmouth as home. It's all part of building community. A beautiful, welcoming community with as many services and extras as we can provide within our means. And frankly, we are doing a great job on this front!

WHY do we invest money in grants to organizations?

I'm often asked this one. We know the non-profit sector is hugely important to our community. They do wonderful work. Property owners – non-profit or otherwise – pay taxes. It's the law. It's the understanding and expectation upon purchasing a property for any reason. Taxes are a cost to the organizations, not to the town taxpayers. However, because we know the importance of the work they do, we opt to do regular grants and tax grants to those organizations that are in keeping with our grants policy. Full amounts requested are not given, but lesser ones are, which we hope are helpful and appreciated. The point here is that when it comes to dollars and where they are spent, the choice is given to individual residents to donate to the non-profits they care about most, adding to any amount given by the Town. It removes the need to increase taxes for everyone (which would happen if we gave full amounts to all requests) and puts it into the proper hands: with the organizations who can do federal and provincial grant applications and fundraising and with the community members who get to choose where their money goes. It's a win-win. If you're interested, you can find a full list of the latest grant recipients on page 4.

That's only a couple of the hundreds of questions I get, but it's a start. This column is meant to point us in the right direction. To help grow the community. Make it the best place possible. That's done when we are all rowing in the same direction, with the facts in front of us! Are you in?

I sincerely encourage you to reach out to myself and/or Council with any questions you may have (our contact information is on the next page). The daily conversations at the kitchen table or in coffee shops are riddled with great **WHY** questions, but what's most important is to seek the answers. We have them. Please reach out. We'd love to hear from our Town of Yarmouth residents and businesses!

WHY? Because we live here too and your concerns are our concerns. We will never perfect everything, but we're committed to getting as close as we can. Ask away.....





From Town Hall



COUNCIL MEETINGS ROUNDUP

Here’s a quick roundup of some key discussions and decisions from the April, May, and June Town Council Meetings. You can find **more detailed information on all of these items** and other decisions made by accessing minutes from each meeting at www.townofyarmouth.ca

April 9th

- Council approved the 2026-2027 Capital Budget. Highlights can be found in the spring issue of the Town Beacon. Visit: townofyarmouth.ca/theBeacon to access past issues.
- Council awarded the following tenders:
 - » the Yarmouth Ferry Terminal bonded warehouse roof replacement to East Roofing in the amount of \$53,352.00 HST included.
 - » a new plow truck to East Coast International for \$279,385.077 plus HST for a total cost of \$318,499.77.
 - » granular materials for the 2026 season to Quality Concrete Inc. pending required testing.
 - » paving and patching for the 2026 season to Aberdeen Paving Ltd.
 - » sidewalk and curb program for the 2026 season to D’s Decorative Concrete.
- Council approved allowing the Mariners Centre Management Authority to borrow up to \$1.9 million from Coastal Financial Credit Union as short-term financing for the project, with the loan repaid within a year using a fall provincial debenture. The loan will have negotiable interest, be secured by the building (and any other required security), and be on terms acceptable to CFCU and MCMA.
- Council passed first reading to amend the Public Places

Bylaw to prohibit urinating or defecating in public.

- The Body Worn Cameras Policy was adopted as presented.
- Council approved the proposed amendments to the Town of Yarmouth Public Participation Program Policy, to formalize the use of digital Public Hearing notices for planning matters, in accordance with Section 206 of the Municipal Government Act.

May 14th

- Council passed second reading to amend the Public Places Bylaw to prohibit urinating or defecating in public.
- Council approved amending the Grant Policy and it shall not be effective until September 16, 2026.
- Council approved tax grants for 2026-2027 (see “2026-2027 Grant Recipients” on page 4).
- Council appointed Ning Liang as a Development Officer for the Town of Yarmouth.
- Council directed staff to temporarily store any deceased animals they collect and purchase a microchip scanner as recommended by staff.
- Council directed staff to develop an orientation governance policy for citizen advisory committees.

June 18th

- Council approved operating grants to organizations for 2026-2027 (see “2026-

2027 Grant Recipients” article on page 4).

- Council passed first reading of the new Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw (A public hearing will be held on July 9th).
- Council voted in favour of supporting the Garden Club’s request to install an interpretive panel on the corner of Main and Brown Street.
- Council voted to direct staff to conduct a public engagement survey to inform future phases for expanding road trails.
- Council directed staff to investigate making Store Street one way.



TOWN COUNCIL

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You can find more information about our Mayor and Council at:
www.townofyarmouth.ca/council



QUICK CIVIC TIP: MINIMUM HOUSING STANDARDS BYLAW

Did you know that the Town of Yarmouth has a Minimum Housing Standards Bylaw? The bylaw sets the town’s minimum rules for safe, healthy homes — for owners, tenants, and occupants. Key points to know:

- Complaints must be in writing with a valid name and phone number (forms at the Planning & Economic Development office or online).
- The Building Official inspects properties, can enter in daylight with 24-hour written notice (or immediately in emergencies), and may bring experts if needed.
- If a home fails to meet standards (heat, plumbing, exits, structural soundness, smoke/CO alarms, electrical, ventilation, etc.), the Official issues an Order to Comply with required fixes and a reinspection date. Owners can submit a repair schedule for

approval.

- If orders aren’t followed, the Town can issue tickets, stop residential use, do emergency repairs up to \$1,500, and place costs as a lien. Continued noncompliance can lead to fines (up to \$5,000) and other penalties.

You can find an online version of the bylaw as well as a complaint form on our website at: townofyarmouth.ca/minimumstandards You may also request a paper copy at Town Hall, 400 Main Street.

If you wish to have more information or want to speak with someone about issues you are facing, contact the Town of Yarmouth Planning & Economic Development/Building Official (See list of Town contacts on Page 5).





From Town Hall

2026-2027 Grant Recipients

Community grants are awarded each year to recognize the important contributions of not-for-profit organizations that bring valuable benefits to the Town. Grants are classed as either operating, which are intended to cover expenses associated with starting and operating various programs and/or services; or tax, which are intended to cover property tax expenses. The following organizations submitted applications before the April 15th deadline and received community grants.

Property Tax Grant Recipients:

Organization	Grant Amount
Aidaen's Place	\$1,070.00
Boys & Girls Club	\$16,790.00
HOPE Centre	\$14,500.00
Kaye Nickerson Centre	\$19,140.00
Land's End Arts & Culture Society	\$2,630.00
Lions Club	\$4,070.00
Parents' Place	\$8,230.00
Scotia Sportsmens Association	\$430.00
Sharon Assembly Church Board	\$560.00
Southwest Nova Transition House	\$3,750.00
Tri-County Women's Centre	\$3,360.00
Yarmouth County Historical Society	\$55,680.00
Yarmouth Life Skills	\$8,860.00
TOTAL	\$139,070.00

Operating Grant Recipients:

Organization	Grant Amount
Chebogue River Aquatic Club	\$460.00
Friends of Ellenwood Park	\$610.00
Friends of the Yarmouth Light (Harbourfront Museum)	\$2,500.00
Jocelyn Stewart Foundation	\$550.00
Justin's Crew Addiction Awareness Society	\$1,040.00
Kespu'kwitk Metis Council	\$160.00
Lands End Arts and Culture Society	\$460.00
Meadowfields School Outdoor Classroom Project	\$690.00
Parents Place	\$2,930.00
People First NS Yarmouth Chapter c/o YACRO	\$3,000.00
Sara Corning Society	\$1,000.00
Save Our Shores -	

Maritime Society	\$790.00
Seafest	\$4,930.00
Shag Harbour Incident Society	\$740.00
Sharon Assembly Church	\$1,170.00
SW Nova Biosphere	\$830.00
Th'YARC	\$2,140.00
Tri-County Flying Association	\$190.00
Tri-County Tridents Rugby Football Club	\$400.00
Tri-County Women's Centre:	
Bike Again Yarmouth	\$1,190.00
We've Got Your Backpacks	\$3,710.00
Western NS Arts & Heritage Society	\$710.00
Yarmouth County Agricultural Society	\$670.00
Yarmouth County Historical Society	\$510.00
Yarmouth County Pickleball Club	\$370.00
Yarmouth Curling Association	\$710.00
Yarmouth Events Association - Ultramarine	\$860.00
Y-Con Science Fiction Association	\$3,430.00
TOTAL	\$36,750.00

The next application deadline for **operating grants** is September 15th, 2026.

Congratulations 2026 Bursary Recipients!

Each year the Town awards up to four bursaries of \$1000 each to Town of Yarmouth residents pursuing post-secondary education. Two bursaries are reserved for applicants entering university, and two are reserved for those entering community college or a technical/trades related program. Here are this year's recipients:

- Amare Gabriel**
Amare is attending NSCC (Burrige Campus) where he will study Social Services.
- Audrey Veinot**
Audrey will attend Saint Mary's University this fall, where she will begin work on a Bachelor of Science (Biology major).
- Angus MacKenzie**
Angus will get to work this fall earning a Bachelor of Engineering at Dalhousie University.
- Brianna Dugas**
Brianna will use her bursary toward earning a Practical Nursing Diploma at NSCC (Burrige Campus).

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Yarmouth's Town Council meets on the second Thursday of every month at 6:30 PM in the Council Chambers at Town Hall, 400 Main Street. Everyone is welcome to attend. You can also watch our regular monthly council meetings live on Eastlink Community TV, or through our livestream service on our website at www.townofyarmouth.ca. "Committee of the Whole" meetings are open to the public, and available to watch through our livestream service.

Thursday, July 9th, 6:30 PM Regular Town Council Meeting	Thursday, August 27th, 3:30 PM Committee of the Whole Meeting
Thursday, July 23rd, 3:30 PM Committee of the Whole Meeting	Thursday, September 10th, 6:30 PM Regular Town Council Meeting
Thursday, August 13th, 6:30 PM Regular Town Council Meeting	Thursday, September 24th, 3:30 PM Committee of the Whole Meeting

Please Note: meeting dates are subject to change. When dates change, we issue notices on our website, through our "Alertable" community notifications service, and on our Facebook page. If you can't make it to a meeting, video and minutes can be found on our website.

Your Town News

"Two Gardeners, One Tribute: Yarmouth's Memorial in Cervia" - Cont. from page 1

Yarmouth and Acadian Shores Tourism, Communities in Bloom, and the UNESCO Southwest Nova Biosphere. The legion provided poppy stickers; our MP Chris d'Entremont supplied Canada pins and flags; MLA Nick Hilton provided Nova Scotia pins. These items were shared with visitors until they were gone. We presented Mayor Mirko Botchelli with three framed Yarmouth medallions and a Town of Yarmouth flag, and Bruna Rondoni and Mauro Paradisi each received framed medallions.

TB: What was the most memorable moment during the build, unveiling, or while at the festival?

Dave and Todd: There were many memorable moments: watching our vision take shape during the build, a child's delighted reaction to a Canadian flag, the spontaneous singing of O Canada at the wreath laying, visiting gravesites of Yarmouth connections and seeing gravestones marked "To an Unknown Soldier." Meeting a team from Ukraine and realizing Canadians' sacrifices still mattered to Italians were also deeply moving.

TB: What did you learn from working with international garden and park experts that you

think will benefit Yarmouth?

Dave and Todd: We learned that signage, gardens and public art can significantly increase interest in a community and attract visitors. Volunteer efforts add real value and recognizing volunteers energizes and builds a reliable volunteer base. Practically, many communities share infrastructure challenges; putting electrical wires underground improves the streetscape and protects services, while a robust tree canopy and vibrant green spaces enhance appearance and air quality—an increasingly important benefit with climate change. Cervia showed how amplifying attractions turns a town into a destination (its population grows from about 29,000 off-season to an estimated 150,000 - 200,000+ during summer), and Yarmouth



has potential to do something similar. We also saw the value of giving staff opportunities to learn best practices from peers, and of having council support to enable improvements

by asking how things can be done rather than why they can't. Finally, our Communities in Bloom achievements are tangible measures of quality of life that should be used to attract professionals, like doctors and health-care staff, who are choosing the best places to raise their families.





Your Town News

“Two Gardeners, One Tribute: Yarmouth’s Memorial in Cervia” - Cont. from page 4

TB: How did Cervia residents and festival visitors react to the memorial garden and Yarmouth’s participation?

Dave and Todd: The warmth and enthusiasm exceeded our expectations. Despite language barriers we were greeted with hugs and kisses on both cheeks; people stopped to watch us plant, returned in the evenings, and asked about the family connections whose remains rest in Italy. A memorable moment came when the new mayor’s assistant told how his father first tasted chocolate from the Canadian soldiers who helped liberate Cervia. These personal stories and the sustained interest made the experience very special.

TB: How will this trip and the festival theme influence future Communities in Bloom projects or memorial work in Yarmouth?

Dave and Todd: The trip adds a new dimension to our work. We’ll use lessons from Cervia at next year’s national symposium, which we are hosting and expect many attendees from contacts made there. Visitor spending should more than cover event costs, and the signage we left will help direct European visitors to Yarmouth—positioning us as a Canadian destination for those touring from abroad.

Thank you, Dave and Todd, for representing Yarmouth, and for creating this beautiful tribute to our fallen soldiers.

Town Receives Additional Housing Accelerator Fund Support

The Town of Yarmouth recently received an additional \$370,000 through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation’s Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF). Combined with the Town’s original award of \$2.3 million in 2025, the new funding brings the total to approximately \$2.67 million.

The new funding will help complete updates to the



Left: Let the planting begin!
Above and Below: A visit was paid to Coriano Ridge War Cemetery, where four soldiers from Yarmouth County were laid to rest. More details on each soldier can be found below by scanning the QR code and visiting our website.



The garden features an interpretive panel that indicates the final resting place of Yarmouth soldiers who were killed in Italy during World War II. Special thanks to Chris Abbott from Yarmouth & Acadian Shores for design help. Scan the QR code for more information on each soldier, or visit: www.townofyarmouth.ca/soldiersinitaly

Town’s Subdivision By-law and develop a new Site-Servicing Design Manual. These two initiatives will modernize development standards, improve predictability for developers, and make it easier to plan, approve, and build new housing.

Since receiving HAF funding, the Town has implemented a number of initiatives aimed at removing barriers to housing development, including zoning changes, streamlined approval processes, affordable housing incentives, infrastructure upgrades to

support new housing, and updates to planning policies. The additional funding also increases Yarmouth’s housing target from 119 to 132 new dwelling units over three years, **helping ensure more housing options are available for current and future residents.**

To learn more about the Town’s Housing Accelerator Action Plan, including details of its six strategic initiatives, please visit: getinvolvedyarmouth.ca/housing-action-plan

TOWN CONTACTS

GENERAL INQUIRIES / TOWN HALL (Reception)
Phone: 902-742-2521

OPERATIONAL SERVICES
Office: 902-742-9423
After-Hours Emergency: 1-833-460-8709

Services: streets and sidewalks, traffic lights & signs, water, sanitary & storm sewers, snow removal, parks and trees, infrastructure, waste collection, transit.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION
Phone: 902-742-2521

Services: Taxes, billing (water, sewer & solid waste), utilities, financial services, general management.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
Phone: 902-742-1505

Services: Planning, zoning, development & building permits.

FIRE SERVICES
Phone: 902-742-7411

Services: Fire protection, prevention & safety. For fire emergencies, call 911.

FIRE & LIFE SAFETY
Phone: 902-740-5706

Services: Fire inspections, public fire safety education, code compliance, and enforcement.

WASTE COLLECTION
Phone: 902-742-9423

Services: Garbage, recycling, compost pickup schedules and inquiries.

BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT
Bylaw & Parking Enforcement - 902-742-4860

Building Issues – 902-742-1505

Property Issues – 902-742-1505

Services: Municipal by-law enforcement, parking enforcement, taxi licensing.

SENIORS’ SAFETY PROGRAM
Phone: 902-742-4862

Email: muriel.thomas@townofyarmouth.ca

YARMOUTH RECREATION
Phone: 902-742-8868

Email: yrec@munyarmouth.ca

FREE TRANSIT SERVICE
Phone: 902-742-9423

Services: Local bus schedule, route information.

For more information on all of our Departments and Services, please visit our website at: www.townofyarmouth.ca





Your Town Services



Planning & Development

Planning & Development Update: Growth, Investment, and Opportunities Ahead

Yarmouth continues to see encouraging levels of residential and commercial investment throughout the community. While challenges remain and much work is still ahead of us, a growing number of property owners, builders, developers, businesses, and community organizations are choosing to invest in Yarmouth.

From new housing developments and building renovations to commercial improvements and long-term planning initiatives, these investments reflect confidence in our community and contribute to the shared goal of making Yarmouth a great place to live, work, and invest.

Supporting Housing Development

Council and staff have been working to remove barriers to housing development through planning policy updates and initiatives supported by the **Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF)**.

Recent changes have reduced minimum lot sizes and setbacks, simplified regulations for accessory dwelling units, permitted additional density in appropriate locations, and streamlined development approvals wherever possible.

HAF initiatives have also enabled Council to establish an Affordable Housing Grant Program and support the sale of surplus municipal land for future affordable housing projects.

Development Activity Across the Community

Development activity remains strong throughout Yarmouth. The 24-unit mixed-income housing development on Shaw Avenue welcomed its first tenants this spring, while the 27-unit apartment building on Water Street is nearing completion. Renovations to the former Sunset Terrace building on James Street continue and will create 12 mixed-income residential units. Staff are also reviewing permits for a proposed multi-unit residential

development on Jarvis Road, along with numerous smaller residential projects throughout Town. Activity also continues in EastSide Village, Milo Estates, and several other areas where new housing construction and redevelopment projects have been approved or are underway.

Commercial investment continues as well. Several significant renovation and redevelopment projects are currently being reviewed along Starrs Road, including improvements to the KIA dealership and upgrades to an existing commercial plaza.

A Strong and Evolving Downtown

Downtown Yarmouth remains one of the community's greatest assets and continues to benefit from the efforts and investments of property owners, businesses, community organizations, volunteers, and public agencies.

It is encouraging to see Land's End Arts & Culture Centre welcoming visitors through exhibitions, events, and community programming, while property owners continue to invest in building improvements and renovations that help preserve the



24-unit housing development on Shaw Avenue



27-unit apartment building on Water Street



8 James Street will be 12 mixed-income units

area's character and create new residential, commercial, cultural, and tourism opportunities. Together with ongoing façade improvements, public realm investments, and community events, these efforts contribute to a vibrant and attractive downtown.

Just outside the downtown core, the former Yarmouth High School property represents another significant redevelopment opportunity. While details remain with the property owner, residents may hear more about future plans for the site in the coming weeks.

Looking Ahead

While the level of development activity is encouraging, there is plenty of work still to come.

Housing is only one part of building a strong and resilient community. Continued growth also requires investment in roads, sidewalks, trails, parks, recreation facilities, and water and wastewater infrastructure — all of which are currently being worked on. Like many communities across Nova Scotia, Yarmouth also faces challenges associated with aging buildings and the costs of

reinvestment and redevelopment.

Thank you to builders, developers, contractors, and business and property owners investing in Yarmouth. Your commitment creates housing, supports jobs, improves buildings, and strengthens the local economy.

Strong council leadership, long-term planning, and practical problem solving are also positioning the Town to meet new opportunities and challenges. The Town remains committed to listening, learning, and collaborating with residents, businesses, and developers.

New Housing "Snapshot"

Since the start of 2025, the town has approved building permits for 83 new dwelling units – of which 4 were new single-detached homes, 2 semi-detached homes and 77 new apartments. Many of those units are under construction or nearing completion.

As of June, several building permit applications for 68 additional dwelling units are pending and anticipated to be approved later this summer.



Operational Services

Paving Update

Two major projects are planned for later this summer, or early fall. Paving is planned for a section of Main Street north, in Milton, and for Vancouver Street. Crews have been working to replace water infrastructure in the area ahead of the paving.

The exact start and end points for both sections are still to be

determined, and will depend upon the cost of the approved tender. At the time of printing this issue, the tender process was underway. The earliest possible start date is July 15th, and all work will be completed by fall.

Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for updates, and of course, **sign up for "Alertable"** for traffic updates as the work is carried out.



Bylaw Enforcement

Reminder: Micromobility Bylaw

Warm weather has arrived, and scooters are returning as a way to move around town. Scooter operators, please ride safely and be sure to take time to review the Micromobility Bylaw before heading out. Here are a few key highlights from the bylaw:

- Please refrain from using sidewalks. The operation of an electric kick-scooter is permitted on streets, bicycle



- lanes, and multi-use trails.
- Keep speeds at 25 kilometres per hour or lower on streets or a bike lane, 15 kilometres per hour on an active living trail.
- Scooters are not to be used in public parks.

You can find the Micromobility Bylaw on our website at: www.townofyarmouth.ca/bylaws Paper copies may also be requested at Town Hall, 400 Main Street.





SUMMER FUN!



Recreation

There’s lots to see and do in the Town of Yarmouth during the summer months. Here’s a look at some great activities and events happening in July and August.

Yarmouth Recreation Events

Canada Day Activities (Wednesday, July 1st)

- **Canada Day FREE Pancake Breakfast at the HOPE Centre** starting at 9 AM until supplies Last!
- **Canada Day Carnival and NEW**



- FIFA Soccer Event** at Gateway Park 11 AM – 3 PM. Enjoy a fun-filled Canada Day celebration with carnival games, activities, food, and entertainment for all ages. Complete the FIFA Soccer Passport to claim your soccer bragging rights and walk away with a FIFA World Cup T-Shirt. (While Supplies Last).
- **Canada Day Concert at Killam’s Wharf** 11:30 AM – 10 PM. Celebrate Canada Day waterfront-style with live music and local performers, followed by a **Fireworks display over Yarmouth Harbor at 10PM.**
- **Canada Day Activity Course** 11 AM. Celebrate with some views and fun body movement at the Leif Erikson trail at the Cape Forchu Lighthouse.
- **Tuesday July 14th: Seniors’ Picnic at Beacon Park** 11 AM – 1 PM. Join us for a relaxing afternoon of food, games, music, and socializing at our annual Seniors’ Picnic.
- **Friday July 17th: Pirate Party at Cape Forchu Lighthouse** 11 AM – 3 PM. Set sail for an afternoon of pirate-themed games, costumes, treasure hunts, and family fun at Cape Forchu Lighthouse.
- **Monday August 3rd: Natal Day Beach Party at Port Maitland Beach** 11 AM – 3 PM (Tide Depending). Soak up the summer sun with beach games, music, activities, and family fun at Port Maitland Beach.
- **Saturday August 8th: Dragon Boat Regatta** 9 AM – 4 PM. Watch teams race across the water in an exciting day of competition, community spirit, and waterfront entertainment.

- **Saturday August 22nd: Big Rig Petting Zoo** 10 AM – 3 PM. Get up close with trucks, heavy equipment, and emergency vehicles at this hands-on family event for all ages. FREE at the Mariners Centre dirt parking lot.

Lake Milo Aquatic Club



Spend your summer at Lake Milo Aquatic Club, one of Yarmouth’s favourite spots for outdoor fun and recreation! Located on beautiful Lake Milo, the facility offers supervised swimming along with canoe and kayak rentals for visitors looking to enjoy the water and stay active outdoors. Whether you’re spending the day with family or meeting up with friends, Lake Milo is a great place to relax, cool off, and enjoy the summer season. **The Lake Milo Aquatic Club is open daily from 10 AM – 7 PM, with the season running from July 1st until Labour Day weekend.** Visitors are reminded to follow all posted safety rules, wear lifejackets when required, and help keep the facility clean and welcoming for everyone.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for fun activities: www.facebook.com/LakeMilo

Yarmouth Splash Park



Located on the grounds at Mariners Centre. Hours:
June: 9:45 AM to 8 PM Daily - AM for school trips.
July 1 to September 23: 9:45 AM to 8 PM Daily. The Splash Pad may not be available during these events:

- Ryan Graves Hockey School, August 10-14
- Coastal Female Hockey Development, August 21-25

Mariners on Main: Summer Day Camps

Perfect for kids ages 6–12, this is where adventure meets learning and fun! DROP OFF: 8 AM PICK UP: 5:15 PM. Spots are limited. Call (902)-742-2155 ext 2 to register now. PRICING - Daily: \$37 Weekly: \$150 Summer: \$1,200. Financial assistance may be available, just ask! Below you can find information on theme weeks, as well as the full calendars for July and August.

Summer Day Camp Theme Weeks!

Spots are limited call 902.742.2155 ext 2 to register now

Intro to Summer July 2 -3	Explore the Community August 4 - 7
Sports July 6 - 10	Construction Week August 10 - 14
Colour War July 13 - 17	Craft week August 17 - 21
Holidays July 20 - 24	Surprise Week August 24 - 26
Spy Academy July 27 - 31	

AGES 6 to 12
8 A.M. to 5:15 P.M.
Daily : \$37 Weekly : \$150 Summer : \$1,200
Financial assistance may be available, just ask!

July 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
INTRO TO SUMMER		1	2 Welcome to Summer	3 Summer Fun
SPORT WEEK	6 Dodgeball	7 Soccer	8 Basketball	9 Ball Hockey
	10 Track			
COLOUR WARS	13 Colour War	14 Water day	15 Capture the Flag	16 Dodgeball
	17 Awards			
HOLIDAYS	20 Valentine's Day	21 St. Patrick's Day	22 Halloween	23 Easter
	24 Christmas			
SPY ACADEMY	27 Training Day	28 First Mission	29 Obstacle Course	30 Stealth Mission
	31 Final Mission			

Spots are limited call 902.742.2155 ext 2 to register now
Daily : \$37 Weekly : \$150 Summer : \$1,200

August 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
3 Explore the community	4 Firefighter day	5 Museum Day	6 Library	7 Museum Day
10 Construction Week	11 Egg Drop	12 Lego	13 Demolition Day	14 Tower Building
	15 Block Building			
17 Craft Week	18 Slime	19 Bracelets	20 Pop and Mentos	21 Pet Rocks
	22 Puppets			
24 Surprise Week	25 ? ? ?	26 ? ? ?	27 Last day of camp	28
	29			

Spots are limited call 902.742.2155 ext 2 to register now
Daily : \$37 Weekly : \$150 Summer : \$1,200





Around Town



MORE COMMUNITY EVENTS

Here are **even MORE upcoming summer community events**, plus where you can find more details and stay up to date on what’s happening in the Town of Yarmouth.

- Mayor’s Tea** - 11 AM to 1 PM every Thursday in July and August - Town Hall
- Yarmouth Farmers’ Market** Open Saturdays, 9 AM – 1 PM 15 Hawthorne St.
- Songs from the Stage at Th’YARC** - July 2 – July 4
- All Mother – Album Launch Release at Land’s End** - Friday, July 3 **Yarmouth Annual Car Show** - Friday, July 10 to Saturday, July 11 - Downtown Yarmouth - Main Street
- Fire Truck Muster 2026** - Saturday, July 11 - Firefighters’ Museum of Nova Scotia
- Constellations presented by Th’YARC** - Friday, July 24
- Thunder on the Coast Motorcycle Rally** - Saturday, August 1 to Sunday, August 2 - Downtown Yarmouth
- Western Nova Scotia Exhibition** - Wednesday, August 5 to Saturday, August 8 - Mariners Centre
- 2026 Dragon Boat Regatta** - Sunday, August 9 - Lake Milo Aquatic Club
- Bluenose II visits Yarmouth 2026** - Anchors in Yarmouth September 4th
- Yarmouth Mariners Season** - Friday, September 11, 2026 to Friday, March 5, 2027
- YAS! Drinks Fest** - Saturday, September 12th - Yarmouth International Airport
- Walk YOUR Way 2026** – Autism Nova Scotia - Saturday, September 26, 2026
- Shag Harbour UFO XPO** - Friday, October 2, to Sunday, October 4



“Tides of Fun & Wonder”
Seafest is taking place July 10 – 18, 2026!

Join us in celebrating life by the sea. Seafest is a unique maritime festival that takes place every July in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. Since 1979, locals and visitors have come together every summer to celebrate the food, culture, and life of our coastal community. This award-winning festival offers spectacular events and fun activities for all ages! **For events and information, visit:** www.seafest.ca

Please note: event dates and times are subject to change. This is not a complete list of events happening in the Town of Yarmouth. For more events and detailed information, please visit:
www.yarmouthandacadianshores.com
www.townofyarmouth.ca/events



Yarmouth County Recreation Fun Map

Looking for something to do outside? The Yarmouth County Outdoor Fun Map is your guide online to exploring more than 100 parks, trails, beaches, and recreation spaces across the region. Whether you’re planning a family outing, heading out on your own, or just looking to enjoy some fresh air, the map helps you find great spots nearby. Check out the map at: www.yarmouthrecreation.ca/yarmouth-county-recreation-fun-map

2026 Volunteer Representative for the Town of Yarmouth: Brandon Trask



(from Yarmouth Recreation)
During National Volunteer Week, April 19th-25th, community volunteer nominees were sought to help celebrate volunteerism in Yarmouth County. From that compiled list, an outstanding volunteer was selected to represent each municipal unit at the provincial ceremony in Halifax on September 28th. The 2026 volunteer representative for the Town of Yarmouth is Brandon Trask.

Brandon is an outlier among his generation. While we see many volunteers with grey hair now, everyone remarks that young people aren’t doing their part. Brandon smashes that mold!

He is everywhere, not just volunteering but often leading, organizing, and making things happen. Brandon was always involved in sports, but as a young man he started organizing new leagues, tournaments, and fundraisers. If someone needs help, Brandon is there. He’s a busy young father, but family life doesn’t slow him down. In fact, he brings his kids whenever possible so they can see dad volunteering and learning alongside them. Even before he became a father, Brandon was coaching children’s soccer and hockey teams. Brandon organizes the Oldtimers Hockey League and the Mens Basketball League while coaching the Boys High School Varsity Basketball Team. He does summer tournaments and a yearly fundraiser for his buddy Josh, who suffered a brain injury, raising thousands each year for that wonderful cause. Brandon does everything with charm and a smile, and no one says no to him. He is so passionate about keeping kids moving!

Brandon helps out the Rotary Club every year with Ribfest. He also helped a crew of young people manage the bar at the biggest event Yarmouth has ever seen, the World Acadian Congress. Most recently, he has tackled a volunteer position to be the sports reporter for the local radio station, reporting on local athletes and teams who are achieving great things.

We tend to celebrate people who do things for a long time, but Brandon should be celebrated for being a leader of the younger generation, leading the way for others to follow. His boundless energy (he does late-night DJing after the kids are in bed) is a true example of being passionate about his community.

Thank you Brandon!



Congratulations also to **Phil DeMille**, who is 2026 Volunteer Representative for the **Municipality of the District of Yarmouth**. Phil has long been an active and generous supporter of his community. And finally, a huge **thank you to ALL volunteers across town and county** for giving your time and energy to so many important events and organizations.



STAY CONNECTED

YARMOUTH TOWN HALL is located at 400 Main Street, with regular office hours from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday to Friday. You can visit the Town Hall Reception on the first floor of Town Hall or call (902) 742-2521.

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Yarmouth, NS B5A 1G2
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Fax: (902) 742-6244
Email: admin@townofyarmouth.ca



TownOfYarmouth.ca



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Receive Community Notifications in real-time using “Alertable”. Sign up at: townofyarmouth.ca/Alertable