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HARTLAND

HAPPENINGS

April 2026 – vol. 10

THANKS to Veronica Bristol (Hartland), Sydney Brown (St. Thomas) and Morgan DeMerchant (Mainstream) for the photos featured above!

Sign up for the town's Notification System on our website at www.townofhartland.ca or call 506-375-4357 to be added.

Making a Big Splash with Waterfront Project

The Downtown Waterfront Revitalization project is well underway in Hartland and is shaping up to be one of the most transformative community investments in recent years. With a total project value of approximately \$900,000, this initiative focuses on improving access to the Saint John River, enhancing public spaces, and creating new opportunities for recreation, tourism, and economic activity in the heart of our municipality.

The project got underway in January with the dock and gangway Request for Proposals (RFP), an important step to ensure best value and responsible use of taxpayer dollars. The RFP was posted on the provincial tendering website earlier this year and generated strong interest from vendors and fabricators. That work was awarded in February. A separate selection process for the replacement of the boat launch/ramp is expected to be awarded in April, with construction planning to be completed by August.

The new dock system is currently being ordered, and we are hopeful the boat launch and dock will be available for use later this summer. If timelines or conditions do not allow for installation this year, the dock will be stored until 2027 when it can be safely installed and fully utilized. The project also includes preparing a dedicated pad where a tourism operator can set a

sea container to offer kayak, canoe, tube, and other water equipment rentals, helping create new recreational options and supporting local entrepreneurship.

The visitor experience will also be improved at the Tourist Bureau. A new, larger deck will be constructed to expand the existing platform and will connect to the adjacent washroom building by a pathway. The hope is to complete this work by the May long weekend, so it is ready when it opens for the tourist season. Seating, lighting, and shaded areas will eventually be added to encourage people to stay, relax, and enjoy

Hartland's riverfront views.

Additional landscaping around the Hartland Covered Bridge will take place throughout the summer, along with the installation of new interpretive signage highlighting elements of Hartland's history. These signs will be available year-round and will support self-guided walking tours for residents and visitors alike. Once complete, the revitalized waterfront will provide enhanced river access, including opportunities for fishing tournaments, and will serve as a welcoming gathering place that reflects pride in our community and its heritage.



Non-Profit Spotlight: Hartland Community Garden

The Hartland Community Garden is getting ready for another growing season, and our community is invited to be part of it. Located at 106 Main Street at the corner of the Cloverdale Road, this welcoming green space sits on property owned by the Town of Hartland, which proudly supports the garden by providing the land for shared community use.

The garden is built around the values of sustainability, self sufficiency, and shared access. While some raised beds are privately tended, much of the space is open for everyone to enjoy. Community beds, perennial herbs, and a growing food forest offer fresh produce that residents are welcome to harvest, while also pitching in with light weeding or upkeep.

One of the garden's goals is to make gardening feel approachable and affordable. Whether you are an experienced grower or just curious to learn, the Hartland Community Garden encourages experimentation, learning,

and helping one another along the way. Gardening here is about working with nature, sharing knowledge, and enjoying the outdoors together.

The garden also has a strong connection with the Dr. Walter Chestnut Library, which serves as a hub for garden guidelines, information, and food donations for the Library's Food Pantry

Program. Throughout the winter months, the group also hosts seed swaps and learning opportunities to help gardeners prepare for the upcoming season.

If you would like to take part or learn more, we encourage you to reach out to the Hartland Community Garden at 506-425-8804 or email hnbcgarden@gmail.com.



Small Grants, Big Community Impact



Supporting local groups, events, and initiatives is one of the ways we help keep Hartland vibrant, connected, and growing. Over the past year, Hartland Council was pleased to provide grants and donations to a wide range of community organizations that enrich our cultural life, support volunteers, and invest in both people and places across our community.

One of the focuses was placed on arts and culture, helping to bring creative experiences to residents of all ages. Funding supported the Saint John String Quartet with a \$500 contribution for a morning class at Hartland Community School, a concert at the library, and an evening performance at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church open to the

community. Additional support included \$1,000 for Heartland Culture on the Green, \$5,500 for Covered Bridge Market, \$600 to The Scene Promotions for an all-ages live music show at the Triple C, and \$100 toward a local drama production at the Hartland Community School.

Hartland also invested in community facilities that serve as important gathering places. This included \$2,500 toward a new roof for the Hartland Legion, \$4,000 for the Triple C to assist with an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), a new sign, and operational costs, \$1,500 for the Coldstream Women's Institute for building and yard maintenance, and \$100 toward a new stage for Hartland Community School. These contributions help ensure our shared spaces remain safe, welcoming, and functional.

Supporting youth and future opportunities also remained a priority for Council in 2025. A total of \$3,500 was provided for bursaries and awards benefiting 30 Hartland Community School graduates, helping students as they take their next steps. Hartland was also proud to issue the first grant under our Residential Development Grant Policy, with Brad Dickinson receiving an initial payment of \$4,386.48 toward his development of four new residential rental housing units on McLean Avenue. This payment is the first of four annual installments and marks an important

milestone in encouraging new rental housing development in Hartland.

Details on all municipal grants and donation programs are available on our website at townofhartland.ca/by-law-policy, and then select Policy or Grant Applications. There is no annual cut off for applications, however groups and individuals are encouraged to apply early to ensure funding is still available.

We are grateful to every organization, volunteer, and partner who helps strengthen our community, and we look forward to continuing this work together.



Come On Baby, Let Me Light My Fire

As warmer weather approaches, many people are thinking about backyard fires, spring cleanup, and outdoor gatherings. To help keep everyone safe, it's important to understand when a burn permit is needed in the municipality of Hartland and the process. Our Fire By-law is designed to balance enjoyment with safety, while protecting neighbours, property, and our community.

Small recreational fires do not require a permit. This includes campfires, fire pits, fireplaces, barbecues, and burn barrels, as long as they are properly contained, attended at all times, and fully extinguished when finished. Recreational fires must not exceed 1.5 meters (5 feet) in diameter and 1 meter (3.25 feet) in height, must be kept a safe distance from buildings and combustible materials, cannot create a nuisance, and must be put out immediately if weather conditions make them unsafe.

A burn permit is required for all open-air outdoor fires, regardless of size. These fires are used to burn yard waste such as brush, leaves, and grass. On residential properties, the fire must not exceed 1.5 meters (5 feet) in diameter and 1 meter

(3.25 feet) in height, and burning is only allowed between January 2 and May 31 during approved hours. On non-residential properties, fires can be larger, up to 3 meters (10 feet) in diameter and 2 meters (6.5 feet) in height. Fires must also be well away from neighbouring properties and have water readily available at all times.

Permits are easy to apply for. The property owner, or someone acting on their behalf, must be at least 18 years old and submit a written application to the Fire Department. One-time permits are free, while extended permits cost \$25 for one month, \$50 for three months, or \$75 for six months. Each property may receive up to three free one-time permits per year, after which an extended permit is required. Applicants may request specific dates and times or email the Fire Department at least 24 hours in advance for approval.

Please note that provincial burn bans override all local permissions. During a provincial fire ban, all recreational and open-air fires are suspended, even if a permit has already been issued, unless written provincial approval is granted. Certain

materials are never allowed to be burned, including garbage, plastics, treated or painted wood, and other hazardous items.

To apply for a burn permit, visit townofhartland.ca/by-law-policy and select "D By-laws (Fire Ordinances)" from the menu. If you're ever unsure whether a permit is required, check before lighting a fire. We're always happy to help keep our community safe.



A Community Park Being Transformed

Hartland has a new reason to celebrate as Pavilion Park at 333 Main Street has entered its next stage of development.

Following construction of the pavilion in 2023, Phase 2 of improvements are set to get underway in the spring, bringing fresh new life to the green space next to the Baptist Church.

This phase of the project was made possible in part through funding support from the Regional Development Corporation (RDC). The work includes site grading, crusher dust walking paths, fresh topsoil, new sod, and carefully designed

planting beds. Together, these enhancements will transform the park's layout, making it more welcoming and functional for celebrations, events and gatherings.

The park has quickly established itself as a community hub. The site hosted the Hartland Farmers Market the past two summers, drawing residents and visitors downtown every Saturday morning. During Covered Bridge Market in August, the park became a lively gathering place for the Interdenominational Church Service and the popular Tug of War competition. With these

improvements now in the works, the park will be even better equipped to support various types of events with the more structured layout.

The schematic plan provides a look at how the park will grow as funding becomes available for future phases. The design includes areas set aside for play and recreation, as well as open event space where people can set up lawn chairs to enjoy entertainment under the pavilion.

The pathways and landscaped beds add charm and accessibility, giving families and visitors a place to walk, relax, and enjoy the outdoors. With its central location on Main Street along with breathtaking views of the Saint John River and Covered Bridge, Pavilion Park is an inviting addition to Hartland's downtown, encouraging community spirit.

Although the park has been referred to as Pavilion Park for now, the name will be updated to reflect its importance to the community. Whatever the final name may be, one thing is clear: this space has already become a gathering place where memories are made and will only improve with these new finishes. We look forward to seeing you at the park!



Upcoming Municipal Election 2026

This spring, Hartland residents will head to the polls to choose the next Mayor and Town Council. Municipal elections play an important role in shaping the future of our community, from local services and infrastructure to recreation, planning, and long-term growth. Whether you are thinking about running for Council or planning to vote, this election is your opportunity to take part in decisions that directly affect daily life in Hartland.

Nominations for candidates opened on March 23 and will remain open until April 10 at 2pm, leaving time for anyone who is interested to put their name forward. To be eligible as a candidate, a person must be 18 years of age on or before election day, be a Canadian citizen, and have lived in the local government for at least six months prior to election day. In municipalities like Hartland that are divided into wards, candidates must also live in the ward they wish to represent at the time of nomination.

There are some restrictions to be aware of. Full-time municipal employees or officers of the local government, including those on leave, are not eligible to run for Council in that municipality. Judges, election officers, and individuals disqualified under election laws cannot be candidates. Some federal or provincial public sector employees may also face limits on political activity or require approval from their employer before submitting nomination papers, so checking early is encouraged. As part of the nomination process, candidates must submit their personal information along with the signatures of at least ten qualified nominators who are eligible voters in the local government and, where applicable, the ward they are seeking to represent.

Hartland's Town Council is made up of a Mayor, three Ward Councillors, and three At Large Councillors, all elected for a four-year



term. Hartland has three wards: Ward 1 includes Somerville, Wakefield, Simonds, and Peel, Ward 2 includes Hartland, Coldstream, and Bubartown, and Ward 3 includes Brighton, with each ward electing one Councillor. Residents from all three wards also vote for the three At Large Councillor seats and for Mayor. At the first Council meeting following the swearing in of the new Council, Councillors elect one of their members to serve as Deputy Mayor.

Serving on Council is a meaningful way to contribute to our community. Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 pm. Councillors receive their meeting package four days in advance and are expected to review the materials so they are prepared to ask questions, take part in discussion, and make informed decisions. Preparation typically takes about one hour per meeting, with meetings lasting between two and three hours. Councillors may also be appointed to committees, with meeting frequency varying

depending on the committee's mandate.

Hartland Council members receive a stipend in accordance with the Council Remuneration By-law. For the upcoming term, the annual stipends are \$12,000 for the Mayor, \$9,000 for the Deputy Mayor, and \$6,000 for Council members.

While the role is not full-time, it offers an opportunity to represent residents, work collaboratively with fellow Councillors and staff, and help guide the direction of Hartland over the next four years. Council members are also subject to restrictions on employment with the local government during their term and for one year after leaving office, although they may continue to serve as volunteer firefighters.

Voting is a key part of local democracy. Advance polls will be held on May 2 and May 4, with Election Day on Monday, May 11.

Need to find out in which municipality and ward you live, along with who is running in your area, and where to vote? Enter your civic number, street name (no need to include "Street" or "Road"), and community name to find all these details.

<https://www1.gnb.ca/Elections/en/munstreetkey/munskinformation-e.asp>

The full municipal election schedule is available through Elections New Brunswick. Candidates and voters can find more information at www.electionsnb.ca, or by contacting Elections NB directly at 1-888-858-8683 (VOTE) or info@electionsnb.ca.

Whether you choose to put your name forward or simply cast your ballot, taking part in the municipal election helps ensure Hartland continues to reflect the voices, priorities, and values of our community.



Hartland's Residential Big Garbage Collection Days

Tuesday, May 26

Thursday, May 28

- Box, bag, tie, or bundle where possible
- Max of 3 large items per household
- Tree cuttings must not exceed 4 feet
- **NO** residential / demolition waste
- **NO** liquid wastes (paint, solvents)
- **NO** motor vehicle parts
- **NO** propane tanks
- **NO** appliances containing coolant

