

The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

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Province Invests to Connect Nova Scotians to Skilled Trades

The Province is helping more Nova Scotians explore and connect to careers in skilled trades through a \$10-million investment in the construction industry. The investment will support more skilled trades training through three key initiatives: creating the Cape Breton Trades Exhibition Centre - an industry-led hands-on exploration and learning facility for youth, community groups and apprentices; expanding enhanced direct-entry apprenticeship programs - faster, more accessible pathways into the skilled trades and supporting career transitions - programs for underemployed people, veterans and new Canadians to enhance and gain skills to be ready for careers in the skilled trades. An industry-led steering committee will manage the project details to encourage collaboration. The committee includes representatives from key industry organizations, unions and employer groups.

"Today's announcement is a testament to the collaboration across all sectors of the construction industry to bring forward unique solutions that are results driven. The Province of Nova Scotia is listening and truly working with us as partners. Given the interconnectedness and interdependencies of so many parts of our economy, this is the only way to achieve success. Today, we continue that work as a team for the benefits of all those who choose to call Nova Scotia home. I am proud and excited to be part of this historic moment on behalf of our industry.", Duncan Williams, President and CEO, Construction Association of Nova Scotia said at the announcement.

The Cape Breton Trades Exhibition Centre will be the second of its kind in the province, complementing the existing centre in Halifax; there are also two mobile training centres and one mobile construction experience. The centre will feature interactive booths, training classrooms and a testing facility to enhance trades education for thousands of people; the enhanced direct-entry apprenticeship program will serve at least 200 new apprentices across union and non-union employers and monthly and annual reporting requirements will ensure transparency and accountability.

Province Funds Power of Attorney App

Nova Scotians now have a free tool to help them plan for the future and protect their financial well-being. The Province has provided funding for a new power of attorney app, developed through a partnership with the Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia. The app allows users to create a legally valid power of attorney, ensuring they can designate a trusted person to manage their finances and property if they become unable to do so themselves. Improving access to justice is a key priority for the Department, and the power of attorney app is one of several initiatives underway to modernize and enhance justice services in Nova Scotia. The power of attorney app is the latest addition to the society's online suite of free, user-friendly estate planning and wellness tools. The Province invested \$135,000.

The Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia is a charitable organization providing Nova Scotians with information and resources since 1982. Power of attorney is the seventh free app available through the society; others cover personal directives, work safety, safe spaces, small claims court, will preparation and financial help for people under 25.

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Edmundston Blizzard capture Metalfab MHL Cup Championship

April 24, 2025

The Edmundston Blizzard are the 2024-25 Metalfab MHL Cup Playoff Champions. (Photo: Percy Picard)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Truro, N.S. (April 24, 2025)

The Edmundston Blizzard have won their second Maritime Hockey League (MHL) championship, capturing the Metalfab MHL Cup with a four-game sweep of the Pictou County Weeks Crushers in New Glasgow, N.S. on Thursday night. The Blizzard previously won the league title in 2017-18 in their first season after moving from Dieppe, N.B.

The first two games of the Metalfab MHL Cup Final were at Centre Jean-Daigle in Edmundston, where the hometown Blizzard picked up a 7-3



win in Game 1 and a 6-3 win in Game 2. The series shifted back to New Glasgow for Games 3 and 4, where Edmundston won 7-2 and 3-1, respectively.

Edmundston's Carl-Anthony Massé was named Metalfab MHL Cup Playoff MVP. The 20-year-old from Rivière-du-Loup, Quebec finished the playoffs with ten goals and twelve assists in thirteen games to lead all players with 22 points.

Pictou County defenseman Drew Maddigan was an-

nounced as the winner of the inaugural UGIC Lighthouse Award, presented to the playoff player who exemplifies excellence in Athletics, Academics, and Community Service. Maddigan finished the playoffs with two goals and twelve assists in thirteen games for fourteen points; the most among all defensemen.

The Blizzard will now prepare for the Centennial Cup, presented by Tim Hortons, in Calgary, Alberta. The National Junior A Championship runs from May 8th-18th at the Max Bell Centre. A new Centennial Cup champion will be crowned, as last season's winner, the Collingwood Blues, were dethroned earlier in the OJHL playoffs.

Edmundston, the top-

ranked team in Canada at the end of the season, will open the tournament on Thursday, May 8th at 7 p.m. Atlantic Time against the CCHL champion. They face the SJHL champions at 3 p.m. Atlantic Time on Saturday, May 10th and then the LHJQ champions at 3 p.m. Atlantic Time on Monday, May 12th. The Blizzard will wrap up their preliminary round at 10:30 p.m. Atlantic Time on Tuesday, May 13th against the host Calgary Canucks. Stay tuned to the MHL's and CJHL's social media for more information as the tournament draws near.

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Bearcat Banter: It Was A Good Run

All players desire to win their last game. If they don't, it can mean the season is over.

The Bearcats entered their last week two games down in their Eastlink South Divisional Finals. By mid-week the series was over and the Crushers moved on.

In the April 7 game at the RECC, the Pictou County Crushers scored in each period while the Bearcats were unable to respond.

The Bearcats kept to their game, but just three shots in

the final period was telling. Things certainly didn't look positive going into Game 4 in Pictou County on Wednesday.

That game was the Bearcats best of the series. The determination to stay alive was clear. They dug deep but were just unable to get it done in the 2-1 loss to conclude the series.

It wasn't the series outcome they wanted but credit goes their way for being there. Back in September, few in the league would have seen them

quickly. The Bearcat-Amherst series was eye opening. After a disastrous start, the Bearcats settled into their playoff identity of no quit play to take it in six, winning the final three for good measure.

Truro started the season with just a handful of returnees. Going 1-9 to mid-October wasn't something to write home about.

From that point on they were one of the hottest teams in the MHL, finishing third in their Division, sixth overall. It was impressive.

Credit the coaching staff of Jon Greenwood, Ryan Porter and Ryan Falkenham for preparing a script, getting all players on script believing they were moving in the right direction. It was a pleasure to witness.

Sizeable roster additions at the Trade Deadline made the Bearcats a stronger more mature team. They meshed

quickly. The Bearcat-Amherst series was eye opening. After a disastrous start, the Bearcats settled into their playoff identity of no quit play to take it in six, winning the final three for good measure.

The Bearcat-Pictou County series never really became a series. Both clubs got to the finals with strong goaltending and timely scoring. At the end of the day the Crushers had the upper hand.

The Bearcats closed their season with a banquet on Saturday. There were no hanging heads.

The seven graduates spoke nothing but positives. They leave knowing the fifteen eligible returnees have gone through a learning process which should have them itching to get back at it.

Bearcat of the Year



#19 Zachary Marquis
Levis, QC
5'11", 180 lbs. 20, Forward

Bearcat-of-the-Year goes to Captain, Zachary Marquis.

He was the recipient of the Will Sutherland Scholarship for a graduating player moving on to University Hockey.

He was also the recipient of the MacQuarrie's Three Star Award (25th year of the award).

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