

PAGE BRIEFS

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MLA's will be called back to the legislature for commencement of the second session of the sixty-second general assembly at 1 p.m., Thursday, April 14.

If you are familiar with seeing Laurie Graham on the CTV news, as Acting Ottawa Bureau Chief, it will be no more. Effective March 14th, she was appointed principal secretary to Premier Stephen McNeil.

The County will soon take ownership of the former DNR Tree Breeding Centre in Debert. This facility will be used to house water utility staff and accommodate equipment from the rest of public works department.

Nova Scotia's seafood industry is closing in on doubling its export business. In 2014, the goal was to double exports within a decade from \$860-Million to \$1.72-Billion. In 2015 seafood exports rose to \$1.68-Billion, up 33% from 2014. Since 2010, exports of lobster to China have increased 14 times reaching more than 5,700 metric tonnes in 2015 as the Chinese market for lobster grew to \$113 million. Lobster continued to be the most valuable export overall for Nova Scotia, bringing in more than \$891 million in 2015. It was followed by crab at \$180 million, scallops at \$169 million and shrimp at \$131 million. The United States remained Nova Scotia's biggest seafood export market in 2015 at \$958 million. The European Union came in second at \$249 million and China was third at \$208 million.

The Construction Association of Nova Scotia (CANS) took home the CCA Gold Seal Association Award at the Construction Association of Canada's (CCA) Annual Conference taking place March 4-11th in New Orleans. The CCA Gold Seal Association Award recognizes outstanding achievements by CCA partner associations to promote and support the CCA Gold Seal program. In 2015-2016 CANS had over 100 members engaged in one of the phases of the Gold Seal process. To-date the construction industry in Nova Scotia has through CANS invested over \$2.5-Million in training and education. CANS has also assisted members pursuing their Gold Seal Certification in securing funding through the Department of Labour and Advanced Education and an initiative of the Canada-Nova Scotia Job Grant Workplace Innovation and Productivity Skills Incentive (WIPSI). To date CANS has helped member companies secure more than \$400,000 in government funding for training.

Natalie Doucette is often on the road offering support to families in transition as the province's first Mi'kmaw child welfare specialist. Natalie's priority is to connect with First Nations communities across Nova Scotia to explore and develop culturally relevant practices in the delivery of Mi'kmaw child welfare. Some days it will be a regular commute between offices in Sydney and Eskasoni, while on other days, she will be reaching out to 13 First Nation communities as far afield as Pictou Landing, Millbrook, Bear River and Acadia.

Insurance Fraud is costly. As a result of this investigation in Ontario, here's how it works. Fraud charges have now been laid following an investigation into alleged fraudulent auto insurance injury claims made via Toronto legal and health professionals. An Aviva Canada customer who stepped forward after allegedly facing pressure to lie about accident injuries prompted the investigation. Aviva Canada subsequently provided Toronto Police Service with video and other supporting evidence that led to the charges. In video footage obtained by Aviva Canada, a chiropractor and clinic employee from Wellness Centres of Ontario in Toronto are shown explaining to two undercover investigators how they can work together to obtain insurance payouts – despite both investigators stating that they are not hurt. The video footage also shows a paralegal from Kovtman Law (located near Wellness Centres of Ontario) explaining in great detail, how both the paralegal and the investigator can illegally obtain insurance payouts. The investigator was told he would get a \$10,000 insurance settlement in approximately one year; \$3,000 to be retained by the law office and \$7,000 for the investigator. Aviva Canada President and CEO Greg Somerville stated, "These so-called professionals are supposed to look out for the best interest of accident victims – and allegedly, this has not been happening. Fraud costs honest insurance customers approximately \$130 per year in Ontario and we continue to make every effort to stop it."

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95 4-H'ers Attend Debert Conference

By Maurice Rees

Within weeks of winning the two year contract to supply accommodations and meals for the Debert Cadet Glider School, Debert Hospitality Centre was host to 95 4-H members at the 2016 Atlantic Intermediate 4-H Conference, March 18 - 20 with the theme, "Out of this World Ag.citing".



4-H members, ages of 13 to 15, from across Atlantic Canada had the opportunity to enhance their leadership skills with learning and hands-on activities at their annual conference in Debert. Guest speakers, workshops and site tours were designed to energize the 4-H members and introduce them to local food and innovations in agriculture.

Conference participants took part in team building exercises, tried out the uFit-B fitness program, attended sessions on entrepreneurship and robotics, toured the Perennia Innovation Centre, view a woodsman competition and participate in activities on the Dalhousie University Agricultural Campus in Bible Hill and supper at the Peg in Masstown, with Laurie Jennings as guest speaker.

For more information about 4-H in Nova Scotia visit <http://novascotia4h.ca/>



Ian O'Brien, from Cape Broyle, NL was one of over a hundred delegates attending the 2016 Atlantic Intermediate 4-H Conference. Ian introduced the guest speaker, Laurie Jennings following supper at The Peg, Masstown. (Harrington Photo)



The 2016 Atlantic Intermediate 4-H Conference took place March 18 - 20 at the Debert Hospitality Centre with the theme, Out of this World Ag.citing. Several excursions were part of the weekend events, including trips to the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture campus and supper at The Peg in Masstown. (Harrington Photo)

Truro to Host Pro Lumberjacks



Every ounce of energy will be required in the single buck competition at the Nova Scotia Pro Lumberjack Championship coming to Truro on June 4th. Approximately 35 professional competitors from Eastern Canada will compete for cash prizes and trophies. (Submitted)

By Maurice Rees

Approximately 35 professional lumberjack athletes are expected to compete in the inaugural Nova Scotia Pro Lumberjack Championship to be held in Truro on June 4th. This sporting event will draw the best professional lumberjack athletes from Eastern Canada competing for prize money and the prestige of being awarded Nova Scotia's top lumberjack.

The competition is being organized by the newly founded North Nova Lumberjack Society (NNLS), with Ryan McIntyre (President and Co-founder) as the primary contact person. The competition will be filmed for television as 3 separate half hour episodes of the television program, "Lumberjacks". The three episodes will air on TSN in the fall of 2016 and again in the spring of 2017, then being available online on the "LumberjacksOnline" YouTube page where past episodes of the program can be viewed for free. The television show has a loyal audience of approximately 100,000 viewers per episode offering an excellent opportunity to promote this part of Canada both nationally and internationally.

Ryan McIntyre during a presentation to municipal council said the television crew will also do some filming of other attractions in the area. A large crowd of spectators of all ages is expected as the entire event is free without an admission price.

Some of the exciting lumberjack events will include competitions in the following categories: Hot saw; axe

throw; kettle boil, single buck saw; standing block chop; underhand chop; stock saw and springboard chop, where competitors notch a tree trunk, insert a spring board, climb on the board, cut another notch, insert another spring board. They will then use their razor sharp axe to chop off the top of the tree trunk, while standing on the springboard approximately six feet off the ground.

There are Facebook pages for both North Nova Lumberjacks Society and the Nova Scotia Pro Lumberjack Championship which are great places for people to learn more about the event and the sponsoring organizations.

The event will be held in the parking area between the Cat Shack and Dooley's on Juniper Street, Truro from noon until around 5 p.m.



After notching the tree trunk and insert the springboards, competitors then chop off the top block, while balancing themselves on the springboard about six feet in the air. The event will take place in Truro on Juniper Street on June 4th. (Submitted)

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Welcome To Our Team



Stephen Maltby, Executive Director of CIBC Wood Gundy's Atlantic region, is pleased to announce that **Christopher Guinan** has joined the Truro branch as an Investment Advisor.

With nearly 50 years of combined industry experience, Christopher joins the Guinan Investment Group, which specializes in developing innovative investment strategies to meet each client's individual needs.

Whatever your financial needs, we can develop a solution that's right for you.

Christopher Guinan, MBA, Investment Advisor
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ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting
of the
Lower Onslow Community Centre
will be held at the Centre,
12391 Hwy 2, Lower Onslow,
on April 18, 2016,
at 7:00 p.m.

All residents of the area served by the
Onslow-Belmont Fire Brigade
are invited to attend this meeting.