

MORELL MATTERS

INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

It has been a busy summer, with many improvements completed in the municipality and preparations now underway for the fall and winter months.

Signage: Three new welcome signs have been installed at the entrances to the municipality. The signs provide a welcome to residents and visitors and help create a consistent visual identity for the Municipality.

Sports Fields: Morell's sports fields had another busy season, supporting minor and high school soccer, as well as minor and senior baseball. Use of the field lighting also increased this year, allowing the facilities to accommodate more evening practices and games. Improvements were completed at the Trixie Dunn Ball Field to bring the facility into compliance with requirements for hosting U15 tournaments.

Kelly Green Park: Although Tuning in to Nature was ultimately cancelled due to weather, considerable work was completed at Kelly Green Park in preparation for the annual event. Council members, municipal staff and community volunteers worked together to ensure the grounds and amenities were ready to welcome participants. Work at Kelly Green Park will continue as long as weather permits.

Morell Credit Union Rink: During the off-season, the Municipality, in consultation with engineers and maintenance contractors, undertook a detailed review of the rink and identified a number of capital and operational repairs requiring attention. Work has been underway to address these needs and establish appropriate plans for both immediate repairs and the longer-term maintenance of the facility. Municipal staff and contractors are working to complete the remaining work according to established priorities and prepare the ice plant for start-up. The rink is scheduled to open one week after Thanksgiving, consistent with the opening schedule followed in recent years.

The Municipality recognizes the important role the rink plays not only for Morell residents, but for families, athletes and organizations throughout the surrounding region. Council will continue to identify funding opportunities and allocate resources toward maintaining and improving this important municipal infrastructure.

Wastewater Infrastructure: Preparatory work is underway to advance planned upgrades to the Municipality's wastewater collection infrastructure. The project is being undertaken with funding provided by the Municipality and through the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF).

The Municipality is also working to make use of the remaining funding available under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) for eligible improvements at the wastewater lagoon.

MUNICIPAL SPORTS FUND

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Morell is establishing the Municipal Sports Fund, an initiative to help offset the cost of organized sport for young residents of the Municipality. At a time when families are facing higher everyday expenses, the fund is intended to provide some additional support toward the cost of keeping children involved in local sport.

In keeping with his past practice, Mayor Danny Kelly has again declined the Mayor's honorarium and asked that these funds instead be used to help local families with the cost of minor hockey registration. The program will not result in any additional cost to the Municipality beyond the amount already budgeted for the Mayor's honorarium.

The Municipal Sports Fund will provide \$100 toward the registration cost of each eligible minor hockey player residing within the boundaries of the

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Municipal Sports Fund, continued from page 1

Rural Municipality of Morell. The fund is available to eligible minor hockey players registered to play with a Morell Mustangs team. It is also available to female players who transfer to a Recreational level team in another association under a Program-Not-Offered transfer when Morell Minor Hockey Association does not ice a team in their age division. The Mayor's children will not be eligible to receive this funding.

Parents or guardians may apply for a \$100 reimbursement for each eligible player by providing the Municipality with proof of payment and registration on a Morell Mustangs team, along with the player's primary residential address. Applications will be accepted from November 15 until December 31, 2026. For more information or to request reimbursement, please contact the municipal office.

SENIORS FALL LUNCH

The Rural Municipality of Morell invites all seniors to a complimentary *Fall Lunch* on Saturday, October 3, from 12–2 p.m. at the Morell Fire Hall, 15 Park Street. Dine-in and takeout options are available. Join us for lunch, live music and games while visiting with friends and neighbours.

Registration is not required, but RSVPs are appreciated. Many seniors have already provided their names directly or through local organizations. If you have not yet done so, please contact the municipal office by email at info@morell.ca or by phone at 902.961.2900 to let us know you plan to attend and advise us of any dietary restrictions.

MORELL CO-OP

The September 50/50 draw winners are Mike and Karen MacDonald, and Tony Leeco. Proceeds from the draw have been donated to St. Peter's Community Cupboard, Ducks Unlimited, United Church Dinner, Seniors Bingo, Morell Regional High School Terry Fox BBQ, Morell Consolidated School Grade 8 Fry Truck, various tournaments and benefits, various families in the community, and medical travel for members.

The Co-op will be closed on Monday, October 12, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

MORELL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., we are hosting ***Read, Sing, Play Storytimes*** (recommended for ages 0–5).

Drop by the Morell Library during open hours from October 2–24 to pick up a ***Halloween Colouring Contest*** sheet! Please return your entry by October 24. The winner will be announced on October 27.

Looking for a relaxing social activity for adults outside the house? Join us at ***Colour Me Relaxed*** on Tuesday, October 6 at 6:30 p.m. for a cozy colouring hour. All supplies are provided.

On Tuesday, October 20, 5–7 p.m., Angie from Service Canada will be answering questions about federal government programs and services.

Come celebrate the Halloween season with us at our annual Halloween party on Saturday, October 24 at 10:30 a.m.! Wear a costume (optional), decorate cookies, make a creepy craft, and more.

ST. PETER'S CIRCLE CLUB SENIORS

On Friday, October 9, 10 a.m.–12 p.m., St. Peter's Circle Club will host a Seniors Financial Workshop for adults aged 55 and over, focusing on provincial and federal benefits available to seniors. A session on fraud, theft and financial wellness will follow from 1–3 p.m. Both sessions are sponsored by the Department of Social Development and Seniors.

On Thursday, October 15, at 12 p.m., the Club will hold a potluck dinner, followed by a short meeting and a fall craft activity. The Club's regular weekly activities throughout October continue as usual. For additional information, please call 902.961.2670.

MORELL FALL FEST

Morell Fall Fest takes place on Saturday, October 17, from 12–3 p.m. at Morell Consolidated School. Come out to enjoy an afternoon of fall fun for the whole family, featuring face painting, live music, local vendors, food stations, yard games, a chili contest and more. As part of this year's Fall Fest, The Fraggles will perform from 12:30–2:30 p.m. at Morell Consolidated School.