

Groundhog Day – February 2

Nova Scotians are invited to celebrate Groundhog Day with Shubenacadie Sam on Thursday, Feb. 2 at 8 a.m. as Sam makes his annual spring forecasting prediction from his home at the Shubenacadie Provincial Wildlife Park. Natural Resources Minister Lloyd Hines will join fans gathered to see if Sam will see his shadow.

"Nova Scotia's geographical location allows Sam to make his prediction an hour before his fellow famous groundhogs in Ontario and the United States check for their shadows, so you'll hear it first from Sam," said Mr. Hines. "Sam's prediction party will feature family activities, dis-

plays and hot drinks, so I invite Nova Scotians to join us at the wildlife park on Groundhog Day."

Those attending the Groundhog Day forecasting festivities can enter the park at 7 a.m. There will be free hot drinks, fun activities and displays. There will be no admission fee to see the animals.

Along with Groundhog Day, Feb. 2 is also World Wetlands Day. Together, Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Wildlife Park are hosting environmental partners and students for a morning of hands-on wetland education. Visitors can drop in to the Wetland Centre to get inspired by environ-

mental experts from groups including the Clean Foundation, the departments of Natural Resources and Environment, the Canadian Wildlife Federation, Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariat, the Nova Scotia Bird Society, and the Cobequid Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre.

If you are unable to attend the festivities, you can watch Sam's prediction live at www.novascotiawebcams.com/en/webcams/shubenacadie-sam/. Sam is also on Twitter @ShubenacadieSam

Federal Leadership Candidate Debate February 4TH

The Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia is hosting a Federal Conservative Party of Canada (CPC) Leadership Candidates Debate Saturday, February 4, 2017 in Halifax, starting at 7:00 pm. This event is part of the PC Party AGM that runs February 3-5, 2017. Organizers say the forum will be an opportunity for Nova Scotians and Atlantic Canadians to hear what the leadership candidates would do to bolster opportunities and to address challenges in Atlantic Canada.

Confirmed CPC leadership candidates include: Chris Alexander,

Maxime Bernier, Steven Blaney, Michael Chong, Kellie Leitch, Pierre Lemieux, Kevin O'Leary, Erin O'Toole, Rick Peterson, Lisa Raitt, Andrew Saxton, Andrew Scheer and Brad Trost.

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Season's Greetings to all.
 May this be the most wonderful time of the year.



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NOVA SCOTIA Natural Resources

Regional Woodland 2017 Conference
 March 25, 2017
 8:30 am – 3:00 pm
 Maple Ridge Elementary School,
 1006 Hwy 2, Lantz, NS

Cost: \$25, includes hearty lunch.
 Students \$15.

INFORMATION:
 Don Cameron, BScF, RPF, Regional Forester
 Ph: 902-893-5629



Community Health Board Wellness Grants Presented

Nova Scotia Health Authority's community health boards in Colchester County and the Municipality of East Hants celebrated community wellness with presentation of their new community health plan and the presentation of \$39,000 in wellness grants.

Wellness grants are provided by the Department of Health and Wellness to support community initiatives that encourage healthy living. Among the 26 projects funded this year in Colchester / East Hants are:
Along the Shore Community Health Board: Central Colchester Junior High School - Life Skills Rock and Community Links - Aging Well Calendar.
East Hants Community Health Board: Colchester East Hants Public Library-Elmsdale - Teen Scene Sipeknekatic Health Centre - All About Me.



Truro & Area Community Health Board: Colchester Sexual Assault Centre - Healthy Relationships and École Acadienne de Truro - Schools Plus Room.

In the past 10 years, community health boards in Colchester / East Hants have allocated over \$480,000 in wellness grants to community organizations. Community health board members are volunteers who care about the health of their community and want to work to improve it. They represent all walks of life and come from all corners of Colchester County and the Municipality of East Hants.

For more information on community health boards in these areas contact Community Health Board Coordinators Luanne Schenkels at Luanne.Schenkels@nshealth.ca, 902-893-7311 or Mindy LeBlanc at Mindy.LeBlanc@nshealth.ca, 902-893-1374

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