



MUNICIPALITY *of the*
COUNTY *of* KINGS

Public Atlas User Manual

ABSTRACT

This is a living document designed for continual updates for assisting members of the public with learning how to use the Public Atlas Web Map Application

Kings' GIS Team

Last Updated November 23, 2021

Web Map Application User Guide

Public Atlas

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Accessing the Public Atlas Web App

The Kings County Public Atlas can be viewed on any device with an internet connection. This document highlights the features, tools and functions of the app from the perspective of a desktop or laptop user but all features also work for mobile devices.

This is the link (click on the icon with the trees below) to the Public Atlas. You can bookmark this link, add it to your Favorites or Desktop. It is important to note that this app works best on the latest versions of Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari, or Edge Chromium.



This app can also be accessed from the Municipality's website:
<https://www.countyofkings.ca/services/maps.aspx>

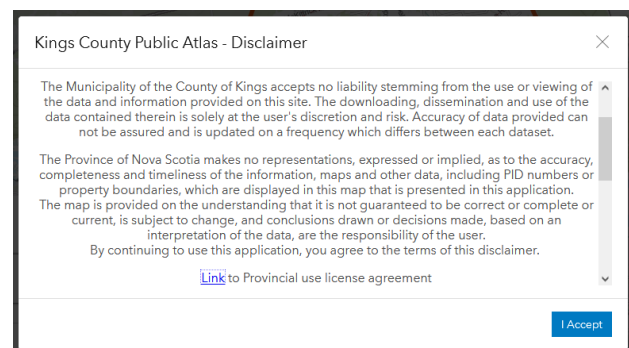


Opening the Atlas

A Splash Page will open up each time you access Atlas to highlight any important notifications and disclaimers.

These disclaimers contain important legal information pertaining to the viewing and use of the features that appear on the map.

Users must click the “I Accept” button on the bottom, right to gain access to the map. Kings County is required by an existing license agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia to include their disclaimer as well in order to display the property parcel lines seen on the map.

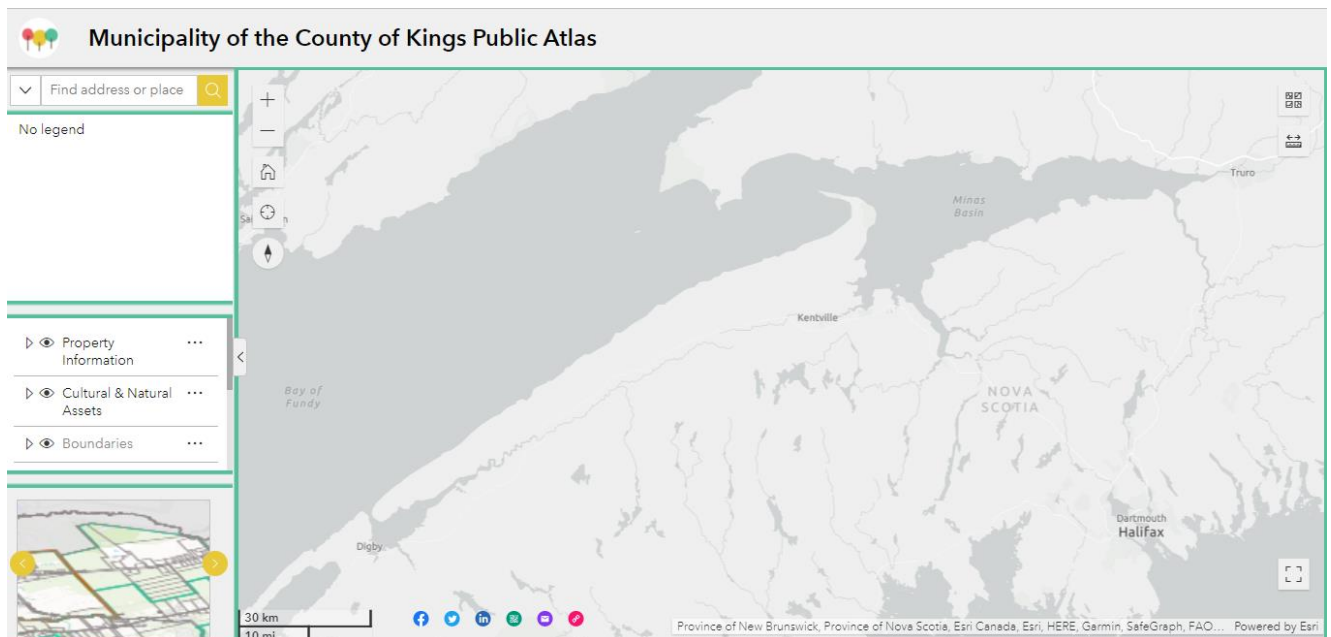


There is contact information at the bottom of the window that you can access using the scroll on the right-hand side. It is important for residents to know that Zone information must be confirmed by either a Development Officer or the Manager of Planning & Community Development before making decisions or applications for building or construction. A full list of contacts can be found on the municipal website here: <https://www.countyofkings.ca/contact/>

The Basics

The Atlas app starts out situated in a ‘zoomed out’ view of the County when it is opened. Map layers may not be visible at this scale, in which case the panel on the left says “No Legend”. In this case, you must first zoom into the map for features to begin to appear.

There are a number of ways that one can navigate to a specific location within the map which will be covered individually in the following pages. You can also just hold your mouse over the map and scroll to zoom in. Mobile users can zoom using two fingers the same way you would on a picture. The third method is by using the Map Navigation Tools as outlined in the next section.



Features, Widgets and Tools

Map Navigation Tools


These buttons are used to zoom in and out of the map. The map also works well with a mouse that has a roller wheel which works in the same manner, to zoom in and out to different map scales. You can pan around the map simply by clicking and dragging your mouse in the intended direction. Use the 'Home' button to return to the default map view. The crosshairs icon will show your actual location (if this enabled on your device). The bottom button shows the compass orientation.

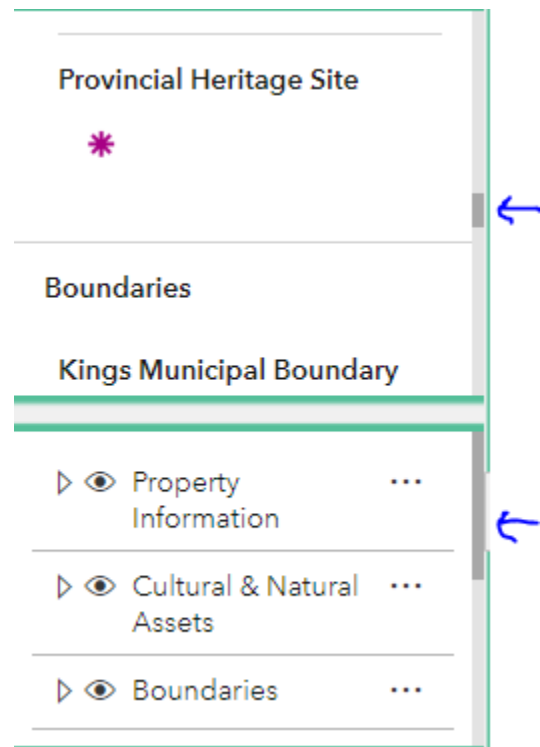


Layers List & Legend

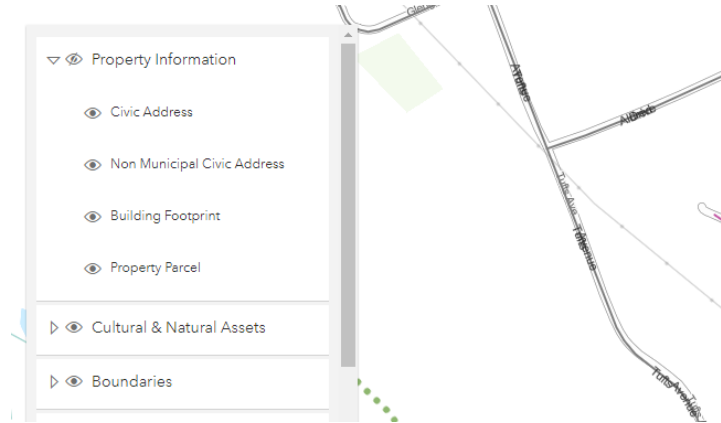
These widgets are found on the left-hand panel beside the map frame and it is important to note that they interact with each other. The **Legend** (appears on top) is for understanding the *map symbols*. It provides a visual key and description of what you see on the map. However, what is seen in the Legend is dependent on both the current zoom scale of the map and the visibility of map layers as set in the Layers List. Therefore, if you zoom in and out, layers will appear/disappear in the Legend. Similarly if you set the eye “off” in the Layers List widget for a map layer, it will also disappear from the legend.

The **Layers List** widget provides more functionality to adjust how the map looks. This is where you can

 turn layers on and off by clicking the eye icon to the left of the layer description.



Because the majority of the map layers are grouped into categories, one can also change the visibility for the entire group simply by clicking the same eye button for the group heading rather than click every individual layer that falls under it.



This is shown in the snippet, right where civic points, buildings and property parcels have the visibility “on” but because the group header ‘Property Information’ is “off”, none of them appear in the map.

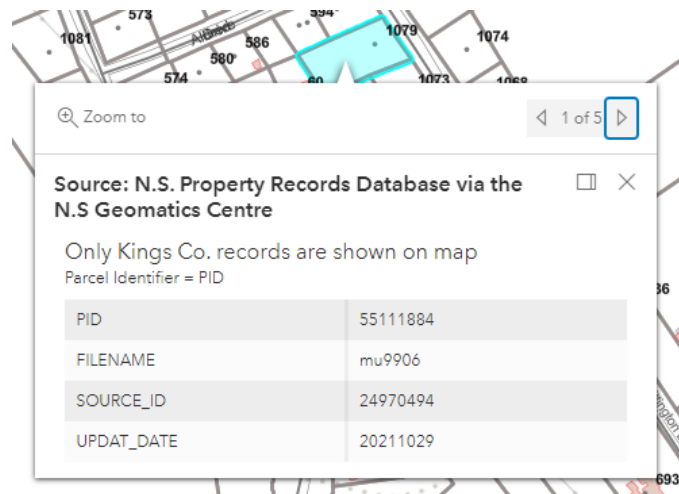
The left-hand panel can be extended by grabbing the edge of it and pulling it out to the right.

NOTE: Layers list items that are turned off in the map will not appear in the Legend

Pop-Up Windows

A pop-up is the window that opens when you click on a feature on the map. (Shown in snippet, right).

The pop-up can be docked and undocked by clicking the rectangular icon but docking the pop up gets rid of the ‘call out’ that shows you what property the information pertains to.

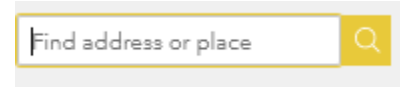


You can zoom further into the selected features using the “Zoom to” button on the upper, left part of the pop up window.

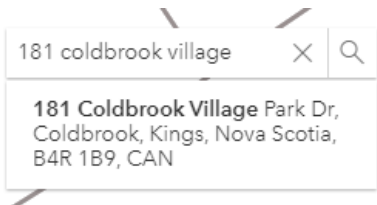
You can also click the arrows in the upper, right of the pop up window to view additional features that may have been clicked on the map that exist above or below each other. There are map features that may not be visible but are ‘clickable’ and would appear in a pop-up such as a large boundary that a property can fall within (i.e. fire district, electoral district, etc.). In the example above, there are 5 different pop ups for the location that was clicked on the map.

Search Widget

The **Search** widget will allow you to search for a specific property by entering an address.



The search widget uses a Geocoder to prompt suggestions for the address you are looking for.

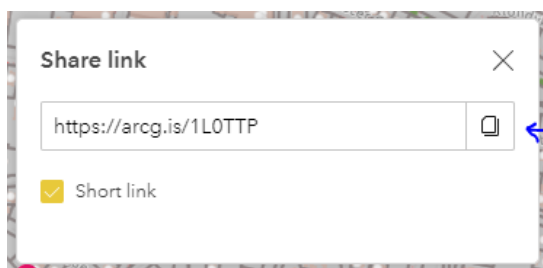


When you see the address you want, click on the record that appears below the window as in the snippet above, left. This will pan the map to that location and highlight the address with a yellow point. Click the choice once more to zoom the map further into that location.

There can be up to a one month delay for viewing newly created parcels or roads. The pop-up information associated with property parcels (PIDs) shows a date for when the last update occurred. These are usually towards the end of each month.

Share Widget

The **Share** widget allows you to share the map and appears on the bottom, left of the map frame. Clicking the pink button (far right) will create a link which you can copy to your 'clipboard' by clicking the button shown in the snippet below (indicated by blue arrow).



There are also pre-configured links to commonly used social media and email embedded in this widget window.

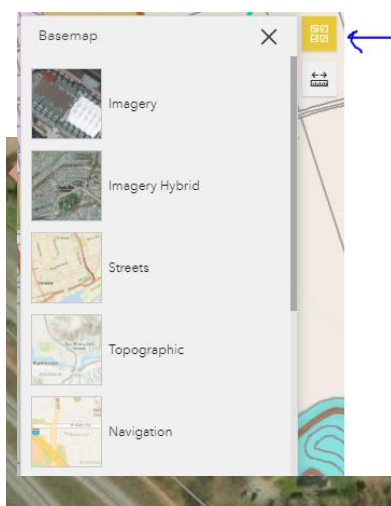
Bookmarks Widget

The bookmarks window is located on the bottom of the left-hand panel. It contains a scrolling list of pre-set bookmarks which when clicked, will quickly navigate your map window to that location. These bookmarks were pre-configured to both cover the expanse of the County geography and also to include a few key sites that are often visited by residents such as Aylesford Lake Beach.

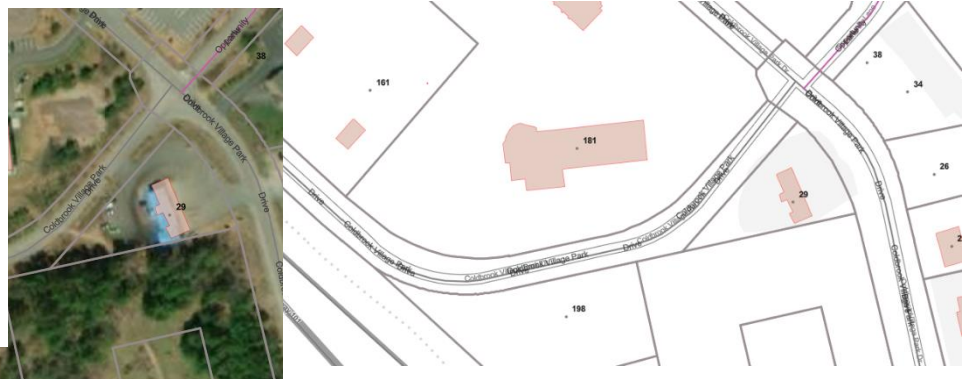


Using the bookmarks is a quick and easy way to navigate your way across the County without having to enter an address into the Search widget. Clicking the yellow arrows on either side of bookmarks shown will scroll the choices right and left.

Basemaps Widget



This widget provides the functionality of changing the basemap which is the underlying map image seen when all map layers are turned off. When you click on the icon for this widget, you can



choose from many basemaps including some made from aerial imagery. The Topographic basemap is the default basemap for the app. The snippet below shows the difference between two basemaps, one with aerial imagery and one without. To switch them back, simply click the widget button again.

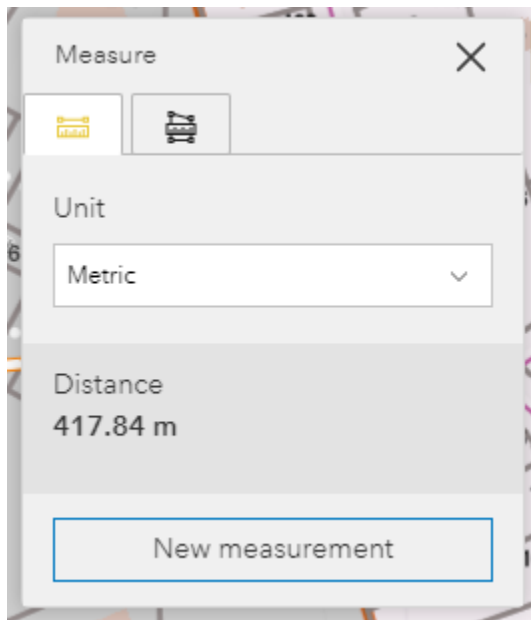
Please keep in mind that if you change your basemap, the initial design (symbology), colors and transparency levels of the app were created with the default topographic basemap in mind. Therefore, the legibility/visibility of some layers may be reduced somewhat when using the aerial imagery basemap.

Measure Tool



The measure tool allows you to measure length and area of feature found on the map.

For example, you can measure how much road frontage a property parcel has. There are two



tabs that appear when you open the tool. The one of the left is for measuring straight lines and the one on the right is for measuring polygon shapes or areas.

For either option, you can change the Unit of measurement then to begin, click on the map to start. A line will follow your mouse and your length progress will appear both on the map and in the Measure widget window. You can make multiple clicks to turn corners and then double-click to end and get a final measurement.

Full Screen Mode



This button is found on the bottom, right of the map frame. When clicked, it will close the left-hand panel that contains the Legend, Layer List and Bookmarks so that the map takes up all your screen real estate. Click the button again to close full screen mode and the left-hand panel will reappear.

Map Layer Descriptions

The following table gives a description (or metadata) for each layer found in the Public Atlas

MAP LAYER NAME	DESCRIPTION	DATA SOURCE
Civic Address	(Existing) civic address points and all new points as assigned by the Municipality of the County of Kings' Civic Addressing Coordinator, usually through the permitting process when new structures are built	Municipality of the County of Kings
Non Municipal Civic Address	Civic address points that fall within other municipal units outside of Kings County's jurisdiction i.e. Towns of Wolfville, Kentville, & Berwick, First Nations or DND land.	Nova Scotia Civic Address File (NSCAF) https://geonova.novascotia.ca/civic-addressing
Road	A polyline road segment dataset maintained by Kings and updated on an as-needed basis for when new roads are constructed	Municipality of the County of Kings
Property Parcel	A polygon dataset depicting provincial real property land records.	Nova Scotia Property Records Database (NSTDB) https://novascotia.ca/sns/access/land/property-online.asp
Trailhead	Points that represent public access to a trail	Municipality of the County of Kings
Trail	Recreational trails which cross public land only are shown	Trail coordinators and volunteers – this dataset is still in it's infancy and is continually updated as volunteers bring more data to us
Asset Point	cultural and natural point assets which can not be categorized as belonging to infrastructure participating in a utility related network. i.e. not associated with sewer, water, storm or electrical	Municipality of the County of Kings
Asset Line	cultural and natural linear assets which can not be categorized as belonging to infrastructure participating in a utility related network. i.e. not associated with sewer, water, storm or electrical	Municipality of the County of Kings
Asset Area	cultural and natural polygon assets which can not be categorized as belonging to infrastructure participating in a utility related network. i.e. not associated with sewer, water, storm or electrical	Municipality of the County of Kings

Asset Building	cultural and natural building assets which can not be categorized as belonging to infrastructure participating in a utility related network. i.e. not associated with sewer, water, storm or electrical	Municipality of the County of Kings
Heritage Site	Points which represent heritage property locations	Properties might be registered at different levels, therefore sources can include: The Municipality of the County of Kings, The NS Provincial Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism & Heritage (https://cch.novascotia.ca/exploring-our-past/heritage-property), or the Canadian Register of Historic Places (https://www.historicplaces.ca/). The federal database also contains records from all three levels of government.
Commemorative Monuments	Points depicting monuments in Grand Pré identified during the Community Plan adopted by Council in 2010.	The Municipality of the County of Kings https://www.countyofkings.ca/residents/services/planning/grandpre.aspx Map_Label values reference the Grand Pre Heritage Conservation District Plan PDF document found here: https://www.countyofkings.ca/upload/All_Uploads/Living/services/planning/grandpre/Grand%20Pre%20Heritage%20Conservation%20District%20Plan.pdf
Grand Pré Heritage Building	Heritage buildings and associated outbuildings as identified in the Heritage Conservation Plan	The Municipality of the County of Kings (see links in the record directly above)
Provincial Heritage	Grand Pré provincial heritage designated properties	The Municipality of the County of Kings (see links two records above)
Heritage Conservation District	Areas defined within the Hamlet of Grand Pré as the Heritage Conservation District; policies pertain to these areas as outlined in the Heritage Conservation District Plan and Bylaw (with respect to the architectural heritage conservation and development in the hamlet)	The Municipality of the County of Kings (see links three records above)
Hortonville Historic Grid	Boundary that defines the historic grid pattern of streets	The Municipality of the County of Kings (see links four records above)
National Historic Site	Depicts the Grand Pré National Historic Site properties; owned by Parks Canada	The Municipality of the County of Kings, Parks Canada (https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/ns/grandpre)
UNESCO World Heritage Site	Boundary of the Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Site	The Municipality of the County of Kings, Parks Canada, UNESCO (https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1404/) See also the Landscape of Grand Pré (http://www.landscapeofgrandpre.ca/)
Administrative Boundary	A limit or border of a geographic area under the jurisdiction of	The Municipality of the County of Kings

	some governmental or managerial entity	
Village Boundary	UARB approved boundaries for the seven Villages within Kings County	The Municipality of the County of Kings
General Service Area (GSA)	<p>General Service Area features define the boundary used for emergency service response - may contain more than one locally known area. Also used as a general reference for community boundaries.</p> <p>Note: The GSA was created for civic addressing/Emergency response (in the early 2000's). As of 2016, Canada Post started a single address initiative, where they wanted everyone to have the same mailing address as they would civic address. Because of this, over time, they are starting to implement the GSA as part of the mailing address</p>	<p>The Municipality of the County of Kings, Nova Scotia Civic Address File (NSCAF)</p> <p>https://geonova.novascotia.ca/civic-addressing</p>
Electoral District	Depicts the current, official electoral district boundaries as approved by the UARB	The Municipality of the County of Kings
Polling Division	Depicts municipal polling division boundaries. These are subdivisions of the electoral districts and determine which polling station residents attend to for voting	The Municipality of the County of Kings
Kings Municipal Boundary	Depicts extent of Kings County Municipal boundary	<p>Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (UARB)</p> <p>https://nsuarb.novascotia.ca/</p>
REMO Facility	Locations of approved facilities for use as emergency shelters or comfort centres	<p>Kings County Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO)</p> <p>https://www.kingsremo.ca/</p>
Policing Service Areas	Depicts policing authority jurisdictions	<p>Kings County Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO)</p> <p>https://www.kingsremo.ca/</p>
Fire District	Refers to official fire districts for Kings County and some surrounding areas. Signed by fire chiefs and last amendments approved in 2018	The Municipality of the County of Kings, all fire departments within Kings County and their respective Chiefs.
Wind Turbine Overlay	Official zoning dataset for Kings County as passed by Council on November 21, 2019. Adopted by	The Municipality of the County of Kings

	the Province of Nova Scotia in 2020.	
Zoning	Official zoning dataset for Kings County as passed by Council on November 21, 2019. Adopted by the Province of Nova Scotia in 2020.	The Municipality of the County of Kings

Closing Remarks

Thank you for your interest in the County's newest interactive map tool. This app is intended to be one of many new map apps created for supporting the County's core values:

- **Inclusivity & Accessibility**
- **Respect**
- **Accountability**
- **Education**
- **Communication**
- **Authenticity & Transparency**

We invite you to check back regularly to view new Apps that will be posted soon including the 2021 Christmas Lights App and the Road Winter Maintenance App!

For comments, omissions, errors or questions, please contact Monica Beaton, GeoInformatics Specialist with the Municipality of the County of Kings at mbeaton@countyofkings.ca or 902-690-6126.