



Municipality of Cumberland Mayor Murray Scott was joined by Deputy Mayor Mark Joseph, Coun. Dale Porter and Tammy Drew from Indigenous Services in raising the flag in honour of National Truth & Reconciliation Day on Sept. 30 and Treaty Day on Oct. 1. (Darrell Cole - Municipality of Cumberland photo)

## National Truth & Reconciliation Day and Treaty Day

Municipality of Cumberland Mayor Murray Scott, Deputy Mayor Mark Joseph and District 7 Coun. Dale Porter were joined by Indigenous Services Canada (Atlantic Region) Associate Regional Director General Tammy Drew on Friday, Sept. 29, 2023, in raising the flag and signing a proclamation to mark National Truth and Reconciliation Day on Sept. 30 - a day that ensures the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools will never be forgotten.

Honouring First Nations, Inuit and Metis children who lost their lives attending residential schools as well as residential school survivors, their families and communities is an all-important step towards reconciliation.

"I encourage all residents to find ways to recognize the day and the path of reconciliation we walk together," Mayor Scott said. "It's important, in the spirit of reconciliation that we take the time to have important discussions about Canada's history of residential schools and to reflect on how we can all work together towards a fair, equitable and inclusive community, province and nation."

Flags at all municipal properties are at half-

staff until Tuesday morning in recognition of National Truth and Reconciliation Day.

They also signed a proclamation marking Treaty Day on Oct. 2, to commemorate the unique and special relationship that exists between the Mi'kmaq and the Crown.

Treaty Day recognizes the 1985 Supreme Court ruling confirmed the validity of the Treaty of 1752.

In 1986, Grand Chief of the Mi'kmaq Nation Donald Marshall Sr. invited all Mi'kmaq to observe Oct. 1, 1986 and every year after as Treaty Day.

Through events held to mark the occasion, Nova Scotians must become more aware of the Mi'kmaq Nation and its history, which will only enrich their own cultural and historical knowledge of the Mi'kmaq, but will also enable the Mi'kmaq Nation to be recognized in a manner in which they are deserving.

Treaty Day also signals the beginning of Mi'kmaq History Month that runs through October.

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## Ron Furlong Retires from Chamber

Amherst Board of Trade has been reorganized to become the Cumberland Chamber of Commerce. As part of the transitioning process long time BoT, manager Ron Furlong is retiring. A farewell in his honour formed part of the Cumberland Chamber of Commerce's annual awards gala held at the Amherst Wandlyn Inn on Thursday, October 19th. Furlong is retiring from his position and was recog-

nized for his dedication to the Cumberland business community.

Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Sherry Martell was the guest speaker at the awards gala. She and Furlong have worked on several pieces of advocacy for small business together during their time leading their regional Chambers.

During her address, Martell

spoke about the collaboration between the two regional Chambers detailing the recent advocacy on the protection of the Chignecto Isthmus.

**Those wishing to join or learn more about the chamber should contact: Amherst & Area Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 283, Amherst, NS, B4H 3Z4; <http://www.amherstchambers.ca> a Ph: 902-667-8186; Fax: 902-667-1452 or e-mail at: [info@amherstchambers.ca](mailto:info@amherstchambers.ca)**

## Tantramar FM 107.9 Partners with Island Production Company

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for a step dancing fiddle set with our award-winning guest step dancer Janelle Banks. Also sharing in this season debut will be one of the Island's most beautiful voices, singer Jacinta MacDonald. Says Jacinta "I am thrilled to have been invited to be a part of the second season opening show at the Island Jubilee. It is an honour to share the stage with such fantastic musicians. This is a top-notch production and I look forward to seeing everyone."

The show is co-hosted by Nudie, Janet McGarry and her husband Serge Bernard, and the all-star house band includes Thomas Webb on steel guitar, Bobby McIsaac on acoustic & electric guitar, Courtney Hogan-Chandler on fiddle, Johnny Ross on piano as well as Nudie on bass, and Serge on guitar, banjo & mandolin.

Tickets for the show are available at [Ticketpro.ca](http://Ticketpro.ca) or at the box office either in person or by phone at 902-894-6885 weekdays between noon and 4:00 PM. Doors open at 1:30 and the show starts at 2:00 PM.

The All-inclusive bus tour packages are avail-

able at [www.islandjubilee.com](http://www.islandjubilee.com) or by calling CFTA offices at 902 660-1079.

### About the partners. Backgrounder:

The show is owned and managed by Island Jubilee Inc., a non-profit community-oriented organization lead by business and music industry luminaries, produced by Serge Bernard and his wife Janet McGarry, whose goals are to rally community support around Island artists and enhance social well-being through music, curating Island stories, comedy, and step-dancing.

Tantramar FM 107.9 CFTA is owned and operated by The Tantramar Community Radio Society, a not-for-profit, community-based organization that strives to provide a quality broadcast service to the people in its coverage area with an eclectic mix of music, specialized programming, and local news and information that reflects the needs of its audience. The radio station presents artistic, cultural and political perspectives which are under-represented in the mainstream media while serving as a medium for creative expression, ongoing training and hands-on experience for volunteers.

## Springhill's Lamp Cabin Memorial Park Unveiled

By Darrell Cole

Springhill will pause to remember its coal mining heritage on Monday, Oct. 23, when a park is unveiled on the site of the former Lamp Cabin building near the pitheads to the Number 2 and Number 3 mines.

The Lamp Cabin Memorial Park includes interpretive signage detailing the history of the site and mining in Springhill, a sign in tribute to the women of Springhill, a brick planter, a walking trail, benches and accessible picnic tables.

The estimated cost of \$17,535 was funded by the estate of the late Dr. Dorothy Saffron, a Springhill native who went on to practice as a psychiatrist in New York.

The former Lamp Cabin structure on Miners Memorial Drive was demolished in 2020 after falling into disrepair.

"The site of the former Lamp Cabin building was known in Springhill as the last walk," Municipality of Cumberland Mayor Murray Scott said. "The miners would come into the building as they headed off to their day or night of work in the mines. They would exchange their street gear for their underground gear and come back when their

community and it means a lot to me personally," the mayor said. "It's about remembering all the miners who lost their lives and all of those committed to working in the mines over the years, and it's about all the wives who waited at the pithead for work on their husbands."

The Bump in October 1958 killed 75 miners, occurring just two years after a mine explosion in 1956 killed 39 miners. The 1891 explosion killed 125 men and boys.

In total, approximately 440 miners lost their lives in Springhill's coal mines between 1876 and 1969.

Angel McCormick, one of two Springhill area councillors on Cumberland municipal council, is pleased to see the park project come to fruition after the community lost the Lamp Cabin building itself.

"I was very disappointed when we lost the Lamp Cabin. I know it had to be torn down but when people are coming in from other provinces or the U.S. they ask where did this all happen? I didn't want to

lose that aspect of our history in Springhill," McCormick said. "We had to make this some kind of a site so people would know."

"I don't want the younger generation to forget what Springhill went through," McCormick said.

The ceremony began at 1 p.m. at the park site on Miners Memorial Drive with the unveiling of three interpretive signs and comments by Mayor Scott. From there, participants will make their way to the Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre where the anniversary of the 1958 Bump will be commemorated with the playing of a recording of the CBC's live coverage from the mine 65 years ago.

There will also be a performance by the daughters of Maurice Ruddick, known as the singing miner, as well as by Clare (Turnbull) Canning, who also lost her father to the mines.

Mary Willa Littler, who has chronicled the community's mining heritage, will give a reading.

Mayor Scott said it's so important for Springhill to remember its mining heritage because it was the community's main economic engine and so many young men and boys lost their lives going underground.

"It's important that we remember what happened here. It's a big part of our history," the mayor said. "Those of us who live here and grew up here know about our mining past and we remember those who lost their lives, but there may be young people or newcomers who don't. It's also important for future generations who come after us to know and remember."

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Approximately 440 coal miners lost their lives in Springhill's mines between 1876 and 1969, including the 1891 disaster, the 1956 explosion and the 1958 Bump as well as numerous single mishaps. (National Archives of Canada photo)



The women of Springhill will be recognized during the unveiling of the new Lamp Cabin Memorial Park on Monday, Oct. 23, 2023, at 1 p.m. at the park's location on Miners Memorial Drive. The park, on the site of the former Lamp Cabin building, memorializes those miners who lost their lives in the mines as well as the women who waited at the pitheads for word on the fate of their husbands. (National Archives of Canada photo)



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