

MUNICIPALITY OF
**EASTERN
CHARLOTTE**

1 SCHOOL STREET • ST. GEORGE, NB E5C 3N2
P: 506.755.4320 • F:506.755.4329
www.easterncharlotte.ca

News Release

Eastern Charlotte Looks to the Future of the Day Adventure Center in St. George

25 January 2024

ST. GEORGE – During their Regular Meeting on October 18, 2023, Eastern Charlotte Council voted to surplus the buildings at the former Day Adventure Center site in St. George, signaling the municipality's readiness to begin the process of developing the site for future use.

Of the six (6) buildings listed for surplus, five (5) have since sold. The remaining building houses washroom and other necessary facilities, and will be available following the moving of water, sewage, and electrical services to a new structure on the site.

The riverside park area is located along the shore of the Magaguadavic River before it reaches the historic St. George Falls and is connected to the local network of walking trails. Its boat launch and parking area are used regularly during the summer months.

Uses of the area over the years include a tourist information center, outdoor church services at the bandstand, seasonal retail and service shops, an outdoor skating rink with warming center, visiting with Santa Claus, and various festivals and events.

Originally constructed in 1995, the buildings required costly attention to maintain or increase usability. One quote for making structural repairs, window and roof replacement, and preparation for year-round use was \$55,000 per building. Selling the buildings off and starting with a clean slate for the future was an alternative to a costly refit.

The future of the former Day Adventure Center site has been a conversation for several of the last Councils. A proposal for a riverside marketplace was prepared by the late David Armstrong in 2018. Other ideas such as a green space, an amphitheater, and a container village have also been mentioned.

Currently, there has been one preliminary concept completed though there are no firm plans on what is next for the park space. Council plans to give residents a chance to present ideas for the space by hosting an Open House on March 13, 2024, at the Magaguadavic Place in St. George. Criteria and guidelines will be published on the municipal website (www.easterncharlotte.ca) when they are determined.

The park area is one of several parcels in Eastern Charlotte operated and maintained by the municipality under a land-use agreement with the landowner, J.D. Irving. This can have an impact on funding from higher levels of government. The municipality also tries to mitigate any concerns regarding liability and alignment with community partnership goals of J.D. Irving.

“This marks the beginning of something great for Adventure Lane. We’re long overdue for something new, something built to last. This riverside area deserves a revival, and this is an opportunity to breathe new life into what will be a true gem for Eastern Charlotte,” said Councillor Alexa Detorakis, Councillor for Ward 3, St. George.



(Container village concept, ground view)



(Container village concept, aerial view)