

# Municipal Staff Raise \$3,000 Funds for Charities

The staff of the Municipality of Cumberland raised \$3,000 for local charities in 2019, through their Jeans Day donations. This month members of the staff social committee presented cheques to the past years' recipients.

"For many years now, staff have been encouraged to wear jeans on Fridays in return of a donation. At the end of the year, staff nominate and vote on which charities they'd like to see their funds support," said Jennifer Troop, chair of the staff social committee.

"Staff enjoy the opportunity to wear jeans before a weekend, and also feel good knowing they're contributing to the many important causes in our communities," added Dannie Sampson, vice-chair of the staff social committee.

Recipients of the 2019 funds were Christmas for Kids Campaign - Amherst, N.S. (\$1,000), Cumberland County Hospice/Palliative Care Society (\$1,000), the Salvation Army Springhill Community Church (\$500) and the Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia (\$500).



The Christmas for Kids Campaign received \$1,000 from Cumberland Count staff. Pictured above during the cheque presentation (L-R) are: Dannie Sampson, vice-chair; Heather Laurie, committee member; Phillip Baxter, Lions Club member and Jennifer Troop, chair. (Submitted)



The Cumberland County Hospice/Palliative Care Society was pleased to receive \$1,000 from Cumberland staff. Shown above for the cheque presentation were (L-R): Dannie Sampson, vice-chair; Jennifer Troop, chair; Gerry Helm and Heather Laurie, committee member. (Submitted)



Cumberland staff donated \$500 to the Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia MCC. Pictured (L-R): Dannie Sampson, vice-chair; Heather Maddison, Coordinator, Education and outreach Northern Zone and Jennifer Troop, chair. (Submitted)



Cumberland County staff donated \$500 to the Salvation Army Community Church. Present to present the cheque were (L-R): Jennifer Troop, chair; Dannie Sampson, vice-chair; Stephen Toynton, Lieutenant Corps Officer and Heather Laurie, committee member. (Submitted)

# Canadian Chamber Choir to Perform March 22

*Continued from page 1*

explores various Canadian perspectives on water and water security including those of Ojibwe/South Asian poet Yolanda Bonnell, the CCC singers, and Braden herself. Mi'kmaq drummer/singer Aaron Prosper will join the CCC in performance of the work - the first time it will be heard by an audience east of Alberta.

"It's always exciting for us to return to the Maritimes to see choral friends - and make new ones - especially in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, two amazing singing communities," said CCC Artistic Director Dr. Julia Davids. "We're really looking forward to having Halifax-born vocalist Luke MacLean joining us in the bass section as our Singer Apprentice on this tour. And we're also very grateful to the Nova Scotia Choral Federation for hosting the Sing Out: Choirs in Contact! event on March 27 and 28, which combines vocal clinics, workshops and a CCC con-

cert at the end of the weekend."

Founded in 2001 by a group of National Youth Choir alumni, the CCC emerged out of sheer passion and determination - an "impossible dream" that united singers from communities large and small. The ensemble has since grown into an artistic force that employs 22 professional singers per tour and undertakes two such projects per year; each approximately 10 days in length and reaching a different part of the country. Under the artistic direction of renowned conductor and music educator Dr. Julia Davids, along with Fredericton-born associate conductor Dr. Joel Tranquilla, the CCC has released three recordings, including their latest entitled Seasons of Life and Landscape.

For more information on the Canadian Chamber Choir, visit [canadianchamberchoir.ca](http://canadianchamberchoir.ca).

**PARRSBORO CONTACT:** Beth Peterkin, Chair 902-728-2144, [beth@bethpeterkin.ca](mailto:beth@bethpeterkin.ca)

## South Cumberland NEWS



**DEADLINE**  
for the  
March issue  
is  
**February 18**

# Financial Assistance for Dorian Damage

A disaster financial assistance program opened on Jan. 8, to help those who sustained property damage from Hurricane Dorian. The program will help individuals, small businesses and not-for-profit organizations that have uninsurable claims and municipalities with uninsured losses.

"Hurricane Dorian caused widespread damage across Nova Scotia and its effects were felt from Yarmouth to Sydney,"

said Chuck Porter, Minister responsible for emergency management. "Based on the information we received from municipalities and provincial departments, the damage is estimated to be about \$11 million."

The hurricane was the largest and most powerful storm to impact the province in recorded history. At one point, more than 400,000 households were without electrical power. The last disaster financial assis-

tance program was implemented in October 2016 following historic flooding in Nova Scotia.

Disaster financial assistance programs help residents, small businesses, not-for-profits and municipalities recover from emergency-related damage. Details on the program and where to apply can be found at: <https://beta.novascotia.ca/government/emergency-management-office>.

# Province Sells Digby Pines Golf Resort and Spa

New private owners are planning significant upgrades to the Digby Pines Golf Resort and Spa to create a year-round tourism destination. Besim Halef, Glenn Squires, both from Halifax and Bear River First Nation in Digby County have purchased the tourism landmark and will invest \$6.9 million over five years in the property. Pacrim Hospitality Services Inc., based in Halifax, will manage the property on behalf of the partners.

Government sold the property to the partnership group for \$1 million. During the sale's due diligence phase, engineers discovered the main building needed substantial mechanical, electrical and structural upgrades. The province provided \$1 million credit on closing to be used towards that work. The province will also be responsible for closing costs and brokerage fees of

approximately \$500,000.

Glenn Squires said, Digby Pines will be developed as a year-round resort focusing on contemporary cuisine, memorable experiences and creating opportunities for many local businesses to work and partner with The Pines. I am pleased that Digby Pines will be the 22nd hotel project I have participated in here in Nova Scotia. Through Pacrim Hospitality Services Inc., we will manage the resort for our ownership group and are looking forward to growth opportunities for the resort including strong ties to the Chinese market." Squires is partner and CEO, Pacrim Hospitality and Caboteer Hospitality and Developments

In 2016, the province asked Develop Nova Scotia to find a buyer for two of its Signature Resorts - Digby Pines and Liscombe Lodge. The province

has owned Digby Pines for about 30 years. The resort has been managed by New Castle Hotels and Resorts since 2002. The province has been funding the annual operating losses with a budget of about \$765,000

A real estate appraisal in 2012 declared the property value at \$0, due to overdue upgrades and renovations. A 2015 appraisal estimated it would cost \$4.9 million for basic maintenance and upgrades

"This partnership opens up new guest experiences, such as the creation of year-round, adventure-focused programming that will share local First Nations stories. We share the commitment to transform Digby Pines into a premiere destination resort that captures the Mi'kmaq culture and the spirit of Nova Scotia.", Chief Carol Dee Potter, Bear River First Nation

# Craft and Bake Sale – February 15

By Margie Allen

Come and join in the fun - Local Artisans Bakers and The Hall have come together again this year to host a Craft and Bake Sale for Winter Carnival Saturday, February 15th from 10 am - 3 pm at the Parrsboro Band Hall - 44 King Street in Parrsboro NS.

There will be variety of local hand crafted artisan products, a variety of fresh warm baking, local honey, local maple syrup, variety of hot drinks and sweets. Come in, warm up, get some snacks, do some shopping and have fun on this Winter Carnival Saturday!

For Table rentals call Margie 902 348 2900



**6 McFarlane St., PO Box 250  
Springhill, NS B0M 1X0**

1-902-597-4039  
Toll Free 1-833-597-8679  
Fax: 1-902-597-3310

[toryrushtonmla@bellaliant.com](mailto:toryrushtonmla@bellaliant.com)

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
Springhill: Monday-Friday 9 - 4  
Parrsboro: Thursdays  
River Hebert: Tuesdays  
Please call to set up an appointment.

**TORY RUSHTON, MLA  
Cumberland South**

