



SAINT JOHN

# What's Happening Saint John

February 23, 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.



## News & Updates

### City of Saint John experiences significant population growth over the last five years

Statistics Canada released the population data from the 2021 Census, and with it came exciting and positive news for the Saint John region. As of July 2021, the City of Saint John saw a 3.4 per cent increase in population, bringing the City's total population to 69,895. This means that an additional 2,320 residents are now calling Saint John home.

Overall, the Saint John region saw a 3.5 per cent increase in population as 4,411 people moved to the area increasing the regional population to 130,613. The City of Saint John accounted for more than 50 per cent of this new regional growth.



"We are so thankful that so many people are choosing to call Saint John home," says Mayor Donna Reardon, "We have a quality of life that is second to none. We've made huge strides to grow our population over the last five years and the results of the 2021 census validate the hard work that our community and partners have undertaken to grow and become the most welcoming community in Atlantic Canada."

The City released its Population Growth Framework in early 2018, Saint John's first strategy to grow its population. Since then, the City has put an increased focus on growth, and is working shoulder-to-shoulder with all levels of government, immigrant serving agencies, school boards and post-secondary institutions, businesses, developers, economic development partners, community agencies, and dozens of ethnocultural groups to attract and retain more people in Saint John. It is clear this collective effort is working.

The City also released its Central Neighbourhood Peninsula Plan in January 2020, which calls for a minimum increase of 2,400 people living Uptown by 2049. The City is now racing toward that target, as the Uptown grew by almost 9 per cent (669 people) since the last census in 2016 and now has a population of 8,221.

Residents of Saint John already know how unique our region is, and word is getting out. With our beautiful, vibrant streets, distinctive Uptown business areas, abundance of parks, trails and green spaces to explore, and neighbourhoods that span from the historic to the recently built, Saint John is a very special place. Ocean views, friendly, warm people and endless development opportunities make Saint John an ideal and welcoming place to live, work and play.

## COVID-19 operational changes to municipal services and facilities following shift to level 1

The City of Saint John has adjusted operational measures following the Provincial Government's shift to level 1 of the winter COVID plan on February 18. These steps are being taken to ensure the health and safety of our workforce and public, and the continued reliable delivery of services to the community. To view the updated operational changes, click [HERE](#).

## Pothole repairs continue throughout the City

With the continuous freeze-thaw cycle Saint John and the rest of the region has experienced this winter, the pothole season came early and aggressively. The weather at this time of year can make repairs difficult, however, Public Works crews are working to repair potholes when the weather permits. Last week, crews were able to fill 161 potholes!



When the City is made aware of potholes, a repair response begins, and crews work to patch and maintain damaged areas of the road. In addition to the valued input we get from residents, the City routinely monitors road conditions to ensure that hazards are attended to and repaired as quickly as reasonably possible. Every spring, the City performs its annual pothole repair blitz as warmer weather arrives and the hot asphalt plant opens.

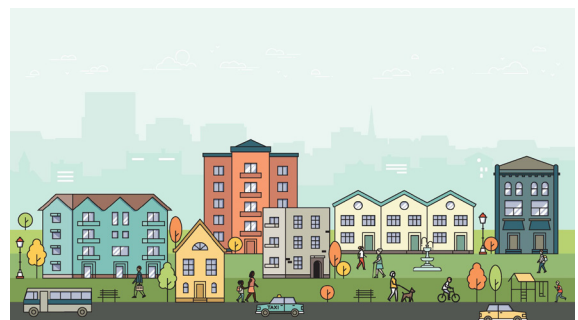
Residents are reminded and encouraged to report potholes using the online reporting form on the City website [HERE](#). Potholes can also be reported by emailing [service@saintjohn.ca](mailto:service@saintjohn.ca) or calling the Customer Service Centre at 658-4455.

## Watch your mailbox – Saint John Snow Angels can expect a special note of thanks

The annual Snow Angel campaign wrapped up on Friday, February 18. This year, the City received 20 nominations for a variety of good deeds including shoveling, helping clear and move cars, spreading salt and sand in icy areas, and even helping neighbours move. All nominees will receive a City of Saint John Snow Angel toque and a signed letter from Mayor Reardon.

## Affordable Housing Action Plan launches on Shape Your City Saint John

The Saint John Affordable Housing Action Plan is now live on [www.ShapeYourCitySaintJohn.ca](http://www.ShapeYourCitySaintJohn.ca). Showcased on the City's new public engagement platform, residents can stay informed of plans, timelines and key project milestones. In future, the project page will also be used to gather feedback through surveys and other input opportunities.



## First cruise ship to arrive ahead of schedule

According to the Cruise Saint John Business and Community Liaison Committee, the first cruise ship of the 2022 season is scheduled for May 4, a week earlier than originally planned. Summer is just around the corner, and we look forward to welcoming visitors back to Canada's original City! The full 2022 cruise schedule can be viewed [HERE](#).



## Growth At A Glance

So far in February, the One Stop Development Shop has received 17 building-related permit applications with a value of \$1.3 million. Year-to-date we have received 45 permit applications with a value of \$2.5 million.

There has been one high-value building permit application so far in February:

- 47 Canterbury Street (\$540,000) - renovations of commercial space and creation of six apartments

Staff from Growth and Community Services and Deputy Mayor John MacKenzie represented the City at the New Brunswick Community College Government Strategic Engagement session on February 16. This session, which was part of NBCC's five-year strategic planning process, allowed government partners to provide input and feedback into the strategic plan.



## 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 [Discover Saint John](#) and check back often!



## Stories To Share

Post Media to buy Brunswick News chain from J.D. Irving in cash and stock deal. Click [HERE](#).

The Saint John Real Estate Board reports that 150 homes were sold through the MLS system in Saint John during January 2022. Although a 12.8 per cent decrease from the record setting pace set in 2021, it is 39.3 per cent above the 10-year average for the month. Click [HERE](#).

Renovations to City Hall continue with pedway work scheduled to begin later in February and continuing through the summer months. Click [HERE](#).

Vision for public portion of waterfront development has been revealed. Read more [HERE](#).

Citing ongoing challenges related to the pandemic, the Canadian Hockey League has pushed back the start date of the 2022 Memorial Cup. The tournament, which was originally scheduled to kick off on June 3, will now begin on June 20. Click [HERE](#).

Swoop Airlines expanding its flights in Atlantic Canada, including Saint John. Learn more [HERE](#).



## Don't Forget!

### Pothole reporting available online

Residents are reminded and encouraged to report potholes using the online reporting form on the City website [HERE](#), by emailing [service@saintjohn.ca](mailto:service@saintjohn.ca) or calling the Customer Service Centre at 506-658-4455.

### Shape Your City Saint John

The City wants to hear from you on key projects and plans. Visit the new public engagement platform, [shapeyourcitysaintjohn.ca](http://shapeyourcitysaintjohn.ca) 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](#).

## HERE TO HELP!

For inquiries related to municipal services, contact the City of Saint John Customer Service Centre at (506) 658-4455, email [service@saintjohn.ca](mailto:service@saintjohn.ca) 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.

