



The Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre will be busy with activities during March break this year. SUPPLIED

Plenty of March break activities scheduled across Cape Breton

TJ COLELLO

The week of March 16-20 will be March break for schoolchildren across Cape Breton, and there's no lack of activities for all ages.

CBRM

■ Northside Community Pool, free swim, March 15, 2:30-3:30 p.m. No registration required.

■ March break free skates. March 16, Emera Centre Northside, 1-2 p.m.; March 17, Membertou Sport and Wellness Centre, 1-2 p.m.; March 18, New Waterford and District Community Centre, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; March 19, Dominion Rink, 1-2 p.m.; Sydney Mines & District Community Centre, 1-2 p.m.; March 20, Glace Bay Miners Forum, 1-2 p.m. No registration required. Helmets are required for all ages.

■ Glace Bay Miners Forum, pottery painting, March 16, 1-3 p.m. Registration required at cbrmrecreation.ca. Children 10 and under must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. All supplies provided.

■ Northside Community Pool, March break day camps, March 16-20, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Ages 6-11. Cost is \$35 per day or \$150 for the full week.

Each day includes swimming, games, crafts, theme days, and some downtime with movies. What to bring: swimsuit, towel, lunch (peanut-free please), snacks, and a water bottle.

Spots are limited and registration is now open:

For more information: northsidecommunitypool@gmail.com or call 902-736-1211.

■ Ski Ben Eoin March break camp, March 16-18, ages 6-12. For those who have never skied or snowboarded before to more experienced riders. You can choose to participate for any combination of days.

Skiing or snowboarding: 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.; lunch (supervised but not provided): 12-1 p.m.; more skiing, snowboarding or switch it up and try tubing in the afternoon: 1-3:30 p.m.

Program cost is \$100 for one day, \$190 for two days, \$270 for three days, or \$360 for four days. Daily lift ticket for \$20 and daily equipment rental for \$20.

Contact office@skibeneoin.com or call 902-828 2804 ext. 223 to register.

■ Soulvaria March break camp, March 16-20, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ages 5-15. Programs focus on active games, exciting adventures, and shared experiences, giving kids the chance to enjoy their favourite hobbies, make new friends, and explore new interests — all while having a blast!

Activities include virtual reality experiences, PC and console gaming, tabletop gaming, creative activities and challenges, group games and mini tournaments/challenges, and more.

Camp price is \$199 for five days. Limited spots available. Registration is required. For more information, call 902-270-2673 or visit www.soulvaria.ca/march-break



There will be yoga and meditation activities during March break this year in Richmond County. UNSPLASH

for details or to register.

■ Cape Breton Capers March break basketball camp, March 16-20. To run 9 a.m.-2 p.m. each day. For boys and girls ages 5-17. Fee is \$200 per camper.

■ Follow the Yellow Block Road LEGO Challenge and Scavenger Hunt, James McConnell Memorial Library in Sydney, March 16, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

■ March break board games, Sydney Mines Library, March 16, 2-4 p.m. Ages 5-plus

■ Dungeons & Dragons, Glace Bay Library, March 16, 3:30-7:30 p.m. For teens and adults.

■ Candle-making workshop, Fortress Seniors Club, March 17, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Registration required at cbrmrecreation.ca. Ages 8-10 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

■ Oz-tacle course, James McConnell Memorial Library in Sydney, March 17, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

■ March break St. Patrick's Day party, Sydney Mines Library, March 17, 2-4 p.m.

■ Chess club, James McConnell Memorial Library in Sydney, March 17, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

■ St. Patrick's Day craft and bin-

go, Louisbourg Library, March 17, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

■ Story and craft time, New Waterford Library, March 17 and March 18, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

■ LEGO Tuesday, North Sydney Library, March 17, 3-4 p.m.

■ Knitting group, New Waterford Library, March 17, 6-7:30 p.m.

■ Candle-making workshop, Membertou Sport & Wellness Centre, March 18, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Registration required at cbrmrecreation.ca. Ages 8-10 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

■ Tea and Trivia, New Waterford Library, March 18, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

■ Enchanted Hour with Good Witch Glinda, March 18, James McConnell Memorial Library in Sydney, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Glace Bay Library, 2-3 p.m.; March 19, New Waterford Library, 1-2 p.m.

■ Sea glass creations, Sydney Mines Library, March 18, 2-4 p.m.

■ Jokers Wild Entertainment, Mayflower Mall, March 18, 1-2:30 p.m., free magic shows; March 19, 1-3 p.m., free balloon animals and face painting.

■ Create & Paint!, Emera Centre Northside, March 19, 1-3 p.m. Registration required at cbrm-

recreation.ca. Supplies provided. Children 10 and under must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

■ IGNITE Cape Breton, Game Jam Next, March 19, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 12-17.

Whether you're into video games or board games, this one-day event is all about building something from scratch with guidance from our team. Lunch

is included, and ideas are encouraged.

Spots are limited. Visit igniteatlantic.com for more details.

■ Introduction to hip hop dance, James McConnell Memorial Library in Sydney, March 19, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

■ Fibre lunch, North Sydney Library, March 19, 1-3 p.m.; James McConnell Memorial Library in Sydney, March 20, 1-3 p.m.

■ Minecraft party, Glace Bay Library, March 19, 2-3 p.m.

■ LEGO vehicle build, Sydney Mines Library, March 19, 2-4 p.m.

■ Make Your Own Comic Book Workshop! James McConnell Memorial Library in Sydney, March 19, 2-5 p.m.

■ Play Palooza!, New Waterford Community Wellness Centre, March 20, 1-3 p.m. Arts and crafts area, gym activities and free play. All ages welcome. Children 10 and under must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

■ Knitting/Crafters Club, Glace Bay Library, March 20, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

■ Pressed Flower Pinch Pots, Louisbourg Library, March 20, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

■ Super Saturday: Easter Craft, Glace Bay Library, March 21, 10-11 a.m.

■ Did Someone Say Candy Sushi?! New Waterford Library, March 21, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

■ JR D&D, Glace Bay Library, March 21, 2-4 p.m.

INVERNESS COUNTY

March break swims, Strait Area Pool. March 14-21. To register, visit townofporthawkesbury.ca/recreation.

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Einarson looking forward to fan support in Calgary

TODD SÆLHOF

Kerri Einarson intends to savour the moment, and then some, in Calgary.

After all, the last time the skip and her Manitoba squad took on the world at WinSport, the pandemic took over the worlds.

That meant endless health protocols to follow at the women’s world curling championship.

Everything bubble-wrapped, that is.

No Patch for party time, no gatherings of any kind.

And absolutely no fans at all in the building to cheer on Canada’s champions.

“The cardboard cut-outs weren’t ideal,” said Einarson with a giggle, while reflecting on the 2021 worlds in Calgary’s curling bubble. “So it’s going to be pretty amazing to be able to have fans in the stands this time. A lot of our family and friends are coming, so we’re going to have so much support. And we’re changing it up a little bit this year. We’ve got an Airbnb instead of staying at that same hotel, where we lived for months and months (in 2021), so we’re super excited.”

Knowing Einarson and her affable crew from Manitoba’s Gimli Curling Club, they’ll wear that excitement on their sleeves when they open the BKT World Women’s Curling Championship, presented by Pharmasave, on Saturday at WinSport Event

Centre (4 p.m. ET, TSN).

And they’ll arm themselves with that crowd support for a true home feeling unlike five years ago to help fuel them in a bid for what has become an elusive title.

“We’re really looking forward to having the full experience there,” said Canada second Val Sweeting, an Edmonton native. “It was an honour to wear the Maple Leaf there in the bubble. And especially when — originally — we won the Scotties after it was cancelled in Prince George (in 2020), we just really embraced that experience (in Calgary). But it was a little bit of a chaotic week from what I remember.

“We definitely are looking forward to having fans in the stands and wearing the Maple Leaf in Canada, and especially in my home province. Really looking forward to it.”

And really hoping to win, of course.

Because despite three previous trips to the worlds, the five-time Canadian queens — winners of that honour in 2020, ’21, ’22, ’23 and ’26 — have yet to secure global supremacy. Instead, they’ve returned from the annual event with bronze medals from Sandviken, Sweden in 2023 and Prince George, B.C., in 2022 after falling short of a medal in 2021.

So during these next nine days of curling in Calgary, it’s



Manitoba’s Kerri Einarson will represent Canada at the women’s curling championship beginning Saturday in Calgary. *DARREN MAKOWICHUK/POSTMEDIA*

redemption they’re seeking from that COVID-ravaged year and unfinished business they’d love to settle from all those previous failed engagements.

“It would definitely mean a lot to win,” Sweeting said. “I think we’ve learned a lot from our experience. It’s a long week, and I know it sounds cliché, but you really have to take it one game at a time. And if you get too far ahead of yourself or anything like that, it can get away pretty quickly.

“So I think just staying in the moment and capitalizing on opportunities when they come and just sticking to the things that we do really well I think will get us a long way in the event.

“We just want to position ourselves well through the round robin and then take playoffs as they come and just get ourselves into that gold-medal game. You don’t know how many times

you’re going to be in this position. To make the most of it would be great and to come home with a victory, I think, would mean so much.

“Team Homan has really set the bar there the last couple times (winning back-to-back worlds). And so we’d love to keep that gold in Canada and come home with it.”

Sweeting and company believe they can draw from their three previous trips to worlds, having grown from each visit — one very much different from the other given the varied locales and situations.

“Honestly, with the world championship, there’s actually so very little downtime that you have, so it’s hard to really get distracted with the outside noise, you are so exhausted from putting everything into every single game,” said Canada second Shannon Birchard. “But certain

strategies, for sure, would be just to stay off social media and really focus on time spent together and not just hanging out in our rooms alone, watching Netflix or whatever it may be.

“I think that was what we struggled with in the bubble. We couldn’t really hang out and do stuff together. We were a little bit more secluded, and we learned a lot from that experience. And just knowing that spending time together while we’re all experiencing the same thing, essentially the same kind of emotions throughout the week, it’s just really helpful to lean on each other in those moments. And that in itself helps to block out any kind of distractions.”

Distractions, of course, weren’t much of a problem at the last worlds in Calgary.

It was far too quiet for a rink that seems to relish the adoration of fans in the stands, as it did in January’s Grand Slam of Curling spiel in Steinbach, Man., which was a home event of sorts for the team from nearby Gimli.

“Us playing in Steinbach with the crowd, we had a great week and played well,” said Canada lead Karlee Burgess. “But I think it had to lot has to do with the crowd and the atmosphere, and I feel like we definitely play off the atmosphere of the arena.

“I’ve never played a world championship in Canada, but I can only imagine the experience and the fun we’re going to have when we know basically the whole building is cheering for Canada, and I think that’ll help us in the long road and keep us energized and adrenalized through the whole week.

“So that will be fun.” Fun, yes. But don’t forget there’s always the pressure often coming hand and hand with a home event, especially for curlers playing in front of the sport’s frenzied fans.

“That Maple Leaf can be heavy, that’s for sure,” said Einarson. “We always thought the (Manitoba) buffalo was heavy, but the Maple Leaf is even heavier. So you try to not put so much pressure on yourself or even to think about that, but it’s hard.

“It’s hard, but we’ve just got to embrace that. And we’ve just got to be out there for ourselves and our teammates and focus on that and not so much everything else. At the end of the day, I’m still Kerri Einarson and I’m going out there playing a game I love.”

Hoping at the end of her time in Calgary, it pays off with a gold medal and finally a world title to take home.

“That’s definitely what we want to do,” Einarson said. “I love this team. We’ve done so much over the years. We’ve been through so much with each other and it would definitely mean the world to us.

“But we also don’t want to put too much pressure on ourselves or look too far ahead. Just take it one game at a time and give it our all and leave it all out there.

“I’m going to just play for my teammates, play for myself and just worry about what we can control and any outside noise, you just block that out and just know that every one of us have each other’s backs. And that’s what we’ve done over the years, and we know what we need to do and to bring the best versions of ourselves.

“So we’re just going to go out there and enjoy the moment.” *tsaelhof@postmedia.com x.com/ToddSaelhofPM*

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Nova Scotia Energy Board

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AVIS PUBLIC

PLYÔNE DE TÉLÉCOMMUNICATION PROPOSÉE 3650, CHEMIN HAMMONDS PLAINS, UPPER TANTALLON (N-É), B3Z 4R2

Shared Tower Inc. propose une nouvelle pylône de 25 mètres (numéro de fichier STCE141) au 3650, chemin Hammonds Plains, Upper Tantallon (N-É), B3Z 4R2. L'objectif du pylône proposée est de renforcer le réseau de télécommunications afin de mieux répondre aux demandes croissantes de connectivité des consommateurs, de l'économie numérique et des mesures de santé et de sécurité dans la communauté.

Les systèmes d'antennes sont exclusivement réglementés et approuvés par le gouvernement fédéral. Innovation, science et développement économique Canada (ISED) est l'organisme directeur pour les installations de ce type et peut être contacté à l'adresse suivante:

Bureau d'ISDE: Bureau de district de la Nouvelle-Écosse: 50, avenue Brown Dartmouth NS B3B 1X8 Téléphone: 1-855-465-6307 Télécopieur: 902-426-1000 Courriel: spectrumnsd-spectredne@ised-isde.gc.ca

Informations générales sur l'infrastructure sans fil : <http://www.ic.gc.ca/towers>.

Une séance d'information publique aura lieu au St. Margaret's Centre, 12, boulevard Westwood, Upper Tantallon (N.-É.) B4Z 1H3 le 7 avril 2026 de 18h00 à 19h00.

TOUTE PERSONNE peut soumettre un mémoire écrit aux personnes mentionnées au plus tard le 22 avril 2026 concernant cette question. Veuillez indiquer la référence STCE141 dans votre correspondance.

LOCATION MAP/CARTE DE L'EMPLACEMENT DU SITE

PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED TELECOMMUNICATION TOWER 3650 HAMMONDS PLAINS RD, UPPER TANTALLON, NS B3Z 4R2

Shared Tower Inc. is proposing a new 25-metre telecommunication tower (File number STCE141) at 3650 Hammonds Plains Rd, Upper Tantallon, NS B3Z 4R2. The intent of the proposed tower is to strengthen the telecommunications network in order to better support increased demands for consumer connectivity, the digital economy, and health and safety measures in the community.

Antenna systems are exclusively regulated and approved by the Federal Government. Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) is the governing body for installations of this type of telecommunication installation and can be contacted at:

ISED Office: Nova Scotia District Office 50 Brown Avenue Dartmouth NS B3B 1X8 Tel: 1-855-465-6307 Fax: 902-426-1000 Email: spectrumnsd-spectredne@ised-isde.gc.ca

General information on wireless infrastructure: <http://www.ic.gc.ca/towers>.

A Public Information Session will be held at St. Margaret's Centre, 12 Westwood Blvd, Upper Tantallon, NS B4Z 1H3 on April 7th, 2026 from 6:00-7:00 PM.

ANY PERSON may make a written submission to the individuals listed by April 22, 2026 with respect to this matter. Please reference STCE141 in your correspondence.

Further information may be obtained through the following contact:

SHARED TOWER INC. CONTACT Audrey Burella, Planning Coordinator Shared Tower Inc. 1300 Cornwall Rd. Unit 101 Oakville ON, L6J 7W5 aburella@sharedtower.ca

Craft and design centre launches campaign in wake of funding cut

IAN NATHANSON

The Cape Breton Centre for Craft & Design in Sydney recently learned it has been hit with a \$46,000 reduction in operational funding in the aftermath of recent provincial budget cuts to arts and culture programs and grants.

“We received an email about three weeks ago from the Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage that we were receiving a 20 per cent cut in our annual operating funding,” said Lori Burke, the centre’s executive director. “We own and operate this 14,000-square-foot facility in downtown Sydney, and it’s open six days a week to the public. We’re a not-for-profit charitable organization.

“Forty-six thousand dollars is not something that we just have lying around, and we certainly do not want to scale back any of our programming, (which) is very important to our community and visitors alike.”

That \$46,000, Burke said, goes toward salaries, programming, heat and lights, as well as maintenance of the building.

“This is not a provincially owned facility, so we’re responsible for the upkeep and maintenance and the running of the centre,” Burke said.

The 2026-27 provincial budget tabled on Feb. 23 has yet to be formally approved.

But outcries from arts and culture organizations on the impacts of cuts similar to the one faced by the centre are being met with provincial officials not budging on changes.

“Any of the MLAs that I have written to have written back to me and said, ‘We’re putting our money towards health care,’” Burke said. “It’s devastating, and it’s disappointing.”



The Cape Breton Centre for Craft & Design has launched a new community fundraising initiative called the 460 Club, aimed at addressing a \$46,000 reduction in operational funding following recent provincial budget cuts to arts and culture. CAPE BRETON POST FILE

460 CLUB CAMPAIGN

As a way to potentially recoup that reduction in operational funding, Burke came up with the idea of the 460 Club, a newly launched campaign that invites 460 supporters to donate \$100 each to help recover those costs and ensure the facility on Charlotte Street can continue to deliver exhibitions, education programs and opportunities for local artists and makers.

“To give you an idea of what a normal budget for the centre would look like, we would normally have to raise about \$40,000 a year anyway through fundraising and other earned revenue to balance the budget,” Burke said.

“Now this is this \$46,000 piled on top of that – that would make it around \$90,000 that we need to fundraise this year. It can be

crippling. So we’re looking to the community for collective support to make a real difference.”

The campaign was launched this past Friday. And Burke said more initiatives toward regaining that lost \$46,000 are in the works.

Without a replacement for this funding, Burke said, centre management and staff will be forced to make difficult reductions to programs and services, including reduced gallery shop hours, fewer courses and workshops and reduced youth and Indigenous programming.

SERVES THOUSANDS ANNUALLY

For 54 years, the Cape Breton Centre for Craft & Design has been a hub for creativity and cultural connection, showcasing the work of more than 120 local artisans in its gallery shop and providing courses, workshops, exhibitions

and educational programming that serve thousands of people each year across Unama’ki Cape Breton, a news release on the 460 Club campaign said.

The centre hopes the campaign will demonstrate the strength of community support for arts and culture, and help secure the programs the Sydney location offers for the year ahead.

“When we can’t get funding to pay artists and instructors, it impacts our operations here,” Burke said. “The other piece of this – to my understanding, anyway, and I would hope that I’m wrong in this – I believe that summer student programs have been cut as well. We rely, as do many other not-for-profits and cultural organizations, on summer students.

“So we’re really looking for the community to support the work that we do in order to maintain the quality of programming and



Lori Burke, executive director of the Cape Breton Centre for Craft & Design: “This is not a provincially owned facility, so we’re responsible for the upkeep and maintenance and the running of the centre.” SUPPLIED

services that we offer. We’re a really important organization, and we don’t want to not be here at this time next year.”

Burke is also calling on supporters to reach out to their MLAs, Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage Minister Dave Ritcey, and other government officials to voice their concerns about the impacts of these proposed provincial arts and culture cuts.

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

“We’re a hub for bringing people together around craft, around beautiful things, so that it is a moment of joy and beauty at a difficult time in the world,” Burke said.

“Plus, people come here for our arts and culture, and our heritage. So when those doors are shut, what are they going to do? And how does this impact tourism operators around the island?”

“You’re going to see tourism organizations in this province closing and people stop coming. Because cruise ship passengers and other visitors are not coming just to sleep in a hotel. They’re coming to see your music, to buy crafts, to take a workshop in rug hooking, etc. But when none of those things are there, you’re going to see a downturn in tourism.”

Donations to the campaign can be made in person at the centre on Charlotte Street in Sydney, by mail or online at canadahelps.org/en/charities/id/2525. All contributions will receive a charitable tax receipt.



Artist Liam MacCormick displays his work at the opening of the Art of Living 2025 exhibition at the Cape Breton Centre for Craft & Design last July in Sydney. ROSEMARY GODIN/CAPE BRETON POST FILE



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Canada

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TODAY IN
HISTORY

1881: Barnum & Bailey Circus, travelling as The Greatest Show on Earth, debuts at Madison Square Garden in New York City after the merger of two existing circus groups.
1915: French battleship Bouvet explodes, 640 killed.
1922: British magistrates in India sentence Mahatma Gandhi to six years imprisonment for disobedience.
1925: Great Tri-State Tornado: Monstrous F5 (over 300MPH) tornado roars 219 miles across southeast Missouri, southwestern Illinois, and southwest Indiana; kills 695, injures over 2,000, and destroys 15,000 homes.
1940: Benito Mussolini and Adolf Hitler meet at Brenner Pass, where the Italian dictator agrees to join Germany's impending war effort in the west
1945: Montreal Canadien Maurice 'Rocket' Richard becomes the 1st NHLer to score 50 goals.
1965: Soviet cosmonaut Alexei Leonov leaves his spacecraft Voskhod 2 for 12 minutes and becomes the first person to conduct a spacewalk.

That's a cool ride

Car left on ice retrieved by firefighters

AARON BESWICK

Sunday didn't end up being a day of rest for the River John volunteer fire department.
It started with a call to a house fire on the Gunn Road in neighbouring Welsford. They arrived to find an older home in flames.
Chief Terry Heighton said a neighbour had helped the house's sole occupant out through a window.
As they fought that blaze, a call came in at about 10:30 a.m. for assistance removing a car that was about 2.5 kilometres out on sea ice on the Northumberland Strait.
The Department of Natural Resources and Fisheries and Oceans Canada were tasked with removing the small Hyundai that had been abandoned on the ice for over a week.
There were no occupants in the vehicle.
"I believe the RCMP questioned both (the owners), but as far as I know they let them go without any charges," said Heighton.
"(The owners) are well known."

The RCMP confirmed to The Chronicle Herald that they had established there was "no criminality" related to the car on the ice. Cpl. Carlie McCann said officers were called about a car on the ice between Cape John and Brule Point on March 5.
"Officers arrived on scene and observed two men walking from the vehicle toward shore," said McCann.
"The men advised that they had been driving on the ice when their vehicle became stuck. No criminal offence was identified."
She said the RCMP then consulted with other agencies about the car's removal.
Some of Heighton's firefighters were carried out to the car by helicopter to remove parts to lighten it so it could be carried ashore in pieces by the chopper.
"We couldn't get it light enough for the helicopter," said Heighton.
So after holes were drilled along the route to check the ice thickness (about two feet), members of his department brought two of their personal snowmobiles out to the



The River John volunteer fire department was called to assist with removing an abandoned vehicle from the ice of the Northumberland Strait. In the end, they flipped it on its roof and towed it ashore with snowmobiles.
SUPPLIED BY RIVER JOHN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

car.
"Just brute strength," said Heighton of how the members, with the assistance of DNR and DFO staff, flipped the car onto its roof so it could slide easier.
The members then towed the upside down car to within 50 metres of shore.
"It was a heavy snag," said Heighton.

"I was impressed by the teamwork, how well and professional DNR and DFO were and how we all worked together."
NorthShore towing used a cable to tow the car the rest of the way up to the road.
"Oh my, yes, there's never a dull moment," said Heighton of being a member of the River John volunteer fire department.

Spaceport
going live

LAUNCH PADS FROM A1

It has a lease with Quebec rocket manufacturer Reaction Dynamics for another pad, and Matier said talks are underway to sign leases on the other two pads.
McGuinty said at the Monday announcement in Ottawa that the investment is about establishing a sovereign launch capacity for Canada, which currently does not have an operating spaceport.
He was joined by Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Jennie Carrignan, who praised the project as vital to the forces.
"Space is fundamental to modern military operations," said Carrignan.
"The Canadian Armed Forces rely on space-enabled capabilities for everything from communications and navigation to awareness of the operating environment. Strengthening Canada's ability to operate in space will help ensure we continue to build the war-fighting capabilities needed to defend Canada and contribute to allied operations in an increasingly complex security environment."
Nova Construction will begin more work on the road network to the site as soon as conditions permit. Lindsay Construction is responsible for project management, while Stantec and Design-Point are doing design.
Matier said electricity would be run to the site by year's end.
There are two more launches scheduled from the existing pad this year, and the goal is for a first orbital launch by next year.
Once the facility and support buildings are constructed, Matier said, they expect 60 to 80 people to work full time at Space Port Nova Scotia.



A suborbital rocket sits on the launch pad at the Maritime Launch Services spaceport near Canso.
SUPPLIED BY MARITIME LAUNCH SERVICES

"It is always better to have your satellites and final tests done near the site," said Matier.
"There will be opportunities for companies to set up outside the fence. Think of it as having an anchor tenant like having Irving Shipbuilding in Halifax and all the support that grew up around that."
The agreement comes with the stipulation that 90 per cent of the federal investment has to be spent on Canadian companies.
McGuinty said this is about supporting not just a sovereign launch capability but also fostering a Canadian space industry.
He also announced that three Canadian rocketry companies had been selected for \$8.3 million each in grants through the Launch the North contest. Those companies are NordSpace, Canada Rocket Company and Reaction Dynamics.
The goal of the contest is to achieve the ability to launch Canadian payloads from Canadian soil by 2028.

Library talks

FUNDING FROM A1

"HRCE is currently working a new supplementary funding agreement with HRM and while we do so, we won't be making any additional comments," said Lindsey Bunin, communications officer for HRCE, in an emailed statement.
CUPE Atlantic Local 5047, which represents HRCE's librarians, was also contacted for comment but did not immediately respond.
School librarians, or library support specialists, as they're referred to by government, are positions supplemented in HRCE through an agreement with the municipality.
An HRCE report from last year said school librarians are one of several programs made possible through supplementary funding.
Roughly 75 librarians were employed in 2024-25 thanks to \$2.5 million in funding.
Welbourn said those dollars are well spent, as her library welcomes anywhere from 200 to 300 students every day and helps them with everything from research and assisting with a resume to picking out books.
The 15-year HRCE library veteran said she reads 200 young adult books every year to better help her students.
"Kids come into my library look-

ing for a book and they need to see themselves reflected in the literature."
"I have to make sure every kid who comes into my library, whether they're a hockey player or part of the LGBTQIA+ community, can find themselves in a book," said Welbourn.
When asked about Maguire's statement that HRM council was looking to cut school library funding because of duplication with public libraries, Welbourn noted they play very different roles.
"I'm programming to improve their literacy, not to provide books and social programs; there's some overlap but (public libraries) and (school libraries) are night and day," she said.
The Chronicle Herald confirmed that CUPE Atlantic sent an email to members of Local 5047 in anticipation of the proposed cuts and tasked members with calling their city councillor and Mayor Andy Fillmore to ask them to support school libraries.
"Rumours are circulating that HRM plans to cut city funding for education that's been in place since the 1990s," stated the email.
"If not opposed and defeated, these budget cuts will remove library support specialists and school librarians from our school communities."
"Although there has been no official announcement from HRM, city council has not committed to this funding past March 31 of this year."

Co-operators Life Insurance Company

Notice of Annual Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the shareholders and participating policyholders of Co-operators Life Insurance Company (the "Company") that the annual meeting of shareholders and participating policyholders will take place at **Le Westin Montréal**, in the city of Montréal, province of Québec on April 9, 2026 with formal commencement at 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time (the "Meeting") for the following purposes:

- (a) electing directors;
- (b) receiving, considering, and approving the financial statements for the previous year;
- (c) appointing auditors for 2026; and
- (d) such other business as may by law or pursuant to the By-Laws be properly brought before the Meeting.

Participating policyholders may receive the notice of the aforesaid Meeting and other materials containing more details of the business to be transacted at the Meeting upon written request to the Corporate Secretary at 101 Cooper Drive, Guelph, ON N1C 0A4.

On behalf of the Board of Directors,
Brigitte Catellier
Corporate Secretary

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

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LOCAL

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TODAY IN
HISTORY

1349: Black Death Massacre: Between 100 and 3,000 Jews are killed in Black Death riots in Erfurt, Germany; part of a wave of pogroms across Western Europe.
2018: Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg admits they "made mistakes" after data on 50 million users is harvested by Cambridge Analytica.



Tamara Deverell, right, is shown after her Oscar win with, from left, daughter, Rachel Woroner, son-in-law Benjamin Pates, and husband Ken Woroner. She says when she got up to give her acceptance speech, her knees were knocking. "But I did OK I think." AMY SUSSMAN/GETTY IMAGES FOR VANITY FAIR

Full-circle moment

Oscar winner
Tamara Deverell
cites early work
on Cape Breton
film as formative

TJ COLELLO

Long before moving to Inverness County, one of the movies Tamara Deverell worked on early in her career was filmed in Cape Breton. She was still in art school at the time when she was part of the costume department on the Tom Berry-directed film Something About Love, which was released in 1988. The script supervisor noticed Deverell could draw and suggested she should be in the art department. That advice helped set her on her current path in the film industry. "I was like, 'what does the art department do?'" said Deverell. "And then I started paying attention to the guys in the background who were doing things. And I was like, 'Oh yeah, this is kind of cool. I could do that. I like this stuff, painting and dressing sets.' "I finished that film and I went



Production designer Deverell of Inverness County and set decorator Shane Vieau, originally from Dartmouth, were nominated for an Oscar for their work on the 2021 film Nightmare Alley. SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES

back to art school, which was in Vancouver at Emily Carr (University of Art and Design) where I was studying film. But I've already learned so much on the job that I just was like, I'm out of here, and really started working in film."

OSCAR WIN
Fast forward four decades and

Deverell is an Oscar winner. She and Shane Vieau, originally from Dartmouth, won for production design for Frankenstein at the 98th Academy Awards on Sunday. "It's amazing. It was terrifying because I knew that if my name was called, I had to get up and be on stage in front of, God knows — I mean, I didn't want to think about

all the people," said Deverell, who lives just outside of Inverness with her husband, unit stills photographer Ken Woroner. "But it was nice because Barbra Streisand was up just before us, and there was a whole in-memoriam section, and she sang a bit of The Way We Were, and I kind of relaxed. "I was sitting right behind our director, Guillermo del Toro, so I got to hug him and some of the other cast. Our cinematographer (Dan Laustsen), Jacob Elordi who played the creature. So that was really special. Then I had to speak with my knees knocking, but I did OK I think."

AWARD-WINNING CAREER
Deverell has been a production designer on films like Frankenstein (2025), Priscilla (2023), Nightmare Alley (2021), and television series such as Guillermo del Toro's Cabinet of Curiosities (2022), Star Trek: Discovery (2017-24) and The Strain (2014-17). Along with Sunday's Oscar nod for Frankenstein, she earned Oscar and BAFTA nominations for Nightmare Alley, while winning the Art Directors Guild Award for best period feature. She also won an Emmy award for Cabinet of Curiosities. Deverell got her start in Montreal. She worked in the art departments of several productions alongside Canadian designer François Séguin. SEE OSCAR ON A3



Deverell and Vieau celebrate their Oscar win as they talk to reporters in the press room during the 98th Academy Awards at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Calif., on Sunday. FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY IMAGES



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Dartmouth Cove

ACCESS FROM **A3**

Wood said HRM denied its request for access and issued a “protection of property” order on the firm’s ability to access its site via Skokomul Street.

“As we are being prevented by HRM from accessing our property as provided for in the Trail Agreement, we have no choice but to protect our property from any unauthorized use. Effective immediately, we have installed No Trespassing signs on our private property. Any access must be approved in advance. This new Protection of Property Order applies to all. It is being actively monitored and will be enforced,” reads the statement.

Sarah Brannen, a public affairs adviser for HRM, said property owners can place signage to ensure people are aware that they are on private property.

“This is the case with Dartmouth Cove, with the exception of the four-metre-wide Dartmouth waterfront public walking trail, which is a provincial/municipal partnership,” said Brannen.

“The trail was built and is maintained in this area by BuildNS on HRM’s registered easement per the 2006 Access Easement 85780295. If the property owners were to restrict or block access to the registered easement, Build Nova Scotia and HRM would need to consider next steps at that time.”

Brannen added that the municipality and the property owner (ARCP) are in a dispute over access to the property, which Protection of Property Act orders are unlikely to resolve.

Dartmouth Centre Coun. Sam Austin said he wasn’t surprised by the latest move in the ongoing Dartmouth Cove saga.

“HRM’s contention is that we’re in a property dispute with these guys and the argument they are making is that the easement is invalid because we didn’t allow them to cross the water lot we own at the end of Skokomul Street. They say that invalidates the easement. There was never anything registered in title of Skokomul Street, so that will be something the courts will sort out.”

Austin said he received a lawyer’s letter banning him from the harbour trail and Atlantic Road Construction and Paving Ltd. property.

“It’s just one thing after another,” said Jill Brogan, founder of the Save Dartmouth Cove community group, who also said she received a letter banning her from the trail.

“Is this signage going to stop people from walking on the trail? Absolutely not. I don’t think it should.”

Wood said in the statement that the goal for his company has always been to work collaboratively with HRM to protect public access while respecting private property rights and ensuring the safety of all who use the waterfront. Austin said the company is doing the opposite of working with the city.

In August 2024, the company placed a blockade to obstruct the walking trail. Build Nova Scotia ordered the company to remove all barriers obstructing the walkway to be removed at that time.

“For the life of me, I don’t understand the approach of this company,” Austin said. “They are suing HRM, so there will be a day in

court where the court will decide whether or not the easement is still valid or not.

“I don’t know why that every step of the way their choice seems to be, ‘I could do the less confrontational, less antagonistic thing, or I could do this thing that makes the most animosity in the community possible.’ And this company always chooses maximum animosity every time.”

ARCP’s Dartmouth Cove infill project has been a bone of contention for the city, province and the local group Save Dartmouth Cove.

In April 2024, ARCP received approval by Transport Canada of a project to infill a 2.7-hectare area of Dartmouth Cove with 100,000 square metres of pyritic slate. In June of that year, Transport Canada sought to rescind the permit.

Transport Canada issued an amendment approval for ARCP’s project on Oct. 23 to replace the April 2024 approval. The case is now before the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Halifax regional council passed amendments in October 2025 to restrict infilling in Dartmouth Cove, similar to protections for the Northwest Arm in 2024.

The province approved the amendments in November with certain conditions. On Dec. 22, Municipal Affairs Minister John A. MacDonald wrote to Mayor Andy Fillmore identifying the conditions that needed to be met before approval. The province wanted proof that three of the properties in Dartmouth Cove fell within HRM’s municipal boundaries and confirmation from Justice Canada that the bylaw doesn’t infringe on federal jurisdiction.

Fillmore responded the next day, saying the city believes it met the conditions.



One Dartmouth Cove installed No Trespassing signs on its property, frustrating trail walkers. *RYAN TAPLIN*



A cyclist passes a banner at Dartmouth Cove along the harbour trail in September 2025. *TIM KROCHAK*



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