East River Valley Community Development Association
Newsletter Issue 109
December 2026-February 2027

Mission Statement: To promote the sustainability of the East River Valley communities

6341 East River West Side Rd.
Eureka B0K 1B0

https://www.eastrivervalley.ca/
https://www.facebook.com/eastrivervalley



Wanting to submit to the newsletter?

We welcome your submissions for the newsletter, from birthday announcements to events.
Email spotlight.1@hotmail.com with details about what you would like to submit.

Spring Events

We are hoping to be able to bring some great events to the community this spring.
Be sure to follow our Facebook page if you haven't already to not miss out on the details.
https://www.facebook.com/eastrivervalley is where you can find us!

Well, Bruce Holley was right! All we had to do to curb the littering on the old Eureka school house grounds was put up a sign explaining that said grounds are not crown land but actually the property of ERVCDA and the littering stopped.
Ever since our failed attempt at community gardens at that site, Bruce has been keeping the lawn cut and generally caring for the area. Thanks Bruce and thanks to Bob Hines (HINESIGNS) for creating such an effective sign.
Why not stop by and have a look at the lot, we need ideas for its development.
6341 East River West Side Rd. Eureka

Looking for mortgage advice?



Andrea McNally-Saywood
Mortgage Specialist
902-396-8047
andrea.mcnally-saywood@rbc.com

Contact me today!

Looking for investment or retirement advice?



Ashley LeBlanc
Financial Planner,
Investment and Retirement Planning
902-331-1416
ashley.leblanc@rbc.com

Talk to me today!

RBC

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The Riverton Hall offers a cozy space for gatherings for up to 44 people. Accessible entrance and washrooms, and a new kitchen with stove, fridge and dishwasher.

Rentals are available at the Riverton Hall by contacting Kara at 902-301-0339.

Visit the website for availabilities
https://eastrivervalley.ca/

Volunteer Fire Department Contacts

East River Valley Fire Department
2020 East River East Side Rd. Bridgeville
Kevin Stuart, Chief 902-923-2893
kevinandleisa@hotmail.com
Jason MacIntyre, Deputy Chief 902-759-3588
Tuesday Training Meetings at 7pm

Eureka and District Fire Department
5222 Stellarton Trafalgar Rd. Eureka
Hall 902-923-2751
Roger Caddall, Chief 902-759-6526
Brandon MacDonald, Deputy Chief 902-301-6697
Civic signs can be ordered through Cliff Jardine
cliffjardine@hotmail.com

Plymouth Fire Department
4667 East River East Side Rd. Plymouth
Rod Livingstone, Chief
902-396-9161
Wayne VanVeen, Deputy Chief
902-759-2368
plymouthfirest13@gmail.com
Monday Training Meetings 7pm

If interested in volunteering at one of the departments reach out today!

Churches in the East River Valley

The United Churches of the Hopewell Eureka East River Pastoral Charge
St Columba & Bridgeville United Churches
Minister Sam Graham 902-921-0137

The Presbyterian Churches of the East River Pastoral Charge
Springville Jim Wilson 902-923-2696
St. Paul's Howard Archibald 902-928-2780

First Presbyterian Church, Hopewell
Minister Rev.Bonnie Langille 902-396-6266
bonniejcrockett@gmail.com
Sunday School 9am (in hall)
Sunday worship 9:45am
Coffee hour following worship every 1st Sunday



ERVCDA Outdoor Rural Fall Market &
Churchville Pie Baking Contest

September 19th was ERVCDA's Outdoor Rural Fall Market, in partnership with the Churchville Community Hall. It was a well attended event, with great vendors offering a wide variety of goods. We were thoroughly impressed by the youth vendors inside, who all had different ideas. From fresh dug trees, plants, delicious pumpkin spice iced coffee to handmade cards, brownies, cookies and hot apple cider that was able to take the chill off in no time.

We thank our vendors and customers. The success of the event proves that local markets are what people truly enjoy. Thank you to the Churchville Hall for continuing to partner on this venture with us each year.

Churchville Hall hosted their Apple Pie Baking Contest during the market, with 8 pies being submitted for judging. District 11 Councillor, Andy Thompson, Q97.9 Radio Celebrity Alex Theriault, and Steven Fraser of the Dept. of Natural Resources were asked to judge, which was a difficult task looking at the delicious pies. After much deliberation (and full bellies), Hopewell resident, Lori Dewar was crowned best apple pie in the East River Valley! Lori took home a Sobeys gift card. Congratulations, Lori!

ERVCDA Executive

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lochmud06@gmail.com

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gregor1@eastlink.ca

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ervcdatreasurer@outlook.com

Kara Allen-Coordinator/Secretary
902-301-0339
spotlight.1@hotmail.com

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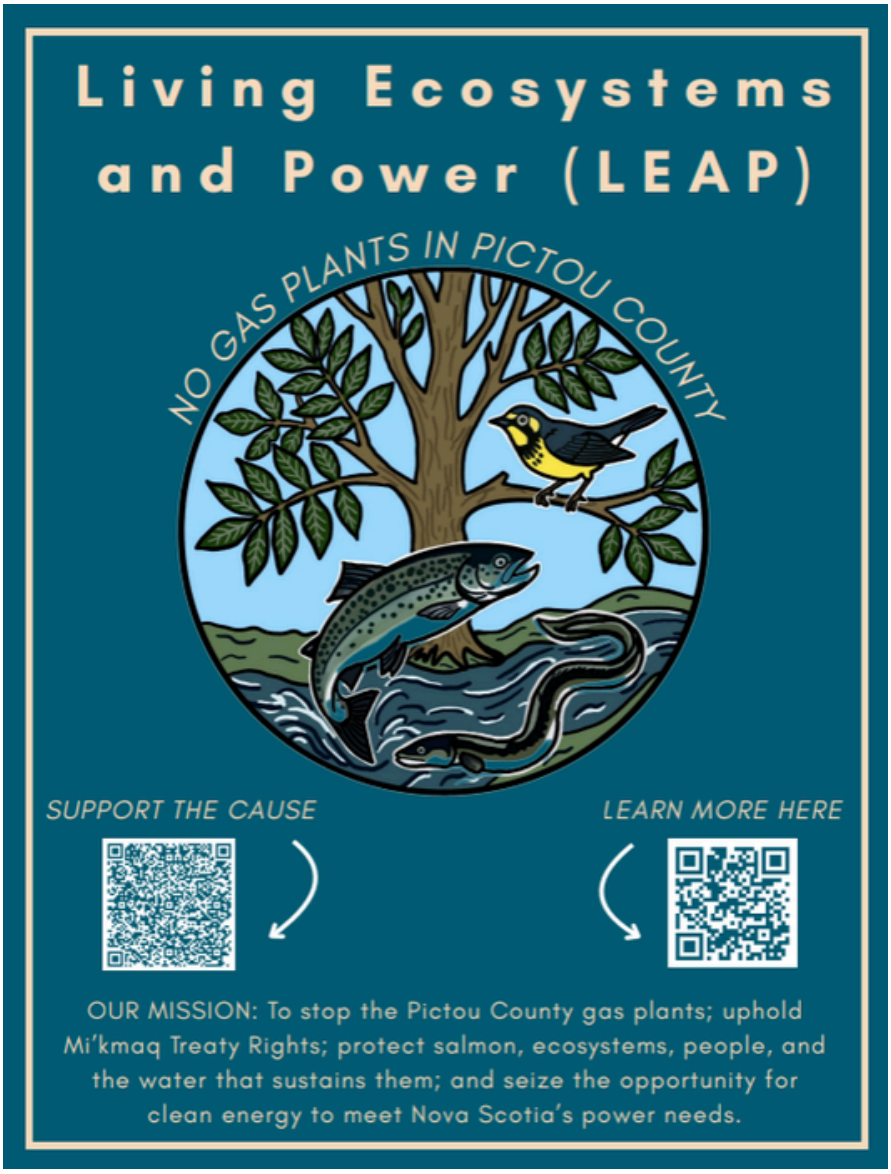


Marshdale and/or Saltsprings may become home to 'natural' gas power plants for the next 25+ years. We believe the public deserves complete information and genuine consultation before major industrial projects are approved in our rural communities.

Did you know? These plants were registered a mere 9 days before a critical federal deadline, allowing for the plants to be exempt from the national carbon limit until 2049. This allows them for them to operate under less restrictive pollution rules. We do not believe that industrial projects should be striving to achieve pollution exemptions. The plants were environmentally approved despite the fact that many of the parameters of the project are unknown.

These industrial power plants would irreversibly change the rural landscape, on our dime (estimated to cost several billion dollars). If 'natural' gas isn't available, or if it's too expensive, there could be up to 52 trucks per day travelling our rural roads, hauling diesel to storage tanks that would hold 9 million liters of fuel at the headwaters of the East River.

We are of the mindset that a society grows great when you plant trees that you'll never sit in the shade of. To us, Marshdale is the place that we do so. But this goes beyond Marshdale. It affects all rural Nova Scotians. It affects all Nova Scotians who pay a power bill. It affects plant Earth.

We urge you to follow along with www.leappictou.org, write to your MLA and the Premier and/or contact the Independent Energy Systems Operator.

Emma Balodis & Jaret Langille

Christmas Market

Thank you to the Plymouth Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary and Fire Department for another successful Christmas Market on November 14th. Thank you to all of the great vendors, and those who shopped local!

We hope to host a Spriing/Mother's Day Market in Plymouth, watch for details.

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels runs every Tuesday & Thursday for a supper-time drop off. It is available to anyone in the East River Valley for just $8 per meal. To sign up, please contact Alice Cameron at 902-928-0767.

Looking to advertise or Submit? Deadline for March-May 2027 newsletter submissions is Monday, February 8. Our newsletter reaches over 1500 by mail and electronically. Advertising is available by contacting Kara.

Pricing for ads are as follows: Business card size (2x3) $30, 1/4 page $50, 1/2 page $100

Email spotlight.1@hotmail.com for details.

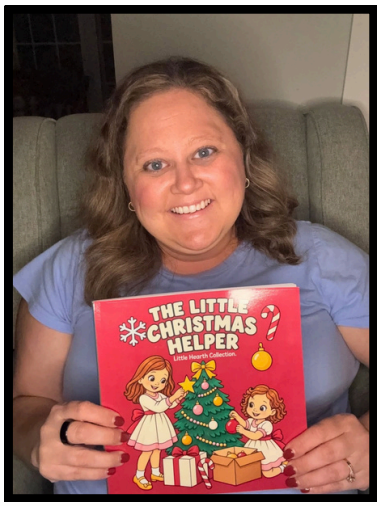


Churchville Hall had a drop-off box for donations to MacLeod School Supplies Drive. Along with a box of donations, a total of $230.00 was raised. The Home and School, parents and students were pleased. The campaign was well received. Thank you to everyone who donated supplies or money. The money and supplies raised were at various events at the hall throughout the summer.
In the picture: Amy Meyer and her son Memphis receive the money and supplies from Arlene MacGregor that were donated by Churchville.

Bridgeville Christmas Tea



Bridgeville Community Club Annual Christmas Tea with special guests the Stellarton Men's Chorus, will take place on Saturday, November 28th from 1-3pm. Tickets will be available on a cash tree, just in time for Christmas. $7 each for the tea, cash tree tickets 3 for $5
21 Elgin Rd. Bridgeville



Congratulations, to Lisa (Post) Smith of Plymouth of her recent publication of The Little Christmas Helper colouring book.
She made it for little ones ages 3–7. It follows two little sisters doing all those sweet Christmas things, with 26 pages for them to colour. It is officially on Amazon!
Here is the link if you want to check it out:
https://www.amazon.ca/dp/B0HK6XZB2K

H H Mac Mechanical

Daniel MacDonald is a Red Seal Endorsed auto technician who recently opened a repair shop in Hopewell. It is located at 2514 Elgin Road (first right after passing under the railway). He offers the usual services: oil changes, tire installation. balance and repair, undercoating and expects to be able to carry out safety inspections soon. Dan is not merely able to replace parts, rather he carries out repairs, welds and fabricates.
Dan joins us in the East River Valley, all the way from Fox Brook/Westville: he has years of experience working on Asian vehicles but is very comfortable with other types (including Ford Rangers and MF light tractors I found). ERVCDA welcomes Dan and we hope you'll support him.
Dan may be contacted at:
hhmacmechanical@hotmail.com or on Facebook.

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Business: 902-755-7653
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* Interested in fund raising? Contact us.

Surveys

Thank you to everyone who took the time to fill out our survey. These will help us plan events in 2027, and utilize the proper networks to advertise them.

We held a random draw for a Halloween-themed prize, with the winner being Kaitlyn Conway, of Churchville. Coordinator, Kara Allen dropped off the prize to Kaitlyn and her two excited boys in October.

EAST RIVER VALLEY
SUMMER RECREATION

The East River Valley Community Development Association will be taking over the reigns of the East River Valley Summer Recreation in 2027. Our board met with the committee who had lovingly looked after it for many years at the end of September, to discuss everything needed to be done to keep recreation in the East River Valley.
We will now be in charge of registration and hiring of staff, as well as all emails and social media.
We will continue to apply for summer grants, with the assistance of the Plymouth Community Centre, Churchville Community Hall, and East River Valley Recreation Association, as in years past.

We are excited to be able to assist in keeping this vital service in the East River Valley, with the guidance of our friends at the Plymouth Community Centre. They will be now focusing their efforts on the Plymouth Community Daycare, and providing another great full-time service in our community.

If parents who send their children to recreation in the summer are interested in hosting fundraising events to help offset some of their annual costs, the Churchville Community Hall and Riverton Community Hall would be happy to assist in providing a free space to host them. Advertising for these events can be shared free of charge on the Summer Recreation Facebook page, as well as the East River Valley Community Development Association Facebook page, and in this newsletter. You can email the new email address below to coordinate these events.

We have made a new Facebook page for parents to follow and a new email address to reach out to us at. We will be posting registration details here in the newsletter and on the ERVCDA Facebook once they are confirmed in the spring.
Facebook page, search for East River Valley Summer Recreation
Email address: eastrivervalleysummerrec@gmail.com

YOGA
BRIDGEVILLE COMMUNITY CLUB
WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS

GENTLE SENIOR YOGA 9:30AM

HATHA YOGA 6:30PM

CONTACT: livingwellwithbella@gmail.com

Thank you to Dan and Diana Hopkins for sharing the photo of the new sign that is at the head of the East River Valley Shared-Use Trail in Sunny Brae.
This multi-use trail has had some major upgrades since Hurricane Fiona and we want to ensure that everyone is able to safely use the trail.





Cooking Session with Annabelle

We had to postpone our free senior cooking session, but we plan on hosting it in the spring. There is still time to sign up! Once we have a confirmed date, we will be posting in the next newsletter and online.

Email us at spotlight.1@hotmail.com to get your name on the list!



From the East River Valley Community Development Association we wish you the happiest of holiday seasons.







We are always looking for people to join our committee. If you would like to sign up to be a volunteer to help us with our events, contact us at spotlight.1@hotmail.com

We are hosting a Christmas Potluck at the Riverton Hall on December 1st at 6pm. If you would like to join us to see what our association is all about.

Plymouth Learning Center

The Plymouth Learning Center will be opening in early 2027. If you would like to get your chlld on the wait list please email plymouthlearningcenter@gmail.com

Churchville Foragers 2027

If you have an interest in foraging, there is a small group of us wild crafters who meet occasionally for a walk or sharing of skills. Please email tina@danceyourbones.com if you'd like to be on our email list.
We will be planning walks in May-June in the Churchville area.
Submitted by Tina Staplin



Every third Sunday~ Kitchen Party at the Churchville Hall 1-4pm
Every third Tuesday~ Coffee Social at the Churchville Hall 8-10am
November 28~ Bridgeville Community Club Annual Christmas Tea 1-3pm, $7
December 1~ ERVCDA Christmas Potluck at the Riverton Hall 6pm, all are welcome
February 8~ ERVCDA Newsletter Deadline for March-May Newsletter

Follow us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/eastrivervalley to keep up-to-date on all the happenings in between newsletters.