

2020 Municipal Elections

2020 Municipal Election Stellarton Candidates

Mayor:

Danny MacGillivray

Darren Stroud

Council:

Ward 1

Bryan Knight (*acclaimed*)

Simon Lawand (*acclaimed*)

Ward 2

Susan Campbell

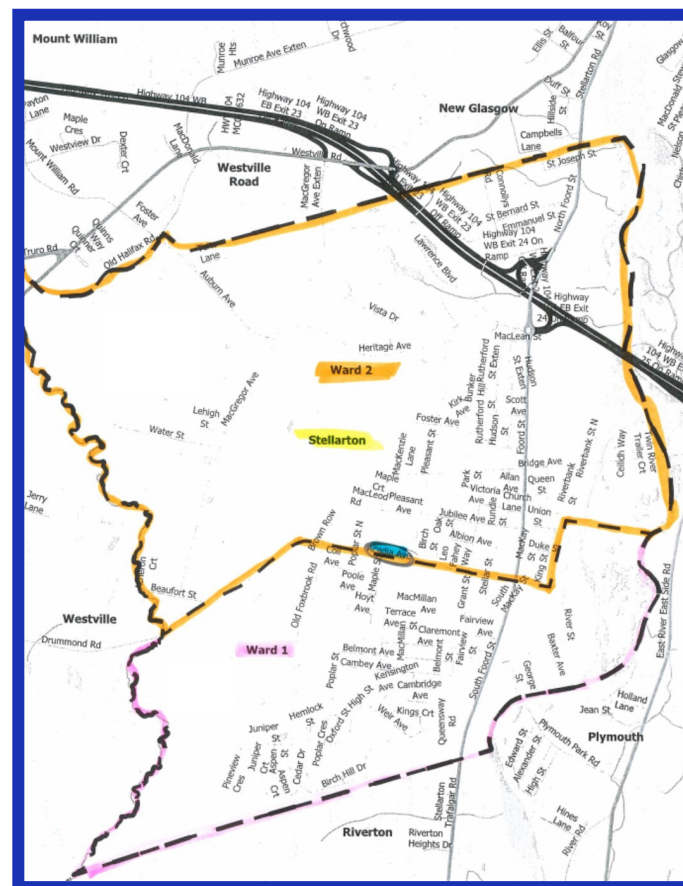
Brian Linthorne

Garry Pentz

Trudy Vince

Ward 1 is everything South of Acadia Ave

Ward 2 is everything North of Acadia Ave



Voting for the Municipal Election will be completed online or via telephone only for the 2020 year.

Voting will begin on October 5 and will run until October 17, 2020. You will receive your voting information in the mail regarding telephone and internet voting; this information will also give you an individual pin number that will allow you to cast your vote. Libraries in Pictou County will also have secure internet access for you to privately cast your vote.

A help desk phone number will also be available so election workers can guide you through the process over the telephone. It can be reached from Monday to Saturday (beginning October 5) from 8:30am to 8:30pm at 1-833-901-1990.

If you're unsure about casting your vote this way, you can visit your appointed kiosk on October 17 where elections workers will be able to assist you in person.

Kiosks will be open only on Saturday, October 17, 2020, from 8:00am to 7:00pm. They are only to be used for people needing assistance. If you have your voter's letter, please bring it with you to the kiosk and go to the kiosk that is on your letter only.

Town of Stellarton Kiosk—Sharon St. John United Church

(33 Acadia Ave, Stellarton)

Saturday, October 17

8:00am-7:00pm

For more information: www.electionspictoucounty.ca

“Stellarton is a thriving community that is safe, healthy, inclusive, and engaged with a robust economy that appeals to businesses, citizens, and visitors alike.”



STELLAR NEWS

SPIRIT | PEOPLE | PRIDE

Mayor's Message

Dear Friends and Neighbors;

Wow, those four years went fast. Hard to believe, but the current council is at the end of our mandate with elections in October. It has been a true pleasure working with the four councillors in order to serve you, the citizen, who elected many new faces in 2016. I am happy to say we worked together well for the betterment of our town. Best of luck to all the candidates this time around. It takes a lot of courage to put your name on a ballot, but doing so is what keeps our democracy alive. Please make sure to vote. You can cast your ballot anytime from October 5 to October 17 by phone or internet. There is no paper ballot due to the pandemic. There will be one polling station at the Sharon Saint John Church if anyone has trouble casting their ballot electronically; staff will be available to help walk you through the process. If you have any questions please call Josephine, the Returning Officer, at (902) 485-2248.



Council has provided the residents of Stellarton with the most open and transparent municipal government in the province of Nova Scotia. All council meetings are on YouTube, live streamed and catalogued. The town's website contains quarterly financial updates, and replacement ratings for roads, sidewalks, sewer and water pipes. The newsletter you are reading now, The Stellar News, started in order to keep residents abreast of the latest happenings in town.

We are seeing the results of council's strategic decision-making in the Albion Business Park and immediate vicinity. Council lowered the cost of land and offered tax incentives to new business. Just off the rotary, there is construction well underway on a Petro Canada with a Mary Brown's Fried Chicken and Robins Donuts. The Town also sold a piece of land in the Albion Business Park, realizing \$175,000 from the August 2020 land sale.

The major issue during councils' term was the Stellarton Memorial Rink. Over the past 40 years, it had fallen into a state of disrepair. Council ordered an Aging Building Audit to determine the true

Continued on page 2

CONTACT US

Mayor, Danny MacGillivray

(902) 759-6840

Deputy Mayor, Susan Campbell (Ward 2)

(902) 752-2873

Councillor, Bryan Knight (Ward 1)

(902) 396-7488

Councillor, Simon Lawand (Ward 1)

(902) 752-4766

Councillor, Garry Pentz (Ward 2)

(902) 752-3137

Town Clerk, Susan Higdon

(902) 752-2114

Town Engineer, Blaine Murray

(902) 752-2946

Marketing & Communications, Paige Clarke

(902) 752-2114

Fire Chief, Mike O'Sullivan

(902) 754-6999

Chief of Police, Mark Hobeck

(902) 752-6160

Planning Dept, Roland Burek & Emily Lutton

(902) 752-5311

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct. 1 - Police Commission

Oct. 13 - Council

Oct. 14 - Planning Advisory Committee

Oct. 17 - Election Day

Oct. 26 - Committee of the Whole

Nov. 5 - Police Commission

Nov. 9 - Council

Nov. 18 - Planning Advisory Committee

Nov. 23 - Committee of the Whole

Dec. 3 - Police Commission

Dec. 14 - Council

Dec. 16 - Planning Advisory Committee

Dec. 24 (NOON) - Jan. 2

Administration Office Closed

condition of the rink. The report came back saying the minimum investment would be \$4,000,000 to modernize our rink. The taxpayer could not afford the expenditure, especially since they are paying for two ice surfaces at the Pictou County Wellness Centre. At the end of the day, Council offered the Stellarton Memorial Community Centre Association the building and land for \$1. Their hope, and the hope of council, is that they are able to fundraise to restore the facility in some manner. If they are unsuccessful, the Town has first option to buy it back, for \$1. We protected the taxpayer and gave the non-profit group a chance to realize their ambitions, which, if successful, would please many residents, including all council members.

The Town of Stellarton is the envy of many other small towns in Pictou County and across Nova Scotia. We have the lowest tax rate of any town in the county. Our infrastructure, roads, sidewalks etc. are in good shape. We have a growing business park. Our team closely monitors all expenditures. We are as open and transparent as possible.

Stellarton is an awesome town with great residents. It was truly an honor to have served you the last four years. I know all council members feel the same.

Sincerely;

Danny



Volunteer of the Year Nominees

Traditionally, we would honour our Volunteer of the Year nominees at our annual volunteer reception in the spring. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we've had to change our standard way of celebrating these amazing community volunteers.

We'd like to extend a huge thank to the nominees for Volunteer of the Year for 2020. You all help make Stellarton a better place!

Stellarton Volunteer of the Year Nominees

George MacLellan	Nathan Smith
Beth Knock	Judy Whytewood
Dawn Cleary	Steve O'Connor
Bill Spears	Emily Pyrovolos
LeeAnn Gordon	Frances O'Connor

Volunteer of the Year 2020: Bill Colbourne

Stellarton Accessibility

The Town is presently developing a plan to increase accessibility within the community, with the end goal to be completely accessible by 2030.

Our first step is to retrofit Town Hall to ensure that it is accessible to every Stellarton resident, regardless of their ability. Then we'll be focusing on our five key areas for accessibility.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Built Environment | 4. Transportation |
| 2. Information & Communication | 5. Employment |
| 3. Goods & Services | |

Looking to increase accessibility for your business?

Nova Scotia has a Business ACCESS-Ability Grant Program that can help fund accessibility improvements for customers, employees, or both.

More information can be found here:
<https://bit.ly/2ROkcpW>

Halloween Update

Halloween will proceed in Stellarton for 2020!



As we continue to navigate these challenging times, Town Council and staff are following the recommendations set out by the province and Dr. Strang.

Dr. Strang, Chief Medical Officer of Health for Nova Scotia, has said: "There's no reason that you can't practice Halloween safely maintaining physical distancing, maybe modifying how you give out candy if you choose to do so." His team is currently putting together advice on how to reduce the risk of exposure while trick-or-treating.

Dog By-Law

Stellarton has a large population of furry friends in our community. While dogs are capable of many things, they need help to clean up after themselves. As pet owners, you have the responsibility to help keep our community clean by cleaning up after your pets when duty calls!

As per the Dog By-law No. 2018-04-23; Part 7; Section 19; subsection 7:

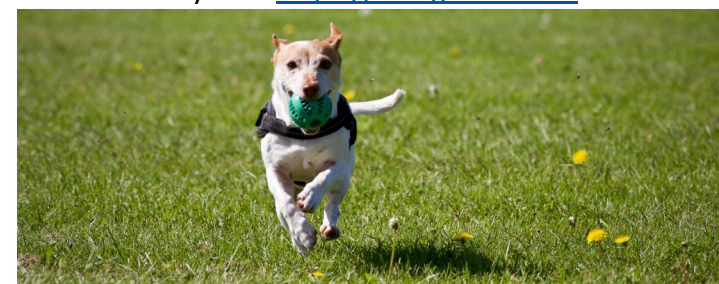
[Every owner of a dog]

- (7) who fails to remove the feces of a dog, other than a dog that is trained to assist and is assisting a person with a disability, from public property or private property other than the owners; is in contravention of this By-Law.

Penalty:

Any person who contravenes any provision of this By-Law is punishable on summary conviction by a fine of not less than \$250.00 and not more than \$5000.

For the full By-law: <https://bit.ly/2ZwceGG>



Stellarton Fire Department

Fire Prevention Week is October 4-10, 2020!

This year's Fire Prevention Week theme is "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!"

This is to educate everyone about the simple, yet important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe in the kitchen.



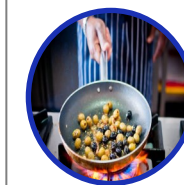
Did you know unattended cooking is one of the leading causes of house fires? Check out these fire safety tips to help keep you safe in the kitchen!



Clear the clutter.
 Keep anything that burns—plastic utensils, dishcloths, paper towels—a safe distance from the stove.

Cooking & alcohol don't mix.

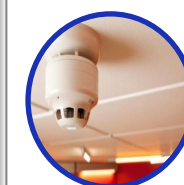
You must be alert to prevent cooking fires. You will not be alert if you have consumed alcohol or drugs.



Stand by your pan.
 Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires. Always stay in the kitchen when you cook.

Never throw water on a grease fire.

If a pot of oil catches fire, put a lid on it. Slide a lid over the pot and turn off the stove. Do not move the pot.



Install smoke & carbon monoxide alarms.
 Install working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms on every floor of your home and outside sleeping areas. Make sure to test them every month.