



BIBLE HILL
Plant Your Roots



Action on the Hill

Winter 2024

Message from the Chair

As the Village of Bible Hill approaches the end of another successful year, we reflect on the continued progress and growth in our community. There have been a number of enhancements underway in the Village, from the addition of a new sidewalk and crosswalk to important upgrades like a generator replacement, improvements to our sanitary sewer network, and construction of a new trail between Osprey Court and Bible Hill Recreation Park. We've also been delighted to host a wide range of community events that bring residents together to create lasting memories—whether it's playing soccer and badminton, enjoying craft afternoons, participating in our children's day camps, or coming out for Canada Day celebrations and Back to School Bash.

With the holiday season approaching, we invite you to join us in celebration at the annual tree lighting on November 23, and at our New Year's Day Levee on January 1. These events are opportunities to connect with your Village Commissioners, meet your neighbors, and enjoy the spirit of the season. Be sure to check out the rest of the newsletter to discover all the exciting activities happening in the Village this holiday season!

Please do not hesitate to contact Village Commissioners or our office at any time should you have a question or concern you wish to discuss.

On behalf of the Village Commissioners Donna, Knickolle, Tim, Dwight and myself, I extend our warmest wishes to you and your families for a joyous holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year.

Kevin Kennedy

Commission Chair

Bible Hill Garden Club Centrepiece Workshop

Join the Bible Hill Garden Club on Sunday, December 8, from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM at 69 Pictou Road for their annual Centerpiece Workshop! Registration is \$10, payable at the event, and all festive supplies will be provided. If you have clippers and gloves, please bring them along. Spaces are limited, so be sure to register soon, by calling the Village Office at 902-893-8083!

The Bible Hill Garden Club meets monthly on the second Monday, from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM, and new members are always welcome. For more details, contact the Village Office. We hope to see you there!

Celebrate the holidays with Bible Hill's tree lighting!

The Village invites you to our annual tree lighting on Saturday, November 23, at 6:00 PM in front of H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall. Enjoy outdoor entertainment, refreshments and a special holiday visitor to greet the children! Join your friends and neighbours as we celebrate the festive spirit of the season. We can't wait to see you there!

New Year's Day Levee

The Village invites you to our New Year's Day Levee on Wednesday, January 1, from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with your Village Commissioners and neighbors while enjoying a light lunch and refreshments. If possible, we encourage you to bring a donation for the Colchester Food Bank. Let's ring in the new year together with warmth and community!



www.biblehill.ca

Village of Bible Hill

902.893.8083

Light up Bible Hill Contest

Embrace the holiday spirit by decorating your home and joining our festive Facebook competition! Starting Monday, December 2, you can enter by emailing one photo of your decorations, along with your name and address, to admin@biblehill.ca. We'll post submissions on our Facebook page as they come in. The three entries with the most "likes" by 10:00 AM on Wednesday, December 18, will win! If you do not have Facebook and want your vote counted, please contact the office! Get ready to light up the season and share your holiday cheer with the community!



Amilia Recreation Event Registrations

Online registration is now available! If you are looking to register for any of our programs, please check out our registration platform, Amilia, which allows us to have online registration and to accept credit card for payment! Check it out by visiting biblehill.ca and clicking the link at the top, or by scanning the QR code.



To register in person please contact the office at 67 Pictou Road. We accept cash or cheque during regular business hours – Monday to Friday from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM. Unless otherwise stated, Village programming takes place at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall, located at 69 Pictou Road.

Tour of Lights



In partnership with the Nova Scotia Community Health Board, we're excited to bring back our Bible Hill Tour of Lights! On December 19th and December 20th at 6:30 PM, a tour bus will take us around Bible Hill to admire the stunning holiday light displays. Get into the festive spirit by decorating your home and sharing the holiday cheer with your neighbors! Registration is required, as seating is limited. Stay tuned for more details!

Holiday Ornament Painting Workshop

The Village of Bible Hill is hosting a Clay Café holiday ornament painting workshop on Wednesday, December 11th, from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM. All festive supplies are included, and the registration fee is \$13 per painter. We can't wait to see your creativity shine with your festive designs! Visit Amilia to register or stop into the Village Office.

Holiday Cookie Decorating

Join us on Wednesday, December 18th from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM (last entry at 8PM) for a delightful evening of cookie decorating! We'll supply all the cookies, icing, and decorations—for the cost of \$5 per participant! To help us prepare enough treats for everyone, please register by December 12th by visiting Amilia or stopping into the Village Office. Let's gather to celebrate the holiday season with festive fun and sweet creations!

Commission Meetings

All Village Commission meetings are open for observation to the public. Commissioners meet twice per month on the second and third Tuesday at 7:00 PM to discuss village matters, set policy, approve expenditures, and chart the path for Bible Hill. Join us, in the Commission Chambers, at 67 Pictou Road!

Follow us on Social Media!

Connection is so important to stay informed. Please follow the Village on Facebook and Instagram at Village of Bible Hill to hear about new programs and initiatives, Commission news, and local events. In addition to our 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!

Looking to embrace the chilly season & stay active?

Head over to Meadowland Avenue Park for some winter fun! When the weather permits, the ice surface is open daily for public skating and hockey until 9:00 PM, with lights illuminating the rink for your enjoyment.

The ice is divided for both skating and hokey, making it perfect for all skill levels. Please note that the rink is unsupervised and used at your own risk. You can find the park at 52 Meadowland Ave or access it via the Cobequid Trail from College Road. So, lace up your skates and enjoy the crisp winter air in the Village!



Need a pair of skates? The Town of Truro, in partnership with the Colchester-East Hants Public Library, offers skates to borrow with a valid library card.

Prefer exploring on foot? The Village office has snowshoes available for both adults and children! With a \$10 deposit per pair (refunded upon return), you can enjoy the beauty of nature and experience the trails like never before. Reserve your pair today and get ready to make the most of the season!

Scotia Pool – Glen W. Smith Community Pool

Visit Scotia Pool, your warm water oasis in the heart of Bible Hill. Following their most highly attended summer camps to date, Scotia Pool



is heading into colder weather - but don't let that scare you, because the water stays at a lovely 85-86 degrees year-round. They've been working hard to bring you some new programs such as Water Volleyball, Feel the Burn fitness class and don't forget their day and evening Deep Water Core classes. These are all proving to be just as popular as their tried-and-true Aqua Fit, Zumba and Yoga. The warm water also works wonders in their Aqua Therapy class which is designed to aid in mobility issues or even get you back to prior fitness goals following surgeries or injury. Go check them out and their knowledgeable staff can answer any questions you may have, fill you in on special events like their annual duathlon and rental possibilities. They can also help you find the right payment option for you whether its a punch pass or membership. They look forward to seeing you at the pool. **Bring this newsletter with you and get into a fitness class, lane or open swim for free!**

Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee

We are seeking Bible Hill Accessibility Advisory Committee members! The role of the Accessibility Advisory Committee is to advise participating municipal units on identifying, preventing, and eliminating accessibility barriers to municipal programs, services, and infrastructure. The Committee will meet at least twice a year, and Committee members are appointed for a term of up to four years. Under the Accessibility Act, at least half of the committee members must have a disability or represent an organization that represents people with disabilities.

Interested in becoming a member of this committee? Interested in making a difference? If so, we want to hear from you! To apply, please complete the Volunteer Application Form, located online at: biblehill.ca/images/RAAC_Application.pdf or contact the office.

Senior (55+) Badminton

We will be offering Senior (55+) Badminton on Friday mornings, beginning November 8, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM! It will be a morning full of fun and physical activity! Haven't played the sport before? No problem! Come play! This program is intended for socialization and light movement all for fun. Please contact the Village Office to register!

Senior (55+) Craft Afternoons:

The Village will be hosting Senior Craft Afternoons on November 19th, January 21st, and February 18th from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM. Registration will be required. Prices and details for each program will be advertised closer to the dates.

Senior (55+) Fitness Classes

Stay physically active with our Senior Fitness Classes at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 AM. Feel free to drop in! Only \$2 per class! Please note, classes are cancelled when school is cancelled due to weather.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Are you passionate about parks, recreation, and community engagement? We are seeking dedicated and enthusiastic individuals to join our Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee! The committee provides valuable input, recommendations, and support to ensure our parks and recreation services meet the needs and interests of all residents.

The committee meets bi-monthly, on the first Wednesday of the month, at 3:30 PM.

The committee policy and application form can be found on the Village website at www.biblehill.ca/parks-recreation-committee. For assistance or accommodations, please contact the office.

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, 2024. 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

Heating Assistance Rebate Program

The Heating Assistance Rebate Program helps low-income Nova Scotians with the cost of home heating. Rebates are \$600. Application deadline is March 31, 2025. Apply online for the rebate at <https://beta.novascotia.ca/apply-heating-assistance-rebate-heating-assistance-rebate-program>. You can also apply using the Heating Assistance Rebate Application form, and sending the completed form and supporting documents by mail or fax. If you'd like a paper application by mail, please contact the Heating Assistance Rebate Program at 1-800-670-4357, or contact the Village Office.

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.

Adopt a Fire Hydrant

Winter storms can often hide fire hydrants, and in the event of a fire, firefighters 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, to make sure the hydrant is cleared of snow enough to make it visible from the street, and if you are able, clear the snow from within a one-metre clearance around the entire hydrant after a snowfall. Your help this winter is greatly appreciated!

Feeding Wildlife

When thinking about feeding wildlife, first consider their safety and 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/>.

