

The Shoreline Tid-Bits

Journal

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Improvements to Small Claims Court

Government is improving access to small claims court and simplifying the process, including waiving fees for low-income Nova Scotians. The following changes became effective on Tuesday, Sept. 3: the costs to file and counter a claim will be waived entirely for low-income Nova Scotians; simpler, clearer and more user-friendly forms will be available for filing a notice of claim, defence or counterclaim; once a person files a notice of claim with the court, they will have 20 days (rather than the previous 10) to serve it on the defendant. This is consistent with the time allowed to file a defence or counterclaim, which has always been 20 days and the amount of wages exempt from garnishment has increased from \$415 to \$450 for a debtor supporting a family, and from \$275 to \$330 for other debtors.

Interim Review Officer Appointed

Government appointed an acting Freedom of Information Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) review officer and privacy review officer, effective Sept. 1. Carmen Stuart, director of investigations and mediation, has been appointed to the role. She is a long-time employee of the office and has acted in this role in the past. Catherine Tully has held the position since September 2014 and is retiring.

4-H Canada Announces Recipients of Scholarships

4-H Canada has announced fifteen 4-H members from across Canada were selected to receive \$1,000 each towards their post-secondary education in the fall of 2019, thanks to the generous support of our partner John Deere Canada. Madison Baillie was the sole Nova Scotia winner. Visit 4-h-canada.ca/scholarships for more information on 4-H Canada scholarship programs, and to watch for information and application details on future scholarship opportunities.

Efficiency Upgrades for Mi'kmaw Homes

Thousands of Mi'kmaw people across Nova Scotia will receive energy efficiency upgrades to their homes as part of an initiative being offered for the first time in Canada. The provincial and federal governments are investing a total of \$14 million in the Mi'kmaw Home Energy Efficiency Project. This project will see all band-owned homes on reserves qualify for upgrades like new insulation, heat pumps and draft-proofing. The initiative will lower heating and power bills, cut greenhouse gas emissions and create green jobs in Mi'kmaw communities across the province. In 2018, the Department of Energy and Mines partnered with Efficiency Nova Scotia on a pilot program that saw 100 households on all 13 Mi'kmaw communities across the province receive efficiency upgrades. Recipients are now saving an average of \$900 per year on their energy bills. The Mi'kmaw Home Energy Efficiency Project will mirror the pilot. Work is expected to start in early 2020. The goal is to provide upgrades to 80 per cent of the 2,400 band-owned homes on the reserves over 10 years, with 900 homes in the first four years. This is the most comprehensive project of its kind in the country.

Free Menstrual Products

Public school students across the province will now have access to free menstrual products when they need them. "No student should have to go to school worrying where or how they will access menstrual products," Zach Churchill, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. "Students should be able to focus on learning. This is one less thing they have to worry about." Universal access to menstrual products in schools means putting the well-being of students first. Many schools across the province already make these products available. Soon, all schools with grades four and up will make them accessible to their students. Each school will decide how and where these products will be made available. All schools will be provided posters that include a blank space, where they can fill in where students can find these products.

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The Shoreline Journal

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HOME DECOR AND LIFE AT HOME

Shakespeare Reading Group – 25 Years and Going Strong



Shakespeare Reading Group celebrated its 25th anniversary this past week. Those present included: Back, (L-R): James Stewart, Arlene Francis, Margaret Williams, Beth Boudreau, Barb Main, Marie McCully-Collier. Front (L-R): Mildred Densmore (Charter Member), Ruthann Brown, Lisa (Main) Annand (Charter Member) and Sheila Stewart. (Submitted)

By Sheila Stewart

Twenty-five years ago Lisa (Main) Annand went to the Ship's Company Theatre play "Living Curiosities: a Story of Anna Swan" by Mary Vingoe. During the play, Anna goes to New York to be a freak in P.T. Barnum's circus. She had teacher training and thought it would be fun to have all the "freaks" read a play. So they tried Shakespeare's, Twelfth Night.

This was contrary to P.T. Barnum's wishes as he wanted them to appear as freaks, not as intelligent beings. So they prepared the play secretly and advertised on the day of the performance so it would be too late for Barnum to stop it. But the circus burned that night. This tale inspired Lisa; she got the idea that this could be done in Maitland! She put out a sign in Frieze and Roy General Store advertising the reading of Shakespeare's, The Merchant of Venice in her apartment in Fred Roy's house (now a B&B). Four people showed up - Lisa, Mildred Densmore, Fred Roy and one more, either Ruth Main or Judy

Burns, the fourth reader's identity being lost in the mists of time.

Lisa recalls that Fred Roy, the merchant of Maitland, read the part of Antonio. Since then, a dedicated group has gathered six to eight times each year to read a Shakespeare play, usually hosted in the home of one of the readers. Faces have changed and the numbers have fluctuated but always, the question posed by the three Macbeth witches, "When shall we three meet again...?" has been answered with agreement to meet at a future date to share not only reading but also fellowship around a table groaning with pot luck goodies brought to share.

All of the Shakespeare plays have been read at least once; of course, some are favoured more than others and have been read more frequently. Reading charts were developed, largely through the efforts of Ross Main, to help readers identify their parts and have everyone read a somewhat equal number of lines. One summer there was fun as

signing the part, dressing the part and reading the part on "stage" at the local Art Gallery in Maitland. Twenty-five years later, the group is still going strong.

They met to celebrate this anniversary and to again read, "The Merchant of Venice". Two of the charter members, Lisa

(Main) Annand and Mildred Densmore, were present and were joined by eight others. The catching-up was noisy and enjoyable, the reading was thoroughly relished and the shared meal was bountiful - a true salute to the past twenty-five years of Shakespeare plays and a plan to carry on into the future.

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Sports Hall of Fame Induction – November 1

By Don Cameron

The 2019 inductees into the Colchester County Sports Hall of Fame have been announced by the Truro Sports Heritage Society. Each year the society recognizes several athletes, teams and/or builders who have contributed and accomplished great things over the years.

Those announced are: Justin Palardy, Robbie Cooke, Dennis Peterson, Denise Caughey, and the 2002 Truro Bearcat Senior Baseball Team. The induction ceremony will be Friday, November 1 at the Marigold Cultural Centre, 605

Prince Street, Truro. Doors open at 6:00pm for a 7:00pm ceremony start. An open reception will follow.

Each inductee will be introduced by a person close to them to describe the background and many accomplishments of each inductee. This makes for an enjoyable and memorable evening. Tickets can be purchased online through Ticket Pro, or at the Marigold Cultural Centre box office at 605 Prince Street, Truro. For further information, contact Sara McKenna at 902-957-0084.



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