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recreation. Examples include renovations to buildings, developing and maintaining walking trails, and building and upgrading fields for sport and recreation. Following is a list of Fundy region grants: Chignecto-Central Regional School Board, Brookfield Elementary Natural Playground, \$58,000; Camp Evangeline, construction of new playground, \$18,000; Town of Truro, Victoria Park playground upgrades, \$15,000; Fundy Trail Snowmobile Club, expansion of clubhouse, \$12,000; Municipality of Colchester, new Zamboni for West Colchester United Arena, \$12,500 and Tatamagouche and Area Trails Association, 9.6 kms of trail improvements, \$12,000.

Three prospector grants, totaling \$31,000 for Cumberland and Colchester Counties were among nineteen prospector grants totaling \$184,250 were announced on July 6, to help find and develop mineral deposits across the province. Rob Krienke has been awarded \$15,000 to search for rare earth elements in the Debert Lake area, \$15,000, while Patrick Bellefontaine will receive \$10,500 searching for cobalt, lead, zinc, copper in the Five Islands area and \$5,500 for copper, cobalt, gold in the Moose River area. A map showing project locations and a list of recipients for 2016-17 can be found at http://novascotia.ca/natr/meb/nsmip/pdf/approved_grants_2016.pdf Further information about the program is available at novascotia.ca/natr/meb/nsmip/nsmip1.asp

Previously premises with liquor licenses required two maximum occupancy numbers, one set by the Office of the Fire Marshal and the other set by the Alcohol, Gaming, Fuel and Tobacco division of Service Nova Scotia. From now on only the number assigned by the fire marshal will be required. Another change will allow restaurants to convert restaurant space to lounge space at the time of their choosing (with approval from the Alcohol, Gaming, Fuel and Tobacco division). Minors will still not be permitted inside a lounge past 9 p.m. This law remains unchanged. There are about 1,660 licensed establishments in Nova Scotia. The maximum occupancy change will only impact a small number. About 415 of these licenses operate an eating establishment with a lounge space.

Nova Scotia has launched the 150 Forward Fund to help communities and groups create programs and events to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday in 2017. The 150 Forward Fund is available to non-profit enterprises and co-operatives that want to create, promote and participate in local and regional events. Events or programs will need to honour a significant Nova Scotian or achievement, celebrate our cultural identity and ethnic diversity, or promote innovation over the past 150 years. Full program details are available at www.novascotia.ca/150 The province is making \$4 million available over two years for Canada 150. Of that \$4 million, the province previously announced a contribution of \$1.5 million to Rendez-Vous 2017 Tall Ships Regatta. Nova Scotia is one of the first provinces to make provincial funding available. For information about government of Canada's 150 funding programs go to: <http://canada.pch.gc.ca/eng/1424795454758>

The Utility and Review Board announced on July 19th ratepayers are going to face a 1.3 per cent increase in their Nova Scotia bill every single year for the next three years. Industrial customers will see rates increase from 0.5% to 1.6%. It is projected in 2020 residential rates could increase in excess of 6%.

Marking a first for Nova Scotia, a trial commercial diver-caught scallop fishery has been approved by Fisheries & Oceans Canada (DFO), and is set to begin on July 16th, 2016. The Ecology Action Centre (EAC) has been working regularly with DFO and fishing industry partners in Nova Scotia over the past four

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Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade News

By: Clair Peers

The Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade is always looking for new members. If you live in the area covered by our Fire Brigade and want to become a member contact our Membership Chair, Chantal Hamilton, shilahchantal@hotmail.com, or any member. You can simply go to the web site at <http://onslowbelmont-fire.wix.com/onslowbelmont-fire#!gallery/ccie> or just send an email direct from the web site at the application link.

OPEN FIRES: With the onset of summer and dry weather, residents are reminded to exercise extreme caution in wooded areas. Check the Nova Scotia Burn Restrictions website prior to lighting any fires.

On June 22 we had a call for a fire in the woods in the 700 block of Crowes Mills. The fire turned out to be a small campfire that was easily extinguished. It could have been serious as it was in an area surrounded by tinder dry woods. Thanks to the Lusk's for calling that in and letting us cross their property. Anytime you think there is a fire or see smoke coming from a wooded area or anywhere that looks suspicious, please call 911. Better to be safe than sorry.

SOME STATS: The total calls this year are now at 69 as of the end of May. The dominant numbers are for Medical calls and motor Vehicle Collisions. There were 40 medical and 12 MVC's, 1 flu fire, 4 miscellaneous calls, 4 Mutual aid calls, and 3 Vehicle fires.

There is never much we can do about the number of medical calls, but I can assure you the MFR's from our Brigade that respond are fully trained and will hopefully lessen the burden for you and your family when you need us.

TRAINING: We have a great bunch of fresh new faces in our team. They are eager to take on any challenge and are getting fully trained in all aspects of firefighting, medical first response and vehicle collision and extrication if needed. That coupled with the seasoned veterans makes a great combination. Also the equipment in our fire hall is state of art with every tool needed to do any job at an emergency.

ON THE HIGHWAY: The number of motor vehicle collisions seem to be on the rise each year. We can't stress to you enough to be responsible and vigilant on the highways whether you are driving a vehicle, walking or biking. We know that the newest threat on the Highway is the hand held device. There is nothing

about driving and using your cell phone that is compatible with safety. Just learn to discipline yourself to not use it.

Also please remember to use caution when you approach any emergency scene and see visible flashing emergency lights. RCMP are now reminding motorists that you must always reduce your speed to 60 KMS on the highway and pull over to the opposite lane from the one that an emergency vehicle is stopped in.

911 CIVIC ADDRESS PROGRAM: In an effort to provide visible signage of civic addresses for emergency response units we are continuing with the O.B.E.B. 911

Civic address program. The signs include the civic address assigned to your home. They are located at the end of the driveways in a clearly visible location so they can be easily seen. The civic numbers are the numbers that the Fire Brigade, Police & Ambulance look for when called to your home, so they are very important. If you wish to purchase one you can email the fire hall, call 902 662 2555 and leave a message or Call Walter McElhinney at 902 897 6025. Installation is included. Applications will also be available at the fire hall on Community Day.

Have a great & safe summer.



Fire fighter Chantal Hamilton gives 2-year-old Chloe Hamilton a cupcake at the open house. Chloe was wearing the cutest fire fighter boots ever!

Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade held an Open House and membership recruitment on July 23rd at the fire hall in Lower Onslow (Harrington Photos)



Onslow Belmont fleet of trucks and rescue units all lines up for the Open House on July 23rd.



OBFB Chief Greg Muise shows William Penner how to make some loud noises on the fire truck.



Brandon Nelson enjoyed giving the OBFB 935 Rescue Unit a tryout.

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