

Summer 2024

Issue 5



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## Message from Warden Bruce Morrison



Hopefully your summer has been wonderful so far, and your family and friends are enjoying this warm weather!

Soon the nights will start getting a bit cooler, the leaves a little red. As our scenery changes, we know other changes are also fast approaching. The Municipal Election happening on October 19th, 2024 will also change our landscape.

Over my 27 years proudly serving the residents of Baddeck and Victoria County as Councillor and 16 years as Warden, I've had the honour to work with many dedicated, passionate, community-minded individuals who hold a deep love for Victoria County and for the districts in which they serve. But it's time to turn our eyes to a changing future for our municipality.

Now, more than ever, your involvement in the electoral process is crucial. The act of voting is not just your right; it's a powerful expression of your voice and a testament to the democratic principles that guide us. By casting your ballot, you help shape the vision and direction of Victoria County for years to come.

The journey of a councillor is both challenging and rewarding. It's a path paved with tough decisions, community involvement, and pursuing progress. To help Victoria County flourish, to witness the impact of positive change and to know you've played a part in it, is the reward of public service.

I urge you to get involved, to consider running in the upcoming Municipal Election (Nomination Day is September 10th) and make sure you cast your ballot in the upcoming election.

I know I speak for all of Victoria County Council – it's been a pleasure to serve each one of you.

Your District Councillor is elected to represent you in Council. You're encouraged to get in touch with them in person, on the phone or by email. They're also available to meet in the community on specific dates if you want to drop by.

## Meet With Your Councillor



District Councillor	Phone & Email	Location	Date	Time
Bruce Morrison Warden District #3	bruce.morrison@victoriacounty.ca (902) 565-8229	Baddeck Municipal Building	Second Wednesday of every month.	10:00 am — 11:00 am
Larry Dauphinee Deputy Warden District #6	larry.dauphinee@victoriacounty.ca (902) 322-7102	Office space is limited; please book an appointment by calling (902) 322-7102	Anytime by appointment. To book, call (902) 322-7102	Anytime by appointment. To book, call (902) 322-7102
Barbara Longva Councillor District #4	barbara.longva@victoriacounty.ca (902) 304-0123	Indian Brook Firehall	First Wednesday of every month.	6:00 pm — 8:00 pm
Norman MacDonald Councillor District #8	norman.macdonald@victoriacounty.ca (902) 285-4333	Various locations throughout District #8	Office hours will be posted on Facebook.	Available times will be posted on Facebook.
Paul MacNeil Councillor District #1	paul.macneil@victoriacounty.ca (902) 295-8477	September: Washabuck Community Centre October: Iona Legion	Third Thursday of every month.	10:00 am — 12:00 pm
Jackie Organ Councillor District #7	jackie.organ@victoriacounty.ca (902) 336-2212	Please book an appointment by calling: (902) 336-2212	Anytime by appointment. To book, call (902) 336-2212	Anytime by appointment. To book, call (902) 336-2212
Perla MacLeod Councillor District #2	perla.macleod@victoriacounty.ca (902) 295-0229	Baddeck Municipal Building Changes will be posted to Facebook	September 9, 2024 October 7, 2024	12:00 pm — 1:00 pm
Fraser Patterson Councillor District #5	fraser.patterson@victoriacounty.ca (902) 674-2703	Office space is limited, please book an appointment by calling: (902) 674-2703	Anytime by appointment. To book, call (902) 674-2703	Anytime by appointment. To book, call (902) 674-2703

# 2024 Municipal Election

## Voting in the Election

Qualifications to Vote:

- You must be 18 years or older on the day of Advance Polling (October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024).
- You must be a Canadian citizen on the day of Advance Polling (October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024).
- You must be a resident of Victoria County for at least six (6) months preceding the day of Advance Polling.
- Election Day is October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- Eligible residents will elect one councillor to represent their district for the next four (4) years. There are eight (8) districts in Victoria County.
- Voting will be done electronically. More information on electronic voting will be forthcoming.
- You can cast your vote electronically beginning on October 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Voting closes at 7:00 p.m. on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

More information for Voters and Candidates is available online at [victoriacounty.com/election](https://victoriacounty.com/election)

## Thinking of running for Council?

Overview of the Process:

- Check if you meet the qualifications.
- Contact the Returning Officer to receive the information you'll need to run.
- Read the Candidate's Guide.
- Start Campaigning.
- Complete the Nomination Paperwork and submit it by 5:00 p.m. on Nomination Day (September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024).
- Pay the \$200 deposit.
- File all other required forms by the due dates.



## Election 2024

October 19th

## Returning Officer:

**Blair Gallop**  
(902) 295-2117  
[elections@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:elections@victoriacounty.ca)

## Important Dates:

- **September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024:** Nomination Day.
- **September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024:** Last day for a candidate to withdraw.
- **October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024:** Advance polling begins at 9:00 a.m.
- **October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024:** Election Day — Voting closes at 7:00 p.m.





## 2024 Winners Volunteer of the Year



Left to Right: Deputy Warden Larry Dauphinee presents the \$500 prize to the 2024 Volunteer of the Year Winners: Shelley Coones, Billy Joe Robinson and Ryan Costello.

**Shelley Coones, Billy Joe Robinson & Ryan Costello:** This three-person power team of volunteers from Ingonish work hard for their community all year long from January until December. From volunteering for the Christmas Parade, to preparing the scavenger hunt and games at the Ingonish ball field, to the overwhelming number of ticket sales and tasks needed to pull off the popular Hucklebuckle event every October. Then, when the snow arrives, they slide into the Cape Smokey Race Team. Congratulations to the 2024 winners!

**These other Volunteer of the Year Nominees also deserve recognition for their great contributions:**

### Nancy Cronin



Since joining the Ross Ferry Stewardship Society in 2021 as a Volunteer Coordinator, Nancy has been the driving force behind a surge in community involvement. Her innovative strategies for recruiting volunteers has significantly bolstered the society's membership, sparking a newfound awareness of both the society and the Ross Ferry Marine Park. Nancy's creative outreach methods are infused with her positive energy and keen ability to draw the Ross Ferry community together.

### Marjorie Fougere



A dedicated volunteer in Baddeck, and the driving force behind the Victoria County Hospital Foundation's most successful fundraiser! With a vision to helping raise funds, Marjorie started a golf tournament that quickly became a popular annual event. Thanks to her drive and energy, the tournament has raised significant funds for the foundation. The success of the tournament is a testament to what one person's passion, coupled with community spirit, can achieve.

### Daniel Nicholson



In 2019, this creative university student took a leap of faith and introduced a novel fundraising idea for the Hospital Foundation—a Duck Race! Daniel engineered a unique finish line that ensured a fair and exciting race, allowing only one duck to pass at a time. Each year, he meticulously sets off 1,300 plastic ducks as a flotilla. Following the race, he collects each duck, ensuring they are ready for their next voyage. The Duck Race has become an annual community fundraiser drive for the young and old in Baddeck.

### Gorden MacKay



Well-known Baddeck resident, Gorden MacKay's unwavering kindness and community spirit is embraced by many. Born with an intellectual disability, it's never dampened his friendly demeanor and outreach to others. When his mother moved into Alderwood Care Centre in Baddeck, Gorden's daily visits became a beacon of joy, not just for her but for all the residents. His move to Alderwood in 2020 only deepened his role as the heart of recreation at the Centre. With a funny quip always at the ready, he lifts the spirits of those returning from the hospital, asking nothing in return but the joy of their company.

## 2024 Volunteer of the Year Nominees Continued

### Greg Redquest



As an employee of the Freshmart grocer in Ingonish, Greg has become the unsung hero of the aisles. His day extends beyond the routine of stocking shelves; he is a lifeline for those confined to their homes. Whether due to age or circumstance, he ensures that no one is left without essentials, personally grocery shopping for them with care and attention. His kindness doesn't stop at the doorstep; he offers rides, assists with errands, and delivers food with a smile that's as nourishing as the meals he brings. In a place where everyone knows your name, he is more than an employee—he is a helper and a friend.

### BOLD Community Centre



In the heart of Baddeck, the BOLD organization stands as a beacon of community spirit and engagement. Driven by a dedicated volunteer Board of Directors, BOLD is more than just a day camp for kids and seniors' community center—it's a vibrant hub that embodies the essence of community. With a mission to foster a positive impact through diverse programming, BOLD welcomes over 300 participants monthly, and spans all age groups. It's a place where recreation meets mental and physical well-being, offering a supportive environment for young families adapting to rural life and ensuring accessibility for all community members.

### Waterfront Baddeck

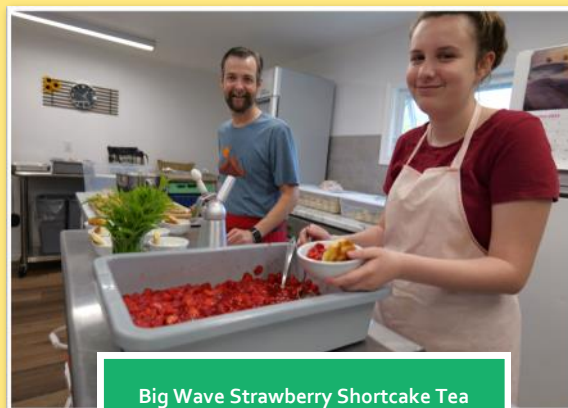


Championed by a dedicated group of volunteers, Waterfront Baddeck is passionate to revitalize the Village waterfront. This team, united in preservation but looking towards future development, has devoted innumerable hours to enhance Kidston Island's natural beauty. From gathering climate change data to ensuring their efforts are informed and impactful, they work in collaboration with the Baddeck Lions Club, to up-keep of the scenic trails, fostering a connection between nature and the community. Their relentless pursuit of funding for the boardwalk's redevelopment is a testament to their determination to create a space that is not only a hub for community gatherings but also a driver of economic sustainability.

## Mark Your Calendar

### Upcoming Festivals in Victoria County

- August 4<sup>th</sup>–13<sup>th</sup> — Along the Shores of Washabuck
- August 19<sup>th</sup> — Festiville Baddeck
- September 13<sup>th</sup>–22<sup>nd</sup> — Hike the Highlands Festival
- October 4<sup>th</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> — Cabot Trail Writer's Festival
- October 11<sup>th</sup>–19<sup>th</sup> — Celtic Colours International Festival
- October 14<sup>th</sup> — Fibre Festival



Big Wave Strawberry Shortcake Tea  
Big Bras d'Or Community Centre

For more events happening in Victoria County visit:  
<https://victoriacounty.com/visitors/festivals-events/>



# Good to see you!

Patrick MacInnis, Little River



Christina MacDonald, Sugar Loaf



Ruby Ann Barron, Ingonish



Derrick Lawley, Ingonish Beach



Glenda Ogley, North Shore



Bernard MacKinnon, Bay St. Lawrence





**A**s many are travelling about these days, chances are you might recognize a few of these familiar faces you meet along the way. Here's a big "good to see you" back to their neighbours and friends in Victoria County!



Dale Smith, New Haven



Jessica MacDermid, St. Ann's Bay



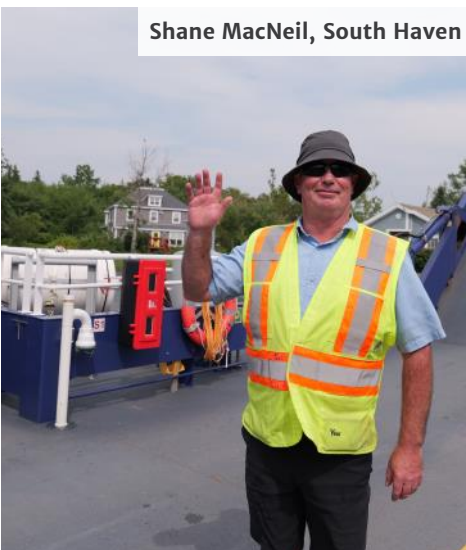
Lester Peck Jr., Wagmatcook



Willard Fraser, Middle River



Pauline Campbell, Jamesville



Shane MacNeil, South Haven



Bill MacNeil, Iona



Angie Reid, St. Ann's Bay



## 2024-2025 Municipal Grants

Every year, Victoria County funds community groups and organizations to support the important work they do for residents and initiatives in the Municipality. In 2024 – 2025, the Municipality is providing \$356,015 to a variety of non-profit organizations. To see what organizations have received funding, check out: [www.victoriacounty.com/2024-2025-municipal-grant-recipients/](http://www.victoriacounty.com/2024-2025-municipal-grant-recipients/). Here are two of the 2024-25 recipients:



Stan Johnson, CEPI Coordinator

### Bras d'Or Lakes Collaborative Environmental Planning Initiative (CEPI) – \$2,500 from Victoria County

Keeping the beautiful waters of the Bras d'Or Lake healthy and vibrant needs oversight and management. The Collaborative Environmental Planning Initiative (CEPI) does that by working together with the federal, provincial, municipal and First Nation governments. It was started in response to a call to action by the Cape

Breton First Nations Chiefs more than 30 years ago and continues today. It's role now is more hands on, using education programs, community engagement and active environmental monitoring.

CEPI Coordinator Stan Johnson says continuing support is crucial to continue protecting these waters.

“We're not only protecting these waters; we're also safeguarding a way of life for all those who live, work and use its water for recreation. We want to make sure the lake remains healthy for generations to come.”



Photo by Chris Turner

### Inverness–Victoria Federation of Agriculture – \$3,000 from Victoria County

If you're a farmer in Victoria County and you need to bring in your hay or are in need of other machinery for temporary use, this is a non-profit group that may loan the necessary equipment to you.



Farm equipment, like a hay baler, are available through the rental program.



The Machinery Rental Program currently rents equipment to approximately 60 farmers and now is extending equipment rental to available safety gear. Adding the safety gear (such as guards, safety chains, hitch pins, etc.) to this program will reduce accidents and unnecessary injury/death from preventable situations. In addition, monies will be used for computer & software upgrades that will help the non-profit group modernize to further streamline the rental program.



## Light bulbs can now be recycled!

As of August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, you can now bring your lightbulbs to the Baddeck or Dingwall Transfer Station for recycling, rather than disposal. This new stewardship program is run by ProductCare Recycling who operates the disposal program.

There are a variety of lightbulbs that can be recycled, but it's important to note which bulbs cannot be recycled.

### Accepted:

- ✓ Fluorescent tubes
- ✓ Halogen and incandescent bulbs
- ✓ LEDs
- ✓ UV and germicidal bulbs
- ✓ Miniature bulbs
- ✓ High-intensity discharge (HID) and special purpose bulbs

### Not Accepted:

- ✓ Bike lights
- ✓ Ceiling fixtures
- ✓ Chandeliers
- ✓ Flashlights
- ✓ Floor lamps
- ✓ Lights strings (e.g. Christmas lights)
- ✓ Outdoor fixtures
- ✓ Recessed/pot lights

## Pressure Treated Wood Disposal Ban

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, a province-wide ban of treated wood being disposed of in Construction & Demolition (C&D) went into effect at Nova Scotia Waste Management Sites. This means that unless the municipality has C&D sites that can properly dispose of pressure treated wood, it will not be accepted for disposal. In Victoria County, treated wood will be transported to the Guysborough Waste Management Facility which is the closest site with proper disposal facilities for chemically treated wood.

When the C&D disposal cell was designed for our county, it was not built to the specifications of the new provincial requirements; however, our Waste Management Facility in Baddeck and Dingwall will continue to accept this material and will ship it to the Guysborough Waste Management Facility, where it can be properly disposed of. As this involves additional transportation, a **tipping fee is now applied** for providing this service. You can also choose to transport the material yourself to the Guysborough Waste Management Facility. **Please note that all vehicles larger than 1 ton must haul treated wood directly to the Guysborough Waste Management Facility for disposal.**

Baddeck Transfer Station	Residential Tip Fee	ICI Tip Fee
Vehicles smaller than 1 ton	\$85.00/Metric Ton	\$96.41/Metric Ton
Dingwall Transfer Station	Residential Tip Fee	ICI Tip Fee
Up to a 1/2 ton truck or car with a small trailer	\$42.50	\$48.20
3/4 ton truck with or without a trailer	\$63.75	\$72.31
1 ton truck	\$85.00	\$96.41

# Divert NS – Mobius Awards 2024 – Victoria County Restaurant Nominated!

Divert NS, the Nova Scotia not-for-profit corporation that manages the Beverage Container Deposit-Refund Program and the Tire Recycling program, recognizes innovative businesses, institutions, communities and leaders in waste management. Every year, Divert NS holds an Award of Environmental Excellence.

This year, a restaurant in North River Bridge in Victoria County has been nominated in the Small Business category for its efforts to implement environmentally aware practices through recycling, diversion, and waste reduction.



Bettina and Holger Hartenstein



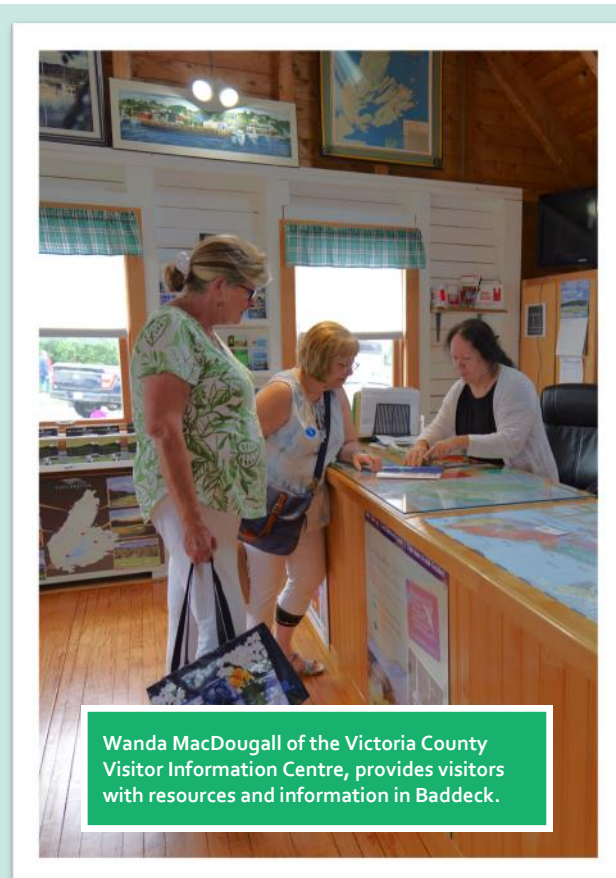
Their handmade soap uses recycled coconut oil.



Chanterelle Inn and Cottages, now under new ownership of Bettina and Holger Hartenstein, actively works to produce as little waste as possible. They try to divert much of what they use in the kitchen, including making soap from the spent cooking oil, with future plans for even more innovative diversion efforts.

**Deadlines for Nominations are September 6, 2024.**

For more information about the Mobius Awards 2024, contact DivertNS at: [mobius@divertns.ca](mailto:mobius@divertns.ca)



Wanda MacDougall of the Victoria County Visitor Information Centre, provides visitors with resources and information in Baddeck.

## Victoria County Visitor Information Centre

The Victoria County Visitor Information Centre (VIC), located in Baddeck, is for anyone who wants more information about Victoria County, not just tourists!

The Centre is open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and visitors are greeted with a warm smile and inquiries about how staff can help them find what they're looking for.

It might be a map, information on camping, restaurants, hiking and information on the Cabot Trail.

This is Wanda MacDougall's second year working here. She's from Washabuck and says there's a wealth of information available that she's still learning about.

We asked Wanda what kind of feedback she gets from visitors about Victoria County.

"People tell me they just love the area, they love how peaceful and quiet it is here and they all want to move here!"



# Active Living & Recreation

## Courage to Take the First Step — Recreation Equipment Loan Program in the Community

Barb Keylor, a Ross Ferry resident, was persuaded by her good friend and neighbour Nancy Cronin to attend a “Lunch and Learn” Session in Baddeck featuring Victoria County’s Active Living & Recreation Coordinator, Christopher Woodford demonstrating new equipment for loan through Victoria County.



Active Living & Recreation Coordinator, Christopher Woodford, speaking about available programs.

Chris demonstrated different types of equipment that will be available through the Recreation Equipment Loan Program. Through not-for-profit organizations, various recreation equipment will be available for loan. One of those items up for loan will be walking poles.

If Barb Keylor hadn’t had the opportunity to try poles out, she’s not sure she would have taken them up on her own. Barb had been having difficulties with mobility and at the “Lunch and Learn” she gave them a try. Her friend Nancy suggested that if Barb were to borrow a pair, Nancy would help her get started.

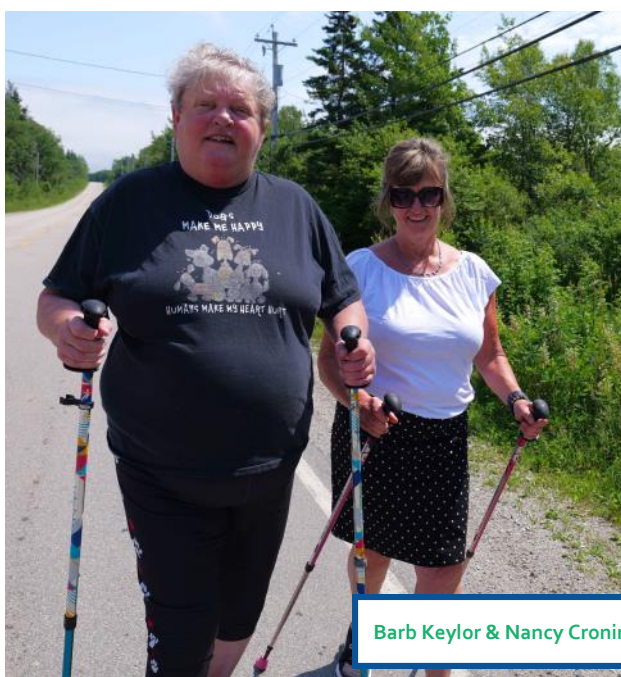
As Barb recalls, “When Nancy came over, this is God’s truth. You see that trailer over there? I couldn’t walk over there without stopping to catch my breath. It was terrible.”

First, Nancy started assisting Barb with the poles, as they began walking very short distances. Initially, Barb had to stop frequently, but Nancy was patient and encouraging.

They gradually increased their distance, first to the end of the driveway and back, then to the neighbour’s driveway and back. One day, Barb suggested they go further. Over 12 weeks or so, they eventually reached 1.6 kilometers, with Barb needing to stop for breaks along the way.

Barb is thrilled with her progress, saying people noticed, commenting to her, “I didn’t know you were that tall!”

Using the poles to support and provide her balance, not only helped her posture, but it also improved her mental and physical health. Although it required steady effort, she says it’s had a huge impact on her well-being.



Barb Keylor & Nancy Cronin

It gave her the confidence to start going out and attending events again, despite ongoing health challenges. She had previously relied on a walker and avoided going out.

Barb is grateful to the program and to her good friend, Nancy, for helping her face and conquer this challenge.

“Nancy has been a godsend, not just to me but for the entire community,” Barb said, grateful for the support and encouragement that has made such a positive impact on her life.

**Interested in getting involved? Contact:**

**Christopher Woodford**

Active Living & Recreation Coordinator

[christopher.woodford@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:christopher.woodford@victoriacounty.ca)

**(902) 294-0063**



## Municipal Contacts

### Administration

**Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)** — Leanne MacEachen [leanne.maceachen@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:leanne.maceachen@victoriacounty.ca)

**Executive Assistant** — Steff MacLeod  
[steff.macleod@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:steff.macleod@victoriacounty.ca)

### Finance & Revenue

**Chief Financial Officer** — Alix Redden  
[alix.redden@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:alix.redden@victoriacounty.ca)

**Financial Analyst** — Heather Ross  
[heather.ross@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:heather.ross@victoriacounty.ca)

**Accounts Payable** — Zina MacNeil  
[zina.macneil@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:zina.macneil@victoriacounty.ca)

**Revenue Coordinator** — Caithlin Deveau  
[caithlin.deveau@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:caithlin.deveau@victoriacounty.ca)

**Revenue Clerk** — Lauri Macaulay  
[lauri.macaulay@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:lauri.macaulay@victoriacounty.ca)

**Customer Service Clerk** — Shampa Mandal  
[shampa.mandal@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:shampa.mandal@victoriacounty.ca)

### Public Works

**Manager of Public Works** — Kelly Brett  
[kelly.brett@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:kelly.brett@victoriacounty.ca)

**Public Works Technician** — Greg Weir  
[greg.weir@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:greg.weir@victoriacounty.ca)

### Communication

**Communications & Marketing Coordinator** — Jennifer Dagsvik  
[jennifer.dagsvik@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:jennifer.dagsvik@victoriacounty.ca)

**Digital Communications Assistant** — Jessica Klein  
[jessica.klein@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:jessica.klein@victoriacounty.ca)



Some of the county staff members in Baddeck. Left to right: Christopher Woodford, Jennifer Dagsvik, Caithlin Deveau, Steff MacLeod, Shampa Mandal, Colby MacRae (Administrative Intern), Alix Redden, John Daniel Morrison, Bruce Morrison.

### Tourism & Recreation

**Manager of Tourism & Recreation** — Dan Coffin  
[dan.coffin@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:dan.coffin@victoriacounty.ca)

**Tourism & Community Development Coordinator** — Colleen Whelan-Smith  
[colleen.whelan-smith@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:colleen.whelan-smith@victoriacounty.ca)

**Active Living & Recreation Coordinator** — Christopher Woodford  
[christopher.woodford@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:christopher.woodford@victoriacounty.ca)

### Other County Services

**Seniors Safety Coordinator** — Cassandra Yonder  
[seniorssafety@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:seniorssafety@victoriacounty.ca)

**Building & Fire Inspector** — David MacKenzie, Eastern District Planning Commission — [dmackenzie@edpc.ca](mailto:dmackenzie@edpc.ca)

**Emergency Management & Fire Services Coordinator** — Lyle Donovan  
[lyle.donovan@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:lyle.donovan@victoriacounty.ca)

**Economic Development Officer** — Parker Horton, Cape Breton Partnership  
[parker@capebretonpartnership.com](mailto:parker@capebretonpartnership.com)

**Transit Administrator** — Terri Shobbrook, Victoria County Transit  
[terri.shobbrook@victoriacounty.ca](mailto:terri.shobbrook@victoriacounty.ca)



[www.victoriacounty.com](http://www.victoriacounty.com)

## Contact Us

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