



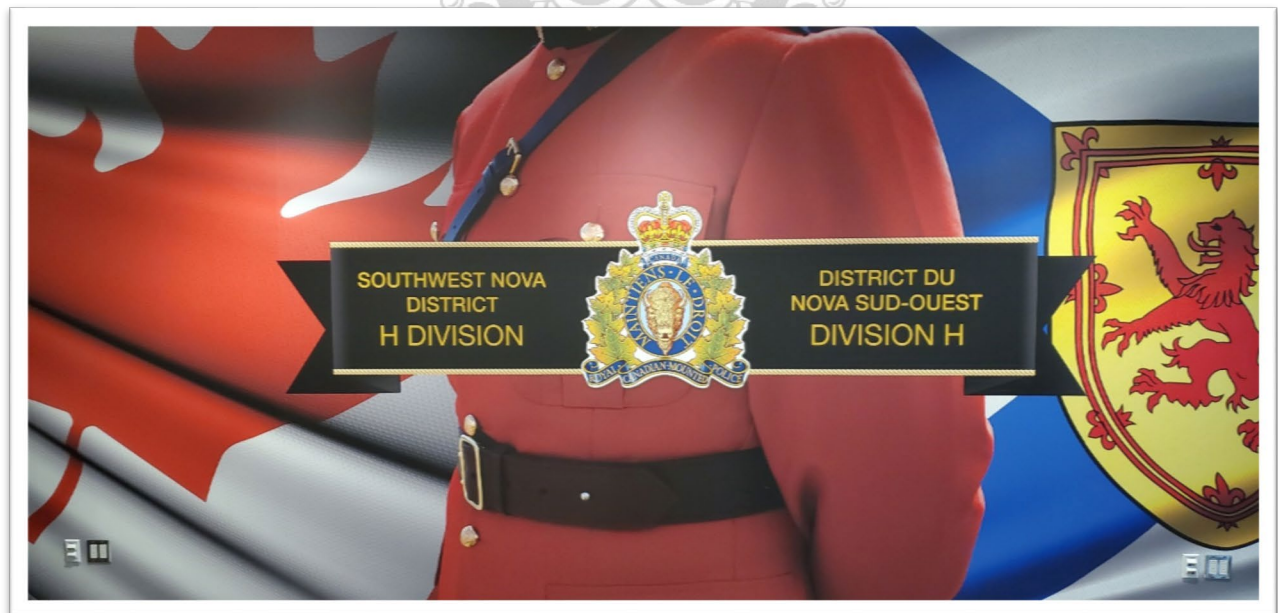
**TOWN OF BERWICK**  
***Committee of the Whole Meeting***  
**March 22, 2022 - 6:30pm**  
**AGENDA**  
**Via Webex Conference**

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of Agenda**
3. **Approval of Previous Minutes**
4. **Departmental Reports**
  - a. RCMP *Attached*
  - b. BDVFD *Attached*
  - c. Active Living *Attached*
  - d. Recreation *Attached*
  - e. Economic Dev. *Attached*
  - f. Public Works *Attached*
  - g. CAO *Attached*
5. **New Business:**
  - a. Apple Fund Policy
  - b. Policing Priorities
6. **Ongoing Business:**
  - a.(Revised) Flag Policy (information only)
7. **Mayor/Councillor Reports**
  - a. Deputy Mayor Trinacty
8. **Adjournment**

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# Berwick Policing Report



February 2022  
Kings District RCMP



**RCMP·GRC**



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## **Kings District Employees**

Inspector Kurtis Kamotzki, Kings District Commander.

Forty general duty constables police Kings District as first responders. These officers are supervised by 8 corporals, 2 sergeants, and 1 staff sergeant.

The Kings East School Safety Resource Officer is Cst. Jennifer Britton, and the Kings West School Safety Resource Officer is Cst. Jeff Wilson.

Our Kings District General Investigation Section members are Cpl. Glenn O'Halloran, Cst. Kelly McPherson, and Cst. Jody Whiteway.

Our Kings District Street Crime Enforcement Unit members are Cst. Jason Sehl of Kentville Police Service, as well as Cst. Josée Lagace and Cst. Ken Slade of Kings District RCMP.

The Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault investigator is Cst. Melissa Lee. This is a temporarily funded position.

The Kings District Community Policing and Victims Services Officer is Cst. Kelli Gaudet.

Kings District has 10 Detachment Service Assistants who perform administrative functions at the 3 Kings District offices.



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## **School Safety Resource Officers**

School Safety Resource Officers work as a resource to our local schools. Members provide presentations to every grade level from P-12 on current topics such as human trafficking, fentanyl, cybercrime, bullying, drug awareness and appropriate use of social media. Schools often request other presentations, which are customized to meet their needs. SSROs update the National SafePlan every year for each Kings County School. SSROs do the initial investigation in cases that stem from schools. SSROs also provide support for school events that occur after traditional school hours.

Cst. Wilson's service area is from Annapolis County line to Central Kings Rural High School, encompassing 11 schools. Cst. Britton's service area is from Coldbrook District School to LE Shaw Elementary, encompassing 12 schools.

Distracted driving presentations, human trafficking awareness presentations, and lock down safety drills have been ongoing at several schools throughout the reporting period.

Both district SSROs worked closely with the schools within the entire district. Both Cst. Wilson and Cst. Britton remain heavily involved in the delivery of the mandated objectives while assisting other investigations that require their skills and experience with youth.

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## Highlights

### Top Ten Tips for Safe Winter Driving

1. **Pre-trip preparations.** Take the time to brush the snow from all of the windows, side mirrors, headlights and tail lights. Not having these items properly cleaned is dangerous for vehicle occupants and for everyone else on the road. Failing to do this is also something police can issue a ticket for. It's also important to clear the snow from the hood and the roof. If not, there is a very real chance it will blow off on the highway and create hazardous conditions for anyone travelling behind.
2. **Plan ahead.** Before heading out, check to see what the current road conditions are and what type of weather you should expect. In Nova Scotia, motorists can call 511 for a list of current road conditions, or they can find them online at [www.511.gov.ns.ca/map/](http://www.511.gov.ns.ca/map/) through the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal.
3. **Drive according to road conditions.** If the roads are slippery it will take more time and distance to stop. The simplest solution is to slow down. It is also important to leave a safe amount of distance between vehicles, especially on the highway. That way, in the event of an emergency stop, there will be more time to do so.
4. **Know the limits of your vehicle.** Many times, motorists driving four-wheel drive or all-wheel drive vehicles feel safer because of the improved traction and additional ground clearance. It's important to keep in mind that stopping ability is not improved. Four and all-wheel drive vehicles can reduce your chances of getting stuck, but they won't help you stop any better during slippery conditions.
5. **Weigh the importance of the trip against the current weather conditions.** When the weather is really bad, police often advise motorists to avoid traveling if possible.
6. **Tires.** When it comes to winter driving, good winter tires are one of the most important investments a motorist can make. The rubber used to make winter tires is specially designed for cold conditions. It's softer,



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which allows the tires to maintain better contact with the road. As well, the treads are designed to grip the road better by displacing slush and snow.

7. **Buckle up.** A seatbelt will help keep you in your seat if the car does slip on the roadways, and it will help protect you at the moment of impact.
8. **Contact capability.** Another safety device to take with you is a cell phone in case of emergency.
9. **Winter safety kit.** A winter emergency kit for your vehicle should include a cell phone, flash light and batteries, emergency food, bottled water, candles, blankets, booster cables, sand or kitty litter for traction, tow cables, and road maps.
10. **Vehicle maintenance.** Ensure your windshield wiper fluid is a winter variety that will not freeze, and keep it topped up. Have a mechanic check on the condition of the and if it's old, have it replaced. Keep the gas tank topped up with fuel.



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## Be Aware of Winter Time Parking Bans

Kings District RCMP are urging motorists to educate themselves on areas which may have Winter Parking bans as Kings County endures snow removal season.

Wolfville Winter Parking Regulations are in effect from December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022 on all streets in the Town of Wolfville. During this time period, parking of vehicles on streets is prohibited from 12:01 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. and from one (1) hour after the start of a snowstorm to two (2) hours after the storm has stopped.

In Berwick, there are Winter Parking Regulations in effect from December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Parking is not allowed on a highway or street in the Town of Berwick between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m.

In Wolfville and Berwick, physicians, fire, and police officials are exempt from these regulations while carrying out their official duties and operators of commercial vehicles while loading & unloading.

The Municipality of Kings has a winter parking ban in areas of Kings County. On-street parking is prohibited effective December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022 between 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. The areas of Kings County are listed on the Nova Scotia Provincial website: <https://novascotia.ca/tran/winter/winter-parking-ban.asp>

When dealing with snow removal on the streets of communities Kings County area officials and police have the ability to deal with Winter Parking violators through the Provinces Motor Vehicle Act. The penalty may be a fine or the vehicle towed and removed. Regardless of the status of an overnight winter parking ban, vehicles can be towed any time during the day or night, any day of the year, if they are interfering with snow-clearing operations, as per Section 139 of the [Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act](#).

If you have questions or are looking for updates on the status of parking ban in your area, please contact your local authority or the town or areas website.



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## Kings District RCMP Warns of Credit Card Scam

Kings District RCMP are warning the public of a recent scam that has been circulating through Kings County. An example of the current scam is when a scammer calls the victim representing themselves as a bank or often a security official with a bank. The scammer advises the victim that their credit card has been compromised and that a sum of money has been debited. The scammer then requests the victim to attend to local stores to purchase gift cards to attempt to confirm the store where the scammers made up fraud occurred.

In one case in Kings County a victim purchased \$16,000 dollars' worth of gift cards and then provided the gift card codes to the scammer.

Police are reminding the public to protect themselves against frauds in the following ways:

- Do not send money, gift cards, Bitcoin or anything else of value to someone you've never met in-person
- If you have a feeling that something is not right, it is best to trust your gut and stop communicating with that person
- A financial institution should never have to ask for banking information within the company

Scammers can be very persistent and convincing. If you have been defrauded, you are not alone. If you or a family member has fallen victim to a scam, report it to your local RCMP office, as well as the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC) by phone at 1-888-495-8501 or online at [www.antifraudcentre.ca](http://www.antifraudcentre.ca).



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## Please Clear Vehicles of Snow and Ice

Kings District RCMP are committed to safe roadways. Recent weather has caused heavy snow and ice build up which may be difficult to remove from vehicles. Before motorists decide to use roadways, it is important that all snow and ice is cleared off their vehicle's.



Heavy condensed snow on the roof of a vehicle poses a hazard because as the interior of the vehicle warms, it creates a moisture barrier between the roof of the vehicle and the heavy snow or ice pile. As this pile begins to come loose and shift on the roof, a hard braking will dislodge the large mass of heavy snow onto the front windshield. The wipers will not be able to remove the snow, necessitating an immediate stop in the roadway and creating a danger for that driver and everyone around them. Flying ice and snow is also very dangerous to other motorists whose vehicle may be struck causing further visibility issues, dangerous reactions and damage to vehicles.

In Nova Scotia police can issue a summary offence ticket under Section 184(4) of the Motor Vehicle Act for driving a motor vehicle with obstruction on window or windshield. This ticket carries a fine amount of \$180 for a first offence, \$237.50 for a second offence and \$352.50 for a third or subsequent offence.

Simple actions like clearing snow and ice from vehicles can make a major difference for safe driving.



Road Safety is a priority for the RCMP, and drivers are reminded to make it their priority as well. If you see someone driving unsafely on our roads, report it by calling the RCMP at 1-800-803-RCMP (7267) or 911.

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## Safety Tips When Playing in the Snow

Kings District RCMP would like to advise that as we clean up from a hefty snowfall and pass the middle of snow fall season, children need to be educated and aware of the dangers of playing in the snow as snow removal equipment clear the areas roadways and sidewalks.

With the past weekend providing a large amount of snow children will become excited about playing, hiking or sliding in the snow and may not be aware of heavy equipment clearing streets, roads and sidewalks. With snow and ice it is difficult for vehicles and heavy equipment to stop and very difficult to see children in the snow or who may be between snow banks.

Please keep in mind the following safety tips:

- Stay away from working snow plows and snow blowers.
- Choose a play area away from roads, fences driveways and water.
- Wear bright colours when walking or playing in the snow.
- Take extra caution as motorists may have visibility issues with frost, snow or condensation.
- Don't build forts or tunnels near driveways and roads. The tunnels may be destroyed by snowplows without knowing a child may be inside. Tunnels could also collapse.
- Always try and play in the snow with a friend or with supervision.
- Don't play in roadside or driveway snow banks.
- If you cannot see the snow plow driver they cannot see you, please attempt to make eye contact with the driver so they know where you are.

Outdoor activities in the snow can be fun and everyone needs some fresh air and activity through the winter months. Please follow these safety tips to assure the safest you can be while enjoying the winter outdoors. Kings District RCMP wish everyone a safe winter snow season. For more information please take time to look at <https://sammysnowplow.novascotia.ca/> for more winter safety ideas.



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## **Annual Performance Plan**

The Kings District Annual Performance Plan runs from April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Objectives of Kings District Annual Performance Plan are:

- **Safe Roads and Safe Highways in Nova Scotia**  
To date, Kings District members have charged in excess of 54 people with impaired driving, issued 43 roadside suspensions for alcohol consumption, issued 1601 traffic enforcement charges and conducted 182 check stops.
- **Reduction of Cybercrime in Nova Scotia**  
Community resource officers and Senior Safety Coordinator continue to educate students and seniors on Cybercrime.
- **Reduce Crime Against People**  
Members continue to conduct physical checks on offenders/accused who are on court ordered curfews or house arrest with the goal to prevent recidivism.
- **Intelligence Led Policing Effort**  
In 2020/21, Kings District senior managers recognized a lack of intelligence led policing efforts within the district. This is a national strategic policing priority of the RCMP and as such, efforts to improve in this area have been made through training and mentorship. This improvement has resulted in an increase in drug-related and property crime-related investigations within Kings District.

## Calls for Service

In the month of February, Kings District responded to 907 service calls. There were 50 service calls in Berwick during this reporting period. See the attached chart for breakdown of the service calls.

Type of Crime & Occurrence Type	Feb Kings	Feb Berwick
	2022	2022
<b>Crimes Against Persons</b>		
Offences Related to Death	0	0
Sexual Offences	5	0
Assault	26	1
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction	0	0
Robbery	1	0
Extortion / Intimidation	3	0
Criminal Harassment	3	0
Indecent   Harassing Comm.	11	1
Uttering Threats	13	0
<b>Property Crime</b>		
Arson	2	0
Break and Enter	5	0
Unlawfully in a Dwelling House	1	0
Theft Over	1	0
Theft of Motor Vehicle	2	0
Theft of Other MV / Motorcycle	0	0
Take MV w/o Consent	2	0
Theft Under	7	1
Shoplifting	14	0
Theft (mail, bicycle, et al)	2	0
Theft from Motor Vehicle	3	0
Possession of Stolen Goods	0	0
Fraud	19	1
Identity Theft	1	0
Mischief	32	0
<b>Drug Enforcement</b>		
Possession	1	0
Trafficking	5	0
Import/Export	0	0
Production	0	0
Other	1	0

<b>Traffic</b>		
Dangerous Op of MV	0	0
Impaired by Alcohol	11	1
Impaired by Drug	0	0
Failure/Refusal	1	0
Driving while Disqualified	1	0
Fail to Stop or Remain	15	2
Seatbelt Violation	1	1
Intersection Violation	8	0
Speeding Violation	38	2
Insurance Violation	4	1
Road Side Suspension (Alcohol)	0	0
Road Side Suspension (Drug)	0	0
Collision - Fatal	1	0
Collision - Non - Fatal Injury	14	0
Collision - Reportable	33	3
Collision - Non Reportable	21	0
Off-Road Vehicle Collision	2	0
Municipal By-laws	12	0
Other Traffic Offence/Violation	133	9
Other Traffic Related Duties	2	0
Checkstop	8	2
<b>Other</b>		
911 Call	25	2
Breach of Court Order	11	1
Liquor Act	8	0
Mental Health Act	44	4
Missing Person	43	0
Municipal Bylaw - Other	11	0
Other	224	13
Suspicious P V P	16	2
Trespass At Night	0	0
HPA (COVID-19) - Offences only	5	0
HPA (COVID-19) - Other activities	1	0
QUA (COVID-19) - Offences Only	0	0
QUA (COVID-19) - Other Activities	2	1
<b>Total Founded &amp; SUI Occurrences</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Total Occurrences*</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>50</b>
<i>*Includes Unfounded and Unsubstantiated</i>		



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## **Significant Investigations**

February has been a steady month district wide.

Members have been very busy with responding to various types of calls yet have continue to be proactive with traffic enforcement limiting the serious incidences. An increase in calls in the district with a significant decrease in Berwick.

During the month of February, Kingston RCMP conducted 323 patrols in the town of Berwick. Members from Kings District along with South West Nova Traffic Services have also made patrols and enforcement in and around the community of Berwick.

### **Kings District RCMP Seeking Assistance in Locating Coldbrook Teen Police file: 2022-228114**

Kings District RCMP is seeking assistance in locating a missing Coldbrook teen not heard from since 11:00pm on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. Leah Orde, 14, has not been seen since Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> after leaving her home on Ashley Dr. in Coldbrook. Police believe she may be in the Digby area.

Leah Orde is Caucasian, 5' tall, and is approximately 160 lbs. Orde is described as: stocky build, short brown hair and blue eyes and has a nose piercing. Orde was last seen wearing a black hoodie, tan pants, black sneakers with a black backpack.

Although foul play is not suspected, police are concerned for Orde's safety. Anyone with information about the whereabouts of Leah Orde is asked to contact Kings District RCMP at 902-679-5555 or 1-800-803-RCMP (7267). Should you wish to remain anonymous, you can also contact Nova Scotia Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or text TIP202 + your message to 'CRIMES' (274637) or submit tips by Secure Web Tips at [www.crimestoppers.ns.ca](http://www.crimestoppers.ns.ca). Calls to Crime Stoppers are not tapped or traced and if police make an arrest and lay charges based on a tip, callers can qualify for a cash award.



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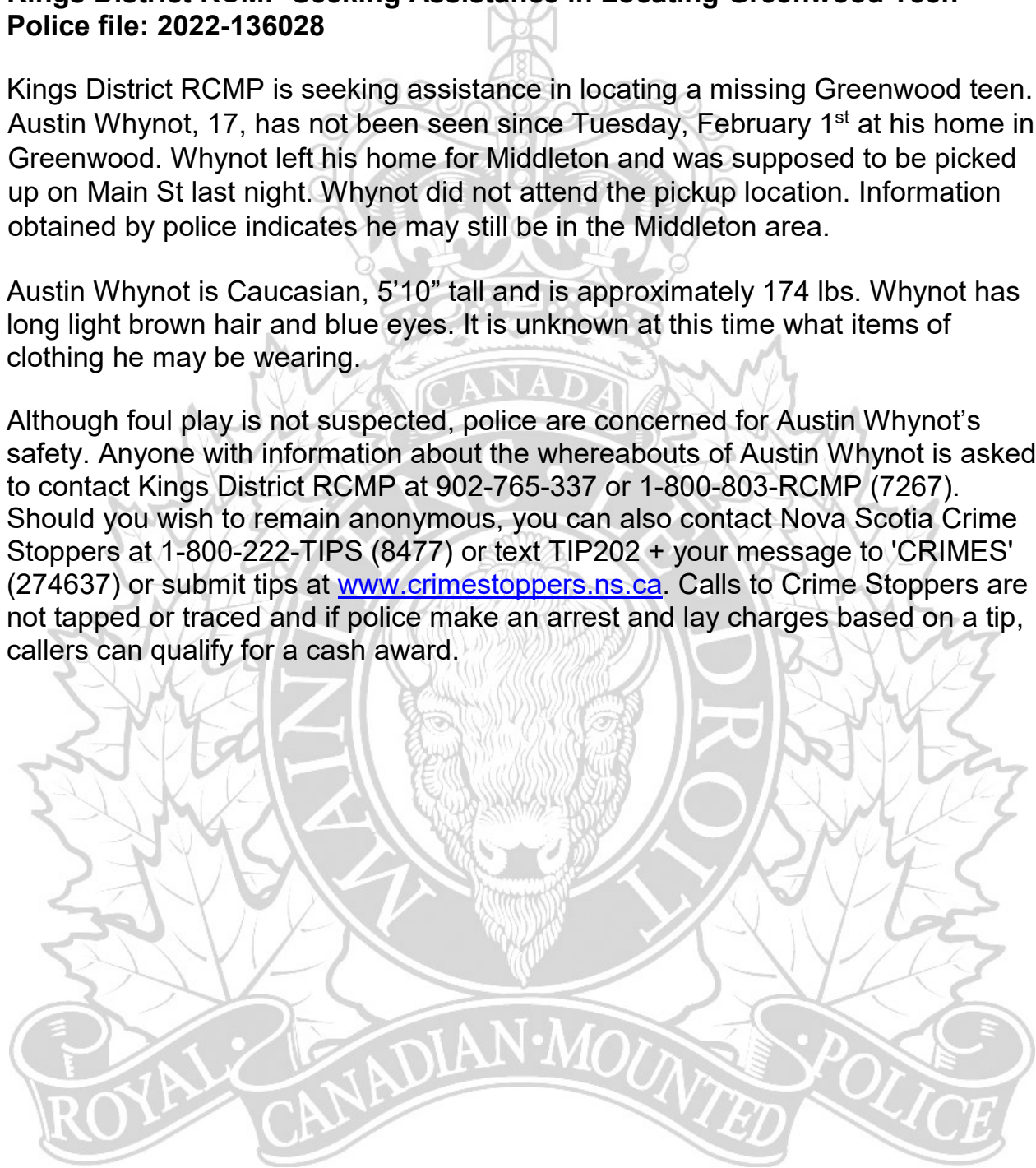
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**Kings District RCMP Seeking Assistance in Locating Greenwood Teen**  
**Police file: 2022-136028**

Kings District RCMP is seeking assistance in locating a missing Greenwood teen. Austin Whynot, 17, has not been seen since Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at his home in Greenwood. Whynot left his home for Middleton and was supposed to be picked up on Main St last night. Whynot did not attend the pickup location. Information obtained by police indicates he may still be in the Middleton area.

Austin Whynot is Caucasian, 5'10" tall and is approximately 174 lbs. Whynot has long light brown hair and blue eyes. It is unknown at this time what items of clothing he may be wearing.

Although foul play is not suspected, police are concerned for Austin Whynot's safety. Anyone with information about the whereabouts of Austin Whynot is asked to contact Kings District RCMP at 902-765-337 or 1-800-803-RCMP (7267). Should you wish to remain anonymous, you can also contact Nova Scotia Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or text TIP202 + your message to 'CRIMES' (274637) or submit tips at [www.crimestoppers.ns.ca](http://www.crimestoppers.ns.ca). Calls to Crime Stoppers are not tapped or traced and if police make an arrest and lay charges based on a tip, callers can qualify for a cash award.



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## **Public Aids Kings District RCMP in Locating Impaired Kingston Driver** **Police file: 2022-144821**

Kings District RCMP have arrested an impaired driver after responding to a call from a concerned community member.

At 5:40 pm. on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, Kings District RCMP responded to a call of a possible impaired driver believed to be somewhere on the roadways near Kingston. Kingston RCMP located the vehicle on Central Ave. in Greenwood.

The driver of a vehicle displayed signs of impairment. The driver was arrested and transported by police to the Kingston RCMP office for further investigation. While at the RCMP office the driver provided two samples of breath. The sample readings were 140 mg% and 140 mg%, well over the legal limit in the Province of Nova Scotia.

A 53-year-old Greenwood man will face charges of Impaired Operation of a Conveyance and Operating a Conveyance with a Blood Alcohol Concentration equal to or exceeding 80 mg%.

The 53-year-old man has been released from police custody and will appear in Kentville Provincial Court on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

If you believe someone is driving in a way that is an immediate threat to public safety, please call 911 when it is safe to do so. Include as much detail as possible, such as the location, direction of travel, vehicle and driver description and license plate number.

Kings District RCMP would like to thank concerned community members who report impaired drivers to police.

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## **Public Aids Kings District RCMP in Locating Impaired Morristown Driver** **Police file: 2022-199809**

Kings District RCMP have arrested an impaired driver after responding to a call from a concerned community member.

At 3:00 pm. on February 16<sup>th</sup>, Kings District RCMP responded to a call of a possible impaired driver believed to be on Sturk Rd. in Morristown. RCMP patrolled the area and were able to locate the vehicle on Sturk Rd.

The driver of the vehicle displayed signs of impairment. The driver was arrested and transported by police to the Kingston RCMP office for further investigation. While at the RCMP office the driver provided two samples of breath. The sample readings were 260 mg% and 260 mg%, well over the three times the legal limit in the Province of Nova Scotia.

A 47-year-old Morristown man will face charges of Impaired Operation of a Conveyance and Operating a Conveyance with a Blood Alcohol Concentration equal to or exceeding 80 mg%.

The 47-year-old man has been released from police custody and will appear in Kentville Provincial Court on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

If you believe someone is driving in a way that is an immediate threat to public safety, please call 911 when it is safe to do so. Include as much detail as possible, such as the location, direction of travel, vehicle and driver description and license plate number.

Kings District RCMP would like to thank concerned community members who report impaired drivers to police.



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## **Kings District RCMP Charge Impaired Driver after Berwick Collision**

**Police files: 2022-77178, 2022-77194**

Kings District RCMP have arrested an impaired driver after a two-vehicle collision on Highway 1 in South Berwick.

At 5:20 pm. on January 19<sup>th</sup>, Kings District RCMP attended a two-vehicle collision on Highway 1 in South Berwick. There were no injuries to the drivers of the vehicles. One passenger was transported by EHS to local hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

A driver of a vehicle involved displayed signs of impairment. The driver was transported by police to the Kingston RCMP office for further investigation. While at the RCMP office the driver provided two samples of breath. The sample readings were both 190 mg% which is well over twice the legal limit in Nova Scotia.

A 23-year-old Moshers Corner man will face charges of Impaired Operation of a Conveyance and Operating a Conveyance with a Blood Alcohol Concentration equal to or exceeding 80 mg%.

The 23-year-old man has been released from police custody and will appear in Kentville Provincial Court on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The collision resulted in a multi-agency response with EHS and Berwick and District Fire Department attending along with police. Kings District RCMP would like to thank those who attended and provided assistance.

If you believe someone is driving in a way that is an immediate threat to public safety, please call 911 when it is safe to do so. Include as much detail as possible, such as the location, direction of travel, vehicle and driver description and license plate number.

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## **Kings District RCMP Locate Impaired Driver in West Brooklyn**

**Police file: 2022-79519**

Kings District RCMP have arrested an impaired driver after responding to a call from a concerned community member.

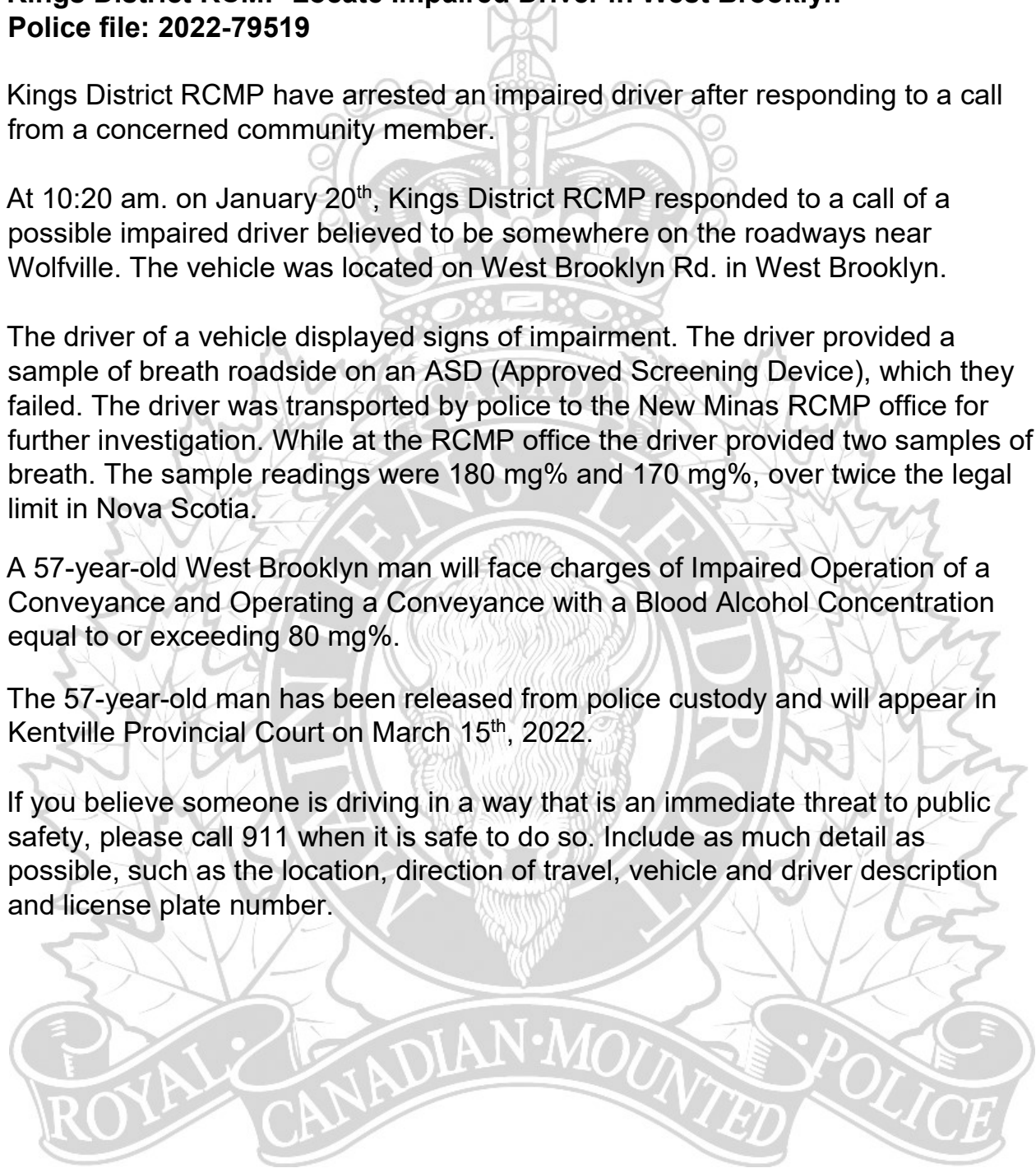
At 10:20 am. on January 20<sup>th</sup>, Kings District RCMP responded to a call of a possible impaired driver believed to be somewhere on the roadways near Wolfville. The vehicle was located on West Brooklyn Rd. in West Brooklyn.

The driver of a vehicle displayed signs of impairment. The driver provided a sample of breath roadside on an ASD (Approved Screening Device), which they failed. The driver was transported by police to the New Minas RCMP office for further investigation. While at the RCMP office the driver provided two samples of breath. The sample readings were 180 mg% and 170 mg%, over twice the legal limit in Nova Scotia.

A 57-year-old West Brooklyn man will face charges of Impaired Operation of a Conveyance and Operating a Conveyance with a Blood Alcohol Concentration equal to or exceeding 80 mg%.

The 57-year-old man has been released from police custody and will appear in Kentville Provincial Court on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

If you believe someone is driving in a way that is an immediate threat to public safety, please call 911 when it is safe to do so. Include as much detail as possible, such as the location, direction of travel, vehicle and driver description and license plate number.



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## Highway 101 Traffic Stop Leads to Drugs & Contraband Cigarette Charges

**Police file: 2022-45430**

The Valley Integrated Street Crime Enforcement Unit (VISCEU) along with the Kings District RCMP have charged a person in relation to a traffic stop on Hwy 101 near exit 10.

On February 3<sup>rd</sup> at approximately 5:30 pm, a traffic stop was conducted on a motorist on Highway 101 at exit 10 near Wolfville. Police conducted a roadside investigation resulting in the driver being arrested for possession for the purpose of trafficking (schedule I drug). A sizable number of contraband cigarettes & schedule I drugs defined by the Canadian Drugs and Substances Act were seized.

Through their investigation police obtained judicial authority to enter the driver's residence where a sizeable amount of cocaine, over 200 cartons of contraband cigarettes and a sum of money were located and subsequently seized. Harold Francis Marriott, 63, of North Kentville, NS is facing the following charges:

- Possession for the purpose of trafficking Schedule 1 drug- 2 counts- Canadian Controlled Substances Act
- Selling of tobacco products and raw leaf tobacco – Criminal Code of Canada
- Three charges in relation to tobacco under Nova Scotia's Revenue Act
- One charge in relation to tobacco under Canada's Excise Act

Marriott has been released and will appear in Kentville Provincial Court March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to face these charges.

The investigation utilized resources throughout Kings County including members from Valley Integrated Street Crimes Enforcement Unit (VISCEU) Kentville Police Service and, Kings District RCMP.

Valley Integrated Street Crimes Enforcement Unit (VISCEU) is comprised of Kings District RCMP and Kentville Police Service Members.



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## **Kings District RCMP Looking for Assistance Identifying Person of Interest**

Kings District RCMP are looking for assistance from the public to identify a person of interest.

On February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Kingston RCMP received a complaint from a grocery store on Main St in Kingston, NS. The store reported that on February 6<sup>th</sup>, at approximately 3:45, a person committed theft by leaving the store without paying for a sizeable amount of grocery items.

Kingston RCMP recently received CCTV images that display the person of interest. The person is believed to be a Caucasian female and is described as having longer light brown hair, a peach coloured jacket, decorative top and teal coloured pants.



Kings County merchants have been plagued with recent thefts where a brazen thief collects merchandise and then leaves the store without payment. Kings District RCMP are looking for information from the public that may lead to the identification of this person.

Anyone who has information is encouraged to contact Kings District RCMP in Kingston, 902-765-3317 or New Minas at 902-679-5555. Should you wish to remain anonymous, please 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.

**Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this report or any other community matters, please feel free to contact the undersigned.**

A. S/Sgt. Mitch PELLETIER  
Sr. Operations NCO  
Kings District Detachment  
New Minas  
Telephone: 902-679-5555

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**TOWN OF BERWICK  
REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**From:** Kimberly Halliday and Brittany Brydon, Active Living Coordinator

**Date:** March 10th, 2022

**Subject:** Monthly Active Living Coordinator Report

**1) Meetings & Webinars**

- MPAL Monthly meeting
- Budget Meeting
- Community Development Team Meeting
- Building Relationships with Primary Health Care
- Queen's Rec Prescription Pad Info Sharing session
- Kings County Meeting
- Prescribed Public Sector Body Virtual Gathering
- Wellness Webinar: Healthy Active Living
- Physical Activity Practitioners Exchange meet
- Valley Hub meet
- Valley Female Leadership Network (and Advisory committee meeting)
- Committee of the Whole
- Council Meet
- Valley Recreation meeting
- UpLift Municipal Policy Project presentation

**2) Programming**

- NS Walks – Weekly walk series ongoing (Tuesday and Friday)
  - Tuesdays are on pause, Fridays will continue
- Accessibility Plan
  - Plan approved by council. Has been added to the website under CAO home page, look into creating tab for accessibility on Website

**3) Communications**

- Onboard Returning ALC Brittany to the Role and the Department
- Apple Fund Policy Seeking Council Final Review and Approval with June 2021 CDC Edits Completed Appendix 1

**4) Miscellaneous**

- Final Report for Berwick Garden Project 2021 – Appendix 2
- Kim – finalizing Active Communities Fund project – Blue Route postponed, e-bike project back in works (chatting with Valley Stove and Cycle, one e-bike for loan through Library and for staff/council use, using Community Health Board funding and ACF)
- Kim - Finalizing Parasport Funding application – chatted with Jason from Volleyball NS (on-board for project) and Brittany to get looped into project, Berwick and District School already partner

**Priorities for April 2022**

- Final Reports – Recreation Facilities Development Grant , ACF.2
- Grants- ongoing. Updated 2022 Grant List in the works
- Encourage Trails Committee and Community Development Committees commence consultations using the Community Consultation guidelines and Berwick Trails Strategy for proposed projects of Solar Walking Trail and Brown Street Connector

Apple Fund Policy (see CAO Issue Report and Draft policy)

Berwick Garden Project – 2021 Final Report

# BERWICK GARDEN PROJECT 2021

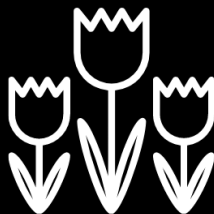
Final Report

25% more  
garden plots  
were rented this  
year over last



New Partnerships  
were made for annual  
programming and  
activities with AVRIL

Growing Season was  
5 weeks longer for  
garden plot holders



Many new varieties of  
plants were grown

"This was a great way for hands on  
knowledge sharing"



"Easy access for tools was great"

**TOWN OF BERWICK  
REPORT TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**From:** Natalie Palmer, Recreation Coordinator and Jordan Hebb, Recreation Programmer

**Date:** March 11, 2022

**Subject:** Monthly Recreation Coordinator Report

**1) Meetings & Webinars**

- Weekly meetings with Community Development Department
- Gala Days Committee Meetings
- Nova Scotia Health Authority Community Meetings
- Accessibility Committee Meetings

**2) Programming**

- Multisport is postponed until September due to lack of sign ups. We are currently transitioning this idea to a drop-in sports time in the gym once weekly for the time being. This will be split into 2 age groups: 5-8 and 9-12. These will be 45 minute time slots for each age group.
- After School Program restrictions end on March 21<sup>st</sup>. This will allow us to open up programming to larger numbers.
- Jordan is facilitating public skate from 12-1 during March Break, and is also organizing a "Skate with the Wildcats" event at KMCC on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

**3) Communications**

- Continue to update social media for the Town of Berwick (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) as well as the electronic sign, and other miscellaneous communications
- A job posting for Director of Finance has been circulated on all social media platforms.
- All summer job postings for the Town and the Visitor Information Centre will be posted next week.

**4) Events**

- J Hebb is working on some March Break pop-up activities
- We will be assisting the school with their Science and Heritage Fair on March 29<sup>th</sup>.
- All of this week and next week Jordan and Natalie have been hiding Wildcats tickets around the town to be claimed. This has been a great way to promote the remaining home games, and has been getting a lot of engagement.
- Natalie partnered with BraveHeart First Aid and is currently taking registration for a babysitting course scheduled for early April.

**5) Misc**

**Priorities for April 2022:**

- Get drop in sport program up and running
- Plan and promote Easter events

## TOWN OF BERWICK REPORT TO COUNCIL

**From:** Katie Verrette, Economic Development Officer

**Date:** March 15, 2022

**Subject:** Economic Development Officer Report

### 1) Meetings & Webinars

- Weekly meetings with M.Payne, T.Boylan, K.Halliday, J.Hebb. N.Palmer, B.Brydon.
- Monthly REN Business Supports Response Team Meeting (Virtual)
- Town of Berwick Safety Meetings (Co-Chair, monthly)
- Budget Preparation Meetings (Capital, Operating, for Town Hall/Fitness Centre)
- Valley Recreation Meetings (Virtual)
- Annapolis Valley Chamber of Commerce AGM (Virtual)
- ACOA Meet & Greet
- Valley REN AGM (Virtual)
- Canadian Digital Adoption Program Info-Session (Virtual)
- African Diaspora, Anti-Black Racism & Reparation Lens - Belonging Strategy Discussion Forum (Virtual)

### 2) Communications

- Ongoing communications with the business community via email.
- Reaching out to each business via phone/email to update contact info in preparation for updating the website business directory.

### 3) Projects

- With the return of B.Brydon to the MPAL role we have worked through some of the logistical issues with the boxcar project and continue to discuss our options moving forward with DNR.
- Still in conversation with the Berwick Lions Club to secure a date for the Business Forum this spring. A light breakfast will be provided, tea and coffee. The event will encourage networking and will feature short presentations by the Town and relevant stakeholders.

### 4) Fitness Centre

- With budget planning preparations exemplifying the need for financial improvement at the FC, A.Ross has been working hard to minimize expenses and increase revenue at the FC. A new corporate contract from North Mountain Coffee, and a new program targeting FC newcomers have brought increased revenue to the facility.
- Quick cuts to the budget included switching from Satellite TV to Smart TV, and eliminating the extra contracted cleaning once a month. These simple changes have saved nearly \$10,000 a year.
- A job ad is currently posted for casual staff and is closing on the 22nd of March. This position will help fill in for full time staff during sick days, vacation days, or when call ins occur.

### **5) Other**

- The Centennial Project continues to be in the forefront of our minds. Comments and suggestions are constantly being added to the brainstorm list and the information gathering process is both overwhelming and exciting! The community development team has started to brainstorm grant opportunities and are creating a list of possible funding sources.
- The Valley REN has published their Regional Workforce Development Strategy (live on their website). They have held a launch for the strategy and are encouraging networks to share.

### **Priorities for April 2022**

- Box Car project
- Updating the Business Directory
- Business Forum
- Website Updates

**Public Works - Committee of the Whole Report**  
**March 16,2022.**

- The team is out each fine day filling pot holes, we have used 15 tonnes of cold pack in the pot holes up to March 16<sup>TH</sup>.
- We helped clean up a tree on Main Street last Friday, the large tree was ready to fall down in the next big wind event.
- I am working on the F2023 Budget with the team of managers.
- Keith and myself have been working on all wastewater issues, this is taking up many hours to make sure the system is working as it should. We have Danny Lundrigan from the Village of Kinston working part time with the Town's Wastewater team to make sure we are DOE compliant.
- Working with the machinery each day to keep them running safely.
- We are still plowing and salting every other day, so we must be ready to do the job.
- We are working with the different contractors to get a start on the air system piping for lagoon number two as soon as spring weather starts.
- We are working with the Engineers on the wastewater system as well for the second part of the air system.

Tim Harding  
Director of Public Works

## ***Monthly Report to Committee of the Whole***

**Michael Payne, Chief Administrative Officer**

**2022 Mar 22**

### Attended the following meetings / events:

AREA management team weekly telecons  
Berwick Electric Commission  
AREA Board meeting  
Trails Committee  
Community Development Committee  
KMCC Board of Governors Committee  
Exploring a contract for fire services with the Fire Commission, BDVFD and MoK.

- Weekly meetings and ongoing liaison with staff in support of Community Development and Recreation activities, plans and projects.
- Review and implementation of SWOT analysis recommendations for planning and development control processes and services.
- Coordinated and facilitated hiring process for a waste water Treatment plant Co-Op Student
- Attended a special AREA Board meeting at Ellershouse attended by the Minister of Natural Resources & Renewables and the Minister of Environment. Tour of the windfarm and presnetion by Aaron Long, GM of AREA, was well received.
- Several sessions with representatives of Valley REN and MIT – Regional Enterprise Activity Program re exploration of Agri-tech opportunities in the Valley Region with a Berwick & District focus.
- Initial meeting with local ACOA rep, Deputy Mayor and EDO around potential projects ad funding

### Priorities for the next month

- Continue to explore a draft Fire Services contract with MoK and partners
- The MGA requires municipalities to apply to the UARB in 2022 to confirm or alter the number of Councillors; CAO to prepare a report.
- Work with partners to continue exploring an engineered wetland
- Formalize restructuring of Public Works and Berwick Electric
- Facilitate several staffing actions:
  - Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Class 2
  - Red Seal Powerline Technician
  - Director of Finance.

**CAO Issue Report to Committee of the Whole**

**Michael Payne, Chief Administrative Officer**

**2022 Mar 22**

**Issue**

Approval of a formal *Apple Fund* recreation funding policy that would broaden resident's access to recreation activities and programs.

**Discussion**

Recreation is broadly defined as any 'activity done for enjoyment when one is not working'. The *Apple Fund* originated some years ago as an effort to support resident's access to recreation activities and programs by supporting those whose ability to pay was a barrier. The fund was established through several funding drives, while other individual contributions were organic and community driven.

Access to these funds has not been actively promoted within the Town and instead occasional disbursements have been made as individual circumstances came to our attention.

Last year the Director of Finance reviewed the fund and formalized tracking and accounting processes. The fund currently holds almost \$9,000.00

UPDATE: This issue was on the June 2021 agendas of the Community Development Committee and COTW; some minor amendments were suggested and have been incorporated into the attached draft policy that should be formally ratified by Council.

**Proposal**

A formal policy regarding the disbursement of these funds and an awareness campaign would more effectively address gaps in access to recreation activities and programming. The policy would allow any resident of Town in need of financial support to participate in a recreation activity or program. This includes equipment or programs not available in Town but exist beyond our borders in the local area.

This policy would promote and enable physical activity, individual confidence and self-esteem building, health and wellness, leadership skills, friendships, and opportunities to be part of a team.

**Recommendation**

Staff recommend that the DRAFT *Apple Fund* policy attached be approved by Council.

## Issue Report

**Michael Payne, Chief Administrative Officer**

**2022Mar22**

### Issue

RCMP Kings District has requested Town input into their policing priorities. for

### Discussion

Insp Kamotzki, the Officer in Charge of Kings District RCMP, has requested the Town's input into their policing priorities for next fiscal year (Apr 01, 2022 through Mar 31, 2023).

They intend to confirm 3-4 priorities based on input from the Town and other stakeholders. They would build objectives and initiatives to address the priorities and report to us over the year on their progress.

For your information the current priorities are:

- *Safe Roads and Safe Highways in Nova Scotia* - To date Kings District members have charged 54 people with impaired driving, issued 43 roadside suspensions for alcohol consumption, issued 1,601 traffic enforcement charges and conducted 174 check stops.
- *Reduction of Cybercrime in Nova Scotia*  
Community resource officers and Senior Safety Coordinator continue to educate students and seniors on Cybercrime.
- *Reduce Crime Against People*  
Members continue to conduct physical checks on offenders/accused who are on court ordered curfews or house arrest with the goal to prevent recidivism.
- *Intelligence led policing efforts*  
In 2020/21, Kings District senior managers recognized a lack of intelligence led policing efforts within the district. This is a national strategic policing priority of the RCMP and as such, efforts to improve in this area have been made through training and mentorship. This improvement has resulted in an increase in drug and property crime investigations within Kings District.

### Proposal

On March 15, 2022 the Police Services Advisory Committee held a regularly scheduled meeting.

This issue was on the agenda and the following priorities were identified:

- The current priorities of the police are relevant and supported.
- Community policing efforts that involve a regular presence in the parks, foot/bicycle patrols downtown, drop-ins at local business and attendance at public events.
- Traffic enforcement on Orchard Street and Main Street East and West.
- Increased presence on the trails around ATV enforcement and illegal encampments adjacent to the trail
- Concerns related to mental health that may not be criminal in nature but still cause concern for safety among businesses and the public.
- Education around crosswalk safety is a necessity

Note: There was considerable support expressed for the role of the Bylaw Officer and a request for an increase over the part-time, seasonal presence.

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends that Council reflect on the feedback of the Police Services Advisory Committee and identify the top 3-4 priorities of the Town for F2023.

## **Flag Raising Protocol Policy**

### **1.0 Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to establish a respectful and consistent process for the flying of flags, and to establish the standards for processing requests related to courtesy flag flying.

### **2.0 Responsibility**

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) will be authorized to order the raising or lowering of flags. The Town reserves the right to choose which flags may or may not be flown.

#### **2.1 Courtesy Flags will not be raised:**

- which display inappropriate or offensive matter;
- which support discrimination, hatred, violence or prejudice;
- for political parties or political organizations;
- for religious organizations, events or celebrations;
- where the intent is contrary to Town policies or bylaws;
- where the intent is for profit-making purposes; or
- where the attempt is to influence government policy.

### **3.0 Procedure**

Flags will be displayed in accordance with the guidelines set out in the "Flag Etiquette in Canada" guide provided by the Department of Canadian Heritage.

#### **4.0 Half-Masting**

Flags at all Town facilities will be lowered to half-mast to recognize a period of official mourning or to commemorate significant dates. The half-masting of flags applies to all municipal properties that have flagpoles. The Town will fly its flags at half-mast upon receiving notification of the death of any of the following individuals:

- Her Majesty the Queen and members of the Royal Family
- A past or present Governor General of Canada
- A past or present Prime Minister of Canada
- A past or present Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia
- A past or present Premier of Nova Scotia
- The Local Member of the House of Commons, or a Local Member of the Provincial Legislature
- A past or present Mayor or Member of Council
- Any actively employed Staff Member of the Town
- Any Police Officer or fire fighter killed in the line of duty
- Any member of the Canadian Armed Forces, killed while deployed on operations
- Any other prominent public figure as determined by the CAO in collaboration with the Mayor
- Remembrance Day (November 11th)

## **5.0 Requests**

All Courtesy flag requests must be submitted in writing and include the following information:

- a. Name of Organization
- b. Contact Information
- c. Requested event/occasion
- d. Date or time period of request
- e. Explanation or purpose of the event/occasion

## **6.0 Location**

Any courtesy flag being flown will replace the Town of Berwick flag in front of Town Hall, located at 236 Commercial Street.