

# Fire Prevention Week in Parrsboro

By Lawrence R Nicoll

The Parrsboro Volunteer Fire Department, fresh off assisting where needed following Hurricane Fiona are turning their attention to fire prevention in mid October. Janna MacAloney is co-ordinating a majority of the events. In addition to spending a lot of time organizing the activities MacAloney got the funding to provide every student at the October 14th school visit (primary to Grade 3) with a smoke detector to take home.

Here's the events planned: On October 14, Paul Gilbert and Keith Wood will be at Parrsboro Elementary for grades Primary to Grade 3 children. They will talk about fire safety, what to do in case of fire, what if you can't get out, where do you meet, never go back in etc. Gilbert and Wood will gear up so children are familiar with what they would look like on entry if there was a fire. At the end of the presentation a

school fire drill will occur to simulate and remind children what to do and a truck tour.

October 15 events will occur at the Fire Hall. There will be events for the children including an obstacle course

to crawl through, and a free BBQ. In addition firefighters will gear up and use hoses and of course no child's visit to a fire hall would be complete without opportunity for a look and tour of the trucks and gear.



## Public Meetings Rescheduled

Due to the continued power outage, the police review meeting scheduled for Tuesday night in River Hebert is postponed until next Tuesday, Oct. 4.

The meeting in Upper Nappan scheduled for Monday, Sept. 26, is being held in Upper Nappan on Monday, Oct. 3. Both meetings are from 4-6 p.m.

# Cumberland County Public Meetings on Policing

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All meetings are from 4 to 6 p.m. except for the meeting in River Hebert on the 27th, which runs from noon to 2 p.m.

In April, council approved a motion to conduct a review of policing options, including a review of the current delivery of policing services in the community, identify any alternate service providers and to identify options for the delivery of policing services.

The municipality established a review committee in May appointing councillors Rod Gilroy, Kathy Redmond, Carrie Goodwin and Mark Joseph and citizen representatives John Alderson, Richard Williamson, Mark Murdock and Doug Bacon along with Mayor Murray Scott and CAO Greg Herrett and Hayley Crichton from the Department of Justice.

The review committee recommended a public engagement process be followed and in August Narrative Research of Halifax was hired to facilitate this process and report back to the committee in early October. The process includes five public meetings, an online survey and one-on-one stake-

holder meetings as well as social media, radio and newspaper advertising.

"There are five public participation sessions that will be held throughout the month of September with Parrsboro being the first," Mayor Murray Scott said. "What we're asking is for people to come and share with us what they believe policing should look like in their community, how they think police should interact with people, their visibility and where they should put their emphasis."

After the final public meeting, the police services review committee will reconvene to consider the information provided by Narrative Research and has the option of moving forward with a request for proposals from service providers.

The mayor said he expects the committee to be able to submit a recommendation to council this fall.

Scott said the review is not being driven by finances, although the municipality estimates it will spend more than \$5.1 million on policing in 2022-23. He said it's about service.

"Policing is a very expensive service to provide,

whether it's through a municipal department or the RCMP," Scott said. "But, as we know in our communities, it's probably one of the most important services we can provide in our communities. While we're always cognizant of the cost, the level of service is of the utmost importance to us a council and that's why we want to ensure the level of service we provide to our communities is the best we can provide for the tax dollars we spend."

The mayor said it's very important for the public to participate in either the public meetings and/or the online survey.

"It's one thing for eight people on the committee and myself to share our own thoughts and it's fine for council to make a decision, but we believe it's vital for citizens to come to these meetings and tell us what they expect," Scott said. "It's important for them to share their thoughts so we can formulate what the future may look like for policing in Cumberland County."

**Darrell Cole is Corporate Communications Officer, Municipality of the County of Cumberland Upper Nappan Service Centre dcole@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca**

# RCMP Investigating Another Fire

Cumberland County District RCMP were investigating another suspicious fire that occurred in the Leamington area of Cumberland County on September 22, 2022, at approximately 6:15 p.m., Cumberland County District RCMP and the Springhill Volunteer Fire Department responded to a report of a fire at an abandoned house on Rodney Rd. in Leamington. The fire department was able to successfully extinguish the fire, however the house suffered significant damage. The fire is believed to be suspicious and RCMP officers have secured the scene as they await assistance from the

Nova Scotia Fire Marshal's Office.

This is the eighth suspicious fire to have occurred in the Collingwood/River Phillip/Springhill area. The investigations related to each fire remain ongoing.

After the last plea for information from the public, RCMP officers continued to make progress in their investigations and investigators are again asking the public to report any information that may help with advancing the investigation.

Anyone with information on these incidents are asked to contact the Cumberland County District RCMP at 902-



597-3779. Should you wish to remain anonymous, call Nova Scotia Crime Stoppers toll-free at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), submit a secure web tip at [www.crimestoppers.ns.ca](http://www.crimestoppers.ns.ca), or use the P3 Tips App.

**10 DAYS IN OCTOBER**

a fest of the best in **PARRSBORO NOVA SCOTIA**

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Parrsboro's acclaimed Atlantic Regional Film Festival	Culinary delights and tasty treats for all	Fine artisan displays and watch as painters capture imagination on canvas	Music takes over Parrsboro. Toe-tappin' foot-stompin' music for everyone	Hold on to your seats! Fun for the whole family and a ghost soiree for the brave!

[www.10daysinOctober.ca](http://www.10daysinOctober.ca)

## Protect yourself and others in your community by staying up to date on your COVID-19 vaccines.



- First and second dose appointments are available for children aged six months to four years old.
- First dose, second dose, and booster dose appointments are available for children 5 to 11.
- People 18 and older can now book a fall vaccine appointment.

Being up to date gives you the best immunity against COVID-19 and reduces your risk of severe illness.

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To book your appointment: Visit [NovaScotia.ca/Vaccination](http://NovaScotia.ca/Vaccination) | Phone 1-833-797-7772

