

FEDERAL GAS TAX FUND PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF LUNENBURG

THE CHURCH LAKE PUBLIC ACCESS SITE

National objective: Building strong communities

Federal Gas Tax Fund contribution to project: \$100,000

Total project cost: \$137,000



Recognizing the importance of providing opportunities to recreate outside, the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg developed the only public access site on Church Lake in Newburn in the summer of 2016. As part of its *Open Space Strategic Plan*, the Municipality worked with the community to develop a concept for the site and identify its key elements. After considerable collaboration

and consultation, the site was built to include a six-vehicle parking lot, with a turning radius to accommodate vehicles with trailers. Since fishing is a traditional activity in the area, the community felt it was important for the site to accommodate small recreational fishing boats. A dock and a boat ramp were installed, both removable (to protect them from winter elements) and wheelchair accessible. For launching canoes and kayaks, a natural slipway was preserved adjacent to the ramp.

The Church Lake Public Access Site officially opened in September 2016 and has been well used for a variety of outdoor activities ever since. Even the cold weather did not seem to not deter its users, as after the dock and boat ramp were removed for the winter, residents used the site to access Church Lake for ice sailing. So, it seems the effort that went into designing and building the project has been worthwhile and the District of Lunenburg has been successful in providing another important amenity to help residents stay active throughout the year.

