



INTERNATIONAL HOMECOMING FESTIVAL PARADE

“Through the Years”

August 8th, 2026

Start Time: 11:00 am U.S. / 12:00 pm CDN

Dear Parade Participant:

The 53rd International Homecoming Festival will be held in St. Stephen and Calais from August 5th – 9th, 2026. Please accept our invitation to participate in the International Parade on Saturday, August 8th. We begin assembly along side Budd Avenue in St. Stephen end at South Street, Calais.

Our theme for the 2026 festival - “Through the Years.”

Awards will be presented in three categories: Best Use of Theme, Best Display of Community Spirit, and Best Overall. Only entries crossing the border are eligible. Each side of the border will have the decision to do prizes for participants that are not crossing, which will be announced at a later date. Winners will be contacted after the parade regarding photos and prize pickup. We also ask that entrants please check signage posted for the “**Gentle Zone**” (no sirens and lower volume of music) in front of St. Stephen University and continues across the Ferry Point Bridge.

The attached entry form **MUST** be returned to the Parade Committee by Monday, July 27th. Please take note of the “regulations” which govern all parade entries and appears on the attached form. Violation of these regulations jeopardizes the safety of the parade observers and puts the festival at risk of legal action, or the parade being discontinued. Violators will not be eligible for awards. We do regret the restrictions, but a safe parade demands the regulations be followed.

Please note that parade participants are expressly FORBIDDEN FROM THROWING ANY items (including candy) from those participating in the parade.

In the “Spirit of International Friendship, Goodwill, Co-operation”, we thank you for your participation.

Please return entry forms by email **no later than July 27th** to either internationalhomecomingfest@gmail.com (St. Stephen) or assessor@calaismaine.org (Calais). If you prefer you are welcome to drop off or mail to:

Attention: Patty Anderson
MDSS TOWN HALL
22 Budd Avenue, St. Stephen, NB E3L 1E9
or
Attention Andrea Walton
Calais City Building (11 Church Street)
PO Box 413
Calais, ME 04619

Sincerely,

Chandra Best & Andrea Walton

International Homecoming Festival Co-Chairs



INTERNATIONAL HOMECOMING FESTIVAL PARADE
“Through the Years”
Parade Date: Aug 8th, 2026
2026 PARADE ENTRY

Name of Organization or Business: _____

Type of Entry: _____

Assembly area Along side Budd Avenue in St. Stephen, at least 45 minutes prior to start time

Check if applicable: Music _____ Walkers _____ Distributing Candy, fliers, etc. _____

Size of Entry/Estimated length: _____

Special Needs: _____

Will you be crossing the Border: Yes _____ No _____

Note: If “Yes”, please complete the “List of Parade Participants” included in this package.

REGULATIONS

1. Driver has appropriate license for vehicle
2. Floats carrying passengers are to have safety railings around the perimeter of the trailer or all passengers are to be seated at all times while the vehicle is in motion
3. Sitting on the edge of a float trailer with feet dangling over the side is prohibited
4. **All handouts**, candy included, **MUST BE** passed out (not thrown from vehicle) by walkers in the parade
5. No demonstrations or performances that require the parade to stop
6. Violators of the regulations will be removed at the next side street and eligibility for awards withdrawn
7. Please ensure floats are outfitted with a first aid kit and fire extinguisher
8. Winners of the 3 categories will be notified later to receive their award
9. “Gentle Zone” (no sirens, low volume) will be marked at corner of Milltown Blvd/King Street, St. Stephen

BY SIGNING THIS ENTRY FORM, I AGREE TO UPHOLD THE REGULATIONS.

CONTACT PERSON: _____ PHONE NO: _____

SIGNATURE OF PARTICIPANT: _____ DATE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

Parade starts at 11:00 am US / 12:00 pm CDN from We begin assembly along side Budd Avenue in St. Stephen end at South Street, Calais. Be at the assembly area approx. **45 minutes before start of parade.** Please follow the instructions of the volunteers for parade line up when you arrive.

RETURN ENTRY FORM by July 27th to internationalhomecomingfest@gmail.com or assessor@calaismaine.org or mail/drop off to: **ATTENTION: INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL, MDSS OFFICE, 22 BUDD AVENUE ST. STEPHEN, NB E3L 1E9, or ATTENTION: ANDREA WALTON, CALAIS CITY BUILDING, PO Box 413 (11 CHURCH STREET), CALAIS, ME 04619**

Questions? (St. Stephen) Email internationalhomecomingfest@gmail.com or call Tanya at (506) 703-5410 (Calais) Email assessor@calaismaine.org or call Andrea at (207) 454-5808



CUSTOMS REQUIREMENTS

INTERNATIONAL HOMECOMING FESTIVAL PARADE August 8th, 2026, Start Time: 11:00 am US / 12:00 pm CDN

1. All participants 16 years of age and older are required to have **their passport or other WHTI** compliant document with them.
2. Children under 16 are required to have proper identification, preferably a birth certificate.
3. If you have children other than your own in the parade, you should have a permission slip from their parent or guardian.
4. The person in charge of each entry must ensure that no one that has not been pre-screened, joins their entry between the starting place and Customs.
5. A list of all **participants**, including the **driver** must be attached to the **parade application** and received by the parade committee contact person by **July 27th**. Please type or print in **block letters** on all forms. Keep a copy of the list for yourself and have it with you on parade day. If you have 20 people in your group but you are not certain who will be in the parade, list them all. If only 15 show up that is not a problem. If you have 2 possible drivers list them both, then you are covered regardless of which one drives in the parade.

This sounds complicated but I assure you things will go well as we are working in a very cooperative manner with custom officials.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out:

Tanya Dixon
(506) 703-5410
internationalhomecomingfest@gmail.com

Andrea Walton
(506) 207-454-5808
assessor@calaismaine.org



LIST OF PARADE PARTICIPANTS – 2026 **
Please type or print in BLOCK LETTERS **

Name of Group or Organization: _____

Supervising Adults: _____ Phone: _____

I certify that I have obtained parental or legal guardian consent for each participating child

Signature of Supervising Adult: _____ Date: _____

Name	Phone #	Date of Birth	Place of Birth/Citizenship	Passport or other Document #	Name of Parent or Legal Guardian if under 19 years of age
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DO NOT write on the reverse of page. Please add pages if more space is required and use appropriate headings.