

Winter 2015



Middleton About Town

MIDDLETON, NS FOR KRAFT HOCKEYVILLE

The nomination has been submitted! From now until Feb. 8th, our community has an opportunity to impress upon the judges of this now infamous Canadian contest what kind of community spirit we have! This is where YOU come in! As demonstrated by neighboring Villages Kingston and Lawrencetown, no one should discount the big hearts of small towns in Nova Scotia. Here's what we can do to make a difference in the nomination phase:

- Join the Facebook group "Middleton, Nova Scotia for Kraft Hockeyville 2015", and invite your friends!
- Use #MiddletonNSforKraftHockeyville on everything.
- Share your hockey stories, photos and memories of the Middleton & District Arena on the Facebook page "Kraft Hockeyville", always using #MiddletonNSforKraftHockeyville.
- Attend local promotional events for Kraft Hockeyville... start making your posters!
- Tell everyone you know! Key words everyone are Middleton, Hockey & Kraft!



The judging panel will select 10 finalists, announcing them on March 14th during Hockey Night in Canada.

Then the second phase of the contest begins... **VOTING FOR THE TOP 2.** Voting runs from March 21st - March 23rd, to determine what community from the East and what community from the West will vie for the title "Kraft Hockeyville 2015".

And finally, the last phase... **VOTING for the Winner of Kraft Hockeyville 2015 .**

Your votes for this will be needed from March 28th - March 30th.



MIDDLETON FOR KRAFT HOCKEYVILLE Kick Off Party!

Festivities begin at 1:45 on Sunday, January 18th at the Middleton & District Arena
We hope you'll share in the community spirit! Free skate, live music & more.

Call for Volunteer of the Year Nominations!!



Each year, the Town of Middleton and Municipality of Annapolis County recognize people who make a difference in the communities where they volunteer. The deadline for submissions is February 7th, 2015. All those nominated will be invited to celebrate at a local awards ceremony and some will be recognized provincially, as well! Applications are available through the Middleton Recreation Office or the Annapolis County Recreation Office. Please take a little time to help us identify those who give... and show them their efforts are recognized & appreciated!

Take a minute to consider the opportunities that exist because people are willing to give their time & talents: Middleton Soccer Association, Middleton Swim Club, Canskate, Minor Hockey, Rainbow Riders Gymnastics Club, Girl Guides & Brownies, Scouts, Cool Moves BMX, School sport teams and activity clubs, The Lions Club, Rotary Club, Curling Club, Royal Canadian Legion, Hospital Auxiliary, Hospital Foundation, Foodbank, IODE, Citizens on Patrol, Police Advisory Committee, Annapolis Valley Historical Society, CAPS, Middleton Fire Department, Middleton Fireflies, Heart of the Valley Festival Committee – these are just a few that come to mind!



Governance Review

As a requirement of the Nova Scotia Municipal Government Act, all municipalities within the Province are required to do a review of their Council size, polling districts, and boundaries every eight years. The Town of Middleton, through a public tender process, hired Stantec to complete the review. Notice of public meetings were posted at Town Hall, at the Town kiosks, on our social media sites, and through a mailbox drop to each household. Public meetings were poorly attended, with six members of the public attending the first meeting and two members of the public attending the second meeting. A separate consultation was held with available members of Town Council, as well. A final report from Stantec was tabled with Town Council at its regular meeting on December 1, 2014. From there, a formal submission will be provided to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board, for their information and decision. A public hearing will be called by the NSUARB and will be held, at a time yet to be determined, within the Town of Middleton. This hearing is open to the public and will allow residents to comment on this issue. Advertising will take place, once the NSUARB determines the date of the hearing.

Of thirty towns in the Province, Middleton is one of seventeen with a seven-member council. We are the sixth smallest town of these seventeen. The remaining thirteen towns have a five-member council. Council Elections are held every four years, and the next election is in Fall 2016.

<http://www.ns-municipal-elections.ca> is an interesting website that, while dated 2012, provides good information about municipal government, the role of council, and how to get involved on a local level.



Strategic Planning

Town Council and senior staff have been working through a process of determining key strategic areas that will form the basis of priority setting for the Town and further, to be supported through the upcoming budget process and staff work plans. The process has not been a full strategic planning process but has been very productive and beneficial, including discussions around the current priorities and the capacity of the organization. Key areas around leadership, financial planning, infrastructure, programs and services, communication, and economic development form the bulk of this work. Using these broad areas of focus will bring consistency to future decision making. More information will be available through the budget process that will be starting in the New Year for the new fiscal year beginning April 1, 2015.

Information about previous budgets is available at : www.discovermiddleton.ca (search ‘public documents’). Residents and business owners are encouraged to learn more about the budget process and how decisions are made by their elected Council. Council meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of each month and are open to the public to attend and observe.



Middleton In Action

This winter the **FREE** cross country ski and snowshoe loan programs are back by popular demand! Contact the Rec. Department or check out www.discovermiddleton.ca (search MIA Winter 2015) for more info about the loan program.

FREE Community Skates on Sundays from 1:45pm to 2:45pm at the Middleton & District Arena. Please call the Rink (825-3583), to confirm the skate hasn’t been rescheduled.



Coming later in 2015 ... MIA Events that celebrate the season!



Water Rate Study

The Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board sets the rates for municipalities to charge their water utility customers. As such, an external professional review has been done of the Water Utility to determine its financial status, its operations, and what the water rates should be, to ensure that it operates successfully. The rate study was presented to Town Council on December 1, 2014 and will then be submitted as an application to the NSUARB for a ruling on the rates, effective for April 1, 2015.



Construction Safety Certificate

Over the past two years, the Town of Middleton has put significant effort into its Occupational Health and Safety Program. A Committee, comprised of both management and unionized staff members, meets regularly and continues to develop a sound safety program that promotes a safe and healthy work place for both employees and the public. Recently, the Town of Middleton was awarded the Nova Scotia Construction Safety Association's Certificate of Recognition. As only the second municipality in the Province of Nova Scotia with this designation, Middleton sets a gold standard with respect to safety at the work site. Congratulations to the staff members who have worked diligently to accomplish this goal and incorporate the importance of safety within our organizational culture!



Street Lights

As residents have no doubt noticed, the overhead street lights have now been converted to the new LED light fixtures. This project was completed in cooperation with the Town of Wolfville and the Village of Greenwood, through a joint Request for Proposals. Black and MacDonald was the successful proponent and completed the work in a timely and professional manner. The requirement to make the switch to more energy-efficient lights was a legislative requirement through the Provincial Government, with municipalities having the choice to buy the assets and have them converted or to rent the fixtures through Nova Scotia Power. Middleton made the choice to own and manage the asset, and the expected savings in energy expenses with the new fixtures is approximately \$33,000 per year. In addition, it is forecasted to save the Town approximately \$250,000 in light rental costs through NSP over 20 years, as well as contribute to better energy efficiency.

Middleton Police Advisory Board

This has been an active year for the Middleton Police Advisory Board. Our community has had numerous incidents, with a need for inquiry and answers. The Board increased meeting frequency from four times a year to bi-monthly in an attempt to convey increased concerns to the RCMP and recommend changes to Town Council.

A joint meeting was held with Annapolis County Officials, the Department of Justice, the Administrative Officers of the RCMP in Nova Scotia, and the Town of Middleton where the Police Advisory Board's concerns were presented.

After an extended period of time where the RCMP were working with decreased manpower, Middleton's Detachment is now operating with a full complement of Officers. Cpl Cornect, Cpl MacMillan and their detachments should be commended for the long hours and double shifts worked during the interim.

Both the PAB and the RCMP would like to stress that it is in everyone's best interest to be invested in keeping our Town safe and a good place to raise families. Please be proactive and report any incidents you may witness or know about to the RCMP or Crime Stoppers.

The PAB meetings are always open to the citizens of Middleton, and we welcome you to voice your concerns. The schedule of these meetings is posted on the Town's web page: www.discovermiddleton.ca

Middleton Fire Department Celebrates!



Established in 1890, the Middleton Fire Department continues to be a focal point in our community 125 years later. 1 Chief, 2 Deputy Chiefs, 5 Captains and approximately 32 Firefighters provide Emergency services to about 4000 residents in Middleton & nearby Annapolis County communities.

The station, located at #49 Church Street houses 5 vehicles, including 2 pumpers, a tanker, rescue, and utility truck. Training for the department takes place on the 2nd and 3rd Wednesday nights monthly, and the department also has members participate in training by the NS Firefighter's School; this training helps dedicated volunteers respond to approximately 80 calls a year, ranging from structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, medical calls, car fires, woods/ grass fires and whatever else is needed within the 100 square km area they serve.

April is the month that actually marks 125 years but the Fire Department invites the Community to join in Celebrations during the Heart of the Valley Weekend (July 17th to 19th) - Planning is already underway!

Funding for the Middleton Fire Department is provided by the Town of Middleton and the County of Annapolis, with other funds coming in by way of donations and the hard work of the Fire Department Auxiliary "Fireflies". Members also fundraise with their popular 100 Club through the Winter, and you're missing out if you haven't been to one of their BBQ chicken dinners!

Volunteer Fire Fighters are also involved in various community initiatives and we thank them for this! A few activities include helping with building and maintenance on the outdoor rink, the Tree Lighting Bonfire, and setting off Finale Fireworks at the Heart of the Valley Festival.

WINTER 2015 Town of Middleton Recreation Programs

Contact the Middleton Recreation Department for more information about any of these programs.

Join these programs at any time, and we will adjust the cost based on your start date.

902-825-6611

recoffice@town.middleton.ns.ca

www.discovermiddleton.ca

SENIORS' FITNESS CLASSES

At the Middleton Fire Hall

When: Starts January 9th

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 9:30am

You can register for 1-2-3 classes a week!

Cost: Breaks down to \$2.50/ class based on how many days a week you register for.

Or \$4 drop-in fee.

MRHS ASP Ski & Snowshoe Programs

Starts when there is enough snow:).

FREE afternoon adventure with the Middleton Rec. Department.

Registration/ parental consent is needed.

3:30pm ~ 5pm Tuesdays &/or Thursdays
Limited equipment (first come, first served).

BOOT CAMP

In the AEES gym

When: Starts January 6th

Tuesdays & Thursdays 6pm to 7pm

Cost: 25 sessions/ \$62 or \$4 drop-in fee



stability ball

In the AEES gym

When: Starts January 11th, ending April 15th

Tuesdays and Thursdays 6pm to 7pm

Cost: 25 sessions/ \$62 or \$4 drop-in fee



YOGA

In the AEES gym

When: Starts January 13th

Tuesdays 7pm to 8pm

Cost: 14 sessions/ \$35 or \$4 drop-in fee

Min. 12 needed to offer this program.



CO-ED VOLLEYBALL

In the AEES gym

When: Starts January 5th

Mondays 7pm to 9pm

Cost: FREE (players 18years and up)

