

# **What's Happening Saint John**

**January 26, 2022** 

The City of Saint John is pleased to provide the following summary of some of the great news, updates and important information about what's happening in the City.



### It's time to nominate your Saint John Snow Angels

The City of Saint John is calling for nominations for the annual Saint John Snow Angels campaign. Snow Angels are Saint John residents who go that extra mile to lend a helping hand to others throughout the cold winter months.

Snow Angels go above and beyond to keep spirits high or lend a helping hand to you, the City, friends, family or neighbours. We want to hear your stories about people who shovel their neighbour's driveways, make special efforts to care for seniors or others with drives to medical appointments, consistently clean their street catch basins and fire hydrants, or any other acts of kindness and help.

If you know someone who should be recognized as a 2022 Saint John Snow Angel, please let us know! Nominees will receive a special letter from the City and a Saint John winter hat (while supplies last) as a thank you from their nominator and from the City.

**How to nominate:** Email <u>communications@saintjohn.ca</u> with the full name and mailing address of your Saint John Snow Angel. In your email, include a brief description of your Snow Angel's efforts. Previously nominated Snow Angels are not eligible.

### Lily Lake safe and open for skating

Get those skates sharpened! Lily Lake in Rockwood Park is now open for skating. The ice has reached the required thickness that is considered safe for public skating and ice maintenance.

The recent cold temperatures allowed City crews to work hard to prepare Lily Lake by clearing the snow and flooding the ice surface for great skating conditions. For your safety, please heed any warning signs posted on and around the ice. Certain areas may not always be safe for skating. Springs in the lake prevent strong ice from forming in some areas.



Skaters and other recreational ice users are reminded of the following public health guidelines:

- Masks must always be worn while on the ice surface.
- Skate in a clockwise pattern to maintain distance.
- Skate only within the designated area of the ice surface.

The City will continue to monitor ice conditions and may need to close the lake to skating if conditions change. Any change will be communicated through the City's <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u> pages.

# City of Saint John assists NBEMO with requirements for setting up a temporary shelter for COVID isolation

City staff and members of the Saint John Fire Department worked quickly to implement an emergency overnight shelter on January 14 at the Belyea Arena in response to a request from the NBEMO. The space was set up to support existing shelters in the provision of a warm, safe environment for those who are staying at other shelters and need to a place to isolate as they recover from COVID.

Fire Prevention Officers set out to inspect, educate and facilitate the temporary occupancy of the arena based off the requirements from the Fire Marshal.

Additionally, City staff came together to ensure emergency lighting and directional signage were in place. We thank all those involved for working hard to ensure the arena was safe and ready for use in a timely manner.

# COVID-19 operational changes to municipal services and facilities following shift to level 3 in New Brunswick

On January 14, The City of Saint John implemented a series of measures following the Provincial Government's shift to level 3 of the winter COVID plan. These steps were taken to ensure the health and safety of our workforce and public, and the continued reliable delivery of services to the community. For details click <u>HERE</u>.

## City of Saint John accepting applications for heritage grants for 2021 properties

Heritage property owners are now able to apply for heritage grants. These grants provide financial support to conservation work being undertaken on properties located within one of the City's Heritage Conservation Areas. For application details, click <u>HERE</u>.

### **Fundy Fringe Festival accepting applications for 2022**

Applications are now open for the 2022 Fundy Fringe Festival.

Theatre artists and members of the public are invited to apply to



perform as part of this annual summer festival which will take place from August 21-27. Applications and more information can be found at <a href="https://www.fundyfringefestival.com">www.fundyfringefestival.com</a>.

## Sculpture Saint John returning to the City of Saint John this year

Artists from around the world will travel to Saint John this summer and fall to work with local artists in creating three large granite sculptures. The sculptures will eventually be placed on public property in the Saint John area. This is the fifth and final installment of the annual arts and culture event, which will take place on Long Wharf.



The public is encouraged to explore the current Sculpture Trail as a safe and socially distanced winter activity. The link to the sculpture trail can be found <u>HERE</u>.



## **Growth At A Glance**

2021 finished very strong for development in Saint John. The One stop Development Shop reported 699 permit applications at a value of \$116.8 million and set a record for the creation of new residential units with 422. You can see all the highlights by viewing the year-end Growth-at-a-Glance, HERE.

2022 is off to a good start for development as well. So far the One Stop Development Shop has received 9 building related permit applications with a value of \$353,200.



Final building permit approvals are being completed for the Saint John Theatre Company's addition to the historic former County Courthouse located at 22 Sydney Street. This project is the first Tier 3 project being undertaken through the City's current Heritage Conservation Areas By-law.

FBM, a Saint John-based architecture, interior design, and planning services firm, in collaboration with Quay North Urban Development, have been selected as consultants to help lead the City Market Strategic Plan Steering Committee. Mayor Donna Reardon has been named Chair of the steering committee. Learn more about FBM, <u>HERE</u>.

Regular updates on the progress of the steering committee will be provided at the City's Growth Committee monthly meetings. The public can find out when meetings take place by visiting the City of Saint John's event calendar HERE.



## **Events & Activities**

#### **Events Calendar!**

Looking for things to do? The Saint John Region has you covered with events in arts, culture, heritage, community, comedy, culinary, sports, music & performing arts. Visit <u>Discover Saint John</u> and check back often!



## **Stories To Share**

Ottawa has announced over \$35-million over three years to expand settlement services for newcomers to Canada. Further details HERE.

Overall cargo tonnage at Port Saint John continues to increase year-over-year. 2021 saw 28,822,218 metric tons, which represents an 11% increase over 2020. Read more HERE.

#### Stories To Share Continued...

Major waterfront development is one step closer as the first building in the Fundy Quay project passes a wind and shadow study. Construction of the building is expected to begin in the summer of 2022. For details, click <u>HERE</u>.

The Saint John Real Estate Board reported record numbers in 2021. On an annual basis, home sales totaled a record 3,142 units over the course of 2021. This was a gain of 21.2% from the same period in 2020. The benchmark price for single-family homes was \$253,400, a gain of 27.3% on a year-over-year basis in December. Read the report HERE.

East side residential development moves from PAC to Council. If approved, the project will bring seven buildings and 82 units to the area. More HERE.



## **Don't Forget!**



### **Shape Your City Saint John**

The City wants to hear from you on key projects and plans. Visit the new public engagement platform, <a href="mailto:shapeyourcitysaintjohn.ca">shapeyourcitysaintjohn.ca</a> and let your voice be heard!

# Saint John Transit continues to offer free bus fare for residents traveling to and from vaccination clinics

You can view the latest updates on clinics and bus schedules, here.

### Winter storm parking bans

To find out whether an overnight parking ban has been declared for your area, follow us on <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a> and <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>, visit <a href="www.saintjohn.ca">www.saintjohn.ca</a> or call the City's automated line at 658-4040.

**Applications are available for funding through the Ethnocultural Support Program** For details, visit <u>HERE</u>.



For inquiries related to municipal services, contact the City of Saint John Customer Service Centre at (506) 658-4455, email <a href="mailto:service@saintjohn.ca">service@saintjohn.ca</a> or visit us in person on the Ground Floor of City Hall, 15 Market Square, Monday to Friday (excluding holidays), 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.







