



The first game at the Great Village Fire Brigade Auxiliary Merchandise Bingo was the letter "F" in honour of Betty (Elizabeth) MacNeil, a dedicated volunteer, who passed away earlier this year. (Harrington Photo)



Betty Hudson tells the crowd at the Great Village Fire Brigade Auxiliary Merchandise Bingo that the proceeds from the 50/50 Draw will be donated to the Legion in honour of Betty MacNeil. (Harrington Photo)

Cape Breton Farmer Appointed 2ND VP

By Maurice Rees

Chris van den Heuvel of Port Hood, Cape Breton was elected 2nd Vice President of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. From running unopposed to having two opposers, Chris van den Heuvel remained unshaken as he delivered his speech to the crowd at the Canadian Federation of Agriculture's 2019 Annual Meeting. Speaking to his roots in Cape Breton, touching on lessons he learned from his father growing up, and how that has helped shape him into the leader he is today.

Along with his wife Karen they are partnered with their son, milking 60 cows on their 4th generation mixed dairy and beef farm in Port Hood, Cape Breton.

van den Heuvel, the Past President of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture (NSFA) and the current Inverness/Victoria County Federation President, and CFA Director - was elected into the position of 2nd Vice President.

Members from the Federation's Executive Committee as well as the



Executive Director were in Ottawa attending CFA's Annual Meeting and were able to witness this moment.

"To say that I'm excited would be an understatement," said Chris van den Heuvel, 2nd Vice President of Canadian Federation of Agriculture. "I look forward to serving Canadian farmers alongside Mary Robinson and Keith Currie and helping to push our industry to reach its potential."

April Church Services

By Christine Urquhart

Church services at Cobequid United, Upper Londonderry Pastoral Charge, are all at 10 am with the Rev. Carolyn Rush-ton preaching. Easter services are as follows: No service for Maundy Thursday, one service on Good Friday at 10 am and only one service on Easter Sunday at 9 am - no breakfast.

We welcome you to any and all of our services. If you have some mobility issues, please know that there is a ramp at the back side door which is easy to use.



SUNDAY WORSHIP
COME AS YOU ARE!

Our building is hearing looped and there are cushions on most of the pews.

Drop in for a visit; we'd love to see you!

Legislation to Modernize & Grow Tourism Sector

Nova Scotia is modernizing its tourist accommodations legislation and taking steps to support tourism growth across the province. The outdated Tourist Accommodations Act will be repealed and replaced with a new registration act. Short-term accommodations providers, except those who rent in their primary residence, will be required to register through a simple online system.

Changes will take effect a year from now, allowing time for further consultation with municipalities and industry in the months ahead. The current act includes prescriptive rules for licensed tourist accommodations, including having at least eight coat hangers and governing the size of a floor mat, a mirror and the wattage of light bulbs.

Government is also proposing amendments to the Assessment Act to ensure small-scale operators will pay a residential

property tax rate, rather than a commercial rate. Municipal Affairs will engage its municipal partners to develop regulations which will define a small-scale tourist accommodation establishment, including the maximum number of rooms.

Nova Scotia has a goal to grow the tourism sector to \$4 billion in annual revenues by

2024, up from about \$2.7 billion in 2017. An independent study found that the province will require between 5,500 and 7,000 additional units to achieve that goal.

The changes will not impact any municipal by-laws or zoning on short-term rental accommodations.

NS Remains Leading Seafood Exporter

Nova Scotia remains Canada's seafood export leader with more than \$2 billion in exports - 29 per cent of Canada's total seafood exports. The province's seafood exports have more than doubled since 2012 when they stood at \$922 million.

Premier McNeil and Minister Keith Colwell accompanied 19 Nova Scotia companies to the Boston Seafood show during the week of March 19th. The United States remains Nova Scotia's largest market for seafood exports with close to \$984 million in 2018. Exports to China followed with over \$524 million, an increase of 36 per cent from last year, and the European Union followed with over \$197 million.

"Our international seafood brand, 45 North 63 West, has helped give us a competitive advantage by communicating key attributes that our prod-

ucts are known for - exceptional taste and premium quality," said Mr. Colwell. "I'm very proud of the hard work of our seafood processors and exporters as they continue to meet the growing demand for our premium seafood products."

While in Boston, the premier used the opportunity to speak with United States government officials about Nova Scotia's key trade interests and met with representatives from the World Economic Forum to explore partnerships related to Nova Scotia's ocean industry.

The 19 Nova Scotian seafood companies at the annual Seafood Expo North America included: AC Live Lobster Inc., Yarmouth; Aqua Production Systems, New Glasgow; Blois Fish Processing Automation Ltd., Dartmouth; Bluenose Seafood Inc., Sambro; Canada Rope and Twine

Ltd., Bedford; Captain Little Seafood Ltd., Port Mouton; Cedar Bay Grilling Company Ltd., Blandford; Clearwater Seafoods Ltd., Bedford and Fisher King Seafoods Ltd., Lower Sackville.

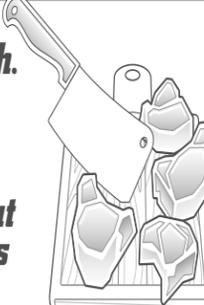
Also part of the delegation were: Fishermen Premium Atlantic Lobster Inc., Cape Sable Island; Gidney Fisheries Ltd., Digby Neck; Inventive Marine Products Ltd., Bedford; Louisbourg Seafoods Ltd., Louisbourg; James L. Mood Fisheries, Lower Woods Harbour and Maritech Dynamics Ltd., Halifax.

Rounding out the companies on the trade mission were: Open Blue Sea Farms Inc., Bedford; Riverside Lobster International Inc., Meteghan River; Sea Star Seafood Ltd., Clark's Harbour and Ships Lobster Pound Ltd., Lower Woods Harbour.

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