

Ships Company gets \$7,715 funding grant



Everyone was all smiles at the Ship's Company Theatre, Parrsboro when \$7,715.00 for the 2010 season was announced by Scott Armstrong, MP, (right), who pictures with Matthew Tiffin, artistic director. (Kossatz Photo)

Scott Armstrong, MP delivered \$7,715.00 funding for the Ship's Company Theatre Society in ceremonies on Tuesday, May 18th. The funding will enable the local performing arts society to present the 2010 season in its namesake performance venue.

The Ship's Company Theatre is one of the community's most well-known tourist attractions featuring the MV Kipawo, one of Canada's longest-running ferries and the Company's original home, in the outdoor lobby.

The funding of \$7,715 is provided through the Canada Arts Presentation Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage. This program gives Canadians increased access to the variety and richness of Canada's culture through professional arts festivals, presentations of live professional performances, and other artistic experiences.

This summer the Company

will present its eleventh summer concert series from July to September, comprising seven concerts held each Monday evenings. The 2010 series will also feature three theatre presentations including one for young children.

In making the announcement, on behalf of the Honourable James Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages, Scott Armstrong, MP for Cumberland, Colchester, Musquodoboit Valley said, "Our Government is pleased to support this annual summer series in Parrsboro. Tourism is very important to the economy of this historic town, and I am pleased that both tourists and residents alike will once again be able to enjoy high-level entertainment and its positive impact on this community and beyond."

"The Ship's Company Theatre Society is a Cumberland County treasure," said Mr. Armstrong. "Through

its emphasis on new works from Maritime writers, the Society's productions not only entertain us, but also help us tell our story. This is both relevant and of great benefit to the entire region in terms of tourism and economic growth."

The society provides seasonal employment for 35 and a number of these positions provide valuable training to students through student employment programs. The funding level of \$7,715 represents an increase of \$1,215, to support its Second Stage products and children's stage activities.

"We're very grateful to receive this funding from the Government of Canada," said Matthew Tiffin, the Ship's Company Theatre's Artistic Producer. "Quite simply, it is essential to our operations and goes a long way in helping us produce and host our great Atlantic-Canadian musicians, actors, writers, and artists. This funding gives a

\$146,000 Study for Advocate Harbour

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Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, and Minister for the Atlantic Gateway. "Our Government is committed to supporting projects that enhance the capacity of communities' to overcome economic development challenges," said Mr. Armstrong. "Today's investment will support the work necessary to ensure that the community of Advocate Harbour can continue to sustain and develop its economy."

The assessment will be coordinated by the Cumberland Regional Economic Development Association (CREDA), with funds provided through the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency's Innovative Communities Fund.

In December 2008, a severe storm resulted in sig-

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**Rhonda Kelly
Executive Director of CREDA**

nificant damage to the natural sea barrier at Advocate Harbour. Community members are concerned that the damage may lead to flooding, which could compromise infrastructure, agriculture and private property.

On behalf of the Canadian Coast Guard, CREDA will undertake an engineering assessment of the adequacy of the area's natural sea barrier and underlying soil conditions. The project will involve geotechnical studies to determine future requirements to

ensure the stability of the sea-wall and the protection of the community.

"Addressing the Advocate Harbour sea barrier has been identified as a priority for the Association," said Rhonda Kelly, Executive Director of CREDA. "It is our role to increase communities' ability to overcome challenges and approach goals using local resources and expertise—today's investment will allow us to fulfill this role in the community of Advocate Harbour."

platform to many Atlantic artists and helps us to celebrate and share our rich Atlantic-Canadian heritage with the world."

Founded in 1984, the Ship's Company Theatre Society is an acclaimed and innovative professional company. It often commissions its own productions, and a number of these have been performed in theatres across Canada. From July to September, it will present its annual summer series of seven concerts featuring a diverse range of professional and emerging artists from Nova Scotia and beyond. It will also present theatrical productions, including one for young children.



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Bare Bones Café & Bistro snags CNTA Award

By Maurice Rees

The newly expanded Bare Bones Café & Bistro, Parrsboro was presented with the 2009 Food and Beverage Award at the annual meeting of Central Nova Tourism Association held at the Holiday Inn, Truro on May 6th.

In 2008 Glen Wheaton felt he had served enough time at some of Halifax's finest restaurants and decided with his wife, Sue, to return to his home town of Parrsboro. His first venture was on Main Street in the former John's Café, where they quickly developed a loyal following. While Glenn was busy using his skills in the kitchen, wife Sue handled the front end of the operation, trained staff and used her bookkeeping skills and work ethic to ensure their restaurant stays on the cutting edge of what is expected from diners.


In just over a year, Bare Bones started to outgrow its current location, so Glenn and Sue started looking around for a new location. They settled on the former Boullabaise Café location and spent the 2009-2010 winter transforming it to meet their requirements.

They missed their target of opening for Mother's Day, but with renovations complete the new facility creating a new dining experience


opened late May. The pizza shop was open during the winter to help create much needed cashflow.

Glenn's stint at Halifax restaurants included the Halliburton House Inn and The Five Fishermen. His move back to Parrsboro to create

Bare Bones Café & Bistro quickly garnered province-wide attention. The Wheaton's and their staff are committed to providing food made with the freshest and most natural ingredients while supporting local farmers and utilizing seasonal ingredients.



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