

OBITUARIES

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NEVES, Sharon E. – Age 77, of Advocate Harbour. It is with saddened hearts that we announce the passing of Sharon E. Neves who passed away on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at the South Cumberland Community Care Centre, Parrsboro with her son, Ian and sister, Maureen by her side. Born in New Salem, she was a daughter of the late Reginald and Eva (Mosher) Ells. She is survived by a daughter, Andrea O'Brien (John), Truro; a son, Ian Neves (Vicki), Lucan, Ont.; sisters, Charlotte Webster, Saint John, NB; Maureen Collins, Amherst; brothers, Dale Ells (Leah), Brian Ells (Connie), all of Advocate Harbour; 6 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by brothers in law, Melza Webster and Bud Collins. Sharon was a beautiful soul who was kind to everyone! She will be deeply missed by her loving family and friends. The family would like to take this time to offer sincere thanks and appreciation for the loving care extended to Sharon from the staff of South Cumberland Memorial Care Centre. Your kindness will be forever remembered. In consideration of COVID-19 restrictions on travel and gatherings, private family services will be held. Memorial donations may be made to the South Cumberland Community Care Centre Foundation, the Canadian Cancer Society or to a charity of choice. Arrangements entrusted to Smith's Funeral Home, Parrsboro. For online condolences at www.smithsfuneralhome.com

Cecil Earl Jennings - 87, Masstown, passed away peacefully on Thursday, October 29, 2020. Born in Masstown, he was the son of the late Earl and Minnie Jennings. Cecil will be deeply missed by his loving wife of 63 years, Doris (Dottie); sister, Helen (Roy) Kingston; daughter, Linda McGraw; sons, Brian (Tracey) and Glen; grandchildren, Blake (Rebecca), Stephanie, Shelby, Mathew, Craig, Amy; nephews, nieces and cousins. Along with his parents, Cecil was predeceased by his brother, Lloyd; son, Douglas; son-in-law, Terry McGraw. Funeral service was held on Sunday, November 1, 2020, at Pumpkin Patch Barn, 962 Shore Road, Masstown, Reverend Valerie Kingsbury officiated. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall - Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro. Full obituary and condolences at: www.mattatallvarnerfh.com

Grace Anne Roberts – 65, Highland Village, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family, on Saturday, November 7, 2020, at Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. Born in Highland Village, she was a daughter of Virginia Roberts, Bass River, and the late Cyril Roberts. Along with her mother, Grace is survived by her siblings, Burton (Linda) Roberts, Economy; Philip Roberts, Portauisque; Linda (Dean) Rushton, Highland Village; Ross (Anne) Roberts, Debert; Michael Roberts, Portauisque; Frank (Patty) Roberts, Highland Village; Paul (Carolyn) Roberts, Highland Village; Roy (Florence) Roberts, Truro; many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. Along with her father, she was predeceased by her nephew, Leslie Rushton; cousin, Kimball Swanson. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall - Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro. Full obituary and condolences at: www.mattatallvarnerfh.com

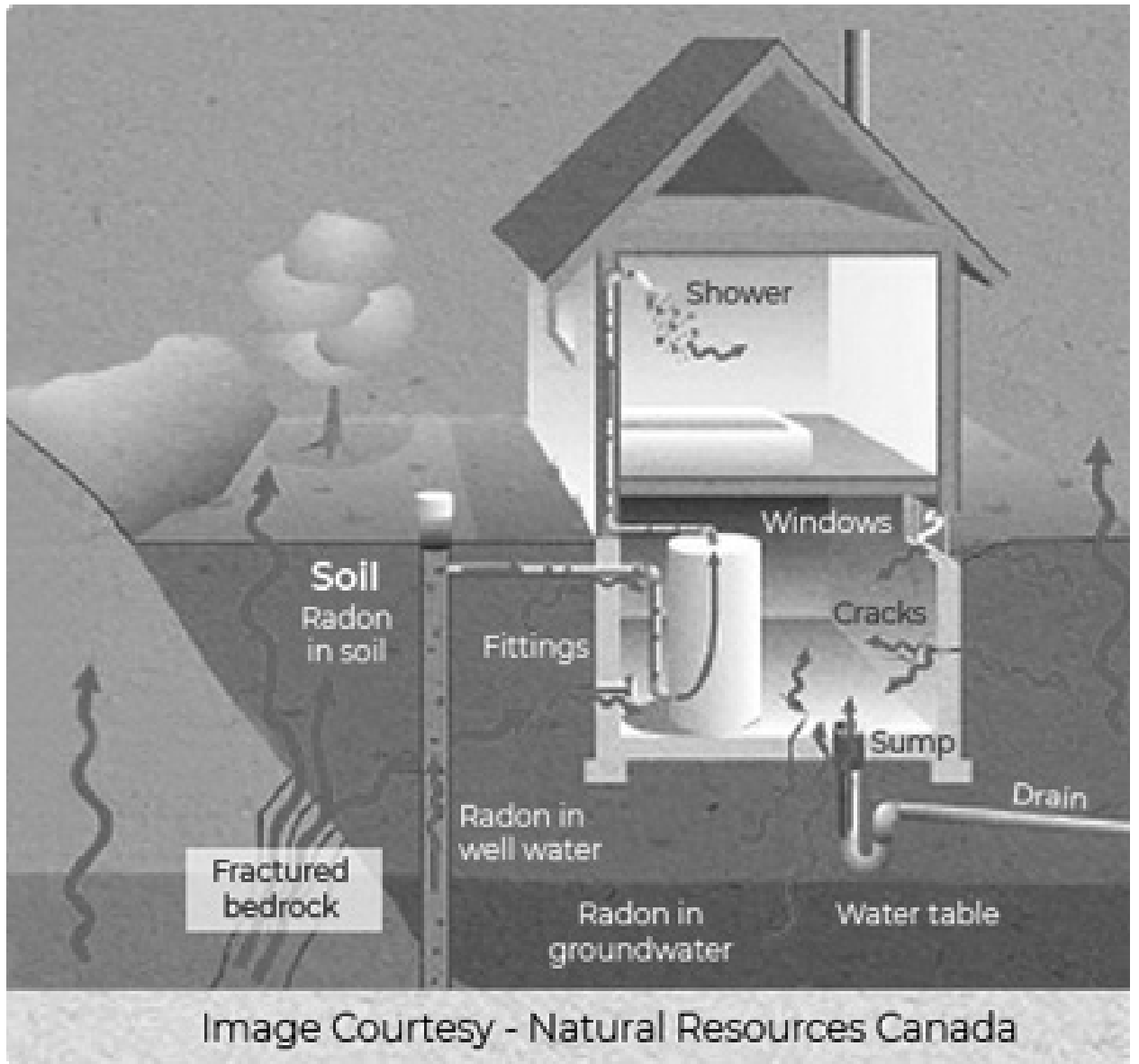


Image Courtesy - Natural Resources Canada

Have You Tested Your Home For Radon?

Radon is radioactive gas that comes from the ground, and it is around us almost everywhere. Outdoors, radon poses absolutely no health risk, but it enters our homes through spaces like cracks or openings around pipes and drains, and can reach levels inside the home that can become dangerous over time. All homes in Canada have some radon at different levels, and the guideline for radon in indoor air for dwellings is 200 Becquerels

per cubic metre (200 Bq/m³). In Nova Scotia, 10.7% of homes have radon above the guideline, and in the Truro area that number goes up to 12.6% of homes.

Long-term exposure to radon is the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. "Since many of us are spending more time at home due to COVID-19, it's more important than ever to test your home for radon," says Roshini Kassie, Radiation Specialist in Health Canada's

Atlantic Region.

Health Canada recommends that everyone test their home for radon, regardless of whether or not your community is known to have levels above the guideline. "All homes are different - just because your neighbour has low levels of radon doesn't mean you do too," says Roshini. Testing for radon is simple, and you can test for it in your home yourself or hire a certified professional to test your home.

If a test shows that the radon level in your home is high, there's no need to panic. "Radon is a problem you can solve, and you only have to solve it once," Roshini explains. "Radon exposure is a long-term health risk. The effects are not instantaneous, so you have time to address the problem."

For more information about radon, radon testing, and mitigation, visit: TakeActionOnRadon.ca

Room Nights Decrease 56%

Tourism Nova Scotia has released data to reveal how the CoVid-19 pandemic has devastated the province's tourism sector. Various components of the data recently published is presented below.

August 2020 Accommodations Activity in Nova Scotia

Accommodations operators from across the province report 810,000 room nights sold year to date August 2020, a decrease of 56% compared with the same period in 2019.

Fixed-roof accommodation data continues to reveal the dramatic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Nova Scotia's tourism industry, with a decline of 58% in room nights sold in August (a loss of 230,000 room nights sold) compared with August 2019. At the same time, declines in room nights sold moderated in August compared to June and July, suggesting a somewhat improving trend, and increasing confidence in travel by Nova Scotians and Atlantic Canadians as the summer progressed.

Year to Date August 2020 Sharing Economy Platforms Activity in Nova Scotia

According to AirDNA data, for the period of year to date August 2020, there were 227,000 room nights booked through sharing economy platforms, a decrease of 32% compared to the same period in 2019.

Room nights booked through sharing economy platforms were down by 42% in August compared to the same month last year.

August Non-resident Visitation

Reflective of the significant impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, non-resident visitation to Nova Scotia was down 74% in August 2020. According to statistics gathered by Tourism Nova Scotia, there were 106,000 non-resident visitors to Nova Scotia in August, with 11,000 visitors arriving by air (down 92%), and 95,000 visitors arriving by road (down 67%).

As a result of the pandemic, Atlantic Canadians made up a higher share of visitors to Nova Scotia in August 2020 than the same period in previous years. Atlantic Canadians typically account for about one-third of overall August visitation (with 35% of visitors being Atlantic residents in August 2019). This year, 80,700 or 76% of August visitors were Atlantic Canadians traveling within the Atlantic bubble. In addition, 22% of August visitors were from other regions of Canada, and fewer than 2% were international visitors. All visitors from outside of Atlantic Canada are required to self-isolate for 14 days upon arriving in Nova Scotia.

Because Tourism Nova Scotia's operations were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the organization reports it was unable to conduct enumeration activities between mid-March and July 2020. Enumerators were able to resume work at the beginning of August. They are working to develop estimates of visitation for the March-July period, and expect to be able to publish these later this year.

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