



PORT COLBORNE

CITYHALLNEWS

A newsletter written by Staff for the Residents of Port Colborne

DECEMBER 2021

66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 3C8 | 905-835-2900 | portcolborne.ca | newsletter@portcolborne.ca

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LET'S RE-CONNECT, PORT COLBORNE!

At all levels of government, we have worked together to ensure the health and welfare of our staff, residents and visitors remains a top priority. Port Colborne proved it is a resilient community, but now it's time we re-connect!

Throughout the pandemic, City staff have continued to work and have been here to serve you, our community. Whether by phone, email, or appointment, we found creative ways to stay connected. We also continue to deliver essential services including road maintenance and snowplowing, parks maintenance, water, and wastewater services and so much more.

Although we are not on the other side of the COVID-19 pandemic quite yet, we are continuing to navigate, together, so that we come out of the pandemic stronger. Part of that navigation is easing restrictions at our administration buildings to provide easier access for residents, businesses, and visitors to connect with our staff, buildings, and services.

Our mission is to provide an exceptional small-town experience in a big way. That being said, as of **Monday, November 29, 2021, the doors to our administration buildings, including City Hall, Public Works Centre, and Fire Hall, will open for walk-in and in-person services.** Our Library, Museum, and Vale Health & Wellness Centre have been open for cultural and recreational services and will continue to serve our community, safely.

So, let's re-connect, Port Colborne!

For more information about services available from each City facility, and the measures we're taking to keep our residents, visitors, and staff safe, visit our website at www.portcolborne.ca. More information will also be released in the coming days, including a video and guidebook. As always, our customer service representatives will be here to assist you, however you choose to connect with us. A reminder, if you have not done so already, to subscribe to our new channel on our website and like and follow us on our social media channels to receive up-to-date information.

On behalf of Members of Council and staff, we hope you continue to remain safe, and we look forward to seeing you all again, in-person!

- Mayor Bill Steele

Streamlining Customer Service

Our Customer Service team has been here to answer your calls, respond to your emails, schedule your appointments, and/or connect you with the staff member and/or service you're inquiring about. Now you can see them in-person, Monday – Friday, from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., when the doors to City Hall open on Monday, November 29, 2021.

[📍 66 Charlotte Street](https://www.google.com/maps/place/66+Charlotte+Street+Port+Colborne+ON/L3K3C8)
[📞 905-835-2900](tel:9058352900)
[✉ customerservice@portcolborne.ca](mailto:customerservice@portcolborne.ca)
[🌐 www.portcolborne.ca](http://www.portcolborne.ca)





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Christmas in Port Colborne

Port Colborne Reverse Lighted Santa Claus Parade

This year the City of Port Colborne will be celebrating Christmas a little differently with a Reverse Lighted Santa Claus Parade!

When: Saturday, Dec. 4, 2021, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Where: H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park

The reverse parade route will be designed to allow vehicles to drive through and view the stationary, brightly lit floats, including the jolly man himself. There will also be a designated path for those wishing to walk the parade route. To assist with traffic flow, staff are asking attendees to book a thirty-minute time slot online. **For more information about the parade, including booking a time slot, the route map, and application form, visit our website, www.portcolborne.ca/events.**

On Dec. 4, Santa's tugboat arrival into Port Colborne will be captured virtually again. Both Mr. & Mrs. Claus will be in Port Colborne to stroll through downtown and visit some of our merchants.

Toy Drive in support of Port Cares

Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services is hoping to once again 'Fill the Fire Truck' with toys in support of Port Cares. Unwrapped toys for children ages 0-18, along with non-perishable food items, can be dropped off at the Fire Hall, 3 Killaly Street W, Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Toys can also be brought to the Reverse Lighted Santa Claus Parade and firefighters will be on-site to pick up toys from cars.

Downtown BIA Business Lighting Contest

In partnership with the Port Colborne Downtown BIA, all businesses and storefronts across Port Colborne are invited to decorate their stores and help us light up Port Colborne for this Christmas season. Entries must be submitted by Thursday, Dec. 9. **The winners will be chosen by the community, with voting taking place on the city's Facebook page from Dec. 10-18. To enter the contest, or for more information, visit our website, www.portcolborne.ca/events.**

Home for the Holiday's Decorating Contest

Calling all Clark Griswold's of Port Colborne! Do you have the best holiday decorations in the city? Port Colborne residents are invited to PORTicipate in their very own home decorating contest. With multiple categories, including best lawn display, house lights, balcony and door display, we want to see your holiday spirit. **Entries must be submitted by Thursday, Dec. 9, with voting taking place on the city's Facebook page from Dec. 10-18. To enter the contest, or for more information, visit our website, www.portcolborne.ca/events.**



Shop Local

After you have visited one of these great Christmas events, be sure to visit our local stores to help cross those names off your shopping list! When it's time to rest, one of our many restaurants or cafes will be sure to help you re-fuel! For a full list of shops and restaurants, visit our Business Directory, <https://directory.portcolborne.ca>.

Downtown BIA Christmas Market

Nov. 26 and 27 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., the Downtown BIA is hosting two Christmas markets featuring various retail and artisan vendors at Market Square and the Guild Hall. This is also a great opportunity to look for unique gifts for friends and loved ones this holiday season!

In partnership with

NIAGARA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



PORT COLBORNE
- HISTORICAL & MARINE MUSEUM -

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280 King Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 5X8 | 905-834-7604 | <http://portcolborne.ca/page/museum>



@PortColborneHistoricalMarineMuseum



@PortMuseum



@portcolbornemuseum

Christmas at the Museum: A Grand Old Christmas Festival

Sunday, Dec. 5, 2021, 12 - 4 p.m.

In celebration of the traditions you have come to love at the Grand Old Christmas Festival, the board and staff of the museum will welcome guests on Sunday, Dec. 5. Although things are different again this year, the heritage village will be decorated, Mr. and Mrs. Claus will be visiting, and the holiday spirit will be flowing. There will also be three festive offerings for attendees:

From 12 - 4 p.m. the doors to the Nigh Agora Museum will be open, celebrating the heritage of the century farm and its people. This little country museum was originally housed in a barn on Pinecrest Road, but now has a new home in the Carriage House on the grounds of the museum. The Nigh Agora Museum was a labour of love created in 1989 by the late Mildred Nigh. Mildred and her husband, Harold, discovered a collection of handcrafted tools, utensils, baskets and more — some dating from the early 1800s — when they bought their farm from Olive Knisley in 1972. These beautiful treasures were preserved for decades by Mildred, and her collection was generously donated to the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum in 2020.

The humble wreath has some serious competition as the Christmas door swag is set to be the new must-have door adornment this Christmas. This year's Museum Home Kit will include all the natural materials needed to make a beautiful Christmas swag. This Museum fundraiser costs \$10 and pre-ordering is required by calling the Museum at 905-834-7604. Pick up will be Dec. 5 from 12 - 4 p.m.

Missing a nice cup of tea and homemade biscuits from Arabella's Tea Room? We are too! As a holiday treat Take Home Kits are being offered to enjoy from the comfort of home. Arabella's Take-Home Kits are \$10 and will include a teacup and saucer, our famous biscuit mix, and instructions on how to mix and bake the biscuits. Pre-orders are required by calling the Museum at 905-834-7604. Pick up will be Dec. 5 from 12 - 4 p.m.



More ways to #PORTicipate with the Museum

Another way to PORTicipate in winter activities this season is to join us on Dec. 9, 2021, at 7 p.m. for a virtual talk, part of the Archives' Speakers Series: "Preserving and Persevering: How Port Colborne ate in early winters" by Abbey Stansfield. Learn how early settlers used preserved foods to prepare meals during the winter months when fresh foods were unavailable. Register for this free Zoom event on Eventbrite.



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Vale Health & Wellness Centre, 550 Elizabeth Street | 905-835-2900 | www.portcolborne.ca/valehealthandwellnesscentre

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RE-CONNECT WITH RECREATION



PORT COLBORNE

FALL & WINTER 2021/2022 ARENA PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Vale Health & Wellness Centre, Rink 1 *effective September 2021 – April 2022							
Rates (Rinks 1&2) Pre-School - Free Students - \$3 Seniors - \$3 Adults - \$4 +PAYP - \$3 Open PAYP - \$5	SR & ADULT SKATE 9:30-10:50 a.m. OPEN PAYP 12-1:20 p.m.	Ice Maintenance	OPEN PAYP 11-11:50 a.m. SR & ADULT SKATE 12-1:20 p.m.	PARENTS & TOTS 10-11:50 a.m.	50+ PAYP 11 a.m.-12:20 p.m.		
Vale Health & Wellness Centre, Rink 2 *effective September 2021 – April 2022							
*Stick & Puck - \$5 for adult & child; \$3 each additional child (10 years & under must be accompanied by an adult)	50+ PAYP 11 a.m.-12:20 p.m. PARENTS & TOTS 1-2:20 p.m.	Ice Maintenance STICK & PUCK 3:30-4:50 p.m.	50+ PAYP 11 a.m.-12:20 p.m. PARENTS & TOTS 1-2:20 p.m.	STICK & PUCK 3:30-4:50 p.m.	SR & ADULT SKATE 9:30-10:50 a.m.	PUBLIC SKATING 12-1:50 p.m.	
					PUBLIC SKATING 7-8:20 p.m.		

Arena Schedule

To download the arena schedule to your phone, scan the QR code, or, visit www.portcolborne.ca/arenaschedule.



Walking Track

The Walking Track is open daily from 6:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Port Colborne Piranhas

The Port Colborne Piranhas are back! Registration is open for swimmers ages 4-14 for the Winter session, every Friday from Jan. 14 - Mar. 25, 2022, from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m., in the YMCA pool. For more information, or to register, visit www.portcolborne.ca/recreationprograms.



The YMCA is open!

The Port Colborne YMCA, located in the Vale Health & Wellness Centre, 550 Elizabeth Street wants to inform the community that they ...

- Are open for business.
- Have new flexible memberships and lower fees.
- Are accepting registrations for our child & youth programs and for our popular swim lessons.
- Have launched a new registration system that you can access online.

To learn more, visit <https://ymcaofniagara.org/>, call 905-835-9622, or email customerservice@niagara.ymca.ca.

Proof of Vaccination at the Vale Health & Wellness Centre

The City of Port Colborne is committed to ensuring the health and safety of residents and staff. As of Sept. 22, the Vale Health & Wellness Centre does require patrons to be fully vaccinated and as of Nov. 12, proof of vaccination status is required through the enhanced COVID-19 vaccine certificate that will be scanned through the Verify Ontario App, along with photo ID, to gain access, if they are:

- Any adult (18+) accessing the facility for any purpose, including parents or guardians of youth participating in an organized sport, walkers and the general public; and
- Youth (12+) that are spectating and not actively participating. COVID-19 screening will also be in effect for all individuals entering the building. Youth under 18 years of age actively participating in an organized sport, including training, practices, games and competitions, patrons with a medical exemption, and workers or volunteers (including coaches and officials) are not required to provide proof of vaccination at the Vale Health & Wellness Centre. Individuals can provide proof of immunization by downloading or printing their vaccine receipt from the provincial booking portal <https://covid19.ontariohealth.ca/>, or by calling the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line at 1-833-943-3900. Those with medical exemptions must provide proof as identified by the Province in order to access facilities. For more information, visit portcolborne.ca/covid19.



PORT COLBORNE
• PUBLIC LIBRARY •

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310 King Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 4H1 | 905-834-6512 | www.portcolbornelibrary.org



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Library Services

Curbside, in-person browsing, and 60-minute public computer sessions will continue, with the following hours:

- Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

[Proof of vaccination is not required to access curbside pickup, in-person browsing, or to use public computers.](#)

Entry will be by capacity and masks are required. All visitors to the library will be actively screened prior to entry into the building in accordance with municipal requirements. There is no in-person programming at this time.

Holiday Hours

Dec. 24 – 28, 2021 – Closed • Dec. 29 & 30, 2021 – Open

Dec. 31, 2021 – Library closes at 3 p.m.

Jan. 1 – 3, 2022 – Closed • Jan. 4, 2022 – Open

Subscribe

Want to stay up-to-date with the latest events at your Port Colborne Public Library? Subscribe to our monthly newsletter!

Visit portcolborne.ca/subscribe.

Book Sale

Books, magazines, DVDs, music CDs, and more! Prices start at 50¢. Find a treasure, buy a gift, and support your library.

12 Days of Giveaways, Dec. 6-18, 2021

This was so much fun, we are doing it again! The 12 Days of Giveaways is back to help celebrate the holiday season! Visit the library during our regular hours for a ballot to enter our daily book prize package giveaway draw! Made possible thanks to a generous donation from the Port Colborne Optimist Club.

Nelson Activity Workbooks

Thanks to the Port Colborne Optimists Club, we have free Nelson activity kits to boost math, science, and literacy skills! Available for Pre-K to Grade 4. These beautiful workbooks will make a great stocking stuffer and are available, for free, while supplies last.

Jigsaw Puzzle Exchange

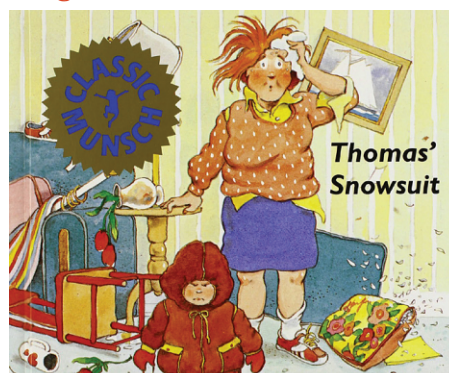
During December, swap one of your jigsaw puzzles for one of ours, for free! Don't have one to swap? That's okay! Just borrow one of ours, while supplies last.

Recreate your Favourite Book Cover Contest

Until December 18, 2021

Do you love books? Are you up for a creative challenge? This is the contest for you! We are asking our Port Colborne community to submit a photograph of a recreated book cover. Use props, costumes, drawings, etc., to recreate your favourite book cover. Submit your photograph to library@portcolborne.ca. Submissions will be shared on our website and social media accounts. The winner will be contacted in late December. Check out these this example for inspiration!

Original Book Cover:



We can't wait to see your submission!

Recreated Book Cover:



For full contest rules, please visit www.portcolbornelibrary.org.

Free Take and Make

Design Your Own Gingerbread Friend! (Ages 5+)

Available starting Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021.

Cut out your gingerbread and decorate it using buttons, coloured markers, and ribbon. Once complete, you can personalize it by writing your name on the special tag included. Then, attach your name tag to the gingerbread's Christmas scarf!

All the supplies you will need are included. No registration required. While supplies last.



Free S.T.E.A.M Activity Kits

D is for Dinosaur (Ages 6-12)

Available starting Monday, Dec. 13, 2021.

Standing for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math, STEAM introduces kids to essential skills and concepts that are transferrable and useful across many aspects of life. These kits include 3 STEAM activities with instructions, as well as information about the STEAM subject. While supplies last. No registration required.

