

# We Live It!



EAST HANTS

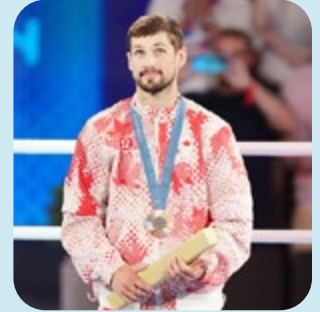
Municipal Newsletter  
Fall/Winter 2024-2025

# Hello, East Hants!

Welcome to the Fall/Winter 2024-2025 edition of *We Live It!* Read on for information about the upcoming election, new municipal programs for residents and businesses and highlights from our community.

## Kennetcook Kid Brings Home Bronze!

Council and all of East Hants congratulates Olympian Wyatt Sanford, pictured on the cover of this edition (photo credit: Boxing Canada). The Kennetcook-born boxer won a bronze medal for Canada at the Paris 2024 Olympics – the first boxing medal for our country in 28 years! Congratulations Wyatt, East Hants is so proud of you!



## Council Corner

Municipal Election Day is October 19, 2024! For all things Election, flip to the back page of this newsletter.

Meet your newly elected council members on Wednesday, October 30, 2024. New council members will be sworn in and a Warden will be appointed. Join us in person in Council Chambers or watch on the livestream: [easthants.ca/livestream](https://easthants.ca/livestream)

Did you know that all Regular Meetings of Council are open to the public? Meetings are a wonderful opportunity for you to learn more about important issues and what's happening in our communities.

## 2023-2024 Annual Report

Our Annual Report is now available. The document gives a snapshot of the programs, services and accomplishments of East Hants throughout 2023-2024. Some highlights include:

- Completing new Active Transportation pathways in the Elmsdale area
- Expanding water and wastewater treatment plants to support our growing communities
- Constructing new playgrounds in rural communities

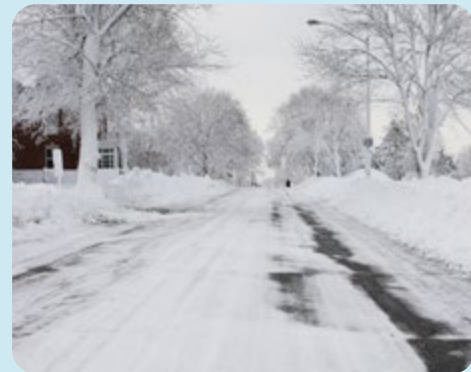
The report also has detailed financial reports and consolidated financial statements for those who like to dig into details! View the entire report at [easthants.ca/annual-report](https://easthants.ca/annual-report)

# Winter Roads

## Report Issues Online

East Hants' **Report an Issue** online tool makes it simple and quick for residents to alert the Municipality about issues with municipal roads, sidewalks, streetlights and snow clearing.

Visit [easthants.ca/report-an-issue](https://easthants.ca/report-an-issue) to use the tool!



## Winter Parking Enforcement

Did you know we have a Bylaw for Winter Road & Sidewalk Snow Clearing & Maintenance? Remember to keep vehicles off public roads when snow removal is taking place. Starting in Winter 2024, our Bylaw team will be ticketing vehicles that impede winter plowing activities.

If you have questions, please contact Roads & Engineering at [roads@easthants.ca](mailto:roads@easthants.ca) or 902-883-2299.

# New East Hants Well & Septic Loan Program

East Hants Council is proud to launch the new Well & Septic Loan Program. If you live in East Hants and need to fix or improve your well and/or septic system, you can apply for financial help. Council has invested \$200,000 in this pilot program.



### Eligibility Considerations:

- You must be a registered Property Owner
- The property must be occupied by the Property Owner for a minimum of 6 months of the year
- Properties must be an existing detached, semi-detached or row house style home within the East Hants municipal boundary
- The total taxable household income must not exceed \$100,000
- There must be no defaults on municipal taxes, rates or charges

This program offers a fantastic chance for eligible community members to enhance their residential water and septic systems, resulting in improved water quality and/or better septic services for their homes.

Visit [easthants.ca/well-and-septic-loan-program](https://easthants.ca/well-and-septic-loan-program) to apply or for more details.

If you need a print copy of the program information, contact us at [wellandsepticloans@easthants.ca](mailto:wellandsepticloans@easthants.ca) or call 902-883-6138.

# Be Weather Ready!

The weather in Nova Scotia can be unpredictable. The best way to prepare for storms is to plan ahead! Here are some ways to be weather ready:

## Emergency Kits

Ensure you have adequate supplies to support every member of your household for a minimum of 72 hours without power. Don't forget to have a kit for your vehicle as well!

## Protect Your Home

Make proactive weather-smart changes to your home and property. There are many simple, cost effective options to mitigate risks. Click the links to the right to access helpful resources to guide you through the weather prepping process.

## Keep Informed

During weather events, East Hants keeps residents updated via our Storm Centre web page: [easthants.ca/storm-centre](http://easthants.ca/storm-centre). For important information before, during and after major weather events, visit the Nova Scotia Emergency Management Office website: [novascotia.ca/emo](http://novascotia.ca/emo)

### Emergency Kit Essentials

- Water (1L/person per day)
- Non-perishable food
- Can opener
- Pet food & water
- Medications
- First aid kit
- Batteries & charging banks
- Important documents (licenses, certificates, etc.)

[Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction](#)

[Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation](#)

# Build Smart, Build Safe

Starting your next construction or renovation project? Having the proper permits in place will make sure the process goes smoothly and complies with municipal bylaws. Before you break ground, find out if you need a Building Permit, a Development Permit or both.

Projects such as new construction or additions to homes such as extensions, decks or any other accessory structure need a Building & Development Permit, regardless of size.

Accessory structures (i.e. sheds) require a Development permit if they are between 100 and 215 square feet.

Accessory structures over 215 square feet need a Building & Development Permit.

To plan out your project, visit [easthants.ca/permits](http://easthants.ca/permits) or check in with the Planning & Development Department at [planning@easthants.ca](mailto:planning@easthants.ca) or 902-883-3387.



# East Hants Business Technical Assistance Program

East Hants has partnered with the Centre for Entrepreneurship Education & Development to provide East Hants entrepreneurs with technical assistance in starting a new business or growing an existing business. There are three streams to this free program: Incubator, Accelerator and Advisory.

## Incubator

The incubator is an intensive 6-week program that brings together aspiring entrepreneurs to discuss business ideas and how to bring them to life. Support and guidance are provided by entrepreneurial advisors with over 20 years of experience in starting, scaling and empowering businesses.



## Accelerator

This program is focused on existing businesses. Whether you are trying to scale your business, or are facing issues with growth, this program can help move your business toward its goals. Sessions are tailored to small and mid-size enterprises with advisors who have extensive expertise in growing businesses.



## Advisory

Sometimes a business challenge can benefit from one-on-one coaching with a subject matter expert. The Advisory Service allows an entrepreneur to work with an advisor on a business issue with a specific or limited scope. Advisory assistance is available in many areas.

Visit [easthants.ca/btap](http://easthants.ca/btap) to learn more about each program.

## 2025 Property Assessments

In early January 2025, Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) will mail your 2025 Property Assessment. This assessment amount will be used to calculate your 2025-2026 property taxes. If you have any concerns with the assessment amount, there is a 31-day period to appeal these assessments. Appeals or any other general questions can be directed to PVSC at 1-800-380-7775 or [inquiry@pvsc.ca](mailto:inquiry@pvsc.ca). You can also access your assessment information online any time via PVSC's website: [pvsc.ca](http://pvsc.ca)



# The Rec Room

Follow East Hants Recreation on Facebook for our latest news!

## Community Grants in Action

Mount Uniacke Mustangs Softball Association received \$26,582 in District Recreation Funds (cost-shared evenly from Districts 8 & 9) to replace dugouts and player benches at their main field. Old benches had become a safety concern for players. The fields are home to over 120 participants, from child and youth teams to adult recreational ball.



Coralee Kelly is a young resident of Mount Uniacke and a budding dance talent. This summer, Coralee and her troupe attended the Dance World Cup in Prague, Czech Republic, representing Canada among 9,500 dancers from 54 countries! Coralee received East Hants Community Grant Funding to support her travels. They competed in the Children's Small Group Acro category and their piece, *Storm is Coming*, placed 16 out of 28 entries with a score of 90.5. Bravo Coralee!



## Dive into Pool Parties!

Great news – pool party bookings are back! The East Hants Aquatic Centre offers a fun-filled experience that kids will love.

All parties consist of one hour in the pool followed by one hour in our community room. Times are available on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Party bookings do not get exclusive use of the pool(s) and will be shared with any open swims that are scheduled for the same time as your party.

Booking for parties opens on a quarterly basis. Bookings for Winter 2025 will be released in early December. Spots go quickly so stay tuned to social media as dates are announced. Book at [easthants.perfectmind.com](http://easthants.perfectmind.com)



# Fall Recreation Programming

East Hants provides various recreation programs and activities across the Municipality. Find program & registration information at [easthants.perfectmind.com](http://easthants.perfectmind.com)

## In-Service Day Camps

No School? Join us for a day full of active fun at one of two locations! All camps run 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Open to ages 6-11. Cost is \$35 per day.

### In-Service Splash Camps at the East Hants Aquatic Centre:

- October 11
- October 25
- November 22
- December 5
- March 7



### In-Service Sport Camps at the East Hants Sportsplex:

- October 11
- October 25
- December 5
- March 7

Register for all camps at [easthants.perfectmind.com](http://easthants.perfectmind.com)



## Sportsplex Bookings

Looking to book a space in the facility? You can do that online! View the availability of spaces and request a booking reservation.

### Spaces Available to Book:

- Arena Ice
- Field House
- Community Rooms

For more information such as facility hours, activities and events, visit [easthants.ca/sportsplex](http://easthants.ca/sportsplex)



# 2024 Election

Election Day is October 19! Here's everything you need to know to be ready:

## Make sure you're on the voter's list

In order to vote, your name must be on the List of Electors (Voters List). Use our online Voter Look-up Tool at [easthants.ca/election](https://easthants.ca/election) to make sure your name is on the list. If you need to make changes, our Elections team is ready to assist!

## Know your district

East Hants reviewed and established new districts based on geography, community interests and population. There are still 11 districts. **Only voters in districts 3, 5, 10 and 11 will need to vote** in this year's election, as all other districts have acclaimed candidates. Find your district at [easthants.ca/election](https://easthants.ca/election)

## Why should you vote?

Voting in a municipal election is important because it directly impacts your local community. The decisions made by East Hants Council affect everything from public safety and development to road maintenance and community services. By voting, you help choose leaders who make decisions that shape your daily life. Your vote ensures your voice is heard and that your community's needs are addressed.

## How to vote

Online & telephone voting opens at 8 a.m. on October 10, 2024, and will remain open until 7 p.m. on October 19, 2024. There are no in-person polling stations. All voting will be done online or by phone.

To vote, visit [easthants.isivote.com](https://easthants.isivote.com) or call 1-877-495-1897 during the voting period and enter the Personal Identification Number (PIN) sent to you via mail and your date of birth to access the system and cast your ballot.

eVoting guarantees your privacy — no one, not even election staff or candidates, can see how you voted. The system only confirms that a vote was cast and provides general statistics. It will never reveal individual choices.

## Questions?

Contact our Elections team at [election@easthants.ca](mailto:election@easthants.ca) or 902-883-6177 or toll-free 1-833-728-0606. Staff are ready to assist on weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



EAST HANTS

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