

# PEI Community Navigators



Maxine Rennie-  
Project Lead



Scott Smith-  
Western Region



Lindee Gallant-  
Eastern Region



Peggy Miles-  
Central Region

## NAVIGATOR NEWS August 2020

You are receiving this communication from PEI's Community Navigators, an initiative of CBDC West Prince Ventures.

As a Stakeholder of integration and retention in rural PEI, this e-newsletter will be delivered to you monthly and keep you informed of efforts in Western, Central and Eastern PEI to support new residents and build welcoming communities on Prince Edward Island.

Stakeholders include: New Residents | Employers | Community Organizations | Economic Development Agencies | Government Representatives | Individual interested in welcoming New Residents

*Individuals and families who choose to settle in rural PEI offer incredible value to the communities that they settle. In each of our numerous communities dotting the coastline or the inland rolling hills of our Island, you'll find a diverse group of community members who settled in PEI or were born as Islanders, coming together to help each other and create a prosperous and fulfilling life in Rural PEI.*

### In this issue...

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COVID-19 information for Prince Edward Island:  
[www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/topic/covid-19](http://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/topic/covid-19)

PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada:  
[www.peianc.com](http://www.peianc.com)

*I am so pleased to bring the supports offered by the Community Navigator initiative to all of rural PEI. We have an excellent team to support our new residents, as well as our communities. Please meet our navigators: Scott Smith – Western; Peggy Miles – Central; and Lindee Gallant - Eastern. We are all looking forward to working with you to grow our rural regions together.*

~Maxine Rennie, Executive Director, CBDC Western PEI, West Prince Ventures Limited

CBDC Western PEI, West Prince Ventures Limited  
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Like the PEI Community Navigators **Facebook Page** at  
[www.facebook.com/PEICommunityNavigators](http://www.facebook.com/PEICommunityNavigators)





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## Meet Scott Smith – Western PEI Community Navigator

Hello! And if you are new to PEI, Welcome!

Born and raised in Freeland, PEI, I love to travel, meet new people, and learn about new cultures.



I graduated from UPEI in 2009 with my BBA Cooperative Education, spent 4.5 years living and working in the Dominican Republic, and prior to the navigator role I enjoyed welcoming visitors to PEI as the GM & Innkeeper of the West Point Lighthouse Inn & Museum for 3 years.

**I look forward to welcoming all new residents to Western PEI.** We are here to assist you with transitioning to living and working here, along with hearing about your experiences with having done so. We also look to support employers, our local municipalities, and other community organizations as we continue to build community and grow together as a region. Also, please remember that we are always looking for champion families & volunteers who are interested and able to support our work.

If you are new to Western PEI or want to learn more about our project, please reach out.

## What's Happening in Western PEI...

### Tignish

Plans are well under-way for the annual Irish Moss pageant, with lots of great weekly activities. Stay tuned for up-to-date activities by following the Facebook Profile: *Tignish Recreation-Director*.

Soccer programming is currently underway for all ages. For more info call Tina @ (902) 853-6532.

### Alberton

Alberton Town Council welcomes Kenan Wilkie to the team. Kenan has accepted the position of Recreation/Events Coordinator for the Town of Alberton. Kenan can be reached by email at [Kenan@townofalberton.ca](mailto:Kenan@townofalberton.ca) and his phone number is 902-853-3582. Currently, the soccer program recently began for the summer.

Stay tuned for up-to-date activities by following the Facebook Profile: *Alberton Recreation*.

### O'Leary

Summer soccer programming has begun.

For more information on What's Happening in O'Leary, follow the Facebook Page: *O'Leary Recreation*.

You can also follow the community Facebook Page: *Town of O'Leary*.

### Tyne Valley

Current Oyster Festival plans include: Oyster Box Decorating Challenge, Chocolate Bar Bingo, Trivia, Amazing Race, Community Awards, Pageant Awards, Drive In Concert, Oyster Slurp Challenge, & One Shuck Oyster Challenge.

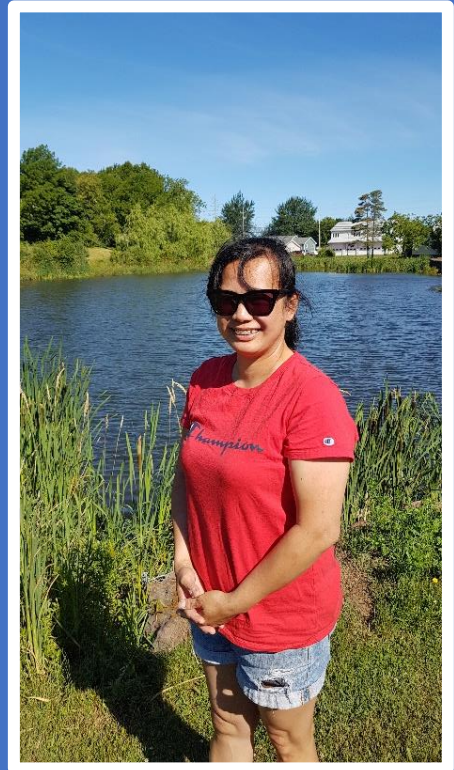
To see more on what's going on in Tyne Valley, follow the Facebook Page: *Explore Tyne Valley*.

## Meet Ruby Lubigan

Ruby is a proud resident of Western PEI. Growing up in Cavite, Philippines, Ruby immigrated to PEI, as a Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) in 2011. She can still vividly recall her first day here as she settled into country living in rural PEI.

After her 1<sup>st</sup> year in Western PEI, Ruby spent a short time with an employer in Central PEI where she received her Permanent Residency (PR) status in 2014. This soon became a special moment in Ruby's life, as her daughter Elijah joined her in their new home of PEI, Canada.

**Now Ruby lives and works in Western PEI. She is an active member of her community and an integral part of the Western PEI Community Navigator Steering Committee.** She is an ambitious entrepreneur who opened her own Asian specialty food store, Sari-Sari retail store in 2018. During its initial year, Ruby operated her small business from her home, and in 2019, she expanded to a spacious store space building on their property. If you do not find Ruby in the store, she may be working at another one of her two jobs at local high school or a seafood processing facility.



**In 2018, Ruby received her Canadian Citizenship. The more time she has spent on PEI, the stronger her connection to the place and its people has become.** Ruby is always dreaming of what she will do tomorrow; plans that include adding a short-order food counter to serve Filipino dishes of pancit (fried noodles), spring rolls, and adobo in her retail space. When it comes to her favourite local food, she exclaimed that “of course its fish & chips”!

Thank you for all you do Ruby!



Central PEI

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## Hello from Peggy Miles - New Community Navigator for Central PEI

I look forward to working with folks from the rural areas between Summerside & Charlottetown, on both the north & south shores. I have a degree in Tourism & Hospitality Management from Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, NS. Prior to my role as the Community Navigator, I managed the Central Coastal Tourism Partnership, as well as held previous roles with community non-profits, business organizations, and municipal government.



I would love to hear from ALL segments of the community, particularly if:

- You are new to Central PEI and need assistance navigating the area.
- You are an employer with new residents involved in your business.
- You belong to an organization and are interested in collaborating for mutual benefit.
- You are an individual interested in welcoming, mentoring or otherwise supporting new residents.

I look forward to connecting with you! ~Peggy

## What's Happening in Central PEI...



**Saturday, August 1 | PEI Quilt Hang Out Day |** Details on Facebook

*Do you have a favourite quilt that has provided you comfort, warmth and love? Hang it on your clothesline on August 1 for everyone to enjoy (Please take a photo of your quilt and post to social media and tag us on Facebook at PEI Community Navigators or on Instagram @PEIcommunitynavigators.*

### GREAT SOURCES FOR COMMUNITY INFORMATION:

- Bedeque & Area** | <http://bedequeandarea.ca/>
- Bonshaw** | <https://ruralmunicipalityofbonshaw.wordpress.com/>
- Borden-Carleton** | [www.borden-carleton.ca](http://www.borden-carleton.ca)
- Brackley** | <https://brackleypei.ca/>
- Clyde River** | <https://clyderiverpei.com>
- Crapaud** | <https://www.communityofcrapaud.com/>
- Darlington** | <https://darlingtonmunicipa.wixsite.com/darlingtonpei>
- Hunter River** | [www.adminhunriver.wixsite.com/hunriverpe](http://www.adminhunriver.wixsite.com/hunriverpe)
- Kensington** | [www.kensington.ca](http://www.kensington.ca)
- Kingston** | <https://kingstonpei.ca/>
- Kinkora** | <https://www.facebook.com/communityofkinkora/>
- Malpeque Bay** | <http://www.malpequebay.ca>
- Meadowbank** | <https://meadowbankpei.com>
- Miltonvale Park** | <https://miltonvalepark.com>
- New Haven-Riverdale** | <https://newhavenriverdalecc.ca>
- North Rustico** | [www.northrustico.com](http://www.northrustico.com)
- North Shore** | <http://www.stanhopecovehead.pe.ca/>
- North Wiltshire** | <https://nwiltshire68.wixsite.com/website>
- Resort Municipality of Stanley Bridge, Hope River, Bayview, Cavendish, North Rustico** | [www.resortmunicipalitypei.com](http://www.resortmunicipalitypei.com)
- Victoria by the Sea** | [www.victoriabythesea.ca](http://www.victoriabythesea.ca)
- Warren Grove** | <https://communityofwarrengrove.com>
- York** | <https://www.facebook.com/CommunityOfYorkPei>

**August 15 (Saturday):  
National Acadian Day**

*Learn more about PEI's rich Acadian culture at the Farmers' Bank of Rustico. [www.farmersbank.ca](http://www.farmersbank.ca)*

**The Buzz** - PEI's guide to community events, local art, music, theatre, books, food & drink, film and more. Info at [www.buzzpei.com](http://www.buzzpei.com)

Join the **Central PEI Community Navigators Facebook Group** to stay up to date on community happenings. Click here to join: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CentralPEICommunityNavigator/>

## Kristen Diane - Living in Central PEI through the eyes of a young newcomer



### *Tell us a little bit about your journey to PEI.*

"My family and I moved to Indian River, Kensington, P.E.I. from Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in October 2019. We had always wanted to live in Canada, start a life and settle down here, and the time had come for me to choose a university as well. And as a result, we chose P.E.I., where I would be pursuing a degree in Marketing at the University of Prince Edward Island.

Currently, I work at the Kensington & Area Chamber of Commerce, as an Office Assistant, where I do get to experience much and more of Kensington. I had completed my (Kensington Intermediate Senior High) Co-op here in December 2019 and loved working with event coordination and more. I even help my parents at their restaurant in Downtown Summerside – Z&G's Speciality Fusion Cuisine Inc. So my summer weeks are never boring, and always filled with activity. I am hoping to get (even) more involved when I move onto campus residence at UPEI in the Winter of 2021."

### *Specific to young people who are new to PEI/Canada, is there anything you would suggest that they do to help with their integration into the community?*

"I would say put yourself out there! Moving into a new land, into a new lifestyle even can be quite difficult, but getting to know more about the place and traveling around really eases the pressures of change. Each day I am learning more and more about this beautiful island, with plenty more to experience, and am slowly easing myself into this life. Getting to tour around or visit historical sites, learning more about the people etc. really helped myself and my family."

Read the full article by clicking here:

<https://www.facebook.com/PEICommunityNavigators/photos/a.557286958132685/871409490053762/?type=3&theater>

## Central PEI Community Navigator Steering Committee Spotlight on Stacy Montgomery

"Hi, I am Stacy Montgomery. I am the Executive Director of the Central Region Sport and Recreation Council (CRSRC). The CRSRC promotes, assists and encourages communities and citizens to participate in activities related to sport, recreation, physical activity and healthy living. We work with all ages.

I am always looking for ways to bring new ideas to the communities across the Central Region and getting a variety of activities going across our region. **The sporting and recreation community is always a great way to make connections. New residents will be able to join in and build bonds with people to create their social connections.** The Central Region Sport and Recreation Council is always open to communicate with community members about what they would like to see in their communities.

We also would not be able to do what we do without the support of volunteer leaders, we are always looking for new faces to help lead programs. For any further information on us or if you are not sure how to connect with any sporting/recreation activities feel free to send me an email and I will be happy to help. Email: [crsrc@live.ca](mailto:crsrc@live.ca)"





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**Office: Eastern PEI**

## Meet Lindee Gallant, Eastern PEI Community Navigator

Hello! I'm Lindee Gallant, the Eastern PEI Community Navigator. I grew up in Brudenell, and was raised in the agriculture sector, spending my teenage years delivering feed and supplies to rural farms across Eastern PEI. My maternal grandparents moved to PEI from Holland after WWII, so I am part of the 60% of the population that is a third-generation immigrant.

I love the outdoors and making friends, exploring new places, and meeting new people! Over the last decade I have worked in the bioscience and tourism industries while raising my young family.

I am passionate to share the exciting events and resources available in rural PEI, and to help facilitate the connections that help us keep our rural communities vibrant and strong. I look forward to welcoming new residents to Eastern PEI and helping our existing communities connect with the amazing individuals who have decided to call the rural region of Eastern PEI their home!

If you are interested in being a champion of your community, or you've just arrived to start your life in Eastern PEI, reach out and say hello! I'm excited to hear from you.



## What's Happening in Eastern PEI...

### Three Rivers

The PEI Public Library Service has partnered with municipalities and go!East PEI for a 'Recreation Equipment Loan Program', so that individuals can loan equipment for free using their library card! Many items are available, such as bocce ball sets, washer toss, soccer balls, and much more. Equipment is sanitized by staff between rentals. To book in Montague, call 902-838-2928, and in Georgetown, call 902-652-2832. For up to date information check out *Three Rivers* on Facebook!

### Wood Islands

Wood Islands & Area Development Corporation has partnered with go!PEI East to provide free 'Yoga in the Park' on Wednesdays at 1pm at the Wood Islands Village. The event requires registration, contact [ersrcinc@live.com](mailto:ersrcinc@live.com) to register. This event is rain or shine! Stay up to date by following *Wood Islands & Area Development Corporation* on Facebook!

### Eastern Kings

Souris Farmer's Market is every Friday from 10am-2pm on Main Street, across from the Fire Hall. Local produce, baked goods, crafts, and more available each week. Stay up to date by following *Town of Souris* on Facebook.

### PEI Ferry

Northumberland Ferries is running a promotion, a 5 pass booklet, that can save the traveller \$50-350. Please call 902.626.2550 for more details or to purchase your passes by phone or visit the website: <https://www.ferries.ca/>

### Go!East PEI

Go!PEI is a community based healthy living initiative that facilitates events throughout Prince Edward Island. They support programming like yoga, pickleball, disc golf, equipment rentals, walking days, hiking gatherings, and so much more. For more information, find their Facebook *Go!PEI*

## Meet Jim Graham of Souris Sauces

Jim Graham moved from Ontario to PEI in 2018 with his wife and two dogs to ease into retirement. However, like many newcomers to the island, Jim saw an opportunity to do something that he enjoyed while living in a place that feels like you're on vacation. As the youngest of three boys, Jim was given the role of sous chef as a young boy. His late mother showed him how to make preserves and how to tend to the garden.

When Jim arrived on PEI, he saw the opportunity to use the skills he had developed as a business opportunity, so he contacted Skills PEI and started a business plan for "Souris Sauces", which launched in July 2019 from the converted garage on his property. Using all-natural ingredients, Jim's products caught the attention of nearby shops and restaurants, as well as "PEI Living" magazine.

It's not just work for Jim, though. He volunteers with the Souris branch of the Lions Club, and was made Lion of the Year last year, in addition to donating squash from his garden for Christmas Boxes that are arranged by the Lions Club. Jim is a passionate entrepreneur, and he is a wonderful addition to the rural town of Souris, PEI. **He believes that getting involved in the community is the most important way you can create the life you want in rural PEI.** Check him out at [SourisSauces.com](http://SourisSauces.com).



## Souris PEI

If you drove to Souris for the first time, you would likely enter the town by the smooth hills of Rollo Bay, where you can pick haskap berries in July and stop for a view along the highway. Just before the causeway, a freshly renovated Seaside Bakery sits on the South side. Seaside Bakery's tag line has always been "Best Buns on the Beach", and is known for their pizza and pies. Above the bakery features a new venture, "Over the Top Ice Cream Shoppe", where you'll find a myriad of delicious treats to suit your fancy. At the Souris Beach Gateway Park, the Town has recently expanded its wheelchair accessible boardwalk, which extends 450 meters between the beach and the highway, showcasing infographics and a pagoda. At the Eastern side of the boardwalk, numerous shops, take outs, and a splash pad dot the landscape. Souris was inhabited first by the Mi'kmaq and later by French Acadians in 1727 as a fishing settlement. Fishing and farming have been the driving force of Souris' economy, and both local and international tourists alike come for the food and the beaches. Souris and area offers landscapes and amenities that bring people to visit, but make them want to settle down and become a resident. Have you taken the drive to Souris?