

BEARCAT BANTER: 2025 Metalfab MHL Cup Champions

For the second time since returning to the junior ranks in 1997, the Truro Bearcats are off to the Centennial Cup, emblematic of the CJHL's national crown.

The last time, in 2013, the Bearcats earned their way by hosting and winning the Fred Page Cup to be the Eastern Canada entry.

This time they go in as MHL Champions, one of nine League Champions throughout the country. These nine teams, along with the host Summerside Capitals, play a two-pool tournament from March 7 through to the championship game slated for Sunday, March 17.

The Bearcats had a great

season; finishing tied in points with Summerside. Following a five-game series with the Pictou County Crushers, they advanced, according to many in the MHL as an underdog, against the Capitals, and then the Edmundston Blizzard in the MHL Finals. They surprised everyone but themselves.

When the season started, there were 116 teams in the CJHL. Now, there were ten, all winners and all basically unfamiliar with the others and each playing to their strength.

Last year, the Bearcats were a young team given the chance to grow their game. At the 2025 Trade Deadline, they were forced to add players, most of whom were eligible to return this season. By mid-November, the Bearcat team which won the championship was basically in place.

This is a team which grew together, played together and stayed together. They were well coached and stuck to the script, paid the price when they made mistakes, but never lost sight of their goals.

It doesn't hurt to have a goaltending tandem allowing the fewest goals and earning the franchise's eleventh Young-Knickle Goaltending award.

It didn't hurt to have a few former defensemen return



2025 Metalfab MHL Cup Champions

from the QMJHL to bolster a reliable defensive corps without a 20-year-old among them.

It didn't hurt to have the best offensive players extend their scoring ways into the playoffs and have secondary input, whether in scoring or physicality.

This group meshed and succeeded. They will be like the other nine league winners.

What a great opportunity - make the most of it.

Bearcats Season Comes To An End In National Quarterfinal

The Summerside Western Capitals got their lick back on the Truro Bearcats in the Centennial Cup Quarterfinal with a 3-1 victory. This was the sixteenth matchup between the teams this season including 8 regular season, a thrilling 7 game series as well as this quarterfinal.

Louca Connolly stopped 21 shots as he proved himself to be one of the top goaltenders

in the tournament with his performance through the week. Kolton Bourret stopped 16 of 17 for the win.

For 6 Bearcats, it was their final junior hockey game. We wish Liam Welsh, Jake Todd, Julien Roy, Matthew Bolduc, Eli Baillargeon and Samuel Vachon all the best. Forever Bearcats, forever champions.

Credit: Mike Bernard / Hockey Canada

The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

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33rd Class of Laureates

JA Nova Scotia (JANS) has announced this year's 33rd Class of Laureates and 2nd Annual Legacy In The Making recipients to be honoured at the Nova Scotia Business Hall of Fame on October 14th, 2026 at the Halifax Convention Centre.

The Laureates have been chosen for their unmatched dedication and commitment, their lifetime contributions to the economic development and growth of Nova Scotia include: James Kehoe, Thomas (Tim) Moore and William (Bill) Hay (posthumous).

Nova Scotia's newest award, Legacy In The Making, recognizes emerging entrepreneurs within the first 15 years of their professional journey who are building businesses, and lives, of purpose and impact. This year they include: Jaime Landry, Mina Mekhail and Ross Simmonds.

Laureates and Legacy In The Making Recipients are formally welcomed into the NS Business Hall of Fame at the Induction Gala hosted at the Halifax Convention Centre in Halifax on October 14th, 2025. The NS Business Hall of Fame Gala is the signature fundraising event in support of JA Nova Scotia. Funds are used to provide financial health, work readiness, and entrepreneurship programs, at no cost, to youth across the province. Learn more by visiting www.janovascotia.ca.

New gypsum mine to ship 1.5 million tonnes a year to Ontario, Quebec, Eastern U.S.

A recently approved low-carbon mine in Nova Scotia will reduce Canada's reliance on other countries for gypsum and anhydrite, key materials in wallboard and drywall when production begins in 2027 on a 270-hectare Antrim Gypsum Mine at Lake Egmont, about 50 kilometres northeast of Halifax. The site is expected to produce roughly 1.5 million tonnes of gypsum and anhydrite annually and have a 20-year lifespan and will create more than 60 full-time jobs.

The Antrim development is being hailed as a milestone for the province's mining industry. Nova Scotia's Department of Environment and Climate Change have indicated gypsum was a key material in the province's critical minerals strategy.

Wallboard and drywall manufacturing consume the largest share of gypsum globally, but the use of the material expands beyond drywall, plaster, and cement. It can also be found in fertilizer, dust suppressants, and personal care products.

Canada imported gypsum and anhydrite in 2025 from countries like the U.S., Mexico, Turkey and Spain, but rising costs and shipping disruptions have forced the Canadian construction industry to look inward for wallboard and drywall supplies.

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. reported the annualized rate of Canadian housing starts rose by 17 per cent to 279,317 units in April from 239,747 units in March.

The Nova Scotia government recognized gypsum's importance in housing, agricultural and manufacturing supply chains by including the soft sulfate mineral in the province's updated 2025 critical mining strategy, alongside conventional metals and energy minerals.

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