



# RURAL COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION *of* NOVA SCOTIA

## Rural Leadership Initiative Grant Program

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**2015**

### ***Antigonish Women's Resource Centre and Sexual Assault Services Association***

219 Main St., Suite 204, Antigonish, NS B2G 2C1

Betsy MacDonald, 902-863-3624 x 233 Email: [betsy@awrcsasa.ca](mailto:betsy@awrcsasa.ca)

**This funding will be used to hold a leadership camp "Spark the Change".**

The goal of the camp is to bring together youth age 16-18 from across the province to deepen their knowledge and facilitation skills for healthy relationships.

### ***Clean Annapolis River Project***

PO Box 395, 314 St. George St., Annapolis Royal, NS B0S 1A0

Levi Cliché, 902-532-7533 Email: [levicliche@annapolisriver.ca](mailto:levicliche@annapolisriver.ca)

**This funding will be used to** engage youth in Annapolis River watershed in environmental education and leadership. As well the funding will assist in community reforestation, fish habitat restoration, and wood turtle stewardship.

### ***East Hants Community Learning Association***

The Nova Centre, 224 Highway 214, Suite 101A, Elmsdale, NS B2S 1J7

Saran Jarvie, 902-883-4716 Email: [easthantscommunityrider@gmail.com](mailto:easthantscommunityrider@gmail.com)

**This funding will be used to** organize 4 sessions that will train and empower community leaders. It will also provide funding to assist in bringing about a stronger interconnected local access movement through community engagement, and development of locally informed strategies.

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### ***Ecology Action Centre***

2705 Fern Lane, Halifax, NS B3K 4L3

Georgia McNeil 902-210-4966 Email: [georgia@ecologyaction.ca](mailto:georgia@ecologyaction.ca)

**This funding will be used to** organize two full-day Community Food Leader Train-the-Trainer Workshops in each of Inverness, Victoria and Cumberland Counties. (4 workshops total)

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2014

**Council des arts de Chéticamp**

PO Box 100, Chéticamp, NS B0E 1H0

Joéleen Larade, Executive Director [direction@artscheticamp.org](mailto:direction@artscheticamp.org)  
902-224-1406

**This funding will help bring the arts, school, and community together in Chéticamp.**

The aim of the project is to start turning innovative ideas and programs that have been developed in the region in recent years into concrete actions. . Presently there are a lot of projects and innovative ideas going around the village of Chéticamp with too little leaders to bring everyone together. The school along with the arts council have a similar vision to incorporate the arts, students, community members and businesses into an outdoor space where everyone can reunite, create, dream and be together

**AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia**

1668 Barrington St., Suite 401, Halifax NS B3J 2A2

Michelle Johnson, Program Coordinator [pc@acns.ns.ca](mailto:pc@acns.ns.ca)  
902 428 4882; Fax: 902 422 6200

**This funding will assist with the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual knowledge and Health Promotion Forum which is a retreat style information sharing, networking and skills building event**

that brings together people living with HIV and Hepatitis as well as staff, volunteers and board members of AIDS service organizations (ASOs), healthcare professionals, LGBT community, and social service workers, as a few examples from across the province to define solutions and build community resilience. Once participants are identified and signed on to the project, we would then plan to hold an initial teleconference with participants to gain some insight from their communities, express our challenges and discuss conducting a leadership skills inventory. Based on the skills inventory we would plan a second teleconference to begin to address leadership skills development in a rural context and create some homework for participants leading up to the KEHPF event in June.

**Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation**

37 Tannery Road, PO Box 730, Lunenburg NS B0J 2C0

Brooke Nodding, Executive Director [brooke@coastalaction.org](mailto:brooke@coastalaction.org)  
902-634-9977

**“Morton Centre Environmental Education Project: Sustainable Community Leadership Program for Youth”**

The Morton Centre Environmental Education Project aims to deliver environmentally-themed educational and recreational programs to children and youth in Lunenburg County. The project is developed and administered by Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation, with the site being provided by Acadia University. The Morton Centre, located on Heckman’s Island, near Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, is a 99-acre property comprised of multiple ecosystems, including forest, meadow, salt marsh, and shoreline. Basic infrastructure exists for summer staff and retreat visitors. A network of trails run across the property. The Morton Centre was gifted to Acadia University by Dr. Harry and

Rachel Morton in 1995. Their wish was to see the property protected and used for environmental research and education.

### **South-West Nova Transition House Association**

PO Box 842, Yarmouth NS B5A 4K5

Lisa Newell-Bain, Executive Director [junipered@eastlink.ca](mailto:junipered@eastlink.ca)  
902-742-4473

Melissa Vail, Children's Outreach Worker [juniperoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:juniperoutreach@gmail.com)  
902-740-0645

**Our project will engage young men in their school and community. Our project title is Guys Groupe.** A recent group started at Ecole Secondaire de Clare, a French High School, meets regularly to discuss identified needs. Our Children's Outreach Worker will meet with students in the group during lunch hour to support the development of their strengths and weaknesses. It will be a safe environment where the participants are able to have supported discussions and gain the skills and knowledge necessary to be leaders within the school and community.

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### **2013**

#### **Old School Community Gathering Place**

7962 Highway #7, Musquodoboit Harbour, NS B0J 2L0

Carole Jones, Treasurer [caroleandwyn@gmail.com](mailto:caroleandwyn@gmail.com)  
902-889-3533

**This project will enhance the Old School's ability to support current and developing leaders with an online community resource centre and complementary workshops.** The Old School is always looking for ways to strengthen the skills of people in the area to accomplish their goals, yet we also recognize the area of the Eastern Shore is very spread out. The project would have four main components: asset mapping of the leadership skills in our area; creation of a local talent database; creation of an online community leadership development resource centre; and development of a variety of sustainable locally-based workshops. The goal is to develop a variety of resources that will enable leadership development in our communities without the need for a fresh, annual injection of cash.

#### **Chester Municipal Heritage Society**

Box 628 Chester, NS B0J 1J0

Carol Nauss, Chair [canauss@tallships.ca](mailto:canauss@tallships.ca)  
902-275-3842

**This project entitled Musical Friends will develop rural community leadership skills for teens and young people in music, video production, skills implementation and community collaboration.** Musical Friends takes the form of project-based learning

which consists of building a boys and girls community choir, teaching participants the skills to produce and direct a music video, and the leadership skills to take the knowledge gained and implement it with community members within the scope of the project's ten months duration. This project addresses, head on, the barriers to participation experienced by many rural, at-risk populations, i.e. transportation, lack of money, hunger and motivation. By offering transportation and nourishing food, along with performing arts and video training, participants will find themselves in an environment that is conducive to full, unencumbered self-expression without the agony of vexing need.

### **Antigonish Women's Resource Centre and Sexual Assault Services Association**

Suite 204, 219 Main St., Antigonish, NS B2G 2C1

Laura Swaine, Program Coordinator [ruralyouthawrc@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:ruralyouthawrc@ns.sympatico.ca)  
902-863-6221

**This project for the Healthy Relationships for Youth Program (HRY) is a peer facilitated violence prevention program that serves predominantly rural populations in the Antigonish, Guysborough, Inverness, Richmond, Colchester/East Hants, South Shore, and Annapolis Valley Regions.** The HRY program consists of a series of twelve cumulative sessions within the grade 9 Health Curriculum that are delivered by trained youth facilitators. The interactive sessions are designed to reduce the risk of violence for youth by developing skills and knowledge about creating and maintaining healthy relationships. HRY has a diversity focus which helps students understand and make links among issues related to different forms of oppression, exclusion and violence prevalence. It uses a strengths-based approach which encourages students to develop a deeper understanding of diversity and to both recognize and challenge sexism, racism and homophobia as forms of violence that impact personal and social relationships.

### **Ecology Action Centre**

Department of Adult Education, St. Francis Xavier University  
120 Xavier Hall, 4545 Alumni Crescent, PO Box 5000, Antigonish, NS B2G 2W5

Mark Butler, Policy, Director [action@ecologyaction.ca](mailto:action@ecologyaction.ca)  
902-429-5287

**The project will convene a small group of people in Antigonish to develop our leadership capacity to foster a local green economy.** The project will revive the "kitchen table economics" study clubs of the Antigonish movement, where rural community members gathered in homes to learn about and act on local issues for the greater good. The group will learn about the concept of the green economy, how it is being developed internationally, and the "green shoots" already emerging in Nova Scotia. We will map the existing local economy, using both published data and local knowledge, and together investigate opportunities to encourage and enhance green enterprises in the community.

## Glance Bay Citizens Service League

150 Commercial St., Glance Bay, NS B1A 3C1

Susan Plath, Executive Director  
902-849-2733

**This project will build upon the work of CSL and the local Asset Development committee to re-establish the Asset Headquarters located at Citizen's Service League.** Developmental assets are fundamental "building blocks of healthy youth development". There are 40 developmental assets that are grouped into eight categories (1) support, (2) empowerment, (3) boundaries and expectations, (4) constructive use of time (5) commitment to learning, (6) positive values, (7) social competencies, and (8) positive identity. The asset headquarters will provide a supportive environment that promotes and enhances the skills, abilities and unique attributes of the whole community. The asset headquarters will bring people of all ages together to promote assets and create initiatives relevant to the people and other key stakeholders in the community of Glance Bay.

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## 2012

### The Canadian Association for Community Living

P.O. Box 119, Church Point, NS B0W 1M0

Kathy Jacques, Executive Director [caclclare@eastlink.ca](mailto:caclclare@eastlink.ca)  
902-769-3253

**This project will provide material and human resource support for the development, planning and execution of an interactive learning workshop for our local disabled youth titled "The Leader in You".** "The Leader in You" workshop aims at building a solid foundation of leadership skills for youths living with disabilities. More often than not these youths are marginalized and find themselves affected by a number of influences while trying to find and keep a meaningful place in their community. Some of these influences may not seem to be in their control. Many do not realize that this can be changed. It is critical that people with disabilities growing into adulthood learn to identify themselves with pride as individuals and as members of the community. By providing an atmosphere of encouragement, the participants, with common challenges and experiences, will have the opportunity to learn from one another. They will gain access to vital resources related to community support, and civil rights. Successful men and women with disabilities will serve as role models in helping youth realize their ability, right, and obligation to pursue meaningful employment and contribute to society.

### United Way of Colchester County

574 Prince Street, P.O. Box 32 Truro, NS B2N 5B6

Jennifer Spicer, Executive Director [ed@colchester.unitedway.ca](mailto:ed@colchester.unitedway.ca)  
902-895-9313

**This project will support the vision of the newly formed Colchester Volunteer Network (CVN). CVN represents local non-profit, volunteer or municipal recreation departments of Colchester County who are interested in supporting leadership in healthy, engaged communities which creates employment, skill development and improved quality of life.** The vision of CVN is to help Colchester County become a place where volunteers of all ages and abilities are informed, engaged, valued, celebrated and supported.

### **South-West Nova Transition House Association**

PO Box 842 Yarmouth NS B5A 4K5

Anne Robbins or Melissa Dulong, Executive Director/Children's Services Worker  
[junipered@eastlink.ca](mailto:junipered@eastlink.ca) or [juniperoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:juniperoutreach@gmail.com)  
902-742-8689

### **Our project will engage young men in leadership roles through peer mentorship.**

Juniper House has a bilingual Outreach Worker who will meet with a youth group created within École Secondaire de Par-en-Bas (ESPB) to identify specific needs of young men. ESPB is a French high school in the rural community of Tusket, Yarmouth County, NS. Grades 7 to 12 are encompassed in one school. The project will focus specifically on youth leadership for young men in the French school.

### **Sheet Harbour Sexual Health Center**

22756 Hwy. 7, Suite 216, Sheet Harbour, NS B0J 3B0

Vicki Rutledge, Executive Director [sheetharbourshc@hotmail.com](mailto:sheetharbourshc@hotmail.com)  
902-885-2789

**The goal of the project is to provide an opportunity for youth to develop skills which will help them advocate and create a youth friendly community.** This project already has the support of the many service providers serving youth in our community. The support is an essential part of the project and we anticipate this will only grow as the project gets under way and takes flight.

**The project is to start in February 2013 where there will be an open process to select ten youth to take the lead in developing a frame work for a Spring Youth Forum.** The Forum has already received support from the school's administration so it can be held during regular school hours. This will enable all youth attending Duncan MacMillan to participate in providing feedback on what a youth friendly community looks like. It will also alleviate the barrier of after school transportation in a community which currently has no public transportation. Part of the selection process of the youth will require the youth's commitment to attend a four day conference in May.

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2011

## Family Matters

10 Middle Street, RR#1, Lawrencetown NS B0S 1M0

Wendy Knowlton, Executive Director [edfamilymatters@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:edfamilymatters@ns.sympatico.ca)  
902-584-2210

**In the spring of 2011 a rural women's forum called *Using Our Influence—Let's Talk* met to examine the question:** *When have we been at our best living and working with women affected by substance abuse, gambling, violence and abuse?* These stories were used to find themes, dream local solutions, and make commitments that each of the 140 participants could use in their local community. The forum was evaluated with two questions: What difference has the last two days made to you? To your community? The responses were all positive, many expressing that the two days were the most meaningful conference in their professional careers. This process identified the need to have a similar event for young women that would allow them to develop local solutions for their age group.

**This project will involve training a dozen young women in the method of Appreciative Inquiry.** This is the same method that was so successful in the rural women's forum. Of these dozen women, a smaller number will be involved with the original planning committee for the forum. This committee is a partnership involving: Family Matters, family resource centre, Chrysalis House, transition house, Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women, NSCC School of Health and Human Services, and Acadia University, representatives from Mental Health and Addiction Services and Public Health in western Nova Scotia. With the expertise of the original planning group the young women will lead in planning a Using Our Influence forum for rural young women and girls. This would provide the opportunity for mentorship and encouragement of these young women from a group of older women who are leaders in their respective areas.

**The young women will be prepared to bring an appreciative inquiry lens to issues in their communities, particularly, substance abuse, gambling, violence and abuse experienced by young women.** The young women will identify their lessons learned as they reflect on their learning experiences both as facilitators and planning committee members with the original committee. The experience of working with a cohesive, creative, co-operative committee of older women in leadership positions will provide modeling and incidental learning of what it means to be a rural woman in leadership and how to communicate effectively.

## Maggie's Place: A Resource Centre for Families Association (Cumberland)

P.O. Box 1149, Amherst NS B4H 4L2

Carolyn d'Entremont, Executive Director [cdentremont.maggies@ns.aliantzinc.ca](mailto:cdentremont.maggies@ns.aliantzinc.ca)  
902- 667-7250

**This innovative project will help to bring about a stronger interconnected local food movement through community engagement and development of locally informed strategies.** As part of this project, Maggie's Place and community partners will organize a four day Leader "Train-the-Trainer" series in the spring of 2012 in Amherst. This training will bring together existing and new leaders from rural communities in Cumberland County to share skills, as well as provide valuable hands-on and field-related knowledge around community food issues. This training will provide tools and resources leaders need to engage rural communities in local food discussions called Kitchen Table Talks and to support ongoing community programming such as - food skills cooking sessions for local residents. Community Food Leaders will also partner with others to promote local agriculture and share knowledge and skills such as organic gardening, canning and preserving, cooking, seed saving, etc.

**Over the next year trained food leaders and partners will host community discussions called "Kitchen Table Talks" in four Cumberland County communities.** Discussions will involve several community stakeholders such as food consumers, local food growers, healthcare professionals, environmentalists and food activists, local seniors (e.g. – retired farmers, cooking and canning enthusiasts) local youth and schools. These discussions may lead to a community action plan for local community food issues, new partnerships, new projects and increased support for local farmers markets and community garden projects.

### **United Way of Colchester County**

574 Prince Street, P.O. Box 32 Truro NS B2N 5B6

Dawn Heintz, Executive Director [dheintz@colchester.unitedway.ca](mailto:dheintz@colchester.unitedway.ca)  
902-895-9313

**This 3 phase project will educate, inspire and engage both community organizations and individual volunteers.** Phase 1 of the project involves an 11 hour education opportunity for 20 people on Volunteer Management held in Truro in the Spring. The program includes practical ways to facilitate and lead volunteer management workshops for volunteers and community groups. This phase is more likely to appeal to local leaders of community organizations and groups and will better prepare them to recruit and retain volunteers. Phase 2 of the project offers three general information dine-and-learn sessions which will be open to interested community volunteers with the goal of assisting individuals to volunteer more effectively. Phase 3 of the project is a Volunteer Exposition (Fall 2012) which will provide an opportunity for the community groups and organizations, current and potential volunteers to gather together to celebrate community and to envision possible partnerships and collaborations.

**There is currently a gap in volunteer training and in opportunities for community organizations to gather.** This project may bring community groups together to prevent gaps or duplications in service.

**The project will increase volunteer satisfaction, recruitment and retention across a variety of groups.** There will be an increased sharing of resources, strategies and plans across the groups. This improved structure will benefit staff, volunteers and community.

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2010

### **YMCA of Cape Breton, Port Hawkesbury Branch**

606 Reeves Street, Port Hawkesbury NS B9A2R7

Stacey Clements, General Manager [stacey@cbyymca.com](mailto:stacey@cbyymca.com)  
902-625-4600

**Project Y's Leaders** (a Youth Leadership Development Program) will prepare young teens for a future of volunteering and involvement in their community. The goal is to give youth the tools they need to help them understand the importance of leadership, community action and volunteerism by developing the following skills: self-confidence, social conscience, leadership qualities, social and team-building skills, an understanding of what goals are, and how to set and achieve goals.

**This project will offer youth the chance to gain leadership experience;** connect youth with positive role models; foster youth - adult partnerships; engage students in service-learning projects; encourage youth to take an active role on the YMCA Advisory Committee as the Youth Representative; Build youth volunteers that may be interested in helping out with activities such as YMCA Day Camps, Peace Week Celebrations, the After School Program, and within other community organizations; develop a new generation of young leaders by building strong confident young individuals that know they can accomplish a task; and to increase commitment and investment in our youth from community organizations and businesses.

### **Hope for Wildlife Society**

5909 Hwy 207, RR#2 Site 14 Box 1, Head of Chezzetcook NS B0J 1N0

Allison Dubé, Coordinator [allisondube@gmail.com](mailto:allisondube@gmail.com)  
Rebecca Michelin, Education Coordinator [rebecca\\_michelin@hotmail.com](mailto:rebecca_michelin@hotmail.com)  
(902) 407-2223

**The goal of this project is to increase environmental leadership in youth aged 7-15 years** by teaching them about the connections that exist between wildlife and the environment and the effects human activity can have on these connections. The youth will be educated about the issues facing local habitats and how the everyday habits of humans can have either positive or negative effects. The youth will gain confidence in through camp activities that encourage decision making, problem solving and teamwork. They will improve public speaking skills by sharing thoughts and presenting ideas to the group. The youth will be challenged to promote positive change in the everyday habits of their families and friends, and to become community leaders in environmental change.

**This project will also improve the leadership skills of the young adults/ students who work as the camp leaders** as they direct the camp activities and solve any challenges that may arise.

### **Boys and Girls Club of Cole Harbour**

1237 Cole Harbour Road, Halifax NS B2V 1N1

Seana Jewer, Executive Director [chbgclub@eastlink.ca](mailto:chbgclub@eastlink.ca)  
902-462-7148

**The Global Tours Project allows youth to showcase what is great about their community** (Cherrybrook, North Preston, East Preston, Eastern Passage, Mineville, Lake Echo, and Lawrencetown). The participants will develop a sense of pride in their rural community and have the opportunity to connect with adult mentors. Youth often have negative attitudes about surrounding communities, especially between different racial groups. Global Tours allows youth to meet each other in a positive environment and help build communication to eliminate prejudice.

### **Antigonish County Adult Learning Association (ACALA)**

with Paq'tnkek First Nation Band Council  
220 Main Street, Suite 104, Antigonish NS B2G 2C2

Lise de Villiers, Executive Director [acala@srsb.ca](mailto:acala@srsb.ca)  
902-863-3060

### **The Elders' Day Activity Program at the Paq'tnkek First Nation Reserve**

Sheila Bernard is a member of the Paq'tnkek First Nations Reserve and is a graduate of the Antigonish County Adult Learning Association's GED and workforce literacy programs. She initiated a project which would enhance the leadership role of the Elders in her community by enabling them to meet on a regular basis and to make decisions for themselves. Her first step was to meet with 23 Elders from the community and to ask them what they would like to see happen in their community. Sheila took their suggestions, framed them into a project plan and then created partnerships with the Paq'tnkek Band Chief and Tribal Council and ACALA.

**An existing program, *Honoring Who We Are* allows the Elders to mentor the youth of the community** by sharing their stories and first-hand information about traditional medicine, hunting and fishing grounds / practices, and food preparation techniques in a series of workshops and engagement sessions. The two programs complement each other with the *Elders Day Activity Project* enabling Elders to focus on their own needs, and the *Honouring Who We Are Project* enabling them to focus on the traditional skills, knowledge and values they would like to pass on to the younger generation. On an individual basis they would be able to escape the isolation of always being stuck home alone; a majority of them live alone. As a group they would be able to enjoy their leisure time, and make a difference to the community.

**A full program, five times a week could be offered.** Three afternoons would be set aside for the Elders to socialize amongst themselves. Two workshop/engagement times would be set aside for the education of the youth, planning the activities and creating an Elder's calendar to celebrate the lives and stories of individual Elders, and include scheduled events and cultural information.

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**2009**

### **The United Way of Lunenburg County**

with the Lunenburg Queens Regional Development Agency  
220 North Street, Bridgewater NS B4V 2V6

Conor Falvey [lqvolunteerpartnership@gmail.com](mailto:lqvolunteerpartnership@gmail.com)  
902-543-0491

### **Lunenburg Queens Volunteer Partnership, Youth Leadership & Volunteerism Video**

A short (10 minute) promotional video will be produced, featuring local youth who have already assumed leadership roles in their communities and who can serve as role models to other youth. This video would be used not only by the LQVP, but copies will be distributed to their various community partners, local development agencies and municipalities, schools, teachers and the South Shore Regional School Board, in addition to all youth groups within the two counties. It can also be used as a tool to encourage many groups to recruit youth volunteers to their organizations. The video will be produced by a professional filmmaker, with guidance from the LQVP and a number of their partnering agencies. It will be featured on their website, a number of other volunteer and youth based sites, and through social media such as Facebook and YouTube. While it will be produced within the Lunenburg Queens area by youth in the area, it could also be available for use provincially and nationally. **The anticipated outcome of such a project is two- fold;** all communities would benefit from increased youth participation in the fabric of rural life, and youth would benefit both from the development of their individual leadership potential and the satisfaction of becoming a productive and valued member of their community.

### **St. Mary's River Association**

Box 179, Sherbrooke NS B0J 3C0

Sean Mitchell, Executive Director [smitchel@stfx.ca](mailto:smitchel@stfx.ca)  
902- 522-2099

### **Trailblazers – An After School Program in Sherbrooke, Nova Scotia**

The St. Mary's River Association is partnering with the Recreation Department of the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's and the Guysborough County Regional Development Authority (RDA) to develop an after-school program for elementary school age children (Grades 4-7) to be delivered one day per week between January and June,

2009. This is the initiation year of this program and we will be expanding to the local high school in 2010-2011. The SMRA is responsible for an outdoor education component, the Recreation Department for outdoor physical activity, and the RDA will work on developing leadership skills in the children. In this first year, 20 children will be involved in the program, and we plan to grow it to 20 elementary school children and 20 high school youth in 2011.

**The leadership skills being concentrated on this year are interacting with governance structures to achieve what you want** (i.e. introduce them to the power of advocacy to government). The focus will be Stonewall Park (a local Municipal Park which will be soon undergoing Acadian Forest Restoration). The children will be collecting information and participating in recreational activities in the park. In the spring they will go before Municipal Council to ask for an aspect of park improvement that they would like to see (e.g., placement of benches, garbage cans, more trails, etc.). To be effective they will need to be introduced to how the process of Municipal Government and public requests work. Due to concerns that they may ask for items that Council is unable to provide (a negative experience for the children), mid-way through the program the project will have them approach the SMRA Board of Directors to ask for fishing rod and tackle so that they can learn to fish. The SMRA will have the equipment and so the board will respond in the affirmative (a positive experience for the children). The goal is have the youth understand the power and process of interacting with government agencies to achieve goals. We believe that this is an innovative approach to teach the power of organized advocacy to youth; to supply them with a positive experience with an NGO, followed by a more unpredictable, real-world request of Municipal Government.

### **Two Planks and a Passion Theatre**

555 Ross Creek Road, Box 190, Canning NS B0P 1H0

Ken Schwartz, Artistic Director [artisticdirectors@twoplanks.ca](mailto:artisticdirectors@twoplanks.ca)  
902-582-3073

**The Youth Leadership Program** is designed to assist in the development of future Canadian leaders in our rural area by facilitating their development in the artistic milieu.

**This program will assist those who are not receptive or able to excel in academics and organized sport to find their own path to leadership with dignity and respect.** The Youth Leadership program completed a successful pilot program in 2009.

**The 2010 program will place 6 youth currently living in rural Nova Scotia with the opportunity to apprentice with existing leaders in the artistic community as they practice their craft.** The program will include hands-on experiences, meaningful mentorship, journal keeping and professional networking.

**Successful participants in this program will bring significant skills, ideas, and a renewed sense of purpose back to their schools, communities and organizations.** They will take leadership roles in their own self-directed projects, community endeavors and school government. They will possess enhanced communication skills,

organizational knowledge and professional networks that will assist them with their potential roles as leaders in their chosen fields, both artistic and otherwise.

**These participants will have an exponential impact on their communities.** These young leaders will demonstrate their potential and lead by example. Regardless of the background of the participants, this training has the capacity to move individuals from the margins of society into a leadership role.

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**2008**

**Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute Co-operative Limited**

9 Mount Merritt Road, Kempt, Queens County NS B0T 1B0

Amanda Lavers

**Project Empower! Creating a network for young environmental leaders in rural communities in the Southwest Nova Biosphere Reserve**

**Digby Area Learning Association**

P.O. Box 968, 53 Mount Street, Digby NS B0V 1A0

Sheri McBride

**Project EARL: Educating Adult Learners in Leadership**

**Bay St. Lawrence Community Centre**

Box 60, 3160 Bay St. Lawrence Road, Bay St. Lawrence NS B0C 1R0

Amy Fraser- MacKinnon

**Project: Seniors-Youth Volunteer Time Banking for Community Development**