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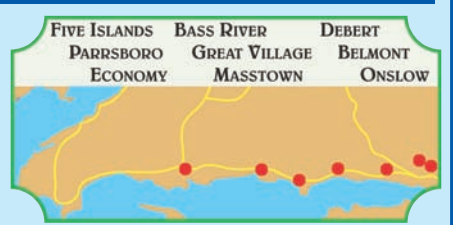


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Bass River Heritage Museum News

By Laura Schwarz

Another summer season is drawing to a close here at the Bass River Heritage Museum. Unfortunately, this summer has seen a dramatic decline in visitors. While most museums within the province are seeing declining visitor counts, we have also heard reports of people not wanting to make the trip to Bass River this year due to the detour in place in Portapique, thus greatly impacting our Summer attendance.

However, it is not too late to make a stop at the Bass River Heritage Museum in 2025! Come visit us over the Labour Day weekend, the museum will be open on Saturday, August 30, Sunday, August 31, and Monday, September 1st from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. And there are even more chances to visit us as the museum will also be open Monday to Friday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm during the month of September. Please note that the Labour Day weekend will be our last weekend hours of the 2025 season, and that we will also be closed for the day on Wednesday, September 3rd.

Can't make it in during our open hours? Give us a call at 902-647-2648 during our aforementioned open hours in order to schedule a visit outside of our regular hours. Please note that we require 48 hours notice in order to accommodate after hours visits.

Our next board meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Monday, September 8th at the Bass River Heritage Museum (5666 Highway #2, Bass River, NS). Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting, and we are always happy to see new faces there!



52 Child Care Spaces Created in Lower Onslow

The Lower Onslow Preschool Association in Masstown, Colchester County, is creating 52 spaces for infants, toddlers and preschoolers, while the East Coast Early Learning Association in Margaree, Inverness County, is creating 14 toddler and preschool spaces giving families in Colchester and Inverness counties more options for child care as new spaces become available with provincial and federal

Nova Scotians need better access to child care, and that's what our government is delivering," said Brendan Maguire, Minister of Education and

Early Childhood Development. "Investments in child care support our communities by helping families participate in the workforce and grow Nova Scotia's economy."

These projects are funded through the Department's Minor Infrastructure Program: The Lower Onslow Preschool Association received \$771,000 and is expected to have the new spaces open next spring. The East Coast Early Learning Association received \$393,000 and is expected to have the new spaces open in the fall.

Patty Hajdu, federal Minister of Jobs and Families said, "High-quality, affordable, flexi-



Noah and Cain Longva join Miss Joann on the big chair at the Lower Onslow Preschool End of Summer Fundraiser after a tasty BBQ donated by the Masstown Market. (Harrington Photo)

ble and inclusive early learning and child care means less pressure on families and more choice for parents. Adding to

the over 7,000 child-care spaces already announced in the province, these 66 new

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William "Bill" James Hay passes



William "Bill" Hay, age 79, a respected entrepreneur and community champion from Truro, Nova Scotia, passed away surrounded by family at home on August 11, 2025, leaving behind a remarkable legacy in business and philanthropy.

Bill Hay will be remembered not only as a builder of businesses but as a builder of community.

Bill's legacy project was Mastodon Ridge in Stewiacke, Nova Scotia, a popular tourism destination highlighting his love of Nova Scotia and his passion to grow tourism in his home province. Mastodon Ridge started to come to life in January 1995 with the unveiling of a life size mastodon replica which Bill had commissioned in 1994. He came up with the idea after mastodon bones were discovered in a quarry in nearby Milford, in 1991. Enhancements and investments continued to take place over the years at the Ridge and it truly was Bill's pride and joy.

His contributions will be felt for generations, and his

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Great Village and District Fire Brigade celebrated their 100th Anniversary by hosting a Community Day with lots of fun activities for the kids, demonstrations and a lovely BBQ. (Harrington photo)
See our collection of photos of the event on page 10 of this Shoreline Journal.

New Independent Energy System Operator Names CEO

Longtime senior energy executive Johnny Johnston will be the inaugural President and Chief Executive Officer of the Nova Scotia Independent Energy System Operator (NSIESO).

"We've found the right person to lead NSIESO as we build a new organization that's independent, transparent and accountable in managing Nova Scotia's electricity future," said Douglas Reid, Chair of NSIESO's Board of Directors. "Johnny is a leader with deep operational expertise, a

strong understanding of regulatory environments, and a proven ability to build effective teams. We're thrilled to have someone of his calibre take on the challenge of creating this new organization at such a pivotal time for the province."

Johnny Johnston brings nearly three decades of international experience in utility operations, strategy, and system transformation. Most recently serving as Chief Operating Officer at Algonquin Power & Utilities Corp.,

he led regulated and independent renewable energy operations, including service to 1.5 million utility customers across four countries and a three gigawatt renewables portfolio in North America. Johnston began his career at the United Kingdom's national energy system operator, rising through senior roles in engineering, operations, and transformation. Johnston was also part of starting GridAmerica, an independent transmission company (ITC) in the United

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