

## in this issue >>>

*The Old Florenceville Bridge*  
*2022 Community Grant Recipients*  
*Florenceville Vet Clinic Relocation*  
*Flood Damage Boardwalk Repairs*  
*Recreation Planning*  
*Florenceville Ag Rebuilds*  
*Multi-Use Path*  
*Veteran Banner Program*



March  
2022

# Town Matters



Florenceville-Bristol News for Residents and Businesses



Florenceville-Bristol property owners can apply for funding to reimburse up to \$500 for residential or \$750 for commercial projects that will increase their property's curb appeal. Projects can include:

- ✿ Exterior painting, including siding, trim, moldings, porches, decks
- ✿ Siding repair or replacement
- ✿ Cleaning / repointing of existing brick
- ✿ Replacement, renovation or installation of exterior front steps, handrails, or walkways
- ✿ Paving driveways
- ✿ Installation of any landscaping details, including sod, shrubs, trees, plant beds, and window flower boxes
- ✿ Demolition, remediation or removal of any buildings or unused structures, equipment, or foundations.

Visit our website to view the full Beautification Grant Policy #21 and application form.

[www.florencevillebristol.ca/policies](http://www.florencevillebristol.ca/policies)

**Deadline to apply is March 31, 2022**

## The Old Florenceville Bridge

### Province Continues to Investigate State of Bridge

On September 22, 2021, Town officials and our MLA Minister Margaret Johnson met virtually with Premier Blaine Higgs to discuss recent investments Council have made as well as future revitalization plans.

The Town's presentation showed that Town and private investment has been more than \$24.5 million since 2018. A review of key projects highlighted included the Northern Carleton Recreation Centre (NCRC), construction of the Florenceville Amsterdam Inn, construction of On the Boardwalk Café & Wine, Strip Mall renovations, commencement of construction of a Medical Clinic/Professional Building on McCain Street, physician recruitment, new K-8 school (which is #6 on the Province's list of school infrastructure projects), and several community and tourism initiatives.

The Town's presentation incorporated a brief overview of the funding application for revitalization of Riverside Park and the Shogomoc Railway site, which included some site plans for additional trails and public event venues. Some preliminary images and routes were shared for a Multi-use Path project that engineers have been working on (look for details on these projects later in this

newsletter).

It was emphasized that these projects and investments are going to boost our tourism economy, and the covered bridge is not only an essential way to connect residents to the two sides of the river, but is also essential to our tourism plans.

The Premier was impressed with the progress the Town of Florenceville-Bristol has made, and committed to get more details on the specific repairs needed to the Old Florenceville Bridge.

Since that meeting, divers were in the water in early November 2021 checking the integrity and state of the footings and cement piers. They looked at the exposed portions of the timber piles and concrete piles and later did visual observation as well as via Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) flight. Next will be an evaluation from the contractors of this first phase. Phase 2 will be inspection of the deck, as well as other inspections throughout the winter, so they have a complete picture of the damage.

It is a long process, but the Town and Minister Johnson are continuing to follow up regularly to ensure the process continues to move forward.



# 2022 Community Grant Supports Local Organizations

The Florenceville-Bristol Town Council recognizes the importance of groups and organizations that contribute to the overall well-being of the Town and its surrounding community.

The Community Grant has three ways to help not-for-profit organizations requiring:

1. Assistance for project funding
2. In-kind assistance to use Town facilities, borrowing Town equipment, or labour from Town staff
3. Sponsorship of applications for non-registered non-profit organizations so they can apply through other funding organizations.

The deadline to apply for assistance for project funding is October 31 each year, while applications for In-kind or Sponsorship can be

received any time of the year.

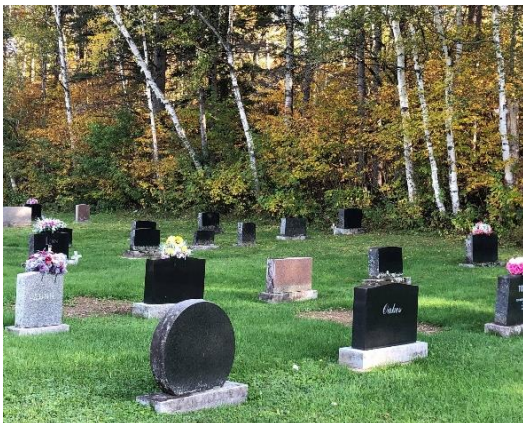
The Town received 10 project funding applications by the 2021 deadline, requesting funding for a variety of important projects that will benefit our Town. The approved applicants will receive their funds in March 2022 for the following projects:

- \$20,000 Andrew & Laura McCain Art Gallery to assist in funding programs
- \$20,000 Potato World for their revitalization project pending approval of other funding applications
- \$7,000 DunRoamin' Stray & Rescue to control a colony of cats in our Town
- \$5,000 Florenceville Curling Club to assist in funding programs
- \$2,000 Bristol Elementary School to assist with their Breakfast Program

- \$2,000 Carleton North High School to assist with their Breakfast Program
- \$2,000 Imagination Library to assist with their program that provides a book each month to registered children age 5 and under living in Carleton North Catchment
- \$1,500 Carleton Minor Hockey Association credit for ice rental at the Civic Centre (NCCC) plus \$80 per player subsidy for players who live within Town limits
- \$1,500 Kidney Foundation for local emergency short-term financial assistance
- \$1,200 Florenceville Elementary School to assist with their Breakfast Program

For additional information about our Community Grant program, please visit our website.

[www.florencevillebristol.ca/community-grant](http://www.florencevillebristol.ca/community-grant)



## Headstones Reset at Bristol Cemetery

The Bristol Cemetery is a non-denominational public cemetery owned and operated by the Town, and is located on Curtis Road.

Over time, some headstones had sunken, causing them to lean and tilt. As part of the maintenance program for the cemetery, the Town had some headstones corrected in August, to keep the cemetery looking in order.

Single or double burial plots can be purchased at the Town Office for \$250 or \$500 respectively. Please contact Angie for more details on available plots at 392-6763 ext. 204.

## New Life Breathed into Vacant Building

The building at the corner of Burnham Road and Route 130 has a new lease on life. It has been home to a variety of businesses over the years, including a furniture store, a restaurant, and most recently, a trucking company. With the building sitting vacant since 2012, it is wonderful to see it is now home to the Florenceville Veterinary Clinic.

The Florenceville Veterinary Clinic opened in 1999 by Dr. Mildred Allison, who sold the business to Dr. Shannon Monteith in 2010.

The clinic was previously located outside of Florenceville-Bristol on the Allison Road, and shared space with DunRoamin' Stray and Rescue. Due to the expanding needs of both organizations, it was determined the move would be beneficial for everyone.

Dr. Monteith currently has offices located in Woodstock, Florenceville-Bristol, and Perth-Andover, with a total of 25 staff offering regular veterinary services as well as 24/7 emergency care.

Their Florenceville-Bristol location offers a



wide range of medical, surgical, and therapeutic animal services such as routine wellness exams, complex workups requiring in-house blood work, x-rays, ultrasounds, spays, neuters, dentals, orthopedic surgeries, therapeutic laser, medical massage, and acupuncture.

[www.florencevillevetclinic.com](http://www.florencevillevetclinic.com)

## Main Street Projects >>>

# Public Art Installation

*Colin Smith has made contributions in our region through his teaching, through volunteering at the Andrew and Laura McCain Art Gallery, and as a practicing and exhibiting artist.*

Colin Smith is a very well-known and respected New Brunswick artist. His regular presence at the River Art Studio helps to anchor the creative artist community in the town in a significant way. The unique role he has in the community and the impact he has had over many years as a teacher, mentor and resident artist reaches far and wide.

For these reasons, Town Council agreed to partner with the Andrew and Laura McCain Art Gallery to commission a new piece of

public art from this well-respected local artist.

Following public consultation, the Public Art Committee selected a steel fabricated tree with Smith's trademark birds, entitled Local Nature.

The unveiling took place on December 4, 2021, outside River Art Centre & Studios.

Smith's sculpture is a positive addition to the townscape. It will add another location of interest along the Boardwalk, become a



significant way finder and be part of a developing "cultural walk". It will heighten community pride while identifying the cultural nature of the River Art Centre. Together the Town and the Gallery are proud to support and celebrate a significant local artist while contributing a wonderful piece of public art for the town to enjoy.

## Andrew & Laura McCain Art Gallery (ALMAG)

There is always something new to see and experience at the Andrew and Laura McCain Art Gallery.

### Upcoming Exhibits and Events:

February 5 - April 16

**Alanna Baird: Radial Symmetries**

April 23 - May 21

**James Buxton's Carving Students Show**

May 28 - July 9

**Printers' Ink**

July 16 - August 27

**Suzanne Hill**

Watch for other events as well as River Art Centre workshops at [www.mccainartgallery.com](http://www.mccainartgallery.com), on Instagram [@mccainartgallery](https://www.instagram.com/mccainartgallery), and Facebook:

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

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



*Part of Radial Symmetries Exhibit*

## Boardwalk Repairs

### 2018 and 2019 Spring Freshet Damage

The Town's boardwalk sustained damage during the Spring Freshets of 2018 and 2019. Town staff have been working with the province to get approval through the Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) program funded by the federal government.

The work includes several sections of the boardwalk starting with the section across from the Red Apple where the riverbank slipped in 2018. JT's Flower Shop used to be at that location, and had to be demolished when the structure became unstable following the riverbank damage.

Boardwalk support columns in that section had to be backfilled and a permanent layer of large, angular stones called riprap were also added. Unfortunately, because riprap was not in place prior to the Spring Freshet damage, we were not able to continue the riprap to the toe of the riverbank. To continue that extra work would have cost municipal taxpayers in excess of \$275,000, so it was not feasible.

The remaining work to a section by the covered bridge lookout will resume in the spring, which will include bank reinforcement and protection.



# Recreation Planning – And Re-Planning

Changes in Covid restrictions and regulations have kept our Recreation Department busy with program planning – and re-planning!

The team pulled off some great events, like their Cruisin' for Candy evening and Zombie Walk for Halloween. The support of treats from local households made the drive-thru treat bag pick-up a huge success.

December saw a Winter Wonderland themed PD Day for kids that provided an opportunity for skating, crafting and snacks.

The annual Goals for Gobblers raised the most money ever for this event. Collecting over \$3,000 meant a total of 115 turkeys were donated to Centreville Community School, Bath Community School, Bristol Elementary School, Florenceville Elementary School and Florenceville Middle School, as well as some going to the Florenceville Kin Club's Christmas Miracle program. The tremendous amount of support from community members and our local

businesses was incredible!

Due to limits on indoor skating, an outdoor ice rink was built at Riverside Park in January that offers free skating to people of all ages.

If you are looking for some fun outdoor activities to do in the snow, the Recreation Office is offering snowshoe rentals. Contactless pickup and return can be arranged at the NCCC.

We are eager to say that the construction of the NCRC is still on course to begin in March, with full production beginning in the summer and fall months.

With Easter only a few weeks away, we are hoping that Covid restrictions will allow us to host an in-person Easter Event for the community this year.

Planning has already begun for our Summer Programs, with new baseball equipment and soccer jerseys purchased for the upcoming season.



Our 2021 summer youth sports programs held steady participation and we are looking for similar numbers for 2022. The Recreation Department will continue to promote and develop all our programs by hosting league games, tournaments, and skills competitions.

We hope you can get out there and enjoy the various activities in Florenceville-Bristol!

## Florenceville Ag Rebuilds

### A Devastating Fire Destroyed the Building in March 2021

Florenceville Ag stood on the corner of McCain Produce Road and Route 130 for several decades until March 3, 2021, when a devastating fire reduced the building to a pile of charred debris. Thankfully nobody was in the building at the time the fire broke out, so there were no injuries in the blaze.

Owners Jeff and Wendy Sherwood and Andrew Kennedy had only purchased the business from Wallace Antworth a few months before the fire, but their dedication to their

customers and employees would soon become evident. They quickly rallied to find ways to continue to service their customers and get their employees back to work. A temporary construction trailer was moved onto the site to allow the business to continue to operate while the owners navigated the insurance claim process and eventually allowing them to make plans to rebuild.

Their new facility is much larger than the original building, allowing more room to

showcase products and service equipment. The old building was 6,100 square feet, and the new building will be a whopping 15,800 square feet.

This larger space will feature an impressive showroom and will have separate dedicated counters for Parts and Service staff.

Separate loading docks will be included to make receiving shipments or dropping off equipment for servicing more convenient.

They were also able to improve on security, which had become problematic in recent years. The new building will be equipped with the latest technology, making it easier to identify and hold would-be thieves.

Due to being recognized through Kioti's 5-Paw Dealer Excellence Program for five years in a row, they will be expanding their popular Kioti line once the new facility is open.

Watch for more exciting changes being announced as the building nears completion.

[www.florencevilleagltd.ca](http://www.florencevilleagltd.ca)



# More Apartment Units Are Coming to Town

## A new 10-unit building will be a welcome addition to Centreville Road

Florenceville-Bristol Town Council are aware of the shortage of rental housing in our area. Following surveys to landlords in 2019, they learned that 100% of rental units are full and all have waiting lists for when vacancies arise.

The Town started working with developers to entice more new rental builds. A Planning & Development Grant was put in place that provided some financial assistance to developers, which saw one new apartment completed on Shamrock Court, which is across from the NCCC.

Atlantic Garden Homes (AGH) from Nackawic approached the Town in early 2021 to see if rental housing was needed here. They were in the process of completing a series of rental housing units by Nackawic's waterfront. To determine the need, they conducted a survey that quickly received over 80 responses. The

survey determined there was an immediate need for rental housing at various price points, with most wanting two or three bedrooms. The data also showed that a variety of price points are wanted for working families as well as retirees. AGH are continuing to work with local developers to find a suitable location when they're ready to start their next project.

In late 2021, a property on Centreville Road was rezoned to allow for three

10-unit apartment buildings beside the Department of Natural Resources Office. Richard and Caleb Orser of Buttermilk Creek Developments began construction of the first building in November 2021, which they hope to have ready for new tenants by June of this year. Their plans are to continue to develop that site with two more identical 10-unit buildings.

To inquire about availability, Richard Orser can be reached at 323-2477.



# Multi-use Pathway Project

## Connecting our Town from one end to the other

The Town has recently completed the concept design stage of a Multi-use Pathway (MUP) that would use the existing NB Trail for portions, while creating new paths in others. Wherever possible, the path would follow along the riverbank, which would make for a unique and inviting tourism attraction, as well as providing a serene 9km walking or cycling experience for locals.

The new portions of the MUP would create loops with the existing NB Trail, giving various options for a change of scenery. The addition of

scenic outlooks would be incorporated to take advantage of our amazing vistas and water views. They would be a perfect place to watch for bald eagles or enjoy the tranquility of the St. John River.

Some of the lookouts would be basic viewing platforms, while others would be Signature Lookouts, that are on a grander scale with unique features to attract tourists.

Engineers have developed a preliminary path, optimizing the riverbank whenever possible, while considering our rising waters in the spring.

Before the Old Florenceville Bridge was closed, the plan was to begin engineering a plan for an additional trail on the West side of the river starting at the bridge, going up Jim Davis Drive to Riverview Drive, and out Perkins Way to Sam's Park. This extension would be beneficial for those staying at the Amsterdam Inn to access our Town on foot or by bicycle, while making it more accessible to locals as well.



Above is an illustration of a standard lookout.

Since most funding streams offer short application periods, Council felt it was necessary to begin the concept designs in advance of the fund announcement.

At the current stage, it is estimated this project will be around \$9 million and therefore, we have talked to both provincial and federal levels of government to partner with us if suitable funding streams become available.

### PROPOSED CONDITIONS



# Plans for Riverside Park Revitalization

*New trails and spaces for residents to be outdoor-active were key in the proposed design*

During the Summer of 2021, the Town of Florenceville-Bristol applied to the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency's (ACOA) "Canada Community Revitalization Fund" and the Regional Development Corporation's (RDC) "Community Development Fund". The purpose of these two funds is to help grow and sustain vibrant communities, while reimagining existing infrastructure and community spaces so they may continue to be enjoyed by residents. Special focus is on encouraging a safe environment for physical activity, social engagement & cultural experiences.

With Riverside Park already being the primary space our residents and visitors are naturally drawn to, it was the logical site to focus our attention. Offering immediate access to the NB Trail and our proposed 9km Multi-Use Pathway, the park continues to evolve as a Blueway destination thanks to its blend of walking and biking trail experiences being intertwined with water access and activities making the site appealing to a wide variety of interest groups.

Key considerations are for areas for play, recreation, relaxation, and a variety of cultural

events. In addition to creating temporary employment and commercial benefits beyond construction, the revitalization will create permanent employment opportunities associated with existing and new tourism operators, such as food and beverage providers, themed accommodations and equipment rentals for cyclists and paddlers.

The below conceptual drawing developed by the Glenn Group from Fredericton, shows the largest most impactful element for Riverside Park will be the addition of public washroom facilities. Following that, wheelchair accessible picnic pods will ensure guests of the park have a spot to enjoy a meal or seek shelter from the elements. Riverside Park's new entry plaza features a paved bike path and trail that guides visitors to our spotlight feature, 'Fire Sphere', a public art display piece that will create a realistic illusion of a fire pit using lighting. The site map also indicates future development for an event space in the middle of the park, and the consideration of trail creation at the Shiktehawk Indigenous Site.

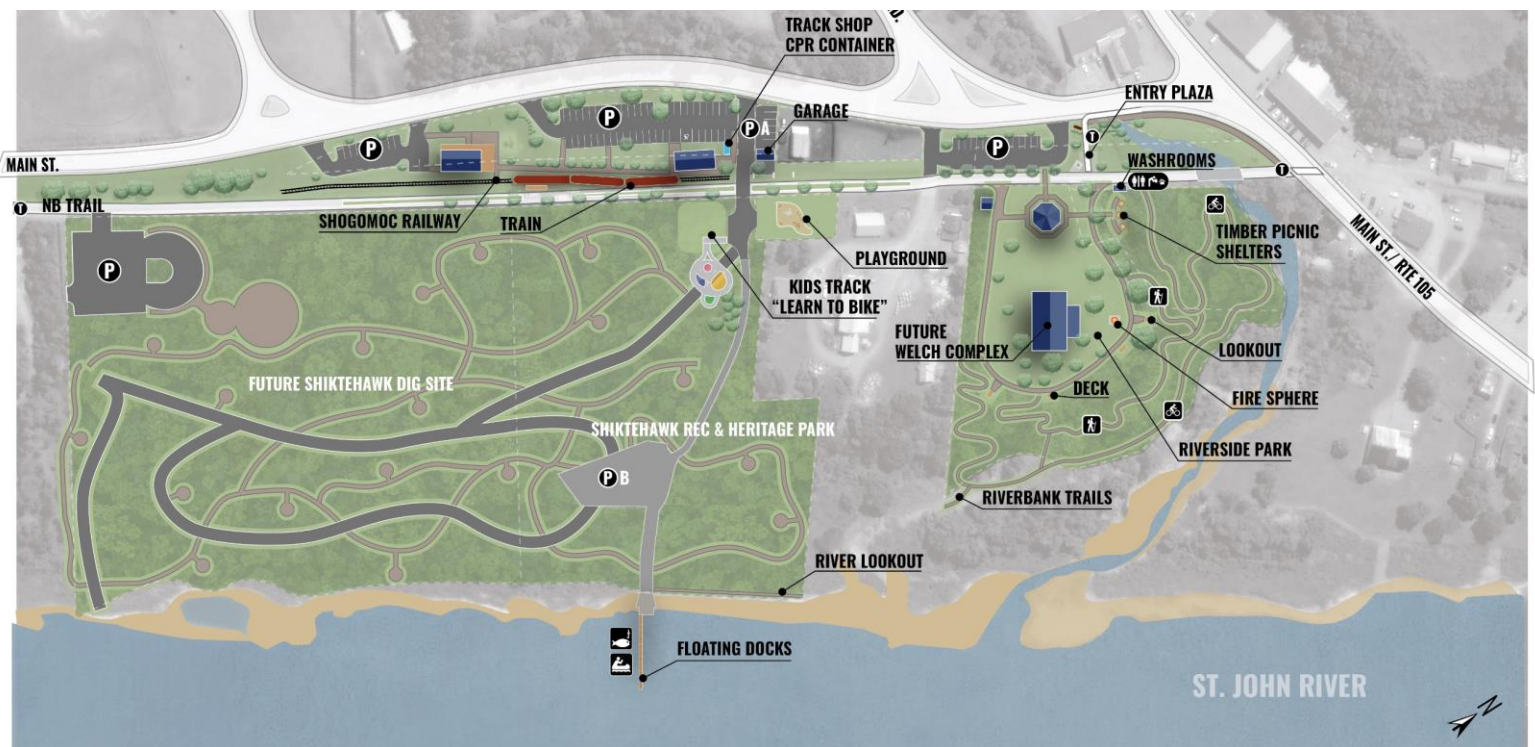
Riverbank Trails will encourage our community and visitors to be active and

celebrate nature. Winding along the Shiktehawk Creek and Saint John River, residents will enjoy scenic views along newly created dedicated biking and walking trails that will loop them around the park. There will also be a lookout point as well as a deck allowing for rest areas and opportunity to appreciate the beautiful St. John River.

Exciting improvements to the existing public boat launch will include a gravel road upgrade as well as an improved parking lot area. The addition of a floating dock will allow residents the ability to easily launch their non-motorized watercraft.

Realizing not everyone owns their own bikes or paddle equipment, the "Track Shop" will provide residents the ability to rent whatever they might need; from bikes and helmets to kayaks and lifejackets. There will also be a self-serve 'fix-it' station for riders to complete basic repairs. Everything necessary to enjoy Riverbank Trails and water activities will be found here!

If funding is awarded, construction will commence as soon as possible, with anticipated completion in 8-12 months.



# Town Receives Support for Physician Recruitment Medical Clinic Equipment Funding Project

*Horizon Health approved a physician for the new medical clinic located in Florenceville-Bristol, which is the first of four positions we are hoping to attract to the area.*

As a first step in attracting physicians to our community, the Florenceville-Bristol Town Council approved funding to support the operation of a Medical Clinic located on the corner of McCain Street and Centennial Crescent, by guaranteeing any lease gap as physicians and health professionals are recruited into the space. Shortly following that decision, the Town was approached by a family physician in Saskatchewan who was interested in moving back to the Florenceville-Bristol area with his wife.

The couple were looking to set up a clinic that would include four physicians and one nurse practitioner, with additional space for visiting allied health care providers, blood collection services, and a space for group education. The clinic would be set up as a primary care centre, with daytime operating hours as well as provide some after hours and weekend services. Their vision was a perfect fit for our community's needs.

Due to the competitive nature of attracting physicians to any rural New Brunswick community, a fundraising initiative began to raise money towards the purchase of medical equipment for the clinic. This would reduce the rent needing to be paid by the physicians, while ensuring they had current equipment for their practice.

Several local organizations were contacted about the project, and were eager to assist. The Carleton North Community Foundation (CNCF) donated \$10,000 towards the project. The Foundation supports a variety of eligible organizations under categories such as Arts & Culture, Education, Beautification, Economic Development, Recreation, Health & Wellness,

and Environment, so this project fit perfectly into their mandate.

The Town made a virtual presentation to the Florenceville Rotary Club, who were also quick to lend their support with a donation of \$10,000. As a club whose members are dedicated people sharing a passion for both community service and friendship, this project was aligned with their values.

Projects like this cannot happen without support from great organizations like the Carleton North Community Foundation and Florenceville Rotary Club.



*Pictured are Mayor Karl Curtis and CNCF Treasurer Natalie Stacey.*



*Pictured are Mayor Karl Curtis, Florenceville Rotary Treasurer Don Green and Florenceville Rotary President Tony Trafford.*

## Outdoor Summer Market

Everyone's favourite summertime staple is gearing up for another year at Riverside Park, and we couldn't have done it without the overwhelming support from our community!

Although it has been a learning process, we have been able to gradually make our Outdoor Summer Market bigger and better as we work through any Covid safety requirements.

As with last year, we ensure all vendors understand the latest Covid requirements and best practices, to ensure the safety of our guests. Watch for details on our social media pages and website for the kick-off date of the 2022 Market Season.

If you would like information on becoming a vendor, please contact Recreation Manager Charles Walker at 392-6763 ext. 210 or [nccc@florencevillebristol.ca](mailto:nccc@florencevillebristol.ca) for more details.

See you at the market!





# Christmas Traditions

## Tree Lighting at Riverside Park

The community came together on November 25 to celebrate the start of the Holiday Season with the annual Christmas Tree Lighting event.

The gazebo was decorated and lit up to encourage Christmas photo opportunities in a festive selfie station. The crowd enjoyed free cookies, compliments of the Town, as well as complimentary hot chocolate provided by the True North Baptist Church Youth Group.

Santa arrived in style, thanks to the Florenceville-Bristol Fire Department. The

big guy greeted the kids and passed out candy canes. Letters to Santa were collected and express mailed to the North Pole to ensure they didn't get lost in his commute.

The weather was perfect for the event, which brought out nearly 300 people. The potato barrel Christmas Tree was a hit again this year, allowing for a great backdrop for folks to capture some great family photos. Using potato barrels pays tribute to our Town's agriculture heritage theme perfectly, making it a unique feature in the annual event.

# Honour Our Veterans Banner Program

Banners were on display along Main Street in November to honour the service and sacrifice of those who served in Canada's military.



Council and Staff were very pleased with the positive community response for the Town's inaugural Honour Our Veterans Banner Program. The proud display along the boardwalk had a great impact and spoke to the local commitment of those who gave their lives for our freedom.

The Town plans to support this initiative if demand warrants and hopes to add more banners in 2022. Discussions have begun to address adjustments required to remaining lamp posts so they may accommodate the larger sized banners.

Application details as well as banner cost will be announced once placement locations are finalized in the Summer. Please watch our website and social media channels for more information.



## Recycling Tip

Cartons - refundable or recyclable? The answer is - both!

If you PAID a deposit on a beverage carton, you can take it back to your local Bottle Redemption Depot for a refund with your other refundable beverage containers (eg. pop, beer, etc.). Check your store receipt to confirm.

If you did NOT PAY a deposit on the carton, you can put it in your blue bin (eg. milk cartons, soup broth cartons).

If you can't get to a bottle depot, you can put your beverage and food cartons in your blue bin. They will be sorted accordingly. Note: Ice cream cartons are not accepted in either program. They are garbage. Encorp Atlantic oversees the beverage refund program. You can find lots of information at: <https://encorpatl.ca/recycle/which-containers-are-accepted/> or contact Barb Sharp at Western Valley Regional Service Commission 276-3610 x201.

## Calling All Entrepreneurs!

Do you have a business idea that supports the Town's #FrenchFryCapitalOfTheWorld tourism brand? Or do you need financial assistance to start or expand your business? Our Class of One and/or Entrepreneurship Incentive Plan could help provide the support you need! All details can be found online at: [classofone.ca](http://classofone.ca)

