

BCPickleBall goes to Prince Edward Island...

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Written by Aki Takeda



Two BCPickleball Association members found that our game was alive and doing well in the smallest province of Canada – **Prince Edward Island!**

Aki and James took a trip to the Atlantic Coastal region in late May, 2016 and Google searched opportunities to play pickleball with the locals. We found one listing for the **Town of Cornwall** and called up the local organizers, Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Bonnie Stewart. Tom kindly gave us the instructions for the pickleball play taking place on the following day, a Saturday (perfect for our itinerary!), at **Eliot River Elementary School**, a 10 minute drive West from Charlottetown. So, we got up early the next day and left Halifax, driving a few hours and



finally crossing the 12.9-kilometre long Confederation Bridge to reach Prince Edward Island and made the 12 noon start. The local players were all very hospitable, treating the visitors with no charge for the games on three nice hard surface courts. Here are other particulars about the pickleball plays at the school:

“PICKLE BALL ... has been up and running in Cornwall and we encourage you to try it! Please contact Tom Stewart at [bandtstewart @ eastlink.ca](mailto:bandtstewart@eastlink.ca) to enquire about this program.) Location: Eliot River School Annual Membership Fee:\$20 Mon & Wed: 7-9pm Sat: 12 – 2pm”

On the following Monday, a kind local resident Shirley Li, whom we met at Eliot River School, texted me and invited us to another pickleball play, this time in the **Town of Stratford**, just across Hillsborough River from Charlottetown to Stratford Town Hall. We were again treated for a fun two-hour plus pickleball played on four courts, which were split up evenly between the recreational and competitive players. Here is the schedule for Stratford:



<http://app.booking.ca/bktospub/calendars/facilities/index.asp>

I am truly thankful to the game of pickleball, which has given me many chances to mingle with the local residents on my travels with whom otherwise I would never have a chance to meet and exchange information about each other. This way, I could learn and appreciate the local flavors deeper. Now my addiction to the game is further developing into include trying out many different venues and play with the strangers... another joy of recreational pickleball!

“ *Have Paddle – will Travel* “ <http://bcpickleball.com/travel-places-to-play-2/>