



A group of seniors enjoy a Tuesday morning skate at the Colchester Legion Stadium. Look for scheduled skate activities for the Long John Festival. (Submitted)

The Shoreline Tid-Bits

Continued from page 22

Home Plan (HHP) Pilot as part of its New Home Construction Program to assist Nova Scotians in designing and building energy efficient homes. The pilot will offer a \$1000 incentive paid to eligible participants who complete an Initial Design Evaluation under Efficiency Nova Scotia's New Home Construction program. Participants who complete the High Performance Home Plan pilot are also eligible for rebates up to \$7000 under the New Home Construction program. To be eligible for the pilot and the New Home Construction Program, homes must be Electrically-heated and registered before or within 30 days of receiving a building permits. For more information about the High Performance Home Plan pilot of the New Home Construction Program, visit www.energycyns.ca/newhomes.

Convention Centre celebrates 1st Anniversary

The Halifax Convention Centre is celebrating its one-year anniversary since its first client event was hosted on Jan. 20, 2018. Since opening in December 2017, the Halifax Convention Centre has hosted over 140 events and over 90,000 guests, including 44 national and international conventions. These events have generated an estimated \$60 million in new money for the province. Major events the centre will host in 2019 include the National Metropolis Conference on Immigration (750 delegates), Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada (800 delegates) and the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians national conference (800 delegates). For the full calendar of events, visit HalifaxConventionCentre.com/Events.

African Heritage Month - Shared History

February is African Heritage Month in Nova Scotia and a time to celebrate and share the culture and history of African Nova Scotians. The 2019 theme, Our History is Your History, recognizes the distinct story of African Nova Scotians and how it is interwoven with the past, present and future of all Nova Scotians. To learn more about African Heritage Month and the events taking place throughout the province, visit www.ansa.novascotia.ca, Facebook, @AfricanNSAffairs or Twitter, @OfficeofANSA. Posters can be ordered at <http://www.bccnweb.com/web/ahmposter>. To learn more about the United Nations' International Decade for People of African Descent, visit: <http://www.un.org/en/events/african-descentdecade>.

Medal of Bravery Nominations

Nominations for the Medal of Bravery are open until May 1. Nova Scotians are encouraged to nominate people who courageously put themselves at risk to help others or protect property. Nomination forms are available at Access Nova Scotia centres, offices of members of the legislative assembly and at www.novascotia.ca/bravery. Acts of bravery that occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2016 are eligible for nomination. Completed nomination forms should be sent to: Provincial Secretary, Medal of Bravery, Department of Justice, 7th floor, 1690 Hollis St., Halifax, N.S., B3J 2L6.

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Will Colchester Lose Major Events?

By Maurice Rees

There are fears Colchester may lose some major events at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition complex, Bible Hill, if rental fees continue to increase. According to reports several organizations are facing hefty rental increases and may seek alternative locations.

At Colchester Council's presentation night in early January and council's committee meeting on January 10th, councillors dealt with request from the Nova Scotia Bluegrass & Old Time Music Festival to help cover a rental increase of \$10,350 over the 2018 fees. Society president, John Sayer made the presentation. The 48th annual event is scheduled for July 25-28, 2019.

Following Sayer's presentation one councillor told the Shoreline Journal the music society's situation was similar to what was originally requested of the local 4-H group which organizes the Pro-Show. The Pro-Show is returning to Bible Hill this year and with major improvements to the 4-H Barn and other 4-H facilities local organizers are hopeful it will remain in Bible Hill.

Several organizations are facing significant increases at the complex and there are concerns some of them might choose alternate site, or be cancelled. Since being taken over by the

Winter Long John Festival

Truro

The 2019 Truro Long John Festival runs from February 15th - 18th. It is hosted by Truro Parks, Recreation and Culture, which offers an opportunity to get families outside to appreciate what the Town of Truro has to offer in the winter time. This year's the participants will participate

for The Golden Long John competition and can accumulate points through social media posts. Gather up the friends and family and participate in winter activities to earn points with the competition.

Will you be the winner of the Golden Long John?

Truro WINTER Long John Festival
February 15th-18th, 2019

province a few years ago, Keith Colwell, Minister of Agriculture, who is responsible for the complex told the Shoreline the challenge has been to stop major losses and to improve administration. He indicated once the hemorrhaging has been eliminated he anticipates appointing a board of directors with strict guidelines.

Colwell admitted infrastructure at the complex has not been improved for many years and a lot needs to be done.

A few years ago, there was a staff of 17, but that has changed with current staffing level of two. Darrelyn Hubley is Manager and she is permitted to have an assistant. The assistant position has been changed to seasonal with a layoff during the winter months.

When contacted, Hubley acknowledged rents were increased out of necessity, as the complex was losing money on nearly every event during recent years. She would not discuss particulars about supposed increase requests to 4-H Pro show or the Bluegrass and Old Time Music Festival. Although not specific about the coming year, she indicated several new events are planned, and she is focusing on adding other events to the 2019 schedule.

Minister Colwell said he didn't want the complex to

lose any events, and he'd work hard to ensure that did not happen. He acknowledged the complex contributes to the local economy and he hopes improvements can be made, and for there to be more activity at the site as he feels the NSPE Complex can be an important economic engine.

As news about some organizations are facing stiff rental increases, the business community and Colchester councillors are

expressing concern. During the presentation meeting on January 10th, Councillor Taggart suggested to presenter, Sayer, perhaps he could look at the Debert Business Park as an alternative site. Taggart mentioned there is plenty of space on solid ground.

Some councillors picked upon on that thought with suggestions perhaps the municipality could develop another resource and increase utilization of the facility.

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