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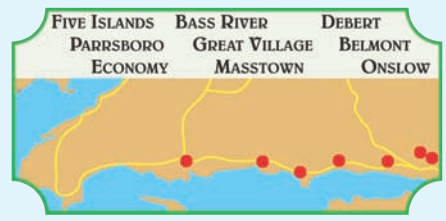

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RECC Gets New General Manager

The Rath Eastlink Community Centre (RECC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mark Peck as its new General Manager. Peck brings extensive senior leadership experience and a strong track record of implementing positive change. His appointment comes at an exciting time for RECC as it aims to revitalize as a premier centre for community health and wellness and major events venue for the region.

Throughout his career, Peck has successfully led organizations through change while building and maintaining strong relationships with a broad range of partners and stakeholders. His experience and leadership approach make him well-suited to the role.

Peck holds a Master of Public Administration from Dalhousie University and brings 38 years of experience with the Provincial Government. His previous leadership roles include Associate Deputy Minister (ADM) of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for the Joint Regional Transportation Agency, Associate Deputy Minister (ADM) for the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing which also included two interim positions as CEO for Housing Nova Scotia.

"Developing and maintaining partnerships with internal and external stakeholders has been an essential component of my various roles," said Peck. "These stakeholders have included other levels of government, the business community, the non-profit sector and the public throughout Nova Scotia and across Canada."

In addition to his senior leadership experience, Peck brings extensive

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1800's Moose Island Murder Book Launch

A book launch about an 1800's murder on Moose Island will be held at Five Islands Fire Hall on Oct 13th at 7:30. Written by a woman from the Annapolis Valley at the urging of Anita MacLellan, event organizer it was decided the book launch be held where the incident took place. ,

The launch program has been expanded to include: Geopark Geologist, Caleb Grant there to speak briefly about the geology of the area; Geopark's Will Bollwerk, speaking about conservation of plant and wildlife on the island and Five Islands fire chief speaking about tides, dangers, and the any rescues the fire brigade volunteers have successfully completed this year alone... all this to drive the point home that people should think twice about visiting the island. Books will be on sale @$25. Taxes in. Refreshments served.

Bob Murphy

Bob Murphy (Parrsboro/Economy) was inducted posthumously into the NS Country Music Hall of fame in Bridgewater on Saturday, September 12th. Best known as Bob Murphy and Big Buffalo, Bob helped shape the province's country music landscape and heritage.

Throughout the '70's Bob and his band made several television appearances: CBC TV Country Time; Country Jamboree; George Hamilton IV Show; Christmas Daddies; Atlantic Folk Festivals and many more. In 1974 Bob and his band was selected to represent Canada at the International Country Music Association in Nashville.

(See enlarged story and photos on Page 9)

The Province's four new Airbus H125 helicopters are now in service. (Province of Nova Scotia)

Nova Scotia's Firefighting Helicopters in Service

A fleet of new helicopters is now in service to help fight wildfires and support other important tasks that keep Nova Scotians safe.

The four Airbus H125s are versatile aircraft that will fight wildfires, help in search and rescue efforts, assist in scientific research, transport people and equipment during emergencies and conduct aerial surveillance to support the work of other departments.

A naming competition for the four helicopters garnered nearly 10,000 suggestions. Four groups of related names went to a public vote, and the winners are:

Spirit of the Osprey
Spirit of the Eagle
Spirit of the Hawk
Spirit of the Falcon.

"These aircraft do serious work that keep Nova Scotians safe especially during emergencies," said Tory Rushton, Minister of Natural Resources. "I am pleased to see how engaged Nova Scotians were with the naming contest. The final names reflect our great province, while respecting the serious nature of the work these helicopters do."

The helicopters were purchased through a federal-provincial agreement on wildfire equipment and training; each level of government contributed $12.6 million.

Funding to Help Prepare for Emergencies

The Province is providing more than $800,000 to regional emergency management organizations to help communities better prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies. Funding for 12 organizations across Nova Scotia from the Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO) Capacity Grant Program will support projects such as: Improving emergency communications systems; hiring emergency management staff; renting office spaces; emergency preparedness training and developing emergency management plans

A regional emergency management organization brings neighbouring municipalities together to coordinate emergency planning, preparedness, response and recovery across a region. This means 37 municipalities in Nova Scotia will benefit from the projects receiving funding.

The funding is for projects spanning one to four years. The organizations receiving funding in 2026-27 are in: Cape Breton Re-

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