

What's Happening Saint John

March 8, 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.



City of Saint John's 10-year strategic plan is now open for public engagement

With the development of the City's 10-year strategic plan well underway, the public is being asked to provide their input and feedback through the City's public engagement platform, Shape Your City Saint John. The plan will identify a renewed vision for the City, and a new set of long-term goals that will move our community forward in achieving this vision. The strategic plan will also serve as a management tool to improve the City's performance, and align with existing plans, including the Long-term Financial Plan, PlanSJ, and MoveSJ.

Residents are encouraged to visit the online project site to learn more and provide feedback by filling out a quick poll, submitting project ideas or emailing input to the project team. The site will be updated regularly with information, key dates, links, documents and FAQs as the plan continues to be developed.

Shape Your City Saint John is an additional tool the City has developed to establish meaningful public engagement with the community on projects such as the 10-year strategic plan and a variety of other City projects, policies, plans and events.

Visit www.shapeyourcitysaintjohn.ca to learn more.

Area Cabinet Ministers and regional Mayors met in Saint John

Mayor Donna Reardon was joined by Saint John area Cabinet Ministers on Monday for a presentation on the Fundy Quay development project and a visit to the site. Following this, Minister Allain hosted the Ministers, members of the Ad Hoc Committee and select City Staff for a discussion on municipal reform and related priorities for Saint John. Minister Allain's afternoon consisted of a driving tour of Saint John, a second meeting with members of the Ad Hoc Committee, and a discussion with the regional Mayors.



City issues RFP for the lease of off-season ice

The City is now accepting proposals for the licensing of off-season ice. Each year, ice at city-operated arenas is made available to be licensed by a third party from April 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022. The RFP has been issued on the City's website and interested parties have until March 10, 2022, to submit their responses. Click HERE to read more.

City updates media on early pothole repair and maintenance efforts

On March 4, Commissioner of Public Works and Transportation, Mike Hugenholtz, participated in an interview with local media to provide an update and answer questions about the City's response to pothole repairs and maintenance this winter. With the difficult weather conditions the region has experienced, the pothole season started earlier than usual this year.

So far in 2022:

- City crews have filled 746 potholes in just 11 available working days between winter storms
- The City has received 272 workorders and an additional 474 potholes were patched without workorders
- Crews have laid 32 tons of cold-mix asphalt and six tons of hot-mix asphalt

The interview took place on location at the One Mile House interchange on Rothesay Avenue where City crews were hard at work repairing potholes. View the coverage <u>HERE</u>.

City shows support for Ukraine

As the Russian invasion into Ukraine continues to unfold, the City of Saint John stands in solidarity with the people of Ukraine and our Ukrainian-Canadian communities.

"On behalf of Common Council and other cities in New Brunswick, we wish to extend comfort and support. We share your sorrow and stand in solidarity with you and your loved ones in Ukraine," said Mayor Donna Reardon.

We have raised the flag of Ukraine in front of City Hall and the exterior of the City Market is lit in blue and yellow every night to show support for a sovereign and democratic nation under these horrific attacks.



2021 Heritage Awards acknowledge heritage conservation in Saint John

The 2021 Heritage Awards were presented at the February 22 Council meeting to property owners and tradespeople who have made significant contributions to the conservation of our City's heritage buildings over the past year. Presented virtually by the Heritage Development Board, this year's award winners represent projects that include new signs, colour selections for newly painted store fronts and catalytic change for a prominent vacant building.

"We are blessed as a City to be home to numerous heritage properties that showcase the breadth of architecture and craftsmanship that were the hallmark of previous generations," says Mayor Donna Reardon. "Those who are honoured with a Heritage Award are stewards of history. They have taken on the role of not only preserving our built heritage but in bringing back vibrancy to our streetscapes."

The City of Saint John extends its appreciation and congratulations to all Heritage Award recipients for their important contribution towards growth and the preservation of some of the many historic properties throughout Saint John.

View the Heritage Awards 2021 presentation HERE.

Rockwood Glows event lights up the skies over the Park

After being postponed due to weather, Rockwood Glows was held on Saturday, February 26 at Rockwood Park. As part of Fundy Winterfest celebrations, the event was a big success and included nighttime hiking and skating on Lily Lake, along with music and a fireworks display. Fundy Winterfest continues until March 13. For a full list of activities, visit the event Facebook page HERE.



Proof of vaccination no longer required at City operated facilities

In accordance with changes to the Provincial Government's COVID winter plan, proof of vaccination and Government-issued identification are no longer required to enter City owned and operated facilities. Masks remain mandatory at all locations. To find out about the City's latest COVID operational updates, click HERE.

Call for applications for various City of Saint John Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Committees

The City of Saint John is seeking applicants for consideration for appointment to the following: City of Saint John Shared Risk Pension Plan, Lord Beaverbrook Rink, Planning Advisory Committee, Saint John Community Arts Board, Saint John Energy, Saint John Substandard Properties Appeal Committee, and Trade and Convention Oversight Committee.

The City encourages nominations for volunteers representing a wide cross-section of the Saint John community. Anyone interested in serving on the above mentioned agencies, boards and commissions is asked to submit an application in confidence on-line at the City's website <u>HERE</u>.

The deadline for applications is March 22, 2022. For more information, please call the City Clerk's Office at (506) 658-2862 or e-mail cityclerk@saintjohn.ca.



Year to date, the One Stop Development Shop has received **56** permit applications with a value of **\$3.3** million.

The City Market strategic planning process is making progress. Consultants from FBM and Quay North Consulting were in Saint John on February 23 and 24 to meet with staff from Growth and Community Services, market vendors, and other stakeholders to learn more about the facility, programs, and operations.



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

Federal government to spend \$1.8 million on safety equipment at the Saint John airport. Click HERE.

Flair Airlines to expand presence in Saint John. Read HERE.

Provincial COVID-19 restrictions to be lifter March 14. Visit the Government of New Brunswick website for more information, HERE.

Mixed income apartment complex in the City's core is on track to be completed by early 2023. Click HERE.

Old Park Plaza Motel in Saint John turned into living space for people with low incomes. Read HERE.

Deloitte to add an additional 200 positions in the province over the next five years, some based out of the Saint John office. Read <u>HERE</u>.

Local business owner and recent newcomer from Ukraine raises funds for Canadian Red Cross Ukraine Relief Fund. More HERE.



Don't Forget!

Shape Your City Saint John

The City wants to hear from you on the 10-year Strategic Plan. Visit the new public engagement platform, shapeyourcitysaintjohn.ca and let your voice be heard!



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 or calling the Customer Service Centre at 506-658-4455.

Community Arts Grants Available

Community Arts Grant applications are being accepted until March 18. Click HERE.



For inquiries related to municipal services, contact the City of Saint John Customer Service Centre at (506) 658-4455, email 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.







