

Action on the HILL



Greetings from the Village

While the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact much of our lives, the ongoing vaccination roll-out provides hope to look forward to a brighter summer. We hope you are staying well and optimistic on the times to come. Thank you to all for doing your part during these last several weeks of difficulty staying close to home. Thank you for listening to public health guidelines, for supporting local, for hosting your events virtually, for working with your children and their teachers with online learning, for postponing gatherings, and for showing that Villagers are strong and resilient. Our next gathering with friends and loved ones is something we all look forward to.

It will soon be time again to celebrate Canada Day. With uncertainty around the possibility of larger gatherings we have had to cancel the area's traditional parade and celebration this year on July 1. We are instead encouraging residents to celebrate the day in smaller ways by wearing red, visiting a park or trail, decorating homes and yards, and flying the Canada flag.

Hopeful for a greater return to sport this summer, the Village has worked to prep our six baseball fields, adding fill and dozing, as well as installing new jox boxes at Airport Field Park with a partial grant contribution from the NS Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage.

On April 20, Village Commissioners approved the year's budget which will again see no property tax increase to residences or businesses – now for the fifth year. The past year, now, and the recovery ahead is difficult enough and, while costs of delivering services continue to quickly rise, Commissioners have made a plan that will work without raising taxes.

Included as part of the budget is 950 metres of sidewalk renewal on College Rd between Vimy Rd and Johnson Ave, which will see the existing sidewalk replaced and improved. Building on progress of recent years, the Village has again included funding to improve crosswalk infrastructure - if

projects are approved by NS Department of Transportation and Active Transit. Using 100% grant funding provided by the Government of Canada's Enabling Accessibility Fund, the Village is installing an accessible entrance ramp, accessible washroom, and doorway improvements at the Fire Station at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall. The budget also intends to make energy efficiency improvements at the building through window and door renewals, as well as HVAC control improvements for which we have received a partial grant contribution from the NS Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage. Among other things, the capital budget will make available up to \$80,000 for new fire fighting capital equipment for Bible Hill Fire Brigade, \$100,000 for sidewalk and crosswalk repairs which will soon begin, and also continues to strengthen reserve funds to partially finance future capital expenditures – helping to protect property tax rates from sharp changes in expenses from year-to-year.

With a partial grant contribution from the Government of Canada and Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Village recently completed a thorough assessment of its sanitary sewer network, which delivers flows from homes, businesses, institutions, and neighbouring communities to the regional treatment plant. In short, our system is in overall good condition, with some deficiencies to be addressed. The full report is available on our website.

The Village's volunteer Accessibility Advisory Committee continues to work on track towards introducing an Accessibility Plan for the Village and is asking for public feedback via survey on areas of concern. The Village is also currently working with neighbouring municipal bodies to form a regional Accessibility Advisory Committee, which we hope will soon be formed to advise all bodies.

Stay safe, and take care.

Kevin Kennedy, Chair

Sidewalk Capital Priorities

Did you know the Village has a sidewalk network of approximately 34 kilometres, not including multi-use trails? At the May Commission meeting, the Village set their sidewalk capital program priority list, which primarily aims to focus efforts on renewal of existing sidewalks. The list is as follows:

- ➔ College Rd (North) - Vimy Rd to Johnson Ave (current year project)
- ➔ College Rd (North) - Osprey Ct to Brite Ave
- ➔ College Rd (South) - Dixon Ct to Water Tower
- ➔ Maple Blvd and Scenic Dr
- ➔ Avon St
- ➔ Riverside Ave
- ➔ Main St - Bridge to Subway tunnel
- ➔ Main St - Century Honda to Windsor Ave
- ➔ Old Court House Branch (West) - College Rd to Regency Point Dr (if cost shared by Colchester)



College Road Sidewalk Project

Village of Bible Hill has awarded renewal of 950 metres of College Road sidewalk to B. D. Clifton Contracting Limited. Work will begin early June and be completed by mid-July. This work will see the sidewalk renewed along the north side of College Road between Vimy Road and Johnson Avenue, as well as on the south side of the crosswalk at the entrance to Bible Hill Recreation Park. New sidewalk will be 1.5 meters wide and feature accessible curb ramps. Thank you for your patience when navigating traffic control and during sidewalk closures during the project.

Canada Day Contest

Get in the spirit this July 1 by decorating your home for Canada Day. Beginning Monday June 21, the Village is hosting a competition for the best decorated house or yard in Bible Hill.

To participate, email or drop off your name and phone number with a photo of your decorating efforts to the Village to be posted on our Facebook page, and the three photos with the most “likes” on Wednesday, June 30, at 10am will win a backyard

Canada Day BBQ/games prize pack. Prizes will be delivered on June 30th, just in time for Canada Day.

For more details, visit our Facebook event page or contact the office. Happy decorating!

Here are some other fun ways to celebrate Canada Day:

- ➔ wear red and white;
- ➔ plant a tree;
- ➔ get outside: plan a park picnic, navigate a local trail, cool off on the splash pad; and
- ➔ fly the Canada flag.

Accessibility in Bible Hill

Village of Bible Hill’s Accessibility Advisory Committee wants your input around public accessibility. Please consider completing the survey on our website at www.biblehill.ca/access. Paper copies are available upon request.

Follow us on Social Media!

‘Following’ Village of Bible Hill on Facebook and Instagram is a great way to hear about new programs and initiatives, Commission news, local news, and plenty of photos. In addition to our sign and website, all upcoming programs will be posted on social media, as well as pictures from past programs. So “Follow” Village of Bible Hill too so you can keep up on current events in your village!



Village Commission Election Results

Commissioner Kevin Kennedy was re-elected by acclamation following the close of the two-week nomination period on May 20 for the office of Village Commissioner. The seat serves a three-year term to June 2024. Commissioner Kennedy is entering his third term, having been first sworn-in in June 2015. He has served as Chair since November 2020.

Annual Meeting of Electors

Village of Bible Hill's annual meeting of electors, which is held the first Monday of June, has been postponed due to current restrictions on gatherings. Once restrictions permit, a later date will be scheduled and residents will be informed. All are welcome to attend. Hear directly from Commissioners, Bible Hill Fire Brigade Chief, and our auditors. Please watch the newspaper, our social media and website for updates.

Sewer Blockages

Lets talk toilets: Flushing "flushable" wipes causes sewer blockages. Doing so could block lines from your home or contribute to a bigger problem that unnecessarily requires public works labour, equipment, and ultimately property tax dollars to resolve, while placing your home and others at risk of backup. If you flush wipes or any other products other than toilet paper, please stop - for everyone's sake.



Bible Hill Fire Brigade

Bible Hill Fire Brigade is celebrating their 75th anniversary this year (1946 – 2021). We would like to congratulate and thank

the Brigade and its volunteer members for 75 years of service to Bible Hill and surrounding communities. The Brigade's active and honorary members are very much appreciated and valued by the community. Congratulations, and thank you!



Day Camps

The Village has been working to develop day camps for this summer, for children aged 4 – 12 years. Registration is now available. Please call Haley at 902-893-8083 or email camp@biblehill.ca for more information.



Back to School Bash

Keep your eyes open for upcoming details on our end of summer Back to School Bash on August 28th, assuming provincial restrictions permit. It will be a fun way for children to wrap up the summer at the Bible Hill Recreation Park! Details will be posted to our Facebook page and website.





Public Notice - Committee Member Recruitment

Village of Bible Hill welcomes applications from Bible Hill residents to serve on its Finance and Audit Committee in the following volunteer position:

- (1) member for a two-year term.

The Committee meets the second Tuesday of May and December each year at 6pm and whenever circumstances demand such a meeting. The Finance and Audit Committee Policy and application form can be found on the Village website or by contacting the office.

Applications shall be in writing on the prescribed form, and may be mailed, emailed, or submitted in person to the Village office.

Dated this 31st day of May, 2021
 Mitchell Bell, CPA, CA
 Clerk and Treasurer



Public Notice - Committee Member Recruitment

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

- (1) youth member (14-25) for a one-year term Sept 1 through Aug 31, 2022; and
- (1) member for the remainder of a two-year term to Mar 31, 2022.

The Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6pm. The Committee Policy and application form can be found on the Village website or by contacting the office.

Applications shall be in writing, on the prescribed form, and may be mailed, emailed, or submitted in person to the Village office.

Dated this 31st day of May, 2021
 Mitchell Bell, CPA, CA
 Clerk and Treasurer

Village of Bible Hill
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