

# Small Business Awards



Mike Michaud of Berry's Furniture accepts the Small Business Growth Award from Alex Stevenson, Chamber President, while Michelle Bursey, right, represents award sponsor BDC. (Rees Photo)

## Business Growth Award

This award recognizes a business that has been in operation for more than two years demonstrating growth in a measurable way such as expansion, increased customers, new employees, new products, etc.

Berry's Furniture was established in Truro nearly 60 years ago in 1958. The family owned and operated business started out as a second hand store in a 2500 sq foot building and today is over 50,000 sq feet on Robie Street. One of the largest single dwelling furniture stores in Nova Scotia. Don Berry, the owner, has been involved in the company since the start, and still works the business today.

The business has seen significant growth with the addition of 15,000 square feet of showroom added to the second level of the Truro Store and the construction of the

24,000 square foot show room in Elmsdale.

Collectively they employ 18 people in the region.

Berry's Furniture has worked closely with the largest independent buying group in North America to help keep their product lines and pricing at the sharpest for its customer base. Berry's Furniture is known as one of the largest Independent Whirlpool/Maytag/KitchenAid Dealers in Nova Scotia and Berry's is one of the largest Ashley Furniture Showrooms in Nova Scotia.

The company is extremely community minded, donating to gifts and funds to support local organizations, financially supporting major projects in the community, fire departments and Truro Minor Hockey. It has great pride in its employees who also volunteer in the community.

## Apprentice Programs Being Streamlined

Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick are embarking on a project that will make it easier for businesses to hire the skilled workers as the provinces work to adopt common entry and completion requirements, trade hours, technical training and exams for automotive service technician, truck and transport mechanic, heavy duty equipment technician, industrial mechanic (millwright), boilermaker and sprinkler fitter apprentices.

Harmonization of trades helps employers access skilled

apprentices in the region without dealing with mismatched program requirements. The work is expected to be completed in spring 2019. While hiring employers will benefit, this approach also helps apprentices train more easily across the Atlantic region.

Similar harmonization efforts for ten other trades are already complete, including the cook trade.

The four Atlantic provinces and Manitoba are also working on the development of a common IT system for apprenticeship. The new system is being

cost-shared by the five provinces and the Government of Canada at a total cost of \$10 million. It will replace aging infrastructure and improve online services.

Together, the Atlantic Apprenticeship Harmonization

Project and the new IT system will cost about \$19.4 million, which will be cost-shared by the provinces and the federal government. Nova Scotia's funding contribution to both projects is \$2.3 million.

## Federal / Provincial Funding Helped Colchester Projects

The Municipality of Colchester currently has a number of infrastructure projects made possible by Federal cost-sharing programs. Federal funding was 50% of the cost, while the province contributed 25% setting the municipalities cost at 25%. The projects, currently underway, include

Debert pump station 30 project. The budget for the project is \$1.46M with 75% being funded by the federal and provincial governments. Work to be completed by March of 2018; Tatamagouche

Sewer Upgrades: Project budget of \$500K with 75% being funded by the federal and provincial governments. Work to be completed by March of 2018; Debert Gateway Servicing: Project budget of \$750K with 75% being funded by the federal and provincial governments. Work to be completed by August of 2018 and Debert Water Tower: Project Budget of \$4.06M with costs being shared equally between the Municipality, Province and Federal Government. Work to be completed in 2018.

## Hearts Of Granite Loyal Souls

(A Peace-Keepers Prayer)

*A Walk Amongst The Headstones  
Reading One Here And There  
I Hear Their Cries And Moans  
Are You Really Here To Care*

*For We Were Once Amongst You*

*Our Names Are Clearly Marked Here  
From Our Birth To When We Died  
Do You Think It Was Without Fear  
For When It Happened We Had Cried*

*For We Were Once Amongst You*

*Please Remember Us As You Pray  
For We Too Had Been Amongst You  
Please Remember That Eleventh Day  
Please Promise To Remember Us Too!*

*For We Were Once Amongst You*

God Bless And Thank-You  
Thomas A. Marshall, (Ex-Navy)

(This poem by Thomas A. Marshall was published by the National Library Of Canada into a book called The Tracery Of Trees)

# Looking to grow your business?



## #THINK EXPORT

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December 5, 2017

CBDC NOBL, Truro

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As a community of approximately 12,700 residents, Truro is an energetic, growing town, located in central Nova Scotia. Because of its geographical position and historic importance, Truro is known as the "Hub of Nova Scotia".

### Festival of Lights Kickoff Celebrations

Friday, Nov. 17, 7:30 pm. Tree-lighting and Carol Sing at the Civic Square, Prince Street. Come see all the lights, enjoy hot chocolate compliments of Sobeys Prince Street and Bible Hill Kinsmen Club, candy canes for the kids and caroling under the stars.

### Truro's Santa Claus Parade

Saturday, Nov. 18, 6:00 pm. This year's theme: Canada 150-Christmas Past & Present. Route: begins at Lorne Street, turns right on Queen, left on Court, left on Prince, right on Young, left on Esplanade, left on Walker, left on Queen and back to Lorne.

### Civic Square

When the cold winter weather returns, skating and winter activities will resume at Truro's Civic Square. Start planning now for your participation in or attending the Long John Festival in February.

Located on the Halifax to Moncton Growth Corridor, Truro's location and available infrastructure offers businesses many advantages.

### Town Office:

695 Prince Street, Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 1G5

PH: 902-895-4481; Fax: 902-895-4484

E-mail: [inquiries@truro.ca](mailto:inquiries@truro.ca)