

May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

To all Residents,

1. On behalf of myself Mayor Daniel Conway, I'd like to provide our residents with an update on town activities over the past 4 months. Unfortunately, we've had to deal with an inordinate amount of social media posts which has resulted in unfounded accusations of skimming (taking money) and what can be considered slanderous comments directed towards Council and the Town Manager. I can personally assure our residents that there is no wrong doing at the Town of St. George's. All necessary paperwork is filed with Municipal Affairs and an independent audit is conducted yearly. The actual cost of the Town Hall Renovation was 10 percent \$34,085.00 (plus HST) under 90/10 funding and this is further highlighted in paragraph 5. I would be remiss if I didn't mention the hard work and efforts of our Town Manager, Jocelyn has been employed here for over two years now, her work ethic, ability to identify issues, financial knowledge and her commitment to this Town and residents is second to none. In the past two years she has identified areas of concern with record keeping, collections, reconciling of hours, cost of services and has worked tirelessly to make changes that were long overdue. Please remember that the Town Manager carries out the decisions of Council.
2. The past several months have been quite busy, the winter months saw snow clearing on nearly a daily basis and when it wasn't snowing our staff was busy pushing snow back while making every effort to keep the streets cleared for the safety and comfort of our residents.
3. The Siki Bennett Memorial Stadium saw another record breaking year for use. Minor Hockey and Can Skate Programs were successful as well as adult hockey leagues and we sincerely thank the volunteers who provide their time selflessly for the children involved in Minor Hockey and Can Skate. The Family Free Skates sponsored by Emera, and the Leading Edge Credit Union was a resounding success which provided exercise and enjoyment to our families. The bowling alley was well used for general bowling and league bowling alike.
4. We have made every effort to engage Transportation and Works with respect to our provincially owned roads (Barachois Drive, Main Street & Steel Mountain Road) in so far as writing the appropriate Provincial Offices to ensure that these road, road shoulders, ditches and culverts are brought up to a reasonable standard. I've had several conversations with our local MHA on this matter.
5. The Town Office renovation is complete and it is truly a great civic entity. The total Provincial project value was \$355,370.00 which was paid through 90/10 cost sharing. The Town's portion was 10% which amounted to \$34,085.00 plus the HST which is reimbursed. If you haven't been to the Town Office please stop by. We'd also like to thank Brian Lasaga for the beautiful prints he donated for the Council Chambers. Many of our residents know that the Town Office was in desperate need of updating; after 50 years the requirements for asbestos abatement, new electrical and a truly accessible office where all persons can now enter was a significant driving factor when this renovation was submitted for Capital Works back in 2013/2014.
6. Council has made a decision not to respond to Social Media Posts or comments, engaging in this behaviour can and has lead to misrepresentation, statements being taken out of context and unnecessary judgements on our staff.
7. Many thanks to our entire staff for your efforts and hard work, our Town Clerk Debbie Woolridge will be retiring this summer and her presence will be greatly missed.
8. I want to remind our residents that we are here to serve the residents of this great town, we do this within municipal guidelines, regulations and applicable legislation, and we do our best to meet your needs. In closing, just a reminder to please subscribe to our newsletter through the town website, you'll get emails about all upcoming events, water outages, closures etc. simply go to [www.townofstgeorges.com](http://www.townofstgeorges.com) to join. We wish you a happy and safe spring & summer.

Sincerely,



Daniel Conway  
Mayor  
Town of St. George's