



A Brief History of New Germany Area Promotion Society (NGAPS)

Formed and registered in 1994

Some of the earlier projects:

- Opened the community park on the corner of Mill Road and 208, just off highway 10. Leased the land from the NS Department of Transportation.
- A major project and condition of the lease was to put in place the rock wall along the river side.
- Hosted several music afternoons at the park.
- Organized several Christmas festivals, reviving the tradition of a community tree.
- Hosted History of the Area evening.
- Organized a "Planting Festival".
- Became the sponsoring body of three C@P (Community Access Program) sites in the area; designed, operated and maintained the community web site (hosted by NS Department of Education) as part of this project. Funded by Industry Canada.
- NGAPS logo design and donated by Catherine Rigby.

Due to lack of volunteers and shortage of financing, other than the C@P sites and web page, the group went in a hiatus by 2006.

Members of the board of the New Germany & Area Medical Centre spearheaded a series of public meetings aiming to "Revitalize the New Germany Area." Meetings were held between February 2007 and March 2008 when an annual meeting of NGAPS was held. A new executive was voted in and given a mandate to pursue a variety of projects.

Money was received from the Department of Tourism & Culture and which enabled NGAPS to print two farm market brochures and hire a Community Development Coordinator.

Two September farm markets were held in 2007 and continued for the season in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

A partnership with South Shore Health and NS Department of Health Protection and Promotion facilitated the opening of Teen Place Youth Health Centre and New Germany Community Centre until 2013.

At the Community Centre NGAPS received a grant from Department of Justice, the Lighthouse Grant, for youth programs at Teen Place.

Other programs and events at the Centre included:

- Hosted Employment skills program
- Volunteer income tax preparation
- Circuit fitness
- Community Walks
- First Meet and Greet
- Programs such as yoga, intro weaving, photography, garden club, computer community access; several programs hosted by NGAPS, some by others.

Applied for and received funding from MODL in 2010.

NGAPS began publishing New Germany Connections Newsletter in 2009

Five issues a year 2010 to 2018

Four issues from 2018 on.

Organized and hosted the Health and Wellness Expo at NGRHS 2011- 2019

Maintained a community web page:

<http://newgermanycap@ednet.ns.ca> (deleted in 2022)

www.newgermany.ca

Started the NGAPS Facebook page in 2012 to promote NGAPS and community events.

Began the mowing, maintenance and beautification of Main Street Maples (MSM) (along highway 10) in 2014. Added power in 2017.

Community picnics at MSM in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019.

Community Potluck meal at Barss Corner Hall March 2019.

Coordinated nine days of Countryside Christmas events: 2014 (plus Christmas House Tours), 2015 (including decorating contest), 2016 (plus Christmas House Tours), 2017 (including a children's choir), 2018 (including a tea at the Wool Room), 2019 (second Christmas tea).

Hosted community tree lighting with hot chocolate (and sometimes cookies) yearly.

The Christmas Festival at the New Germany Elementary School was a project of Municipality of the District of Lunenburg and NGAPS became involved by hosting a market at the Festival in 2015 and 2016. NGAPS became a full partner with MODL, handling the finances and since 2020 gathering items for treat bags to gift to each student at NGES.

Supporting Liverwires 4H Countryside Christmas Tree Forest since 2017 at Main Street Maples.

Organized the first Mayoralty Candidate debate in 2008

Second debate in 2016

Hosted two Literary nights 2013 and 2014 with local authors or authors with local connections.

With the opening of the Community Centre, NGAPS supported the formation of the New Germany Garden Club, which continued to meet at NGRHS when the Community Centre closed. The Garden Club placed three planters in the community (at the New Germany Post Office, New Germany Fire Station and New Germany Freshmart). When the Garden Club closed NGAPS took over the care and maintenance of these planters.

NGAPS hosted - Grow your own Garlic Night 2018 (NGRHS)

NGAPS hosted - Grow your own Beans night 2019 (NGRHS)

Organized and hosted Meet and Greets starting in 2012 at the Community Centre. Subsequent Meet and Greets held at New Germany Elementary School and St. John's Anglican Church Hall.

In 2016 NGAPS gave a pair of local youth a grant to kick start their business after a call for proposals.

2016 also saw NGAPS hosting a New Parents Group in the Community Room at NGES.

In 2017 NGAPS made a significant donation to the MARC North project to gain traction in the community which led to the development of River Ridge Common.

Post cards from New Germany – sponsored three contests with local photos from community members. Also purchased lapel pins with NGAPS logo for sale and for gifts. Collected the information and printed Make a Day brochure for visitors to our area in 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2022.

NGAPS has organized many community walks on local trails, several writing and drawing contests, sponsored several “Canoe with Greg” and other programs and events. We have partnered with many other community groups such as the New Germany Volunteer Fire Department. We support the New Germany and Area Lions Club, New Germany Legion, New Germany & Area Medical Centre, Parkdale Maplewood Community Museum, St. John’s Anglican Church Hall, among others, with space in the community newsletter.

Our ongoing projects in 2024:

- New Germany Connections newsletter
- NGAPS Facebook page
- NGAPS website
- Make a Day brochure
- Maintenance and power at Main Street Maples
- Christmas Festival treat bags with MODL and tree lighting
- Community planters