



Visit www.downtowntruro.ca
or call 895-9258 for information

The **Downtown Truro Visitor's Guide** is a handy little booklet available from the Truro Welcome Centre or the Downtown Truro Partnership office. It includes a business listing, map, calendar of events, information about walking trails, museums, Victoria Park and a host of other interesting details about Downtown Truro, making it a useful handbook for family reunions, meetings or other gatherings of out-of-town visitors.

"Downtown Truro—the Centre of Attention!"

TRURO – LONG COLOURFUL HISTORY

Truro is positioned on tidal lowlands that provided seasonal food and shelter to Mi'kmaq and upon which the Acadians had founded a small community before their expulsion from Nova Scotia in 1755. Both groups referred to the area around the Minas Basin as the Cobequid. The present settlement began in 1761 when Presbyterian families from New England sailed up the Salmon River to take possession of the 50,000-acre Truro Township, granted to them by the British Government. The early community grew slowly, but the relocation of the Court House in 1803 solidified Truro's position as the legal, administrative and mercantile centre of Colchester district.

Even in 1838, the majority of the township's 1500 inhabitants were Presbyterians employed in farming or agricultural crafts. Occupational, religious, ethnic and racial diversity came with the building of the Nova Scotian Railway in 1858 and its extension, both east and west, as the Inter-colonial Railway in the 1870's. The new population required houses near the rail-

way, enlarging the village, so that the name Truro came to be applied to this built up area.

In 1875, with a population of 3000, the village was incorporated as a town. At that time, it already had an active Fire Brigade; the first kerosene oil had been developed from Debert- Belmont coal; a water system was introduced and shortly afterward, the first ribbed-knit underwear was being manufactured (Stanfields); the first condensed milk factory in Canada opened; the first railway workers union was organized; and the first school of agriculture in Atlantic Canada opened in 1885. By 1888, Truro had the first long-distance telephone terminus in Nova Scotia and the first incandescent lighting in homes and offices.

Truro was nicknamed "The Hub of Nova Scotia" more than 100 years ago when railways linking Nova Scotia met here. As road transportation achieved importance, it also became the hub of provincial highway networks.

Today, with a population of about 12,000, Truro is an important centre of trans-

portation, manufacturing, agriculture, trade and education. Its central location even has a direct bearing on it's climate. Being just fifteen miles north of the halfway point between the Equator and the North Pole, Truro escapes the extremes in temperature and

weather conditions often experienced in other areas.

The Colchester Historical Museum on Young Street houses artifacts, documents, pictures and special displays featuring highlights from this area's past, together with a variety of temporary and travelling exhibits

VICTORIA SQUARE & TRURO WELCOME CENTRE

In 1887, "the common" situated between Court and Commercial Streets in Downtown Truro, was renamed Victoria Square to mark the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria. The common was a name frequently used to describe grassy or treed areas which were owned by the public.

For several decades, this area was the nucleus of business activity in the growing community, as commercial, manufacturing and professional operations developed on the four streets immediately surrounding it.

Although many details of the square have changed since those days, the intent of the area remains the same today,

more than 100 years later.

The Truro Welcome Centre situated in the centre of the Square caters to both residents and visitors, offering information on the Truro area, a computer and wireless internet connection for public use, public washrooms and a selection of Town of Truro merchandise.

During the winter months, weather permitting, Victoria Square is home to a popular outdoor skating rink. It is also one of the focal points of Downtown Truro's Festival of Lights celebrating the holiday season.

Welcome Centre Hours:
May 15 – June 30, 9AM-5PM
July 1 – Aug. 31, 8:30AM-7:30PM
Sept. 1 – Oct. 31, 9AM-5PM

TRURO'S FARMERS' MARKET

Say Good Morning to Your Community!

For the past 30 years, Downtown Truro has been home to one of the area's most popular weekly social and shopping events – the Truro Farmers' Market.

Every Saturday from mid-May to the end of October, vendors begin arriving at 5:00AM to set up their wares, turning the parking lot with its bright red and white roof into a colorful, bustling centre of attraction.

Operating from 8:00AM-1:00PM, this outdoor market overflows with friendliness and charm, not to mention all the locally produced fare. It's an ever-changing smorgasbord of top quality home-grown and homemade treats that is truly a feast for the senses. You can see vegetables at the peak of freshness • smell Bavarian sausage on the BBQ and fresh-brewed Fair

Trade coffee • savor fresh-baked bread • sample award-winning cheeses • make dinner a feast with fresh local meats • brighten your day with flowers • add fresh herbs to your garden • pamper yourself with homemade soaps and candles • wrap yourself in the cozy warmth of handknit woolen items • try a different jam for every day of the week • choose a special gift – perhaps a hand-potted coffee mug, a unique piece of handcrafted jewelry or a scenic photo of a local landmark. And you may happen upon a special event or a musical performance that will simply add to the atmosphere! All this and so much more awaits you at the Truro Farmers' Market.

For more information on vendors and events, visit the website at www.trurofarmers-market.com. Come for the freshness, stay for the fun!

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