



MunicipalMATTERS

A proud history... A promising future

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The new Municipal Services building opened to the public at 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville on November 2, 2020.

The new Municipal Services Building is a fully accessible building, making it barrier free for the thousands of residents who visit the building each year. Council Chambers is more spacious, with an attached boardroom that features a partition wall that will allow more seating in Chambers for public meetings or tax sale events, when these events can safely resume. Council Chambers also features a new video and sound system, which allows meetings that combine in person and virtual attendance.

The old building, located at 210 Aberdeen Road, did not meet National Building Code or Nova Scotia's Accessibility Act. Space, air quality and security issues were some of the primary deficiencies with the old building.

Many local companies provided construction services for the new building, and the walls will soon be adorned with art created by local artists and artisans.

For more photos of building, please see page 4.

Mayor

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**Mayor's Corner**

Happy Holidays! This year has been a challenging one, and my sincerest Christmas wish is that we can all find creative ways to connect with our loved ones in a way that still keeps us all safe. Please listen to Dr. Strang and Premier McNeil as we approach the holidays, and follow the most current public health advice. The Nova Scotia government has an excellent website available at novascotia.ca/coronavirus.

This issue of Municipal Matters is jam-packed with updates on the work we've been doing on projects like expanding high-speed Internet access, the new Municipal Services building, our municipal-wide planning strategy, our climate change efforts, and more. I urge you to read this newsletter cover to cover, and share it with a friend or family member.

If you'd like to follow more news from MODL even more closely, you can also sign up for our e-newsletter, MODL Messenger, at modl.ca, or follow us on Facebook. Our new engage.modl.ca site is also an excellent way to stay on top of what's happening with projects you care about. On that site you can learn about project overviews, answer surveys, look at project timelines and outcomes, and more.

I'd like to thank our outgoing Council for their hard work and dedication to continuing to make this Municipality a place where people want to live, work and play. I am honoured to be re-elected as your Mayor, and promise to continue to represent all residents to the best of my ability. I have high expectations of the incoming Council, and I know you do as well. I feel confident they will live up to those expectations.

I was very proud to lay the 2020 wreath at the Cenotaph at Veteran's Memorial Park in a closed ceremony this Remembrance Day. I hope everyone took time to remember and give thanks safely at home.





Meet Your New Council

A record-shattering nine women will be serving this term, surpassing the 2004 -2008 Council, which saw four women on Council.

The total number of voters in the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg who cast their vote in 2020 was 9,084, which is 43.9% of eligible voters. This exceeds the number of voters who participated in the 2016 MODL municipal election. In 2016, 8,449, or 40.9% of eligible voters voted. The 2016 election had one acclaimed Councillor, while the 2020 election had three acclaimed Councillors.

Mayor: Carolyn Bolivar-Getson (re-elected)

District 1: Leitha Haysom (acclaimed, new)

District 2: Martin E. Bell (re-elected), Council elected Deputy Mayor

District 3: Wendy Oickle (new)

District 4: Pam Hubley (new)

District 5: Cathy Moore (acclaimed, returning)

District 6: Sandra Statton (new, previously served 2000 to 2012)

District 7: Michelle Greek (new)

District 8: Kacy DeLong (acclaimed, new)

District 9: Reid A. Whynot (re-elected)

District 10: Chasidy Veinotte (new)



The new Municipal Services building lobby features significantly more space and seating for residents visiting the building. More washrooms are available to the public, and public meeting room space is now available to residents wishing to have a private discussion with a staff member or Councillor.



Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson recently awarded certificates to Special Olympians Emily Latta of Oakhill and Nicholas Skoreyko of Wileville. Both Emily and Nicholas medalled in snowshoeing in the Special Olympics National Games in Thunder Bay, ON in February of 2020.

Emily brought home Gold in the 200m, Silver in the 100m and Bronze in the 4 x 100 relay. Nicholas brought home Bronze in the 200m and Bronze in the 4 x 100m. Way to go!

Learn more about how you can get involved in Special Olympics at <https://www.specialolympicsns.ca/>

Help Create a 20-Year Vision for MODL



The Municipality has launched a multi-year campaign to amend strategic planning documents and regulations, called MODL2040. With your input, we are looking to reshape the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and Land Use By-law (LUB) over the course of the next two years through public consultation. Together we will determine a shared vision and help define a path for the Municipality to 2040.

We are committed to acting on this project within a two-year timeline as a result of amendments to the Nova Scotia Municipal Government Act that require municipalities to create municipal-wide land use plans. The changes will support a minimal level of land use planning across the province, and across the Municipality.

These amendments will also ensure that all land use plans follow Provincial guidelines (called Statements of Provincial Interest) on agriculture, drinking water, flooding, infrastructure, and housing. The Statements of Provincial Interest outline the Province's vision for protecting Nova Scotia's land and water resources. They also address issues related to the growth of communities, economic development, and the impacts related to climate change.

Throughout the MODL2040 process, we will be looking for your help in charting a path forward with regards to the priorities you have for your communities. Community priorities will be addressed by Council through the creation of policies and regulations that will direct the efforts of municipal staff.

What is a Municipal Planning Strategy?

Municipalities in Nova Scotia create Municipal Planning Strategies to provide a big-picture vision based on the anticipated challenges and opportunities for the community, as well as a policy framework for land use and development control. The Municipal Government Act provides Council with the power to make policy statements with respect to a broad range of activities including future development, land use, public lands, transportation, municipal services, municipal development, coordination of public programs, and any other matters related to the physical, social or economic development of the Municipality.

What is a Land Use By-law?

The Land Use By-law establishes legal development standards through a set of regulations to implement the direction and vision of the MPS. It will divide the Municipality into a variety of zones. Each zone has standards that may include such items as building sizes, lot sizes, and building setbacks. Zoning also permits and prohibits different land uses to minimize land use conflicts. Clear regulations provide the necessary direction to property owners on how they will be permitted to develop their land while protecting critical natural resources.

Next Steps

To get this project started, we need to hear from you. Our first survey is now available at engage.modl.ca in the MODL2040 project section. We are asking some specific questions on housing and flood risk, as well as municipal services and infrastructure. We have also devoted a portion of the survey to asking how you think we can improve your community. This survey is meant to be the conversation starter leading into the MODL2040 project. Further opportunities for feedback and discussion will follow. Your community knowledge will be a valuable contribution in creating a clear and complete vision for the MODL2040 plan. Please get involved!

Planning Advisory Committee Seeks New Members

The Municipality is seeking expressions of interest from individuals to serve as a member of the Municipality's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC). This is an exciting opportunity for those people who would like to actively participate in the MODL2040 project, where we plan the entire Municipality for the next 20 years – visit <https://www.modl.ca/municipal-planning-strategy.html> for more information.

PAC also advises Municipal Council on land use planning issues, which include zoning, complex development applications, and municipal heritage properties. Meetings are normally conducted on the fourth Thursday of every month, starting at 7:00 p.m. Members-at-large of the PAC receive an honorarium per meeting plus travel expense.

One (1) member-at-large appointment is open between January 2021 to November 2021, and two (2) member-at-large appointments are open between January 2021 to November 2022, both with the possibility of reappointment.

To apply, complete the Application Form (147 KB) . Please submit your form by Monday, January 4, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. by: 1. sending an email at planning@modl.ca; or 2. mailing the form to 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville, NS, B4V 9E4.

We thank all applicants for their interest in this appointment. If selected, the first meeting of the PAC will be on Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Get Involved in our Local Climate Change Action Plan!

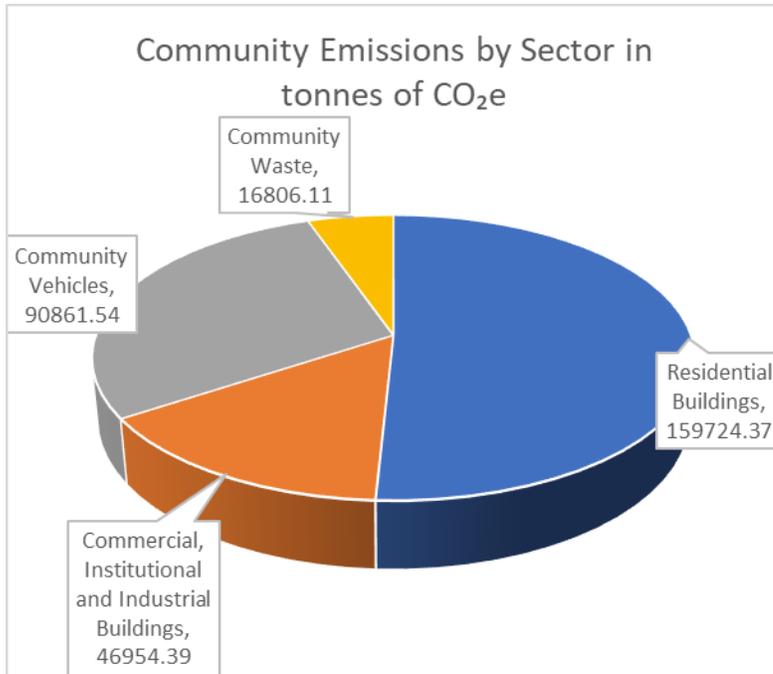
MODL is now accepting nominations from residents who wish to serve on the Sustainability Committee, which will work with staff and Council to create the Local Climate Change Action Plan.

We are looking for four members, one of which will be a youth under age 25, who bring expertise or experience in any of the following: Watershed, Forestry, Parks/Recreation, Sustainability, Planning/Development, Utilities, Wildlife, Solid Waste and Recycling, Air Quality, Climate Change, Environmental Economics, or Green Practices. This knowledge could have been acquired through many avenues including professional practice, community involvement activities or academic study.

To apply, visit engage.modl.ca



Climate Emergency Update



On October 8, MODL achieved milestone 1 of the Partners for Climate Protection program for creating both a Corporate and Community GHG emissions inventory and 10-year business as usual emissions forecast. Using this study, MODL determined that total emissions from community sources were 314,346.41 tonnes of CO₂e. (see CO₂e description, below)

MODL is taking action on this by working to set a community GHG reduction target as well as create a Local Climate Change Action Plan, and we want to hear from you.

Visit us on engage.modl.ca or complete the card on the next page and mail it back to us and let us know about your climate change concerns, and the emissions reductions goals that you want.



Emissions in 2019 totaled 314,346.41 tonnes of CO₂e and came from four categories: Residential Buildings, Commercial Institutional and Industrial Buildings, Community Vehicles and Community Waste

What produces 1 tonne of CO₂e?

- 350 Litres of heating oil (The average home in MODL uses approximately 1400 litres per year)
- 17.5 trips in an SUV from Bridgewater to Halifax
- 1400 KWH of electricity

Did you know?

It would take a forest 1.2 times the area of Kejimikujik National Park to capture MODL’s annual community GHG emissions.

What is CO₂e?

Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) is a term used to describe different greenhouse gasses in a common unit. Greenhouse gasses, like methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O), each have different impacts on climate change. For example, 1 tonne of CH₄ has the same impact on climate change as 25 tonnes of CO₂, so it is expressed as 25 tonnes of CO₂e.

Win a \$100 Home Hardware gift card! Log into engage.modl.ca to send us your thoughts and enter, or fill out the card below return it by January 29, 2020 to be entered in a draw to win.

Return by mail to Zachary Thompson, Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville, NS, B4V 9E4, or scan and email to zachary.thompson@modl.ca, or drop it off at the Municipal Services Building at 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville.



Status Quo	Baby Steps	Show Leadership	Big Transformations
<p>What would this look like?</p> <p><u>Transport:</u> Total reliance on personal internal combustion engine vehicles</p> <p><u>Buildings:</u> High household reliance on oil and fossil fuels</p> <p><u>Energy Efficiency:</u> Inefficient, high energy consumption buildings</p>	<p>What might this look like?</p> <p><u>Transport:</u> Mostly reliant on internal combustion personal vehicles with support for minor EV use.</p> <p><u>Buildings:</u> Small scale on building renewable energy</p> <p><u>Energy Efficiency:</u> Some households shift to more efficient heating and cooling</p>	<p>What might this look like?</p> <p><u>Transport:</u> More diverse transportation system supporting widespread EV use and active transport</p> <p><u>Buildings:</u> Community scale renewable energy generation</p> <p><u>Energy Efficiency:</u> Low carbon, energy efficient local buildings</p>	<p>What might this look like?</p> <p><u>Transport:</u> Growth actively designed around low carbon and active transportation</p> <p><u>Buildings:</u> Extensive renewable energy use Low to no fossil fuel use</p> <p><u>Nature Based Solutions:</u> Regenerative local buildings Ecosystem services actively restored</p>

Tell us your thoughts on climate change! What should MODL do about GHG emissions, and climate impacts?

Name and phone number or email (only required to enter the draw): _____

Municipality and Mahone Islands Conservation Association Secure Prime Waterfront Property in Mahone Bay



In conjunction with the Mahone Islands Conservation Association (MICA), the Municipality has obtained two parcels of land intended for public water access and conservation purposes.

The land includes 1.77 acres of oceanfront property with a sandy beach and a second parcel of three acres of marshland. MICA contributed \$262,500 towards the purchase of the waterfront property. MICA will also partner with MODL on use and maintenance of the waterfront property.

As part of the agreement, the Eisenhauer family donated three acres of marsh property. Ducks Unlimited has agreed to enter into a stewardship

arrangement to ensure the marshland is protected.

“This new acquisition is wonderful news for residents of MODL,” said Mayor Bolivar-Getson. “Before Council acquired this property, there was no public access to the shoreline in the eastern part of MODL, and with the partnership from MICA, Ducks Unlimited, and the Eisenhauers, we are very pleased to be able to increase access to our waterways. The Municipality of Lunenburg wishes to thank Bob and Patricia Eisenhauer for their donation of part of the land in Oakland.”

The acquisition of the marsh acreage will preserve valuable ecosystems and improves resiliency in the face of climate change.

“We are pleased to partner with the Municipality in the acquisition of this prime waterfront property on the waters of Mahone Bay,” said John Meisner, MICA Chair. “The acquisition includes the adjacent inland property known locally as the Sweet Marsh and both properties will be conserved. MICA has been very active for over three years in pursuing this important acquisition, and we are delighted to have finally succeeded. We appreciate and recognize the strong working relationship that we have developed with MODL and the support of Mayor Bolivar-Getson and Council. This is the third property acquisition project in which MICA has partnered with MODL.”

“The Eisenhauer Family appreciates all the hard work done by MODL and MICA, so as to allow future generations to enjoy the beachfront property and the inland pond area.” Bob and Pat Eisenhauer.

“We applaud the Municipality for taking the initiative to protect Sweet Marsh for future generations. Wetlands like this one not only provide habitat for ducks and other wildlife; they clean our water, protect us from flooding, store carbon, and are beautiful places to enjoy time in nature. We are excited about this new partnership with the Municipality and look forward to working together to conserve this wetland,” said Emma Bocking, Ducks Unlimited.

Economic Development



Christmas in Petite



Multi-Venue Artisan Fair Raises Money for Local Families

Christmas in Petite, an annual fundraiser for local families in need, took place on November 21-22.

The multi-venue artisan fair and community fundraiser encouraged participants to pick up an “I’ve Been Everywhere” card and collect a sticker at each participating venue. Once complete, the card and a minimum \$20 donation qualified participants to win one of eight prizes.

Participating venues included Petite Riviere Vineyards, Maritime Painted Saltbox, Garage Studio, River House Rug Hooking, Petite Riviere Fire Hall, Petite Pet Hospital, Petite General Store, and Mariner Craft. This event makes it possible for Wesley United Church to provide dinners for up to twelve local families.



Business Spotlight:



River House Rug Hooking

Jane Steele is the owner and creative mind behind River House Rug Hooking, located at 36 Petite Rivière Road. In the shop you will find knitting yarns, rug hooking supplies and original designs for sale. Jane offers rug hooking classes, providing participants with the design, tools, and instruction to complete a rug of their own.

MODL’s Municipal Services Building will soon display one of Jane’s beautiful pieces of work called “The Fisherman’s Dream,” depicting a fisherman dreaming of a big catch prior to it coming to fruition.

If you have a rug hooking enthusiast in your family or are looking for a fun activity for yourself and a few friends, consider dropping into River House Rug Hooking to see what Jane has to offer.

For more information on River House Rug Hooking, contact:

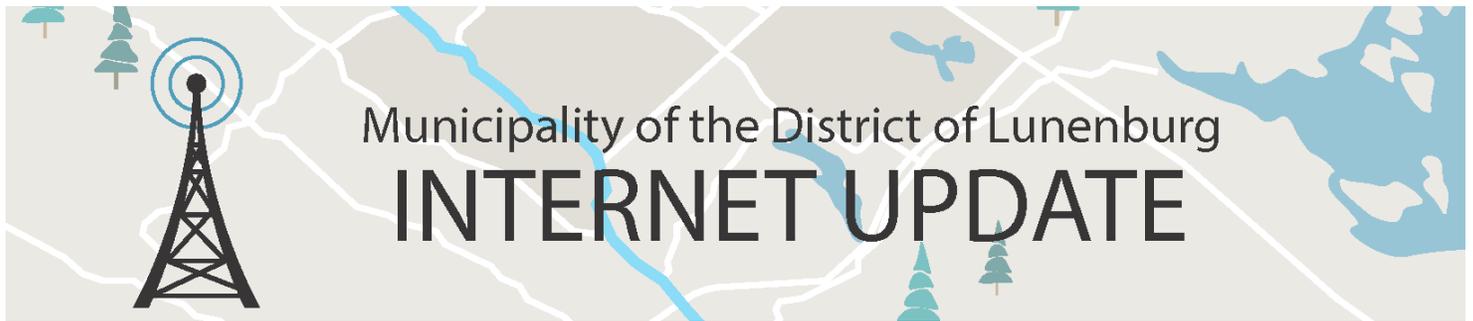
Jane Steele

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RiverHouseRugHooking>

Email: jane.riverhouse@gmail.com

Call for confirmation of hours: (902) 527-6405





Bell Fibre Update

To date 1,248 homes in the New Germany Bell Fibre Op project build are now available for service. All addresses are on modl.ca/internet

All other Bell projects are underway and new updates will come in the new year.

MODL is working with both Bell and Develop NS to have additional underserved homes added to existing project footprints. If you do not fall in an identified service area, please contact Dave Waters at dave.waters@modl.ca or call (902) 521-5945.

TNC Wireless Update

To date eight of the eleven TNC Wireless Towers are now operational with the Parkdale, East LaHave and LaHave Island Towers scheduled to be operational in the coming months. To date, TNC has connected 220 residence. For additional information, visit www.tncwireless.ca

NCS Sweetland Tower Update

In October MODL sold the Sweetland Internet tower to NCS to allow NCS to continue to provide service to the residence.

Do you have poor Internet?

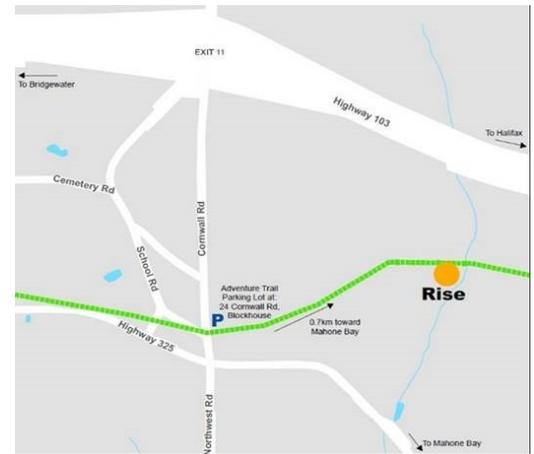
Please contact Dave Waters, Director of Business Development, Tourism and Infrastructure at dave.waters@modl.ca or 902-521-5945.



Art on the Adventure Trail Unveiled!

Sam Battaglia's Living Art Sculpture "Rise" was unveiled in October on the Adventure Trail. Samantha is a local artist with a background in landscape architecture focusing on ecological needs. Her art practice has focused on many themes but overall strives to construct dynamic spaces for a viewer or participant to engage in. Rise is a living sculpture which will draw people to our Adventure Trail in all seasons to marvel at its unique form. We invite everyone to take a walk, cycle to the Adventure trail and check out this sculpture!

For more information contact: Active Living Coordinator
karen.geddes-selig@modl.ca



**Firefighters in our
Municipality are
skilled, strong and brave.**

**THEY'RE ALSO ALL
VOLUNTEERS**



Find out more at
www.answerthecall.ca

**VOLUNTEER
FIREFIGHTERS**

Give Back to Your Community

Fire and emergency services provide an invaluable volunteer resource to our region, a resource we simply can't go without.

We tend not to think of our fire departments unless we need them in an emergency. Now, they need our help. Whether you want to go on calls, perform office duties or help with community events, there's a role in your local fire department suited to your skills and interests.

We're seeking volunteers for the Fire Service in your area. Volunteering with the Fire Service is an excellent way to meet new people and make new friends, while giving back to your community.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming involved in the Fire Service, we encourage you to reach out to your local Fire Department, or visit Answerthecall.ca

Active Living Profile—Mark Winfield

Submitted by Karen Geddes-Selig, MODL Active Living Coordinator

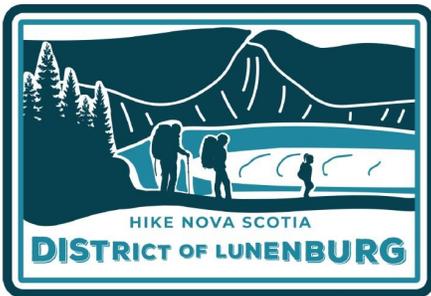
Mark started hiking eight years ago on a trip to Gros Morne National Park, Newfoundland. He and his wife Patty hiked numerous amazing trails and became hooked. What he loved about hiking was “being in the outdoors, good exercise and a quiet place to be.” Mark says, “I enjoy the adventure and challenge, but I am always aware of safety.” Mark’s favorite spot to hike in Nova Scotia so far is Pollett’s Cove, Cape Breton, NS, where he has been many times.



Mark is on the Planning Committee of the Lunenburg County Hikers which offers free guided hikes year-round for those that want to see new sights in the County and beyond. He has already earned his Hike NS- District of Lunenburg badge where he hiked 3 of 5 hiking trails and parks. The Hike NS-District of Lunenburg badge includes: Gaff Point, River Ridge Common, Indian Path Common, LaHave River Trail and Narrows Basin at Martins River. Mark has had fun hiking the wonderful trails and parks in our backyard region.

Enjoy the Hike, get the Badge

modl.ca/active-living



Lunenburg County Hikers

Join Lunenburg County Hikers on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1273215446168081>

Upcoming hikes are listed under Events. Not on Facebook? Email janiceprand@gmail.com to be added to the email list.

Why we walk?

Bonnie Robar, Upper LaHave, and Linda MacDonald, Town of Bridgewater, are cousins who walk together five days a week for 20-25 minutes at the LCLC, around the arena indoors. “I have diabetes and the walking makes me feel better. I also enjoy the social aspect of getting out and enjoying a coffee with my cousin after our walks,” says Bonnie.

“Walking is a great way to start your day and is good for you from a health standpoint,” says Linda. “We like to walk indoors rain or shine and like the dependability of knowing we will get to walk that day.”



Winter Storms and Winter Driving

Winter is around the corner so that means preparing for winter storms and winter driving.

Severe winter storms/blizzards are events that can affect our communities and can result in school and business closures or early dismissals, unsafe travel conditions, and widespread utility disruptions. Environment Canada tracks weather systems to mitigate potential effects, but winter storms can strike with little notice and can potentially threaten life and property.

- Consider your travel requirements and revise plans to stay off the roads if impassable.
- Check on family members and neighbours for assistance.
- Charge all battery-operated devices such as cell phones, laptops, and radios.
- Consider how you would cope with being home (shelter in place) for 3 days or more, possibly without power, and ensure you have appropriate supplies. Once you know how you and your family could cope and you have the supplies you need, relax in the knowledge that you have done what you can. Settle in to enjoy the storm.
- If you lose power, notify your electric utility provider and practice safety measures:
 - Candles – place them 12-inches away from other items in a sturdy base.
 - Generators – do not bring it indoors and ensure you have good ventilation.
 - Space heaters – select one that shuts off if it tips over. Keep it 3 feet away from other objects and turn it off at night.
- If the power goes out while you are cooking be sure to turn off the stove and clear the burners and oven to prevent a fire when power is restored.
- Clear snow from oil tanks, hot water exhausts, furnace and dryer vents, secondary entrances, and fire hydrants.
- Pack a vehicle emergency kit including shovel, blanket, food, booster cables, and flashlight.

If severe winter traps you in your vehicle, remember these tips:

- Pull off the road, turn hazard lights on. Remain in your vehicle, rescuers are most likely to find you there. Once the severe weather has passed, you may need to leave the car and proceed on foot. Follow the road where possible.
- Do not set out on foot unless you can see a building close-by where you can take shelter.
- Conserve fuel. Run the engine and heater about 10 minutes each hour to keep warm, cracking a downwind window slightly to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- In extreme cold, use road maps, seat covers, floor mats, newspapers or extra clothing for covering-- anything to provide additional insulation and warmth.



Green Cart Tips



- Place your cart at the curb even when it isn't full.
- Strain excess liquid from food wastes before placing them in the cart or wrap them in newspaper.
- Line your cart with a paper yard waste bag or alternate wet layers with leaves to keep organics from freezing to the sides.
- **Allow ashes to cool for 4 weeks and always check for hotspots before placing in the cart! Hot ashes can cause fires!**
- Place kitty litter and all other pet wastes in the garbage - not the green cart.
- Keep plastic, glass, textiles and Styrofoam out of the green cart.

Visit www.communityrecycling.ca for a Green Cart guide, or call (902) 543-2991.

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle During the Holidays!

- Use washable, reusable bags or totes when you shop, cutting down on paper and single-use plastic consumption.
- Wrap gifts in reused wrapping paper or paper gift bags. Reuse bows and ribbon. Reuse fabric gift bags among family and friends.
- Reuse brown paper shopping bags and tie them with raffia (compostable).
- Recycle wrapping paper that can't be reused. Consider giving gifts that don't require much packaging, such as gift certificates.
- Send electronic greeting cards to reduce paper waste.
- Make holiday decorations from old greeting cards.
- Bake or cook for family and friends instead of buying things.
- Dine using ceramic plates, cups and silverware instead of disposables.
- Reduce food waste by planning later meals using Holiday meal ingredients. Freeze unused food. Place inedible food scraps in your green cart.
- Empty and rinse glass, metal and plastic food packaging. Put in a blue bag or clear bag for recycling collection.
- Switch to rechargeable batteries.
- Coniferous wreaths and other plant-based decorations can be placed in the green cart. Be sure to remove metal rings or bows first.



Waste Collection Information

There are lots of ways to find out about waste collection. Visit www.communityrecycling.ca to find updates. Sign up for collection notifications using **R6Recycles waste app**. You can download the app on your mobile device. It's free and easy to use.

If collection is canceled, check the website listed above. You may also call **1-855-530-3324** or **902-543-2991** or tune into **CKBW 98.1 fm**. Also check the **Lunenburg Regional Community Recycling Centre's Facebook page**.



Never miss collection day! Download the free **R6RECYCLES App** on the app store.
No computer or smart phone? Call (902) 543-2991 to sign up for reminders about collection day.

Find us on Facebook! facebook.com/LunenburgRegionalCommunityRecyclingCentre

The Lunenburg Regional Community Recycling Centre is located at 908 Mullock Road in Whynott's Settlement.
Questions? Call 902-543-2991 or visit communityrecycling.ca.

Important Numbers

General Inquiries	902-543-8181	Planning General Inquiries	902-541-1325
Mayor's Office	902-541-1326	Civic Addressing Inquiries	902-541-1325
Taxes	902-541-1329	Recreation Registration	902-541-1343
Purchasing	902-541-1324	MARC Facility Bookings	902-541-1343
Dog Control Officer	902-543-2022	Solid Waste Inquiries	902-543-2991
Engineering Department	902-541-1351	Solid Waste Collection Issues	1-855-530-3324
Building Inquiries/Inspection	902-541-1325		communityrecycling.ca

The mission of Municipal Matters is to better inform MODL residents of local municipal issues. Municipal Matters is published quarterly. Feedback, reaction, or comments are encouraged. Please write to: Sarah Kucharski, Communications Officer, Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville, NS | B4V 9E4 or email Sarah.Kucharski@modl.ca.