

2024  
Truro & Colchester  
**CHAMBER** of Commerce  
*Small Business Awards*

**Agriculture / Agri Award**  
Eisses Grain & AG services



The Agriculture Agri-Business Award recognizes outstanding efforts in sustainable farming, honoring individuals, groups, organizations, or businesses generating over 50% of their annual revenue from agriculture-related activities while prioritizing environmental responsibility.

Eisses Grain and AG Services, owned by Mike and Amanda Eisses, is a shining example of excellence in the agricultural sector.

With over 20 years of farming experience and three years as an incorporated entity, their dedication has transformed a 1,600-acre cash crop farm into a vital resource for the local community. Specializing in corn, soybeans, and wheat for the animal feed market, they provide exceptional custom work and grain storage solutions, embodying the principles of sustainable and environmentally friendly agriculture.

Employing a team of 10, Eisses Grain prioritizes employee well-being, offering competitive wages, benefits, and a supportive work-life balance. Their commitment to excellent customer service has established them as trusted advisors within the industry, fostering strong relationships with local farmers.

Through strategic diversification and smart business decisions, they have navigated a steep growth curve, becoming a reliable partner in the agricultural community.



**Mike Eisses, Eisses Grain & AG Services accepts the Agriculture / Agri Award from Kathleen Mitchell, representing award sponsor MNP. (Contributed)**

Their contributions extend beyond farming, as they actively support local initiatives, including a local 4-H group.

Eisses Grain and AG Services stands out not only for their remarkable achievements but also for their unwavering commitment to their community and the agricultural landscape.

Please join the Chamber and MNP as we congratulate Eisses Grain and Ag Services for receiving the 2024 Agriculture / Agri Business Award. We ask Mike Eisses to please come forward. The award was presented by Kathleen Mitchell, representing award sponsor MNP.

**Tourism Business Award**  
Clair's Classic Antiques



The Tourism Business Award honors those in our Central Nova Scotia region who exemplify the art of successful tourism, transforming our area into a sought-after destination. Eligible recipients, including individuals, groups, organizations, or businesses, must generate over 50% of their annual income through tourism-related activities.

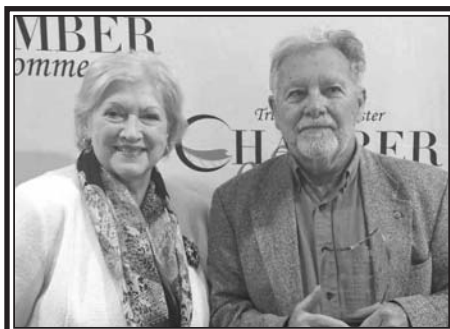
What's old is new again and tourists love seeing what they can find in Great Village at Clair's Classic Antiques, also known as the Onslow Trading Company.

Since 2000, Clair Peers has been selling antiques and collectables in Great Village and now has a shop at the former historic location of the Royal Bank in Great Village. He also does appraisals of household goods and antiques, along with household and estate liquidations.

However, stopping by Clair's location is so much more than just seeing what's inside. It's an experience, a walk back in time with him always offering a story or two about the treasures on his packed-to-the-brim shelves and tables.

A steward of local history, Clair is welcoming, friendly and knowledgeable about the life and times of rural Colchester County. He is always finding new ways to upcycle worn and tired items transforming them into new, fun, usable products.

He loves to share his passion for "antiquing" with others and has even made an appearance on a nationally syndicated program Canadian



**Clair Peers, of Clair's Classic Antiques and the Onslow Trading Company accepts the 2024 Tourism Business Award from Mayor Christine Blair, representing award sponsor, Municipality of Colchester. (Contributed)**

Pickers, which shone a spotlight on the historic village as a picker's paradise.

Telling stories of the past, being engaged in community development projects, supporting other antique businesses, and marketing his business on social media and other media as part of an antique-focused destination has attracted countless tourists to the village and the province.

Please join the Chamber and Municipality of Colchester as we congratulate Clair Peers, of Clair's Classic Antiques and the Onslow Trading Company for receiving the 2024 Tourism Business Award.

We ask Clair Peers to please come forward. The Award was presented by Mayor Christine Blair, representing award sponsor, Municipality of Colchester.

**Small Business Innovation Award**  
Debert Hospitality Centre



The Small Business Innovation Award recognizes entrepreneurs in Truro and Colchester County for innovative leadership, technology utilization, and community support. Celebrating businesses over five years old, it commends those who enrich their offerings and productivity, fostering local growth.

Since opening in April 2002, the Debert Hospitality Centre has transformed a former military mess complex into a vibrant hub for conferences, training, and special events, showcasing true innovation and adaptability.

With a commitment to exceeding hospitality expectations, they have created an inclusive environment that prioritizes customer service and individual needs. The Centre boasts 64,000 square feet of modern amenities, including five spacious conference and banquet areas, 14 bedrooms, and a range of recreational facilities, including a pool and hot tubs. The addition of onsite and offsite catering, featuring menus crafted by three Red Seal chefs, has further diversified their offerings.

Beyond its exceptional services, the Debert Hospitality Centre actively supports local causes, partnering with organizations like the SPCA and Nova Scotia sheriffs, reinforcing its role as a community leader.



**Derek Taylor and Leonard Dash, Debert Hospitality Centre, accept the Small Business Innovation Award from Erin Cock, representing award sponsor, RBC.**

This dedication to innovation—expanding from military use to a welcoming venue for weddings, corporate training, and events—truly sets the Debert Hospitality Centre apart as a hidden gem in Nova Scotia.

Please join the Chamber and RBC as we congratulate Debert Hospitality Centre for receiving the 2024 Small Business Innovation Award. We ask Derek Taylor and Leonard Dash to please come forward. The award was presented by Erin Cock, representing award sponsor, RBC.

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