

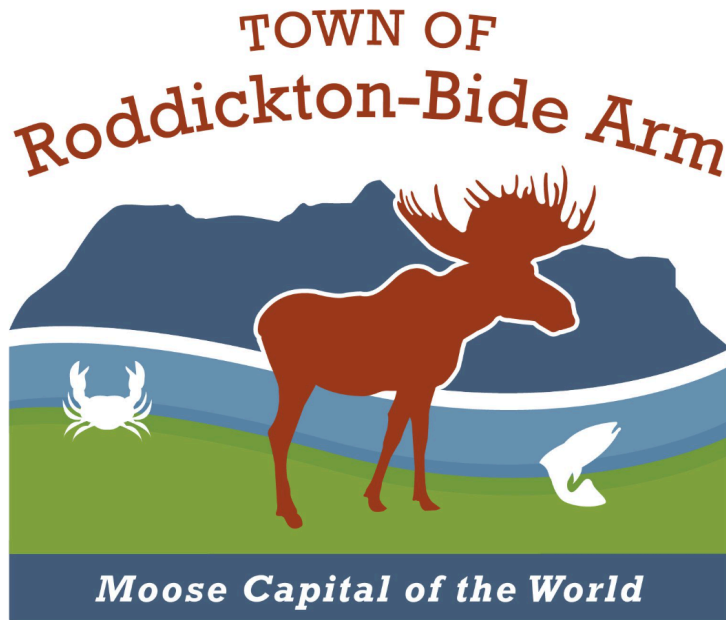
The Moose is On The Loose with News

Quarterly Newsletter

RODDICKTON-
BIDE ARM

December 2025

COUNCIL MEMBERS



Welcome to this Council's inaugural quarterly newsletter, affectionately called "The Moose Is On The Loose." As we near the end of 2025, we wanted to take some time to share highlights of the year, and it was a busy one for your Roddickton-Bide Arm community! Many of the town's accomplishments happened under the former council and some under the newly elected members.

Mayor: Phyllis Fillier Randell

Deputy Mayor: Vacant

Councillors:

Rochelle Canning

Lynn Decker-Ellsworth

Meryl Carroll

Wade Norman

Tena Reardon

Dianne Weir-Rowsell

Council Staff

Chief Administrative Officer:

Darrell Randell

Town Clerk:

Carrie Compton

Part-Time Town Clerk/
Coordinator:

Amy Lee-Wilcox

Super Intendant of Works:

Tyrone Ryland

Maintenance:

Scott Patey

Part-Time:

Bert Coles

Business Hours:

Monday-Friday:

8:30am-12pm (noon)

1pm-4:30pm

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HERE'S WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN THE LAST YEAR!

The year started with a big build up to the Legends of Hockey game played on February 1st . This was an incredible community event put on by the Cloud River Recreation Committee, which saw businesses and individuals pool resources to sponsor the Legends of Hockey team play our newly minted Lumberjacks team. They played to a sold out crowd bringing back memories of bygone days. The Lumberjacks played their hearts out to the rousing support of the home crowd. A fun night was had by all! Kudos to the Recreation Committee for spearheading this event and a big thank you to the sponsors and community members who helped to make this happen!



They say that volunteers are the heart of a community and we are no exception! On May 16th the Council honoured the many volunteers who so willingly give to our community. The theme for Volunteer Week for 2025 was “Volunteers Make Waves”. Our members “highlight the power, impact and importance of individual and collective volunteer efforts in our community. Like a wave, volunteering is movement building.” Thank you for all you do for our community! We are better because of you!

Roddickton-Bide Arm were very fortunate this past summer to receive brand new playground equipment for both the Bide Arm and Roddickton locations! Through the hard work of council and town employees, new playground equipment was installed over several days to the delight of our community children!

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Community Clean-up Day held on June 7th saw a record number of community members out picking up trash around our roadsides and ditches. They started at 8 am and had a full day of work digging through brush and ditches to gather up any discarded trash and debris. After a mid day lunch of pizza at “The Moose” work continued in the afternoon until 4 pm. Thank you to all the volunteers and supporters who made this possible! An incredible turnout of volunteers came out to make our communities sparkle, litter free! Thank you to Fire Smart and Home Hardware for the donations to support this great event!

June 28th could not come fast enough for our town children. That was the official opening of the new splash pad, welcomed by the screams of delight from the children in attendance. This community play area was a wonderful distraction on the hot (and sometimes warm) days this summer! Thank you to all the volunteers and supporters who helped make this possible! The Splash Pad Committee, International Grenfell Association, Scotiabank, CKC Construction and the dedicated town staff for the tireless work put into fundraising for this great attraction! It will provide years of enjoyment for our children!

Roddickton-Bide Arm Day, also known as Lumberjack/Rubber Boot Day was a big hit for adults and children alike at the baseball field on Monday, August 4th. The Fire Department volunteers and the snowmobile club were busy cooking up a storm selling moose burgers, fries and hotdogs to raise money for our volunteer Fire Department. Rubber boots were the main attire along with our loved jack-shirts! Entertainment included fastest nailer as well as fastest log cutter. We have some pretty talented people in our community! In addition to the games of skill, tickets were sold for the Duck Race sponsored by our local Snowmobile Club and Fire Department. After a couple of postponements due to weather the race ensued with Theresa Hancock’s duck taking first place! A big thank you to Theresa for donating \$200 of her winnings back! Clearly she trained that duck to speed down that river!

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Bonfire Night or Guy Faulks Night was held on The Farm for the first time! After a couple postponements due to weather, it was held on Saturday, **November 8th!** It was a truly magical night with the moon in full bloom, reflected across the water making the 15 foot flames seem even bigger! Hot dogs, smores and hot chocolate were on the menu for kids and adults alike! A beautiful night, massive fire and friends and family coming together as a community! What a tradition to hold onto! Special thanks to the members of the fire department who attended to ensure it was a safe and fun event!



Our annual **Remembrance Day Ceremony** was held on **November 11th** at the Green Moose. Despite the wind and rain, the ceremony was well attended by community members wanting to observe this solemn occasion, to honour and remember the courage and sacrifice of the soldiers who served and continue to serve. After the ceremony, attendees were invited to place wreaths at the cenotaph followed by a light lunch at the Cross Country Center. Thank you to all the volunteers and community members who made this possible. **Lest we Forget.**

Ashton House in Bide Arm was part of a pilot project that past summer with a student working there as a guide, sharing the incredible story of the location. This restored historical home was relocated by water from Hooping Harbour in 1969. This treasured location showcases local history and memorabilia from Lily and Ashton Cassell who once lived there. A must see for locals and tourists during the summer months. Council is hoping to receive grant funding to support future employment for student(s) summer 2026. Stay tuned!

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This year for the first time a community garden was established at 90-94 Main Road in Bide Arm. A total of 10 raised beds were constructed for residents to use free of charge to grow vegetables! We have not heard any feedback from the people who used these boxes but we are hoping they had bountiful harvests! Next summer we are looking forward to even more participation from the community!

Trap Cove Lookout and gazebo. This summer the community benefitted from an upgrade to the look-out at Trap Cove. This new addition is well worth the scenic, ocean walk! The winding and slightly hilly terrain ends at the gazebo where just a few short steps takes you up to a wonderful, spacious lookout! With the Sleeping Giant majestically perched across the bay, the result is a peaceful and serene location! Make it a priority to check out this location this summer!



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Roddickton-Bide Arm was designated an ATV-UTV friendly community this past summer. This designation allows drivers and riders access to amenities around town. All provincial regulations under the Motorized Snow Vehicles and All-Terrain Vehicles Act applies to this designation This includes requirements for helmets, a valid drivers licensee (for operation on public roads/highways crossings), registration, and insurance. Stay safe out there while enjoying the freedom of these fun vehicles!

The Armistice Park walking trail around Bide Arm received another two kilometres of resurfacing this past summer! This is an ongoing project that will see new and improved walking paths for the enjoyment of local residents and tourists alike! The beautiful paths provide walkers with an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and appreciate the local landscape around Bide Arm harbour! If you haven't had this experience yet make it a must see for next summer.

The Green Moose got a facelift this summer and fall with a project to replace the boardwalk and curb outside the building. The walkway at the front of The Green Moose was widened and seating added to improve accessibility for people experiencing mobility issues.



Most recently, on December 22nd, Santa touched down early in the Christmas Parade along with many beautiful floats. The Grinch made a special appearance just to keep us on our toes...

HERE'S WHAT'S TO COME!

Save The Matthew Project is a grassroots community effort by a group of committed individuals who are working diligently to salvage the Matthew replica on the lower road in Bide Arm. Currently this boat sits on a temporary cradle supporting the vessel, until it can be permanently relocated to it's final resting location. This project is ongoing with a goal of raising enough funds to ensure this boat is properly cared for and becomes part of a much larger project. Ideally, The Matthew will be the centre piece for a location with benches, tables and an upgraded parking area with the ultimate goal of a tourist designation. Fundraising efforts continue for the worthwhile project so please stay tuned.

The skate park next to the arena is receiving a facelift! The skatepark remains in the same fenced area but a new surface is now being added to enhance the usage of this area. The cement surface will be expanded in the spring to extend the area, and a new Snapgrid surface sports base will be applied to the area. This may well be the only Ball Park of it's kind in Newfoundland and Labrador. It is anticipated that this area will be a big attraction for athletes to compete in upcoming events! We will be the only community on the Great Northern Peninsula with such a unique sporting facility!

Roddickton-Bide Arm is in the process of getting tenders to install a Potable Water Dispensing Unit (PWDU) that will treat a sufficient quantity of water to meet the needs of the residents' consumption. These unit are small and cost-effective options to provide treatment of water through reverse osmosis, or a similar membrane system, depending on the rate quality. The town will own and operate this system to ensure reliability for approximately 400 homes and residences in Roddickton-Bide Arm.

2025 was a busy year for Roddickton-Bide Arm. The information shared in this newsletter was but a small snippet of events and projects supported by your local council. Thank you to all the residents who contributed in any way to make 2025 a great year.

We look forward to the new year!

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and happy holidays!

