



BELFAST LIONS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

December 2023

Current and older newsletters are available on-line at www.BelfastLionsNewsletter.com



The Deuce is Loose

Come on out every Tuesday evening at the Belfast Rec. Centre for our local fundraiser and progressive lottery. You could be the lucky winner of the Big Jackpot, now estimated at more than \$14,000.00! Advance tickets can be purchased at Cooper's Red & White. Tickets will also be available for purchase online via e-transfer. For more information on how to purchase your Deuce tickets online please visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/thedeuceislooseinbelfast.

The last Draw date for 2023 will be December 19th. The Deuce will start up again January 9th, 2024.

Previous Deuce Winners:

R. Blair McKinnon	November 21	\$ 349.00
David Fortune	November 14	\$ 390.00
Shawn Vincent	November 7	\$ 531.00
Robert Brothers	October 24	\$ 392.00

Tickets: \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00

Doors open: 6:00PM

Trivia starts: 7:30PM

Draw begins: 8:00PM

Thank you all for your continued support!

Belfast Lions Club Belfast Rec. Centre Board

Please watch our Facebook page for ongoing information and announcements - facebook.com/thedeuceislooseinbelfast.

Wood Islands and Area Development Corporation



The Wood Islands & Area Development Corporation Team would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Prosperous 2023!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our first annual Down East Comic Expo! It was a lot of fun and we look forward to doing it again next year!

Holiday Tree Lighting Event brought to you by the Rural Municipality of Belfast will be held Saturday, December 2nd @ 6:00pm at the Wood Islands Market Courtyard.

Our "Little Dory full of Stories" tiny library is open all year. It is located just inside the Visitor Information Center entrance. Thank you for contributing to this free library!

Islander Day Monday February 19th, 2024. We'll be holding our annual get-together again in 2024! Join us for great food and fun! Let us know if you'd like to volunteer in both planning and participating.

All inquiries Email: wiadc@woodislands.ca

Phone: 902-962-3761 Website: woodislands.ca

Belfast Consolidated School Principal's Report

We want to send out a big thank you to all the local businesses and private donors who supported our annual bingo on November 10th. We also had lots of support from our school staff, our Home and School, and lots of help from the students. With everyone's effort, we were able to raise \$3,000.00 to host the Spring Fling event in June 2024! We had approximately 170 people at the bingo, and everyone had a great time. We hope it continues to be a very successful yearly event.

On November 10th, we held a Remembrance Day Assembly. Students and staff put a lot of time and effort into artwork, singing, poetry, and public speaking to show our appreciation for our veterans. To view the video, you can go to this link <https://youtube.com/live/KMEIIIWbZTw?feature=share>.

We will be hosting our Christmas Concert at the school Wednesday, December 13th at 6:30 PM. The storm date is Thursday, December 14th. We will also be running a canteen to support the grade 9 trip in June. There will be lots of tasty goodies for sale! We hope to see you there!

Mr. John Munro Principal Belfast Consolidated School

Belfast Historical Society

The members and friends of the Belfast Historical Society would like to reach out to our larger community and extend our thanks to those who have supported us over the past year. We would also like to thank our wonderful vendors and all of those who attended our Christmas in Belfast Craft Fair in November. Amazing talent from our community was showcased at the Belfast Rec Centre on Nov. 25th. Two draws took place at the end of the day and our Vendor Basket was delivered to Jean MacRae on Ponds Rd. The Christmas Basket was won by Kathleen Ross of Pinette. *Congratulations ladies!* Our raffle winners will be announced in the January newsletter.

**"The best Christmas gifts are the ones we've had all year:
a roof over our heads, food in the fridge, and family to
enjoy it with. May the richness of gratitude be yours this
Christmas."**

Belfast Lions Community Birthday Calendars – 2024

The 2024 edition of the Belfast Lions Community Spirit Calendar is now being prepared for publication. If you are a Calendar subscriber, a Lions Club member will be contacting you soon to verify your information. If you are not a subscriber and would like to be included in the 2024 Birthday Calendar please contact a Belfast Lions Club member, e-mail BelfastLionsCalendar@outlook.com, or call/text Henry Kliner at 902-978-2447 for information.

Thank you for your support of this yearly fundraiser!

Rural Municipality of Belfast - Council Briefs



Items of note for the **Rural Municipality of Belfast (RMB)** for the month of **December 2023:**

Holiday Tree-Lighting Event Saturday, Dec. 2nd @ 6:00PM

RMB intends to light up the Wood Islands Market Courtyard with special guest MC Jolee Patkai singing Christmas carols, a Snowflake Decorating Competition and face-painting in the RMB office (participants can start arriving at 5:pm), Photo Booth, a visit from jolly St. Nick, Belfast Fire Department, and more – everyone welcome!

RMB Adopts Land Acknowledgement

Starting November 15th, 2023, and from this point forward, the Council of the Rural Municipality of Belfast has added the following Land Acknowledgement to its Council Agendas:

"In the spirit of Reconciliation, we acknowledge that the land upon which our organization stands is unceded Mi'kmaq territory. Epekwitk (PEI), Mi'kma'ki, is covered by the historic Treaties of Peace and Friendship. We pay our respects to the Indigenous Mi'kmaq People who have occupied this Island for over 12,000 years; past, present, and future."

Thank you to Native Council PEI Elder – Stephenson Joe, for performing the Invocation – very much appreciated!

RMB December Hours

Monday to Friday from 8:00 am – 12:00 noon.

Closed from December 18th through January 2nd.

If you need to contact RMB for any reason, you can still send us an email @ ruralmunicipalityofbelfast@gmail.com and we will respond as soon as possible.

Continuance of the Community Plan and Development Bylaw Discussions...

Discussions will start from where we left off, with the review of the Draft Official Plan, Draft Development Bylaw, and Draft Schedules. RMB will notify everyone through our RMB Website when the next public meeting will take place. Documents can be found at www.ruralmunicipalityofbelfast.com.

Don't forget about your Community Pantry Donations!

The colder we get, the greater the need! RMB is happy to take donations at the RMB Office (facilitated by Councillor Katherine Bryson); or you can take any donations to the Community Pantry itself at the Visser and Sons Lot on the Trans Canada Highway. **All donation greatly appreciated!**

Next Meetings

- Annexation Sub-Committee Meeting – November 21st – 7:00pm (RMB Office)
- Regular Council Meeting – January 18th – 7:00pm (Upstairs Wood Islands Meeting Hall)

A Very Happy Holiday Season to you all

May you find Peace and Prosperity in the New Year!

Website: www.ruralmunicipalityofbelfast.com

Email: ruralmunicipalityofbelfast@gmail.com

Phone: (902) 962-2086

CAO: Bob Brooks

13056 Shore Road - Unit 103, Wood Islands, PE, C0A 1R0

Belfast Lions Cash Draw

Here are the winners from the Belfast Lions Club 35th annual Cash Draw held Saturday, November 18th, 2023:

Major Prize Winners:

Cosmo Smith	\$ 10,000.00
Kenny & Glenda MacDonald	\$ 3,000.00
Malia McAuliffe	\$ 1,000.00
Power Concrete	\$ 1,000.00
Clara Vincent & Irene Panton	\$ 600.00
MoveAll Structures	\$ 400.00

\$100.00 Prize Winners:

Krista & Barb MacRae, Ryan Scott, Alan Ball,
Canda & Philip Lannigan, Dean Nicholson, Sherry Pelkey,
Debbie Sheperd, Dave & Rose Viaene, Trevor MacDonald,
Kathy MacLean & Barry MacDonald, Florence Kelly,
Kirk MacLeod, Amanda Jackson,
Gwen Davies & Terry Morrison, Harry Annear,
David & Jeannie Carey,
Stewart & Nancy MacLean & Rebecca Gerritsen,
Joe Donahue, Ross Petrie, Layton & Anna Docherty,
Donnie MacTavish, Rachel Speelman

Congratulations to all the lucky winners and a huge **"Thank you!"** to everyone for supporting the 2023 Belfast Lions Cash Draw fundraiser!

A special thank you goes to Ian Petrie for doing a great job as Master of Ceremonies. Thank you to those who appeared on-camera; Lion Evan Young (ticket recording), Mike Robinson (ticket drawing), Lion Scott Gerritsen (drum turning). Thank you also to off-camera volunteers; Lion Wayne Panton, Lion Victor Gosselin, and Lion David Cooper for performing additional ticket recording and validation, Lion Henry Kliner for taking care of the live-streaming video. Thank you, Beck's Home Furniture & Appliances, for providing space to host the online event.

The Belfast Lions Club

Thank you!

We would like to express a heartfelt thank you to everyone helping out at the scene of Nick's accident on October 31st.

Special thanks to the lady who stabilized Nick's neck while waiting for the ambulance. Nick did fracture his neck in three different places and you saved him from serious complications.

A very big thank you to the members of St John's church who so kindly brought us many delicious suppers. Please know how much we appreciate it!

Thank you to all who visited, sent cards, and to everyone praying for Nick.

We are truly blessed to live in such a caring community!

May God bless you all.

Peter, Wendy and Nick Dijkema.

Free Family Skate at the Belfast Rec Centre

The Belfast Lions Club is pleased to sponsor a Free Family Skate, including free hot chocolate, at the Belfast Rec Centre, Sunday, December 10th, from 1:10pm to 2:10pm.

All are welcome!

Childcare Opportunities in Belfast

As many of you are aware there is a great demand for childcare in the Belfast municipality (and beyond). There are current grant opportunities to individuals wishing to open a licensed family home daycare that I want to make sure everyone is aware of:

- Family Home Centre Capital Grant up to \$25,000
- Family Home Centre Operational Grant up to \$40,000
- Family Home Centre Licensing Incentive a one-time grant of \$3000

To discuss these grants, and the procedure of opening a home daycare, you can contact Lisa Bernard at lcbernard@gov.pe.ca (link sends e-mail) or by telephone at 902-438-4843.

For anyone who may be looking to create a stay-at-home business, I would strongly encourage them to look into the current grants and take advantage of what's being offered. RMB had guest speaker Monique McClean from the Early Learning and Childcare come to our October 18th council meeting, this presentation can be found on our Rural Municipality of Belfast Facebook page. If anyone has any municipal questions you can contact Councillor Katherine Bryson at katherinebrysonpe@gmail.com.

Thank you!

Hi everyone. We made it back to Belfast! Val had his lung transplant late June in Toronto and recovering very well.

We want to take the opportunity again to thank everyone for their help and support. We are grateful for the fundraisers last Spring; online auction, golf tournament, dance and those who sent cards and well wishes.

Thank You to The Belfast Lions Club and the Mount Buchanan-Point Prim Women's Institute for your continued support. Thank you to our close neighbours and friends: Jan, Graham and Priscilla, Malia, and Brian who helped during our absence around our property and cottage. This helped so much to manage the stress of being away from our home so long and we were able to focus on Val's health and recovery.

Sincerely,

Val & Melody

Coffee Club

Coffee Club meets every Tuesday morning at the Belfast Recreation Centre (9:00am - 11:00am).

Belfast and Area Watershed Group (BAWG)

With another year ending, we thank the Belfast Lions Club for all their time and effort in keeping this fabulous community newsletter going. We appreciate having this avenue to share with our community.

We have a supportive and caring community in which we serve. We thank our donors and funders and appreciate our volunteers and all the businesses and organizations that support our work. In addition, BAWG employed a staff of 12 during the summer season, working on various projects - from water quality monitoring to restoration efforts. We express our gratitude to our team throughout the year for their dedication and passion as we work towards our mission of protecting our watersheds.

We are wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season. May the warmth of the community surround you and nature inspire you.

Please make a difference with your donation for tomorrow's vitality of our environment! You can receive a charitable donation receipt by making donations through the Community Foundation of PEI (CFPEI). Ways to donate to BAWG through the CFPEI; via e-transfer to info@cfpei.ca, or via a cheque with a reference to BAWG. Of course, you can always reach out to us directly and we can arrange pick-up of your donation if that works best for you.

Sherry Pelkey, exd@bawg.ca or text: 902-218-1582

Out of Province Medical Travel Support Programs

The PEI Government offers financial support for PEI residents travelling to another province for medical services. The Out-of-Province Travel Support Program includes:

Maritime Bus Program

- Islanders requiring out-of-province health care in Nova Scotia or New Brunswick may qualify for fare subsidy to travel with Maritime Bus.

Hope Air - Flights Program

- Since 1988, Prince Edward Island has partnered with Hope Air, a national charity, to provide free flights to PEI residents who cannot afford the cost of a commercial airline ticket for travel to medical services in another province.

Hope Air - Bridge/Ferry Program

- Beginning December 1, 2016, Hope Air, in cooperation with Health PEI, will subsidize the cost of a Confederation Bridge or Northumberland Ferry pass for pre-approved PEI residents (with a valid PEI Health Card) requiring out-of-province transport by private vehicle for medical services in another province.

For further details regarding the PEI Government's Out-of-Province Travel Support Program, qualification requirements, online application forms and contact information, please visit www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-pe/out-of-province-travel-support-programs.

Belfast Community Development Corporation

It's been a challenging year for everyone in Belfast. A year ago, Fiona ripped through PEI devastating trees, shorelines and buildings. The campground and golf course weren't spared. There was more than \$350,000.00 in damages with insurance covering less than half. The staff worked tirelessly last Fall and Spring to get Lord Selkirk Park ready for this past season. Thanks to all the golfers and campers who made it another successful year. In fact, both the golf course and campground received Platinum awards from *Community Votes Charlottetown* as the most popular in the province.

We're extending the golf season with 2 golf simulators in the clubhouse. A tournament is in the works that would have teams competing throughout the winter. A pass for the avid golfer in your family to try out the simulator might make a good Christmas gift. Details on this and other winter activities at the clubhouse will be posted on the Belfast Highland Greens Facebook page.

Pinette Park

A proposed development at Pinette Park will not go ahead. Fiona caused considerable damage to the forest and the coastline at the park last Fall. For reasons of safety only half the park was available for use through the summer. The Board plans to hold a public meeting to get input from community members about the future of the park. The board will seek expert advice on limiting future damage to the shoreline while protecting important shellfish leases surrounding the park. The Board hopes to use this effort to educate park visitors about the challenges to all of PEI's coastal areas from rising seas and damaging weather because of climate change. As well, Pinette Park may be able to benefit from new money announced in the recent capital budget that includes support for playground equipment and washrooms.

Selkirk Millennium Club

The Selkirk Millennium Club meets every 3rd Wednesday at the Belfast Rec Centre beginning at 2:00PM. Come join us for get together and meet friends. K. Ross 902-659-2920.

The Belfast Lions Newsletter is sponsored by the following local businesses.

The Belfast Lions Club would like to say, "Thank you!"

This ongoing and generous support is what keeps this Newsletter in publication.

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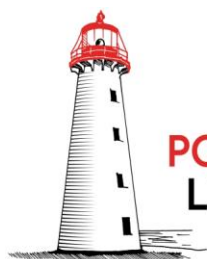
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Rural Municipality of Belfast - Meet Your RMB Council and Administration:

Mayor - **Garth Gillis**

Deputy Mayor - **Lynn Docherty**

Councillors: - **Katherine Bryson; Trisha Carter; Billy Gamble; James Kinnee; and Charley McGivern**

CAO - **Bob Brooks**

Administration - **Ashley Feschuk and Jill Harris**

Ph: (902) 962-2086

E-mail: ruralmunicipalityofbelfast@gmail.com

Web: ruralmunicipalityofbelfast.com

Address: 13056 Shore Road - Unit 103, Wood Islands, PE, C0A 1R0

Facebook: [Facebook.com/belfastpei](https://www.facebook.com/belfastpei)

Check out our Website for: * Contacts * Meeting Times and Dates * Agendas and Notices * The Community Emergency Plan
* The Community Vision Document * The Official Plan and Development Bylaw (in process) * And much more

Check out our Facebook Page for: Activities, Issues, Discussions, Local Events, Photos and more

Council and Committee Meetings are held at the Wood Islands Market - Upstairs Meeting Hall
(see Website for times and dates) Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am - 12:00noon



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Newsletter Information and Guidelines

For all ads, submissions, comments and suggestions, please use **ONLY** BelfastNewsletter@outlook.com.

Community service announcements are included at no charge and should generally be limited to a maximum of a quarter page (~30 lines / 300 words). Larger community notices may be included **if space permits**.

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Submission deadline for the next newsletter is December 22nd, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

E-mail: BelfastNewsletter@outlook.com