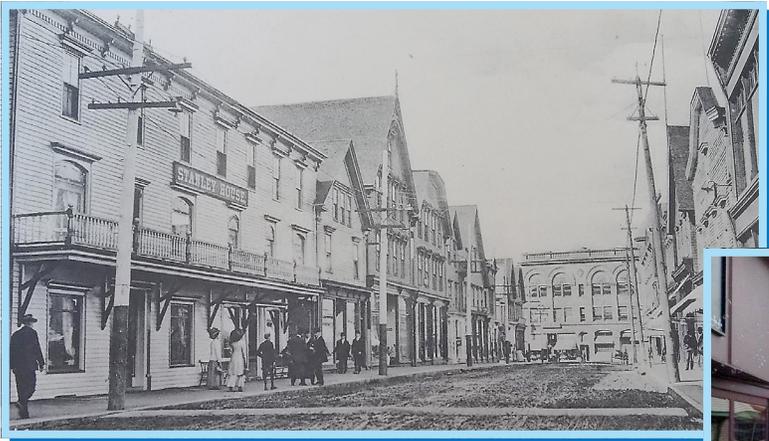


Truro & Colchester

CHAMBER *of Commerce*

125 YEARS

**Celebrating 125 years as the principal voice for business in Truro & Colchester
in matters of economic, social and political importance.
From 1890 to 2015**



**Partners
in Business**



**Partners
in Growth**

www.trurocolchesterchamber.ca

902-895-6328

605 Prince St. Truro, N.S., B2N 1G2

A message from the chamber president



Andrew Lake

The Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce has a proud and rich tradition of serving the local business community. Established in 1890, the Truro Board of Trade was formed by a group of local business leaders to advocate for the interests of the local business community. While the name has changed, the mandate remains the same. The incorporation documents are framed in the chamber office with recognizable business leaders AJ Walker, CE Bentley, AJ Dalrymple, JE Bigelow and George Hall among the merchant members of the inaugural board. Over the 125 years of service, the chamber of commerce has been led by many

notable presidents including Frank T. Stanfield, George Wilson, H.B. and Don Goodspeed, and WA Flemming, to name a few.

The chamber has spearheaded many initiatives over its 125 years of service to foster growth in the community. A tourist bureau in Truro was established and maintained by the local chamber in the mid-1900s. In 1962, the chamber formed the Truro Area Industrial Commission, purchasing lands that would form the Truro Industrial Park. And, the construction of a controversial toll highway through the Cobequid Mountains, bypassing the notorious Wentworth Valley and its unpredictable weather patterns, was in part a result of the chamber's extensive lobbying effort of government.

The Truro and Colchester chamber has the second largest membership of any chamber in Nova Scotia with approximately 450 members. The strength of the membership is a testament to the diverse industrial base that represents the region. The businesses are rooted in the community, providing sponsorship to the arts, health and wellness and many other charitable causes.

I believe the region is well positioned both geographically and strategically to succeed. Located

in the hub of the province, the region is home to a state-of-the-art community health centre and enviable civic centre. These facilities help attract talent to the region to support business growth. The businesses that call Truro/Colchester home offer a diverse range of products and services. We are blessed with a strong manufacturing sector led by Stanfields, Intertape Polymer, Tandus, Andrew Peller Limited, Northeast Nutrition, Scotsburn, Lafarge Cement and Kohler Windows and Entrance Systems, as well as regional distribution centres for Home Hardware, Sobeys and Tim Hortons. Lafarge Cement and Andrew Peller Wines are proudly celebrating their 50th years of operation in the area. These large and diverse employers provide the foundation for a successful economy, with the business and staff supporting many of the small businesses that provide ancillary services in the community.

Dalhousie University and the Nova Scotia Community College are tremendous assets to have in the community. The institutions are attracting and educating bright minds. The research and technology being developed at the Dalhousie Agricultural Campus is leading to entrepreneurial opportunities while skills in a

variety of sectors are being taught at the Nova Scotia Community College to fulfill the labour needs of the area.

As the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce looks ahead to the next 125 years, we are excited with the recent appointment of Sherry Martell to the position of executive director. Sherry has roots in the community and great passion for the region. Sherry and I have visited a number of business since her appointment to the position in late July and plan many more in the coming months. The visits with business owners and operators, as well as strategic partners, will allow us to learn the challenges and expectations of the business community, further providing us with the lessons to shape the activities of the chamber moving forward.

As we celebrate this milestone, I have confidence in the leadership of the board and executive to continue to advocate for the interests of the businesses in Truro and Colchester County and live up to the legacy that the chamber has developed over the past 125 years.

Andrew Lake
President
Truro & Colchester
Chamber of Commerce

Strong leadership key to success

For 125 years the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce has continued to thrive under the leadership of dedicated businessmen and businesswomen focused on growing the economy, improving social programs and providing input to government decision makers on political matters.

The following list includes the names of many chamber presidents through the 125-year history of the chamber:

1891 - G. Clish
1932 - D. M. Smith
1933 - R.B. MacLennan
1934 - H. Ward Murdock
1935 - Senator F. M. Blois
1936 - Frank T. Stanfield
1937 - Frank T. Stanfield
1938 - B. C. Holder
1939 - E.B. MacDaniel
1940 - S.E. Archibald
1941 - W. A. Flemming

1942 - W. A. Flemming
1943 - W. A. Flemming
1944 - D. A. Sandilands
1945 - H. B. Goodspeed
1946 - C. G. Mac Leannan
1947 - K. M. Armstrong
1948 - George Wilson
1949 - George Wilson
1950 - G. T. Purdy
1951 - C. Elmer Doyle
1951 - C. Elmer Doyle
1952 - H.I Cornell
1953 - Dr. W.V.Longley
1954 - Wm. H. Yeadon
1955 - B.M. Goodman
1956 - Arlie G. Parks
1957 - J.M. Murphy
1958 - J.M. Murphy
1959 - J.M. Murphy
1960 - D. C. Stephen
1961 - J. Randy Bourgeois
1962 - J. E. Tipler
1963 - Clarence B. Johnson
1964 - Frank R. Fulton
1965 - Ryland L Marshall
1966 - John F. Lawrence

1967 - W.J. Bigelow
1968 - Don A. McLeod
1969 - Eric D Mosher
1970 - Neil N. MacLennan
1971 - Logan S. Barnhill
1972 - Don H. Goodspeed
1973 - Henry A. Johnson
1974 - Allan F. Bruce
1975 - W. Frank Harvey
1976 - W. Frank Harvey
1977 - Carl T. Bigelow
1978 - Dr. George Yuill
1979 - Brian E. Ross
1980 - Ira Parker
1981 - Robert Fulton
1982 - A.M. Murchie
1982 - Robert Fulton
1983 - Edgar Goss
1984 - Orland Dickson
1985 - Ernie Lund
1986 - John MacDougall
1987 - Phil Rafuse
1988 - George Teed
1989 - Phil Cole
1990 - Mark McCrea
1991 - David Curtis

1992 - Wayne Gillis
1993 - Wayne Gillis
1994 - John Kelderman
1995 - John Kelderman
1996 - Ed MacDonald
1997 - Ed MacDonald
1998 - Dianne Fitzgerald
1999 - Dianne Fitzgerald
2000 - Floyd Gaetz
2001 - Duane Rath
2002 - Bob Williams
2003 - Alain Bégin
2004 - Peter Henderson
2005 - Laurie Jennings
2006 - Greg Mosher
2007 - Melody Lockhart
2008 - Ted Jordan
2009 - Jim Lorraine
2010 - Chantale Hache
2011 - Todd Lynn MacPherson
2012 - Don Hay
2013 - Michael Michaud/Don Hay
2014 - Stephanie Jones
2015 - Andrew Lake

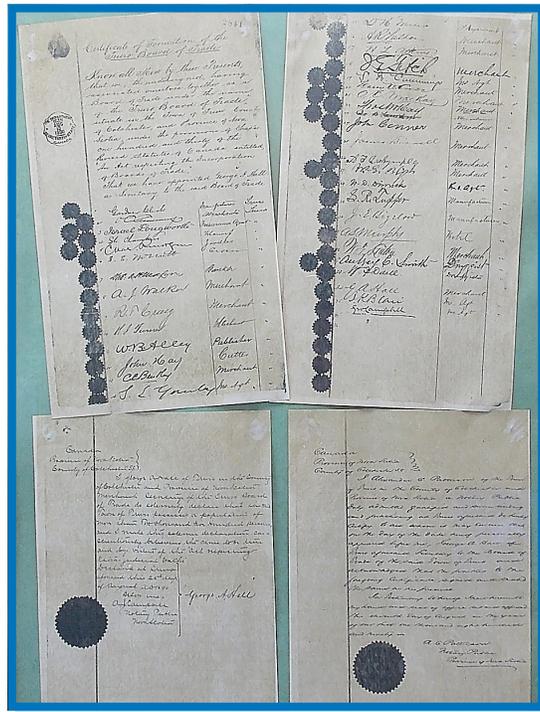
Representation for business across Central Nova

The Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce's name has undergone changes four times since being incorporated on Sept. 11, 1890 under the Boards of Trade Act as the Truro Board of Trade.

In 1973 the name was changed to Truro and District Chamber of Commerce, increasing its reach in the business community.

The most recent name change occurred in 2013 when it became the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce, reaffirming its strong voice for business across the county and beyond.

While its name has changed during the years, the chamber's mission to be the principal voice for business in the region has not. With a membership of more than 450, it continues to be one of the most active, respected chambers in the province.



Truro Board of Trade incorporation documents on display at the chamber office.

Economic development initiatives bring new businesses

The local chamber of commerce, formerly a board of trade, made history in June of 1962 when it established the Truro Area Industrial Commission, incorporating it as a self-governing body.

Its first step was purchasing a 67-acre property at a cost of \$42,500 with commission members personally guaranteeing repayment.

The commission then worked to have the area serviced and ready to welcome new industry. Almost immediately, several parcels of land were sold to new businesses and just two years later the area was expanded. Within that short time, nearly 1,000 jobs were created and since then hundreds more.

The commission continues its work today to encourage new growth in Truro's Industrial Park.

Promoting tourism a chamber focus for 125 years

The first tourist bureau in Truro was established and maintained by the local chamber of commerce, formerly a board of trade, in the mid-1900s.

The organization ensured the seasonal bureau was a well-staffed, welcoming place to greet visitors for decades. In the 1950s, the chamber organized and printed thousands of tourist guides promoting the area, distributing them across the province without any financial assistance from government. During a meeting in 1955, it was noted in the minutes with great pride the board installed a telephone for the use of visitors.

Supporting the maintenance of Victoria Park was also a task of the board in the 1960s. The board welcomed hundreds of caravan campers each year to the park, organizing day trips in the area, then returning funds raised during these visits to the

park commission to fund maintenance at Truro's most popular recreational area.

The board also established the Truro Area Tourist Development Association (later named

the Colchester-Cumberland-East Hants Regional Tourist Association) and established way-finding signage along highways.

In the 1980s, the chamber spearheaded a "trade dollars" campaign producing a series of three souvenir coins celebrating local attractions. Victoria Park, the former Intercontinental Railway Station and the tidal bore were all featured on the \$1 coins.



A sample of souvenir coins produced by the Chamber featuring local attractions.

Today, the chamber of commerce continues to work in concert with a number of community partners to boost tourism in this area and publishes a very popular tidal bore tide times guide.

Advocacy at the heart of the chamber

The Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce continually speaks on behalf of the local business community on issues such as business development, taxation and public policy changes.

Along with representing its membership, the local chamber is a member of the Atlantic Chamber of Commerce Inc., promoting and supporting business and economic development in Atlantic Canada, as well as the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, advocating on matters of national importance.

As the one, strong, unified voice for business, chambers represent more than 200,000 members across the country, influencing policies directly impacting local enterprises.



Chamber membership is an investment in your business.

A look back at good times through the years

Chamber plays role in building community infrastructure

Driving along roads and crossing over bridges throughout Colchester County, few people might pause to wonder when or how that infrastructure was created.

In many cases the chamber was a driving force behind the construction of major infrastructure projects, such as the bridge over the Shubenacadie River creating a crossing between Green Oaks and Maitland, opening an important shipping route for businesses.

It also lobbied for the construction of the Cobequid Pass on the Trans Canada Highway which opened to traffic in 1997.

During the past 125 years the chamber has lobbied government to construct new roads and pave existing popular trade routes; build schools, hospitals and civic centres; establish an air field on the outskirts of Truro, among many, many other pieces of infrastructure serving the community today.



Other notable chamber activities and accomplishments through the years:

- * Purchased a gold-plated Chain of Office to be worn by the Mayor of Truro at official civic functions made by local jeweler John E. Doane.
- * Successfully brought the Nova Scotia School of Arts to Truro in 1960s.
- * Lobbied for a plebiscite in the 1960s to allow establishments licensed by the Liquor License Board to serve alcoholic beverages.
- * Lead illumination project in Town of Truro to encourage lit storefronts.
- * Founded a United Appeal program to canvass community to support those in need.
- * Lobbied the province to construct more dormitories at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (now Dalhousie Agricultural Campus) to increase enrolment, as well as pushing for a four-year-degree program at the college.
- * Established several business recognition awards programs recognizing contributions to the local economy.
- * Offers educational programs through partnerships with several organizations in the area.
- * Provides business news to members through a website, social media and monthly section in Hub Now magazine.
- * Lobbied for changes to transit regulations to improve access to transportation services.

Get in touch with the Truro & Colchester Chamber today. oa@tcchamber.ca or call us at 902-895 6328

Reflections

“Greatest achievements (of the chamber) were pushing the amalgamation issue to the forefront, and starting the International Tulip Festival. Longevity (can be) attributed to being a strong voice for the membership and punching above its weight as a chamber.”

Alain Bégin, past-president 2003

“I feel the biggest challenge we had was trying to get alignment on economic development from the county, town, Stewiacke, chamber and business community after the demise of CoRDA. Although we had some success, this has still not been achieved.”

Don Hay, past-president 2012/13

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- **Networking with like-minded business people**
- **Invitation to exclusive members-only events**
- **Access to education programs to grow your business**
- **Chamber Group Health Insurance Plan**
- **Fuel savings program**
- **Merchant credit card discounts**
- **Shipping discounts at UPS and Purolator**
- **Home and auto insurance**
- **A partner in business**

Upcoming Chamber Events:

Annual golf tournament

Sept. 25, Truro Golf Club

Federal election debate

Oct. 6, 7 p.m., Marigold Cultural Centre.

Small Business Week

Events from Oct. 20-23
Awards luncheon Oct. 21

Spring Gala

April 21, 2016
More details TBA