

We Live It!



EAST HANTS

Municipal Newsletter
Fall/Winter 2026-2027

Hello, East Hants!

Welcome to the Fall/Winter 2026-2027 edition of *We Live It!* In this issue, you will find updates on emergency management, exciting upcoming events and new recreation programs.

Council Corner

Celebrating a New Chapter for CCOA

East Hants was proud to join Corridor Community Options for Adults (CCOA) in celebrating the grand opening of their amazing new facility. The celebration brought the community together to recognize the important work CCOA does and the new opportunities this space will create for so many people across East Hants. Our Council was pleased to contribute to and show our support for this exciting new chapter.



Growing Community Pride Through Beautification

Community groups and volunteers across East Hants continue to take pride in caring for the spaces that bring our communities together. Through the Municipality's Beautification Grant Program, Municipal Council has provided almost \$18,000 this year, supporting projects such as flower planting, green space maintenance, and improvements to recreation and gathering spaces.

This year's funding supported 35 community organizations across East Hants, reflecting the incredible volunteer spirit and pride found throughout our communities.

Thank you to all the organizations and volunteers who help make East Hants brighter, greener, and more connected. Your work helps East Hants shine!

Business Support Closer to Home

East Hants Economic and Business Development is bringing free, one-on-one business support directly to communities across East Hants with the launch of its new Mobile Business Support Office. The rotating monthly program will connect local entrepreneurs and businesses with support on topics such as business planning, expansion opportunities, workforce challenges, government regulations, funding programs, and connections to business resources and partners. Dates and locations will be shared through municipal communication channels.

To see all dates and locations [click here](#).



East Hants Public Transit Service

The Municipality of East Hants is exploring the possibility of a scheduled transit bus service to make getting around communities easier for residents, workers, students, and visitors.

A pilot route is proposed to connect the communities of Lantz, Elmsdale, Enfield, and Halifax Stanfield International Airport. Information on potential future routes and timetables will be available at the engagement events.

Have Your Say

We want to hear from you! Public engagement on the proposed transit service in East Hants will take place this fall, with several opportunities to learn more, ask questions and share your feedback.

For more ways to participate and to see upcoming Engagement sessions, [click here](#).

Strengthening Emergency Response Through Training

The Milford & District Volunteer Fire Department recently hosted a multi-agency emergency response training exercise with East Hants Emergency Management, the RCMP, the Nova Scotia Emergency Management Office, Special Hazards Response Unit, CN and provincial emergency response partners.

The exercise combined classroom instruction with hands-on scenarios focused on emergency coordination, hazardous materials response, public safety and preparedness.

Training together helps emergency response organizations strengthen communication and coordination so they are better prepared to respond when emergencies occur.

The Emergency Management Planning Committee

The Emergency Management Planning Committee brings together partners from the Municipality, RCMP, East Hants Fire Services, Ground Search and Rescue, and the Nova Scotia Department of Emergency Management to:

- Identify and assess community risks
- Coordinate resources and emergency response plans
- Prepare for potential emergencies
- Support community recovery and resilience

Working together helps ensure East Hants is prepared to respond when it matters most.

To learn how to make a **72 hour emergency kit**, [click here](#).



East Hants Plan Review: What We Heard

The community has spoken, and we have heard you!

The Municipality is reviewing its Official Community Plan (the planning vision and development rules that guide future growth), and residents and property owners have already played an important role in shaping the conversation. Through visioning meetings, surveys, and interest-holder meetings held in April and May, the community shared ideas, concerns, and priorities for the future of East Hants.

About 180 people took part in community visioning meetings, and 4,575 comments were submitted through the Plan Review surveys. We reviewed your feedback and summarized everything in our **What We Heard Report**.

Next, we'll develop land use objectives and principles to help guide future policies and regulations in East Hants. Community engagement will continue throughout the planning process.

Join us for the next round of community meetings!

- October 26 - Mount Uniacke Legion
- October 27 - Enfield Volunteer Fire Department Hall
- November 2 - Maitland & District Volunteer Fire Department Hall
- November 12 - Walton Shore Volunteer Fire Department Hall
- November 16 - Milford Recreation Association
- November 18 - Rawdon District Volunteer Fire Hall

All meetings begin at 7 p.m.

Your input matters. Residents and property owners are encouraged to attend a meeting and stay involved as the East Hants Plan Review moves forward.

For more information, [click here](#).



The Rec Room

A Fresh Start on the Ice!

The Sportsplex is excited to welcome a new Zamboni to replace our previous one after nearly 30 years of service.

The new machine is equipped with a Level Ice System and wash water return system, features that will help our ice team make more effective skate-cut repairs and maintain a smooth, consistent ice surface.

This investment will help ensure high-quality ice for everyone who uses the Sportsplex, from minor hockey and figure skating to recreational skating and community events. We're looking forward to providing an even better experience this season!

Photo: Johnny Higgins, Operations and Maintenance Supervisor in the driver's seat of the new Zamboni, with John Piek, Chief Engineer standing alongside.



Save the Date: NHL Legends Hockey Game

Get ready for an exciting night of hockey in East Hants! On December 4, local players will hit the ice at the East Hants Sportsplex in Lantz to take on a team of NHL legends.

This special event will bring hockey fans of all ages together for an unforgettable night of local pride, big-name talent and plenty of excitement on the ice. Bonus events, special appearances and other announcements are still to come!

Mark your calendar and follow the East Hants Sportsplex social media for ticket information and event updates. Visit facebook.com/EastHantsSportsplex for updates!

East Hants Welcomes Visitors from Around the World!

East Hants continues to draw visitors with its natural beauty, communities and local businesses. A few highlights from this season:

- 500+ visitors per day explored Burntcoat Head Park on average from May to August
- 50+ visitors per day took in the tidal bore at the Fundy Tidal Interpretive Centre, with up to 200 spectators on busy days
- 45 cruise ship excursion dates brought visitors to East Hants, including stops at two municipal parks and meals at a local restaurant
- Burntcoat Head Park partnered with CCOA's Purposeful Products program to create locally made products for the park's gift shop

Recreation Highlights

Another summer of fun and adventure wrapped up with local youth staying active, making friends and exploring their communities through Summer Day Camps. Campers also got hands-on with water, wildlife and climate activities at the Aquatics Centre and Sportsplex — including a chance to step inside a life-size inflatable fin whale! Uniacke Campers enjoyed activities at the library, including a Try It session with Valley Rugby.

As we head into a new season, there are plenty of ways for residents of all ages to stay active through Community Recreation programming. Explore new programs at the Sportsplex, walk on the track for free, or join an arts and crafts session in Mount Uniacke. There's something for everyone, we look forward to seeing you!

To see the guide, [click here!](#)



DAR Corridor: Moving Toward a Multi-Use Trail

A long-term project to create approximately 44 kilometres of multi-use trail from Maitland to Stanley is moving forward. Once complete, the trail will provide opportunities for walking, cycling, horseback riding, OHVs and enjoying the outdoors while strengthening connections between communities.



Recent milestones include Council approving a maintenance agreement with a not-for-profit trail group, allowing planning to begin for future trail development, and adopting Bylaw A300 and the Legacy Encroachment Policy to help guide the management of the former DAR Line property. The project will take several years and will be developed in phases.

Visit easthants.ca/DAR-Land-Management to learn more.

Fall & Winter Community Events

There's lots happening across East Hants! From community conversations and learning opportunities to family-friendly events and funding information, there are lots of ways to get involved!

October 6 | Volunteer Food Safety Course

East Hants Aquatic Centre Community Room | 6-9 p.m.

October 17 | Costume Fix 'n' Swap

Swap, repair, or take a halloween costume for free!
Lloyd E. Matheson Centre | 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

October 21 | Community Hall Connect

An opportunity for volunteers to learn and connect with others who support community gathering spaces.
Rawdon Fire Hall | 6:30-8:30 p.m.

November 9 | Funding Forward

A free event about grant eligibility for volunteers.
Riverview United Church, Elmsdale | 6:30-8:30 p.m.



For more
events,
[click here!](#)



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