

2024 BDC Business Person of the Year

Arnold Hagen Business Person of the Year



Business Person of the Year Award 2024 Arnold Hagen Presented by: & The BDC Business Person of the Year Award acknowledges a founder, owner, CEO, president or manager who has achieved significant success in their business by showing strong leadership skills and business acumen, contributing to the growth of the business.

The recipient has made outstanding contributions to the community, has an innovative spirit and has demonstrated positive social and/or economic impact on the region, while creating new employment opportunities. This year we are pleased to honour the contributions of local, entrepreneur Arnold Hagen, of Bible Hill.

After years of raising some of the most sought-after, standard bred, racehorses in Atlantic Canada from his home-away-from-home, his beloved Redland Farms, in PEI, Arnold may know a thing or two about a good bet. In 2021, when the Bible Hill businessman was presented with a risky opportunity that had the potential to change his entire business model, he may have spent a lot of time weighing the odds balancing the risk and reward, or it could have been a leap of faith.

But maybe, it was just plain old-fashioned good luck on his side when he inked a deal to buy a 250,000 square-ft mall experiencing vacancies during the height of a global pandemic. Not one to shy away from a challenge, and seeing the benefits of revitalizing a mall to support the local economy, Arnold, who owned Home Hardware Building Centres in Truro and Bible Hill, and Doug Doucet, owner and CEO of RCS Construction, set out to create a resurgence of energy at the aging mall converting it to the now bustling Hub Shopping Center.

With supply chains disrupted by Covid-19, it was no race to the finish line to move the staff and furnishings of the former Willow Street Home hardware. It took several months to renovate the former west end of the mall and construct a 15,000 sq.-ft warehouse at the rear of mall by Marshland Drive as the new High Tide Home Hardware Building Centre.

The new location is the largest Home Hardware east of Ontario and includes a design centre, appliance sales, and a building centre attracting local and major developers from metro. The move and expansion created more than 40 new jobs with about 103 people now employed at the two locations. The mall is now at 90 per cent capacity, with more than 40 stores.

Two new buildings, a professional centre and restaurant, have been added to the site in the last three years attracting new businesses to the area. It has a modern food court which is licensed, adding to the visitor experience. Several community events are now being held inside the mall creating a "Hub" of activity for the community in Uptown Truro. Along with his Truro business interests, Arnold is also the majority



Arnold Hagen of High Tide Home hardware and The Hub Shopping Centre, receives a Business Person of the Year Award from Tyler Wheeliker (right) of BDC assisted by Sherry Martell, Executive Director Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce. (Contributed)

owner of Home Hardware stores in Pictou and Stellarton. Arnold has been a true community champion since moving to Truro from PEI in 2005 during his career in banking. Despite his many business interests, he finds time to volunteer giving back to the community.

He is currently interim president of Truro Raceway Limited, serves on the board of the Nova Scotia Harness Racing Industry and the Truro Colchester Partnership for Economic Prosperity. In the past, he has served on the Prince County Hospital Foundation, Colchester East Health Centre Foundation, Summer-side Chamber of Commerce board of directors as Vice Chairman and served with the Truro Rotary Club and was named Rotarian of the Year in 2007-08, as well as being rec-

ognized with the Paul Harris Fellowship in 2011. He is an alumni of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, now Dal AC, in 1985 and 1988, served as chairman of the alumni association from 2007-2010, and re-

ceived the Alumni Volunteer of the Year in 2012. An extremely humble man, Arnold quietly supports many initiatives in the community. One he is most proud of is creating a new initiative to support Black youth in the Truro community. This year is the launch of the Ubuntu scholarship, a four-year renewable, \$2,500 scholarship that also includes summer employment opportunities and mentoring for the recipient. Ubuntu is an ancient African word meaning 'humanity to others.' It is often described as reminding us that 'I am what I am because of who we all are,' a true definition of philanthropy.

Tonight, the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce is pleased to recognize Arnold Hagen, owner of High Tide Home Hardware and The Hub Shopping Centre with the BDC Business Person of the Year Award.

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Materials Recovery Facility Directors Report

Continued from page 20

• Colchester Clean Litter Program opened early bird registration on March 16th through to March 31st. The program was promoted on the radio, social media and a big push on the ReCollect app. Over the course of those two weeks, 560 individuals signed up to participate and, on a side note, there are currently 22 sports team/non-profit organizations registered.

Compliance/Program Management: The following numbers are for the reporting period of January to March 2024.

MONTH	ACCUMULATION OF SW	COLLECTION ISSUE	ILLEGAL DUMP	TOTAL
Jan	2	16	4	22
Feb	1	18	0	19
Mar	3	30	2	35
TOTALS	6	64	7	76

Accumulation of SW Locations:

- Bomber Dr. in Bible Hill: Issue being investigated by Community Development/Building Inspectors.
- Hwy 2 Hilden: Worked with resident to remove bags from the curb and place curbside for collection accordingly.
- Branch Rd., Onslow Mountain: Complaint made about Housing Authority property; reached out to Housing Authority and spoke with resident. Issues has resolved itself for now.
- Keywest Crt Truro Heights: Accumulation of waste curbside. worked with Property Manager to clean up and dispose of properly.
- Belmont Rd., Belmont: Housing Authority property. Housing Authority has a cleanup order on the property for early April.

Follow up required:

- Highway 311., North River: Accumulation of bagged and loose garbage. Met and spoke with resident who agreed to clean up and conceal material until next collection.

Follow up required. Illegal Dump Locations:

- Princeport Rd., Princeport: Individual was identified and agreed to pay for the cleanup in lieu of facing a fine.
- Sand Point Rd. and Brule Shore Rd., Sand Point: Worked with resident to have this cleaned up. Unable to identify culprit.
- Riverside Rd., Princeport: Report of illegal dumping of old culvert material. Reached out to NS Public Works and they advised this material should have been picked up by those doing the work and would have this done right away.
- Pictou Rd., Bible Hill: Reached out to property owner to advise and discuss clean up. Unable to identify. • Willie Hoare Rd., Manganese Mines: Currently working with RCMP and property manager to either identify culprit or have the site cleaned up.

Collection Issues:

January-March 2024, staff have been involved in re-educating residents and the collection contractor Regroup. An emphasis was given to follow up visits made to address Helpline calls or those put forward by the waste hauler for properties requiring assistance/education.

*From the enforcement side, when complaints are received about solid waste being an issue on a given property, Section 14 - No Accumulation of Solid Waste, is used to bring that property back into compliance. This section of the Solid Waste By-law is easier to navigate through enforcement to compliance as staff are dealing with specific properties and property owners.

*When dealing with illegal dumping complaints, there are many times staff are unable to determine the culprit when dealing with property owners who didn't dump the material themselves. For sites of smaller quantities, the material is sifted through and taken away to avoid further litter and dumping. If sites are comprised of larger piles on private property, the property owner is brought in on the cleanup plan as Municipal and Provincial legislation holds property owners accountable for their property.

For situations where large clean ups are required, tipping fees can be reduced or waived to help with the cleanup cost.

Helpline Statistics and Trends: For the last reporting period the total helpline calls from December 2023 to February 2024 included a total of 1,204 calls on the ReCollect app. Over the course of those two weeks, 560 individuals signed up to participate and, on a side note, there are currently 22 sports team/non-profit organizations registered.

- The Education Officer developed and printed educational information on the new Provincial Treated Wood Disposal ban.

As usual our biggest call topics are in regard to general inquiry and education and sorting. The January Education Month can be observed with an uptick in sorting calls.

- As expected through the winter season, an uptick in service interruption and some missed collection was observed. The team worked diligently with Municipal staff and collection contractors to ensure missed material and service interpretations were addressed.

Any questions, concerns or comments are always welcomed.

Phillip Redden, B Eng. Is Director of Solid Waste, Municipality of County of Colchester

Colchester Clean

Early Bird Registration

OPEN - March 31

- First 100 registrants receive a free Colchester Clean T-shirt
- First 10 individuals could receive \$50 gift card
- First 5 Non-Profit organization could receive a \$500 donation
- First 5 recognized sports teams could receive a \$500 donation

REGISTER NOW

Colchester Clean Litter Program
April 22 - May 4

Colchester
be centred here.