



The Excellence in Community Development award was presented by Deputy Mayor, Town of Truro, to Jennie Johnson of Aggregate Equipment Atlantic Ltd while Joanne McRae, chamber president assists. (Rees Photo)

Excellence in Community Development

The Excellence in Community Development Award is designed to recognize a business, community organization or social enterprise that has made significant and notable contributions to their community (cultural, social, environmental and/or economic) and one that serves as a catalyst for positive action, exhibiting the highest standards of leadership. The award is sponsored by Town of Truro.

Brian Appleby on behalf of Aggregate Equipment Atlantic Ltd received the 2018 Excellence in Community Development Award. Aggregate Equipment Atlantic Ltd. is a supplier to the construction and mining industries of Atlantic Canada. They supply parts, sales, and service for crushing, screening, paving, drilling and conveying equipment.

Established in 2001, The company employs 43 people full-time, year round. Its home base is in Truro, with a second location in St. John's, NL, and a salesforce based out of Fredericton, NB. Over the last six years they have expanded their staff by 50 per

cent to better serve their customers. They contribute approximately \$ 2.7 million dollars in payroll directly to our region's economy each year.

Aggregate Equipment has contributed to the social fabric of our community through their support of several recent capital campaigns; \$30,000 to the new hospital, \$30,000 to the RECC, and this year \$25,000 to Colchester East Hants branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association's new building fund. They are also long-time supporters of Third Place Transition House, Rotary House, and Hospice.

Each December the Aggregate Equipment staff assemble and deliver a full Christmas food & gift basket for three families for the Christmas Index. Aggregate Equipment has been a Corporate Sponsor of the Marigold Cultural Centre at \$2,500 per year for the past 5 years, and have signed on to sponsor the "Rock Recording of the Year" Award for each of the three years that Nova Scotia Music Week is taking place in Truro.



Several family members from Blenkhorn's Auto Recyclers Ltd accepted the 2018 Small Business Achievement Award. Shown above with Jessica Langille representing award sponsor PWC are Blenkhorn family members Shelley Roy, Evelyn, Sheldon and Paul Blenkhorn, and Joanne McRae, Chamber President. (Rees Photo)

Small Business Achievement

This award is given to a local entrepreneur who has been in business for more than 10 years, who is continually modifying to adapt to changing technologies. The award is sponsored by Price-waterhouse Cooper.

Shelley Roy and Paul Blenkhorn on behalf of Blenkhorn's Auto Recyclers Ltd accepted the 2018 Small Business Achievement Award.

Since 1965, Blenkhorn Auto Recyclers Ltd has been serving customers in Truro and Colchester. There are currently 14 employees working at their Brookside location serving body shops, service garages and retail customers

Their main business is automotive recycling. They purchase damaged and end of life vehicles, stripping them of parts for resale. They also market new auto parts and sell used vehicles, along with campers and camper parts. Throughout the recycling process, they pride themselves on keeping their premise very neat, clean and tidy promoting environmental stewardship at every turn. They truly care about the quality they provide and about meeting

environmental standards, achieving a world Gold Seal Recycler status.

Safety of staff and customers is also vitally important to this business. They ensure recalled auto parts removed from vehicles are sent for proper disposal so they are not resold. They send thousands of tires to the province's tire recovery program and crushed vehicles are processed by local metal handler John Ross and Sons, sent for new product manufacturing.

They offer delivery in the local area daily, as well as to locations in metro. They are also exporters, shipping parts across Canada. They are members of national and international recognized automotive and business organizations and are long-time members of the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce.

A community supporter in many ways, they donate to several organizations within Colchester such as fire brigade auctions and have a long-term lease with the Municipality of the County of Colchester for the walking trails passing through their property.



Shawn Smith representing award sponsor MNP LLP presents Andrew and Diana Searle, Searle's Gardens and Florals, Hilden with the 2018 Agriculture / Agri foods Award. Joanne McRae, chamber president assisted with the presentation. (Rees Photo)

Agricultural / Agri Food Award

This award recognizes an individual, group, an organization or business where the principles of running a successful agricultural or related operation are applied and result in a thriving and environmentally friendly endeavor. The enterprise must derive more than 50 per cent of its annual revenue from agricultural related activities. The award is sponsored by MNP LLP.

Andrew Searle of Searle's Gardens and Florals received the 2018 Agriculture / Agri foods Award.

Searle's Gardens and Florals has been serving customers in this area since its origins in 1973 and are continuing to steadily grow. This family owned business is devoted to providing customers with unique, quality products in an atmosphere that is inviting and relaxing. It has grown from a simple garden market to a full-scale garden centre; showcasing a flower shop, a landscape com-

pany as well as an expanded garden centre. The business also operates a wholesale/retail greenhouse.

Currently they have four full-time and two part time staff along with the 10 seasonal staff employed at the vertically-integrated garden centre.

Quality products and advice have earned those repeat customers and a solid reputation in the community. The welcoming bright atmosphere is inviting for people to drop by and see for themselves how things grow. Their creative helpful staff work with customers to provide the perfect arrangement or gift for any special occasion.

From establishing a greenhouse in Middle Stewiacke and recently moving it to expand the business footprint in Hilden, to renovating a vacant building next door, this business has beautified their community and added to the curb appeal in Hilden.

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- We have 81,000+ full- and part-time employees who serve 16 million clients in Canada, the U.S. and 34 other countries.
- We are proud to sponsor the Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce Small Business Award for Small Business Innovation.



RBC Royal Bank

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