



Action on the HILL

Season's Greetings from the Village

As we approach the end of the year, Village of Bible Hill is hopeful that residents are well and that the collective success of Nova Scotians during the pandemic endures to carry us through the winter season. This issue of Action on the Hill will highlight upcoming events taking place in the Village during the holiday season. Continue reading to learn about our tree lighting, tour of lights, cookie decorating, and more!

On September 15, the Village Commission dedicated the name of the Village's community centre and fire station building as 'H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall'. In making the decision, the Commission reflected on the late Mr. Boyce's many significant contributions to the establishment and operation of local government, the fire brigade, and other community organizations, and the impacts of those efforts on building a strong and vibrant community as a whole, both during his working career and long after. The Village Commission is proud to adopt this fitting recognition in honour of an exceptionally dedicated and impactful resident. For more information, read the resolution adopted by the Commission online here: www.bit.ly/2RCrT2e

Due to the pandemic, both our annual meeting and election, which normally occur in June, were postponed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Following relaxation of the restrictions, our annual meeting was held, and our election saw two Village Commissioners elected (outcomes not available at time of press). Following the election, the Village Commission elected a new Chair and Deputy Chair. Over the next quarter, Commissioners are developing the operating and capital budgets for the upcoming fiscal year. If you have suggestions or questions about your community, please call upon a Commissioner (contact details are available online or by calling the office).

Village Commissioners extend Season's Greetings to all residents of Bible Hill. We hope you have a happy holiday season full of great memory making moments, and a safe, healthy, and Happy New Year.

Parks and Recreation

This winter, Bible Hill Fire Brigade volunteers will be assisting the Village by flooding the ice at Meadowland Avenue Park. Weather dependent, the ice surface is open to the public and divided for skating and hockey, with lights on until 10pm daily. The ice is unsupervised and available for use at one's own risk. The park is found at 52 Meadowland Ave and is also accessible from College Rd via the Cobequid Trail. Lace up those skates and enjoy the outdoors this winter in the Village!

Again this winter season, an accessible rest room is available at Bible Hill Recreation Park.

Looking to get out and get active this winter? We can help! Snowshoes are available from the Village office free of charge so you can explore and enjoy all that nature has to offer this winter! Call to reserve your pair today!



Celebrate the holidays with Bible Hill's tree lighting!

The Village is hosting its annual tree lighting on Saturday, November 28 at 6pm on the front lawn of H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall. There will be outdoor entertainment provided by Ron MacKay Memorial Youth Band, as well as refreshments, and a visit from a special holiday visitor to greet children at 6:45pm. Come out and enjoy the joy of the season with your friends and neighbours. Donations for Colchester Food Bank will be accepted. All are welcome! See you there, (with your mask).

Light up Bible Hill - Tour of Lights

Get in the festive spirit this season by decorating your home for the holidays! On Wednesday, December 16, and Thursday, December 17, a bus tour will be travelling around Bible Hill to look at local light displays. Tours start at 6:30pm. If you wish to join a bus tour, please contact the office to register and save your distanced seat. Masks are required for this event.

Starting on Monday, December 7, there will be a Facebook competition for the best lights and decorations. Submit your photo to the Village for posting on our Facebook page, and the top three with the most "likes" on Monday, December 21, at 10am will win!

Transportation Matters

Local roads – One of the most regular comments heard is about the state of local roads. Most roads in Bible Hill, such as subdivision streets and College Rd, are examples of local roads. This type of road primarily serves to provide access between properties and other types of roads with greater traffic (i.e. Main St and Pictou Rd).

Renewal of local roads is the joint responsibility of Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (NSTIR) and Municipality of the County of Colchester. Those parties must form an agreement, (recently achieved) and equally fund the cost of renewals.

While the Village does not own nor maintain roads, including curbs, we have expressed concern on behalf of residents to both parties on the need to renew a growing number of local roads in Bible Hill. The Village recently met for a constructive meeting on the state of local roads with our MLA, Mr. Dave Ritcey. It has been very positive to see NSTIR recently renew Farnham Rd, Wright Ave, and East Court Rd, and we are hopeful that trend continues in the years ahead as the parties determine priorities and funding of renewals. If you have questions or concerns on the condition of local roads, please contact your County Councillor and/or NSTIR's operations contact centre to let them know, at 902-897-3160 or 1-844-696-7737 respectively.

For concerns such as snowplowing or repairs to potholes, it is useful to keep in mind what body owns a street, to help determine who best to call. A basic method to determine road ownership (that applies in most cases) is to note whether a street sign is blue (indicating it is owned by Colchester), or green (indicating it is owned by NSTIR). In a few cases, Colchester and NSTIR exchange snowplowing duties, so this rule may not always apply, however your concern is likely to be forwarded or you will otherwise be advised in that case on who to contact. If unsure, please give the Village a call for assistance.

Crosswalk lines – Another area of significant concern to the Village is the state of crosswalk lines, and especially so during the warm weather months when pedestrians are most active. As the body that funds crosswalk maintenance, the Village has requested that NSTIR paint crosswalk lines since deteriorated lines were noted early this year. NSTIR's response has been to highlight their maintenance standard, which is for school crossings to be painted before August 31, and other markings by October 15 annually, as needed. The Village will continue to advocate on this safety concern for NSTIR to complete this work earlier in the year.

Crosswalk lighting – The Village continues to work on improving crosswalk infrastructure, having recently updated the crosswalk at the intersection of College Rd and Cumming Dr to a new LED rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RRFB) standard. This update follows new standards installed in recent years at two crosswalks on Pictou Road and one on College Road. In cooperation with NSTIR, the Village plans to review all crosswalks for potential updates, focusing on three per year.

Sidewalks and trails – Active transportation is an important priority for a healthy Village community. Recently, the Village completed the renewal of approximately 750m of sidewalk on Pictou Rd. This follows the renewal of 350m of sidewalk on Johnson Ave. In addition, in recent months, more than \$115,000 of repairs were made to sidewalks, and a portion of the Cobequid Trail between College Rd and Meadowland Ave was resurfaced.

Holiday Cookie Decorating

Come enjoy the fun—cookies, icing, decorations. This free event is scheduled for Saturday, December 19, from 10am - 12pm at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall. Contact the office to register.

Teen Holiday Baking

If you are between the ages of 12 and 17 and are interested in holiday baking, there is a free baking workshop on Saturday, December 19, from 1 - 3pm, at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall. Come learn how to bake holiday treats, and then take them home as gifts to give to friends and family (or enjoy yourself!). Contact the office to register.



Holiday Social – For those young at Heart!

A Holiday Social will be held for adults 55+ at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall on Thursday, December 10, from 4 - 6pm. Musical entertainment, and a light seasonal treat made by Bible Hill Fire Brigade Ladies' Auxiliary will be provided. Donations for Colchester Food Bank will be accepted. Contact the office to register in pairs or groups to save your distanced seats. Moving forward in the new year, our regular Senior Socials will take place from 4 - 6pm on:

- ➔ Thursday, January 21
- ➔ Thursday, February 18
- ➔ Thursday, March 25
- ➔ Thursday, April 15
- ➔ Thursday, May 20
- ➔ Thursday, June 17

Christmas Ornament Painting Workshop

In collaboration with Clay Café, the Village is hosting a Christmas ornament painting workshop on December 4, at 6pm at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall. Tickets are \$5. All festive supplies will be provided. Contact the office to register and select the ornament you wish to paint.

Senior Fitness Classes

Stay physically active with our Senior Fitness Classes at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall on Mondays at 10:30am and 11:30am, Wednesdays at 10am and 11am, and Fridays at 11:15am. Only \$2 per class! Registration is required. Contact the office to register.



Bible Hill Fire Brigade - A Holiday Safety Message

The holiday season is a wonderful time of the year for family and friends and it should be a safe one for your family. Bible Hill Fire Brigade wishes everyone a very happy and safe holiday season. Keep these Christmas tree safety tips in mind to keep your holiday safe:

- ➔ Choose a tree that is fresh and green, and the needles do not drop off when touched
- ➔ Cut 5cm off the bottom before putting in stand to allow for water uptake, and water regularly
- ➔ Place tree at least one meter from heating sources, and never block an exit with a tree
- ➔ Use only certified lights, dispose of damaged strings of lights, and turn off lights when not home

Safe practices make sense all year round, so keep these safety tips in mind moving forward in the new year:

- ➔ Have working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in your living/sleeping spaces
- ➔ Have two ways out in case there is a fire in your living area... Make a plan and practice the plan
- ➔ Never connect multi-outlet adapters to an electrical receptacle as overloads cause fires
- ➔ Never run extension cords under a rug

Have you ever thought of volunteering with an essential volunteer service? Interested in learning new skills, taking on new challenges? We are recruiting new members... Join us! Email recruitment@biblehillfire.ca for details. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram at 'biblehillfire' or on Twitter '@BHFB'.

Safe Halloween Thank You

Village of Bible Hill would like to thank the many sponsors and volunteers including Bible Hill Girl Guides (Pathfinders) and CEC IB students that helped make this year's Safe Halloween event a huge success. Locals generously donated treats so that hundreds of young children could have a safe and familiar place to Trick or Treat on Halloween night. We would like to thank and recognize the following sponsors for their support:

ASE Print	Bible Hill Bowlcade	Bible Hill Circle K
Bible Hill ESSO	Bible Hill Fire Brigade	Blenkhorn's Auto Recyclers Ltd
Bubble Tree Children's Boutique	Central Nova Animal Hospital	Cobequid LifeMark Physio
Creative Auto Images	Farm Equipment Museum	Flagship Construction
Foodland	Fraser Pharmacy	Harris Home Hardware
Hometown Flooring	HubCraft Timber Mart	Hull Electrical Service
GoTo Insure	Kennedy's Variety	Maritime Mechanical
Money's Worth Renovation Centre	NS Provincial Exhibition Commission	Revana Pizza
Rod Lynk's Auto Clinic	Stella Jones Inc.	Subway Bottle Exchange
Subway Restaurant – Bible Hill	Studio 126	Tanglez Hair Studio
The Pond Classic Grill	Truro Raceway	WelPro Supply Ltd.
Valley McDonalds	Marilyn Comeau	Susan McCarron

Property Tax Rebate for Seniors

Administered by Service Nova Scotia on behalf of the Department of Community Services, this program is designed to help eligible seniors remain in their homes by providing them with an annual rebate on their municipal property taxes. The program provides eligible homeowners with a 50% rebate of the actual residential municipal property taxes paid the previous year, up to a maximum of \$800 per year.

Act fast! The application deadline is December 31, 2020. For more information and to start your application, call 1-800-670-4357 or visit www.novascotia.ca/sns/access/individuals/consumer-awareness/property-tax-rebate-for-seniors.asp

Follow us on Social Media!

Following the Village on Facebook and Instagram is a great way to hear about new programs and initiatives, Commission news, and local events. In addition to our sign and website, all upcoming programs are posted on social media, as well as pictures from past programs. So 'follow' Village of Bible Hill to keep up on current events in your Village!

Commission Meetings

Did you know, Village Commission meetings are open for observation to the public? Commissioners meet twice per month on the second and third Tuesday at 7pm to discuss village matters, set policy, approve expenditures, and chart the path for Bible Hill. Join us! *Note: Open meetings are currently subject to space availability and public health restrictions and may be substituted with virtual meetings as the pandemic circumstances demand. In cases of virtual meetings, meeting minutes are posted to the Village website within 24 hours.

HomeWarming

Everyone should benefit from energy efficiency. HomeWarming offers no-charge energy assessments and free home upgrades to income-qualified Nova Scotians. If they discover that upgrades like draft-proofing, insulation or other efficiency options can help make heating & cooling your home substantially more affordable and comfortable, they'll install the upgrades at no cost to you.

Call 1-877-434-2136 or visit www.homewarming.ca to see if you are eligible for free upgrades to your home.



ADMINISTERED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Scotia Pool – Glen W. Smith Community Pool

Scotia Pool is excited to welcome patrons back to their warm-water pool starting on November 2. The pool has made a few changes due to COVID-19 to ensure a safe environment for you and their staff. Please refer to their Facebook page for the most current information on programs, times and new protocols, or contact Scotia Pool at 902-893-6364 or scotiapool@gmail.com. See you there!

We're Hiring

What would be better than working three hours a day with summers off, while enjoying the fresh air and being physically active? You can do all those things while making a difference in your community! The Village is seeking a reliable morning person to work as a spare crossing guard. The ideal candidate is a responsible, safety-driven, community minded person who will maintain positive public relations for the Village in delivering the school crossing guard program. For more details on how to join our team contact the office or email angie.ogden@biblehill.ca.

Village of Bible Hill
67 Pictou Road
Bible Hill, NS B2N 2R9

Feeding Wildlife

When thinking about feeding wildlife, first consider their safety, and the welfare of yourself, your family, and neighbours. Backyard feeding often means animals travel near and across roadways, sidewalks and around houses. Wildlife fed in residential areas lose their natural fear of people and become vulnerable, while young animals fail to learn the skills required to secure their natural diets. Please do not feed deer and other wildlife in the Village. To learn more about living safely with wildlife, please visit <https://novascotia.ca/natr/wildlife/living-with-wildlife/>

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