

Fundy Geological Museum 30TH ANNIVERSARY

These three photos by Lawrence R Nicoll were taken during the 30th Anniversary of the Fundy Geological Museum, Parrsboro. The museum is open daily 10 am to 5 pm. Additional special events have been added to an already busy schedule. When visiting the museum on August 18-20 you may wish to attend the Nova Scotia Gem and Mineral Show being held elsewhere in Parrsboro. Admission is \$7.00 or \$15 for 3 day pass.



Even an under-the-counter display of footprints catches the eye of visitors with a camera. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)



This peep-a-boo picture prop was a great attraction for those wishing a photo with a different background. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)



Bag toss games were available for action at Fundy Geological Museum for Canada Day celebrations. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)

\$800,000 Presented to Community Organizations

Municipality of Cumberland Mayor Murray Scott was joined by several councillors presenting thousands of dollars in financial support to community organizations throughout Cumberland County on Monday, July 10, 2023.

This year, the municipality is providing more than \$800,000 in grants to organizations that include community groups, recreation organizations, schools and tourism groups.

The mayor visited Pugwash early in the morning to present cheques to community groups in the Pugwash and Wallace areas while in the afternoon he was joined by Deputy Mayor Mark Joseph and Coun. Angel McCormick in presenting cheques to

groups at the Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre in Springhill.

Later in the day, he was joined by Coun. Carrie Goodwin in presenting cheques to organizations in the Parrsboro area and along the Fundy Shore.

"The work these organizations do in their communities is immeasurable," Mayor Scott said. "The real heroes are the volunteers who work in the museums and community organizations from one end of Cumberland County to the other. The work these organizations and these volunteers do is incredible and it's through their efforts that the Municipality of Cumberland is a wonderful place to live."

The mayor said the municipality received more than \$1.2

million in funding requests for 2023-24 and as much as it would like to fund every request to its full amount, tough decisions had to be made to ease the impact on the tax rate and ever-growing expenditures brought on by rising costs and inflation.

"We also understand the difficulty a lot of organizations have had raising money these last two to three years because of the COVID-19 pandemic," the mayor said. "We're very pleased to be able to support the work that these organizations and their volunteers do in their communities."

Among the grants was \$100,000 for the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark as well as the first \$50,000 instalment in a three-year commitment to support the construction of a new

L.A. Animal Shelter building in Upper Nappan, \$40,000 to support improvements to the playground at Cumberland North Academy elementary school in Brookdale and \$20,000 to support the Parrsboro and Area Lions Club with the operation of the community arena.

The municipality is also supporting the Southampton Community Association with \$20,000 for the redevelopment of a playground at the community centre while continuing its support of the Oxford Arena Association with a grant of \$14,500 and is supporting Pugwash Ground Search and Rescue with \$10,000 toward the purchase of new equipment.

See photo on page 1.

New Technology in Forestry

By Ian Ripley

Athol Forestry is pleased to share a few of the exciting developments in the field of forest management in Nova Scotia, as the adoption of cutting-edge technologies is transforming the way we preserve and utilize our precious woodlands. Through the utilization of LiDAR, drones, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS), our efforts to ensure sustainable practices have reached new levels of precision and effectiveness.

LiDAR, or Light Detection and Ranging, has emerged as a revolutionary tool for accurately assessing and mapping forest landscapes. By employing laser pulses, LiDAR generates detailed 3D models of the terrain, facilitating precise measurements of tree heights, canopy density, and biomass estimation. This technology has revolutionized forest inventory and planning processes, enabling informed decision-making based on accurate data, resulting in enhanced resource allocation and conservation strategies.

Drones, also known as unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), have emerged as valuable assets in forest monitoring and surveillance. Equipped with high-resolution cameras and sensors, drones capture aerial imagery and collect data on forest health, disease outbreaks, and potential fire risks.

Their ability to navigate challenging terrains and inaccessible areas provides real-time information to forest managers. This technology significantly improves the speed and efficiency of forest monitoring, allowing for early detection of disturbances and timely interventions.

Furthermore, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) play a crucial role in integrating and analyzing complex spatial data. By combining information from diverse sources, including LiDAR and

drone surveys, GIS platforms create interactive maps that visualize critical forest attributes such as species distribution, ecological zones, and sensitive areas. Forest managers can overlay various data layers to gain comprehensive insights, facilitating improved planning, risk assessment, and decision-making processes.

In line with these technological advancements, Nova Scotia has embarked on the Ecological Forestry Initiative, a significant endeavor that prioritizes environmentally sound forest management practices. By leveraging these

advanced tools, we gain a deeper understanding of our forests and ensure their long-term health and vitality.

Athol Forestry is fortunate to embrace these remarkable technologies that bolster our efforts in forest management. By leveraging their capabilities, we make informed decisions that safeguard our natural ecosystems, ensuring the longevity and sustainable growth of our forests.

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