

Action on the HILL

Greetings from the Village

While the COVID-19 pandemic has and continues to affect much of our lives, the Village is hopeful for a brighter year ahead. We hope you are too.

Building on the items touched on in the last newsletter, further progress was made in the past year, including:

- ➔ Replacement of a public works pickup and a fire brigade pickup;
- ➔ Having a specialized sidewalk repair contractor make accessibility improvements to concrete sidewalks by removing raised edges with their patented cutting tool; and
- ➔ Undertaking a condition assessment and long-term planning study of our sanitary sewerage system to understand the timing and severity of system needs, and the associated future costs.



The Village was successful in attracting approximately \$75,000 in grant funding from Government of Canada's E.A.F. program to undertake accessibility improvements at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall. The Village is presently having engineered drawings prepared to use the funding to construct an accessible ramp entrance, accessible washroom, and doorway improvements. We look forward to completing this project in the year ahead.

There is of course more work to be accomplished, and we look forward to doing everything we can to deliver the community services that Village residents expect. The Village is presently working on drafting a budget for the upcoming fiscal year, which begins April 1. Tax rates will be set at the regular meeting held the third Tuesday of April at 7pm.

If you have questions, ideas, concerns, or feedback regarding Village of Bible Hill, please reach out. Call upon your Village Commissioners. We are your elected representatives for municipal services and are here to serve you. Our contact information is available online, or by calling the Village Office. On behalf of Village of Bible Hill, I offer our best wishes for a very happy, safe, and prosperous year ahead. Take care of yourself, and each other, and we'll see you around the Village.

Kevin Kennedy, Chair

Winter Parking Ban

Effective December 15 to March 31, on-street parking is prohibited in Bible Hill between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. Please park vehicles off-street (and off sidewalk) to not impede snow clearing.

Tree Planting

In November, Tree Canada and Home Hardware Stores Limited planted a tree at Holy Well Park to launch a new province-wide initiative between Home Hardware and national non-profit Tree Canada. The initiative saw Home Hardware donate \$65,000 to Tree Canada's Operation ReLeaf, ear-marking their funds to help provincial municipalities restore trees lost to Hurricane Dorian. The program offered municipalities the opportunity to take advantage of the funding, as Bible Hill did, made possible through Home Hardware's support.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee

Village of Bible Hill welcomes expressions of interest from Bible Hill residents to serve on its Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee in the following volunteer positions:

- ➔ (4) Committee members for two year terms beginning April 1.

The Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Policy and nomination forms can be found on the Village website, in person or by contacting the Village Office. Expressions of interest shall be in writing, on the prescribed nomination form, and may be mailed, emailed, or submitted in person to the Village Office.

Bible Hill Volunteer Awards

Village of Bible Hill will once again be holding an annual Volunteer Awards Ceremony in April to recognize and celebrate the important and valued contributions of local volunteers. Village Chair Kevin Kennedy welcomes nominations from the community, remarking “The success of a vibrant community is dependent on the work of so many individuals and groups of people that dedicate their time to making it a better place. During National Volunteer Week, we look to thank and honour, at the local level, the efforts of those among us who volunteer.”

If you have been positively influenced by or otherwise know of one or more community members who volunteer their time to better the community and the lives of its residents, please consider nominating them for recognition. To nominate for recognition and celebration at the ceremony, please submit a nomination form by Monday, February 22, 2021. Nomination forms can be found online at www.biblehill.ca/volunteer-awards, in-person, or by calling the Village Office for an alternate format. Nominations may be mailed, emailed, or submitted in person to the Village Office.

Five categories of awards are open for nomination:

- ➔ Generations of Volunteering Award
- ➔ Golden Long-term Service Award
- ➔ Long-term Service Award
- ➔ Young Achievers Service Award
- ➔ Outstanding Service Award

Parks and Recreation

This winter, Bible Hill Fire Brigade volunteers have assisted 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 restroom 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.



Zumba and Yoga with Celeste

Zumba with Celeste – Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 8:30am – 9:30am. These classes are sure to start your day off on the right foot with one hour of Zumba party dance fun and fitness. All ages and Zumba experience (or not) welcomed.

Yoga with Celeste – Fridays accordingly. These classes offer nurturing yoga practices that welcome all yogis, beginner to experienced. You will be greeted with open arms and hearts and encouraged to practice at your own pace in her all-inclusive yoga classes.

For more information and registration, call Celeste at 902-814-8000.

Hema’s Mixed Format Fitness

Shake off stress and calories with Hema’s mixed format fitness classes at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall! Hema offers a mixed format fitness class every Monday and Wednesday from 4:40pm – 5:30pm. She combines different styles of dance fitness including Zumba, Bhangra and Salsation, with functional training using body resistance and weights. All ages and experience are welcome. You will be warmly greeted with energy and the mutual goal of movement! For further information please contact Hema Chopra at 902-305-1086.

Senior Social – For those young at heart!

A Senior Social will be held for adults 55+ at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall on Thursday, February 18th, from 4 - 6pm. Musical entertainment will be provided, along with a light treat prepared by Bible Hill Fire Brigade Ladies’ Auxiliary. Donations for Colchester Food Bank will be accepted. Contact the office to register and save your distanced seat. Pre-existing social bubbles/groups are encouraged to register together. Over the coming months, Senior Socials will take place from 4 - 6pm on:

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

Scotia Pool – Glen W. Smith Community Pool

Scotia Pool reopened their warm-water pool in Bible Hill to the public in November. The pool has made 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.

Senior Fitness Classes

Stay physically active with our Senior Fitness Classes with instructor Carolyn at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall on Mondays at 10:30am and 11:30am, Wednesdays at 10am and 11am, and Fridays at 11:15am. The cost is \$2 per class. Registration is required – please contact the Village Office.

Notice of Nomination Period: Nomination for Village Commissioner

One Commissioner for a three (3) year term, ending in June 2024.

Nominations for the office of Commissioner will be accepted in person during business hours between May 13 and 20, 2021. All nominations must be in writing on the prescribed nomination form and must be filed in person with the Returning Officer at the Village Office.

Qualifications of a Village Commissioner:

1. A Village Commissioner must be an elector. An “elector” means a person resident within the Village entitled to vote at a municipal election, who will have resided in the Village for at least six months immediately prior to the Village election and:

- a) is of the full age of eighteen years on the first advance polling day;
- b) is a Canadian citizen on the first advance polling day;

2. Every Village Commissioner must take and subscribe the oath of office prescribed by the Municipal Elections Act in the manner prescribed by that Act before entering upon the duties of Village Commissioner.

3. A Village Commissioner whose term of office has expired is eligible for re-election.

A nomination must be accompanied by a deposit of two hundred dollars. Nomination forms, copies of by-laws, financial statements, policies, and further information are available from the Returning Officer at the Village Office.

Why should I become a Village Commissioner?

If you care about the area that you live in and the issues facing local people, serving as a Commissioner could be for you! There are many reasons why people decide to become a Commissioner, including:

- ➔ Wanting to make a difference and be involved in shaping the future of the local community;
- ➔ Being concerned about your area and wanting to ensure that the community gets the services needed or desired;
- ➔ Wanting to represent the views of local people and ensure that community interests are taken into account;
- ➔ Wanting to work collaboratively with other levels of government to deliver efficient services;
- ➔ Wanting to contribute your business or professional skills; or
- ➔ Having concerns about one or more particular issues.

Whatever the need in your neighbourhood (state of the local park, improving accessibility, activities for young people, improving services for older people, making the roads safer or ensuring that local businesses can thrive) you could be just the person to contribute by becoming a Village Commissioner. For more information, please contact the Clerk and Treasurer.

Commission Meetings

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: At this time, 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, draft meeting minutes are posted to the Village website within 24 hours, and regularly once approved.



Free March Break Activities

All week

- ➔ Outdoor Skating and Hockey: 6am-10pm, weather permitting, at Meadowland Avenue Park, 52 Meadowland Ave
- ➔ Sledding and Snow-shoeing: 6am-10pm, weather permitting, at Bible Hill Recreation Park, 38 Guest Dr – snowshoes available at Village Office

Monday

- ➔ Farnham Brook Trail Hike: 2:30pm-4pm, at Bible Hill Recreation Park, 38 Guest Dr. Hot chocolate and treats on site!
- ➔ Swim: 2:15pm-3pm & 3:15pm-4pm, at Scotia Pool, 80 Research Dr

Tuesday

- ➔ Skate: 12pm-2pm, at Deuville's Rink, 50 Harmony Rd

Wednesday

- ➔ Swim: 2:15pm-3pm & 3:15pm-4pm, at Scotia Pool, 80 Research Dr
- ➔ Shamrock Scavenger Hunt: 2pm-4pm, at Pat Mahaney Bike Trail, Warren Dr. Chance to win free day passes to the RECC!

Thursday

- ➔ Skate: 12pm-2pm, at Deuville's Rink, 50 Harmony Rd

Friday

- ➔ Swim: 2:15pm-3pm & 3:15pm-4pm, at Scotia Pool, 80 Research Dr
- ➔ Bowling: 3:30pm-5pm, at Bible Hill Bowlacade, 27 Jennifer Dr.

More events to come! Keep an eye on our website or Facebook page for more information. Registration with the Village is required for all activities – please contact the Village Office.



Notice of Annual Meeting

The 67th Annual Meeting of Electors of the Village of Bible Hill will be duly convened at 8pm, Monday, June 7th at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall, 69 Pictou Road. This is a public meeting open to all residents that provides an opportunity to hear from Commissioners, Bible Hill Fire Chief, and our auditors on the progress of the past year, deal with miscellaneous business, hold any vote that requires public approval, etc. Please watch for potential registration requirement due to COVID-19 closer to the event date.

Maggie's Place

Maggie's Place Family Resource Centre offers a free playgroup at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall each Tuesday from 10 - 11:30am from September to June. Playgroups are a fun play and social time for parents/caregivers and their children from birth to school age to enjoy together. Each session consists of a free play and art time, a healthy peanut-free snack, and ends with circle time – songs, stories, and active fun. All families are welcome to join. Registration is required. Please call Maggie's Place at 902-895-0200 or private message them on Facebook. For more information, check out www.maggiesplace.ca or on Facebook at 'Maggie's Place-Colchester'. Please note that Public Health safety precautions are in place. Maggie's Place thanks United Way of Colchester County for their financial support of this program.

We're Hiring

Spare Crossing Guard

The Village is seeking a reliable morning person to work on-call 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. More information can be found on our website, or by calling the Village Office. Please forward resumes by mail, email, or in person to the attention of Angie Ogden angie.ogden@biblehill.ca.

Summer Student Park Maintenance Staff and Summer Day Camp Counsellor Staff

Are you currently in school and returning in the fall? Village of Bible Hill is looking for summer student staff. More information on the positions can be found on our website or by contacting the Village Office. Please forward resumes by mail, email, or in person to the Village Office.

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 electronic sign and website, 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! Our partner, the Bible Hill Fire Brigade is on social media too. Follow them on Facebook and Twitter to stay in touch with local fire prevention and protection.

Adopt a Fire Hydrant

The winter months bring a special concern to both Village of Bible Hill and Bible Hill Fire Brigade. Winter storms can often hide fire hydrants under a mountain of snow making them impossible to find quickly. In the event of a fire, fire-fighters must locate and shovel out fire hydrants before connecting to them, meaning precious time can be lost. We are asking for your help in keeping the fire hydrant closest to your residence or business clear of snow. At a minimum, residents who have hydrants nearby are asked to make sure the hydrant is cleared of snow enough to make it visible from the street. Even better is to clear the snow from within a one-metre clearance around the entire hydrant after a snowfall.

Your help is greatly appreciated this winter!

Village of Bible Hill

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Kevin Kennedy
Chair



Donna Van Kroonenburg
Deputy Chair



Knickolle Pitcher
Commissioner



Tom Burke
Commissioner



Tim Shea
Commissioner