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South Cumberland NEWS

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The Parrsboro Playground is NOW OPEN!



On June 30th after an anxious three years the fences are down and the new Parrsboro playground constructed on the side of the former town hall is open. The official opening will happen at a later date. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)



Most playgrounds have slides. The new playground park in Parrsboro has plenty for all the area children. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)

Pugwash Library Grand Opening July 29

Pugwash is gearing up for a big celebration on Saturday, July 29, as it marks the grand opening of its new \$2.198-million library.

Representatives from the Municipality of Cumberland and the Nova Scotia government will join with the Cumberland Public Libraries and a citizens group that raised in excess of \$500,000 to celebrate what has become an incredible success story.

"For many years we were told about the need for a new library in Pugwash. The old library was obsolete almost from the moment it opened more than 30 years ago. We were told if we build it, the community will come," Municipality of Cumberland Mayor Murray Scott said.

"As a municipality, we made the decision to build this wonderful facility and the community has responded in so many ways by supporting the community fundraising campaign and by using the library as much as they have since it opened. It's really something worth celebrating. Together we celebrate this great project."

The library will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a number of special activities to celebrate the occasion including children's events like a puppet show and arts and crafts as well as demonstrations for everyone, including a 3D printer.

Municipality of Cumberland Selects RCMP

Cumberland municipal council has accepted the recommendation of its Policing Services Options Review Committee to proceed with the RCMP as the preferred proponent for policing services within the Municipality of Cumberland.

Council voted to accept the recommendation during its June regular meeting on Wednesday, June 28, 2023.

The municipality issued a request for proposals at a special meeting April 11 and received three responses - the RCMP, the Amherst Police Department and Prof. Stephen Schneider.

The Policing Services Options Review Committee met on June 22 to evaluate the re-

sponses and prepare a recommendation to council regarding a police services provider.

"The committee and council are adamant that the status quo is not what we want and what the citizens deserve," Municipality of Cumberland Mayor Murray Scott said. "We will pursue a better deal for the citizens of Cumberland County when it comes to the provision of policing services."

The RCMP proposal includes several options which will have to be explored, discussed and costed. The proposal does however include an option to continue providing the same service for the same financial considerations as are currently in place.

There was general agreement at the committee that the status quo is not adequately addressing the needs of the municipality and that improving policing service will take engagement with the RCMP and the Department of Justice at the highest level.

Council's motion from Wednesday authorizes the mayor and CAO to enter into negotiations with the Department of Justice and the RCMP for improvements to the service, based on feedback provided by last summer's public participation sessions facilitated by Narrative Research.

"We heard a lot from people who participated in the

sessions with Narrative Research and we we have to carry that message forward to the RCMP and the Department of Justice to say this is what the citizens want and what we need in Cumberland County," the mayor said. "I believe there's a tremendous opportunity to here to create a stronger partnership with those two organizations to provide a better service."

Wednesday's decision is a significant milestone in a process that began more than a year ago when the municipality struck a review committee that included four councillors, the mayor, four citizens and the CAO as well as a representative from the Department of Justice.



(From left) Municipality of Cumberland Deputy Mayor Mark Joseph and Coun. Angel McCormick look on as Karen Cormier of the L.A. Animal Shelter accepts a \$50,000 contribution from Mayor Murray Scott. The cheque is the first of a three-year contribution toward construction of a new animal shelter in Upper Nappan. See the story on page 3. (Darrell Cole - Municipality of Cumberland photo)



The official opening of the Pugwash library will be held on Saturday, July 29, from 1 to 2 p.m. with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and remarks from municipal, provincial and federal supporters of the project as well as the Pugwash citizens committee that raised in excess of \$500,000 for the \$2.198-million project.

(Darrell Cole - Municipality of Cumberland photo)

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