

# EASTERN SHORE COOPERATOR

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## Editorial

On May 15, 2026, we published the editorial below online. As we go to press, we do not know whether Premier Houston will listen to our community and keep the Eastern Shore District High building from being demolished. What we do know is that the decision is now firmly in his hands.

We are angry that once again, we find people and organizations from outside our communities creating an unnecessary dilemma that pits neighbors against neighbors. There is no reason why we cannot have both a new Birches and the \$4 million building that the Chamber of Commerce has shown, after extensive community consultation, could provide a home for a wide range of much-needed community services and small-business start-ups.

It is simultaneously infuriating and deeply depressing that governments run by all three parties have created the mess we now find ourselves in. At this late point in the game, there is only

one person left who can do the right thing: Premier Tim Houston.

\*\*\*\*\*

### The Eastern Shore District High Building Needs YOU!

Halifax Regional Municipality says that the Eastern Shore District High Building is worth \$4 million (From Property Online).

Building inspections have found that the building is structurally sound.

And recent exploratory drilling has found new water for the site.

The Musquodoboit Harbour & Area Chamber of Commerce and Civic Affairs has been leading an effort to repurpose the school. The Chamber's Infrastructure Committee conducted three months of conversations and surveys on what kinds of services, activities, organizations, and businesses people thought could be in

a repurposed building.

The Committee prepared a detailed report summarizing the input of the more than 200 people who participated. Chamber members also prepared a detailed business plan showing how the building's users could generate the income to keep the building going.

**But unless you act immediately,** the province may tear the building down and use the site to build the replacement for the Birches Nursing Home.

### Save the EHDS building for the community!

Call Premier Houston today (902-424-6600) and leave a detailed message about why you want to save the building. Or send him an email at premier@novascotia.ca.

**How did we get into this mess?**

One of the greatest weaknesses of Nova Scotia's form of government, regardless of which party is in power, is structural: a secretive, siloed decision-making process that all too often excludes the communities impacted by its decisions.

This weakness was on display in the original decision to close ESDH and move the high school to an isolated location in a swamp in the Eastern Shore Industrial Park in East Chezzetcook. In this case, the first public mention of the province's plans was in a speech by then MLA Kevin Murphy in 2014. As we only learned too late from a FOIPOP request, the fix was in from the beginning of this process.

This same weakness is now on full display in the ongoing fight over whether to turn the Eastern Shore District High School building into a community hub—or to tear it down and build the replacement for the Birches Nursing Home on the razed site.

*...continued on page 15*

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## Emerging Lens Festival Wins Award

By Richard Bell

Screen Nova Scotia presented this year's Community Recognition Award on May 16 to The Emerging Lens Cultural Film Festival, which was co-founded 16 years ago by Shelley Fashan (left) and Tara Taylor (right). Fashan served for several years on the board of the *Eastern Shore Cooperator* and sat down for an interview about how she and Taylor launched the festival in 2010 and kept it going and growing over the years.



### How it started.

"I had done a short little documentary on a matriarch in my community," Fashan said. "Our first year we looked for films by African Nova Scotians. The next year, we thought, 'Well, you know, there's folks in other parts of Canada that would want to have their stories screened.' So we went from our focus being on African Nova Scotian filmmakers to African Canadians."

"Then we met someone from Sudan who had something he wanted to show, so we said, 'Okay, now we're going to also show films from new folks to Canada.' So we're getting stories from other countries now. We've been getting a lot from Iran."

"Where can we show our work?" There was no place to show our work."

### Expanding the Vision

"We realized people want to see films about themselves and their own stories and about their own identity and

...continued on page 9

# ask Amy

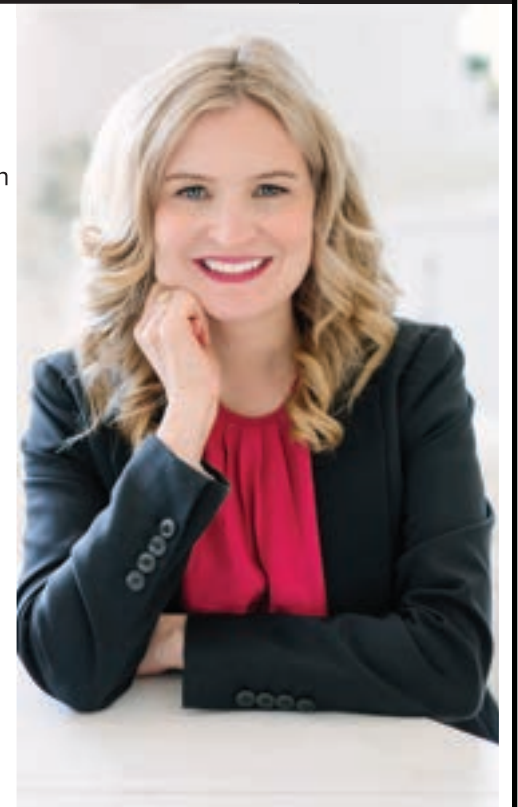
ALL THINGS REAL ESTATE

## Rising Inventory and Buyer Caution Define June Real Estate Trends

A surge in housing inventory and more cautious buyers are reshaping our June housing market. The second quarter of 2026 showed signs of a market that is balancing after several years of intense competition and limited supply. Spring stats show that inventory is up year-over-year. Average days on market has also increased, meaning it is taking longer for homes to sell. However, the good news for homeowners is despite these market changes, home prices are stable, and in fact up slightly over the same time last year. These market shifts reflect changes in buyer behaviour.

Today's buyers are taking more time and doing more research before making decisions, a stark contrast from the fast-paced market conditions of recent years. The fear of missing out and quick decision making is changing, buyers in this market are willing to wait until they see something they love, and are less willing to purchase homes that require work – the trend I am seeing is buyers are gravitating towards homes that are turn-key. This buyer hesitation means more than ever, pricing is critical. Launching a listing that is overpriced to test the market and see what buyers will do will have a cooling off effect, lose momentum, and result in a listing that is chasing the market down.

Broader affordability concerns are impacting buyer confidence, including rising grocery costs, higher fuel prices, and increasing utility rates. In this market, preparation, presentation, and pricing matter more than ever. If you are thinking about selling, having a strategic plan tailored to today's market conditions can make all the difference. Reach out anytime for a complimentary consultation on how to best position your home for success.



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## Eastern Shore Cooperator

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## Belligerent Beauties

By Eric Cole

The first Willets we saw this year were in a shoreline scrap. Two of them going at it beak to beak, the black and white wings walloping away as they dunked one another in and out of the shallows in front of our yard. A third stood close by, egging one on until the loser took off, just above the surface of the water, the victor in hot pursuit.

Like the Bald eagles I wrote about last month, these sturdy shorebirds mate for life, returning to nest where they succeeded previously and with the same mate. The defeated bird was probably trying to get in there before the pair was re-established. As May turns to June such direct scuffles give way first to rowdy display flights that curve over the headlands trailing their signature *will-will-eet* calls and then to shorter territorial and alarm flights closer to the nest site as incubation and then hatchlings are guarded over.

Returning Tree swallows whirl about after one another with boisterous grace. Their twittering aerobatics are more about real estate than mates. Reclaiming a previously successful nest site is the priority, fidelity to last year's mate comes in second and is not strictly adhered to. The first one I saw this year was flying around the bare pole where a nest box that produced five chicks sat last year.

#### Sheet Harbour Marina BBQ

The Sheet Harbour Marina Association is throwing its 5th annual BBQ on June 28th, 11 am to 2 pm at the East River Wharf, Sheet Harbour. See the Association's Facebook page for details.

It was the end of April and I hadn't installed our boxes yet. I quickly put three in place, with respectable distances between them having seen from last year how they don't tolerate close neighbours. I'm hoping fifty meters or so between them is enough for pairs to put up with each other. As of mid-May at least half a dozen birds come by on nice mornings to bicker over the boxes. Our hope is that all three get occupied and produce a brood of chicks. The more swallows around, the less bugs to bug us, so it makes sense where we live to provide suitable nesting opportunities. Barn swallows, Bank swallows and Chimney swifts also take bugs on the wing, but these species are in decline these days partly because there is a lack of suitable nesting sites and structures for them in the much-altered world of today.

#### Rainbow Food Bank Fundraiser

The community turned out for the May 23 fundraiser for The Rainbow Food Bank at the Sober Island Tap Room. The organizers are looking for monthly or annual donations to make for a more stable budget, to ensure there's always enough food on hand to meet demand. The food bank has been serving some 65 families, or about 200 people. The event got funding from the Gerald Hardy Society, which currently provides the food bank service, and the regional mining company St Barbara Gold.

You can donate to The Rainbow Food Bank by sending an e-transfer to [kerrylou@geraldhardysociety.ca](mailto:kerrylou@geraldhardysociety.ca) or mailing a cheque made out to The Rainbow Food Bank to 22657 Hwy 7, Sheet Harbour, NS B0J 3B0.

**For all Advertising Needs  
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**EASTERN SHORE COOPERATOR**

**JUNE DEADLINE**

**JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup>**

**Dave Shuman "The Wood\_Carver"**

*By Edyth Shuman*

During the mid-1980's, Don Withers offered to share his wood-carving skills! Dave Shuman, a Chief in the Canadian navy, was coming close to the end of a 30-year career. The two men had been friends for years, so the fit was there.

Dave grew up in Kensington PEI, a community of caring people. Having married in 1963, and moved to Musquodoboit Harbour some 10 years later, he volunteered throughout the community. He also worked at Twin Oaks and the Birches, so his list of friends and acquaintances grew!

By his retirement in 1988, woodcarving had become a part of Dave's life. He would sit in his chair, watching TV with a blanket to catch the wood chips. Our poor Kitty Cat who had curled up most evenings on Dave's knee, had to be gently put to the floor. As time went on and the first duck was almost completed, Dave felt guilty and let our Kitty Kat back on her favourite spot. It wasn't long before he heard a crunch – our Grandson now has the first carving with two tooth marks on the bill!

Within a few months, a number of friends were arriving weekly to learn how to carve. Next came the school children, arriving on the afternoon school bus for their carving class. A number of young folks in the community who were being home schooled would arrive once a week for their "Art" class. In those early days, the Shumans decided to open a craft shop. The three rooms in the basement were soon filled with Arts & Crafts from our talented neighbours and friends. About this

time, we started the "Old Fashioned Seaside Christmas," now known as "Seaside Christmas." Some ten years later our daughter and children needed a home, so the craft shop was moved to a newly built store adjacent to the backyard workshop.

During those first years, Dave & Edyth travelled to Crafts Shows in PEI and NS. We had a yearly display of carvings from all ages at the Musquodoboit Harbour Summer Fair. He also taught Art classes at both Oyster Pond Academy and Eastern Shore High School. For those years carving took up four days every week. In the mornings he taught community ladies. After school the children would arrive by school bus. In the evenings there were quite a number of people who would hurry home from work to attend their weekly carving class. Some of the folks who started back then still come on a weekly basis to carve, visit, and solve all the world's problems. We have a rough count over thirty years of 300-400 would-be carvers. So, because of this wonderful talent our lives have been filled with many friends that we treasure!

About a dozen years ago our granddaughter, Emma, opened Uprooted Market & Café, giving Dave a new corner to carve, meet new people, and sell his wares. Over the years his carvings have found their way to numerous charitable causes. Between "The Lions Club" and impromptu fundraisers, he would donate upon request. He and many of his carvers would carve "Comfort Birds", which were

available at Uprooted. For a donation of \$5 or more, you can get one of these beautiful carvings plus a bookmark by Karla Henderson which explain the story of "Comfort Birds"! Both these donations and a yearly Nativity Scene drawing raise money for The Food Bank and Eastern Shore Mental Health coffers.

Perhaps the most outstanding part of Dave's carvings would be his "Father Christmases." The first year of our daughter's marriage, she was living in NFLD. Wanting that special connection led her father to carve his first Santa. He has carved a different Father Christmas each year since. When his first Granddaughter was born, she received a different Santa, and each year since. Dave carves some 15 different Santas each year for Christmas. A couple of years ago we displayed these wonderful characters at the local Library, and they numbered 70!

As you can see woodcarving has brought happiness, friends, and good health to both of us. To finish, I'll add this little story: About a year ago, we were getting ready to go out and I broke

a tooth off my denture plate. Dave says, "give it to me I'll glue it back". Downstairs he goes, after minutes he yells "I need help"!

He had dropped the tooth on the workshop floor. Now any of you who have been in his shop knows there's about an inch of wood-shavings covering the floor. We hunted with magnifying glass and flashlight. We crawled the floor over to no avail.

Not to be out done, Dave had the solution, of course, a carved wooden tooth did the trick. We went out for the evening – the story was too funny not to share! A few days after the dentist fixed my tooth, Dave presents me with a new piece of Jewelry that I wear each Valentine's Day, "A Wooden Red Heart with a Wooden Tooth in the centre."

Dave continues to have about 20 students each week. They are of all ages. The laughter and conversation waffling up the stairwell tells me all is well in their world.

Thank you all for allowing us to be part of your lives all these years!

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## Making a Wicked Ashtray

By Chalmers McAllister

Damascus (pattern welded) steel is one of the coolest materials available. My mind was blown the first time I saw it on a bicycle. Geometric wave designs in steel. I didn't think the raw material could be beautiful. It is manufactured using Blacksmith techniques by stacking different steel alloys and forge welding them together. The designs are created through heating, folding, and twisting.

Danielle Schon, a master frame builder based in Squamish, BC, built the track bicycle for a trade show using pattern welded (damascus) joinery and components/hardware. These were Blacksmithing techniques. I needed to learn blacksmithing and bicycle building.

I am a lifelong cyclist and wanted a custom steel bike for my next one. I realized it was cheaper to take a frame building course with Danielle than to have one built for me. I built a hybrid gravel bike for myself and a commuter bicycle for my sister. I learned hand filing, machining, brazing, and bicycle design, and fell in love with steel and metal working in general. Next, I needed to learn about Blacksmithing.

A blacksmith, I thought, was a large, unapproachable, humorless, bearded man who took their craft too seriously. A hermit, only leaving the smithy when needing food and sleep. To my surprise, every blacksmith that I have met carries with them a gentle humility and a joy for life that is contagious. Most of them are still big, though.



The first "real" Blacksmith I met was Don Mackay while taking his five-day intro to Blacksmithing course in Perth, Ontario, a town you'd expect a world class Blacksmith to live in. He was intimidating at first. His physicality was stereotypical. He was surrounded by four coal fires roaring at 3000 degrees and hundreds of implements that could be used as weapons. Moments after I walked into his shop, I knew it was a journey worth taking.

Mackay warmed up to me after I realized I wasn't in danger. He was

just hoping to pass on as much as he could to help folks Blacksmith. We learned fire management, safety, tooling, forging processes, and general Blacksmith FAQ's. Our lessons were taught through theory, design, demonstration, then practice model. Projects included: A knife, fire pokers, hooks, nails, and a bottle opener.

I hacked my way through the projects. Nothing resembling promise or quality. I melted pieces in the fire, hit the steel hard enough to a place of no return. But by day four, I had already bought an Anvil off him and had many things in carts ready to be checked out. I was hooked. The fast paced, physically demanding, highly skilled nature of the art drew me in. Can't pretend to do it. The steel doesn't lie.

After the course I wanted to continue developing good habits. I needed a mentor. Through the YESS program at the Old School, I got necessary certifications to approach an artisan to apprentice. With my week course and skills obtained through YESS, I was able to get a placement at Sherbrooke village's Blacksmith shop.

For two seasons I apprenticed under Master Blacksmith Tony Huntley. He taught me everything I must know to continue my practice towards mastery. Plus a friendship we both didn't see coming. He is patient, articulate, and talented. Necessary skills for an Art teacher. I rode the Penny Farthing and hammer slang in the heat.

During my first season I experienced a terrible bout of Imposter syndrome. I got through this by lowering my overall goal of mastery to making a wicked coat hook. Then my goal was to make a wicked fire poker. My goal now is to become proficient in forge welding and make a wicked ash tray.

My ultimate goal is to build deep custom bicycles professionally integrating blacksmithing techniques. I don't think about it often as I don't want to get lost in lofty goals.

Currently I forge with my outdoor coal forge and my propane forge. My work is featured at Steeple Green Books for purchase. I also train Blacksmith interpreters at Memory Lane.

[Editor's note: in addition to his blacksmithing, Chalmers will be working as a reporter for the next two months thanks to the Canada Summer Jobs program. We are happy to have him onboard!]

### Terra Spencer at the Neri Arts Center



Award-winning singer-songwriter Terra Spencer will be at the Neri Arts Center in Musquodoboit Harbour on June 6 for a show from 7:30-9:30 pm.

Earlier this month in Calgary, the Canadian Folk Music Association selected Spencer as English songwriter of the year. And last year, Spencer was named entertainer of the year at the Nova Scotia Music Awards in Yarmouth. She has put out four albums since 2018, moving from being a small-town funeral director to recording with musicians like Ben Caplan, Matt Andersen, and David Francey. Spencer learned to play piano in her grandparent's basement and learned guitar in secret from her grandfather's Chet Atkins records.

For tickets, go to: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/terra-spencer-at-neri-arts-center-tickets-1982603947778>

### Celebration of Life TERRY L REYNOLDS

A Celebration of Life will be held for *Terry L Reynolds* who passed away on 07 Jan 2026. Family will receive guests at the Chezzetcook and District Lions Club, 89 East Chezzetcook Road, Head Chezzetcook on 11 July 2026 from 2-4. pm.



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## Harbour Lites Seniors Club

### "What's Going On" in June

Wednesday, June 3  
Directors Meeting at 1pm

Thurs., June 4, 11, 18, 25  
Jam 2-4pm

Friday, June 5, 22  
Karaoke 6:30-10:00pm

Sunday, June 7 & 14  
Crib 1:30pm

On Karaoke nights will be a BBQ from 5:30-6:30pm  
Menu Varies – Price \$10.

**CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR UPDATES  
Harbour Lites Seniors Club (Facebook Page)**

Tuesday, June 9

General Meeting 1:00pm  
Pot Luck Lunch 12:15pm

Saturday, June 13

Kitchen Party 2-4pm  
Bruce Carpenter & Hwy 7 Band

Tuesday, June 16  
Bingo 2:00pm



167 Meaghers Grant Road

Tuesday, June 30

Members Dinner 12:30pm  
Chicken Alfredo

### Happy FATHER'S DAY

Membership only \$20.

Contact Willa  
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## PTSD and Addictions Centre Opens

By Richard Bell

Veterans, RCMP members, and first responders now have a state-of-the-art mental health and addiction care facility on the Eastern Shore. The official ribbon-cutting opening of EHN Guardians Atlantic took place on May 12 on the steps of the main building, located at 610 Myers Point Road, Head of Jeddore.

The company has substantially repurposed and rebuilt the buildings on the site, which was originally built and operated as a resort. The focus is on people who have spent their lives serving and protecting others – jobs whose long-term stress, trauma, and pressure can make seeking mental health care especially difficult.

“Today is about much more than a few buildings,” said Joe Manget, EHN Canada’s CEO. “Today is about creating a place where those who spent their lives serving and protecting others can finally put their own well-being first.”



The facility offers enhanced clinical programs for addiction, trauma, and concurrent disorders, private and semi-private accommodations, 24/7 medical support, and restorative amenities such as hiking trails, meditation spaces, and a fitness centre, all designed to foster long-term healing.

In remarks before the ribbon cutting, RCMP Superintendent Dustine Rodier, M.O.M. (and Senior Strategic Advisor in the RCMP’s Occupational Health and Safety Branch) gave some moving testimony about the origin of the relationship between the RCMP and EHN Canada, and the dramatic impact on her own life.

“The RCMP of Nova Scotia got involved with the EHN team after the Nova Scotia mass casualty tragedy,” Rodier said. “There was such a widespread, devastating impact to our organization. There was no playbook for how we could handle something of this size.”

Rodier was administration and personnel officer for Nova Scotia at the time, responsible for the wellness of RCMP employees. At her first meeting

with EHN, Rodier said she couldn’t even say what she needed. “My answer was, ‘I have no idea. We are so far down this black hole.’

And their answer was, ‘Don’t worry, we got you.’ Over the next several months, as this process played out, what EHN took is every single piece of our feedback and built a whole new program for the RCMP that I’m proud to say is now rolled out nationally called the EHN Guardians Program.”

But the work was also taking a toll on Rodier herself. “I can say, honestly, from the bottom of my heart, this program, what EHN does, saves lives. And I can say that because they saved my life. Back in 2021, after we started

working with EHN, I knew in the back of my mind that I was becoming very, very unwell myself.”

She ended up doing a full nine-week program at EHN’s Nanaimo facility.

“It saved my life, it saved my family,

it saved my career, and it gave me a whole new, opened my eyes to a whole new level of compassion that I didn’t even know it could exist.

Eastern Shore MLA (and Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture) Kent Smith and Minister of Justice Scott Armstrong were on hand to welcome the opening of the treatment centre.

Smith said that the facility filled an important need: “For too long, those seeking this level of specialized care have either had to travel far from home or simply go without. And today, that changes.”

He noted that the Houston government had already “made the largest investment in mental health and addictions in this province’s history. We established Mental Health and Addictions as a stand-alone department, a signal that that work deserves its own unique department. And as we remain committed to reducing barriers, ensuring that Nova Scotians can access the care they need closer to home, holistically, rather than a collection of individualized symptoms.”

## HRM’s Future Must Include Every Community

People on the Eastern Shore are feeling the effects of growth just as much as any other community.

Costs are rising. Housing is harder to find. Roads and infrastructure are under pressure. And many people are wondering whether communities outside the urban core are being included in HRM’s future.

That’s completely understandable.

Over the past decade, HRM grew faster than almost anyone expected. More people moved here, businesses expanded, and the municipality changed quickly.

Now, another major wave of growth is still ahead of us.

New defence and infrastructure investments are expected to bring more jobs, more residents, and more pressure on systems that are already stretched.

That’s why this moment matters.

If we wait until we’re already overwhelmed, communities will feel the impact before solutions arrive. We need to prepare now.

My job as Mayor is to make sure we’re ready – and that has to include rural and coastal communities too.

For the Eastern Shore, that means reliable roads, strong emergency services, local economic opportunity, and infrastructure that supports residents and businesses.

It also means making sure people feel connected to the future of our region.

Too often, growth conversations feel focused on downtown. But communities across the Eastern Shore are an important part of our identity and our future.

I’m really optimistic about what’s ahead.

If we manage growth properly, more people and more economic activity will create the ability to invest more in roads, community spaces, recreation facilities, and local services – while strengthening the overall tax base and reducing pressure on existing taxpayers.

That’s the opportunity in front of us.

The challenge is making sure no community is left behind as HRM continues to grow.



Mayor  
Andy Fillmore

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# MLA MEMO

Hi everyone and welcome to June! Thanks for taking a moment to read through this update, and never hesitate to reach out to the office for additional information on anything you read here, or on any other provincial topics.

Here are some things that have taken place recently on the Shore:

## In local Mental Health news:

- EHN Guardian held their grand opening on May 12th. They're a rehabilitation facility in Myers Point (in the former Sea Rover Marina/Taradine Wellness Center) dedicated to helping front-line service workers (military, army, navy, etc), as well as Police and Paramedics with their mental well-being. It's an incredible facility making a real difference.



Ribbon cutting with Minister Scott Armstrong and the Team from EHN Guardian.

## In local Environment & Climate Change news :

- On May 14th, Memory Lane Heritage Village was awarded funding from the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund (\$131,548) in support of their Arboretum initiative. This initiative supports renewal and preservation along the Eastern Shore in the wake of destruction caused by Hurricane Fiona in 2022. The storm made landfall near the Memory Lane Heritage Village in Lake Charlotte, knocking down close to 200 trees on the property. Rather than simply replanting, the Lake Charlotte Area Heritage Society, the museum operator, saw an opportunity for something more – a dedicated area to protect and study trees and forest plants.
- Arboretums are dedicated places for scientific research and education on biodiversity, conservation, sustainability best practices, tree species and the impact of climate change on trees and forests. They also provide a home for wildlife, birds and endangered species and are a place for people to connect with and enjoy nature.



Thea Wilson-Hammond offers Minister Halman and I a tour of Memory Lane; group photo after the announcement.

## In local Mining news:

- The Antrim Gypsum Project, a low-carbon gypsum mine planned for Carrolls Corner, Halifax County, has received its industrial approval. The approval allows mine owner CertainTeed Canada Inc. to operate an open pit mine that will produce about 1.5 million tonnes of gypsum and anhydrite annually.
- The mine is expected to open in 2027, providing more than 60 direct full-time jobs and local economic benefits.
- The minerals will be shipped from the Sheet Harbour port, with some material remaining in the province for use in cement and agriculture.

## In local Healthcare news:

- On May 9th, the new One Patient One Record was launched in the Central Zone, after a successful launch at the IWK. The new system will bring patients' records together in one place to deliver better care, faster. The benefits will include preventing duplication and unnecessary tests, timely decision making and more accurate care. The new system gives healthcare professionals access to a patient's complete, up-to-date health information from ambulatory clinics, emergency department visits, mental health and addictions treatment and inpatient care.
- As facilities transition to the new system, patients and families may notice slightly longer wait times. Patients will continue to receive safe, high-quality care throughout this period. Emergency and urgent care services will continue without interruption.
- This is an incredible step in modernizing healthcare in our province!

## In Provincial news:

### Nova Scotia Contracts Four Fixed-Wing Water Bombers

- Nova Scotia will be ready to respond this wildfire season, with four fixed-wing water bombers and a co-ordination plane to provide more protection for Nova Scotians.
- A contract for four Air Tractor AT-802 water bombers and one Cessna Caravan Bird Dog was announced today, May 13. It will run until September 30 but can be extended if needed.

### Public consultation process open for regional assessment on offshore oil and gas.

- On May 19th, the federal government launched a public consultation process for its regional assessment for oil and gas exploratory drilling in Nova Scotia's offshore. This is a positive and important step forward for Nova Scotia.
- Nova Scotia is ready to rebuild our offshore oil and natural gas sector safely and responsibly. We can do this within a regulatory process that is clear, efficient and competitive. Lengthy and duplicative reviews – often taking years – have discouraged investment and put our province at a disadvantage.
- This regional assessment will draw on decades of regulating oil and gas projects in Atlantic Canada and the recent regional assessment for offshore wind. It will help provide clarity for industry, strengthen environmental protection and ensure that decisions are informed by science and public input.
- This approach worked well in Newfoundland and Labrador, improving the effectiveness and efficiency of assessments for specific offshore projects.
- Nova Scotia is ready to be in the offshore oil and gas business again because we know it will create jobs, strengthen our energy security and generate revenues that support healthcare, education and communities.

### Nova Scotia Loyal Farmers' Market Voucher Program Returns for 2026!

- Students and new Nova Scotians will receive \$10 vouchers to farmers' markets again this year as Nova Scotia Loyal helps people discover and enjoy locally grown and crafted products while supporting farmers, producers and small businesses across the province.
- This month, students from pre-primary to Grade 12 will receive the vouchers, provided through the Nova Scotia Loyal Farmers' Market Voucher Program. Post-secondary students will receive theirs in the fall, and the Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia and YREACH (a YMCA support program) will distribute vouchers to newcomers throughout the year.
- Vouchers can be redeemed at participating Farmers' Markets of Nova Scotia locations. This year, about 215,500 vouchers will be provided to public school, home-school and Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey students (pre-primary – Grade 12), post-secondary students at publicly funded institutions and newcomers to the province.

## Events:

- *Happy Father's Day!*



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### ... Emerging Lens Festival Continued

“We’ve never been able to really say no to anybody in terms of telling stories about culture. If you are not of an ethnicity or one of the underrepresented groups, then your story should be about a culture. Those are two of our mantras.”

#### 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Nights

The festival started with one night and has grown to run for five nights. The opening night is a feature length film at Pier 21. The other nights feature shorts, documentaries, and animations. Every night opens with a presentation from a local artist, ranging from prayers, poems, songs, and dance. This year’s openers were Julia Tynes, Alvaro, Warlet, and Aquakultre. After the screenings, there are talk-backs with directors, animators, and actors. Over the course of the five

days, there are also presentations on the state of the industry.

#### Food

And there’s always good food. “We always end with food,” Fashan said. “Because, like I said, in my community, you do not do anything without food. It’s more of a challenge now because of the cost, but it’s still a really important part of what we do. With food, people get an opportunity to talk to each other, and to talk to the artists in a real personal way.”

[For more information about the Emerging Lens Cultural Lens Film Festival and the films in this year’s program, go to: <https://charlestaylortheatre.ca>.]

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Happy Father's Day



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#### A Faster Way to Manage Your MSI & Pharmacare

Nova Scotia has launched a new online service that makes it easier for residents to manage their **MSI and Pharmacare** needs. Instead of mailing forms or waiting on the phone, people can now complete many tasks online in just a few minutes.

The new platform allows individuals to update personal information, request replacement cards, and submit common forms from the comfort of home. It's designed to be simple, secure, and accessible for people of all ages. This improvement is an important step toward better access to healthcare services and reduced wait times for families, seniors, and caregivers across the province.

Get started: [novascotia.ca/MSIonline](https://novascotia.ca/MSIonline)



#### Good News for Student Loan Borrowers

Nova Scotia has made it easier for people with provincial student loans to get interest relief. The Zero Percent Interest Program has been simplified so borrowers no longer have to navigate complicated steps or extra paperwork. If you qualify, the interest on your provincial student loan is automatically set to zero.

**In 2024-25 More than 7,000 Nova Scotians student loan borrowers accessed the zero percent interest program.**

Learn more: <https://novascotia.ca/studentassistance>



#### Healing Pathways Community Funding Grants

On May 4th, The Nova Scotia Hospice Palliative Care Association (NSHPCA) announced that **27 nonprofit and community-based organizations across the province will receive a total of \$715,000** through the **Healing Pathways Community Funding Grants**. Funded by the Province of Nova Scotia to strengthen grief, bereavement, and emotional wellness supports across the province.

These projects will support a diverse range of communities and populations, including youth, seniors, caregivers, indigenous communities, African Nova Scotian Communities, newcomers, 2SLGBT@QIA+ individuals, first responders, and people living in rural and remote communities.



A new **Workplace Safety Dashboard** is now available, giving workers and employers easier access to clear, up to date information about safety in Nova Scotia workplaces. The dashboard highlights injury trends and prevention efforts, helping communities better understand risks and strengthen safety practices.

This tool supports greater transparency, better decision making, and a stronger safety culture for workers. This new resource launched as part of National Health and Safety Week (May 4th – 9th) supports the province's ongoing work to build a stronger safety culture and ensure that every worker can return home safely at the end of the day.



#### More Support for Food at Emergency Shelters



Nova Scotia is stepping up support for people who rely on emergency shelters. The province is providing more funding so shelters can offer more food and healthier meal options. With food prices rising and more people needing help, this funding will make a real difference.

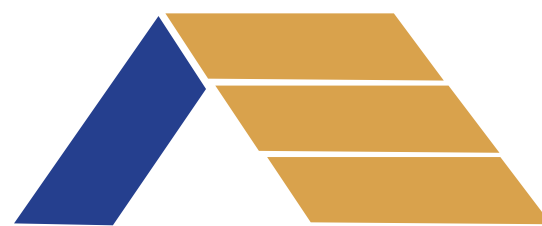
The added support will help shelters:

- ▶ Buy more food and offer more meals
- ▶ Provide healthier, more nutritious options
- ▶ Respond to increased demand

This is part of the province's broader work to support people experiencing homelessness and strengthen community based services.



**June is Seniors Month in Nova Scotia**, a time to honour and appreciate the older adults who enrich our communities every day. From volunteering and caregiving to sharing knowledge and traditions, seniors continue to make a meaningful impact. This month encourages all of us to celebrate their contributions and support opportunities for connection, wellness, and respect.



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## Forest Food

By Savayda Jarone - Herbalist

Late spring presents us with many wild edible and medicinal plants. Those bright green tree tips emerging across Nova Scotia each June are more than signs of the season – they are one of our most accessible wild foods and medicines.



By late May, spruce and fir trees erupt with fresh new growth at the terminal twigs. The new growth is characterized by soft, pale green needles in contrast to the tough, dark green needles of the older growth. These tender tips extend the branches outward with the season's fresh growth.

Fir needles are flat and soft, growing opposite each other along the stem, while spruce needles surround the branch and are rounded, sharp, and easily rolled between the fingers.

the tips release a pleasing aroma – richly evergreen with hints of citrus. This scent comes from their abundant volatile oils and resinous compounds, long valued for their refreshing and uplifting qualities.

### Edible Forest

These aromatic compounds translate into bright bursts of flavour in the kitchen. I've been adding tree tips to my wild spring diet for years, following a long tradition of use by Indigenous peoples of this land who relied on evergreen medicines and foods for nourishment and vitality after long winters.

Spruce and fir tips taste similar, though spruce tends to be lemonier while fir is slightly milder and more resinous. When young and tender, they can be popped directly into the mouth as a hiking snack. I add them raw to salads or sauté them with vegetables, fish, meat, and rice dishes. A little goes a long way, as their flavour is wonderfully strong and distinctive.

When rubbed between the hands,

...continued on page 15



### Chezzetcook and District Lions Club

89 East Chezzetcook Rd., Head Chezzetcook  
902-827-5871

Facebook: Chezzetcook & District Lions Club

The Chezzetcook and District Lions Club would like to invite you all to our **Spring into Summer Dance**. Come, celebrate with old friends & new at the Chezzetcook and District Lions Hall on June 13, 2026. Band will be 4Way Stop, doors open at 8:00 pm. To order advanced tickets, call 902-478-3938. Tickets on sale for \$10 each or \$15 at the door. 50/50 draw and Chicken Burgers available at intermission. Come ready to party and have some fun!!

**Correction: Father's Day Lobster 45's Card Game.** June 7<sup>th</sup>, doors open at 1 pm. \$10.00/person, partners are not needed. There will be a 50/50 draw and 2 lobster draws.



**Regular bingo** continues every Monday night. Bingo starts at 7 pm, doors open @ 5:00 pm.

If you are interested in **servicing your community**, do not hesitate to visit our club. Meetings take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month, starting at 7 pm.

Our Branch Club, the Sociable Cupcakes, is always looking for additional service and or volunteers. If you have any ideas or questions about the club, please feel free to reach out by calling 902.827.5871



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  - have been employed with gross insurable earnings of \$2000 or higher annually, in at least 5 of the last 10 years

**The Program:**

- Supports new business or an existing one in which you had no prior ownership.
- Provides up to 40 weeks of funding to cover living expenses
- Requires you to devote at least 35 hours each week to develop and carry out your business plan. You must also show proof of personal financial investment in the business.

CBDC Blue Water is proud to be the coordinator for the Self Employment Benefits Program.

For further information, contact Sheila Spicer, Self Employment Benefits Coordinator, at 902-827-5564 or toll-free at 1-800-565-2773.  
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# HALIFAX

## DISTRICT 2 COUNCILLOR'S COMMUNIQUE JUNE 2026 – ISSUE # 343 – HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



### HRM 2026 CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

Every year HRM presents a Citizenship Award to outstanding Grade 9 students throughout the municipality. The recipients are chosen based on qualities of leadership in their school and community, and commendable performance in the courses in which they are enrolled. This year the following students from our district were bestowed with this honour:

**Marine Drive Academy – Jaime Falkenham**

**Oyster Pond Academy – Amber Bayers**

**Eastern Shore Consolidated – Toby Naugler**

**Ross Road School – Callie Meaney**

Great efforts by these outstanding students!

### 2026 COMMUNITY MUSEUM GRANTS

The HRM Community Museums Grants Program was established in 2018 in response to a request for funding assistance from several local museums, some of whom do not receive operating assistance under the provincial Museums Assistance Program and instead rely heavily upon volunteers and self-generated revenue. The term "community museum" is defined to distinguish these museums from provincial, federal, or institutional museums, stand-alone archives, interpretation centres, and art galleries. Here is a list of this year's grants and tax relief provided to our local community-based museums:

#### Project Grants:

- Lake Charlotte Area Heritage Society: \$1,750 towards paint restoration of antique bicycles
- Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Farm Society: \$12,000 for professional design fees for their "Food Education Centre"

#### Operating Grants:

- Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society \$18,574
- Lake Charlotte Area Heritage Society \$24,066
- Musquodoboit Harbour Heritage Society \$9,787
- L'Acadie de Chezzetcook Association \$7,041
- Sheet Harbour Area Heritage Society \$4,624

#### Property Tax Relief:

- Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society: \$5,363
- L'Acadie de Chezzetcook Association: \$12,275
- Lake Charlotte Area Heritage Society: \$11,274
- Musquodoboit Harbour Heritage Society \$1,119
- Sheet Harbour Area Historical Society \$3,202

#### Less than Market Value Lease:

- Sheet Harbour Area Historical Society \$5,110 Rent Waiver + \$5,150 Operating Assistance = \$10,260

### HOME ENERGY UPGRADE PROGRAM

HRM has launched its HalifACT Home Energy Upgrade (HHEU) program. It will help homeowners cut their energy use by 50 per cent to improve home comfort and lower energy costs, provides financing and valuable technical support services to property and homeowners to cover initial costs and help project manage cost-saving energy upgrades. The HHEU Home Energy Upgrade program directly advances HRM Council's priority of strengthening communities by reducing carbon emissions through initiatives for homeowners. Through the program, residents can affordably upgrade their properties leading to future cost savings that help

enhance quality of life throughout our municipality. Visit this HRM website for more information and details: [www.halifax.ca/about-halifax/environment-climate-change/halifact-energy-upgrade](http://www.halifax.ca/about-halifax/environment-climate-change/halifact-energy-upgrade)

### BE AWARE – IT'S TICK SEASON

Tick season has begun – As temperatures rise, ticks become more active. Nova Scotia is home to several kinds of ticks, but only blacklegged tick bites can cause illnesses like Lyme disease, Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis and Powassan virus. Reduce your risk of getting a tick-borne illness by educating yourself, staying safe and performing tick checks after being outdoors. And be sure to check your pets too! Learn more here: <https://novascotia.ca/ticksafety/>

### HRM RECEIVES BEE CITY STATUS

HRM has received Bee City status, as designated by Bee City Canada. Bee City status recognizes the municipality's commitment to protecting and promoting pollinators by establishing and maintaining pollinator habitats, supporting community education and celebrating National Pollinator Week, held annually during the third week of June. The designation also provides access to expert resources from Bee City Canada to support ongoing work under the municipality's Naturalization Strategy. Naturalization is a landscape management approach that focuses on biodiversity and making urban spaces more resilient. It includes the use of native or non-invasive grasses, perennials, shrubs and trees. Visit the HRM website to learn more about the municipality's naturalization efforts. [www.halifax.ca/naturalization](http://www.halifax.ca/naturalization).

### STATS CANADA TRAVEL SURVEY

Statistics Canada is collecting data on how Canadians travel for everyday trips. Check your mailbox – If you have an invite to complete Statistics Canada's Canadian Survey on Everyday Travel – please participate! Your responses will help us plan and improve transportation across the region. This data feeds into a travel demand model (co-owned with Link Nova Scotia), which lets us test projects and understand impacts without the need for investment or construction, road closures, or detours. A strong, representative sample helps ensure decisions are based on accurate, real-world travel patterns. This Survey will be collecting data until March 21, 2027. To learn more about this endeavour, please go here: [www.statcan.gc.ca/en/survey/household/5445](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/survey/household/5445) Or try calling StatsCan at: 1-877-949-9492 or with TTY:1-800-363-7629 Monday to Friday (except holidays) from 9 AM to 8 PM. Or by E-mail: [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

### ENVIRONMENT WEEK: May 31-June 6

During Canadian Environment Week (CEW) there are many special dedicated days to heighten the awareness of various environmental causes such as World Environment Day (June 5th), Clean Air Day (June 3rd) and World Oceans Day (June 8th). During CEW and throughout the year, we are urged to reflect on the many ways we can take action to protect and preserve our natural surroundings. It is meant to refocus our attention on nature conservation, preservation of natural resources and climate change. Other ways to celebrate include: Take a nature hike: Join a group dedicated to conservation: Create a bird or butterfly habitat: or Visit a nature sanctuary or botanical garden. Be sure to use #CanadianEnvironmentWeek to share on social media with your environmental awareness posts.

### NEIGHBOUR WEEK – JUNE 21-27

Neighbour Week is about celebrating the everyday connections that make our communities stronger, more

welcoming and more connected. It's a chance to reach out to those who live next door or across the street. It's an opportunity to share, learn and build relationships with the people around you. Whether you are new to the neighbourhood or have lived there for years, Neighbour Week is your opportunity to turn simple gestures into meaningful community connections and make where you live feel more like home. Join the movement in your own front yard, hallway, park or community space. This week-long celebration is a chance to spark joy, get inspired, initiate activities in your neighbourhood and take part in something larger. You are encouraged to share your experiences across the municipality by using the hashtag: #HalifaxNeighbourWeek.

### MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW

HRM Council has asked for a report on ways to improve financial sustainability and service delivery for core services. A Municipal Service Review (MSR) focuses on reviewing cost-effectiveness and efficiency of services and operations. The intent of a MSR is to understand how a municipality can manage costs and what are the greatest opportunities to reduce costs or resourcing for future years. The benefits of these opportunities are then financially quantified to allow prioritization of work and provide the municipality with a roadmap for better cost-management.

This review will determine:

- what the service is and who it serves;
- the service level and associated standards;
- the cost of providing the service;
- how the service compares to similar services in other municipalities;
- where efficiencies, savings or different delivery options could exist.

The review will also allow HRM to identify:

- where it is overcommitting funding and explore reductions;
- alternative service delivery options to decrease costs; and,
- improvement opportunities that will increase efficiency and avoid future costs.

This high-level review is being done by EY – Ernst & Young Consultants that will take place between April and October 2026. The final report will be presented to HRM Council in November 2026. For more details about the MSR, go to:

[www.halifax.ca/city-hall/accountability-transparency/municipal-service-review](http://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/accountability-transparency/municipal-service-review) or contact: [ServiceReview@halifax.ca](mailto:ServiceReview@halifax.ca)

### GRADUATION CONGRATULATIONS

I want to congratulate the Class of 2026 Graduates in High School, Community College, and University. May each of you find your own path in life that leads to many successes and the best of luck with your future endeavours.



Councillor David Hendsbee  
Councillor – Councillor municipal – Comhairlaiche – Wunaqapeme'j  
District 2: Lawrencetown – The Lakes – Chezzetcook – Eastern Shore

Railway Museum – #7895 Highway #7  
P.O. Box 2, Musquodoboit Harbour, NS, B0J 2L0  
1841 Argyle Street, Councillor's Support, 4th Floor  
P.O. Box 1749, Halifax, NS, B3J 3A5

Office Phone: 902.889.2448  
Cell Phone: 902.483.0705  
City Hall: 902.490.4050

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### ...Editorial Continued from cover

No one disputes that we need to replace the Birches Nursing Home. That the current government is even considering the possibility of tearing down the ESDH as the site of the new nursing home is a painful demonstration of the deeply flawed decision-making processes of government by all three parties.

It was the NDP that first proposed replacing the Birches back in 2013. It was the Liberals who wasted their two terms giving lip service support but failing to act. And now comes the PCs.

Over these 13 years, as with the proposed replacement of the high school, the community has been united around keeping the nursing facility in Musquodoboit Harbour.

#### So what went wrong?

Why is the current government seriously considering tearing down a structurally sound \$4 million building to build a nursing home? (Tearing down the building could cost \$1 million.)

Without going too deep into the weeds, what happened was a confusing combination of:

- The HRM Planning Department’s already notorious permitting process;
- The current government’s failure to use the powers it explicitly granted itself to override the obstacles thrown up by HRM Planning;
- The complicated relationships between The Twin Oaks Senior Citizens Association, the Ocean View Continuing Care Centre Society, and Beacon Continuing Care Society. Beacon was formed in 2023 from a combination of members from the boards of Twin Oaks and Ocean View. In a press release Beacon said that “a unified Board of Directors” would be “providing governance and oversight to both long-term care homes.”

For the last three years, it appeared that the new building would be placed on a plot of land subdivided from a larger parcel behind the Railway Museum owned by John Wesley Chisholm.

What happened instead was years of delay by the notoriously obstructive HRM Planning Department. The department’s work was so bad that the PCs finally passed legislation giving the Minister of Housing the power to override HRM Planning by setting up special planning districts. The province

even designated the subdivision as a special planning district. But then Housing Minister John Lohr refused to use his new powers.

In the end, Chisholm spent almost three years and \$800,000 of his and his investors’ money before he finally decided that he could not continue to throw money into a black hole.

Since the province already owns the ESDH site, tearing down the building offers a quick solution to more than a decade of inaction by all three political parties.

The Infrastructure Committee has suggested four other properties within the Harbour to the Birches. We have no way of knowing whether anyone involved in the decision-making process has done a serious evaluation of any of these or other sites in the vicinity that might be suitable.

What we do know is that the loss of this valuable community asset would only compound the wound that the Liberals inflicted on Musquodoboit Harbour, and generations of students to come, by moving the school to a completely isolated spot with inadequate road access and only one exit in event of fire. (Note: when the PCs replaced the Liberals, the PCs knew all about the Liberals’ sordid site selection process, and could have re-opened an honest process, but chose not to, a decision which Houston and PC Minister of Education Becky Druhan approved.)

There’s lots more to this story, but our understanding is one siloed ministry of the provincial government is close to approving the destruction of the high school building. Other ministries may not even be aware of the potential or the need for the building. MLA Kent Smith has been working with Councillor David Hendsbee to address the situation; they both support the building of a new Birches and repurposing the ESDHS building for community needs.

**The only person with the real power to save the building is Premier Tim Houston.**

You can reach him by phone at 902-424-6600 and leave a detailed message. Or send an email with your thoughts to premier@novascotia.ca. He needs to hear directly about why you and so many others want to save this valuable community asset.

### ...Forest Food Continued

One of my favourite ways to capture their flavour is in an infused vinegar, which becomes the base for homemade salad dressings, sauces, and forest-inspired mocktails.

#### Tree Tip Vinegar

Half fill a glass jar with a combination of spruce and fir tips. Add apple cider vinegar, covering the tree tips completely and filling the jar to the top. Cover with a plastic lid, or place a layer of wax paper beneath a metal lid to prevent corrosion. Let stand for one week, then strain the vinegar. Bottle and refrigerate for up to two months.

#### Refreshing Forest Spritzer

Mix ¼ cup tree tip vinegar with ¼ cup honey and shake well to combine. Add 1/8 cup of the mixture to a tall glass filled with ice, top with sparkling water, and stir. Garnish with a small cluster of tree tips. Serves 4.

#### Tree Tip Medicine

The tree tip vinegar can also be added to a cup of hot water with honey to soothe coughs and help loosen mucus congestion. Or, the tips can be made into a tea by steeping three tips in one cup boiled water, for ten minutes. Drink

1-3 cups daily as needed for cough and colds.

Tree tips are rich in vitamin C, vitamin A, minerals, antioxidants, chlorophyll, and aromatic plant compounds. Ounce for ounce, fresh spruce tips can contain more vitamin C than oranges – one reason evergreen teas were treasured in northern climates long before refrigeration and imported citrus.

#### Foraging Tips

- positively identify trees before harvesting
- some conifers are not edible, notably yew
- harvest away from polluted roadsides
- take only small amounts from each tree
- pregnant women should avoid consuming large medicinal quantities of conifers

On your next forest walk, pause to notice the luminous green tips softening the dark evergreen canopy. In the tender new growth of spruce and fir, the forest quietly announces the arrival of summer.

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# What's happening in our area?

By Sandra Beazley

## RCL Four Harbours Legion Branch 120

East Ship Harbour News – 15463 Hwy #7, Tangier, NS

The Kitchen Party held on May 23rd was lots of fun!! Music, dancing, comraderie, hot dogs, 50/50 draw and lobsters for a door prize – nothing else was needed. Music by Bruce Carpenter and the Hwy 7 Band put everyone in a pretty fantastic mood. The dancing never stopped!

### Events

Monday mornings it's **Yoga** through HRM. Thursday it is **Crib** starting at 7pm. Must have a partner. Fridays it is **Chase the Ace** starting at 5:15. Selling tickets until 6:15. Jackpot is over \$800! **General Meetings** first Monday of the month. **Upcoming events** will be posted on websites.



Willa Thompson holds up one of the lobsters she won. She was happy with her win!



Those attending relax and enjoy the music and dancing.

## Harbour Lites Seniors Club

Karaoke is always entertaining. Dancing and a bit of a sing along to well known songs make for a great time. Join us for our next one on Friday, June 5. We have a BBQ from 5:30-6:30pm. Menu varies, \$10. Karaoke starts at 6:30-10pm.



Our Club Trio from left to right: Liz, Pat and Debbie doing their thing.



Sherry and Jimmy give the dancers a breather with a slow tune.



Ron Charlton always has interesting songs!

**NOTE:** Kitchen Parties are always a fun afternoon. From 2-4pm, Bruce Carpenter and the Hwy 7 Band provide the music. Our next one will be Saturday, June 13. Make plans to join us.

## Jeddore Baptist Church Lobster Supper – A Huge Success

On Saturday, May 9, Jeddore Baptist Church held their annual Lobster Supper where delicious food was the star of the day! There were 150 meals total, all prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary. One and a half pound lobster, potato salad, pasta salad, cole slaw, home made roll, along with apple crisp for dessert and tea or coffee made for a very appetizing and filling meal. This is the second time I have been to this meal and I will definitely be back next year. Everyone was super friendly, lots of smiling, happy faces.



Charlotte, Gary and Connie look after Take Out Meals.



Ron, the cheerful helper, greeted you as you entered and left. At times he helped with Take Out.



The Meal! Actually, the lobster was on a separate plate leaving more room for the other items.



## Tommy Gun's Kickin' Eastern Shore Car Show and Swap Meet



The 3rd annual Tommy Gun's Kickin' Eastern Shore Car Show & Swap Meet brought out another big crowd on a beautiful day on the grounds of Eastern Shore District High on Saturday, May 23.



Everyone enjoys their meal. Umm, delicious. It was a full house!

### Thank You

Jeddore Baptist Church would like to thank the Fishermen of Baker's Point Fisheries, East Jeddore who donated the lobster.

## Get Ready, Eastern Shore – The Summer Fair is BACK!

After years away, the beloved **Musquodoboit Harbour Summer Fair** is back – reimagined, revitalized, and better than ever. Organized by the **Musquodoboit Harbour Chamber of Commerce & Civic Affairs**, the fair runs **Friday, July 10 through Saturday, July 18**, and it promises to be the can't-miss event of the summer on the Eastern Shore!

We're planning to kick off the first weekend with a comedy night, children's parade, music festival, beer gardens, amusements and rides, and local vendors. The fun continues through the week with pro wrestling, a food truck festival, games, merchandise bingo, and more – all capped off in grand style with the **75th Annual Musquodoboit Harbour Summer Parade on Saturday, July 18**, a milestone not to be missed!

*"The summer fair was the highlight of every kid's summer growing up around here. There's something truly magical about bringing that back – not just for the nostalgia, but because every event supports the incredible organizations that are the backbone of our community. This is what the Eastern Shore is all about."*

— **Will Gilligan, Chamber Executive Member and Owner, Old #7 Restaurant**

This fair is about more than fun – it's about community.

Proceeds will support beloved local landmarks and causes including the Food Bank, Train Station, Church, Lions Club, the Old School, and more.

*"We're so proud to be reviving this tradition – bringing together everyone from the youngest kids on the parade route to the longtime residents who remember the fairs of decades past. The Summer Fair is our way of celebrating the Eastern Shore while investing in its future."*

— **Mike McKinnon, President, Musquodoboit Harbour Chamber of Commerce & Civic Affairs**

### Get Involved!

The Eastern Shore shows up for its community – and this summer is no exception. We're inviting local businesses, non-profits, and volunteers to be part of the magic – run a booth, sponsor an activity, enter a float, or lend a hand. To register your float, email [mhsummerparade@gmail.com](mailto:mhsummerparade@gmail.com). For all other inquiries, email us at [summerfair@mhacc.ca](mailto:summerfair@mhacc.ca) or visit the MHACCA website at [musquodoboitharbour.ca/your-mhaccca/summer-fair](http://musquodoboitharbour.ca/your-mhaccca/summer-fair).

**Stay tuned for the full Calendar of Events and ticket information coming soon!**

## Porters Lake Startup Offers New Gardening Product

Porter's Lake-based Bliss Bioproducts will now be supplying local gardeners with a new sustainable medium for growing healthy plants, "Bliss BioRoot Medium." The company is headed by Dr. Roksana Saleh and Tony Odo. The product, approved by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, contains vermicast (worm castings), spent mushroom compost, sawdust, perlite, and PepTex-Plus plant-derived nutrient source.

Saleh was born in Iran, and is affiliated with the Department of Plant, Food, and Environmental Sciences in the Faculty of Agriculture at Dalhousie University in Truro, Nova Scotia. She has contributed to peer-reviewed research in areas like soil science and nutrient release.

The company was among 17 teams selected in May 2024 as part of the Lab2Market Launch accelerator – a 12-week bootcamp run in partnership with Dal Innovates (Dalhousie University's entrepreneurship hub) and the national research commercialization accelerator Lab2Market. Each company got a \$10,000 stipend, plus additional funding for reaching business milestones.

The company has begun distribution, starting with Sobeys Panavista store at 612 Main Street, Dartmouth. For more information, the company's website is at: <https://blissbioproducts.com> or email [info@blissbioproducts.com](mailto:info@blissbioproducts.com).

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Congrats to all Graduates.  
Best of Luck in the Future!

# 2026 Summer Events

## MEMORY LANE

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**Cold Waters Seafood Festival**  
Saturday & Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>  
[coldwatersfestival.com](http://coldwatersfestival.com)

**Father's Day Antique Car Show**  
Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>

**Dominion Day "Old Time" Village Fair**  
Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>

**Women's Heritage Celebration & Old Fashioned Tea Social**  
Saturday & Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>

**Musique Royale Concert & 'Inspired by Music' Dinner**  
Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>

**Nova Scotia Forest Festival**  
Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>

# See you soon!

**Hours**  
Wednesday to Sunday  
9:30 AM to 4PM  
**Cookhouse Hours**  
11am to 3pm  
**2026 Visitor Season\***  
June 3 - Sept. 30  
\*Special events take place on select weekends in October and November  
[visitmemorylane.ca](http://visitmemorylane.ca)

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**Musquodoboit Harbour & District Lions  
43 East Petpeswick Road  
Musquodoboit Harbour**



**We are Lions!!! Hear Us ROAR!!  
Where there's a need, there's a Lion**

The lazy hazy days of summer are just around the corner. This means a bit of a change for Lions with a break from our usual on-going activities. However, we are looking forward to the June lobster supper and hosting several events during the **Musquodoboit Harbour Summer Fair**.

**Bouncy Castle** – Saturday July 11th, 10AM to 1PM – Ball Field – Eastern Shore Community Center



**Merchandise Bingo** – Sunday July 12th 1:30 to 4:00 PM – Eastern Shore Community Center

**Chicken BBQ** – Saturday July 18th – 12:00 to 2:00 Railway Museum



**Lobster Supper Takeout** – Sunday June 7th, 4- 5:30 PM – Lobster, salads and dinner roll. \$25.00 a plate. (902) 293-5645 to order.

**Our on-going events – see you in September**

**Breakfast:** resumes Saturday September 26th

**Lions Cribbage:** we'll resume our weekly schedule beginning Thursday, September 3rd  
Interested in becoming a Lion – we meet the second and fourth Monday of every month – feel free to drop in or call the club at 902-889-2725 for more information.  
**Lionism is incredibly rewarding.**

Hosting an upcoming event, the Lions Club is available for rent (capacity 60). Convenient location, full kitchen facilities and Wifi. (902) 889-2725 or follow the e-clubhouse.org.

Please remember that if you, or anyone you know, is in need – we are here to help.

Our mission is to serve. Contact us at 902-889-2725 or via

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