



The 4-H barn at NSPE has received new steel roof and siding, new entrance doors, plus an additional to each side of the building. This area will be used for washing and grooming. (Rees Photo)

## \$30,000 for 4-H Barn Recommended

By Maurice Rees

Colchester County 4-H Council is breathing much easier, thanks to the co-operation and support of Colchester Council. During the presentation meeting on August 7th, Lisa Patten representation the 4-H council requested Council follow through on previous commitments to provide \$100,000 funding towards improvements to the 4-H barn located on the NSPE grounds.

The funding request, made during the 2018/19 budgeting progress, went off the rails when council was not comfortable with a certain clause in 99-year lease with the province, which indicated the province could ask 4-H vacate the premises within a certain amount of days. Further discussions with the province revealed the particular clause is included in all leases with

community groups. This was confirmed Mayor Blair had with provincial officials.

The province has also made a similar financial commitment to Colchester County 4-H, which includes 300 54-H members, one of the largest memberships in the province. The 4-H barn was built with community and council participation years ago, but has fallen in dis-repair over the years.

Recent improvements, thanks to sponsorship, in-kind material and labour donations have enabled the 4-H council to achieve more than was anticipated in the first year. These improvements include: 9 new doors, 6 of which are oversized garage style doors; drainage around the building and the outside arena; two additions have been erected on the sides of the building;

plumbing has included new wash area and water supply to the additions; new steel siding for exterior walls and roof and new railings and sand for the outdoor arena.

Patton's presentation to council on August 7th indicated there was a sense of urgency to her appeal, because new lighting was required prior to 4-H activities on August 22nd as part of Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition. When the new doors were installed electrical services were disconnected and a new entrance panel was needed prior to restoring electrical service.

4-H is currently seeking funding from Efficiency Nova Scotia as well as Community Facility Improvement Program for security fencing and Community ACCESS-ability Program for barrier-free washrooms. After the rush is

over to prepare for NSPE, a lot of improvements remain to be done to being the barn up to desired standards to continue with interior upgrades and purchase equipment.

Patton's plea to council was to follow through on previous commitments to fund \$100,000 for the barn and that

there was an urgency need of an immediate injection of \$30,000 to complete the work by August 22nd.

At council's committee meeting on August 9th, council re-addressed a \$100,000 commitment over four years. After discussion, Councillor Stewart's made a motion to

provide \$30,000, immediately and consider remainder after all details and paperwork were completed.

Council committee approved recommending to council's monthly meeting on August 30th \$30,000 in interim financing.



The second addition to the side of the 4-H barn will be used to house beef cattle during NSPE and the Pro-Show when it returns to Truro. (Rees Photo)



The 4-H barn was a beehive of activity as various club members erected signage and made preparations for August 22nd 4-H Day at NSPE. (Rees Photo)



Teresa McNutt, a member of the county 4-H executive and one of the leaders for the Clifton 4-H club labels forks, shovels and push brooms as club property, which can be used by other clubs. (Rees Photo)

## Natal Day Celebrated at Masstown Park

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Jim Galway did a great job playing music! There was lots of clapping from those seated under the maple trees! Rob got to pick the winning ticket for the 50/50 draw - which was won by Laurie Fisher. Laurie kindly donated the winnings back to the Association.

Constable Phillips with the RCMP came in his nice, shiny clean police car. The kids had a blast running his siren and turning on and off the flashing lights.

The Constable was also seen being chased with squirt guns, shaking hands with "old" folks and eating hotdogs and cake! So nice to have a police presence that doesn't mean bad news.

Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade was also noticeable with their big, shiny red truck! Steve Willis and the Mrs. were on board the truck and led

tours of it for the kids and "big kids" alike! Steve had bags of goodies for the kids and they got to run the lights and sirens here as well.

Lynda Stevenson led the children's games - they had water balloons so no dry kids around! There were lots of prizes for each game and then at 2:30 Wanda Wallace had the kids do Cookie Decorating. Lots of tasty looking cookies there!

Chris Urquhart was our fortune teller and she had a lot of fun telling "fortunes" to the

kids. Some adults had their fortunes told as well, but those were more "adult" in nature. And although there was a lovely breeze under the maple trees where she was set up, the wind didn't blow the cards around any! Talk about your good fortune!

We welcome people use the Masstown Community Park at any time but please don't leave your garbage behind! Money raised from fundraisers such as our Natal Day Fun Day goes towards the upkeep of our Park.

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