



If you wonder why tourists enjoy the wide open spaces and scenery of Nova Scotia just take a look at the Partridge Island Sunset captured by Lawrence Nicoll on one of his landscape photo seeking trips. (Lawrence R Nicoll Photo)

## Extracts from CFAC February Newsletter

### Launch of Woodlot Owners Survey

As part of the ongoing work to help create a forest culture that balances forest stewardship and economic development, it's imperative that we engage and hear from private woodland owners across Nova Scotia.

Today, we have launched an online survey to collect input directly from private woodland owners. As they make decisions about how they use and manage their woodlands, we want to better understand their interests, values and motivations for land use, as well as management practices, to ensure they have access to information, programs and other resources that can help them meet their goals.

This initiative is a partnership between our team here at Lands & Forestry and the Forestry Transition Team. The results will inform the development and delivery of quality programs and services, improve information sharing and education, and support woodland owner leadership, networking and solutions.

If you are a woodland owner yourself, I hope you complete the survey. I also hope you encourage others in your communities and networks to do so either through word of mouth, by forwarding this email and/or through social media. To participate, please visit: [www.novascotia.ca/woodland-owner-survey](http://www.novascotia.ca/woodland-owner-survey)

Those who complete the survey can enter a draw for \$50! The survey will remain open for at least three weeks. Participants can also express their interest to participate in online focus groups later this winter.

Answers provided will be treated confidentially. Government has hired a professional research firm that will collect and analyze the data. Answers will not be tied to an individual's name or location, as they will be grouped with the feedback provided by others.

Anyone who wishes to complete the survey but doesn't have access to the Internet can call their local Lands & Forestry office for assistance.

Please also note, this survey is not available in French, however, we are hoping French-speaking woodland owners will participate. A French-

only focus group will be held.

**Julie Towers, Deputy Minister**

### Draft New Forest Management Guide: Public Consultation

As you know, Government is committed to adopting ecological forestry in Nova Scotia. Work is underway to move to a triad model of ecological forestry for how we manage our Crown land forests. The triad model for ecological forestry is made up of 3 zones that work together: production forest zones, conservation zones and ecological matrix zones.

We are writing to provide an update on the work underway to review and revise the Forest Management Guide. A new guide will be an important part of the ecological forestry model. The Forest Management Guide project team has been working to complete a revised draft of the guide, which is now being called the Silvicultural Guide for the Ecological Matrix. The draft guide includes changes to how Crown land forests would be managed in the province in mixed-use areas (the ecological matrix zone of the triad).

We released the draft Silvicultural Guide for the Ecological Matrix for public consultation on January 20, 2021. We are sharing the draft guide, and supporting documents and information, with the public online at the following link: <https://novascotia.ca/natr/consultation/forest-management-guide-public-consultation.asp>. The consultation will be open for public comment for 30 days.

We would appreciate it if you would review the Guide and supporting documents and provide your comments and feedback to [ecologicalforestry@novascotia.ca](mailto:ecologicalforestry@novascotia.ca) by February 19, 2021. If you have any questions, please direct them to the same email address for a response.

For updates on other work underway to implement ecological forestry in Nova Scotia, please visit: <https://novascotia.ca/ecological-forestry/>

Ecological Forestry, Department of Lands and Forestry, <https://novascotia.ca/ecological-forestry/>

## Programs Reinvented at Parrsboro Creative

Shortly after Jocelyn Li took the reins of Parrsboro Creative, one of Nova Scotia's most successful arts organizations, Parrsboro Creative, the world was hit with COVID-19. The invasion by the pandemic meant changing the way Parrsboro Creative operated in the past. To keep the organization maintaining its successful path meant reinventing major programs like the Parrsboro International Plein Air Festival, an outdoor painting event known to be the most successful in Canada which annually has drawn artists from across North America.

Even the Cultural Campus, a

series of art courses, had to be reorganized in its presentation and format. In the past the campus has drawn artists and instructors from several nation and international locations.

Largely due to her innovative

mind and tireless work ethic, of staff and community volunteers these programs were reinvented permitting them to be successful during the pandemic. Plans are underway to develop the 2021 programs.

## Training Fire Fighters

At its meeting on February 17 Cumberland Council discussed the importance of fire fighters being trained in mask fit training required to be permitted to attend emergencies as medical first responders, given the rural nature of the municipality and the length of time it can take for EHS to arrive.

The municipal fire services coordinator and deputy mayor will work together to write a letter to the province to request improvement the current policy and request action be undertaken to alleviate the current situation regarding EHS response times due to shortage of paramedics.

**CFAC**  
CUMBERLAND FORESTRY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**A community led planning process**  
Our Vision is to transform our forest industry into a champion of climate that utilizes human and natural resources. We will manage and nurture a forest ecosystem rich in biodiversity that will support economics for future generations.

**Our six pathways moving forward are:**

- Invest in diverse markets
- Renewable energy from forest products
- Create innovative products & processes
- Invest in high value forests that support a low carbon economy
- Public support and education
- Policy and culture change

The Cumberland Forestry Advisory committee can be reached at: CFAC, 21535 Fort Lawrence Rd, Amherst, Nova Scotia B4H 4A1 or Email: [Cumberlandforestry@outlook.com](mailto:Cumberlandforestry@outlook.com)

**READY TO HIRE?**

The Graduate to Opportunity (GTO) program will cover up to 35% of the salary when you hire a recent grad.

When you're ready, we're here.

[NOVASCOTIA.CA/GTO](https://NOVASCOTIA.CA/GTO)

**NIVA SABESHAN**  
Business Development  
Manager, Motryx Inc.

NOVA SCOTIA

South  
**Cumberland NEWS**  
is proud to provide coverage of community events.