



SAINT JOHN

What's Happening Saint John

March 13, 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

City accepting nominations for Citizen of the Year award

The City of Saint John is now accepting nominees for the 2022 Citizen of the Year.

The Citizen of the Year award is presented to a resident individual, group, organization or business in the City that has made a significant impact and whose exemplary actions, volunteer efforts, achievements or contributions have made Saint John a better place to live.

There will be at least one, and up to three, recipients awarded annually and recipients can be nominated by a Council Member or two members of the public. All nominations are reviewed and recommended by Committee of the Whole and approved by resolution of Common Council.



Recipients will be recognized at an awards ceremony on May 22, 2023.

Nominations will close on March 31, 2023.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Community Energy Action Plan workshop provided a public update for residents

As part of the public engagement strategy for the City's Community Energy Action Plan, a public workshop was hosted on Thursday, March 2 to provide information about the plan, and the City's goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

The snowy conditions didn't keep everyone away. Those who attended provided productive and insightful input into the strategy during a presentation by consultant group, SSG.

To watch a recording of the presentation and to provide additional feedback, click [HERE](#).



City of Saint John recognizes International Women's Day

The City of Saint John proudly celebrated International Women's Day (IWD) on March 8 with a special flag raising at City Hall, hosted by Councillor Joanna Killen and Mayor Donna Reardon.

Councillor Killen raised the International Women's Day flag. The public, members of Council, and City staff heard from Mayor Reardon and Councillor Killen about what this day means to them, the community, and women around the world.

The IWD movement began in 1911 and continues to celebrate women's achievements and inspire and work towards a gender equal world, free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. This year's theme was #EmbraceEquity and staff put pen to paper, writing notes of encouragement and inspiration in support of equality. The notes were posted as part of a special display at the top of City Market. The public are welcome to visit the Market and read the comments from employees.



The City of Saint John has, and will continue to, embrace equity on this day and every day.

City seeking Expressions of Interest for former Cherry Brook Zoo property

The City of Saint John is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) to establish a new vision/business opportunity for potentially 30 acres of land at the former Cherry Brook Zoo site located at 901 Foster Thurston Drive on the periphery of City-owned Rockwood Park.

This area consists of natural forested lands in Millidgeville, near the Saint John Regional Hospital, University of New Brunswick Saint John campus and the Rockwood Park Golf Course. The footprint for the former zoo is currently fenced and has several shelter structures and two, year-round buildings. Pursuant to the City's Zoning By-law, the property is located in the Park (P) zone, which permits a variety of uses that are considered appropriate for this area.

Expressions of Interest must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15, 2023.

For more information, click [HERE](#).

2022 Heritage Awards acknowledge significant contribution to heritage conservation in Saint John

The 2022 Heritage Awards were announced on February 21, recognizing property owners and tradespeople who have made significant contributions to the conservation of our City's heritage buildings over the past year. Presented by the Heritage Development Board, this year's award winners represent projects that include rehabilitated façades such as brick recovery, restored colour selections and more.

"The Heritage Awards honour those who have taken on the role of protecting, preserving and restoring historic architecture and craftsmanship to the homes and buildings that make up our city," says Mayor Donna Reardon.

“Saint John is home to so many beautiful heritage buildings and the passion and dedication these award winners have for keeping history alive, and continuing to bring vibrancy back to our neighbourhoods is inspiring.”

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.



Click [HERE](#) to view the 2022 Heritage Awards presentation.

Funding recipients of Affordable Housing Grant Program announced

Following several weeks of review and consultation, the City of Saint John was pleased to announce the recipients of the City's Affordable Housing Grant Program. The program, aimed at increasing the number of affordable units in the community by incentivizing non-profit and private sector housing developers, is part of the City's Affordable Housing Action Plan, and designed to make use of a one-time \$800,000 Federal government and Regional Development Corporation funding allocation to the municipality.

“The launch of the Affordable Housing Grant Program gave the City an opportunity to focus even more effectively on finding solutions for affordable housing needs in our community,” says Saint John Mayor Donna Reardon. “We are fortunate to have a non-profit housing sector that understands the importance and urgency of addressing affordable housing and who are dedicated to making positive impacts that will help Saint John navigate the path to developing essential housing for those in need.”

Recipients of the funding were chosen based on scoring by the Evaluation Committee. Two of the four projects are also being submitted for federal funding through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's Rapid Housing Initiative, round three. The allocation of funds will commit \$200,000 to each of the four projects, ensuring the maximum total of \$800,000 available is being accessed.

To see the list of recipients, click [HERE](#).

City of Saint John update on Rapid Housing Initiative funding application partnerships

Since Council's adoption of the City's Affordable Housing Action Plan in October 2022, staff have focused their efforts on taking action and moving towards achieving the plan's outcomes. At the March 6 meeting of Council, City staff provided an update related to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's (CMHC) Rapid Housing Initiative funding program and what steps the City has taken to access this funding.

The program's Project Stream, launched by CMHC in November 2022, is highly competitive. By partnering with a level of local government, non-profit housing organizations in Saint John face a much greater chance of success in obtaining federal funding. Therefore, City staff have been working in collaboration with this sector to develop the most effective mix of applications that will have the strongest opportunity to receive funding from the program.

The City is pleased to announce that it will be applying for CMHC Rapid Housing Initiative's round three funding on behalf of the following organizations:

- Kaleidoscope Social Impact** – 39 affordable housing units, located at 58 Broad Street/Broadview Avenue
- Unified Saint John Housing Co-op** – 12 units of supportive housing located at 53-57 Victoria Street
- Rehabitat** – 60 affordable housing units located on the West Side
- John Howard Society** – 12 units of supportive housing located at 12 Troop Street

Combined, the projects being developed by these four organizations represent 123 potential new affordable housing units. The Affordable Housing Action Plan has set a target that 30 per cent of all new construction will contain affordable housing units over the next five years.

For more information, click [HERE](#).



Growth At A Glance

In February, the One Stop Development Shop received **39** building and development-related permit applications with a value of **\$4.2 million**.

Year-to-date, the One Stop Development Shop has received **73** permit applications with a value of **\$14.6 million**.

As of February 28, 2023, this is how current growth numbers compare year-over-year:





Stories To Share

\$15M announced for more work on Saint John Harbour Bridge. Click [HERE](#).

Burlington Flats development set to break ground. More [HERE](#).

Imperial Theatre getting \$3 million upgrade. More [HERE](#).

A day in the life of a City plow operator. Listen [HERE](#).

Saint John Police officially launch new online crime reporting website. Click [HERE](#).

New \$800,000 fund to support quality of life. Read [HERE](#).

Saint John, N.B. looking for ways to open childcare spaces to 'hundreds'. More [HERE](#).

Saint John to host new country music festival. Read [HERE](#).

Developer wants to turn hotel into affordable housing. Read [HERE](#).

City to create a homeless strategy. Click [HERE](#).

54-unit development approved for west Saint John. Read [HERE](#).

Saint John rolls out snow plow fleet with new names. Click [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 [Discover Saint John](#) and check back often!



Don't Forget!

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](#).

**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 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.

