

Recreation Coordinator's Report – March 22– April 21, 2016

Greetings from the Recreation office!

It has been a busy month in Recreation! We had a very successful Volunteer Week and now my attention is directed towards planning a great summer season!

Public Awareness

- The volunteer event was a great success! We had 14 nominees, including 2 in the youth category. A big congratulations goes out to Allan Best and Reid Sutherland – two very deserving candidates for the award!
- Allan Collie represented the Town of Westville at the provincial volunteer ceremony in Halifax on April 4. A big thank you goes out to Allan for being such a strong representative for our town!
- The MORE Run will be held this year on May 5. The runners are scheduled to arrive to the Westville rally at 9:50 and depart at 10:05. The theme for the rally this year is “Run, Cheer, Get Involved”, and co-chairs for the event are Henderson Paris and Terry Curley. Counselor Lynn MacDonald has agreed to be the emcee at the rally again this year. Thank you Counselor MacDonald!
- The Town of Westville has been invited to host the Family Ride for Bike Week this year. This ride will take place on Sunday, June 5. More details to follow.
- Mayor MacKay has recently been named a Champion for the Trans Canada Trail. The Town of Westville has shown a great interest in increasing active transportation and our trail development in recent years has contributed to the connectivity of the Trans Canada Trail. The support shown by Mayor MacKay and the Town of Westville is crucial to the completion of the project.
- The Town of Westville Facebook page continues to receive visits and proves to be a great way for us to advertise town events and news. “Likes” have increased to 665 as of April 21st, 2016.



Social Environment

- Westville is currently hosting a girls-only fitness program through Active Pictou County. I am excited to announce that there are 13 girls attending each week and they have been learning self-confidence and skill building through physical activity. They have seen more interest in this program here in Westville than they have in other areas in the county in the past. This is a great opportunity for us to build on similar programming and increase participation in physical activity in young girls.

- Our seniors chair exercise group hit an all-time high this month with close to 60 seniors! It is incredible to see the growth in this program, and to hear how it benefits everyone who attends.

Physical Environment

- I am currently working on a grant that will allow us to purchase permanent Walk Westville signs. The proposal was approved by council last summer, however, the project was not completed. These signs will be a great way to encourage active transportation year round and will give community members a way to see the distance to various points of interest around the town.
- I attended the Westville and Area Garden Club meeting this month to speak to the members about the Communities in Bloom program. We discussed the level of commitment of the program and decided that since it is late in the year that we will wait and join next year as a way of contributing to the Canada 150 celebrations. By waiting another year we will be able to set goals and develop a plan for the town.
- I have entered the Town of Westville in a garden makeover contest. The winner will receive a \$5000 garden makeover. Hopefully luck is on our side!
- A bike repair unit has been ordered for the town with money remaining from a previous grant. We will be the first in the county to have this installment. It is a great feature to encourage active transportation, and will certainly be a draw for anyone using the Blue Route. We are hoping that the unit will be installed in time for the family ride in June. The rack includes a bike stand and repair tools that are securely attached to the unit to prevent theft.



Professional development

- Attended Atlantic Recreation and Facilities Conference in Truro
- Attended Pictou County Recreation Coordinators meeting
- I have been accepted into a Nature Leadership Training program that will allow me to train others to become nature instructors. This will be a great tool for our summer camp leaders to have to improve their outdoor program facilitation.

Evaluation & Monitoring

- Submitted monthly coordinator's report

Respectfully Submitted, Clare Steele, Recreation Coordinator clare.steele@westville.ca