

Your NORTHSIDE

2025 Spring Edition



- **Fredericton Transit Turns 50!**
- **Northsider Making A Difference...Brian Wall**
- **Northside Future Leaders Julie and Robyn**

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Word from the Wards



Jocelyn Pike
City Councillor
Ward 4

Closing in on the beginning of a new construction year. Lot's to happen this year again on Main Street and I know that the City has already had an initial meeting with BFN to set everyone up for success this summer. So much has happened in our Ward. We are still managing the living rough population, but Council has made budgetary additions to support the CSSU – Community Safety Services Unit. Additionally, the Chief of Police has advised that the Fredericton version of the Atlantic Police Academy, will see training right here in Fredericton and will see those new Officers starting their careers after graduation this spring right here. This is a huge plus for our City.

Killarney Park will be a focus of activity this summer as a new 18-hole disc golf course gets completed as well as a new interactive playpark. Killarney Park will become a destination park with additional facilities, i.e. washrooms, accessible lake entry devices, an amphitheatre, bike trails for all skill levels and spaces for food trucks will all get developed within Killarney Park. Bike access to Killarney Park, down Brookside Drive, will also be developed this summer. Stay tuned!!!



Bruce Grandy
City Councillor
Ward 3

As we transition into spring, I for one hope that it starts to warm up and the sunny days of spring come quickly! It has been a busy time at city council and my Mobility Committee.

Regarding transit we have implemented Sunday service which has been a great success, we have purchased the first three hybrid buses as part of addressing our climate change initiative, and we will be purchasing additional hybrid buses in the coming years. Half hour service on a number of routes will have been implemented in April and in a few short months we will be implementing an on-demand service in certain areas of the city.

The construction season is about to begin and there are over 40 projects that will be underway. A few of the major ones include phase one of the Crocket Street rebuild, phase two work on Main Street, and some work on the trail including a rebuild of the Nashwaak Trail Bridge and the start of lighting the trail on the northside of the train bridge. I know we all have experienced the large number of potholes and the road breakup; we have a large number of paving projects throughout the city.

Finally, it is with mixed emotions that after 22 years as a City Councillor, I will not be reoffering in next Mays municipal election. I will have further comments about this in the coming months.

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Fredericton Transit Turns 50!

Fredericton Transit Turns 50: Celebrating the Past, Driving Toward the Future:

This year marks a major milestone for Fredericton Transit: 50 years of providing public transportation to our community as a municipally operated service. Since its official establishment on March 10, 1975, Fredericton Transit has grown into a modern system that continues to evolve and meet the changing needs of residents.



A Look Back in Time:

The story of public transit in Fredericton actually dates back even further—to 1935, when the Vaughan family began running a local bus service called Capital Transit. The family, who also owned an auto sales and repair business, saw the value in providing public transportation for the growing city.

Over the decades, transit service changed hands several times, operated by companies like SMT (Eastern) Ltd., Fredericton Transit Ltd., and Allan J. MacDonald Ltd. Then in 1975, Fredericton City Council officially stepped in, transforming the operation into a public service, Fredericton Transit as we know it today.

Celebrating 50 Years of Service:

To mark its golden anniversary, Fredericton Transit is not just looking back but also pushing forward with exciting service enhancements that promise to improve the daily lives of riders.

Starting April 14, a new midday half-hour service launched on several routes, running from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. This move will add approximately 40 hours of service each day, giving riders more flexibility and convenience during off-peak times. Whether it is a doctor's appointment, grocery run, or shift change at work, passengers will now have more options to get where they need to go.

Another exciting development in the works is the On-Demand Service, set to launch later this year. This rider-focused feature will allow customers to book a ride that connects them to a nearby bus stop, providing a personalized option that enhances accessibility and efficiency. It is a step toward making transit work even better for all residents, particularly those in lower-density areas.

Modernizing the Ride:

Behind the scenes, Fredericton Transit has been hard at work making improvements to how service operates and how people experience it. In 2023, major technology upgrades were introduced across the system. Riders can now use open payment technology, paying their fare with a debit or credit card, smartphone, or smartwatch—no paper tickets or change required. It is a small change with a big impact, especially for those who are always on the go.

In June 2024, Fredericton Transit also introduced Sunday service, another long-anticipated addition that gives residents access to public transit seven days a week. This new service ensures that weekends are just as connected as weekdays.

And in March 2025, Fredericton Transit introduced 4 new Canadian-made hybrid buses to its fleet. These energy-efficient vehicles will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve fuel economy, and support the City's broader climate and sustainability goals. It is a step toward a greener future and a more environmentally responsible transit system.

Honoring the Community That Rides:

While the 50th anniversary is a celebration of transit milestones and accomplishments, it is also a celebration of the thousands of customers who rely on the bus year after year. Transit is more than just buses and routes; it is about people. Every daily commute, every student's ride to class, and every trip to the grocery store tells a story of connection and community.

Fredericton Transit hopes to continue growing its ridership as new features make the system more accessible, convenient, and responsive to resident needs.

Looking Ahead and Leaving a Legacy:

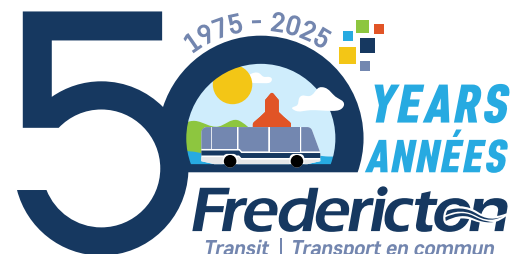
To kick off the anniversary celebrations, Fredericton City Council held a special event on March 10, 2025, placing a time capsule filled with items from today into storage, set to be opened in 2075 on the system's 100th anniversary. The time capsule is both a tribute to how far Fredericton Transit has come and a hopeful message for the next generation.

Additional celebratory events will be held throughout the year, offering opportunities for the public to get involved, share stories, and show appreciation for a service that has helped shape how the city moves.

Driving Forward:

From its humble beginnings in the 1930s to the bustling, tech-enabled system it is today, Fredericton Transit has come a long way. But the work isn't done. With new service expansions, forward-thinking plans like on-demand rides, and a commitment to continuous improvement, Fredericton Transit is ready to drive into the future—bringing the entire community along for the ride.

Here's to 50 years of progress—and many more to come.



Northsider Making a Difference ... Brian Wall

Written by Trina MacDonald

Brian Wall learned early that leadership isn't about titles, it's about showing up, investing in others, and leaving things better than you found them. Raised on Fredericton's Northside, Brian has lived this philosophy every step of the way. Whether on the ice, in the boardroom, or in the heart of Main Street, he has made it his mission to build stronger communities through service, mentorship, and a deep-rooted pride in where he comes from.

Raised in a supportive family where sports and mentorship were central, Brian learned early the value of investing in others. His father coached many of his teams growing up, and those experiences left a lasting impression. "If I could get paid to coach, I would quit my job and do it full time," Brian says with a smile. His love of coaching is not just about developing athletes, it is about shaping young lives, teaching hard work, respect, and resilience.

After graduating from Fredericton High School in 1998, Brian attended the University of New Brunswick, earning a BBA with a focus on marketing and accounting. He worked up to 40 hours a week at the Nashwaaksis Superstore while attending university full-time, a demanding schedule that taught him discipline, time management, and the importance of earning respect through hard work. The relationships he built during those years helped guide his future, especially with mentors like Owen Brewer, who trusted him with responsibility at a young age.

Professionally, Brian found his footing at Plaza REIT, where he has worked since 2003. Myles Martin, a leader at Plaza REIT, encouraged Brian's professional growth and helped open doors early in his career. Starting with property operations, he quickly grew with the company as it expanded from just a few properties to now approximately 240. Today, as Vice President, Leasing, Brian manages relationships with major national retailers from Ontario to St. John's Newfoundland. His business philosophy mirrors his approach to community: "It is all about relationships. In business and in life, the connections you build are everything."

But it is outside the office where Brian's leadership truly shines.

For over a decade, Brian has been a driving force behind Business Fredericton North (BFN), serving as Director, Vice President, President, and now Past President. When he took on the role of President in 2019, the Northside was thriving. But soon after, the COVID-19 pandemic struck—and leadership took on a whole new meaning. Brian was asked to remain in the role beyond his term, providing continuity and guidance during one of the most uncertain periods in the organization's history. His leadership helped carry Main Street through those difficult years—and into a new chapter of revitalization and resilience.

Among the many projects he led during his time with BFN, Brian takes particular pride in the revitalization of the Nashwaaksis Commons and the Lawrence Amphitheatre. Brian championed the transformation of the Commons and Amphitheatre with the City, which has resulted in this area becoming a beautiful community gather place. The beautification and enhancements have created a welcoming vibrant space on Main Street for

concerts, cultural celebrations, and festive holiday gatherings. A space all Frederictonians can be proud of.

Brian also recognized early the importance of safety as a cornerstone for community building. As part of his BFN work, he helped initiate BFN's participation in the installation of community safety cameras in the Main Street business area. While he acknowledges it is unfortunate that such measures are necessary today, he firmly believes they are critical for ensuring families feel safe using public spaces, a foundational piece of creating thriving neighborhoods.

At the heart of everything Brian does is his commitment to youth. Nowhere is this more evident than in his decade-long involvement with ringette.

When his eldest daughter Alley chose ringette over hockey at age five, Brian stepped up to coach, a decision that would evolve into one of the most meaningful chapters of his life. Since then, he has coached every level from U7 to provincial-tier teams, dedicating countless hours to helping young girls gain confidence, leadership skills, and a love for the game. His commitment goes beyond coaching skills; he has worked to understand the unique dynamics of coaching female athletes, adapting his methods to create a

positive, encouraging environment where girls could thrive both on and off the ice. He emphasizes giving back, encouraging the girls he coaches to volunteer at local events, like BFN's holiday celebrations. "It's important for them to understand that when you're given opportunities, you need to give back too," he says. "That's how communities grow stronger."

One of the projects Brian is most proud of during his years coaching is the U9 outdoor ringette tournament he helped organize at the Mitch Clarke Nashwaaksis Park. The event was designed to give young ringette players the same celebratory experiences that the outdoor Timbit Classic events gave hockey players. The outdoor ringette tournament was a resounding success, bringing together 60 players and winning "Event of the Year" from Ringette New Brunswick. Complete with hot chocolate, fireworks, visits from local police and firefighters, and a festive community atmosphere, the event captured everything Brian believes sports should be accessible, fun, and filled with life lessons.

Family remains central to everything Brian does. His wife, Lynsey, is a teacher at Nashwaaksis Memorial Elementary, and both his daughters, Alley and Lauren, are active in sports and community activities. Watching them grow, volunteer, and lead gives Brian even greater motivation to continue building a community they can be proud of.

As for what comes next, he fully expects to find new ways to volunteer, perhaps following in the footsteps of his father (Clinton), who was a longtime leader with the Y Service Club. "I don't need awards or accolades," Brian says. "I just hope that when people think of me, they remember someone who cared, who gave back, and who believed that strong communities are built one relationship at a time." Through his humility, dedication, and belief in the power of connection, he continues to inspire the next generation to lead. And as Main Street evolves, Brian's legacy will be woven into every space where people gather, grow, and feel they belong.





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Word from the Wards



Steve Hicks
City Councillor
Ward 5

Spring has sprung, the bridge is open and that is a good start comparable to the last few years. Please have patience as our dedicated roads and streets crew make their way around the city fixing up the potholes created over the winter. Although our winters have been milder than in years past, the constant freezing thaw cycles present significant challenges for our roads.

There is major construction planned for Crocket Street this summer and next year. This important infrastructure renewal had been delayed for 2 years due to the Marysville Bridge closure. So, there will be some disruptions and motorists will have to revert to more traditional pre-Cliffe/Brown driving patterns.

But enough about construction and traffic delays. This is the time of year to get out and enjoy our amazing community. We have the two best trails in the city, the hottest coffee shop in town, Royals Baseball on the hill and a beautiful river that separates the east and west bank of Historic Marysville.

We are blessed to live where we do and to steal a line from a good friend of mine. "If I didn't live here, I'd move here."

Play Safe! Steve

If you have any issues or concerns do not hesitate to contact our service line at 460-2020 or email service@fredericton.ca

Below are some city Facebook contacts you may wish to follow:

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Fredericton Police Force

Fredericton Recreation & Leisure

Fredericton Fire Department



Eric Megarity
City Councillor, Ward 6

South Devon, Barkers Point and Lower St. Mary's

Fredericton Transit is introducing half-hour service on several high-demand routes, starting April 14, 2025, to better serve the City's growing population. The City is also taking proactive steps to prepare for invasive Zebra Mussels and has issued a warning about a new, potentially fatal street drug, protodesnitazene.

Significant infrastructure enhancements are planned for Killarney Lake Park. Major upgrades will occur on Babbitt and Gill Streets, including water, sanitary, and storm sewer improvements, as well as new curbs and asphalt. This project will affect local traffic, with a two-week detour on Union Street. Further phases will continue on Gill Street in 2026 and Dobie Street in 2027.

The original trunk sewer main is set for replacement and expansion to accommodate increased demand in the city's northwest. Overnight work and a two-week closure of Devonshire Drive (July 8-22) are anticipated, with involvement from local Indigenous representatives.

Noble Street will see the installation of new underground utilities, causing periodic street closures and minor transit impacts. The Gibson Trail reconstruction will upgrade the trail surface and add lighting, while the bridge on Gibson Trail between Station Road and Waters Drive will be fully replaced. This will require a 24-week closure with a pedestrian detour via Route 105.

The Riverside Drive project continues with critical utility realignment and force main rehabilitation, ensuring reliable infrastructure and minimizing environmental risks. Temporary traffic disruptions are expected, with careful scheduling to reduce inconvenience.

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Hon. Luke Randall

MLA for Fredericton North

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Thank you Fredericton North, for trusting me to represent our community. Over the last few months, our team has hit the ground running. I've gotten to meet and take the voices of Northsiders and Northside business, non-profit, and community leaders to the Legislature. I was thrilled to be part of the announcement for the expansion of the Northside Community Health Centre this year, bringing primary care to 1600+ Northsiders. The work is just getting started, and I couldn't be more proud of our community.



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NORTHSIDE FUTURE LEADERS

Written by Trina MacDonald

Julie D'Amours ... is more than just a high-achieving student—she is a passionate leader, dedicated athlete, and a future innovator with a mission to change lives through biomedical engineering. From her earliest school days at Park Street Elementary in Nashwaaksis to her senior year at Leo Hayes High School, Julie has combined academic excellence with deep-rooted community engagement, emerging as a standout leader among her peers.

At Nashwaaksis Middle School, Julie D'Amours began building her leadership and athletic skills. She played basketball in grades six and seven and discovered her passion for volleyball, which she has pursued ever since. In grade seven, she also joined Best Buddies, showing her early dedication to inclusion and community. These experiences laid the groundwork for her continued involvement in sports and service.



At Leo Hayes High School, Julie continued to flourish. She joined the junior varsity volleyball team in grade nine, quickly moving to the varsity level the following year and staying there through grade twelve. She was an integral part in them claiming provincial championships in both grade nine and ten and helping them dominate local tournaments throughout the years. Julie also plays for the Reds Volleyball Club, starting in U13 and now competing at U18. Her club volleyball career is just as decorated with five provincial titles, an undefeated season, and strong performances at national and international tournaments, including placing in U.S. competitions and reaching the highest tier possible by a New Brunswick team at Volleyball

Canada Nationals.

Volleyball is more than just medals and trophies for Julie. "It's the people I love," she says. "They're basically my family I grew up with all of them." Julie also gives back to the sport by helping coach middle school and club teams, often lending a hand when extra coaching support is needed.

Julie's leadership goes far beyond the court. In grade eleven, she joined the Science Club and quickly rose to an executive position, where she now essentially serves as the club's president. She organizes fundraisers, manages social media, coordinates lab sessions, and liaisons with university professors and community partners to arrange engaging hands-on experiences for students. Her efforts ensure that science remains not only accessible, but exciting for her peers.

Julie has also remained a dedicated member of Best Buddies throughout high school. While not an executive, her behind-the-scenes support organizing parties, planning events, and helping fellow leaders demonstrates her collaborative spirit and commitment to inclusivity.

Her passion for science and sustainability also led her to volunteer with the Gaia Project, an organization that educates youth on clean energy and environmental responsibility. She began volunteering with the organization in grade 11, helping at conferences and attending workshops focused on green energy and cleaner living. Her continued participation in grade 12 highlights her passion for promoting eco-friendly solutions and engaging youth in climate action.

Julie's academic record is as impressive as her extracurricular résumé. She has maintained a 90+ average every semester, excelling in challenging subjects like physics, biology, chemistry, and human physiology. Her academic curiosity and leadership skills earned her a coveted spot in the SHAD program last summer, where she studied at Toronto Metropolitan University. Out of 64 participants, her team won first place in the program's national design challenge, creating an innovative green energy solution—storm drain turbines capable of powering local infrastructure in rainy regions.

Julie's future is as bright as her past is impressive. She plans to pursue biomedical engineering, with a strong interest in medical device innovation. Her goal is deeply personal: as a type one diabetic, she wears many medical devices daily and understands the challenges firsthand. "I want to create or improve devices like insulin pumps and pacemakers," she explains, "to make them more accessible, more comfortable—especially for young kids who shouldn't have to worry about complicated tech just to stay healthy."

She is currently deciding between McMaster University and the University of Alberta for her post-secondary studies. Wherever she lands, Julie is determined to build a career improving lives through science and engineering.

Julie credits one of her biology teachers, Lisa Holyoke-Walsh, and her father as key sources of inspiration. "Ms. Holyoke-Walsh is very dedicated and amazing at what she does - she really connects with people," Julie says. "And my dad - he works hard, he is great at what he does. I want that work ethic too."

In everything she does, from sports to science, from leadership to friendship, Julie D'Amours exemplifies dedication, compassion, and vision. With her solid foundation in science, leadership, and empathy, Julie is poised to become a future leader and innovator who will not only excel in her field but will make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

Robyn Reeves ... is a grade twelve student who is leaving a mark not through accolades or titles, but through compassion, leadership, and a drive to make others feel seen and valued. She has used her time in school not only to pursue her academic and athletic interests but also to advocate for inclusion, build community, and create opportunities for students of all abilities to thrive. A Nashwaaksis resident all her life, she attended Park Street Elementary and Nashwaaksis Middle School—where she was active in basketball, volleyball, badminton, flag rugby and track. When she entered Leo Hayes High School in grade nine, she joined Best Buddies, and by Grade 10, she became an executive leader in the program, a role she continues to fulfill today.

Best Buddies fosters friendships and inclusion for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and Robyn has become one of its most dedicated leaders. As part of her Grade 12 Personal Interest course, Robyn has dedicated her time to supporting the Best Buddies program by assisting her teachers with inclusive education initiatives. She spends time with a non-verbal student, helping him navigate communication through an iPad, patiently guiding him as he learns to express himself using technology. As well,



she focuses on planning activities for Best Buddies and organizing practices and events for the Unified Basketball Team. This firsthand commitment has allowed Robyn to build meaningful relationships with students who often do not have opportunities to interact with peers, providing them with social engagement and fostering a more inclusive school environment.

One of Robyn's proudest achievements is organizing Leo Hayes' first Unified Basketball Tournament, a Special Olympics-style event that brought together over 120 participants from four schools. Not only did she plan the full-day tournament—coordinating with coaches,

teachers, and staff—but she also secured a \$2,500 sponsorship from the Nashwaaksis Y Service Club to ensure every participant received a medal, lunch, and the full tournament experience.

She is also a Peer Mentor at LHHS. As a Peer Mentor, Robyn plays a key role in welcoming new students and exchange students to the school community. She helps guide them through the building, answers questions, and ensures they feel comfortable and supported during their transition to LHHS.

Balancing leadership with academics, Robyn maintains a science-heavy course load and has been accepted to the University of New Brunswick to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology. Her long-term goal is to become either a resource teacher or a kindergarten teacher, and she is already gaining hands-on experience. Through a co-op placement at Cuffman Street Elementary School, Robyn spends three afternoons a week helping in a kindergarten classroom supporting students with math and spelling and shadowing a resource teacher to gain deeper insight into inclusive education.

Athletically, Robyn shines on the rugby field. After playing flag rugby since childhood, she started tackle rugby in high school and quickly fell in love with the sport. She plays for both Leo Hayes and the Fredericton Loyalists. Beyond playing, Robyn gives back to the sport as a mini rugby coach with the Loyalists, working with children under six. Every Saturday morning, she leads fun, engaging activities that introduce young kids to the game in a low-cost, inclusive environment passing on the same love for the sport that inspired her.

In the summer, Robyn works at Worlds UNBound Camps, introducing young students to STEM subjects, such as science, technology, engineering and mathematics...all in fun, interactive ways. And during the school year, she works as a respite care worker for a local family, supporting a child with special needs. She picks him up after school a couple times a week, helping him with his Kumon math and spelling or cheering him on during sessions with his personal trainer. This relationship, she notes, is a natural extension of the connections she has built through Best Buddies.

When asked who inspires her, Robyn immediately names LHHS Resource Teacher, Tanya McBride. "She has done so much to make the school inclusive from starting Best Buddies, organizing Feed the Lions program, and always being there for students. She made me want to make a change too."

And change is exactly what Robyn Reeves is already making. Whether it is in the classroom, on the rugby field, or at the heart of an inclusive school community, Robyn is a powerful example of what it means to lead with heart. Robyn is lifting others up, building bridges, and creating spaces where every student belongs. With her dedication, empathy, and vision for the future, there is no doubt: Robyn Reeves is a leader in the making.

Word from the Wards



Margo Sheppard
City Councillor
Ward 1

The wind is howling down the Wolastoq (St. John) River as I write this but finally the weather is starting to improve. This winter got off to a slow start and seems to want to hang on just to prove a point.

A main focus of City Council for the past few months, and a few years prior to this, has been the proposal to allow up to three accessory dwelling units on a (suitable) lot with a primary residence on it. People were and are fearful of unruly tenants, surplus cars and unsightly premises that might move in next door with this zoning change.

Council adopted the proposal but with guardrails: no new Air BNBs are permitted to be in the accessory unit(s), and the person applying to put in the new unit must prove they have lived in the main house for a year. Bylaw enforcement is being stepped up and infractions won't be tolerated. Council has mandated close monitoring by staff of any new units, along with a detailed report of implementation, with the intention of ensuring compliance.

This season has been a strange one, witnessing the political division south of the border and wondering what could rub off on our country, especially facing a federal election. Who could have predicted the surge in Canadian unity and pride of place the US election has caused. Inflation and affordability challenges abound in Fredericton as anywhere else; however, even this cold spring I am happy to live here, in Ward 1, perhaps the most beautiful and peaceful ward in this city.

Have a great gardening season.



Mark Peters
City Councillor
Ward 2

Hello Residents of Ward 2

I would like to thank our road and streets crew for keeping our roads and sidewalks safe all winter.

Killarney Lake Park is getting some exciting upgrades! Coming soon, visitors will see the addition of a competition-level 18-hole disc golf course, a mountain biking skills park and trail network, an inclusive natural playground with accessible pathways, and improved beach access with an accessible beach mat. Work on the disc golf course is already underway, with construction of the mountain biking trails and playground starting later this year. Throughout these upgrades, existing trails and recreational spaces will remain open for public use. Also, after installing of the roundabout and sidewalk from Brookside it is now more accessible to cross walking or biking to the lake!

You can stay up to date for all construction in the neighbourhood and project progress by visiting www.Fredericton.ca/construction. Also, if you can report any issues that you see as a concern by calling Service Fredericton @ 506-460-2020

Hope everyone has an enjoyable summer!

Mark
506-262-6275
mark.peters@fredericton.ca



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