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Hi, just a reminder you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce.

Don't forget to add [oa@tchamber.ca](mailto:oa@tchamber.ca) to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox! You may **unsubscribe** anytime.

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### **Is your business part of the Construction or Skilled Trades Sector?**

The Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce is collaborating with stakeholders and business partners to identify crucial actions to address the current labor shortage, affecting the construction and skill trades necessary to provide adequate housing for our region. We invite you to join us in finding solutions by completing this 7-question survey. Your input is essential for developing focused, measurable plans.

Fill out our survey by clicking the link below.

**Construction Sector  
Survey**

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## News Release

July 17, 2024

### **National trade remains at risk with Isthmus project delays**

TRURO- A recent move by the Senate declaring the Chignecto Isthmus “for the general advance of Canada” is welcome news for the Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber has been lobbying for the federal government to recognize the significance of this vital trade corridor that needs massive structural improvements to protect the national economy.

“The bill passed by the Senate recognizing the national significance of this corridor is a small win for our community in a long road to accomplishing action to secure this trade corridor,” said Chamber President Eric Tanton.

[Click here to read more](#)

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Tom Taggart, MLA for Colchester North, is hosting a meeting with staff from LSI to discuss and provide information on programs specifically designed for smaller companies and semi-skilled workers in the construction industry. Additionally, an immigration recruiter from the Philippines is currently in Nova Scotia and the Filipino Consul from Halifax will be attending.

This meeting is open to our members to attend. If you would like more information about this session, please reach out to Mr. Taggart's office at 902-641-2335

Location - Debert Hospitality Center

Date - Monday July 22, 2024

Time - 1pm to 3pm

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## DID YOU JUST GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL?

Here are a few things to add to your summer checklist:

### ✓ ACCESS MY VACCINATION RECORDS

If you're going into a post-secondary health program, joining the military, or working in a health-related field, you will be required to present your vaccination records and be up-to-date on all of your routine vaccines.



### ✓ REVIEW RECORDS WITH A NURSE FROM PUBLIC HEALTH & CATCH UP ON ALL MY VACCINES BEFORE I TURN 19

Did you know that if you weren't able to get your childhood vaccines you are able to consent for yourself now and get caught up? Childhood vaccines are free up until you turn 19.

### ✓ GET THE MENINGITIS B VACCINE

Vaccination against meningococcal B infection is not part of your routine childhood vaccinations. If you're moving into a group living situation (residences or military barracks), you should consider getting your two doses of the Meningitis B vaccine.



**Book your appointment for:  
Monday, July 29 or Monday, August 26  
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

Truro Public Health  
Colchester East Hants Health Centre – Wing B  
600 Abenaki Road, Truro  
Call: 902-893-5820 to book your appointment

 Transportation support available (must book at least 3 days ahead of your appointment). Call 902-893-5820 or email [PublicHealthTransportation@nshealth.ca](mailto:PublicHealthTransportation@nshealth.ca)

[www.nshealth.ca/immunizations](http://www.nshealth.ca/immunizations)



Immigration, Réfugiés  
et Citoyenneté Canada

Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

**Canada**

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has launched its online survey as part of this year's [consultations on category-based selection in Express Entry](#).

If you're interested in providing feedback on the priorities that the Government of Canada should consider to help address Canada's economic needs through category-based selection in 2025, please complete this survey by July 28, 2024.

[Take the survey now](#)

The economic priorities and categories we're considering for 2025 are:

- Addressing structural (long-term) labour market shortages (specific occupations in health, STEM, trades, transport, agriculture and agri-food, and education)
- Supporting economic growth through Francophone immigration outside of Quebec
- Addressing emerging labour needs in Canada's key industries and sectors (natural resources, new technologies, and applied sciences)

The survey is an opportunity for you to share your views on these proposed priorities and categories, and it provides space for you to suggest alternative, or additional, areas of focus.

We invite you to read more about [this year's engagement initiative on IRCC's website](#), and use the unique link provided above to answer our survey questions. Please don't hesitate to share our website page with your networks if you wish to invite others to participate.

Please note that these consultations are distinct from the [consultations on immigration levels](#), which remain open until June 30, 2024.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email us at [IRCC.COMMConsultations-ConsultationsCOMM.IRCC@cic.gc.ca](mailto:IRCC.COMMConsultations-ConsultationsCOMM.IRCC@cic.gc.ca).

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**English version — [La version française suit](#)**

Your organization has been identified as a key stakeholder of the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). We hope you will share the following information with your membership.

**Reminder: Share your thoughts on the reporting fees for service requirements before July 22**

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) launched an [online questionnaire](#) for Canadian businesses and organizations of all sizes to better understand their awareness of, and readiness to comply with, the reporting fees for service (RFS) requirement.

The questionnaire will close on **July 22, 2024**.

[The feedback received will help us identify ways to clarify reporting requirements, streamline processes, and proactively support Canadian businesses and organizations in understanding and meeting their tax obligations.](#)

We strongly encourage you to participate and share this with your colleagues and partners.

RFS is one example of the CRA working to strengthen compliance measures, reduce the corporate tax gap, and deliver on its mandate to combat tax avoidance and tax evasion through a People First approach.

**Need more information?**

To learn more about RFS, visit [Reporting fees for service](#).

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## Get your business AI ready

Discover how to prepare your business for artificial intelligence and plan its implementation.

Artificial intelligence (AI) offers significant benefits for businesses, including cost reduction, improved efficiency, and better products. Despite this, many Canadian companies lag in digital adoption. To stay competitive, businesses should explore AI solutions tailored to their goals and challenges.

This article contains simple tips you can use if you want to make the shift to digital, including:

- Learn how AI can benefit your business
- Prepare your business for AI
- Get started with AI

Want to learn more about these and other tips?

[Click here to read more!](#)



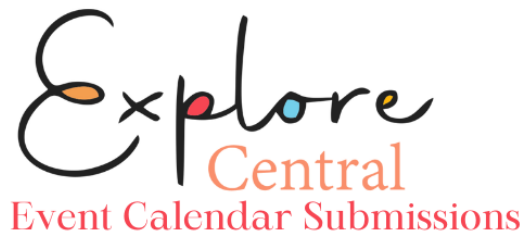
Nominate a local small business for one of our Small Business Awards. Click the button below to fill out our nomination form.

- New Small Business
- Small Business Achievement
- Export Achievement
- Small Business Innovation

- Excellence in Community Development
- Agriculture / Agri Business
- Business Growth
- Workplace Excellence
- Newcomer Business
- Tourism Business
- Environmental Stewardship
- Excellence in Diversity & Inclusion
- Small Business of the Year

## Small Business Awards Nomination Form

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Hosting an event in Explore Central Nova Scotia? Get the spotlight it deserves!

Showcase your event on the Explore Central NS Events Calendar and/or in the

Chamber of Commerce Newsletter.

Simply fill out our quick form to get started and let us help spread the word about your incredible event. Don't miss this chance to reach a broader audience and make your event a success!

[Event Submissions Link](#)

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## INVITATION

As part of our 75th anniversary celebrations, the Nova Scotia Co-operative Council is thrilled to invite you to a luncheon event with special guest & keynote speaker

**Her Excellency the  
Governor General of  
Canada,  
Mary Simon**



You can reserve your seat at:  
[Online form](#)  
info@novascotia.coop or  
902-893-8966

**Date:** August 14, 2024  
**Time:** 11:45 am  
**Location:** Best Western Glengarry, 150  
Willow Street, Truro

**We hope you can join us for  
this once in a lifetime  
opportunity.**

As we celebrate our 75th anniversary!

The Nova Scotia Co-operative Council is honoured to welcome Her Excellency, the Governor General of Canada, Mary Simon, to a special luncheon event.

Date: August 14, 2024

Time: 11:45 am

Location: Best Western Glengarry, 150 Willow Street, Truro

[Reserve your seat here](#)

NS Co-operative Council hopes you can join them for this memorable occasion.



# HalifaxStanfield

Halifax Stanfield International Airport (Halifax Stanfield) is participating in a new program to survey stakeholders on how well they align with various groups within their airport community and their region. We would appreciate it if you can take some

of your valuable time to fill out this survey (see links below).

As you click the survey link, you will be asked to choose just one of the categories that best represents the stakeholder group you identify with most. You will then respond to a variety of statements along 12 critical variables for the airport. If you would like to complete the survey in more than one session, your results will be saved to continue later.

The survey is available in both official languages at the following links:

[Click here for the English Survey](#)

[Click here for the French Survey](#)

The survey should take you approximately 15 minutes to complete. Your responses to the survey will be held in confidence by a third party, AirportNEXT Solutions Inc., who are administering the survey across many airports in North America. Your feedback will provide valuable data for the Halifax Stanfield team, so they can understand how they can better serve their communities.



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Click the link to learn more about our exclusive group rate!

<https://bit.ly/3JA50aJ>



The Canada Digital Adoption Program (CDAP) can help get your business online, give your e-commerce presence a boost or digitalize your business's operations.

The program offers two grants.

The Grow Your Business Online grant helps small businesses take advantage of e-commerce opportunities.

- Access a network of e-commerce advisors for advice and support.
- Get a microgrant of up to \$2,400 to buy new e-commerce tools.

The Boost Your Business Technology grant helps small and medium-sized businesses adopt new digital technologies.

- Use a free digital assessment tool to evaluate your business's digital readiness.
- Get a grant of up to \$15,000 to consult a digital expert and develop a digital adoption plan for your business.
- Get up to \$100,000 in interest-free loans from BDC to implement your digital adoption plan.
- Leverage a subsidized work placement to bring on a recent graduate or student to help with your digital transformation.

**[Learn more and apply online digitaladoption-adoptionnumerique@ised-isde.gc.ca](mailto:digitaladoption-adoptionnumerique@ised-isde.gc.ca)**



## **Domestic Violence Leave Community Partner Consultation**

Dear Community Partner,

We are sharing with you an important document outlining proposed changes to the Labour Standards Code and Regulations concerning paid domestic violence leave. Your insights and feedback are invaluable to us as we consider this amendment.

Please review the attached document and share your thoughts by August 30, 2024.

Additionally, we invite you to join a virtual consultation session to discuss your ideas and ask any questions. If you're interested in participating, please email [rachel.labonte@novascotia.ca](mailto:rachel.labonte@novascotia.ca) by July 26, 2024.

We will arrange a virtual meeting in August or at another convenient time for all interested community partners.

For any immediate questions or to submit your feedback, feel free to contact Cynthia Yazbek, Senior Executive Director of the Labour Services Branch, at [cynthia.yazbek@novascotia.ca](mailto:cynthia.yazbek@novascotia.ca) or (902) 424-8466.

### DVL Community Partner Consultation



The Woolfitt Wealth Management Group of RBC Dominion Securities

Wealth Management  
Dominion Securities  
RBC

An all-encompassing approach to build and protect your wealth

The Woolfitt Wealth Management Group of RBC Dominion Securities Inc.  
105A Walker St., Truro, NS B2N 4B1  
<https://ca.rbcwealthmanagement.com/jonathan.woolfitt>

Jonathan Woolfitt  
Portfolio Manager & Wealth Advisor  
902-893-2586  
[jonathan.woolfitt@rbc.com](mailto:jonathan.woolfitt@rbc.com)

Donna McKenna Associate 902-424-1088 <a href="mailto:donna.mckenna@rbc.com">donna.mckenna@rbc.com</a>	Irteza Hassan, CFA Associate 902-421-0018 <a href="mailto:irteza.hassan@rbc.com">irteza.hassan@rbc.com</a>	Kristen Johnstone Client Experience Associate 902-893-2607 <a href="mailto:kristen.johnstone@rbc.com">kristen.johnstone@rbc.com</a>	Kristal Levernois Administrative Assistant 902-893-2603 <a href="mailto:kristal.levernois@rbc.com">kristal.levernois@rbc.com</a>
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**Looking to grow your business?**  
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Whether you are starting or expanding your business, we're here to help you find the right programs and services. Talk to us today.

► For more information, contact:  
**Matthew Berrigan**, Business Development Advisor  
[matthew.berrigan@investnovascotia.ca](mailto:matthew.berrigan@investnovascotia.ca) | 902.476.1257  
[linkedin.com/in/matt-berrigan/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/matt-berrigan/)

**Invest** NOVA SCOTIA



# NEW MEMBERS!

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## Do you know someone who might benefit from connecting with us?

At Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce, we are dedicated to empowering our members by tackling the most pressing policy issues facing our community. We understand that fostering economic growth is vital to the success of our region, and we are committed to advocating for innovative solutions that will drive progress and prosperity for all. Our team of experts works tirelessly to research, develop, and promote policies that will create a thriving environment for businesses and individuals alike. With a steadfast focus on collaboration and innovation, we are proud to champion economic growth and help our members achieve their full potential.

Every member of our team has been working tirelessly to connect with local businesses and provide them with the latest resources and information to help them navigate and thrive. We understand the difficulties that the entire business community is facing, and we are here to help.

By joining us in this effort, you can make a real difference in helping our local businesses not just survive but thrive. Let's come together and show our support for the backbone of our economy – our local businesses.

Our Chamber is the largest in Nova Scotia outside of HRM, with over 500 members! We firmly believe that a strong business community is crucial to the success of our region, and we are committed to providing our members with the support they need to thrive. As a member of our Chamber, you will have access to a wide range of networking opportunities, educational resources, and advocacy initiatives that will help you grow your business and achieve your goals. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to connect with like-minded professionals and take your business to the next level!

Highlights of joining us:

- You will have access to **Strong Advocates** on your behalf at all government levels.
- Create networking and educational **opportunities to grow** your business
- **Financially Support** Economic Development and Tourism projects.
- **Free of charge**, access to Chamber Collaboration Centre includes a boardroom, technology access, and a small office.
- **Save you money** with our benefits partners, such as the Chamber Plan Employee Benefits, Esso Mobil Business Card Program and Member-2-Member support local program.
- And so much more!

Reach out to us today if you are interested in learning more about the Chamber and how the value of membership can help you!

Click here to join

## JOB POSTINGS



If you have a job posting you would like to share with your local business community.

Email the details to Lisa at [atoa@tcchamber.ca](mailto:atoa@tcchamber.ca)



### Currently seeking a Principal Civil or Structural Engineer

The Principal Civil or Structural Engineer oversees design projects, mentors team members, and sets company standards. Responsibilities include ensuring high technical standards for projects, acting as a technical resource, and holding staff accountable for competencies. Civil engineers focus on storm water management, property development, and earthen structures, while structural engineers design wood, concrete, and steel structures. The role involves client meetings, project proposals, site visits, and accurate project tracking. Candidates need to be registered Professional Engineers with 10-20 years of experience, proficient in design software, and possess strong organizational, problem-solving, leadership, and communication skills. This is a full-time, permanent position.

[Principal Engineer Job Description](#)



The Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan has been a trusted source of protection for Canadian firms for over 40 years. With more than 30,000 small to midsize businesses already on board, the Chambers Plan is the go-to choice for comprehensive group benefits. Offering Health and Dental insurance, it ensures that your employees are well taken care of.

When it comes to employee benefits, the Chambers Plan stands out for its simplicity, stability, and intelligence. By pooling benefits, it provides accessibility and flexibility, giving your business the peace of mind it needs. With an unwavering commitment to customer service, the Chambers Plan delivers unsurpassed value year after year.

Don't settle for anything less than the best for your employees. Choose the Chambers Plan and experience the difference that Canada's #1 employee benefits plan for small business can make.

[Theriault Financial Inc](#)  
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Toll Free: 1-877-434-9088  
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Website: <https://www.theriaultfinancial.com/>



Are you tired of juggling multiple tools for your payroll and HR needs?  
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At our company, we understand that payroll is much more than just a transaction. It's about building a relationship with your employees and ensuring they are paid accurately and on time. That's why we offer personalized payroll services tailored to meet your specific business needs.

We believe that every business, no matter the size, deserves a dedicated service representative who will be there to answer any questions and provide support whenever

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Whether you have one employee or thousands, we have the expertise and resources to handle your payroll needs efficiently and effectively. Let us take care of the paperwork, compliance, and other administrative tasks, so you can focus on what matters most – running your business.

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Stephen McKellar

**Phone:** 902-531-2756

**Email:** [stephen.mckellar@payworks.ca](mailto:stephen.mckellar@payworks.ca)



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toll free 1.866.320.8383 ext 252

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## *Chamber Collaboration Centre for Businesses*



Our Collaboration Centre for Businesses is fully equipped with a board room and a private office, and available for our members to use free of charge. This is made possible by the generous sponsorship from Wilson's Home Heating, a company committed to supporting local businesses.

Our Collaboration Centre is the perfect space for entrepreneurs and small businesses to meet, network and collaborate with like-minded individuals. Whether you need a private office for a conference call or a board room for a team meeting, we've got you covered.

Thank you, Wilson's Home Heating, for making this possible!

To book the boardroom, private office or for more information  
call 902-895-6328 or email [oa@tcchamber.ca](mailto:oa@tcchamber.ca)



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