



SAINT JOHN

What's Happening Saint John

June 29, 2023

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

Saint John Night Market returning

The popular Saint John Night Market is back this summer with an exciting and diverse mix of food and craft vendors, weekly entertainment, and a new dedicated lounge area, giving visitors a unique way to enjoy the City Market.

The Night Market kicks off Thursday, July 6, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and will be open every Thursday evening throughout the summer, ending on August 31, 2023.

Since it began in 2019, the popular open-air market offers people a chance to gather with family and friends while enjoying good food, local shopping and entertainment.

Vendors will be located on South Market Street and the stage and seating areas will be in the Market Plaza. Primary access to the Night Market is from Germain Street.

For more information and weekly updates, visit the [Night Market Facebook page](#).



Canada Day fireworks set to light up the harbour

The City has partnered once again with AREA 506 to host the second annual Canada Day Waterfront Festival, offering residents and visitors an exciting lineup of free, family-friendly activities on July 1.

The Waterfront Festival will take place from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Container Village on Water Street. Activities include face painting, circus school, buskers, arts and crafts, prizes and much more.

To top off the celebrations, the night sky over the harbour will be lit up with an exciting fireworks display. Fireworks will begin at 10:15 p.m. and will be set off from Long Wharf.



For more details on the City's Canada Day festivities, which are funded in part by the Government of Canada, follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Passport to Parks event series has returned to the city

Saint John is your destination for summer fun this season with the return of the popular Passport to Parks program, and the whole community is invited to join in on all the free, family-friendly activities.



The first Passport to Parks event was hosted on June 10 at Shamrock Park and four more are scheduled this summer in City-owned parks around Saint John. These include:

- July 8 at Little River Reservoir from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- August 12 at Rainbow Park from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- August 19 at Dominion Park from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- September 2 at Rockwood Park from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Events are free of charge and depending on the location will feature music, entertainment, water-based activities and more.

The Passport to Parks event series supports Council's priority of Belong, PlaySJ and the City's strategic plan for recreation. PlaySJ aims to advance and enrich the health, well-being, and quality of life for Saint John residents of all ages through inclusive programs, recreation opportunities, and leisure activities.

For event details and information visit the Passport to Parks [website](#) or [Facebook event page](#).

The Government of Canada and the City of Saint John invest in active transportation infrastructure

On behalf of the Government of Canada

On June 26, Wayne Long, Member of Parliament for Saint John–Rothesay, and John MacKenzie, Deputy Mayor of Saint John, announced a joint investment of more than \$562,000 to enhance Saint John's active transportation infrastructure.

This funding will enable the construction of 340 metres of new connector sidewalk along Boars Head Road, providing a dedicated path for active transportation. This new section of sidewalk will connect two existing pieces of sidewalk on Boars Head Road and connect to an existing bus stop. The sidewalk will be 1.5 metres wide, offering more access for various modes of active transportation including pedestrians and people using wheelchairs. The sidewalk design includes provisions for proper drainage of surface rainwater caused by heavy rain falls, including the installation of three new manholes and six catch basins along with approximately 150 metres of new piping.



This investment will support active transportation options, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and reinforce the City of Saint John's transportation plan, MoveSJ, that will guide transportation infrastructure investments within the City for the next 25 years.

Another [federal investment of more than \\$150,000](#) was announced on May 23 also in support of the City's active transportation infrastructure.

Read the full news release [HERE](#).

City honours National Indigenous Peoples Day

The City provided education activities in honour of National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21, hosting several events in the city including a sacred fire ceremony, a special drum gathering, and a dual flag raising event.



A traditional sacred fire was lit at Tucker Park Beach and facilitated by Firekeeper and Wolastoqey Elder Chris Brooks. The sunrise ceremony began at 5:30 a.m. and was open to the public to attend. Elder Brooks provided insights and led people through the traditional ceremony that has been used for generations to come together and heal while offering remembrance, connection and strength.

A drum gathering occurred in King's Square followed by a drum procession to City Hall and a double flag raising ceremony where both the Wolastoqey and the Mi'kmaq Grand Council flags were raised.

City of Saint John 2022 Civic Recognition Awards recipients recognized

The City held its annual Civic Recognition Awards on June 19, recognizing outstanding contributions and achievements by residents and organizations that made a significant impact on our city in 2022.

Mayor Donna Reardon presented commemorative certificates to three organizations and five individuals to thank them for their outstanding work in the community.

2022 Citizen of the Year award recipients

- 100 Women Who Care of Great Saint John
- Sistema NB Saint John Centre
- The Human Development Council

2022 Council Commendation award recipients

- Mary LeSage
- Herb Doughty
- Dr. Mike Simon
- Gary Brown Sr
- Rev. Jasmine Chandra

Read the full story [HERE](#).



Saint John Fire Department launches Community Connect program

Saint John residents and businesses are now able to create a secure emergency profile containing critical information that will assist first responders and increase their ability to continue saving lives and property in the face of an emergency.

Earlier this month, the Saint John Fire Department launched Community Connect, a free and secure encrypted online platform where people can voluntarily set up an emergency profile that includes important information to assist responders. The emergency profiles are provided to first responders only in the event of an emergency at the identified location.



The easy-to-use platform allows residents and business owners to share valuable information such as the number of occupants, accessibility requirements, whether pets are in the household, building structural details and more.

For full details, information and to create your emergency profile, visit [Community Connect Saint John](#).

Saint John Transit announces service enhancements

The Saint John Transit Commission is pleased to announce Phase 3 enhancements as part of the Transforming Transit project.

New routes and schedules, the introduction of FLEX Millidgeville, and new features and enhtechnologies are only a few of the Phase 3 enhancements that will come into effect on July 3, 2023.



These additions paired with improved industry standards, are making transit services more financially and environmentally sustainable and will provide Saint John residents with even better and more accessible transportation options.

For full details, visit the [Transforming Transit webpage](#).

Charlotte Street pedestrian route now open

The important pedestrian route on the west side of Charlotte Street between the City Market and King Street is once again open and accessible to the public.

Using the City's Complete Streets vision, one lane of vehicle traffic on Charlotte Street between King Square North and King Street will be temporarily converted to a protected pedestrian two-way accessible route, while the adjacent sidewalk remains unavailable. New street signage and traffic markings will be in place; motorists may experience longer travel time in the area during peak traffic hours due to the new configuration.

Read more [HERE](#).

People Waiting sculptures have a new home

The wait to find a new home finally came to an end for one of Saint John's most iconic pieces of public art on June 5.



The newly restored People Waiting sculpture by artist John Hooper was installed in the uptown pedway near the City Hall elevators, a location that is both accessible to the public and provides protection from the elements.

The whimsical sculpture was previously located outside at the foot of King Street, however, during routine maintenance in 2018 it was discovered the wooden pieces had sustained extreme weather damage and were placed into storage until restoration could take place.

Read the full release, including comments from the Hooper family, [HERE](#).

Shamrock Day festivities celebrated new recreational activities at Shamrock Park

Several new and enhanced recreation initiatives were unveiled at Shamrock Park on June 10 including a special ribbon cutting ceremony to open Saint John's first disc golf course.



The new score clock at the Emera turf field was officially activated and event goers enjoyed a free BBQ, music, entertainment, and activities as part of the first Passport to Parks event of the summer.

An accessible tennis event took place in the afternoon where five sport wheelchairs from Para NB were available for use with free coaching and equipment provided by Saint John and District Tennis.

Camp Courage coming to Saint John this summer

A new partnership between Saint John Fire, Saint John Police and Ambulance NB is bringing an interactive camp to the city, offering young females and gender-diverse teens an opportunity to explore a career in First Response.

The inaugural New Brunswick Camp Courage will take place over four days from August 28 to 31 in Saint John. This is the first time Camp Courage will be hosted in the province since being established in 2006, having only been offered in Halifax and Calgary until now. It was created to introduce emergency service careers – such as Paramedic, Police Officer, and Firefighter – to young women and gender-diverse youth aged 15-19.

The camp aims to provide information, inspiration, education, and empowerment, leaving youth with the confidence to achieve any goal, career, or dream they desire.

Read the full release [HERE](#).



Next steps in City Market Strategic Plan announced

The first draft of the roadmap that will help guide the future of one of Saint John's most historic and recognizable landmarks, the Saint John City Market, was presented to Growth Committee on June 6 by the City Market Steering Committee.

The development of this plan began in January 2022 and has included a series of community, vendor, stakeholder, and public engagement opportunities. Feedback was gathered from each engagement session and has been used to form a detailed roadmap for the City Market.



Those interested in learning about the City Market Strategic Plan, including viewing the draft plan, are encouraged to visit the City's public engagement website, [Shape Your City Saint John](https://www.shapeyourcitysaintjohn.ca).

Planning a renovation project? Check out the City's Building and Development Permits 101

The City of Saint John is here to help answer questions and navigate the permit process involved when taking on a renovation project.

For residential properties, a building or development permit is required for projects including:

- Decks that are more than two feet off the ground
- A garage, shed, or gazebo that is larger than 10 square metres
- A pool that is deeper than one metre
- Adding new siding to your property
- Adding a new room, windows, or new doors
- Finishing a basement



If the property is in one of the City's Heritage Conservation Areas, a heritage permit must be obtained before beginning any project on the exterior of the building.

More information and details on permit applications can be found [HERE](#).

City celebrated Clean Air Day with free transit

On June 7, the City offered free transit in recognition of Clean Air Day.

Clean Air Day encourages Canadians to take action to protect the air they breathe. Saint John is one of 50 cities across Canada that participated in the day.

NB Lung, the City and Saint John Energy hosted an event in King's Square, inviting residents to learn how Canada's oldest incorporated city is going green, and how the public can help improve air quality and protect public health. One of the City's electric buses was onsite for the event and provided an opportunity for community members to get an up-close look at the future of Saint John Transit.



Public invited to participate in Community Energy Action Plan survey

The City of Saint John invites residents to complete a new survey that will help shape our climate action plan and guide the municipality towards the goal of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

The survey can be completed on the City's public engagement platform, Shape Your City Saint John from June 27 - July 11. Paper copies of the survey are available at the Customer Service Centre at City Hall, and the main reception desk at the Canada Games Aquatic Centre.



To learn more about the project, visit the Community Energy Action Plan page on Shape Your City Saint John by visiting www.shapeyourcitysaintjohn.ca.



As of May 31, 2023, the One Stop Development Shop received 258 permit applications with a value of \$56.4 million.

This is how current growth numbers compare year-over-year:





Stories To Share

- Funding for new connector sidewalk on Boars Head Road. Read [HERE](#).
- City of Saint John honours National Indigenous Peoples Day with flag raising. More [HERE](#).
- New massive cranes at Port of Saint John unload first set of containers. Click [HERE](#).
- Saint John hands out Civic Recognition Awards. Details [HERE](#).
- First disc golf course, accessible tennis court open in Saint John. More [HERE](#).
- Loyalist House set to re-open for season. Listen [HERE](#).
- Saint John's first wind project marks grand opening. More [HERE](#).
- Hooper's iconic People Waiting sculptures return to Saint John. More [HERE](#).
- Local YMCA unveils five-year strategic plan. Click [HERE](#).
- New advocacy projects aim to cut down vacant buildings in Saint John, N.B. Read [HERE](#).
- Saint John waterfront revitalization on schedule for end-of-year completion. More [HERE](#).
- Child and youth advocacy centre opens in Saint John. Click [HERE](#).
- New concept proposed for site of landmark Barbour's General Store in Saint John. Click [HERE](#).
- Three N.B. cities considered as potential hosts for 2029 Canada Games. Details [HERE](#).



Don't Forget!

Harbour Bridge construction

Saint John Harbour Bridge has been reduced to one lane of traffic in both directions until November 30, 2023. Visit the Government of New Brunswick website for more information [HERE](#).

Sign up for news and notifications from the City

Don't forget to subscribe to receive City news and information notifications including parking, news releases, emergency alerts and more. Sign up [HERE](#).

Traffic advisory updates

Traffic advisories for road closures due to construction, maintenance or events are updated regularly and can be found on the community dashboard on the City's website [HERE](#).

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 and performing arts. Bookmark [Events | Discover Saint John](#) and check back often!



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 Thursday (excluding holidays), 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

