

# PHOTO ESSAY Art Lab, Parrsboro

August 15-19 was the occasion of the next Water Column Project instructed by Jennifer Marlow. This is part of a five year project ending in 2025, each column is to depict a different period of life found in the Bay of Fundy starting at the carboniferous period. The final pieces are placed as part of a public art display at the Art Lab. As you can see the students are industrially at work to create the finished piece, this year from the Devonian Period. Luckily the weather held for most of their work, looking forward to see the finished piece. Photos by Lawrence R Nicoll



# Lilac Place Offers Resources for Women

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Ferris thanked the board of directors for their support of Lilac Place as well Nova Scotia Status of Women.

Cass McCarthy, who joined Lilac Place as its program facilitator from the Moncton YMCA, said Lilac Place intends to be a safe space for all women and girls to explore their authenticity and reclaim their sense of empowerment and with its partners create the roots for social change and equality.

There are currently four clubs and groups individuals can sign up for, including walking, knitting, poetry and a feminist literature group.

"In the short time we've existed we've successfully facilitated one workshop series,



Autumn House executive director Dawn Ferris (centre) talks to Jill Balsler (left), the minister responsible for the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, and Nicole Hersey from Nova Scotia Status of Women following the opening of Lilac Place on Thursday, Aug. 29, 2024.

which covered the fundamentals of art and allowed for attendees to explore their own unique worlds of creativity," McCarthy said. "Our one-on-

one supports range from budgeting and interview skills, resource navigation and social advocacy, SMART recovery groups and wraparound sex-

ual violence programming." Team lead Cynthia Dyke said Lilac Place gives attendees a chance to come together, learn together and support each other.

"We may each be the pilot of our own life, but it is so much easier to navigate what life throws our way when we have a community to fall back on. Our hope is to be one of these bubbles of community a gentle reminder that we have each other, and the solution is within each other, as a collective," Dyke said.

Prior to Lilac Place, the closest women's resources centre was in Truro.

**Darrell Cole, Corporate Communications Officer, 902-297-1333, dcole@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca**



The Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre opened in the fall of 2004, replacing the former Springhill Arena that collapsed in early 2001. The centre will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a concert, foam party and skating on Sept. 14 and 15.

## Murray Community Centre Celebrates 20<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary

By Darrell Cole

(Editor's note: Even though this celebration has passed, it was a historic event and Darrell Cole did an excellent job explaining the preparations that went into the 20th anniversary celebrations we thought it best to publish after the date).

The Municipality of Cumberland is preparing to celebrate a special milestone Sept. 14 and 15 when it marks the 20th anniversary of the opening of the Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre in Springhill.

The arena opened in the fall of 2004, three years after the former Springhill arena collapsed in early 2001.

"The Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre is the social and recreational centre of Springhill and area. The community suffered a terrible loss when the arena was destroyed in 2001, but as it has so many times throughout history, the community rallied behind the building campaign and we have a community centre that offers so much to so many people," said Municipality of Cumberland Mayor Murray Scott.

"Join us as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the community centre's opening with a great concert, a foam party and free public skating.

A highlight of the celebration will be a concert in the CIBC Room featuring SheNova on Sept. 14th with doors opening at 6 p.m. followed by ceremonies marking the building's 20th anniversary and the concert at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 and are available at the Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre from Monday to Friday.

Celebrations continue Sunday, Sept. 15 with a free foam party

with Nova Foam Parties at the community centre at 1 p.m., followed by a free skate at 3 p.m.

Paizano's Pizza & Donair and Sociables Pub & Eatery are sponsoring the events.

SheNova is a group of four musicians - Laura Wilson and Alycia, Kelly and Robert Putnam - from mainland Nova Scotia who all have a passion for music. Each of their members brings their own skills and instruments to create a dynamic and diverse sound.

Alycia plays the fiddle, concertina and adds some percussive feet with her traditional step dancing. Throughout Alycia's musical career, she has focused mainly on her love of Celtic music (with a twist).

Laura is a fiddler and the band's lead vocalist. Her expertise in a broad range of styles adds captivating variety to their shows.

Kelly plays the bagpipes and the whistle adding to the Scottish flair of their sound.

Robert is a guitarist and vocalist, adding harmonies and being the "heartbeat" as their rhythm player.

Over the course of their solo music careers, they have amassed a deep repertoire of eclectic tunes, recorded a total of seven albums and have performed at thousands of events.

Together, SheNova's repertoire ranges from traditional tunes to original compositions, from lively jigs and reels to soulful ballads and airs. Their sound is a fusion of foot stompin' Celtic, old-time fiddling, bagpiping, and singing, with influences from other genres such as folk, country, and pop.

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## First Jacob Melanson Hockey School Benefits Young Players

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Richard Calder Arena two weeks earlier than normal. The program sold out quickly and had a pretty large waiting list with participants from the Cumberland County Minor Hockey Association and other minor hockey associations in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Melanson said his grandparents weren't far from his thoughts when he was considering the hockey school.

My grandfather was a big part of minor hockey and baseball here in Springhill. To be able to replicate some of what he did means a lot to me and to my family," he said. "Some of the kids in the camp wouldn't remember who Pokey was, but to be able to bring some of his legacy back in tribute to the

community is important to me."

His mother, Jennifer Hayden Estabrooks, was busy with the hockey school helping with registration and sending players to their dressing rooms and off-ice

him on the ice with the school participants.

"Jim was so active in the community with hockey and baseball and he was the one who taught Jacob to skate in that rink at 18 months old," she said. "While we live in

Amherst, having it in Springhill made it more special because this is where it all began with the parents and tots skating."

She's pleased with how quickly the school filled up

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sessions. She admitted to holding back tears watching

A group photo of the participants at the first Jacob Melanson hockey school in Springhill.