



# The Brigus Vindicator

## 2018 Year in Review



### What's New

**National Building Code of Canada:** It is now a requirement that smoke detectors be installed in all sleeping rooms and each corridor in a house.

Council received funding from ACOA and the Provincial Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation in the amount of \$288,045.00. This funding enabled us to provide; Visitors Service and Experience Map, Audio Tour App "Walk Brigus", Townscape Interpretive signage, Lighthouse Trail Enhancements and a Permanent Stage. Wanda Smith was hired as Project Manager to oversee the project, along with Clifton Mitchell, Patsy Burke, Randy Butler, Aaron Parsons and Clayton Hunt.

Discover the secret world of Brigus with our self-guided walking tour app "Walk Brigus". This app takes you back in time on past history of Brigus. Download on your smart phone for free by visiting the app store.

### Municipal Election

The next Election will take place in 2020, unless a By Election is required before then.

### Education & Training

Council and Staff attended the following Education & Training throughout the year:  
MNL Avalon Regional Meeting - Ralph Trickett, Raelene Wall and Katie O'Flaherty  
Clean & Safe Drinking Water Conference - Kevin Spracklin.  
PMA Convention - Katie O'Flaherty and Bobbie Hepditch.  
Budget Training -Katie O'Flaherty and Bobbie Hepditch.  
MNL Convention - Raelene Wall and John Brown.  
Procurement Act - Wayne Rose and Katie O'Flaherty.

In order to receive "Gas Tax Funding" Council is required to attend a minimum of 2 training sessions per year.

### Regrets

Council regrets this year the passing of former Town Worker Kevin Rose who worked with the Town from 1994 to 2010. Council would also like to remember those of our community who are no longer with us.

### Capital Works

Council was approved for 2018-2019 Capital Works funding for Water/Sewer phase 3 Farm Road and Conception Bay Highway Sewer Services in the amount of \$374,000.

In October, a power surge caused damage to the #1 Lift Station located on Conception Bay Highway. Repairs to the Lift Station cost approximately \$66,000. Money approved through the Capital Works Funding was used to complete repairs.

### Gas Tax

Council has a balance of \$46,000 left to be distributed over the coming months.

### Town Staff

We applaud Town Clerk/ Manager, Wayne Rose, Assistant Clerk Katie O'Flaherty, Recreation Coordinator Bobbie Hepditch and Geraldine Boland for their hard work and dedication which keeps the Town office operating efficiently.

Kevin & Charles also had a very busy year with a variety of maintenance tasks that they are responsible for. Thanks to all staff for a great job!

Council also hired several casual workers to do tree pruning.

## **Waste Management**

Residents are reminded that bulk garbage is included with your domestic weekly garbage collection. Council would also like to remind residents that garbage should be kept in proper garbage containers or covered.

Council recently renewed their contact with Ridge G&P contacting starting January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2020. Council has implemented a Recycling Program with bi-weekly pickup. Information regarding the Recycling Program can be found on the Towns website [www.brigus.net](http://www.brigus.net). Your support in recycling will help reduce waste at landfills along with helping the environment.

The Harbour Grace Waste Recovery Facility is open to residents during the following hours: Tuesday & Thursday 12am to 4pm and Saturday 9am to 5pm. Items such as Construction/Renovation Materials, Metals, Electronics, Furniture etc can be brought to this facility and disposed of free of charge. Or you may contact Otto Clowe for a price on having your materials disposed of, call 709-363-7185

Council would like to remind residents, if they contact the town office, arrangements can be made to pick up metals, such as: hot water boilers, stoves etc. Metals are not collected during the weekly household garbage collection. A recycling container is located behind the town garage or you can drop them off at French's on Lt Stick Drive in Bay Roberts.

## **Recreation**

A number of different events were held this year with the help of the newly formed Recreation Committee. The Recreation Committee kicked off the formation of the new committee by holding a Family Fun Day on April 21<sup>st</sup>. There was a great turn out and lots of fun had by all.

Canada Day was a huge success this year with a Canada Day Cake, prizes for best dressed bike, Games, Bouncy Castle, also Hotdogs and Drinks. Entertainment was provided by Front Line. Thanks to our staff and students for putting off such a wonderful event. To conclude the day, the Recreation Committee held a Bon Fire and Sing along at Bishop's Beach.

The Recreation Committee offered a non competitive, mixed age summer softball/t-ball program.

The Recreation Program offered a half day program again this year, with ages 5-8 and 9-12. The program was run by 11 staff that included, Julie Gosse, Katie Quinlan, Jacob Parsons, Hannah Green, David Walsh, Rachel Farrell Zachary Trickett, Nathaniel Norris, Madison Mercer, Ireland Ryan and Bobbie Hepditch Recreation Director. The registration fee this year remained the same at \$80 per child. We went on several field trips and held several special events this summer.

It was another rewarding year for recreation with Staff overseeing the camper parking at the Playground, Toonie parking on our new parking lot, as well as the Nevada Booth during the Blueberry Festival.

Our first annual Halloween Hunt took place on October 28<sup>th</sup>. The hunt was a great success, with much fun had by both children and adults. Thank you to all the Businesses who took part.

The Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony had a large attendance. Thank you for coming out and kicking off our Christmas season. Also thank you to the Brigus Historical Society for lighting up Wilcox Gardens.

This year has been another exciting one for our seniors group with support from Community Healthy Living Fund. They participated in several fitness sessions which included Bowling, Curling, and Tai Chi & low impact exercise. They also enjoyed several entertainment sessions and a desert tea. We would like to thank Marilyn Connolly for all her hard work with the seniors program.

Our Walking Track is accessible to all and was built to promote walking and physical activity within our town especially during peak summer months when our narrow streets are usually so congested. We invite you all to get out and check out our new track. 4 Laps equals 1km.

## Blueberry Festival

The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Brigus Blueberry Festival, once again had a successful year with approximately 12,000 visitors. This year the Festival was ran by the Blueberry Festival Group - a Committee of Council which consists of Council members; Byron Rodway, Randy Spracklin and Paul Matthews, Fire Brigade Representative Jr. Mercer and Public Representative Barry Gosse. The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual will be held on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, & 11<sup>th</sup> 2019.

## Road Reservations

NOTE: Council has noticed that there are a number of residents that are building their fences, walls and landscaping within the road reservation, the towns municipal regulations and road policy outline the road easement. Please consult with the town office before carrying out this type of work. Remember Council will not be responsible for any damage done to property within the road reservation.

## Development Permits

Sixty One (61) General Repair, Twenty Four (24) Shed and Extension, Four (4) House developments, Three (3) Commercial developments were issued throughout 2018.

Rental Units are available on School Lane. Contact John Buckell at 709-697-1883 or [bucklescontracting@yahoo.ca](mailto:bucklescontracting@yahoo.ca) for more information.

Also on Curtis Lane Condos are available. Contact Jeff Reardon, Hawthorne Condos at 709.746.4523 or [jeffreardon@royalpage.ca](mailto:jeffreardon@royalpage.ca) or visit their website at: <https://hawthornecondos.ca>

Avoiding unnecessary delays in obtaining your permit. Check with the Town Office if a permit is required before starting any work. Applications for development permits should be forwarded to the Town Council Office well in advance of Council meetings. Applications are reviewed and assist with the first and middle of the month. This will give the Development Committee ample time to review the development application and site. Applications are available at the Council Office or the Town Website [www.brigus.net](http://www.brigus.net)

## Budget

December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Council approved their 2019 balanced budget in the amount of \$908,609.00. There are no increases in mill rates, water/sewer or permit fees

## Provincial 911

**Council emphasizes the importance for everyone to have their civic address number on their house if you haven't already done so. Contact the Town Office if you need assistance.**

## Fire Department

The Brigus Volunteer Fire Department had another great year. We thank the members for their dedication and hard work, during fire calls, training and fund raising activities. Our Fire Brigade answered 12 Fire Calls, 6 False Alarms & 4 Lift Assist.

Congratulations to the following firemen for their years of dedicated Service: George Fry on 50 years, Ken Broughton on 40 years and Blair Mercer on 20 years.

The Ladies Auxiliary once again did a great job on the 60 plus Christmas Dinner and the Breakfast with Santa. Thanks to all those who helped out. If you are 60 years of age or older and a full time residents and have not received an invitation to the 60 plus Christmas Dinner, please contact one of the members of the ladies auxiliary.

The Santa Claus Parade was a great success, thanks to all those who participated with floats and who attended. To both groups, Keep up the good work.

Council would also like to thank our Fire Brigade & Recreation for the Community Bonfire held in November.

## Take Note

**Backwater Valves:** Council recommends that all sewer installations should have “Backwater Valves” installed. Also check your Insurance Policy or with your Insurance Company to insure that you are carrying sewer backup on your policy.

**Tax Payments:** As a reminder, you can pay your taxes by Debit, Visa, MasterCard and postdated Visa and Cheques.

**Tax Receipts:** Where possible, tax receipts will be sent out by way of email.

**Data Base:** If a tax payer would like to forward his or her e-mail address, to the town office, it will be stored in the town’s data base, this data base will be used to keep residents posted on notices of interest. Visit the town’s web page [www.brigus.net](http://www.brigus.net) or e-mail [brigus@eastlink.ca](mailto:brigus@eastlink.ca)

**Website:** If you would like a special event posted to our website please send information to [brigus@eastlink.ca](mailto:brigus@eastlink.ca).

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**Fire Hydrants:** Even though Council workers will try and keep Fire Hydrants free of snow it is much appreciated if you or a group of neighbors when clearing their driveways would keep in mind to clear the hydrant next to them. These hydrants are there for your safety. For those who are already doing this, THANK YOU.

**Special Birthdays and Anniversaries:** If you are celebrating a birthday, anniversary or special occasion and wish to receive a certificate of congratulations, please advise the town manager in advance, so one can be arranged for you.

**Open Fires:** Residents take note that open fires are only permitted between September to April weather permitting and are under the control of the Dept. of Natural Resources (Not Council). Residents must take into consideration, weather conditions i.e. wind and how dry the area is adjacent to the open fire, caution must be taken before starting any fire.

**Vandalism:** From time to time the town experiences unnecessary acts of vandalism, should you witness any of these acts please contact the town office in confidence, so we can take the necessary steps and possible prosecution to rectify the situation.

**Special Events:** In June 2018 The Ride for Dad visited Brigus with approximately 500 motor cycles. This group of riders were on a fund-raising campaign in aid of Prostate Cancer. Also in June The Tom Furey Classic Car Club visited Brigus. Proceeds from this activity were forwarded to the Heart & Stroke Foundation. July 29<sup>th</sup>, the First Responders Memorial Motorcycle Ride visited Brigus. All proceeds of this ride go to the TEMA Conter Memorial Trust based out of Ontario. A non-profit organization dedicated to helping first responders and military personnel who are dealing with mental illness or crisis. In September 2018 Targa once again visited Brigus.

*The Mayor, Councillors and Staff would like to extend best wishes and a Happy New Year to All!*

**Please Help Keep Our Town Beautiful...**  
**Please Don't Litter!**