

Spartans Looking For New Home

Submitted by Tanya MacKenzie

On December 14th, 2020 a letter was sent to members and friends to explain their existing location and what will be required in their near for new facilities. The letter explained, how the club has weathered the CoVid pandemic and how it anticipates finding a new home prior to July 2021.

Dear Valued Member, The past several months have been a challenging time for all of us. I would first like to thank everyone for standing by us and helping us navigate through these uncharted waters. In the past month we have been informed that our building has been sold. The new landlord has been exceptional in keeping us informed with their plans and has been taking care of some of the minor modifications that we have not been able to do on our own. However, the new landlord has plans for this site and has informed us officially last week that he will be taking ownership of the space in September 2021. Unfortunately, this means that we once again must look for a new home. Our building committee did an excellent job finding us a suitable location the last time and, once again is faced with the daunting task of seeking out a new home for us. It is our intention to continue with all programs in September 2021 if we can find a home that will accommodate our requirements.

OBJECTIVES Our number one priority is to find a safe and suitable facility to house our athletes and coaches in time for 2021 season (Sept 2021). This means that we will finish the recreational programs in June and the competitive programs in July, hoping to move in August to allow time to set up for a September start. We are willing to look at short term or long-term commitments if we can find a facility that works. The difficulty has been that we have very special requirements, so there are very few options available to us.

1. Current situation

a. The current facility has been purchased and the understanding is that we will need to be out of the building in July 2021.



b. A group needs to be formed to start the process that will allow us to move and continue programming c. Depending on the options that become available to us, that will determine the future make-up of the club

2. Viability

• We are currently the 3rd largest club in Nova Scotia (as determined by participation size). With over 1100 kids (pre COVID-19) participating in regular programs or casual programs (camps, birthday parties etc.). We believe it is a viable operation to continue.

3. Building requirements:

a. Our building currently functions at 12000 sq. ft. of gym space and 2800 sq. ft. of office/other space, but changes to layout and programming, could allow us to operate with less. b. Somewhere between 7,000 and 16,000 square feet would be workable. c. Within that space is the need for a min of 25 x 50' area with an 18'-22' ceiling for trampolines, 120' x 20' area for tumble track/vault runup, 30' x 50' for a beam area, 30' x 50' for a bar area and a minimum 50' x 50' clear floor space for the mat.

4. Additional requirements that would be necessary for long term are:

• Open space for birthday parties, dance classes, snack times, meetings, etc.; Office space; Changing rooms and Parking lot We are currently looking for a space, but with the huge requirements it is a difficult challenge. We are asking for anyone who may know someone with such a space to let us know. We hope to be able to find

a space in the Truro/Bible hill area but would be open to facilities a bit farther out of town. If you would like to help, please contact Tanya - admin@cobequidspartans.ca or by phone 902- 890-1981 and she will be happy to pass the info to the building committee Thanks for your help in advance Cobequid Spartans Gymnastic & Trampoline Centre

Tanya MacKenzie is Operations Manager, Cobequid Spartans Gymnastic & Trampoline Centre; **Mail- ing address:** 14 Court Street Box 245, Truro, N. S. B2N6H7; **Gym location:** 19 Lower Truro Road, Truro N.S. P (902) 895-7727, (902) 895-4961; **admin@cobequidspartans.ca www.cobequidspartans.com**

The Shoreline Tid-Bits

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Xplornet chooses Ericsson for 5G Wireless

Xplornet, the communications company chosen by Colchester and Cumberland Counties in a \$Multi-Million five-year deal to deliver faster broadband service has announced the selection of Ericsson as its technology supplier for the upcoming deployment of 5G wireless broadband in rural Canada. is Getting Ready to Deliver Rural 5G Wireless Broadband.

Xplornet Communications Inc. is Canada's largest rural-focused broadband service provider. Allison Lenehan, President and CEO of Xplornet "Our rural 5G wireless network will not only benefit customers, but will create jobs, spur innovation and invigorate rural communities across Canada. We're ready to get to work."

Employment Growing by 10,000 in November

Nova Scotia employment was up 10,000 to 468,500 in November. This monthly gain was concentrated in full-time employment, which has risen to 383,200 - the highest level of full-time employment on record.

"Nova Scotia has recovered 97 per cent of lost employment since last April and this is a positive signal of a resilient economy," said Karen Casey, Minister of Finance and Treasury Board.

Nova Scotia has the lowest unemployment rate in Canada at 6.4 per cent for the first time in the 44 years of the Statistics Canada monthly Labour Force Survey. Employment among females - initially among the hardest hit by job losses - has almost recovered to pre-pandemic levels. The national unemployment rate fell to 8.5 per cent in November.

Post-secondary autism awards

Autism Nova Scotia and The Craig Foundation have announced a partnership to offer post-secondary awards and financial support for students on the autism spectrum. The Amy Farnell Education Award is eligible to Nova Scotian students who identify as being on the autism spectrum, and who have been accepted into a full-time post-secondary program.

Each year, the Craig Foundation will contribute \$25,000 to the award with each individual award valued at up to \$3,000/year (each award is renewable for the regular duration of the program). To a maximum of four years.

The Amy Farnell Education Award is named after Amy Farnell, a long-time supporter and cherished friend of both The Craig Foundation and Autism Nova Scotia.

Among Nova Scotians between 17 to 29 years old, 16 per cent had a registered disability in 2011, compared with only 9 per cent of university students and 12 per cent of Nova Scotia Community College students.* The Amy Farnell Education Award will help address this gap and increase the number of people with autism pursuing post-secondary education.

To apply to the Amy Farnell Education award, visit Autism Nova Scotia's website:

www.autismnovascotia.ca/amy-farnell-education-award

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