



Aspotogan Recreation Association **Community Newsletter**

Vol. 53 Issue 10 October 2026

Aspotogan ~ Bayswater ~ Blandford ~ Deep Cove ~ Northwest Cove

ARA UPDATE OCTOBER 2026

HAUNTED TRAIL - Oct 23! Please see event poster on page 4. Community members who can assist with any aspect of the “haunted torture chamber” (ideas, preparation of props, set-up, take down, working on the night as a ‘live prop’ or a guide) **we need your assistance** – please contact a member of the executive.

Kids Halloween Pumpkin Carving Party: Sunday, October 18 at 2:00-4:00 in the Lodge room (entrance at side of community centre). Come and carve a pumpkin to display on the Haunted Trail (or take home if you like). Treats, outside play (weather permitting) and costume parade for those who wish to dress up.

Fall and Halloween Sign Workshop: Tuesday, October 13 at 6:30 in the community centre Multi-purpose Room. Presented by Memory Lane Woodworks. Choose a Fall or Halloween design - all supplies included, no experience necessary. Cost is \$45.00; pre-register by **October 8** at <https://forms.gle/YotVnYfkJug5fWP29> (see Blandford Community Facebook page for design options and registration link).

Youth Basketball Skills: Mondays at 6:30-7:45 October 19-November 23 Community Centre Gym; for youth ages 8-12. Coaches Rob and Chris will guide participants through instructional drills designed to improve basketball skills, with practice through pick-up games. Cost is \$30.00 and pre-registration is required by October 12 - contact Nancy at n.webb@dal.ca or 902-225-2915. Payment can be made on the first night.

Games Night: Mondays 7:00-9:00 pm in the Community Centre Multipurpose Room. 2.00/person. Any game that can be played on a table. Bring your own game or join in with friends and neighbours! You may also bring snacks and drinks (alcohol excluded).

Chair Yoga: Fridays, 10:00-11:00 in the Community Centre . Drop-in fee is \$7.00/class – please bring exact change if possible. All are welcome to this fun and ‘user-friendly’ class. No previous experience is necessary. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat if you have one.

Drop-in Pickleball:

Thursdays 6:00-7:30 in the Community Centre gym. \$3.00/player. Beginner and experienced players are welcome, age 13+. Cancellations will be posted on the community centre Facebook page by 3:00 pm on Thursdays. (<https://www.facebook.com/blandfordcommunitycentre>) All equipment is provided, please wear non-marking sneakers. Questions? Email: Pickleball@BellAliant.com.

WATCH BLANDFORD AND COMMUNITY CENTRE FACEBOOK PAGES FOR UPDATES AND CHANGES TO ACTIVITIES. If any community members have ideas for programs, please contact a member of the Executive – we welcome your ideas and feedback! **ARA executive:** Carly LeBlanc 902-277-1269; Mary Norwood 902-228-2453, Vicki Schnare 902-228-2234 (vicki.schnare@bellaliant.net), Nancy Webb 902-225-2915 (n.webb@dal.ca), Wendy Clark 902-877-4871 (wendyl.clark@gmail.com), and Emily Woodworth (emilywoodworth@live.com)

COMMUNITY NEWS

DISTRICT # 1 COMMUNITY CENTRE



DISTRICT #1 BLANDFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Increase in Room Rental Rates

Our Board of Directors met in September to review our room rental rates. These rates were last reviewed in 2023, and no changes were made at that time. The Board has agreed to a small increase of \$5 per hour for all rooms. We understand that costs are rising for everyone, and we certainly don't want to add to that burden. However, we also need to do our best to cover our increasing operating costs and keep the Community Centre open and available to serve the Blandford community. The new rates will take effect November 1, 2026. Please see the document on the next page for updated rates. We look forward to continuing to support the Blandford Community!



UPCOMING EVENTS!



1. Community Centre Fundraiser Breakfast - Saturday, October 17th, 9 – 11 am Includes eggs, bacon, sausage, toast, beans, hashbrowns, coffee, tea & juice. \$12 cash or debit, kids under 10 - \$5, under 3 – FREE
2. 36th Annual Arts and Crafts Fair – Sunday, November 8th, 10 am to 3 pm, \$3 admission and hourly door prizes! Canteen open for lunch!

Next Board of Directors Meeting is Wed, October 7th at 7 pm. All meetings are open to the public!

Board of Directors for 2026/2027 -

Kelly Fitzgerald, Chair	902-222-1046	kahfitzgerald@gmail.com
Wendy Clark, Vice Chair	902-877-4871	wendyl.clark@gmail.com
Karen Overholt, Secretary	519-567-1591	francis_karen@hotmail.com

Board Members (2026/2027)

Samantha Murphy, Odessa Bezanson, Joanne Walton, Eric Miller, Mary Norwood, Tami Clarke, Edward Burdon

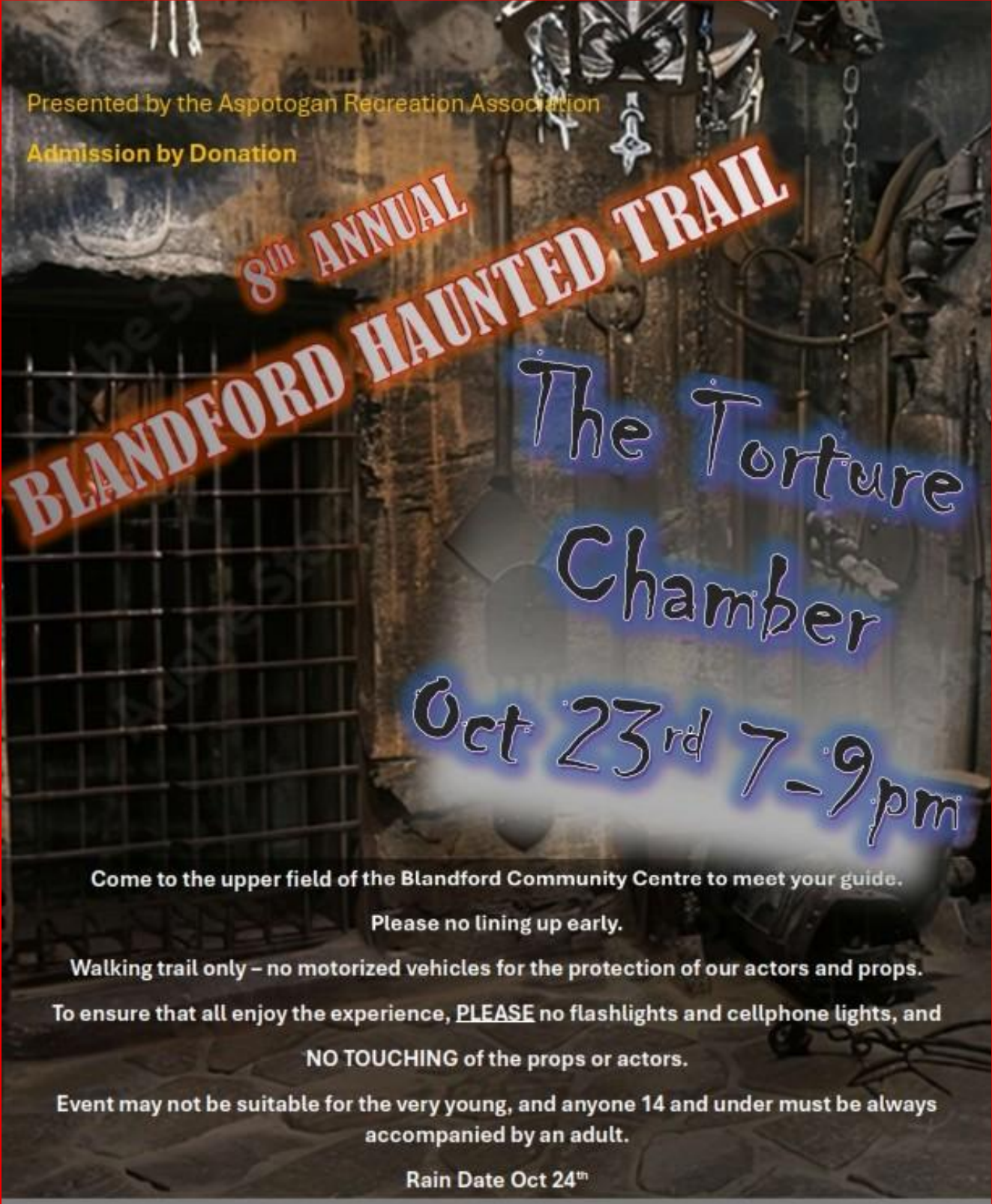
COMMUNITY NOTICES

DISTRICT #1 COMMUNITY CENTRE ANNUAL RENT REVIEW 2026

(Two different rates schemes have been established, District #1 Community Member Rate (C) and Non-Community Member Rate (N).)

1. GYMNASIUM – C - \$35/hour, \$200/day, N - \$45/hour, \$250/day – up to 12 hours
 - a. Churches – District #1 – each church – no charge for two events per year as agreed in the by-laws of the Society for the District #1 Community Centre which is not transferable between churches.
 - b. Weddings and receptions – C - \$200/day, N - \$250/day
 - 12 hour maximum with bar. No catering, if outside caterer used they must show proof of liability insurance. Full payment required up front. Free rent for decorating for the event the evening before. \$25/hr fee for use of a community centre bartender.
 - c. Aspotogan Recreation Association - \$30/hr for all activities
 - d. Chester Recreation Department - \$35/hr for all activities
2. MULTI-PURPOSE – C - \$20/hr or \$80/day, N - \$25/hr or \$100/day – up to 12 hours
Includes use of Lodge Room Kitchen with rental
3. YOUTH ROOM – C - \$10/hr or \$70/day, N - \$20/hr or \$100/day – up to 12 hours
Includes use of Lodge Room Kitchen with rental
4. LODGE ROOM – C - \$30/hr or \$90/day, N - \$35/hr or \$110/day – up to 12 hours
Includes use of Lodge Room Kitchen with rental
5. ROAD SIGN - \$10/day or \$50/week – no charge for programs at the CC
6. KITCHEN – \$30/hr or \$150/day – up to 8 hours.
The charge when used for a fundraising event is \$20/hr or \$80 maximum for 8 hours. Outside caterers must show Proof of Liability Insurance.
7. FUNERALS – 1 room rental for funerals for families in District #1 are free of charge for up to 8 hours. Any catering required is extra. Coffee and tea service is included.
8. DAMAGE DEPOSIT FOR BIRTHDAY PARTIES AND SPORTS EVENTS – Damage will be billed.
9. Groups using multiple rooms over multiple days can negotiate a rental package. Email – blandfordns@gmail.com to discuss.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Presented by the Aspotogan Recreation Association
Admission by Donation

**8th ANNUAL
BLANDFORD HAUNTED TRAIL**

**The Torture
Chamber**

Oct 23rd 7-9pm

Come to the upper field of the Blandford Community Centre to meet your guide.

Please no lining up early.

Walking trail only – no motorized vehicles for the protection of our actors and props.

To ensure that all enjoy the experience, PLEASE no flashlights and cellphone lights, and
NO TOUCHING of the props or actors.

Event may not be suitable for the very young, and anyone 14 and under must be always accompanied by an adult.

Rain Date Oct 24th

COMMUNITY NOTICES

THE FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSIONERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF BLANDFORD Regular Monthly Meeting October 19, 2026 7PM

Blandford Community Centre in the Lodge
All Ratepayers are welcome to view meetings

*Watch our Facebook page for any updates or changes at
"BLANDFORD & AREA FIRE RESCUE"*

BLANDFORD & AREA FIRE RESCUE

Fire Prevention Week October 4-10



Fun fire safety online games,
coloring sheets, interactive

www.sparky.org



www.firefighters5050.com/192
In support of Blandford & Area Fire Rescue

For any questions please contact Shelley Hartley
Email: blandfordcommission@bellaliant.com

www.blandfordfire.ca

COMMUNITY EVENTS



ATHENÆUM SOCIETY

OF NOVA SCOTIA

www.athenaeumns.org

After 77 Years- A New NATO?

Presented by
Susan Pond

For seven decades, the US has played a key leadership role in the NATO Alliance. In addition to reaffirming their commitment to Article 5, a recent NATO summit focused on Ukraine, 5% defence spending and a new defence industrial base.

But will current US NATO policy force a new NATO approach to meet emerging security risks?

Susan Pond, former senior Canadian woman on the International Staff at NATO HQ for the past two decades, will bring her considerable experience and expertise to answer this question.

Sunday, October 18, at 2:30pm
Ocean Swells Community Centre
Northwest Cove, 2726 Hwy 329 (Hwy 103 Exit 6)

All are welcome. Q & A following. More information at
www.athenaeumns.org

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Coming this Fall...

Volunteer Summit 2026

Local Hands. Lasting Impact.

**Saturday, Nov 7, 2026
NSCC, Bridgewater**

For Summit updates email:
recreation@chester.ca



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Wooden Crafts for Sale

Wide variety of hand-made wooden crafts available at reasonable prices, including: stools, buoys, birdhouses and feeders, Christmas crafts and more!

22 Publicover Road, Blandford

Terry Zinck (902) 228-2333

OHC SAME DAY CLINIC SERVICES CALENDAR FOR **OCTOBER 2026**

Phone Lines for the Same Day Clinic Open **8:00am** Each Clinic Day

Call (902) 273-2098 For A Same Day Appointment (We **DO NOT** offer walk-in service; you must have an appt.)

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:30 to 2:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	2 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic#	3 9:00 to 3:00 pm – Same Day Clinic
6 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	7 9:00 am to 5 pm – Dr. Morissette (Referral)	8 9:30 to 2:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	9	10
13 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic 4:30 to 7:00 PM – Menopause/Forms Clinic	14 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	15 9:30 to 2:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	16	17
20 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	21 8:30 to 12:00 – Menopause/Forms Clinic	22 9:30 to 2:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	23 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	24 09:00 to 12:00 Noon – Menopause/Forms Clinic
27 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic 4:30 to 7:00 PM – Menopause/Forms Clinic	28 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic 9:00 am to 5 pm – Dr. Morissette (Referral)	29 9:30 to 2:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	30 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	31 9:00 to 3:00 pm – Same Day Clinic

RED – Same Day Clinic | BLUE – Dr. Morissette (Psychiatry)

BLACK – Dr. O'Neil (Menopause, Metabolic Health & Forms Clinic)

Referral means you must have a referral from your Family GP/NP; Same Day Clinic is done same day only starting at 8am.

BUSINESS SERVICES



SAVE TIME, PLAY NINE

Visit our Pro Shop to get great deals on golf shirts, hats, and golf accessories

Memberships are available to purchase

376 Parkwood Drive, Mill Cove

to book a Tee Time call 902-857-1333 or visit us online at aspotoganridge.com



Services Available at Aspotogan Heritage Trust

10 Pte. Richard Green Lane, Hubbards



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Shredding , Laminating, Binding

Co-working spaces (hourly/daily/weekly rates) and boardroom access are available

Grant information and support services for community groups

For more information, contact the Aspotogan Heritage Trust (AHT) at
902-857-1133 or via email at info@aspotogan.org

BUSINESS SERVICES

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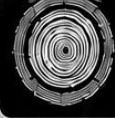


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PARISH SCHEDULE/COMMUNITY NOTICES



Ministry@ParishofBlandford.ca
<https://parishofblandford.ca>

St. Cuthbert's: 2734 NS-329,
 Northwest Cove
 All Saints: 4122 NS-329, Bayswater

October 2026 Worship Schedule

(latest updates: <https://parishofblandford.ca/service-schedule/>)

October 4	Morning Prayer	10:00am	All Saints, Bayswater
October 11	Eucharist	10:00am	St. Cuthberts, Northwest Cove
October 18	Eucharist	10:00am	All Saints, Bayswater
October 25	Morning Prayer	10:00am	St. Cuthberts, Northwest Cove

The Parish of Blandford is quite excited to have Rev. Robin Majors come and give our parish a Eucharistic Service once a month. Rev. Robin Majors is a retired military chaplain who is now living in Eastern Passage. He is originally from Rocky Harbour, Newfoundland. This month he will be leading our Thanksgiving service on October 11. For October 18 we will have one of our fill-in ministers, Rev. Rick Price, for our service.

Need a Ride? Community Wheels Can Help!

Whether you're visiting the Chester area, heading to a local attraction, attending an event, running errands or exploring the South Shore, Community Wheels offers accessible, affordable transportation throughout the region.

Who Can Book?

Everyone! The only requirement is that your trip begins within the Municipality of Chester.

Charter Service:

Book a private charter for your group, family, event, tour, or special outing.



Advance booking is required. Contact Community Wheels to reserve your ride and travel with confidence.

902-273-2440

julie@communitywheels.ca

COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
BCC = Blandford Community Centre	OS = Ocean Swells Community Centre			1 Pickleball BCC 6 pm	2 Chair Yoga BCC 10 am 45's cards OS 7 pm	3
4 10 am All Saints	5 Games Night BCC 7pm	6 Fire Trg 7 pm	7 BCC Board Mtg 7pm 45's cards OS 7 pm	8 Pickleball BCC 6 pm	9 Chair Yoga BCC 10 am 45's cards OS 7 pm	10
11 10 am St. Cuthberts	12 Games Night BCC 7pm	13 Fall & Halloween Sign workshop BCC 6:30pm Fire Trg 7 pm	14 45's cards OS 7 pm	15 Pickleball BCC 6 pm	16 Chair Yoga BCC 10 am Seasiders BCC 7 pm 45's cards OS 7 pm	17 Breakfast BCC 9am
18 10 am All Saints Kids pumpkin carving BCC 2pm Athenaeum 2:30 pm OS	19 Youth basketball BCC 6:30pm Fire Mtg BCC 7pm Games Night BCC 7pm	20 Fire Trg 7 pm NOV 2026 Newsletter Deadline	21 45's cards OS 7 pm	22 Pickleball BCC 6 pm	23 Chair Yoga BCC 10 am 45's cards OS 7 pm Haunted Trail BCC 7 pm	24
25 10 am St. Cuthberts	26 Youth basketball BCC 6:30pm Games Night BCC 7pm	27 Fire Trg 7 pm	28 45's cards OS 7 pm	29 Pickleball BCC 6 pm	30 Chair Yoga BCC 10 am 45's cards OS 7 pm	31

Newsletter Advertisement Rates

Personal Ads and Thank you Notices

1/4 Page \$ 8.00
1/2 Page \$12.00
Full Page \$23.00

Business Ads and Community Groups

Business Cards \$ 8.00
1/4 Page \$12.00
1/2 Page \$18.00
Full Page \$35.00

**SUBSCRIPTIONS AVAILABLE
CONTACT EDITOR FOR MORE INFO
\$36.00 per year**

Editor Information

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**SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR NOV
NEWSLETTER:**

OCTOBER 20, 2026