

Bag ban passes: 'I know myself and my entire class were very happy



Hampton High School Grade 10 student Victoria Pitre was one of five students from an environmental science class who attended Tuesday's Hampton Council meeting to show their support for a bylaw banning the single-use plastic grocery bags. The bylaw passed unanimously, earning applause from the students.

Photo: Submitted

© Published 7 hours ago



Justin Samanski-Langille | Kings County Record

The Town of Hampton council chambers were filled with the rare sound of applause Tuesday night as council unanimously approved a bylaw banning single-use plastic grocery bags as of June 30.

That applause came from Hampton High School teacher Laura Myers and five of her environmental sciences students who attended the meeting to see if their advocacy efforts had paid off.

"I know myself and my entire class were very happy," said Grade 10 student Victoria Pitre. "We all take the environment seriously and having the plastic bags banned made us really happy. That's what we were hoping for."

The 15-year-old said council's passing of the bylaw showed her the community's decision-makers care about the environment and about the voices of its residents, regardless of age.

"We just thought if we showed our support by taking the time to be there, it would show how important it is to us."

The Town previously said the new bylaw is a result of the Fundy Regional Service Commission no longer recycling plastic bags and brings Hampton in line with other municipalities receiving waste services from the RSC who have approved a near identical bylaw. Quispamsis, Moncton and Dieppe approved similar bans in recent years.

Council was quick to note the students' presence in the chambers Tuesday night, and Coun. Todd Beach acknowledged the impact their presence had on the bylaw's success.

"It should be noted this bylaw did not come into play without a lot of support from the people in the community, notably the folks sitting here, and lots of other folks at the high school," said Beach.

Myers said watching council pass the bylaw was a significant teaching moment for her students, showing how their individual decisions can have an impact on the decisions made on a large, municipal scale.

"I think they are understanding they have a role to play, and people want to hear them," said Myers. "Decisions being made on the municipal level, the provincial level, the federal level, they can have an impact on that. Sometimes it is just a matter of writing a letter or attending a council meeting. Being there [Tuesday] night in person, I think was very impactful."

Yellow Phase Offers Some Freedom For ASD South Staff, Students

Saint John, NB, Canada / The Wave

Tamara Steele

Mar 11, 2021 6:54 AM

With a return to the yellow phase of pandemic recovery comes a little relief for staff and students in Anglophone South School District.

Students and teachers can now wear masks less and some extracurricular activities have returned.

From kindergarten to grade eight, class bubbles can have excursions and field trips if they are able to do safely. The Sistema and Strings programs can also be held in person.

Superintendent Zoë Watson reflected on dealing with COVID-19 in the school system for a year during Wednesday night's monthly District Education Council meeting.

"We never heard of distancing or masks or bubbles, just how many things. Yellow, orange and red," Watson said.

District Education Council chair Rob Fowler noted the "resiliency" of everyone with what they had to deal with over the last year.

"An amazing accomplishment. I know there are shortfalls and there always will be when dealing with something you never dealt with before but, on the whole, it's been an amazing job done by Zoe and this team here and everyone in the school system," Fowler said.

Watson noted 130 students in Anglophone South are continuing with home learning plans.

She called the return to the yellow phase "good news" for their 69 schools.



Anglophone South School District held their monthly meeting on March 10, 2021. (Facebook live screen capture)

Several high schools closed for vaccination clinics Tuesday



Multiple ASDS schools, including Rothesay High, will be closed Tuesday to allow staff to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Photo: Telegraph-Journal archive

🕒 Published 10 minutes ago



Telegraph-Journal

Multiple schools in southern New Brunswick will be closed Tuesday to give staff a chance to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

According to a statement from Anglophone South School District superintendent Zoë Watson, about 4,500 high school staff members across the province will receive the COVID-19 vaccine from Monday, March 22 to Saturday, March 27.

The following schools will be closed Tuesday to allow staff to participate in vaccination clinics: Campobello Island Consolidated School, Grand Manan Community School, Fundy Middle and High School, Sir James Dunn Academy, St. Stephen High School, Belleisle Regional High School, Sussex Regional High School, Hampton High School, Kennebecasis Valley High School, and Rothesay High School.

UPDATE: Vaccine Clinics Begin For High School Staff

Saint John, NB, Canada / The Wave

Tamara Steele

Mar 22, 2021 1:38 PM

More than a dozen schools in the province will be closed Tuesday as COVID-19 vaccination clinics take place for high school staff.

It comes as high school students across the province prepare to return to full-time in-person learning next month.

The province said vaccine clinics will take place Tuesday for **staff from 17 schools throughout the province.**


That includes the following 10 schools in the Anglophone South School District:

- Kennebecasis Valley High School
- Hampton High School
- Belleisle Regional High School
- Sussex Regional High School
- Rothesay High School
- Fundy High School
- St. Stephen High School
- Sir James Dunn Academy
- Campobello Island Consolidated School
- Grand Manan Community School

The province says 4,500 high school staff will be vaccinated by Saturday in anticipation of the return to full-time in-person learning scheduled to start on April 12.




Alachua County



ASD-South @ASD_South · Mar 22, 2021

This week COVID-19 vaccination clinics will be held for high school staff across NB. Schools will be closed to students the day the local clinic is held to allow for staff to be vaccinated & plan for the full return of students. We'll share days/schools as soon as possible.



ASD-South
@ASD_South

Tomorrow - Tuesday, March 23- the following schools are closed due to staff vaccination clinics: BRHS, @sussex_regional, @HamptonHighSch, @KVhigh, @RothesayHigh, CICS, @GMCSTweet, @FundyFMHS, @SJDA2310 and SSHS.

All Saint John high schools and the COMPASS program will be closed Thursday for staff vaccination clinics.

Vaccination Clinics For High School Staff In Saint John

Saint John, NB, Canada / The Wave

Tamara Steele

Mar 25, 2021 6:26 AM

Staff at the Saint John high schools can get a COVID vaccine on Thursday.

There are no classes for students to allow for clinics to take place and for staff to plan for the return of students.

4500 staffers at provincial high schools can get a vaccine in clinics running until Saturday as educators prepare for the return of full-time in person learning.

Clinics will be held today at Simonds, Saint John, Harbour View and St. Malachy's high school and at the COMPASS program.



NIAID / CC



ASD-South
@ASD_South



There will be no classes for Saint John area high schools on Thursday, March 25 to allow for staff vaccination clinics:

- Simonds High School
- Saint John High School
- Harbour View High School
- St. Malachy's Memorial High School
- COMPASS



ASD-South @ASD_South

This week COVID-19 vaccination clinics will be held for high school staff across NB. Schools will be closed to students the day the local clinic is held to allow for staff to be vaccinated & plan for the full return of students. We'll share days/schools as soon as possible.

3:33 PM · Mar 22, 2021



5



7



Share this Tweet

KVHS Welding Class Receives Donation From OSCO Construction

Saint John, NB, Canada / The Wave

News

Mar 24, 2021 9:38 AM

The welding fabrication class at Kennebecasis Valley High School has received a much-needed donation of welding supplies.

Ocean Steel & Construction has donated a one-year supply of consumables through an initiative coordinated by Ready Arc Training and Testing.

That includes items like welding rods, welding wire, wire brushes, grinding discs, hand tools, gloves and masks, among other things.

The donated items, which arrived at the Quispamsis school last Thursday and Friday, was welcomed by teacher Shane Chatterton.

“We do struggle to keep the steady supply of consumables like gloves and masks flowing that our students require to learn safely and effectively,” Chatterton said in a news release.

The initiative was born from a series of pro bono training sessions the team at Ready Arc provided to Chatterton’s welding class before the COVID-19 pandemic began.

Jason Martin, president of the Saint John-based welding school and training facility, said it has always been their focus to support high school students interested in the welding trade.

“It’s important that our youth are given every opportunity to explore any career path they may wish to pursue,” Martin said in the release.

“Something as simple as having access to the proper supplies removes barriers and frustrations in the classroom for both teachers and students. We saw a need that could be easily fulfilled by engaging others who share our values in promoting the trades.”

After putting out a call to industry colleagues, Martin said Ocean Steel stepped forward without hesitation to lend a helping hand.

Bill Gates, general manager of Ocean Steel, said they were happy to help out with an initiative like this.

“It is important to support our youth in gaining the skills they need to be successful after high school,” said Gates.



From left to right: Teacher Shane Chatterton, Wyatt Mifsud, Caleb Patterson, Jade Scichilone, William MacDougall, Anthony Perry, Jonah Martin, Dominick Tremblay and Jonathan Tremblay. (Image: Jason Martin)

EDUCATION

KV high school gets large donation for welding program



The welding class at KV High accepted a large donation of supplies from Ocean Steel & Construction Ltd. From the left: Kyle Gould, Nahum Goodfellow, Izaac Allen, Nick Dollar, Anthony Perry, Hunter Howard.
Photo: Amy Allen/Submitted



Published an hour ago

Nathalie Sturgeon | Telegraph-Journal

The students at Kennebecasis Valley High School will have plenty of opportunities to learn the trade of welding after a donation from Ocean Steel & Construction Ltd. – a Saint John-based concrete, steel and construction giant.

It started when Jason Martin, the president of Ready Arc Training & Testing, began working with KVHS in September 2019, giving presentations about the industry as he has done at other schools in the southern part of New Brunswick with welding programs.

Martin noted the biggest obstacle to keep classes like welding going is the list of supplies that need regular replenishment. That includes welding wires, wire brushes, gloves and different types of metals.

He developed a list of smaller items and sent them out. Ocean Steel & Construction stepped up and offered to purchase every item on the list.

"We were actually prepared to receive some materials at the high school in March 2020 – and that's when the pandemic happened," he said.

Schools closed after March break for the year and when things started back up in September some limitations wouldn't allow for proper welding instruction. It also didn't allow for outside visitors to the schools.

However, the long-awaited day came. Welding students were on hand to collect the special delivery earlier in March.

"Getting hands-on training from Ready Arc was so valuable for our students, and we're disappointed that the pandemic prevents us from continuing that anytime soon," said the KVHS welding teacher Shane Chatteron in a statement from the time when the donation was initially made. "We are, however, grateful that companies like Ocean Steel and Ready Arc have recognized our limited resources."

"We do struggle to keep the steady supply of consumables like gloves and masks flowing that our students require to learn safely and effectively."

Ocean Steel & Construction Ltd. was pleased to donate.

"It is important to support our youth in gaining the skills they need to be successful after high school," said Ocean Steel & Construction's general manager Bill Gates.

Martin is happy to help the next generations of tradespeople and said as much as the kids are learning from him, he is learning from them, too.

"It's a blast," he said. "I love it. We're having tons of fun together."

Candidates Needed For District Education Councils

Saint John, NB, Canada / The Wave

[Tamara Steele](#)

Mar 22, 2021 4:59 PM

As candidates announce plans to run for municipal councils, there is a need for people to come forward and run to fill spots with district education councils.

The matter was raised at the monthly meeting of the Anglophone South District Education Council last week.

Outgoing chair Rob Fowler suggested candidates might be found through parent school support committees if current members are not re-offering.

"The last couple of elections, on average, well over 50 per cent of our seats are either acclaimed or uncontested so it has to be appointed after the fact and that doesn't look good," Fowler said.

Elections for district education councils are being held on May 10.



Rob Fowler chairs the Anglophone South district education council. (photo by Tamara Steele)

EDUCATION

'Extraordinary in every way': Saint John High student wins prestigious \$100K scholarship



Younseo Heo, recipient of a \$100,000 Loran scholarship, stands outside of Saint John High School. Heo graduates in June and hopes to pursue health sciences at university this fall.

Photo: Marlo Glass/Telegraph-Journal

© Published an hour ago



Marlo Glass | Telegraph-Journal

Saint John High School student Younseo Heo is one of just 30 Canadian students receiving a \$100,000 university scholarship from the Loran Foundation this year. She's joined by another New Brunswicker, Madison Molloy of Youngs Cove.

Heo is an international baccalaureate student, and her grades are consistently in the high 90s. She even started a club for math, her favourite subject. However, the Loran scholarship focuses on "things they wouldn't necessarily see on your transcript," said Heo.

More than 6,000 bright young Canadians applied for the scholarship this year, which provides \$100,000 over four years for undergraduate programs at 25 Canadian universities.

"They're looking for people who are thankful for their lives, and are looking to share that gratitude with their community," she said in an interview. To be awarded the scholarship, she says, "feels surreal."

Heo says when her family moved to Canada from South Korea when she was eight, she didn't speak English. She says her mother enrolled her in a string program, where she learned to play the violin.

"Not only did I learn violin, but I learned how to fit into this community," she said. "I learned how to make new friends, meet new people and be included. It really helped me adjust to Canada."

Now, Heo dedicates her spare time to making others feel included. She's co-chair of her school's Club HOPE, which stands for "helping other people everywhere." The program runs a buddy system, giving new students a friendly face. The group also organizes cleanups around their school and at beaches, as well as raises money for charities.

Heo is also the treasurer for the school's Key Club, another socially-minded group.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, she volunteered with residents of St. Joseph's Hospital, setting up bingo games, singing karaoke and playing checkers.

She says it's not a big achievement, but she relishes the chance to give back to her community.

Heo also continues to pursue music, playing violin in several orchestras, and singing in three of the high school's four choirs.

Heo's music teacher, Patricia Gallagher, says she's never met anyone like her in her 29 years of teaching.

"I've known thousands and thousands of students, and she's at the very top," she said.

Gallagher met Heo through the music world, before she started Grade 10 at Saint John High School. Over the years, Gallagher says she's spent time with Heo not just as her teacher, but also as her musical colleague. They both play violin in the school's string ensemble, led by the district's string teacher.

"I would sit near her, and watch her, and listen to her lead all of us," she said. "She's way, way beyond me."

Gallagher says it's humbling to be a teacher learning from her students, but it's Heo's kindness and leadership skills that set her apart. She's been known to learn a new instrument on the fly to bolster a role in the school play, take time out of her day to assist a struggling choir mate, and once spent an entire bus ride to New York City memorizing songs in order to join a new choir group.

As she eyes university, Heo says music will always be a part of her life.

"I know wherever I go, music will always follow," she said. She's been accepted to McGill University, and has also considered McMaster. She wants to study health sciences, with a focus in neurology, and eventually become a doctor.

Gallagher says her student is "extraordinary in every way," and her love of knowledge will serve her well wherever she goes in life. But in classic Heo fashion, she takes a more humble outlook.

"I'm going to see what the world has to offer, and what I can offer back," she said.

Quispamsis Students To Get Visit From Astronaut

Saint John, NB, Canada / The Wave

Brad Perry

Mar 30, 2021 10:22 AM

Students at Quispamsis Middle School will be getting an out-of-this-world visitor on Wednesday.

Astronaut David Saint-Jacques will share his story and talk about his career during a virtual presentation.

He will also take the time to answer some questions from the students at the school.

Saint-Jacques flew to the International Space Station on Dec. 3, 2018. His successful landing on June 24, 2019, marked the end of the longest Canadian astronaut mission to date at 204 days.

Quispamsis Middle School won this visit through the Junior Astronauts program.

Two visits per province and territory are awarded through a random draw. École Notre-Dame in Edmundston was the other New Brunswick winner.



Canadian astronaut David Saint-Jacques. (Image: www.canada.ca)

Astronaut Talks Physical/Mental Health, Space And Mars

Saint John, NB, Canada / The Wave

Stephanie Sirois

Mar 31, 2021 7:38 PM

Kids at a local middle school will never have to wonder why the sky is blue but space is black because an astronaut explained it to them.

Quispamsis Middle School won a visit from Canadian astronaut [David Saint-Jacques](#) through the Junior Astronauts program offered by the Canadian Space Agency.

The [Junior Astronauts program](#) designs activities for youth in grades six to nine in science and technology, fitness and nutrition, and communications and teamwork to interest them in a future in science, technology, engineering and math.

Saint-Jacques is an engineer, astrophysicist and family doctor. On December 3, 2018, he flew to the International Space Station and spent [204 days in space, the longest Canadian mission to date](#).

Saint-Jacques told his audience to take care of themselves, especially when it comes to physical and mental health. He said they might feel young and like they will be healthy forever but they still need to take care of what they eat, much they sleep, and to exercise at least a little bit.

“Your body really is the most important tool you have to accomplish whatever dream you have,” he said.

Saint-Jacques said it’s never too early to practice taking responsibility and becoming a person worthy of confidence.

“As a child, a lot of people make decisions for us and that’s OK but eventually, slowly you need to become responsible for yourself and it’s always good to practice holding your promises to practice taking responsibility for things and becoming someone others can trust I think is really important for whatever you want to do in life,” he said.

Saint-Jacques said it’s important to have fun because you need to have a balance.

“We all want to be someone useful and we all want to be the most beloved person but you have to have



Canadian astronaut David Saint-Jacques. (Image: www.canada.ca)

fun because you're no good when you're sad and the only way to have fun and be successful in your career is to do something you love," he said.



Canadian astronaut David Saint-Jacques (Photo: Courtesy of the Canadian Space Agency)

Saint-Jacques said it was harder to adjust back to Earth than it was to adjust to space. He said he lost his sense of balance, his body forgot to pump blood more to his head than his feet, and like he had the flu or was moving in slow motion which astronauts tend to call "Space Brain."

One question asked was how he took care of his mental health.

He said when he was having a hard day, he would go to the window and look at Earth to remember why he's doing it. He said because of the pandemic, it's like every person is an astronaut in their home dealing with many similar problems on a different scale.

"There's graffiti on the space station left by a very old astronaut from a very long time ago it says the most important thing is what you're doing right now," he said.

Saint-Jacques said one way to do well is to resolve to talk more to avoid explosions but leave others alone if they need space. He suggested getting organized, don't stay in pyjamas all day, and make a schedule otherwise, you won't achieve what you want.

"Sometimes we have a dream that seems too big, too crazy, too ambitious, and we're afraid that we're not going to make it. The error is to decide not to try in case we fail. That would be a big mistake," said Saint-Jacques.

"Your dream is not a destination, it's just a direction. It's like the North Star. You'll never get to the North Star ever, but you can still use it as a guide."

Some of the questions asked were:

- How long did it take to re-adjust to the gravity on Earth (One week before he could walk without holding someone's hand, a month before he could ride a bike and two months to feel normal)
- What was the hardest training he took (Learning to speak Russian in order to learn to fly the Russian rockets, plus the three years away from his family and the balance between work, family and friends)

News Items ASD-S

- What were some of the first noticeable changes his body experienced in a zero-gravity environment (The feeling of his organs floating up, like jumping off a high diving board, and nausea, congestion and disorientation)
- How can you tell when you pass through the atmosphere (the rocket stops shaking)
- What it was like when he first arrived at the space station (The feeling that it had moved from being a machine to a home with his friends)
- How often were you able to communicate with people on Earth and how often is it with family (Making a call depends on the satellite connection. He called his wife at least every day and every weekend had a video conversation with his family)
- Was there anything he had to improvise for on the ISS (Some repairs needed to be done because there was no procedure so every day there was improvisation because you can't plan everything)
- If space has a sun, why is it so dark (In space even during the day you see the sun while on Earth the sky is blue because sunlight goes through the atmosphere, then diffuses depending on the colours but the blue light doesn't go straight through although red does. Space is black because it has no reason to be any other colour)
- Is it possible to one day live on Mars (There's a lot of issues about living in space so first, we have to get Mars, then we have to deal with the radiation, and then figure out how to land people on Mars ready to work, or to keep them alive since Mars has nothing we need so that will need to require life support systems)



Canadian astronaut David Saint-Jacques
(Photo: Screengrab)

Districts Prepare Buses, Schools For Return Of High School Students

Saint John, NB, Canada / The Wave

Stephanie Sirois

Apr 6, 2021 6:19 AM

School districts in New Brunswick are preparing buses and schools for the [full-time return of high schoolers on April 12](#).

Zoë Watson, superintendent of the Anglophone South School District (ASD-South), said work is being done to look at space on buses and in classrooms.

Students will need to wear masks on the bus and there will be two students per seat. Buses will also have seating plans for ease of contact tracing.

"We need that of course in case there is an outbreak or a case of a student who has the virus then we have to take into account what bus they travelled on, and who was sitting around them," Watson said.

Watson said some buses will have mixed loads with elementary, middle and high school students, which will happen more often in rural areas.

In the classroom, high school teachers will also have seating plans in place, she said, and masks will be required all day except when eating or in the gym. Staff are looking at extra spaces in order to keep the appropriate distancing.

"We're excited to have them back and I know students are glad to get back but we still have to keep up with all of our cleaning and all of our sanitizing and encouraging students to keep distance, but we know that when we have 800 or 900 students in a school, keeping that usual one-to-two-metre distancing is not going to be possible so hence the masking," she said.

Before this school year even began, Watson said district staff were busy preparing for what the busing system would look like.

According to the district, 40 new casual drivers were hired with some becoming full-time employees, two drivers quit, and none were fired or laid off.

"We would say that things have gone well from our point of view. Our drivers have been great, they've been working very hard to ensure the safety of the students," she said.



With COVID-19 protocols limiting the number of students on buses, families were asked if they could reduce the workload on transportation by picking up or dropping off their children. Some agreed, either transporting in the morning or the afternoon.

Watson said some families discovered they couldn't transport their kids once school started due to work commitments as well as the length of time spent clearing the drop-off areas.

An additional 12 buses were added to the 240 already on the road in ASD-South to accommodate the new protocols.

Casual bus drivers who normally fill in when someone is sick were moved into the new positions, which meant the district needed to find more casual drivers. To date, the district has trained 25 new casuals to add to their list.

Training includes a one-week class course, a medical component, and spending time observing on school buses. There's more time spent working with a driver coach and passing the road test.

Bus drivers must complete enhanced cleaning protocols at the end of the day, and on top of wearing a mask, must have a transparent curtain drawn as students are picked up to reduce any possible exposure.

Watson said one positive out of the enhanced cleaning and mask use is how few people have colds or the flu in schools because anyone sick has had to stay home, reducing transmission to others.

"We've noticed it in the office, too. We usually will have had a cold by now, but not this time," she said.