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New Glasgow  
*flourish*



## Join us for the New Year's Day Levee

January 1, 2012  
Council Chambers  
12 noon to 1:30pm

Residents are invited to a public reception to herald in the New Year with the Mayor, Council, municipal staff, and neighbours



## New Glasgow Now

### Season's Greetings from the Mayor



**Dear New Glaswegians,**

It is my pleasure on behalf of my colleagues on Town Council to wish you

and yours the very merriest of holiday seasons.

New Glasgow is a community rich in cultural diversity and throughout our town will be celebrations from many cultures. Whether it will be, or has been, Christmas, Hanukkah, Ashura, Kwanza or St. Nicholas Day, it is a time with family, friends, good neighbours and community. It is a time for stepping back from the hustle and bustle of everyday life to spend time with loved ones and to reflect upon our blessings and what matters most to us.

Looking back at the past year, the famous quote of Charles Dickens, "It was the best of times. It was the worst of times," certainly comes to mind. Our community has endured tragic losses with the Amber Kirwan and Phalen homicide cases. These losses have had a profound impact on the town and Pictou County as a region. Our hearts go out to the families who have suffered such acute losses and we think

of them during the Christmas season.

The community of New Glasgow has been honoured nationally for its community spirit, pride in place, environmental, heritage and beautification efforts through the national Communities in Bloom program and was named the top winner in the population category of 7,501-10,000 against communities in Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan. at the National Symposium in Quebec City in October before an international audience.

Our town was also recognized provincially with the Parks Canada Sustainable Tourism Award presented at the TIANS Crystal Awards in November that recognized projects such as our Downtown Revitalization, partnerships with the New Glasgow Farmers Market and NSCAD University as well as our trails system, marina and Glasgow Square theatre along with the support given by the Town of New Glasgow for numerous festivals and events as well as successes in environmental stewardship and Communities in Bloom.

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business also ranked New Glasgow first in Nova Scotia and fifth in Atlantic

Canada for Entrepreneurial Cities and we have as a municipality recognizes several of our community's most inspiring entrepreneurs and adopted 2011 as the Year of the Entrepreneur along with CFIB and the federal government. We have marked 60 years of milestones and memories for the John Brother MacDonald Stadium.

We have invested significantly in our infrastructure that will enable us to continue to provide strong municipal services as the commercial service centre for northern Nova Scotia through both the East River Road and MacLean Street projects with assistance from both the Province and the Government of Canada. We have also unveiled our new multicultural entrance signs that herald our heritage and cultural diversity and in 2012 we will see more progress on the Pictou County Wellness Centre, which has experienced incredible community support.

May the warmth of the season bring you gladness. May the spirit of the season bring you peace. Best wishes for a bright, safe and prosperous 2012. May good tidings be shared by one and all.

**Mayor Barrie E. MacMillan**

### New Glasgow Receives National CIB Award

The Town of New Glasgow has won in the 7,501 to 10,000 population category of the 2011 National Edition of Communities in Bloom (CIB), receiving a five bloom rating and a special mention for Stakeholders' Spirit of Cooperation.

CIB evaluates each community on tidiness, urban forestry, environmental action, heritage conservation and landscaping (including turf and ground cover and floral displays). Evaluation of

community involvement is included in each of these categories.

Following their evaluation of the town, volunteer judges Arlene Janzen of White City, Saskatchewan, and Hugh Skinner of Roblin, Manitoba, wrote, "the level of integration of the Communities in Bloom template with municipal improvement and long-term sustainability in New Glasgow is exemplary at both the governance and opera-

tional level."

New Glasgow Mayor Barrie MacMillan said he was delighted to accept the Communities in Bloom national award on behalf of the Town Council and the people of New Glasgow.

"This is a tremendous honour that has been bestowed upon our community," says Mayor MacMillan.

**Continued on page 2**

## New Glasgow Now

# New Glasgow takes top CIB honours

**Continued from page 1**

“This award truly belongs to all of New Glasgow as it is the efforts of our residents, our CIB committee, community organizations, businesses, and our municipality that were evaluated and did us proud. Special congratulations goes out to the CIB committee members for their hard work and for being the driving force behind our local program,” continues Mayor MacMillan.

New Glasgow CIB co-chair Lesley Anne Sobey commends the community for its hard work and dedication to the principles of CIB.

“This national recognition is a true testament to the tremendous cooperation and partnerships amongst the Town, our local CIB committee, residents, businesses, and community organizations. They have all come together to improve the quality of life for New Glasgow’s citizens. All of these groups make a significant contribution to the life and strength of our community as a place to call home, as a place to do business, or as a place to visit. Thanks to all our community and corporate part-

ners for your support and congratulations for helping New Glasgow win this prestigious award,” says Sobey.

Kimberly Dickson, director of Marketing and Communications and co-chair of the New Glasgow CIB committee, explains that the CIB experience has provided a proven template for municipal im-



provement and generated invaluable marketing exposure.

“New Glasgow, Pictou County, and the Northumberland Shore were on the national stage through our trade show presentation at the national awards symposium. Our town was profiled before more than 600 delegates and sponsors representing hundreds of communities from across the nation as well as Ireland, England, Singapore, Japan, Scotland, and the United States. We

found more than ever that communities from coast to coast were familiar with New Glasgow and were very gracious and positive with their comments,” says Dickson.

“The work of the New Glasgow CIB committee members has been truly inspiring. I have never experienced a more generous, energetic and giving group of people as the committee members and participants. All Town departments also put forward great effort and take pride in serving the people of New Glasgow and the wider region,” adds Dickson.

Councillor Jack Lewis says, “This was my proudest moment for being someone from New Glasgow. I have supported CIB from the start for the changes it has brought about in environmental stewardship and greening of the town. The volunteers and community spirit it has fostered are enormous. The staff and workers from the Town have played a major role in the development of the standards of the program. I would also like to thank the Mayor and Council for their support and hope they are happy to receive such a prestigious award for the town as I am.”

## New Glasgow celebrates entrepreneurial leadership in the community

On December 19, 2011, the Town of New Glasgow recognized some of its finest entrepreneurs in celebration of the Year of the Entrepreneur.

Gail Gosbee, owner of Ekim Fashion; Jim Shaw, owner of Pictou County’s Tim Hortons/Wendys; and Rita Billington, owner of Rita’s Cosy Corner, were nominated by the community as New Glasgow’s Entrepreneurs of the Year.

John Proudfoot and Jim Proudfoot were also recognized with the Entrepreneur Lifetime Achievement Award. They established a legacy of business excellence and community leadership through Home Hardware and Proudfoot Motors. John accepted a posthumous

award on behalf of his brother, Jim.

“Participating in the Year of the Entrepreneur celebrations was especially important to the Town of New Glasgow as a community whose very beginnings spring from a spirit of enterprise and imagination,” says Mayor Barrie MacMillan.

“We called on members of the community to nominate someone who they believe is worthy of the title ‘Entrepreneur of the Year’ for New Glasgow. The nominees were of such an impressive caliber, representing a wide range of businesses, that we had no choice but to honour them all,” adds Mayor MacMillan.

Earlier in the year, the Government of Canada adopted a joint recommendation by the Canadian Federation of Inde-

pendent Business and the Canada Youth Business Foundation to make the declaration of the Year of the Entrepreneur nationwide. CFID wrote letters to Nova Scotia Premier Darrell Dexter and all 55 municipalities asking them to adopt this important proclamation.

The Town of New Glasgow joined the province and other municipal units to honour the important contributions of entrepreneurs to our community.

Events held this year include a proclamation signing; an Entrepreneur Business Breakfast with guest speaker Sean Murray, CEO of the Advocate; and a Day of the Entrepreneur featuring a panel of entrepreneurial community leaders attended by students of the Nova Scotia Community College, North Nova Education Centre, and the public.

## Town of New Glasgow audited Financial Statements show consolidated surplus for 2010-2011

### Mayor's Report

On a consolidated basis, the Town of New Glasgow had a surplus of \$2,923,700 on March 31, 2011. There was an increase in our capital assets of \$6,759,400, a decrease in fund balances of \$653,100, new debt issued in the amount of \$1,520,100 and debt repayment totaling \$910,700. This was a year of significant investment in infrastructure for New Glasgow at a time when many municipalities across this province and this nation are facing crisis in infrastructure for not making investments over time and on a continuous basis.

I am pleased we were able to achieve a \$75,200 operating surplus while accommodating a \$357,700 payment on an unfunded liability in the Town of New Glasgow pension plan. This surplus was used to reduce the accumulated deficit of \$998,000 to \$922,800. The accumulated deficit balance is in large part the result of a \$1,000,000 payment required to be made by the Town of New Glasgow to the Police Association of Nova Scotia Pension plan in 2008-2009. The Town's final payment of the accumulated deficit for the PANS pension shortfall is approaching and will be required by the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Other expenditures incurred by the Town that we do not have direct control over, yet impact our finances, are things such as the requirement to pay for regional services based on uniform tax assessment rather than a user-pay formula. Examples are: the Town of New Glasgow is required to pay a portion of any operational deficit of the Eastern Mainland Housing Authority, a provincial government service. New Glasgow's portion of the deficit during the 2010-2011 budget year was \$98,000. The Town also contributed \$124,900 to Provincial Corrections in 2010-2011.

As we heard last year the Province re-neged on its commitment to accept financial responsibility for social programs such as Housing and Corrections, which are both managed by the Province independent from municipal operations. The Town is also required to pay a municipal education tax to the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board as determined by the Nova Scotia Department of Education annually and for 2010-2011 this cost was in the amount of \$1,400,000. These costs, that are not municipal ones, will continue to impact the Town and our ability to control costs.

Our water operating fund for 2010-2011 had a surplus of \$312,900 which demonstrates that the user pay system is working effectively. This surplus has eliminated the accumulated deficit in the water operating fund and leaves a surplus of \$41,700. It will be necessary to conduct a water rate study in 2012 to ensure the utility continues to operate efficiently and that water rates reflect the cost associated with providing this invaluable service. The watershed land reserve grew by \$35,000 and the water depreciation reserve was reduced by \$256,200 as funds were used on capital projects that serve our community very well. We are very proud that our drinking water standards have long exceeded Canadian and provincial standards.

During the 2010-2011 fiscal year, the Town invested \$1,757,800 in streets, curbs, and sidewalks. Our storm water separation project on MacLean Street cost a total of \$1,163,300 and this project was a successful infrastructure partnership that received funding from all three orders of government-municipal, provincial and federal. This is in keeping with Commitment to the strategy that sound and well maintained infrastructure is good for our community and good for business. We also invested \$325,300 for recreational equipment, community building upgrades and the New Glasgow Farmers Market structure, all that support healthy lifestyle amenities for our residents, while \$145,700 was invested towards significant improvements in Protective Services equipment. The investment in a major water line upgrade on East River Road totaled \$1,807,100 and investment in green energy with a small wind turbine cost \$342,500.

All of the capital projects previously mentioned were completed through a \$806,100 allocation from the Town of New Glasgow's reserves to achieve this level of growth. These are strategic investments that are needed to maintain current standards as well as to position the Town for growth and development.

Each year we examine our priorities carefully and do so with diligence and through careful deliberation. We are also pleased that through a well thought out budget process our budget and our actuals are in line, balancing strong fiscal prudence and realistic cost projections. We are always looking at new opportunities to partner with both public and private sectors. While maintaining solid fiscal management, sound infrastructure and a reasonable tax rate, we are looking at new ways to deliver quality services and to facilitate an environment

where both residents and businesses may and do flourish. Town Council is committed to strategic cost controls and implementing sale of service opportunities when appropriate, such as policing and IT. This strategy has been and will continue to be beneficial to both the Town and our partners.

We have been achieving more efficiency in our equipment purchases and operations. We are proactive in reviewing the operational costs of our municipal buildings and are consistently working towards strategic cost controls as well as sustainable initiatives that have long term positive environmental and economic benefits.

Global economic issues continue to be felt by local government, businesses and families. Municipalities have one main source of revenue that enables them to deliver services and that is property taxes. Juggling a limited source of revenue, while ensuring the needs of the community are being met requires commitment, due diligence, very hard work, innovation and strategic thinking. We need to deal with today's issues while planning for tomorrow's changes. We will continue to invest in our infrastructure, to lead in environmental initiatives and to provide good core services. This is a Town with a spirit of entrepreneurship, enterprise and imagination as well as strong civic pride, innovation, talent and spirit. Town Council and I remain firmly committed to generating development and growth. We must all be part of the solution if we are to move forward our town, our region and our province.

I would like to extend my appreciation to my colleagues on Council for their support, to our CAO Lisa MacDonald who works conscientiously with Council and with the other municipalities of Pictou County to keep our Town and region viable not only today but strong well into the future. I would like to also express my thanks to the rest of the Senior Management team and to all Town employees for their expertise, dedication and work ethic in this most challenging economic climate. In closing, I look forward towards continuing work with Council and staff on a strong financial plan and to delivering a strategy that will ensure New Glasgow flourishes for many years to come.

**Mayor Barrie E. MacMillan**

Delivered December 19, 2011  
Council Meeting, Council Chambers  
New Glasgow Town Hall

## New Glasgow Now

### New Glasgow installs energy efficient LED street lights

The Town of New Glasgow is embarking on a new energy efficiency program with the installation of LED street lights. The new street lights will put more lighting on the roadways and also significantly reduce the town's carbon footprint.

New Glasgow Mayor Barrie MacMillan says, "the program is a very cost effective capital investment, substantially more energy efficient, and demonstrates the town's leadership in environmental stewardship and sustainability."

All street lights within New Glasgow will be changed from the current High Pressure Sodium lights (yellow light) to LED lights (white natural). This program will reduce the energy consumption of our street lights by 287 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year, the equivalent of taking 53 cars off the road. In addition to greatly reducing energy consumption, these LED lights will provide approximately 30 per cent more light for roadways than what currently exists.

In 2010, the Town of New Glasgow participated in a

trial LED conversion of 59 lights in both residential and high traffic areas of the Town. The trial period produced higher lighting levels and no concerns from the public.

LED lights direct more light at the street coverage area. The lights are dark sky compliant which means they reduce the lighting sent to backyards and surrounding areas.

These lights are manufactured in Amherst, Nova Scotia, by LED Roadway Lighting. Similar lights have been installed in Amherst, the Halifax Regional Municipality, on various Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal roads, and in several smaller towns such as Chester, Annapolis Royal, and Oxford.

The Town awarded the contract to switch the lights to GJ Cahill and Company (1979) Limited. The company is employing several local linesmen to complete the contract. The project is valued at approximately \$820,000. The Town of New Glasgow will receive financial assistance in the

amount of \$120,000 from Efficiency Nova Scotia to assist with these capital costs.

An additional positive feature of the switch is that the Town will now own the street lights. The Town's ownership will enable New Glasgow to reduce the current fixture rental fees and purchase power from Nova Scotia Power exclusively. Therefore, the annual cost of these lights will be reduced significantly from approximately \$240,000 to \$40,000.

The contractor anticipates installing about 12 lights per day per crew. At peak operations, they will have three to four crews working at the same time.

The public is advised to respect all construction areas and is thanked for their cooperation. The project is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The Town of New Glasgow has close to 1200 street lights. The new street lights are fully guaranteed for the next 10 year period, with a life expectancy of 20 years.

### New Glasgow joins Facebook

The Town of New Glasgow can now be found on one of the world's most popular social networking sites.

New Glasgow officially joined Facebook on November 23, 2011. By "liking" the official page, residents and visitors can receive the latest updates in Town events, performances at Glasgow Square Theatre, games at John Brother MacDonald Stadium, news releases, photographs, and much more.

The page is also visible to those without Facebook accounts.

Kimberly Dickson, market-

ing and communications director for the Town of New Glasgow, believes the new medium will be an innovative forum for citizen



engagement and an effective tool to advertise the community to a wider audience.

"In 2011, the Town of New Glasgow created Facebook

pages for special events such as Culture Days and Remembrance Day and received a great response and interest in these pages. We have been investigating social media options for a little while and, with these successes, decided that the time was right to venture forth with a Facebook page for the municipality," explains Dickson.

"Although we have been developing and testing the page, we only just began to promote it two weeks ago. Since December 9, we have had 305 active monthly users and we expect that number to climb quickly," she adds.

## Jubilee in January

### A night to celebrate Pictou County's music ambassadors

For one night only, it will be a rare opportunity to catch Pictou County's musical greats on one stage.

On January 14, 2012, the Jubilee will host an evening celebrating artists with Pictou County roots taking their music to the world.

A star-studded line-up of some of the best talent to come out of Pictou County will perform on the Glasgow Square stage, including multiple ECMA and Music Nova Scotia winners the Stanfields, Alert the Medic and Fleur Mainville.

"These artists are some of our best ambassadors. They introduce people to our region through their stories, songs, and character. They make us proud and they make others want to be here," says Carlton Munroe, executive director for the Jubilee.

The Stanfields have seen their career soar in the past year and a half on the strength of their debut album, *Vanguard of the Young and Reckless*. They have toured across the country countless times, opened a

series of dates south of the border and in Canada for Flogging Molly, and received airplay on Much Music with their award winning video for *Ship To Shore*.

The audience will be treated to some brand new material from the Stanfields that has never before been played before a live audience. The band will be recording a new album in early 2012.

Alert the Medic has earned a reputation as one of the most compelling live rock bands on the East coast. Released in 2009, their second album, *We the Weapon*, has produced two singles that have reached the Canadian Active Rock charts. The video for their third single, *The Weatherman (Pt. 2)*, has received airplay on Much Music. ATM has garnered a total of nine ECMA and Music Nova Scotia award nominations over the course of their career.

Fleur Mainville got an early start in the music business. As a teenager, Fleur became a driving force in the groundbreaking Celtic rock band MacKeel. They toured the world sharing the stage with the likes of Great Big Sea,

Barenaked Ladies, Tragically Hip, and Ashley MacIsaac.

Fleur began a solo career in 2002 and has since released six recordings including her most recent album, *Once*. Fleur's dynamic fiddling style has earned her a reputation as one of the most influential fiddle players on the East coast.

Tickets are \$30 each plus applicable fees and are on sale now.

A great stocking stuffer for any music fan, the Jubilee is also selling Super Advance Weekend Passes for the August 3-5, 2012, festival at the low price of \$50 plus applicable fees (almost 50 per cent off the price of a regular weekend pass).

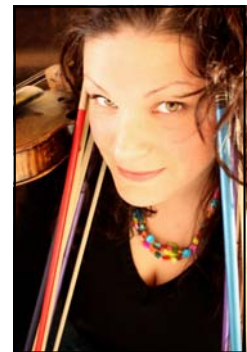
Tickets for Jubilee in January and Super Advance Weekend Passes for the Jubilee are available at Glasgow Square, Big Al's Convenience, Ticket-Pro, or from Jubilee board members.



**The Stanfields**



**Alert the Medic**



**Fleur Mainville**

## New Glasgow wins Parks Canada Sustainable Tourism Award

On November 29, 2011, the Tourism Industry Association of Nova Scotia awarded the Town of New Glasgow with the Parks Canada Sustainable Tourism Award at the 2011 Crystal Tourism Awards in Halifax.

As the finale of the Annual Tourism Summit: the Tourism Connection, Nine Crystal Tourism Awards of Excellence were presented in front of an audience of 600 people to individuals or organizations that excel in their category.

Anne Emmett of the Brae-side Inn, DEANS, Pictou Lobster Carnival, and Hector Quay Society was also honoured with a tourism

achievement award while Cameron MacDonald of the Harbour Light Campground in Pictou took home a Pine-



apple award recognizing extraordinary customer service as nominated by a visitor.

The Town of Trenton received a provincial Five Blooms award from Communities in

Bloom at a November 28 luncheon as local chef Alain Bosse earned a Taste of Nova Scotia award.

The Parks Canada Sustainable Tourism Award recognizes commitment to developing Canada's natural, cultural, and aesthetic heritage.

New Glasgow was recognized for its heritage, arts and culture, downtown revitalization project, farmers market, achievements in reducing its environmental footprint, and provincial and national recognition from Communities in Bloom.

The town was nominated by the Pictou Regional Development Agency (PRDA).

In accepting the award, New Glasgow Mayor Barrie MacMillan said, "it is my great pleasure to accept this recognition on behalf of the wonderful people of New Glasgow. I would like to thank my colleagues on Town Council for their vision as well as our CAO Lisa MacDonald, her management team, and our employees. They aspire to live our flourish brand every day, provide an environment where residents and businesses can succeed, and create a place that visitors find memorable. Special thanks to our businesses, partners such as NSCAD and the Farmers Market, our many volunteers, and to PRDA and DEANS for their efforts in economic development and tourism marketing."

### Joint Emergency Preparedness Program funding announcement welcome news

The announcement of \$60,000 funding from the federal Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) for upgrades to the New Glasgow Police Service communications equipment is welcomed news, says New Glasgow Police Chief Delaney Chisholm.

The announcement was made at a news conference held at the New Glasgow Police Station on December 17 by the Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Member of Parliament for Central Nova, on behalf of the Honourable Vic Toews, Canada's Public Safety Minister.

"Our government knows how important new emergency management equipment is to modern police work," says Minister MacKay.

"By funding this communications equipment, our government is ensuring we have the tools needed to help keep our communities and our neighbours safe," he adds.

"This investment for radio communication equipment will help officers better pre-

pare and respond to emergency situations where every second counts. It is another strong leadership step from the Government of Canada and the Town of New Glasgow in helping provide public safety for our business community and residents," says Chief Chisholm.

New Glasgow Police Commission Chair Councillor Jack Lewis says, "I understand the importance and

covery, emergency management is a shared responsibility. Government at all levels work in partnership with first responders to ensure public safety.

Public Safety Canada's JEPP program supports emergency preparedness projects, Urban Search and Rescue (USAR), and critical infrastructure initiatives across Canada.

JEPP funding allows for the purchase of emergency response equipment such as radios and other telecommunication equipment, emergency generators, protective or sensing equipment for hazardous materials, thermal imaging cameras, and other search and rescue equipment.

The funds will be used by the New Glasgow Police Service to purchase new mobile portable radio communications with technology such as voice privacy, radio transmission improvements, officer safety upgrades, and improvements to the Dispatch Centre.



vital role our police, emergency responders, and all protective services play in our community. These men and women are the first to respond day or night and they often put themselves in harm's way for the well-being of others. Just knowing they are there brings security and comfort to everyone."

From prevention and mitigation to response and re-



Join friends, family and town officials for an old-fashioned public skate to the music of yesteryear as part of the John Brother MacDonald Stadium's 60th Anniversary celebrations

December 28  
8:30pm-10:30pm

John Brother MacDonald Stadium

With free hot chocolate and the music of Pictou County's own Doris Mason

# Sights from the 2011 New Glasgow Christmas Parade



New Glasgow  
*flourish*

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