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December 2020 eNewsletter

Greetings Everyone:

As I sit and write this piece for the Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia newsletter, the mountains on both sides of the valley are ablaze with fall colors of our maple and oak trees. There seems to be extra vibrant colors this year and I think “the powers that be” are providing us with this color show before we head into the winter and the continuance of COVID-19.

2020 has been a busy year for RCFofNS with a new logo, the Nova Scotia Youth Art Gallery directed by Eirinn Fraser and certificates signed by Premier Stephen McNeil for the 52 youth who participated.

There have been two rounds of the Emergency Community Support Fund and of the Gender Equality Fund injecting over \$1 million into rural communities of Nova Scotia.

[Read more](#)

Holiday Message from the Granting Committee: The Granting Committee had a very

... pandemic, but thankfully we had the opportunity to work with the Federal Government and Community Foundations of Canada to administer and grant \$561,280.00 with the Emergency Community Support Fund this spring. The amount number of applications was overwhelming. [Read more](#)



Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia is proud to have partnered with Community Foundations of Canada and the Government of Canada to deliver the Government of Canada's Emergency Community Support Fund (ECSF) in Rural Nova Scotia. [Read more](#)

Fund Development Committee Completes Strategic Planning: Members of the Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia's Fund Development Committee recently completed a strategic planning exercise, renewing RCFofNS's Fund Development Strategy for a 3-year cycle (2020-2023). Two days of action planning involved revisiting what fund development means in the context of rural philanthropy in Nova Scotia and RCFofNS, gauging where we have been successful and setting targets for fund development growth until 2023. [Read more](#)



Nova Scotia's rural communities are directly affected by climate change through such factors as sea level rise, storms, weather, disease and species shift, all of which can cause major impact. The Community Sparks Grant Program was created in 2019 with a private donor grant in order to ignite creativity, innovation and change through community projects on climate change. [Read more](#).

Congratulations to Stella Bowes, the youngest person ever to receive The Order of Nova Scotia. The Bridgewater teen's science project at age 11 convinced three levels of government to pledge over \$15 million to help clean up the sewage pumping into the LaHave River on the South Shore. Stella was the youth lead on Coastal Action's project Nova Action - a movement empowering young environmental leaders across Nova Scotia to tackle environmental issues in their communities through research, education, and action. This project was funded under the RBC Future Launch Community Challenge Grant Program 2019, a collaborative initiative between Community Foundations of Canada, RBC Foundation, and RCofNS. [Read more](#).





2020 has certainly been an interesting year and the Land Committee is experiencing no less! We are happy to report that we sold our Hensbee property! We are working diligently to sell our Cranberry Island property and acquire new donations. Through the process of acquiring and selling land and real estate, the Rural Community Foundation can grow its endowment fund and continue granting to eligible community development programs for years to come. It is an easy process, if you or anyone you know would like to donate land and/or property to the RCFofNS as a charitable, tax receipt-able donation please contact Penny Day at penny@pennyday.ca.



RCFofNS Youth Art Contest Winners: We're excited to show you all the wonderful artwork made by Nova Scotia Youth! Check out this video to see the art gallery of

RCFofNS has a new look, and a renewed commitment to our Vision: *Nova Scotia's rural communities are dynamic, healthy and prosperous!*

Click on the image below to view the presentation.



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