



2021

Rural Community of Upper Miramichi
Annual Report

6094 Route 8
Boiestown, NB

Rural Community of Upper Miramichi 2021 Annual Report

Table of Contents

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR.....	1
FORWARD.....	2
COMMUNITY PROFILE.....	3
COMMUNITY COUNCIL.....	3
PROPERTY TAX RATE	5
GRANTS FOR SOCIAL OR ENVIRONMENTAL PURPOSES.....	5
SERVICES	6
GENERAL SERVICES.....	6
General Government Services.....	6
Protective Services.....	6
Environmental Health Services.....	7
Environmental Development Services.....	7
Recreation and Cultural Services.....	7
Public Health Services.....	7
Fiscal Services.....	8
APPENDIX 1.....	9
APPENDIX 2.....	10

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR

Situated in Central New Brunswick along the Miramichi River. The Rural Community of Upper Miramichi was incorporated in 2008 amalgamating 16 smaller communities into one rural community. Our slogan from day one is:

“Create the prosperous, vibrant Rural Community of Upper Miramichi where youth can be educated, employed, live and safely raise their families with pride, honor and prosperity”.

The Rural Community of Upper Miramichi’s main goal has been fiscally responsible while providing services as efficient and cost effective as possible. The Community Park expansions have increased the usage and is an important part of our Community. Keeping up with the beauty of our surroundings will make a mark on those who visit here. We take great pride in our Community.

Covid-19 played a huge role in the operations in and around our Community. Council, Staff and our Fire Department were able to keep everything as normal as possible.

Council has worked with our Volunteer Fire Department to secure a new fire truck, ATV, boat and trailers along with generators to help with EMO services that have been expanded.

Our next goals are to promote tourism and push for new economic opportunities.

FORWARD

This annual report is prepared pursuant to section 105 of the Local Governance Act, and Regulation 2018-54.

This Report contains general information about Rural Community of Upper Miramichi such as the population; tax base; tax rate, as well as more detailed information regarding village council, the provision of grants, and the types and cost of services provided. The 2021 Audit Financial Statements are appended as Appendix 11.

RURAL COMMUNITY OF UPPER MIRAMICHI

2021 Annual Report

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Rural Community of Upper Miramichi is known as the “Geographical Center of New Brunswick”. Upper Miramichi consists of 16 communities along the Southwest Miramichi River. It is centrally located to travel to Fredericton in the south and Miramichi City in the north. Current population according to 2021 Census is 2,075.

The Rural Community of Upper Miramichi has invested heavily in the Community Park. It has walking trails, tennis court / rink with a new covered structure, splashpad with one of only 3 largest buckets to date in New Brunswick, playground equipment, outdoor fitness equipment and a gazebo for entertaining.

The departments include Administration, Protective Services and Recreation Services.

The Community Office is your source for municipal information. Council and staff contact information and council meeting agendas and minutes to name a few.

The current website is under-construction: www.uppermiramichi.ca

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Community Council consists of a Mayor, Deputy Mayor and 3 Councillors, elected every four years. Election 2021 was held in May. All Council members were sworn in under acclamation.

Council members and their responsibilities:

Mayor: MA Douglas Munn

Chair of the following Committees:

Chair and Representative of the Greater Miramichi Regional Service Commission

Garbage and Recycling

Fuelwood

Councillor Ward 1: Keith Clowater

Chair of the following Committees:

Policy Review

Business Park

Doaktown Arena

Deputy Mayor and Councillor Ward 2: Grant Ross

Chair of the following Committees:

Parks and Recreation

Library Board

Councillor Ward 3: Ronald Fowler

Chair of the following Committees:

Tourism

Transportation

Councillor Ward 4: Dustin Munn

Chair of the following Committees:

Fire Department

Emergency Measures Operations

Animal Control

Garbage and Recycling

Remuneration of Council

The Mayor and Council each receive an honorarium and travel expenses for travelling on village business per By-Law 02-2012C. Total cost for 2021 totalled \$36,189.49.

	Honorarium	Travel Expense
Mayor MA Douglas Munn	\$8695.44	\$2190.18
Deputy Mayor Grant Ross	\$6956.40	\$436.82
Councillor Dustin Munn	\$5831.04	\$92.78
Councillor Ronald Fowler	\$5831.04	\$274.75
Councillor Keith Clowater	\$5831.04	\$50.00

Council Meetings

All regular Council meetings are held at the Upper Miramichi Community Centre located at 6094 Route 8 in Boiestown. All regular, special and committee meetings are open to the public. They are held on the fourth Monday of each month. Special meetings are held periodically to deal with matters that Council deems urgent.

Refer to Appendix 1 for the types, dates of meetings and member attendance.

PROPERTY TAX RATE

The tax base for Upper Miramichi in 2021 was \$116,198,400 and the residential property tax rate was \$1.1042. This rate includes the Municipal rate, the Provincial rate and the Local Service District rate. The LSD rate covers the policing services. A homeowner with a property assessed at \$70,000 paid \$772.94.

GRANTS FOR SOCIAL OR ENVIRONMENTAL PURPOSES

One of the purposes of a local government as stated in the *Local Governance Act* is to foster the economic, social and environmental well-being of its community. In 2021, Upper Miramichi gave out \$16,000 in grants to local organizations.

The following are the organizations who received grants in 2021:

1. Astle Recreation Center - \$500.00 Funding towards repairs to building.
2. Cameron Hill Cementary - \$500.00 Funding towards topsoil for graves.
3. Central NB Woodmen's Museum - \$9000.00 Funding towards the renovation project to building and electrical system.
4. Upper Miramichi Firearms Club - \$500.00 - Funding towards upgrades to range.
5. Landmark Lodge - \$500.00 Funding towards repairs to building.
6. McNamee Recreation Council - \$500.00 Funding for repairs to entrance of building.
7. Belyea Loyal Orange Lodge # 148 - \$500.00 Funding towards wheelchair ramp.
8. Boiestown / Doaktown Minor Hockey - \$3000.00 Funding towards the Minor Hockey program.
9. Village of Doaktown - \$1,000.00 – Sponsorship at Prospect Place Arena.

SERVICES

Local government budgets and services are established in accordance with a standardized classification system. Council adopted a general operating budget of \$812,544 in 2021. Actual revenues were \$1,072,333 as there were higher than expected non-tax revenues. Also, the Village of Doaktown and Upper Miramichi have entered into a joint contract for Garbage and Recycling collection and disposal. The Village of Doaktown reimburses Upper Miramichi for their share. This is reflected in the increase in revenues. The expense is reflected in Upper Miramichi environmental health services. Actual expenditures were \$1,069,710. This enabled RCUM to put money into the General Capital Reserve Fund to pay for future infrastructure costs.

GENERAL SERVICES

Total expenditures \$1,044,715

General Government Services

Total expenditures \$339,639

This category includes administration costs of Mayor and Councillors - \$49,374; administration - \$207,044; auditing fees - \$9,650; grants to local organizations - \$16,000; public liability insurance - \$15,933; regional services - \$2,612; Community development - \$17,484; interest and bank charges - \$10,728 and the cost of assessment of properties within the boundaries of RCUM - \$22,542.

Protective Services

Total expenditures \$135,748

Protective services include fire protection, emergency measures and animal control.

The Upper Miramichi Fire Department provides protective services to the Local Service District of Stanley and has Mutual Aid agreements with Stanley, Doaktown and Blackville. The Department has a Fire Chief and 24 volunteer firefighters. The LSD of Stanley pays approximately 20% of the operating cost. Total expenditures for 2021 was \$133,486

The UMFDF has two fire halls, one in Boiestown and one in Bloomfield. One fire tanker is housed at the Bloomfield fire hall. UMFDF purchased a new tanker in 2017. The Department is equipped with a total of 3 tankers, 1 rescue vehicle, 1 pickup, 1 four-wheeler with tracks, 1 enclosed trailer, 1 rescue sled, one motorboat and trailer and fully equipped fire halls.

Animal control services are provided by RCUM. One animal control officer is on duty. Total expenditures for 2021 was \$1,903.

Emergency Measures has a Committee in place to develop a working plan for RCUM. Total expenditures for 2021 was \$359.

Environmental Health Services

Total expenditures \$283,765

This category includes the cost of garbage and recycling collection and disposal. Joe's Garbage Pick-up Ltd. collects the waste at a cost of \$195,315 for 2021. Waste is disposed of at Red Pines Sanitary Landfill in Allardville, NB. Greater Miramichi Solid Waste looks after billing and the cost for 2021 was \$88,450. The tipping fee for residents was \$90.40 for garbage and the tipping fee for recycling was \$40.00.

Environmental Development Services

Total expenditures \$42,747

This category includes land use planning services provided by the Greater Miramichi Service Commission at a cost of \$32,539.

Other community projects costs were \$2,470.

The Business Park is also included in this section. The total cost for 2021 was \$3,412.

Tourism costs was \$4,326.

Recreation and Cultural Services

Total expenditures \$67,545

This category includes the MOU with the Upper Miramichi Community Library which cost \$19,000 for 2021.

Also, included is Exhibitions and Fairs which provides free events to citizens. Cost for 2021 was \$4599.

The Upper Miramichi Community Park cost for 2021 was \$20,936. These costs include upkeep and maintenance for the park.

Public Health Services

Total expenditures \$1,543

This category is for maintenance of the Community Vault. Total cost for 2021 was \$1,543.

Fiscal Services

Total expenditures \$173,728.

The Federal Government provided a one-time Covid-19 relief funds of \$120,406. Council made a motion to apply \$115,000 of these funds to pay for the remaining amount owing on the Community Center.

This category includes the interest on long-term loans, principal repayment of long-term debt and bank charges.

- 2021 cost of long-term debt was \$10,089.
- 2021 cost of principal repayment was \$163,000.
- 2021 cost of bank charges was \$639.

General Fund Debt

Purpose	Year	Amount Borrowed	Term
Municipal Community Center	2011	\$200,000	10 Years
Firetruck and Jaws of Life	2017	\$398,000	10 Years

Capital Reserve Funds

Council made several motions to use Capital Reserve funds to complete projects in 2021.

The following projects were done:

- HVAC for Community Center - \$15,151.
- Paving back lot at Community Center - \$26,860.
- Parking Lot at Priceville Footbridge - \$8,600.
- SCBA’s for Fire Department - \$39,078.

APPENDIX 1

2021 Council Meeting Dates and Attendance

Dates	Meetings	MA Douglas Munn	Grant Ross	Dustin Munn	Ronald Fowler	Keith Clowater
Jan. 24	Regular	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Feb. 22	Regular	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mar. 22	Regular	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Apr. 26	Regular	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
May 24	Regular	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
June 28	Regular	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
July 26	Regular	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aug. 12	Special	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aug. 23	Regular	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sept. 27	Regular	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oct. 25	Regular	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nov. 22	Regular	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dec. 6	Special	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dec. 20	Regular	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

LEGEND:

PRESENT

ABSENT

APPENDIX 2

(2021 Audited Financial Statements)