BONAR LAW COMMON











Summer CAMP THE COMMON







About Our Park





- Bonar Law Common is a spectacular community park nestled along the Richibucto River that has welcomed guests of all description for four generations. At its heart, it features a 19th century farmhouse, a barn and a wagon shed that date back 175 years to the times of Bonar Law.

- Surrounding these heritage buildings, you will find a 4-acre green space that offers a 20-foot-tall bandstand, a 1500-square-foot gazebo, two large picnic pavillions, and a museum packed with local treasures, all complemented by walking trails, parking lots and public washrooms.

- Over the past five decades, Bonar Law Common has become our signature attraction for tourists and a cherished place where local residents come to enjoy special events, attractions and markets, all while connecting with local history and culture.

- Bonar Law Common is a wonderful heritage property, but to us, it is so much more. It is an irreplaceable place where we gather to celebrate community and make memories.

Municipality of Five Rivers

















A Brief History





- 1850 - The new home of Andrew Bonar Law, the only foreign-born Prime Minister of Great Britain
- 1851 to 1974 - A 20-acre working farm with a variety of livestock and crops.
- 1974- The Government of New Brunswick buys the farm.
- 1977- The Government of New Brunswick designates it as a provincial heritage site.
- 1984- The park is opened to the public with the support of the Village of Rexton.
- 1984-1993 - The Government of New Brunswick restores various parts of the park.
- 1996- The Richibucto River Museum is added, operated by the municipality of Five Rivers. The Richibucto River Historical Society are the caretakers of the artifacts on display.
- 2009- Premier Graham provides support to add the bandstand, gazebo, pavilions, and more.



View from Bonar Law House - Richibucto River

Municipality of Five Rivers

How We Use Our Park

- Weddings (3 already booked), Graduation & Prom Photos
- Canada Day, New Brunswick Day, Acadian Day
- Easter, Halloween, Winter Festival, Mental Health Days
- Annual Roots & Rivers Festival, Multicultural Event
- Truth & Reconcilliation Tree Planting Ceremony
- Dinner Theatres, Car Shows, Antique Road Show
- Summer Camp, Birthday Parties
- Museum Operations and Visits
- Hobby Farm, Petting Zoo
- Theatre & Movies in the Barn
- Community Garden, Food Security, Workshops
- Boating, River Cruises, Public Safety Day
- Fireworks displays





Canada Day Celebration

Municipality of Five Rivers



How We Care For Our Park

- The municipality of Five Rivers takes great pride in keeping Bonar Law Common in great shape for local residents and visitors.

- Each year, we invest $15k to $25k in labor and materials to maintain and improve the park, not counting provincial grants. We water and mow grass, we trim and protect trees, we clear trails and paths, we repair decks and fences, we wash and paint buildings, we prepare and seed the garden, and we clean up after events.

- Each summer, 8-10 staff members (permanent and seasonal) work onsite to do repairs, maintenance, landscaping, gardening, and more. Another 2-4 employees welcome visitors to tour the museum and heritage properties.

- In 2025 alone, Five Rivers invested its own funds to build a new, rustic riverside fence, upgrade the garden, repair the museum, repair the chicken coop and add a water pump.













Greater Kent Region Multicultural Celebration

Municipality of Five Rivers

Our Users & Visitors



LOCAL

- Children, families, adults, seniors
- Summer students
- English and French communities
- Indigenous (Elsipogtog & Indian Island)
- Filipino, first generation Canadians

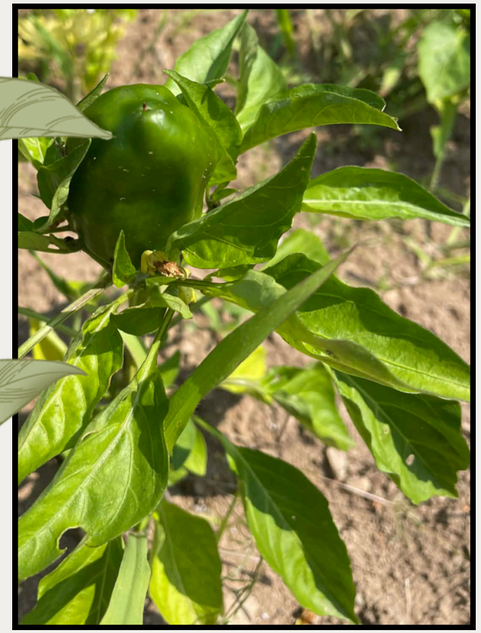
REGIONAL AND DISTANT

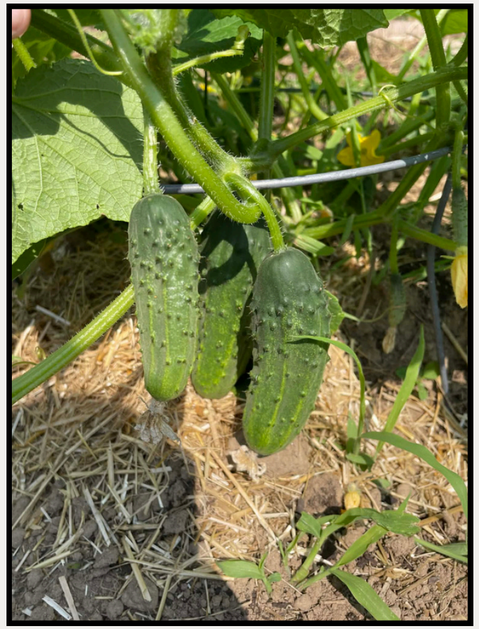
- Kent County
- Moncton & Miramichi
- Tourists to/from Kouchibouguac
- Ontario, Quebec
- US & others...





HISTORIC SITE
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EST
1870
BONAR LAW
COMMUNITY GARDEN









Municipality of Five Rivers

Our Partnerships



- Local Volunteers
- Rexton Elementary School
- Eleanor W. Graham Middle School
- Bonar Law Memorial High School
- Rexton Lion's Club
- Richibucto River Historical Society
- Rexton Fire Department
- Kent Regional Service Commission
- Rural Settlement Network
- New Brunswick Multicultural Council
- Ville de Beaurivage
- Kent County Filipino Association
- Saint Andrew's United Church
- Giftshop Vendors
- Small Town Players Theatre
- Panda Snaps Studio
- L'Association francophone des parents du Nouveau-Brunswick
- Yoga with Stacy Hudson
- Kent Rug Hookers
- Maritime Spinners
- Local Emergency Services



Small Town Players
Rexton Lion's Club



Municipality of Five Rivers

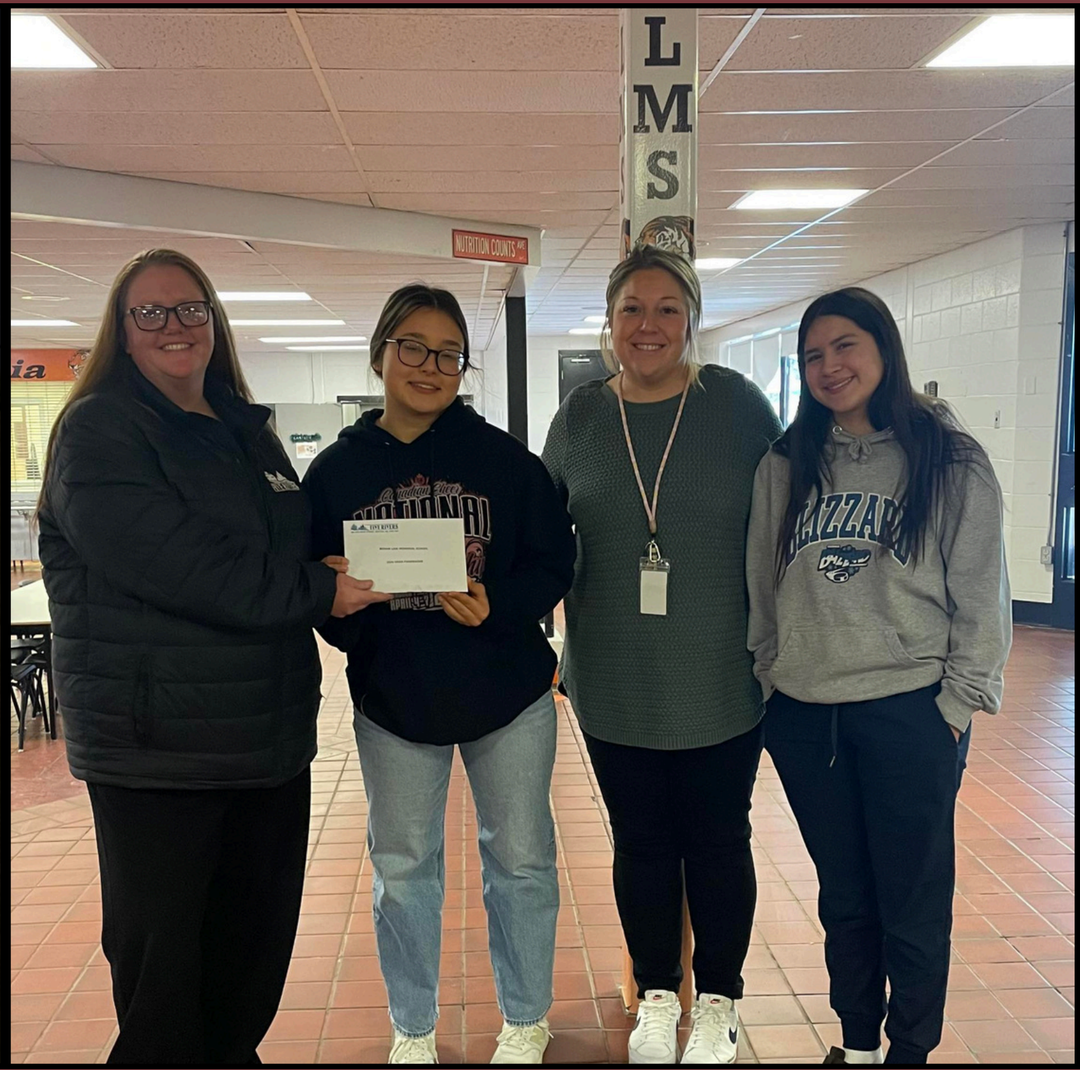




Rexton Volunteer Fire Department
Gelôtigetjig of Kouchibouguac National Park

Municipality of Five Rivers





Reidpath Family Farm
Bonar Law Memorial High School

Municipality of Five Rivers

Bonar Law Common is Five Rivers

It is our best-known signature attraction.
Bonar Law Common forms our local identity. It connects us to community and history. It draws visitors from near and far and inspires smiles and storytelling.

It is our primary home for local events and gatherings.
Bonar Law Common is our go-to destination for major events like our Roots & Rivers Festival. It's a regional hub for people from all walks of life who come there to celebrate holidays, weekends, graduations, weddings and more. It enables us to connect and collaborate with friends and neighbors, new and old.

It is an essential part of our history and identity.
Bonar Law Common allows us to connect the present to the past. It honors our shared heritage while allowing the next generation to create their own history and tradition. It gives everyone in Five Rivers a place to be proud of that deepens our sense of community.

It has belonged to our community for generations.
Bonar Law Common, the park and heritage site, has been cared for by the municipality for decades, and it has belonged to the people of Five Rivers for generations. The province would be well served to leave it in the hands of the people who care more about it than anyone.





Harvesting Hope - A Day for Mental Wellness

Municipality of Five Rivers



Our Ask

- Bonar Law Common belongs to the people of Five Rivers
- Please allow us to use our park for the 2026 season
- Please allow us to look after our park for our next generation
- Our community is ready to support and operate it

Thank you

Tina Beers

Mayor, Five Rivers

506-850-6435 | tbeers@5-rivers.ca

5-rivers.ca

