

RURAL OUTREACH STUDENT NEWSLETTER

21 DECEMBER, 2023 | VOLUME 03



THE RURAL OUTREACH PROGRAM

The goal of the Rural Outreach Program is to support rural communities in Newfoundland in a variety of community development projects. The program is overseen by Mr. Brian Peach and Dr. Stephen Bruneau and their team of brilliant engineering students. This program assists towns in rural Newfoundland in a number of different ways, including grant assistance, funding applications, 3D model creation, website design, GIS mapping, project management and more.

Towns Helped So Far:

- Main Brook
- Change Islands
- Peterview
- Appleton
- Botwood
- Pouch Cove
- Massey Drive
- Belleoram
- Cupids
- Badger
- Stephenville Crossing
- Pasadena
- Brigus
- Colliers



**HELP US HELP YOU
PUT YOUR TOWN NEXT ON THE LIST
GET YOUR TOWN ON OUR MAP NEXT**



RURAL OUTREACH STUDENT NEWSLETTER

21 DECEMBER, 2023 | VOLUME 03



HIGHLIGHT OF THE SEMESTER



The Team attended the esteemed MNL conference held at the St. John's Convention center on October 28th 2023. The goal of the team was to spread awareness about the program and inspire more towns to avail the service's available through the program. The event was a huge success and proved to be a innovative learning experience for the students.

THE TEAM AT THE MNL CONFERENCE



The Team (Left to Right): Dr. Stephen Bruneau, Jerom Pulikottil, Mr. Brian Peach and Jethrel Pormento

The Team distributed more than 50 brochures over the course of 2 days to members of different communities across Newfoundland who ever attendees at the MNL conference, which resulted in more towns getting involved with our program.

● NEXT GENERATION 911
In collaboration with local towns and the 911 technical department, our dedicated team is diligently working to gather civic addresses and craft a comprehensive civic address map. This essential resource will empower the 911 emergency response team, ensuring faster, more accurate responses in times of need. We're committed to enhancing the safety and well-being of our community through this vital initiative.

● WEBSITE REMAINING
Connect with us to build your town website now!!

A new website for the Team of Change Islands was developed and published!

Discover town news, stunning photography, digital newsletters, annual events, attractions, businesses, town history, and more.

Town websites function as an important platform for the community serving residents, tourists, and council members with pertinent information and building a sense of connection with the locality.

ABOUT US
This program is dedicated to providing support to rural communities across Newfoundland and Labrador to help with various projects while aiming to improve the lives of residents in rural communities, increase tourism, and add municipalities with necessary systems made difficult by financial and human constraints.

WHAT DOES IT COST?
NOTHING, IT'S FREE!
The Program is funded by the Fry Family Foundation and supported by the Engineering Faculty at MUN with no cost to local Municipalities.

LET'S CONNECT

Help us to Help you put your town on the MAP

THE TEAM

Our team consists of engineering students from different faculties that come together to provide local civic support to rural communities.

- Steve Bruneau, PhD, P.Eng
MUN Professor - Civil Engineering
- Brian Peach - Supervisor
F.R.O. CAMP, PULICOTTIL
Project Engineer
Community Based Partnership
- Dev Howard - Student
Mechanical Engineering Student
- Jethrel Pormento
Computer Engineering Student
- Jerom Pulikottil
Computer Engineering Student

PAST PROJECTS

3D DEVELOPMENT OF TRAIL REST STOPS & STORAGE BAY

The team created 3D models for the town of Petermore of rest stops throughout the trail to display benches and informational signage. A storage shed was also created to house recreational equipment.

ORANGE LODGE RENOVATIONS

The team of Change Islands recognized that their community center, the Orange Lodge, be improved by adding some more accessible features for residents. The team created a 3D model of the renovated building, including an accessible bathroom and ramp, to aid them in gaining additional funding.

RURAL OUTREACH STUDENT NEWSLETTER

21 DECEMBER, 2023 | VOLUME 03



NEXT GENERATION 911

The Rural Outreach Program worked with the 911 division of Newfoundland to support their initiative for a new emergency services program known as NG911.

The program seeks to provide improved emergency services using world class telecommunication networks. The Rural Outreach Program created numerous GIS maps of rural communities in Newfoundland to support their initiative.



CIVIC ADDRESSING FOR RURAL TOWNS

The team worked with the NG911 division and aided in multiple civic addressing projects in rural municipalities such as Colliers and Appleton.



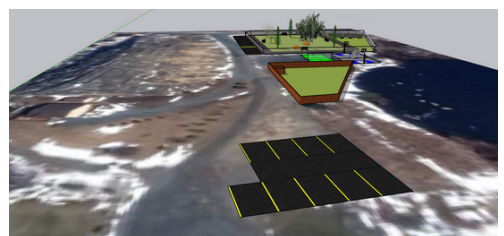
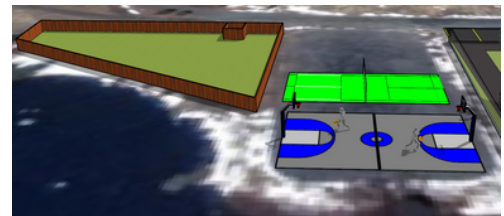
The team also created detailed guides and tutorials for future 911 mapping projects at Rural Outreach.

3D SKETCHES FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The students had the opportunity to conduct a site visit with Councilor Valerie of the town of Cupids and provide 3D sketches for their upcoming community projects.



The team created 3D models of a park area, walkway, fruit garden, ball court, dog park, and parking spaces.



RURAL OUTREACH STUDENT NEWSLETTER

21 DECEMBER, 2023 | VOLUME 03



Feedback From Clients Working With Our Team

“

The 911 Division has been working towards enhancing the province-wide emergency 911 telephone service to a Next Generation 911 (NG911) capability. A critical component of NG911 is that it requires civic addressing data. In order to obtain this data the 911 Division has been working directly with municipalities and local service districts, as they are the authority for addressing within Newfoundland and Labrador.

Some communities have struggled to be able to provide this data to the 911 Division due to lack of resources available.

The 911 Division started collaborating with the Rural Outreach Program in the summer of 2023. We met with three engineering students to provide direction for what was required to assist communities with capturing the data requested and supplied contacts for communities who showed interest. In just 2 months, these students were able to obtain the required data from two communities, which was then added to the 911 Division master civic addressing and geographical information system (GIS) dataset for the future NG911 service. This support also provided information for these communities to use for their own planning.

Without these resources, this data would not have been obtained from these communities until they had resources able to support the work related. The quality of the data supplied also resulted in a faster turnaround by the 911 Division in ensuring the data was ready for incorporation into the master data set for NG911 use.

The 911 Division looks forward to this continued partnership and the benefits of supporting communities to provide critical information needed for enhancing 911 services in

Newfoundland and Labrador.

Kerry Power
Director - 911 Division
Emergency Services

“

I am writing this letter supporting the work completed by Jethrel Raphael Pormento from the rural Outreach Office. This work was regarding an initiative for the Next generation 911 service. The Town of Appleton requested assistance to be able to complete this large project. Jethrel was instrumental in documenting the civic address information for the Town of Appleton on a digital town map. In addition, we received a great deal of assistance matching contact phone numbers associated with the town's civic addresses. I had the pleasure of corresponding with Jethrel over email and meeting with him on zoom and the professionalism and expertise was appreciated and extremely helpful. The Town of Appleton would highly recommend the services provided by this organization.

Kim Bowen, Town Clerk
Town of Appleton

“

I would like to take this opportunity to thank your organization for the help I received from Jethrel Raphael Pormento in the NG911 Mapping. I found Jethrel excellent to work with. I believe it would be beneficial to continue funding this non-profit organization. I appreciate all the help I received and would I would certainly use your services again if needed.

Janice Keeping, Town Clerk
Town of Belleoram

RURAL OUTREACH STUDENT NEWSLETTER

21 DECEMBER, 2023 | VOLUME 03

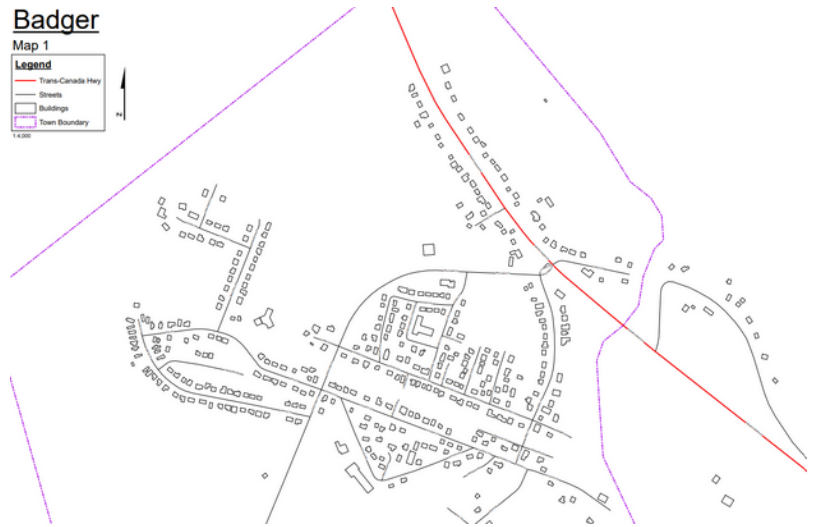
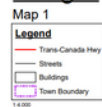


BENEFITS TO MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY ENGINEERING STUDENTS

The Rural Outreach Project offers engineering students the opportunity to learn about rural municipalities in Newfoundland, bolster expertise with a variety of software programs, devise creative solutions to address challenges faced by rural communities and experience their culture and history personally through site visits.



Badger



“

My work term with the Rural Outreach program has been a fulfilling experience in which I had the opportunity to improve my communication skills by organizing meetings with various clients about their community projects, and improve my technical skills by learning SketchUp Studios and provide 3D models of client projects. The work assigned to me was always fulfilling as the thought of being able to assist towns in my home province was always in mind. ”

**Dexi Jiang, Mechanical
Engineering Student**

“

Rural Outreach was an incredible learning experience and has allowed me to learn multiple new skills that will benefit me in my career. Throughout the term, I was able improve my communications skills through frequent client meetings. I was also given the opportunity to participate in the MNL conference which enabled me to grow my professional network. Through this work term I was able to gain experience in the field of Geographical Information Sciences which I am sure will help me the future. I'm grateful for having such an incredible team to work alongside me and for being able to contribute the the growth and development of rural communities through the program.

**Jerom Pulikottil, Computer
Engineering Student**

“

Working with Rural Outreach has been an amazing experience. Being able to help towns without the resources to get their projects off the ground and interacting with town clerks has been a pleasure. I was able to significantly improve my communication skills, and I got to learn how GIS software works as well as SketchUp. I am very glad I got to work with Brian and the rest of the students at Rural Outreach, and for being able to contribute to rural communities across the province.

**Jethrel Pormento, Computer
Engineering Student**

”

”



DEXI (HARVEY) JIANG

Mechanical Engineering Student

EMAIL
harveyj@mun.ca

PHONE NUMBER
1-(709)-699-1017



“

Harvey is a mechanical engineering student with experience in using modelling and design software through previous work terms. He has experience with working on community projects, as well as proven communication and time management skills through his other job working in the army reserves as a Combat Engineer. He is very excited to be apart of the Rural Outreach program and looks forward to assisting rural communities across the province.

”

JETHREL PORMENTO

Computer Engineering Student

EMAIL
jrpormento@mun.ca

PHONE NUMBER
1-(709)-746-4485



“

Jethrel is a bilingual computer engineering student with DELF certification in French, and experience in software and cybersecurity engineering. Through previous work terms at Lockheed Martin Canada, he has developed great communication and teamwork skills following agile/scrum methodology. He hopes to be able to assist rural communities in Newfoundland with the help of his bilingualism and his fellow co-op students.

”

JEROM PULIKOTTIL

Computer Engineering Student

EMAIL
jtpulikottil@mun.ca

PHONE NUMBER
1-(709)-986-5656



“

Jerom is a senior computer engineering student with industry experience in full-stack software development and project management. Jerom has been involved in several community development projects in the field of medicine and agriculture. He intends to use his expertise and collaborate with his fellow co-op students to provide support to rural communities in Newfoundland.

”

Fall 2023 Focus: Community Development, Trails, Mapping, Community Websites/Promotion, Grant-Assistance