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Publications Mail™
#40048924 - VOL. 30 NO. 8



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Nova Scotia Wines Receive Award for Excellence

Five outstanding wines received the 2026 Lieutenant-Governor's Award for Excellence in Nova Scotia Wines during a ceremony at Government House in Halifax July 21. The award celebrates the quality, innovation and craftsmanship that continue to distinguish Nova Scotia's wine industry. This year's recipients are: 2021 Brut, Lightfoot & Wolfville; 2018 Brut Reserve, Benjamin Bridge, Wolfville; 2017 Blanc de Blancs, Lightfoot & Wolfville; 2022 Brut Rosé, Lightfoot & Wolfville and 2024 Select Small Lot Muscat, Avondale Sky Winery, Newport.

Wines must be produced using 100 per cent Nova Scotia-grown grapes to be eligible; wineries may submit up to three commercially available wines for consideration; each winning winery receives a gold medal and certificate and may promote the wine as a lieutenant-governor's award recipient. The award program was established by former lieutenant-governor J.J. Grant in 2014.



"Nova Scotia wine-makers continue to earn acclaim for producing wines of exceptional character and quality," said Lt.-Gov. Mike Savage. "These award-winning wines reflect not only the unique terroir of our province, but also the passion, skill and dedication of the people behind them. I am delighted to recognize this year's recipients and their contributions to one of Nova Scotia's most vibrant agricultural industries."

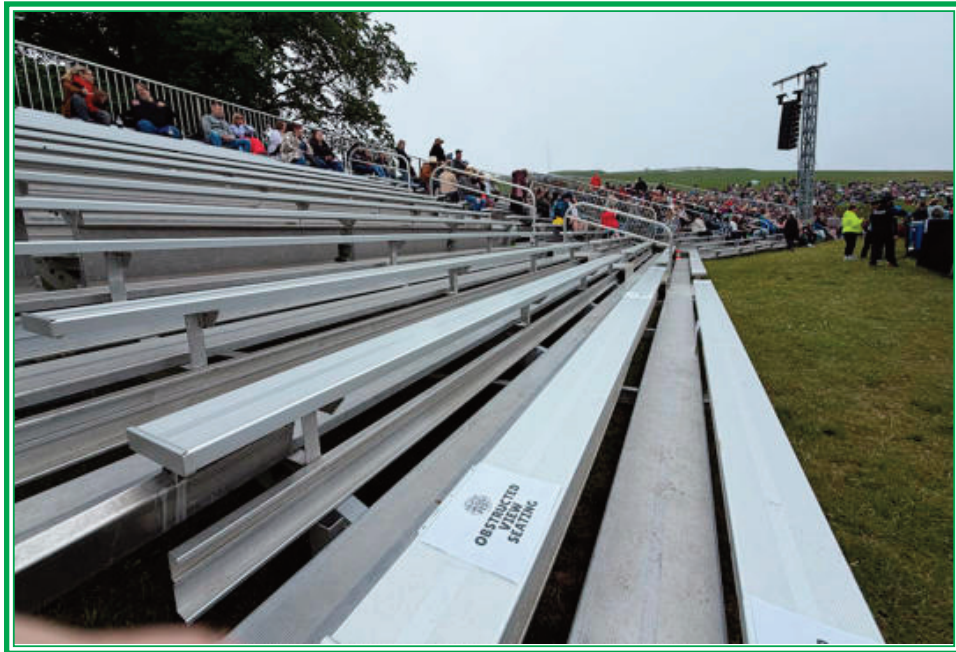
The award program is administered by Wine Growers Nova Scotia and Taste of Nova Scotia in partnership with the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor. This year, 36 wines from 12 wineries were evaluated through a blind tasting conducted by an independent panel of judges.

Bleacher War

Story by CBC/Radio-Canada
© Emma Davie/CBC

Editors Note: (It's been many years, since I copied with credits an entire story from another media. With the lack of print media sources my exposure was limited to listening to CBC Radio,

Halifax. After consulting with several reliable sources, it was determined the CBC version was accurate and to the point. A separate story updating a multitude of matters involving the RECC is printed separately on page 3.



Last year, a portable bleacher system was purchased to support the defunct Nova Scotia Stampede, which was held at the exhibition grounds in Bible Hill, N.S. The cost of the bleachers was shared between the feds and the province: Ottawa provided \$715,278 and the province contributed \$550,000.

Exploring Electricity Co-operation, System Integration

(NOTE: The following is a joint release from the governments of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island).

Maritime provinces are at a pivotal moment in their energy transition, with each province committed to ensuring reliable, affordable and sustainable electricity systems for its citizens.

The provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island have signed a memorandum of understanding to explore whether greater regional co-operation could improve affordability, optimize planning and investments, and strengthen system efficiency and resilience in the future. Natural Resources Canada is also a partner.

Over the coming months, they will work together to develop an initial

Maritime Regional Resource and Transmission Road Map identifying opportunities for co-ordination across generation, transmission, demand-side resources and emerging energy resources. They will also deliver a preliminary cost-benefit analysis of enhanced regional planning and operational co-ordination, including options for a Maritime Independent Electricity System Operator. More detailed planning and recommendations will follow next spring.

The work will be overseen by a deputy minister steering committee. Input will also be sought from New Brunswick Power, Nova Scotia Power, Maritime Electric and IESO Nova Scotia through a separate committee.

Maritime electricity systems are interconnected though they operate as dis-

Province, Truro and Colchester County in Custody Battle Over \$1.2m Bleachers

Who owns the bleachers?

That's the topic of a debate between the provincial government and councillors in Truro and Colchester County.

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Stampede, which was held at the exhibition grounds in Bible Hill, N.S. The cost of the bleachers was shared between the feds and the province: Ottawa provided \$715,278 and the province contributed \$550,000.

The new budget for the Rath Eastlink Community Centre (RECC), which previously organized the Stampede, includes a projected \$200,000 in revenue over the next year from renting out the bleachers to other events.

But the province says they own the bleachers, not the RECC.

Bleacher war & RECC update, see page 3

RECC Budget Approved

By Maurice Rees

In the news for many months, amid a marinade of controversial situations the 2026-2027 RECC budget was approved at the June meeting days before Colchester council went on holidays for month of July. Budgets are normally approved in late March or April, but with senior management changes and a new six-member councillor only board, three each from owners, County of Colchester and Town of Truro, it took until later June to reach council.

Even then the rush was on as the budget was presented on table instead of reaching councillors in the normal meeting package. Detailed study by the media was limited to viewing slides in the online format during council's meeting format. Availability of the file to the media occurred on July 23, complicated by busy workload and staff and vacation taking three weeks distribution to the media.

Discussion of the budget was most contentious of all matters on the agenda.

continued on page 6

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