

AGNEWS

Agriculture & Food Operations

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture



February 2017

Highlights Inside

- 2 Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission
- 4 Programs Updates/ Regional Offices
- 5 Select Nova Scotia/ Staff Profile
- 6 Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board
- 7 Perennia Update
- 8 Extended Learning – Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture/ 4-H Provincial News
- 11 Regional News
(custom pages)

Nova Scotia's Farm and Food Events Calendar

<http://nsfarmandfoodevents.com/>



Tractor Safety Courses

If you operate a tractor and farm machinery you know that safety is important. This course is designed to increase awareness and test competency of tractor operators with regards to safe operation and use of farm tractors and implements.

This following people can take this course:

- 14-16 year olds with a valid Nova Scotia Class 8 driver's license who want to be able to haul equipment on Nova Scotia roads and,
- Those with a valid class 5 driver's license who want to increase their tractor safety knowledge and skills.

Participants with a valid Nova Scotia Class 8 driver's license who successfully complete the course will receive a wallet card that enables them to operator a tractor with an attached implement on Nova Scotia Roads. Please note that the wallet card is valid for a farm tractor and trailer, if the combined weight of the vehicle combination weighs 14 000 kg or less.

Dates for Courses:

Truro - April 8 - 9 - Registration Deadline Friday, March 31.

Antigonish - April 29 - 30 - Registration Deadline Friday, April 21.

Port Williams - May 6 - 7 - Registration Deadline Friday, April 28.

- For more information and to register visit:
<https://www.dal.ca/faculty/agriculture/extended-learning/programs-courses/advanced-agricultural-skills/tractor-safety-.html>

Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission

Why should I have AgriInsurance?

As a producer, you are constantly faced with factors that are beyond your control. Things like adverse weather, disease, wildlife, and insect infestations can have a serious impact on your production and your income.

AgriInsurance, also referred to as Production Insurance or Crop Insurance, adds some predictability to your business. It protects you against the effects of yield reductions and crop losses caused by insured naturally occurring perils. Last year there were more than 23,000 acres, 15,644 dairy animals, and 48 million birds insured annually in Nova Scotia.

AgriInsurance helps you:

- Maintain your cash flow in poor crop years with claim payments that offset losses caused by crop damage or low yields.
- Manage your operation with a more predictable cash flow.
- Provide collateral required to secure loans.
- Stabilize your AgriStability program reference margin over time.
- Gain affordable peace-of-mind by paying a tax-deductible premium that is cost-shared with government.

Crop Insurance Application Deadlines for the 2017 Crop Year.

- Vegetable – March 14
- Spring Grain – March 14
- Acreage Loss (Vegetables) – March 31
- Potato – April 19
- Corn – April 30
- Maple – April 30
- Weather Plan – April 30
- Soybean (includes Canola and Sunflower) – May 19

All producers who hold an active contract of insurance will receive a Coverage Options letter(s) before the beginning of the crop year, for most of the above plans. This gives you an opportunity to choose your price and coverage level options for the upcoming growing season.

Advanced Payments Program

Reminder: If you are planning to apply for an advance through the Advance Payments Program (APP), keep the above application deadlines in mind. In many cases, the APP requires participation in Crop Insurance (or AgriStability) as a security for the advance. Late applications for Crop Insurance cannot be accepted after the above dates.

Dairy Producers

The Commission is able to write new coverage for Dairy Livestock at any time during the year. If you are interested in insuring your animals against disease, as well as loss of income from the sale of milk as a result of disease or fire, and building collapse due to ice and snow, it is not too late to apply for Dairy Insurance (includes all reportable diseases, as well as shipping fever and IBR, but does not include BSE and Foot and Mouth). To find out more give the Commission office a call.

Wildlife Compensation

The Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission administers a Wildlife Compensation Program for Nova Scotia farmers who experience losses of animals or crops as a result of uncontrollable wildlife. This program applies to specific livestock as a result of predation by specified wildlife. Similarly, specified crops are eligible for this compensation program. For complete details, including prices paid for losses and crop and livestock covered, visit our website at <http://novascotia.ca/agri/programs-and-services/financial-funding/crop-livestock-insurance/>

The Department of Natural Resources has valuable information on best practices to reduce damage from wildlife. This information can be found at: <http://novascotia.ca/natr/wildlife/living-with-wildlife/>.

Maple Producers

The Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission offers crop insurance for maple syrup production. This plan is available to all commercial maple producers to help them manage the risk of reduced yields due to natural perils. Any producers not currently signed up in the program can apply now for coverage for the 2017-18 crop year (the Feb-Mar 2018 harvest season). The deadline for application is April 30, 2017. Since April is a busy time in the maple woods, we encourage you to apply now to avoid missing the deadline. Since 2009, the Commission has paid indemnity claims totaling almost \$240,000 to all but one of our insured maple clients, due to adverse weather

Forage Producers

The Commission offers two plans for forage producers to help manage the risk in the crop from natural perils. These plans are a Forage Establishment Plan and a Weather Derivative Plan for forage production.

Forage Establishment Plan

The forage establishment plan protects against establishment failure in the first year of growth for grasses, alfalfa and other legumes. This plan covers losses from such things as winter injury, drought, insects, diseases, floods, excess moisture, frost and wind. The plan covers your new forage crop from the time of seeding up until May 31 of the following year. Seeding must be completed by July 1 for legumes and legume/grass mixes and by September 1 for grasses. The deadline to apply for this insurance is October 15, but you can apply as soon as your crop is seeded. When you apply after your seeding date, an inspection is required before coverage will be offered. This plan offers three levels of coverage which are \$300/acre (producer premium \$9.25/acre) \$200/acre coverage (producer premium - \$6.25/acre) and \$100/acre coverage (producer premium = \$3.25/acre).

Weather Plan for Forage

This plan targets crop losses related to weather events. It guarantees 80% of the average long term rainfall (mm) at a designated local weather station over a period of time (May 1 - August 31). An optional Quality Rider is also available for excessive rainfall in the month of June during prime harvest time. Managed pastures and stored forage acreage can be insured. The Weather Derivative Plan for Forage provides a guarantee of 80% of the long term average rainfall (30 year averages). A producer can choose 2, 3 or 4

months of drought coverage between May 1 and August 31. Any or all of the managed forage and/or pasture on your farm can be insured for up to \$288 per acre.

With the Quality Rider, when three consecutive days of rainfall of at least 5mm are recorded, a payment of 20% of your guarantee is triggered. Producers can receive up to two payments under this quality rider during the month of June. For the weather plan, rainfall measurements are based on the recorded rainfall from sites around the province, primarily at Environment Canada weather stations. Producers select the site nearest their farm. This plan differs from other insurance plans since there are no yield measurements required. Once a drought or excess rainfall event occurs, based on Environment Canada weather statistics, a payment is triggered. For more information, including the cost sharing with government for these programs, contact one of our offices.

Have You Reported Your Yield for 2016?

To provide accurate coverage to our clients, the Commission needs your harvested yield report for 2016. If clients do not report their actual yield, the Commission assumes you have harvested at least the guaranteed production listed on your Certificate of Insurance. In years where you had very good production and where you do not report to the Commission, you are missing an opportunity to have this reflected in your yield history. What this means for you is that in a future claim year, your claim may not be as much as it could have been if the good experience was properly reported. To ensure you have the best coverage possible, be sure to accurately report your yields.

New Plan for Vegetable Growers

A new plan called the Crop Insurance Plan for Acreage Loss was offered for the first time in 2016.

This plan differs from the current vegetable plan because it is not based on a guaranteed yield but rather a guarantee value per acre of crop grown. If the crop cannot be harvested because of an insurable peril a payment can be made for the entire acreage lost. Any abandoned acres must be destroyed to obtain a payment.

If you are interested in learning more about this plan or for information on any of our insurance plans, contact the Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission at:
1-800-565-6371 Toll Free, 902-893-6370 Truro, or
902-679-6015 Kentville, or visit our website at:

<http://novascotia.ca/agri/programs-and-services/financial-funding/crop-livestock-insurance/>

You can also visit our offices at:

74 Research Drive, Suite 215
Perennia Innovation Park
Bible Hill, NS B6L 2R2.

Agricultural Centre
Kentville, NS B4N 1J5

Programs and Business Risk Management

Next Policy Framework Consultations

Growing Forward 2 comes to an end March 31, 2018. Federal, provincial and territorial governments are currently working together to develop the next agricultural policy (NPF) framework which will launch on April 1, 2018. FPT governments and industry share a collective vision of creating a modern, sustainable and prosperous sector. The Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture (NSDA) will be seeking your feedback on the next suite of programs. NSDA will be holding consultation sessions across the province in the coming months as well as creating an on-line option for submitting your feedback. More detailed information on how to submit your feedback will be made available soon.

The NPF will focus on six priority areas, Markets and Trade; Science, Research and Innovation; Risk Management; Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change; Value Added Agriculture and Agri-Food Processing; and Public Trust. More information about the principles and priority areas of the NPF can be located in the Calgary Statement at

<http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/about-us/key-departmental-initiatives/developing-the-next-agricultural-policy-framework/calgary-statement-towards-the-next-policy-framework/?id=1468864509649>

Proposal Writing Workshops

The Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture will be hosting proposal writing workshops to help clients strengthen proposal writing skills and provide clarity around the key elements of a successful proposal.

These sessions will be open to all clients who would like to build on their proposal writing skills when applying for project funding and/or financial assistance and would be of further interest to those that have been invited to submit full proposals to the Department of Agriculture funding programs.

The date for these is to be confirmed. In the meantime, if you have specific questions about proposals you are currently preparing, please contact the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture Business Development Officer in your region.

- Kentville- Jeff Wentzell - 902-824-0924
- Sydney - Jeff Hennessey - 902-563-2418
- Truro - Danny Small - 902-956-4463

• Your Regional Agricultural Offices

Extension and Outreach

Ruth Grant, Manager

Truro Office

East Hants, Cumberland, Colchester and Halifax Counties:

Tel: 902-893-6575 Fax: 902-893-2757

Karley Hewitt - Admin. Assistant
Michael Kittilsen - Agricultural Resource Coordinator
Jacqueline Hoyt - Agriculture Leadership Coordinator
Danny Small and Christina Jones - Business Development Officers
Rebecca Sooksom - Agricultural Transition Officer

Antigonish Office

Pictou, Antigonish and Guysborough Counties:

Tel: 902-863-4705 Fax: 902-863-7342

Laureen Boyd - Admin. Assistant
Dawn Barrington-Hodgson - Agriculture Leadership Coordinator
Terri MacPherson - Agricultural Transition Officer
Adam Wile - Agricultural Resource Coordinator

Sydney Office

Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness and Richmond Counties:

Tel: 902-563-2000 Fax: 902-563-3435

Catherine Plumridge - Admin. Assistant
Gary Koziel - Agricultural Resource Coordinator
Marina Gillis and Rhonda MacDougall - Agriculture Leadership Coordinators
Jeff Hennessey - Business Development Officer
Cheryl Chandler - Resource Coordinator (Mabou)

Kentville Office

West Hants, Kings, Lunenburg and Queens Counties:

Tel: 902-679-6021 Fax: 902-679-6062

Cheryl Theriau, Admin. Assistant
Brian MacCulloch - Agricultural Resource Coordinator
Ross MacNeil - Agriculture Leadership Coordinator, South Shore
Colin Hirtle - Agriculture Leadership Coordinator, Valley
Ronald Young - Agricultural Transition Officer
Jeff Wentzell - Business Development Officer

Cornwallis Office

Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne Counties:

Tel: 902-638-2395 Fax: 902-638-2389

Gina Chapelhow - Admin. Assistant
Kari Brown - Agriculture Leadership Coordinator
Terry McKay - Agricultural Resource Coordinator
Nicole Burkhard - Agricultural Transition Officer

Select Nova Scotia

Select Nova Scotia is a program developed by the Province of Nova Scotia to encourage



Nova Scotians to shop and buy locally. Select Nova Scotia promotions and campaigns raise consumer awareness about Nova Scotia food, food products and seafood, locally made goods and locally owned and operated businesses.

Look for our booth at the upcoming Saltscapes Expo, the largest consumer lifestyle show in Atlantic Canada.

Show dates are April 21 - 23 in Halifax. We'll be engaging with the public, distributing recipes and information.

Do you have a consumer ready, shelf-stable, branded product that is readily available to the general public?
Are you interested in exhibiting for one day at the show?
Contact Select Nova Scotia to discuss opportunities.

Also, don't miss out - make sure your agricultural, food or beverage business is listed on our website! Let consumers know who you are, and where to buy your products.

To receive a registration code, or for more information, contact:

Claire Hanlon Smith
Coordinator, Select Nova Scotia
Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture
Phone: 902-893-4491
Email:
Claire.HanlonSmith@novascotia.ca
<http://www.selectnovascotia.ca/>
<https://www.facebook.com/selectns/>

NSDA Staff Profile

Dr. Laura Ross - Award Winning Pathologist

In early December Dr. Laura Ross, a veterinary pathologist working with Agricultural Protection at the Provincial Animal Health Laboratory in Truro traveled to New Orleans, Louisiana to attend the American College of Veterinary Pathologists annual meeting.

Dr. Ross was awarded the 2016 Charles Louis Davis and Sam

The Foundation has presented this award since 1976 to recognize veterinary pathology residents from across North America who demonstrate excellence in the field of pathology.



Dr. Ross was nominated for the award based her work ethic, performance, and diagnostic capabilities, including her research investigating causes of mortality in farmed mink in Atlantic Canada. The award was presented by Dr. Fabio Del Piero of Louisiana State University and Dr. Jey Koehler of Auburn University. Congratulations Laura.

Agriculture Day
Saturday, March 25th, 2017
8:30am - 3:30pm at the Best Western Cookville

FARMING 101

Topics Include: Research • Plan the Work • Networking / Tradeshow • Marketing 101
• Farmer Testimonials • Minister of Agriculture Address • Resource Considerations
• Panel Discussion - Agriculture Opportunities on the South Shore

Space is limited...
reserve your seat now!
registration@growsouthwestnovascotia.ca
902-354-5741
www.growsouthwestnovascotia.ca

THINK FARM
Department of Agriculture
CHESTER
NOVA SCOTIA
South Shore Opportunities

Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board's Lending Staff

Western Nova Scotia - Serving Hants West, Kings, Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth, Shelburne, Queens, Lunenburg, Halifax

Heather Montgomery, Loans Manager

Office: 902-679-6010 Email: Heather.Montgomery@novascotia.ca
Heather Montgomery began in the Loans Manager position in March of 2016. Heather brings more than twenty years of lending experience serving clients in all commodities within our agriculture community.

Andrew Kellock, Senior Loans Officer

Office: 902-679-6008 Email: Andrew.Kellock@novascotia.ca
Andrew joined the Farm Loan Board 4 years ago after an extensive career in commercial banking. He has particular expertise and experience in horticulture and vineyard development projects.

Central Eastern - Serving Colchester, Cumberland, Pictou, Antigonish, Guysborough, Inverness, Richmond, Cape Breton

Erin Sears, Loans Officer

Office: 902-893-8178 Email: Erin.Sears@novascotia.ca
Erin recently joined the Farm Loan Board lending team. She comes from a horticultural farm background and owns a livestock farm along with her husband in Stewiacke, Colchester County. She has practical skills and knowledge and is an excellent advisor to farm clients.

Paul Arnfast, Loans Officer

Office: 902-893-6503 Email: Paul.Arnfast@novascotia.ca
Paul has been providing lending services for 10 years with the Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board. Paul has focused heavily on greenhouse and dairy farm lending over the years.

John Murray, Special Credit Loans Officer

Office: 902-893-4701 Email: John.Murray@novascotia.ca
John is currently in the role of Special Credit Loan Officer. John assists to action recovery solutions that work for both clients and the board.

Kris MacEachern, Loans Manager

Office: 902-896-4310 Email: Kristopher.MacEachern@novascotia.ca
Kris is the further processing loans manager for both farm and fisheries and aquaculture clients. If you are looking at further processing for your agriculture produce, Kris can discuss various financing options.

We are all excited to work with current and new clients to help your businesses succeed and to assist you with the planning that lies ahead. Farm Loan Board has been your trusted financial partner for more than 80 years. Staff want to get to know you, visit your farm and help with your plans to help you reach your goals. We hope you will not hesitate to contact us to discuss any of your lending needs.



**Nova Scotia
Farm Loan Board**

Interest Rates

As of January 1, 2017 (applicable to loans approved on or after this date while these rates remain in effect)

Length (years)	Full Term	*10-Yr. Term	*5-Yr. Term	*3-Yr. Term
1-5	3.20%		3.20%	2.85%
6-10	3.80%	3.80%	3.55%	3.05%
11-15	4.55%	4.20%	3.65%	3.25%
16-20	5.05%	4.60%	3.70%	3.25%
21-25	5.45%	4.65%	3.75%	3.30%
26-30	5.70%	4.65%	3.75%	3.30%

* 3, 5 and 10 year term rates available to clients meeting risk, cashflow, and collateral requirements.

The Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board supports agricultural development such as: property purchase / improvements, construction, machinery / quota / stock purchase, financial restructure, and farm transition. The Board is committed to helping you with your individual financial needs.

A Loans Officer will also have information concerning programs and other services offered by Nova Scotia Agriculture.

Call or visit a Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board office:

Truro 893-6506

74 Research Drive, Bible Hill

Kentville 679-6009

Kentville Agricultural Centre, 32 Main Street

novascotia.ca/farmloan



Largest Ever Offering of Food Safety Training Courses

Perennia's food safety team is offering 20 courses as part of its public training calendar for 2017 – the largest number of courses it has ever offered in one season. All courses are held at the Perennia Innovation Centre in Bible Hill, Nova Scotia. For the complete list or to register, please visit www.perennia.ca/events

BRC Global Standard for Food Issue 7 – Understanding the Requirements – March 28-29, 2017

This course gives technical, quality and operations staff from manufacturers, retailers, and food service companies a clear understanding of the protocols and requirements of the BRC Global Standard for Food Safety, Issue 7, including audit planning and the events during and after the audit.

Before the course you must have read and reviewed a copy of the Standard. At the end of the course you will be assessed by an exam.

Registration deadline: March 14, 2017

BRC: Internal Auditor – March 30-31, 2017

This two-day course will enable you to undertake internal audits and prepare companies for third party audits. It's delivered via a series of workshop-led discussions, presentations and in interactive case study. During the live case study, you will be given feedback and support to enable you to carry out an audit at your own workplace. You will be assessed throughout the course (50%) and you will also need to undertake a workplace audit and submit an audit report for assessment (50%). You will need to gain a 75% pass for this assessment.

Registration deadline: March 16, 2017

Environmental Monitoring and Microbiology – April 10, 2017

Monitoring the food processing environment is of paramount importance for regulatory compliance and to meet the requirements of Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) standards.

Individuals responsible for facility environmental monitoring must have a good understanding of the critical areas of manufacturing and should be able to compile and interpret lab results and implement a system in which the results are trended. This one-day training program covers best practices in design of environmental monitoring programs, parameters around testing, sampling methods, data interpretation and environmental indicators.

Registration deadline: March 27, 2017

Listeria Hazard and Control – April 11, 2017

Protect consumers, your product and your business by eliminating and preventing *Listeria monocytogenes* in your facility. An effective *Listeria* sampling program will detect *Listeria*, and outline corrective actions. Understand the nature of the hazard and means for controlling it in order to protect consumer health. In this workshop, you will have the opportunity to develop and improve your *Listeria* monitoring program.

Registration deadline: March 28, 2017

Beeline Back in Operation and Newsletter

Perennia's Beeline is back in operation! This has been a great resource over the years for people with hives to rent and those needing pollinators. Visit <http://www.perennia.ca/fieldservices/honey-bees-and-pollination/beeline/> to access the list or call 1-866-606-4636 (toll-free), Monday to Friday, 8:00-4:30 PM.

Our bee team of Robyn McCallum and Cameron Menzies have also just issued a new What's the Buzz newsletter. Visit Farming > Honey Bees and Pollination and look for What's the Buzz or read it here:

<http://www.perennia.ca/fieldservices/honey-bees-and-pollination/whats-buzz-newsletter-2/> Expect their Spring Management Guide soon!

Perennia Innovation Centre Online Tour Site Launched

Perennia Food and Agriculture Inc. has just launched a website focused on provided a more in depth look at its Innovation Centre in Bible Hill. Visitors can see the labs and pilot lab, and equipment in photos, and can view a short view tour of the facilities. Visit the site at www.perennia.ca/tour The centre's pilot plant is going through the process of being upgraded to CFIA certification standards so items produced there can be exported. Stay tuned for more news on this front!

Modern Beekeeper

The only course of its kind in the Atlantic Region.

The course offers new and experienced beekeepers hands-on production skills and beekeeping knowledge timed specifically to the annual beekeeping cycle. The Modern Beekeeper will give you the skills and knowledge to expand your operation and prepare you for becoming a successful commercial beekeeper.

Module 1 - [The Busyness of Bees \(Sat/Sun March 18 & 19, 2017\)](#)

Module 2 - [Bee Hive and Health \(Sat/Sun May 13 & 14, 2017\)](#)

Module 3 - [3Ps of Bees \(Sat/Sun June 24 & 25, 2017\)](#)

Module 4 - [Bee Maintenance and Business Growth \(Sat/Sun Sept 9 & 10, 2017\)](#)

Meat Cutting Course

Red Meat Cutting Basics will run over 3 days, covering basic cutting and breaking techniques for beef, pork, and lamb. Participants will learn to identify primal, sub-primal and retail cuts, along with their origin, use, relative value, and preparation techniques. They will also learn how to select, use, sharpen and maintain tools/equipment for boning and cutting, and how to package and display meats using common packaging materials. Regulatory requirements and appropriate procedures for sanitation/meat handling in a functional meat processing facility will be integrated into the training.

March 27-29, 2017- Dalhousie Agricultural Campus

Bulk Milk Graders Course

The course provides the training necessary for both Bulk Milk Tank Drivers and Dairy Receivers to be licensed by the N.S. Department of Agriculture.

It is offered over a three-day period with a combination of theoretical and hands-on learning. Participants must achieve a 70% score on both the written and grading exams to receive certification.

May 17 - 19, 2017 – Dalhousie Agricultural Campus

Bulk Milk Refreshers Course

The Bulk Milk Grader Recertification Course provides an opportunity for Certified Drivers and Receivers to update their bulk milk grading skills. Certified Bulk Milk Graders in Nova Scotia are required to re-certify every 5 years. This course is approved by the N.S. Department of Agriculture to meet these criteria.

May 19th, 2017 2:30 – 4:30 pm at the Dalhousie Agricultural Campus

Pesticides Applicator's Certification

This four-day course is excellent preparation if you are writing the Pesticide Applicator's Examination. You will learn the basic principles and practices of safe use, handling and storage of pesticides. Information is presented about the ground application of pesticides but does not include aerial spraying.

April 10-13, 2017- Dalhousie Agricultural Campus

DAL AC

Website: <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/agriculture/extended-learning/programs-courses.html>

E-mail: extended.learning@dal.ca **Phone:** 902.893.6666

4-H Provincial News

Atlantic 4-H Conference to Be Held in Debert

The Atlantic Intermediate 4-H Conference

Journey 2050 will host 100 4-H members from March 24 - 26 at the Debert Hospitality Centre. Senior 4-H members ages 14 - 21 will come together for a hands-on, brains-in conference where video games will become reality and their 4-H club will play a starring role.

This interactive conference is designed to energize the 4-H members, build leadership skills, get them thinking about global food sustainability and their role in helping feed the world.

Whether they are involved at the club, community or national level, the delegates will be able to take something home. Amazing professional speakers, interesting tours at the Dalhousie Agricultural Campus and on line play of the Journey 2050 game will provide the 4-H members with both a weekend filled with thought provoking ideas and the spirit to make a difference.



4-H Members Can Apply for Scholarships

4-H members are encouraged to apply for the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, 4-H Nova Scotia and the George MacNeil 4-H Entrance Scholarships. The deadline for these provincial scholarships is April 1. Please ask the Agricultural Leadership Coordinator for these applications. National 4-H scholarships are found at 4-H Canada <https://4-h-canada.ca/GrantsScholarshipsandAwards>

4-H Members to Showcase Communication Skills at Annual 4-H Weekend

Many 4-H members say that they credit the 4-H program for developing their communication skills, including listening and speaking skills to build self-confidence and poise. On May 5-6, 2017 4-H members from across Nova Scotia will compete in provincial public speaking and demonstration competitions at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in Bible Hill.

The event hosts 250 4-H members and families from across the province and besides communication contests, 4-H members compete in the woodsman competition and the Nova Scotia Horse Classic.

On Saturday May 6, the NSAC Alumni Theatre will be the venue for 4-H Night in Nova Scotia, a finale that showcases talented 4-H members and presents the top overall communication winners and county entertainment as part of the evening program. 4-H members and leaders who have won 4-H Canada National 4-H Travel Awards and the winners of the provincial competitions are recognized. The public is welcome to attend all the weekend events to see the 4-H life skills program in action.



Two Nova Scotia 4-H Members Win Prestigious Loran Scholarship

The 4-H program is based on teaching leadership skills, encouraging service within communities and developing strong, self-confident young people. So with very impressive resumes, it is only fitting that Janine Lock, Richmond County and Kerilyn Kennedy, Antigonish County have been awarded the prestigious Loran scholarship.

Chosen from 4,438 applicants, these exceptional young ladies were two of the 33 Canadians to win this award in 2017. They will receive \$100,000 to fund their university education. While academic achievement is part of the selection process the Loran scholarship also focuses on the character of a young person, service to their community and their leadership potential.

Loran recipients also receive four years of one on one mentorship, an annual stipend of \$10,000, access to \$10,000 for summer internships and opportunities to interact with other Loran scholars at annual retreats.

Janine credits her experience in 4-H for helping her win the award. "Over the years I have been in 4-H I have learned a lot about leadership, teamwork, agriculture, entrepreneurship, public speaking and much, much more! 4-H also opened me to several opportunities such as camp, workshops and the US National 4-H Conference (Washington). I truly believe a large part of my success is the 4-H program, so I would like to thank everyone who makes 4-H the wonderful program it is!"

In 4-H, Janine has taken various 4-H projects, is currently president of the County Line 4-H Club and a junior 4-H leader. Competitive horseback riding is a hobby of hers. Janine has also created games for children who spend long hours riding the bus to school, is on the curling and soccer teams, played trombone in the school band and worked doing lawn care and snow removal.

Kerilyn is a dairy member in the Landing 4-H Club and has been teaching athletic and life skills to children as a volunteer with various programs. For the past five years, she has been the captain of several sports teams, a weekly breakfast program volunteer and a member of the 4-H club. Kerilyn also assists a student with disabilities. She works on a dairy farm and for a catering company.

The 4-H program provides young people with leadership development opportunities that cultivate creativity, community service, teamwork and entrepreneurship skills and contributes to the success of future agriculture and business leaders. Congratulations to Janine and Kerilyn on winning this remarkable educational opportunity.

St. FX to Host First Annual 4-H Leadership Development Conference

4-H Nova Scotia, StFX 4-H Student Society, and St. Francis Xavier University are proud to develop and host what will become an annual *4-H Leadership Development Conference*. Each year, senior 4-H members from across the Atlantic region will be invited to the St. FX campus in Antigonish. As suggested by our conference motto, **Learn to Lead by Leading**, these active and engaged rural youth will be introduced to a variety of workshops and activities that will challenge their perception of leadership and give them the tools and skills necessary to become strong leaders in their clubs, their communities, and their country.

Each year, the conference will focus on one of 4-H Canada's *Pillars of Leadership Development*. The 2017 Conference, which will take place June 27-29, focuses on leadership in **Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security**. In keeping with this theme, conference participants will gain a larger appreciation for the food grown and consumed locally, be introduced to sustainable agricultural practices, learn ways of improving nutrition and food security, and be empowered to share their newly gained knowledge with those in their home communities throughout Atlantic Canada.

The conference workshops and events are developed by members of the St. FX 4-H Student Society, a group of enthusiastic 4-H alumni who study at the university. These events will be facilitated by an interdisciplinary group of leaders including St. FX faculty and students in the Faculties of Arts, Science and Business Administration, the McKenna Centre for Leadership, the Coady International Institute, and members of the broader Antigonish community. The inclusion of such a diverse group will ensure that participants will leave well prepared to be the next leaders of Atlantic Canada's agriculture industry and its associated sectors.

Conference Highlights:

Day 1

Welcome Dinner: Participants prepare a meal made exclusively with local food with the guidance of the Human Nutrition Department faculty and interns

Day 2

-Bethany New Growers Program: Hands on activities related to gardening, beekeeping, and foraging

-Amazing Green Race: Scavenger hunt for "green" space and academic programs at St. FX

-Hunger Banquet at the Coady International Institute and Sociology of Agriculture: Exploration of food insecurity and poverty in Canada and around the world

-Keynote: Self-actualization workshop

Day 3

-McKenna Centre Leadership Workshops: Minesweeping and Asset Based Community Development and 4-H leadership development brainstorming for 4-H projects related to the 2017 Leadership Pillar, Agricultural Sustainability and Food Security.

Applications will be available soon. For more information please contact your regional Agriculture Leadership Coordinator.

Annual Kevin Grant Tour Introduces 4-H Members to Career Opportunities

Ten 4-H members are participating in the ninth annual Kevin Grant Rural Youth Leadership Tour from March 13 - 15.

Kevin Grant was a long time 4-H member and public servant who supported the Nova Scotia 4-H program. His legacy lives on through this tour. Over the last eight years this leadership tour presented 4-H members with a first-hand look at the diverse resource-based businesses in various communities throughout the province and allowed them to think about future careers in a rural setting.

This year the three day tour will give 4-H members between the ages of 14 and 17, the opportunity to meet business, agriculture and community leaders in the Western Region, including Yarmouth, Annapolis and Digby counties. Tours and presentations with a business, agriculture and industry format gives participants a broader perspective on career opportunities. It also strengthens their appreciation of and connection to rural communities. 4-H members will tour a greenhouse, dairy farm, mink ranch, organic market garden, sheep farm and Acadian Seaplants.

The 4-H members participating in the 2017 Kevin Grant Rural Youth Leadership Tour are:

- Olivia Haight, Digby County
- Alex Thorne, Cape Breton County
- Brianna Carver, Kings County
- Cassandra Goulden and Jacob Foster, Lunenburg County
- Magali Kirkbright, Halifax-East Hants
- Elizabeth Heighton, Pictou County
- Allison Perry, Yarmouth County
- Mackenzie West, Kings County
- Shamus Thomson, Antigonish County

Regional News Cape Breton: Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness and Richmond Counties

Road Safety Workshop

March 16, St Mike's Hall in Baddeck
– 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

A highly interactive session on understanding transportation guidelines for farmers put on by Farm Safety Nova Scotia. To register please call Catherine at 902-563-2000.

Pesticide Recertification Course - Cape Breton

A course could be offered in mid-April if there are enough people interested.

This course is eligible for five points under the Nova Scotia Department of Environment pesticide recertification program. Participants are asked to bring pencil/pen, a calculator and their current pesticide license. **Please contact Jim to register at 902-538-7101 or email marbicon@eastlink.ca.**

Pesticide Certification Course to prep for writing Pesticide Exam

The full course normally runs 1 1/2 days, with the exam offered on the afternoon of the second day by a Nova Scotia Environment representative. Otherwise the candidates would have to set up writing the exam on their own time. We would need at least 10 people in the class

Instructor provides all learning materials including manual. The instruction can be modified to suit most certificates (agriculture, landscape, greenhouse, forestry, etc.), depending on who is registered. The course usually runs 9:00 a.m. -4:30 p.m.

Instructor... Jim Jotcham has been professionally working with pesticides since 1979 and has been offering pesticide training courses and workshops since 1990. Jim is knowledgeable about the latest products and has the necessary hands-on experience to make this a most entertaining and instructive course.

For more information or to register, contact the NSDA office at 902- 563-2000.

Sprayer Calibration session with Peter Burgess – May 2017 in Mabou and Millville. Call 902-563-2000 to register.

Forklift Certification – based on demand – May 2017 in Millville. For more details call Gary at 902-563-2000.

Small Steps, Great Distances Junior Member Workshop

4-H junior members from all over Cape Breton had junior member workshop sessions on February 2 at the Civic Centre in Port Hawkesbury and at the Sydney YMCA on Saturday, February 25. These workshops gave our junior members the opportunity to polish their team building and leadership skills to help them through their 4-H year. The workshops focused on interactive activities and lots of opportunities to meet other youth from all over the island. Topics include learning about project judging, entrepreneurship in action and team building through games, agriculture awareness and physical recreation time. The workshops were open to 4-H members 7-13 years old and youth outside the program.

4-H Camp Rankin Spotlight

Bordering the Bras d' Or Lakes at Cape George, eight miles from St. Peter's, Camp Rankin is situated on 60 acres of land. Camp Rankin is the first 4-H camp to be built in Atlantic Canada. This 4-H camp has made many memories over the years and will into the future. Some features of the camp are a large playing field, a campfire hearth, hiking trails, and a beach.

4-H members between the ages of nine to fifteen spend six fun-filled days with fellow 4-H'ers. There are a variety of educational activities for campers. In addition, 4-H'ers are responsible for housekeeping chores. Each day ends with a chapel service by the camp-fire, sing-song, and lunch. What members can learn at camp include sessions on Drama, Nature Studies, 4-H Trivia, Canoeing, Recreation Activities, Arts and Crafts and much more.

Acceptance is on a first-come-first-serve basis, so apply early! Contact your 4-H General Leader for application deadlines and scholarship opportunities.

Giant Broccoli Competition

This year 4-H members will take on the challenge across the province to grow their own giant broccoli for the giant vegetable competition.

The broccoli will be judged by weight with all leaves removed and no more than 1 inch of main stem left which will be measured from the last floret.

Junior and senior members from each county are eligible to enter this competition at county level. Members do not need to be in the garden project to get involved. Top junior and senior members will be able to represent their counties at this year's 4-H Show in Lawrencetown. Let's get those seeds in the soil and see what we can grow!

Upcoming Food Handler Courses

Our provincial food safety specialists are employed by Nova Scotia Environment and are certified by the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors. They are also certified as Food Safety Professionals by the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA).

As in the past, they continue to provide food handling courses to the public. Here is a list of upcoming sessions in the region.

Antigonish

April 26, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.,
Saint Ninians Place, Rm. 021

Port Hawkesbury

June 6, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.,
Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre, 606 Reeve St

Sydney

March 15, April 19, May 17 and June 21, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.,
Grand Lake Rd. Fire Hall, 793 Grand Lake Road.

Note that special three-hour version of the course is available to volunteer groups exceeding 25 people at no charge. Contact your local field office for scheduling at 90-563-2100.

Upcoming 4-H Dates

- Inverness County Rally - April 1 -Port Hood Hosting
- Regional Rally - April 8, Baddeck
- Cape Breton County Judging Days -May 16 & 17
- Richmond County Judging Day - May 18
- Inverness County Judging Day - May 25
- Victoria County Judging Day - May 29, 4:00- 6:00 p.m., Baddeck Forks Hall
- Lakeside 4-H Achievement Day - May 29

Additional dates and program will be announced as event are formalized.

For more information about the 4-H program, to start a club in your area, or to have us arrange training/workshops, please contact:

Marina Gillis in Sydney at (phone) 563-2000; (fax) 563-3435, email: Marina.Gillis@novascotia.ca or

Rhonda MacDougall in Mabou at (phone)945-2901; (fax)945-2858 email: Rhonda.MacDougall@novascotia.ca



Tax Time on the Farm

Are you new to the business of farming and looking for more information on how to file your farm taxes? THINKFARM has invited MGM & Associates Chartered Accountants to provide advice on tax-related topics such as reporting farm income, claiming expenses, calculating depreciation, claiming and charging HST, calculating payroll deductions, enrolling in AgriInvest and AgriStability, and more!

March 21, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., NS
Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Boardroom, Beech Hill, Antigonish

March 22, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., Nova Scotia
Department of Natural Resources Strathlorne Forest Nursery

March 28, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., North Sydney
Exhibition Grounds, North Sydney

Regional News Eastern: Antigonish, Guysborough and Pictou Counties

Road Safety Workshop

March 16, 7:00pm to 9:00pm
Antigonish Agricultural Office in
Beech Hill. A highly interactive
session on understanding
transportation guidelines for farmers
put on by Farm Safety Nova Scotia.
To register please call Lauren at
902-863-7180.

The 1st Annual Antigonish/Guysborough Goat Show

will be held July 8 at
the fairgrounds in Antigonish.
The show will also be open to 4-H
members. It is hoped to have
someone who can classify for those
wishing to participate. Anyone
interested can email Ashley
Armsworthy at
wildorchidfarm@gmail.com.

The show schedule for *All For
Horses Association* for the upcoming
season at the Antigonish Fair
Grounds: June 3 -4, July 29-30, and
Sept 23-24.

Pesticide Recertification Course – Antigonish

A course could be offered in mid-
April if there are enough people
interested. This course is eligible for
five points under the Nova Scotia
Department of Environment
pesticide recertification program.
Participants are asked to bring
pencil/pen, a calculator and their
current pesticide license. **Please
contact Jim to register at 902-
538-7101 or email
marbicon@eastlink.ca.**

Pesticide Certification Course to prep for writing Pesticide Exam

The full course normally runs a day
and a half, with the exam offered on
the afternoon of the second day by a
Nova Scotia Environment
representative. Otherwise the
candidates would have to arrange to
write the exam on their own time.

Ten 10 people are needed to sign up for the class for it to happen.

The instructor provides all learning materials including the manual. The instruction can be modified to suit most certificates (agriculture, landscape, greenhouse, forestry, etc.), depending on who is registered. The course usually runs 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. A course could be offered in mid-April if there are enough people interested. **Instructor... Jim Jotcham** has been professionally working with pesticides since 1979 and has been offering pesticide training courses and workshops since 1990. Jim is knowledgeable about the latest products and has the necessary hands-on experience to make this a most entertaining and instructive course.

If you are interested in this course, please leave your name with Lauren at 902-863-7180.

Tax Time on the Farm Workshop

Are you new to the business of farming and looking for more information on how to file your farm taxes? THINKFARM has invited MGM & Associates Chartered Accountants to provide advice on tax-related topics such as reporting farm income, claiming expenses, calculating depreciation, claiming and charging HST, calculating payroll deductions, enrolling in AgriInvest and AgriStability, and more!

- March 21, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., NS Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Boardroom, Beech Hill, Antigonish
- March 22, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., NS Department of Natural Resources Strathlorne Forest Nursery
- March 28, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., North Sydney Exhibition Grounds, North Sydney

Upcoming 4-H Events - Antigonish County

- Antigonish County Rally Entry Deadline - March 24
- Atlantic Senior Members Conference - March 24-26
- Antigonish County Rally - March 31
- Antigonish Council Meeting - April 11, 7:00 p.m.
- 2017 Regional Rally - Guysborough County, 6:00 p.m.
- Nova Scotia 4-H Weekend - May 5-6
- Antigonish County Council Meeting - May 9, 7:00 p.m.
- Exhibition Committee Meeting - May 9, 8:00 p.m.
- CACL Collection Evening – May 24 or week of May 21
- Antigonish & Guysborough County Judging Day - May 23, 2:30-4:00 p.m. & 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- Antigonish County 4-H Council Meeting - June 13, 7:00 p.m.
- 4-H Leadership Conference - June 27-29, St. F.X.

Upcoming 4-H Events - Pictou County

- County Rally - March 31 (storm date: April 7)
- County Woodsmen Competition - April 8, 10:00 a.m.
- Junior Member Workshop - April TBA
- Regional Rally, Guysborough County - April 18, (April 25 storm date)
- Council Meeting - April 19, 7:00 p.m. Northumberland
- Council Meeting - May 17, 7:00 p.m., Northumberland
- Judging Day - May 24, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Exhibition Grounds

Giant Broccoli Competition

This year 4-H members will take on the challenge across the province to grow their own giant broccoli for the giant vegetable competition. **The broccoli will be judged by weight with all leaves removed and no more than 1 inch of main stem left which will be measured from the last floret.**

Junior and senior members from each county are permitted to enter this competition at county level. Members do not need to be in the garden project to get involved. Top junior and senior members will be able to represent their counties at this year's 4-H Show in Lawrencetown. Let's get those seeds in the soil and see what we can grow!

4-H Leadership Development Conference 2017: Agricultural Sustainability and Food Security

Are you interested in food security? Wanting to learn more about agriculture sustainability and the role you can play in your community or with your 4-H project work?

If you are looking to participate in a leadership opportunity that will have you sharing ideas, having discussions and gaining knowledge on food security and sustainability in agriculture with other 4-H members this conference is for you.



A 4-H Leadership Development Conference about Agricultural Sustainability and Food Security is in the planning stages, with the St. F.X. 4-H Society taking the lead and developing the schedule. It is shaping up to be a terrific leadership and learning event.

The conference will be open to 4-H members 14 and older/grade 9-12 from the Atlantic region. The group will participate in hands on learning at St. F.X. University and Bethany, in Antigonish, from June 27-29, 2017.

Applications will be available in late March-early April. More information will be available from Regional Agriculture Leadership Coordinators shortly, but in the meantime, mark your calendar and plan to be a part of this first annual ST FX 4-H conference.

Upcoming Food Handler Courses

Our provincial food safety specialists are employed by Nova Scotia Environment and are certified by the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors. They are also certified as Food Safety Professionals by the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA). As in the past, they continue to provide food handling courses to the public. Here is a list of upcoming sessions in the region.

Antigonish

- April 26 - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Saint Ninians Place, Rm. 021

Port Hawkesbury

- June 6, - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre

NOTE: that special three-hour version of the course is available to volunteer groups exceeding 25 people at no charge. Contact your local field office for scheduling at 902-220-3827.

4-H Camp Rankin Spotlight

Bordering the Bras d' Or Lakes at Cape George, eight miles from St. Peter's, Camp Rankin is situated on 60 acres of land. Camp Rankin is the first 4-H camp to be built in Atlantic Canada.

This 4-H camp has made many memories over the years and will into the future. Some features of the camp are a large playing field, a campfire hearth, hiking trails, and a beach.

4-H members between the ages of nine to fifteen spend six fun-filled days with fellow 4-H'ers. There are a variety of educational activities to keep campers busy and 4-H member all pitch in to help with housekeeping chores.

Each day ends with a chapel service by the camp-fire, sing-song, and lunch. Members can participate in sessions on Drama, Nature Studies, 4-H Trivia, Canoeing, Recreation Activities, Arts and Crafts and much more.

Acceptance is on a first-come-first-serve basis, so apply early! Contact your general leader for application deadlines and scholarship opportunities.

Regional News Central: East Hants, Cumberland, Colchester and Halifax Counties

Central Region Agriculture, Food and Advisory Services, Extension and Outreach

We have a great agricultural team working in the Central Region, including the counties of Colchester, Cumberland and Halifax-East Hants. At Perennia Park you can find the Agriculture Resource Coordinator, Agricultural Transition Officer, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator, Business Development Officers and Administrative Assistant in one office.

If you have an agricultural questions or opportunities you'd like to discuss, feel free to contact us. Our contact information is below.

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture
74 Research Drive Suite 114.
Bible Hill, NS B6L 2R2

- Michael Kittilsen, Agriculture Resource Coordinator, 902-893-3645 Michael.Kittilsen@novascotia.ca
- Jacqueline Hoyt, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator, 902-893-6586 Jacqueline.Hoyt@novascotia.ca
- Rebecca Sooksom, Agricultural Transition Officer, 902-896-1288 Rebecca.Sooksom@novascotia.ca
- Danny Small, Business Development Officer, 902-956-4463 Danny.Small@novascotia.ca
- Christina Jones, Business Development Office, 902-956-2800 Christina.Jones@novascotia.ca
- Marie Williams, Administrative Assistant, 902-893-6575 Marie.Williams@novascotia.ca

Cow Signals® and Biosecurity Presentation

Please join us on April 13 for a special presentation by Perennia's Dairy Specialist, Dan Mosley and Extension & Outreach Specialist, Sarah Wood, also with Perennia.

Perennia provides Cow Signals® training and advice to dairy farmers, feed company representatives, other extension agents, veterinarians and building consultants by using proven international techniques that focus on observing cows' demands for housing, feed and body language.

Dan Mosley is a certified Cow Signals® trainer and has been developing and providing training in the Maritimes since 2009.

90 Research Drive, Bible Hill.
Thursday, April 13 at 6:30 pm

Do You Have the Proper Driver's License?

If you have a farm tractor trailer combination over 14,000 kg, you need a Condition 23 Endorsement and if you are hauling any trailer (with a truck or tractor) that has a weight over 4500kg, you need a Condition 15 Endorsement on your license to legally drive on Nova Scotia roads. These regulations apply to the class 5 license.

If you are interested in obtaining these endorsements, contact Michael Kittilsen, 902-893-3645, Michael.Kittilsen@novascotia.ca.

You must have a valid driver's license ("N" removed for Condition 23) to be eligible for testing.

Central Region 4-H News

The new 4-H year is upon us and its already shaping up to be great! Many clubs will be hosting their public speaking rallies during the month of March. Public speaking is an important part of the 4-H program and a great learning experience. I encourage everyone to take part in speech days and public speaking rallies. Whether you are a member giving a speech, a community member volunteering to be a judge, or want to be part of the audience, 4-H speech days and rallies are a lot of fun!



4-H National Award Winners

Some of the 4-H National Awards were recently announced. Marika Schenkels of the Shu-Mil 4-H Club and Nathan Parker of the 4-HRM 4-H Club both of Halifax-East Hants County will attend the National Citizenship Seminar which will be held in Ottawa in early May.

Connor Fullerton of the TNR 4-H Club in Colchester County and Matthew Boutilier of the 4-HRM 4-H club of Halifax-East Hants were both selected to attend the 4-H Global Network Summit in Ottawa in July.

Kevin Grant Rural Youth Leadership Tour

Magali Kirkbright (4-HRM 4-H Club - Halifax-East Hants and Beverly Booth (Three-Way 4-H Club - Cumberland County) were selected to attend the Kevin Grant Rural Leadership Tour along with eight other 4-H members from across the province during March Break

Upcoming 4-H Meetings

Colchester County 4-H Council Meetings:

March 27 and April 24 at the Truro Farmers' Market at 7:00 p.m.

Cumberland County 4-H Council Meetings:

April 4 at the Shinimicas Fire Hall at 8:00 p.m.

Halifax-East Hants 4-H Council Meetings:

March 21 and April 18 at Hants East Rural High School at 7:00 p.m.

For further information on any of these events or the 4-H program, please contact:

Jacqueline Hoyt, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator for the Central Region, at: 902 -893-6586 or Jacqueline.Hoyt@novascotia.ca .

Mail Address Changes

Has your address changed?

Has Canada Post requested that you include your civic number in your mailing address? If so, please let us know so that we may continue to keep our mailing list up to date. If you would like to receive an electronic copy of this newsletter please contact Marie at 902 893-6575 or by e-mail at Marie.Williams@novascotia.ca

Regional News Valley: West Hants, Kings, Lunenburg and Queens Counties

Kings County Federation of Agriculture Diner/Dance

On March 25 the KCFA will be hosting a Dinner/Dance and Silent Auction. It is being held at the Port Williams Community Hall. For more information or to purchase tickets, please call Gail Walsh at 902-678-7722 or email her at:

gwalsh@perennia.ca. All the directors have tickets for sale also.

South Shore Agriculture Day

A day devoted to celebrating agriculture in the South Shore region of Nova Scotia will take place on Saturday, March 25 at the Best Western in Cookville from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

This free admission, day-long event will allow new and transitioning farmers to learn, network and sample some successful agricultural products. Check out our ad in the upcoming Rural Delivery for the full schedule. To register please call 902-354-5741 or by email registration@growsouthwestnovascotia.ca; www.growsouthwestnovascotia.ca

Annapolis County Federation Livestock Sale

Cattle sales will be held on April 29 and May 13 at the Annapolis Valley Exhibition Grounds in Lawrencetown. Details can be found on their Facebook page: Lawrencetown Cattle Sale.

Kings County Federation of Agriculture Bursary

Again this year, KCFA will be offering a \$500.00 Bursary for Dal/AC.

Bursary Requirements:

- Applicants must reside in Kings County, Nova Scotia
- Applicant must be attending the Nova Scotia Agricultural College - 2 year program
- Applications should be mailed by June 9 to Gail Walsh, 32 Main Street, Kentville, NS B4N 1J5, or emailed to: gwalsh@perennia.ca

Criteria:

- Financial Need
- Academic Achievement
- Contribution and participation in the agricultural industry
- May be asked for a personal interview

Email Addresses

To improve communication with clients, we are collecting email addresses. If you would like to occasionally receive remainders, notices, or this newsletter via email, please provide your email address to Cheryl Theriau at Cheryl.Theriau@novascotia.ca. If you would like to be removed from your mailing list, please email Cheryl or call 902-679-6021.

Valley/ South Shore 4-H News

Let the Clover be Seen in 2017

South Shore 4-H News

Congratulations to our National Award Winners! These members and leader have been awarded trips to represent Nova Scotia with other delegates from across the province in the coming months.

4-H Canada Global Summit in Ottawa - Serena Wile, 4-H member, Lapland 4-H Club and Jennifer Spencer, Leader, Sou'West 4-H Club

4-H Canada Citizenship Congress in Ottawa - Miranda Cook, Hill n'Dale 4-H Club

Kevin Grant Rural Youth Leadership Tour in the Western Region - Cassandra Goulden, Two Bays 4-H Club



CANADA
4-H Nova Scotia

Upcoming South Shore Region 4-H Events

- Shelburne Co. 4-H Council Mtg. - March 20, 7:00 pm, Shelburne Community Centre/Fire Hall
- Lunenburg Co. Rally - March 25
- Atlantic Senior 4-H Conference - March 24 -26, Debert
- Shelburne County Rally - April 8, Barrington
- South Shore Regional Rally - April 22, Shelburne

Contact the Department of Agriculture for information on the South Shore 4-H Program - Ross MacNeil, Agricultural Leadership Coordinator at 902-634-7575 or by email Ross.MacNeil@novascotia.ca

Valley 4-H News

The 2017 4-H year is well on its way. For information on the Valley 4-H Program contact Colin Hirtle, Agricultural Leadership Coordinator at the Department of Agriculture, 902-679-6027 or by email Colin.Hirtle@novascotia.ca.

Good luck and best wishes to all 4-H members, leaders, and volunteers in the 4-H program for a great year ahead! look forward to working with you all again this year.

In the Valley Region, there are have a few new and interesting county-based self-determined 4-H projects starting up. When 4-H members take a self-determined project they can take their project to achievement day. The projects will be entered into the 4-H Showcase class at exhibition and 4-H Show.

The Eastern Kings 4-H Club has a **4-H Shooting Sports Project**. Based at the Annapolis Valley Shooting Sports Club, 4-H members take the firearms safety and wildlife conservation training and learn safe operation and maintenance of rifles, shotguns, handguns, black powder, and archery. They will also take part in field trips, workshops, and their club achievement day.

The **4-H Beekeeping Project** will teach 4-H members about honey bee biology, beekeeping equipment, and how to manage honey bee colonies through the seasons.

The Hants County **4-H Business Project** supported by the Victory Credit Union in Windsor will teach members skills relating to entrepreneurship. Members will create a business plan and compete in a Dragons Den style pitch competition at the Hants. County Exhibition. The top Junior and Senior 4-H pitch will win a business account at the Victory Credit Union with \$250 to be used for a business start-up.

A **Making Business Sense** workshop is being organized in collaboration with the Acadia for the Valley and Western Region. Be on the look-out for information about this event.



Progressive Agriculture Safety Day

In conjunction with Farm Safety Nova Scotia, a Progressive Agriculture Safety Day will be held at the Berwick Fire Hall on Saturday, June 10.

Topics for youth will include Tractor and PTO Safety, ATV Safety, Food Safety, Internet Safety, Chemical Safety, Helmet Safety, Sun Safety, and more.

This safety day is open to all youth aged 9-13; and is not just a 4-H event. Contact Colin Hirtle, 902-679-6027 or Farm Safety Nova Scotia for information or registration forms.

4-H Travel Awards

Congratulations to some 4-H members and leaders in the Valley Region for being selected for national and provincial 4-H travel awards. Your club will benefit from you sharing what you learned from your travels.

4-H Canada Citizenship Congress

Luke Ettinger - Cobequid 4-H Club, Hants County

Global 4-H Network Summit -
Emma Rand - Cornwallis Project 4-H Club, Kings County

Global 4-H Network Summit - Leaders:

Amanda Brown - Border Riders 4-H Club, Hants County
Sophie Saulnier - Western Kings 4-H Club, Kings County

Kevin Grant Rural Leadership Tour:

Mackenzie West - Western Kings 4-H Club, Kings County
Brianna Carver - Border Riders 4-H Club, Hants County

Upcoming Valley Region 4-H Events

- Kevin Grant Rural Youth Leadership Tour -
March 13 - 15 -Western Region
- Atlantic Senior Member Conference -
March 24 - 26 – Debert
- Kings County Rally -
April 1, 9:00 a.m. - New Minas Baptist Church.
- Hants County Woodsman Competition -
April 1 - Noel and District Fire Hall, Noel Kings County 4-H Council Mtg. - April 3, 7:00 p.m. - Scotian Gold Boardroom, Coldbrook
- Hants County 4-H Council Mtg, April 10^t 6:30 p.m. - West Hants Middle School, Brooklyn
- Valley 4-H Regional Public Speaking Rally -
April 22 - Evangeline Middle School, New Minas
- Kings County 4-H Council Mtg. -
May 1, 7:00 pm - Scotian Gold Boardroom, Coldbrook
- Hants County 4-H Council Mtg. -
May 8, 6:30 pm - West Hants Middle School, Brooklyn

- Progressive Agriculture Safety Day -
June 10, 10:00 am.-2:00 pm. - Berwick and District Fire Hall

Contact the Department of Agriculture for information on the Valley Region 4-H Program - Colin Hirtle, Agricultural Leadership Coordinator at 902-679-6027 or by email Colin.Hirtle@novascotia.ca

Upcoming Agricultural Events

- Maritime Beef Conference - March 17 - 18 - Best Western Glengarry, Truro
- N.S. Cattle Producers Annual Meeting - March 18 - Best Western Glengarry, Truro
- Pork N.S. Annual Meeting - March 21 - Bacon Boardroom, Bible Hill
- Wild Blueberry Producers Winter Information Meeting - March 25 - Truro
- ApEx 2017 - March 26 - 27 - Cunard Centre, Halifax

Regional News Western: Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne Counties

Annapolis County Farm and Rural Women's Day

The 2017 Annapolis Country Farm and Rural Women's Day will be held Tuesday, April 15, at the Fire Hall in Lawrencetown beginning at 9:00 a.m. Registration forms will be sent to previous participants. For more information or to register please contact Kari at Kari.Brown@novascotia.ca or 902-638-2387.

Mail Address Changes

Has your address changed? Has Canada Post requested that you include your civic number in your mailing address? If so, we need to know this information so that we may keep our mailing list up to date. If you have an address change, please call Gina Chapelhow at 902-638-2395 or contact her by email at Gina.Chapelhow@novascotia.ca with your changes. Also, if you would rather receive an electronic copy of the newsletter than the paper copy, please e-mail Gina with your request.

Need a Sharps Container?

Livestock producers generate medical waste on a regular basis. These wastes include sharps such as syringes, needles, broken glass tubes, lancets and scalpel blades.

If not disposed of properly they can injure livestock and family members, increase risk of spreading infection, pollute the environment and put waste handlers at risk.

Sharps must not be discarded in regular household garbage. Sharps containers have been specifically designed for disposing of sharps. When the container is full, the contents should still be considered potentially infectious to humans and animals, but the risk is low.

For disposal in any municipality, you must first check with your local disposal site to see what they have in place to accept sharps. These containers can be picked up at the Department of Agriculture office in Cornwallis Park. Call 902-638-2395 for hours and information.



Lawrencetown Cattle Sales

April 29 and May 13, 2017
Annapolis Valley Exhibition Grounds
10:30 am-Non-livestock items
1:00 pm-All forms of livestock
Cash, debit, visa, no cheques
Dining Hall open
More details available on Kijji and Facebook: Lawrencetown Cattle Sale

Western Region 4-H News

4-H National Travel Awards

Congratulations to Adrian Bent, of Annapolis county, who has been selected to represent Nova Scotia at the National 4-H Dairy Conference, in Madison Wisconsin, October 2 - 7, 2017. The conference offers dairy youth, from across North America, the opportunity to interact with one another and build industry bridges that will last well into the future.

Congratulations to Senior 4-H member, Laara Banks, and 4-H Leader, Karen DeLong, of Annapolis county, who will be traveling to Ottawa in mid-July for the Global 4-H Network Summit.

This event is all about bringing together like minded 4-H youth, leaders, and professionals from 70 countries around the world.

Throughout the four days, participants will experience Canada's diverse culture, discuss ideas for sustainable global change, strengthen leadership and communication skills, contribute to strengthening the 4-H program, and make lifelong friends.

Facts about Global 4-H:

- There are over 70 independent, country-led 4-H programs around the world
- There are 7 million proud 4-H members worldwide!
- 4-H has resulted in over 100 years of history in agriculture and economic development
- 4-H is growing and striving to reach 25 million members internationally by 2025

Western Region Welcomes Kevin Grant Tour in March

The Western region is gearing up to host the 2017 Kevin Grant Rural Youth Leadership Tour on March 13 – 15.

The tour will include visits with local farms (Den Haan's, Bishop's dairy farm, Randall Amero's mink ranch, Wild Rose Farm, and David Brown's sheep farm), along with a tour of Acadian Seaplants' operation, a fun evening of ZUMBA, and much, much more!

Congratulations to Olivia Haight, of Digby County, and Allison Perry, of Yarmouth County, who have been selected, along with eight other Nova Scotian 4-H'ers, to attend this year's tour.

2017 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show

Even though the 2017 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show is still several months away, the Annapolis County planning committee has been working hard to ensure that this year's show, which is also the Provincial Show's 40th anniversary, is going to be one to remember!

Reminder: On-site campground bookings are now being accepted. Please contact Krystal Brown (jkbrown@eastlink.ca) for booking.

4-H Dates to Remember

Yarmouth County 4-H Council Meetings -

March 22, April 26, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Yarmouth Mariner's Centre

Annapolis County 4-H Council Meeting -

April 12

7:00 - 8:30 p.m., Clarence Community Hall

Digby County 4-H Council Meetings -

March 16, April 20,

7:00 - 8:00 p.m., Digby Library

Kevin Grant Rural Youth Leadership Tour –

March 13- 15, Annapolis Basin Conference Centre

Annapolis County Public Speaking Rally-

April 8, NSCC Lawrencetown

Digby County Public Speaking Rally -

April 8, Fish and Game Club

Yarmouth County Public Speaking Rally -

April 9, Yarmouth

Western Regional Public Speaking Rally -

April 22, NSCC, Lawrencetown



CANADA
4-H Nova Scotia