



# New Glasgow Now

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## NEW GLASGOW RECEIVES NATIONAL COMMUNITY OF GARDENERS COMMUNITES IN BLOOM AWAR – OUTSTANDING EFFORTS IN BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SPACES



**Town of New Glasgow representatives at the Communities in Bloom 2010 National Symposium National Awards Ceremonies in Halifax:**  
Left to Right : Councillor Jack Lewis, Councillor Clyde Fraser; Director of Community Development, GERALYN Mac Donald, Past Co-Chair, Jamie Stevens, 2010 Co-Chairs Lesley Sobey and Kim Dickson, Director of Marketing & Communications, Mayor Barrie MacMillan and Karen Stephenson, representative of Scotts Canada

tribute to the hard work of the people and staff of the Town of New Glasgow, to the leadership of Communities in Bloom Co-Chairs Lesley Sobey and Kim Dickson as well as past chair Jamie Stevens, and the entire CIB Committee.

"Many people deserve credit for this honour as the residents of New Glasgow take tremendous pride in their homes and properties," says Mayor MacMillan.

"We are also very proud of the work of our town horticulturalist Chelsea Baird and her summer grounds crew, which included Communities in Bloom Foundation 2009 bursary winner Shannon MacIntosh. This is a significant achievement of which our town can be very proud. To be recognized among so many outstanding towns in the Community of Gardeners Criteria category is a celebration of great teamwork by our community and our municipality. For New Glasgow to be singled out is indeed special not every day does this kind of national acknowledgment come to small town Nova Scotia. It was an honour as mayor to accept this award on behalf of our community, the Communities in Bloom Committee and Town Council. I was extremely proud to see both New Glasgow and Stellarton showcased to the CIB symposium consisting of delegates from hundreds of Canadian communities as well as from Japan, the United Kingdom,

Belgium, the Czech Republic and the United States.

In the 7,501- 10,000 community population category, New Glasgow received its third five bloom national rating and a score of 87.8 out of 100 for categories that included tidiness, environmental action, urban forestry, heritage conservation, landscaping, floral displays, turf and ground cover. Community involvement was judged in all categories and special mention was given to New Glasgow for community involvement in tidiness and for the impact of the County wide initiative, Go Clean Get Green Community Litter Clean Up. Trail, BC was the top winner in this population category and other communities competing in the same category as New Glasgow were Amherst, NS; Hinton, Alberta; Weyburn, Saskatchewan; Whitecourt, Alberta and Winkler, Manitoba.

The Nova Scotia provincial Communities in Bloom awards were presented in conjunction with the national event and another Pictou County town fared well. The Town of Stellarton was a five bloom winner in the Nova Scotia Communities in Bloom edition and Carol and Ken Francis of Stellarton were given an in ground garden award. Special recognition was given to Stellarton's Communities in Bloom Allan Park project.

Lesley Sobey, Co-Chair of New Glasgow's Communities in Bloom Committee says the local (continued on page 2)

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The Town of New Glasgow came away with a national outstanding achievement award in the criteria category of "Community of Gardeners" at the national Communities in Bloom Awards Ceremony held Sunday afternoon at the Rebecca Cohen Theatre in Halifax. This special criteria award is given for outstanding achievement in both private and public green spaces and recognizes commitment to greening and beautification as well as community spirit. The other two national finalists in the Community of Gardeners Award were Goderich, Ontario and Winkler, Manitoba.

New Glasgow Mayor Barrie MacMillan says he was thrilled with New Glasgow receiving this recognition across all population category and that it is a

### NEW GLASGOW RECEIVES NATIONAL COMMUNITY OF GARDENERS COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM AWARD – OUTSTANDING EFFORTS IN BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SPACES continued

committee was very pleased for New Glasgow to have received yet another five bloom rating and an increase in the Town's evaluation score. Ms. Sobey also commented on the best practises and new practises that were presented by Canadian communities in environmental stewardship and greening initiatives as well as the international presenters. "There was a wealth of information shared at the national symposium and a fabulous exchange of ideas on all criteria as well as networking with others who understand and are devoted to achieving the goals of the CIB program," says Ms. Sobey. "The Community of Gardeners Award is a special one because it is across all population categories and recognizes the hard work of the residents of New Glasgow as well as town staff and our volunteers. It is also inspiring to see how a commitment to Communities in Bloom, and to the environment and community pride, has transformed so many communities."

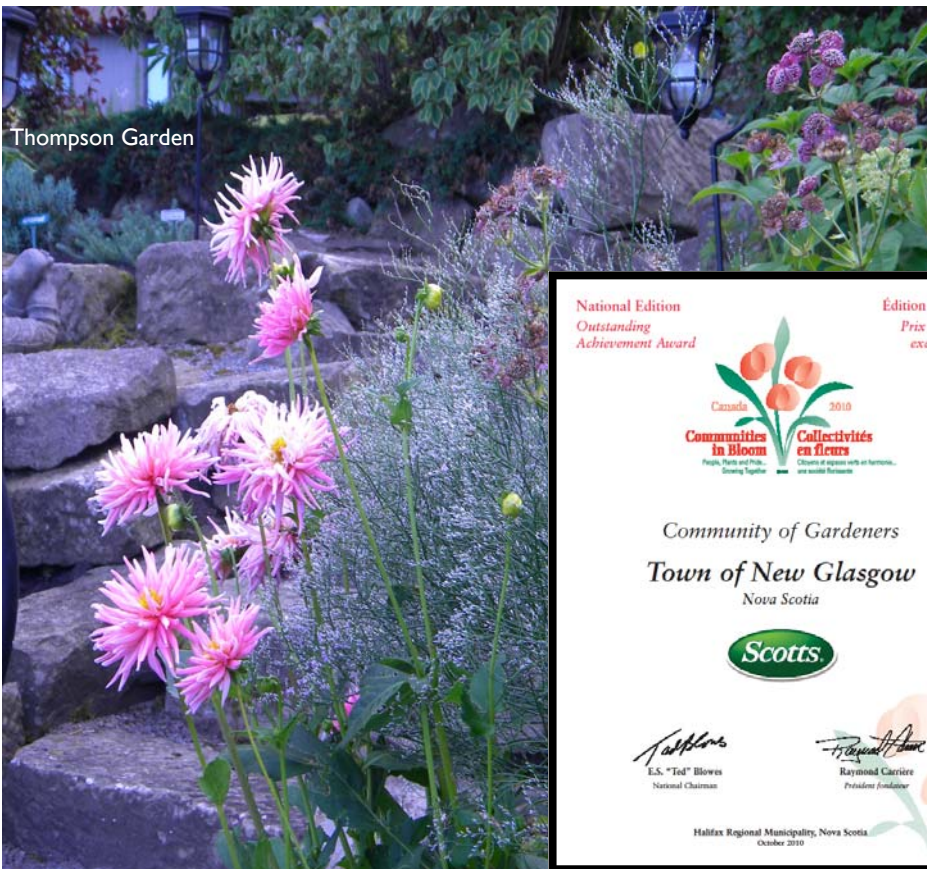
Ms. Sobey also made special mention of how impressed she is with the achievements and work by the Canadian Forces in Bloom. " In speaking with members of the Canadian Forces across Canada, I learned how the CIB program enabled them to work towards providing a warm and inviting place for soldiers to come home to while also recognizing that these bases are home to our troops and their families and that they have a great deal of pride in place," she adds.

Kim Dickson, Co-Chair of New Glasgow Communities in Bloom says, "The "Community of Gardeners National Award" is one that New Glasgow and its CIB Committee felt especially honoured and excited to receive as it pays tribute to the efforts of the community as whole. We were also very pleased for our neighbouring Town of Stellarton and excited to be there to cheer them on as they received a five bloom provincial rating and applaud their inspiring work."

(continued on page 3)



New Glasgow Communities in Bloom Co-Chairs Kim Dickson and Lesley Sobey are pictured with Raymond Carriere, President of Communities in Bloom and Margaret and Ivan Stinson, two of the pioneers of the Communities in Bloom program.



**"Many people deserve credit for this honour as the residents of New Glasgow take tremendous pride in their homes and properties," Mayor Barrie MacMillan.**

**NEW GLASGOW RECEIVES NATIONAL COMMUNITY OF GARDENERS COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM AWARD  
OUTSTANDING EFFORTS IN BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SPACES continued**

Ms. Dickson also says that it was motivating to participate in the national symposium and to witness the transformation of communities across the country and world-wide through the Communities in Bloom program. "These communities obviously understand what it takes for a community to truly bloom. Beautification is not merely fluff; it is an important part in building civic pride and fostering environmental stewardship," she says. "These communities have reaped the benefits of greening and the CIB goals in every aspect of strengthening a community, from increased economic development and tourism, to reduction in vandalism and decreased crime rates, to renewed civic pride. We also continue to learn so much each year from the CIB judges."



Cindy MacKinnon, Executive Director of the Pictou County Tourist Associations says, "The achievements of New Glasgow and Stellarton are not only outstanding achievements for both towns but good for the County. To have New Glasgow and Stellarton profiled so well to representatives of 500 communities is a marketing boost for promoting our region as a place to visit. The CIB symposium was hosted by Halifax Regional Municipality and was among the highest attended symposiums since the symposium began 15 years ago."

***"To be recognized among so many outstanding towns in the Community of Gardeners Criteria category is a celebration of great teamwork by our community and our municipality" - Mayor Barrie MacMillan***

Judges Gerry Teahen, Ontario and Margaret Bateman Ellison, Nova Scotia who visited and evaluated New Glasgow in mid July also cited New Glasgow's performance in respect to environmental awareness and complimented the Town on an illustrious past from which to draw upon. Great cultural diversity and an active commitment to heritage preservation and an impressive assortment of soft-scapes and hard-scapes by both citizens and the municipality itself were noted. Floral displays in residents' gardens were considered outstanding. The CIB judges concluded by stating on the extensive evaluation form that "in the areas of public space enhancements and beautification, urban forestry, environmental stewardship and awareness, New Glasgow is an exemplary five bloom community."



Shannon MacIntosh, 2009 CIB Foundation Bursary winner and member of the Town of New Glasgow summer grounds crew is shown busy at work at Carmichael Park.



**Christmas Workshops**

**Presented by New Glasgow Communities in Bloom & Town of New Glasgow's Community Development**

**Friday, November 12**

**Window of Opportunity  
Creating Beautiful  
Christmas Storefronts  
& Entrances**

Presenter/Instructor: Trudy Vince  
Location: Community Room  
New Glasgow Library  
Time: 12 noon - 1pm  
Free Admission

**Saturday, November 13**

**Thinking Outside  
the Christmas Gift Box  
(Home Décor)**

Presenter/Instructor: Trudy Vince  
Location: Community Room  
New Glasgow Library  
Time: 10:00 - 11:00 am  
Free Admission

**Saturday, November 27,**

**Creating Christmas Greenery  
Making a Swag**

Presenter/Instructor: Suzanne Makin, McKean's Flowers  
Location: Program Room  
New Glasgow Library  
Time: 1:00 - 2:00 pm  
Free Admission

**Saturday, November 27**

**Crafts for Christmas  
& Story Telling**

Presenter/Instructor: Margie Beck  
Location: Community Room  
New Glasgow Library  
Time: 1:00 - 3:00 pm  
Free Admission  
Maximum 35 for this workshop

**To register for these workshops, please contact Cheryl Young**

**755-8346 or [cheryl.young@newglasgow.ca](mailto:cheryl.young@newglasgow.ca) New Glasgow Town Hall Mon – Fri 8:30-4:30**

### Christmas Light Up November Nov 20, 6-8pm

### New Glasgow Christmas Parade November 21 2pm pm

Join us to officially welcome the start of the Christmas season on the outdoor stage of Glasgow Square Theatre on Saturday November 20, 6-8pm . Zelda Crossman, President of the New Glasgow Development Commission says, " We moved our date to a Saturday to give families better opportunity to attend this wonderful event to celebrate the start of the Christmas season." The evening will include local entertainers, free wagon rides, free hot chocolate, eggnog and glow sticks for the children.

This year the LED Christmas Light Exchange will be held with Nova Scotia Power. Since 2005, the Town of New Glasgow has been giving New Glasgow and Pictou County residents the chance to exchange their power consuming lights for an efficient set of LED lights to use outside in Christmas decorating. Since our first year of hosting the LED Light Exchange, the Town of New Glasgow has switched all of its outdoor Christmas lighting to LED. Annually there are approximately 300 sets of LED lights distributed to local residents, during the LED Light Exchange with Nova Scotia Power.

The official light up will take place at approximately 7pm when Deputy Mayor Ross Hamid will turn the switch to light up the town tree and downtown core. In addition to the light up, the children will have a chance to meet Santa, who will be escorted to Glasgow Square Theatre by members of the New Glasgow Fire Department.

The fun will continue the next day with the annual New Glasgow Christmas Parade on Sunday, Nov. 21 with a 2:00 pm start from the John Brother MacDonald Stadium. The theme for this year's parade is *Celebrating Christmases From Around the World* and parade organizers hope to see diverse cultural customs reflected in the parade.

The annual Food Bank drive organized by the Kinsmen will take place and everyone is encouraged to bring non perishable items. This year

the Salvation Army will be handing out hot chocolate along the parade route. Parade Chair Paula Munro- Fraser says it is exciting to see new participants to the Christmas Parade such as the Pictou County Multicultural Association and the Joins in Motion group along with many schools, businesses, churches and community groups and of course the guest of honour himself, direct from the North Pole, Santa Claus.

The parade will leave the John Brother MacDonald Stadium via Washington Street on to East River Road, proceed down Archimedes Street, up to the new round about traffic route on North Provost towards Trenton Road, turn left at the Elks Club and make this left turn back onto North Provost and then onto Provost Street. The parade will conclude on Stewart Street and parade entries will disband or return to the Stadium.

Kim Dickson, Marketing and Communications Director for New Glasgow says, "The Christmas Parade has become a family tradition for Pictou County residents. We are hoping the multicultural theme will add a special flavour and atmosphere that reflects the rich cultural mosaic of our County." Anyone interested in participating may contact Paula Munro-Fraser by calling 925-2077 or 755-0262.



Paula Munro-Fraser (centre), Chair of the Christmas Parade is pictured with Cst. Ken Macdonald, New Glasgow Police Service and Zelda Crossman, President of NGDC along with Santa and Mrs. Claus.



### A Peter White Christmas Glasgow Square Theatre December 9, 8pm

Originally from New Glasgow, NS, Peter White was a computer engineer. He even went to school for it. Unfortunately it took him a long time to realize that he hated engineering with a passion. Luckily he found comedy.

He started performing stand-up comedy in 2005, and within a year was named one of the "Top 5 Up and Coming Comedians in Canada" by CBC Radio's *So, You Think You're Funny?* He did comedy in most of the places in Canada, including the prestigious *Just For Laugh's* Comedy Festival, three consecutive years at the *Halifax Comedy Festival*. He also taped his own hour long special for CTV and the Comedy Network's *Comedy Now*.

At some point he realized that it was just as fun to write things and have other people read them. Instead of reading them himself. He has written for the Gemini Award Winning *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* and the Gemini Award Nominated *That's So Weird* on YTV. He has also written for various radio programs and online publications. His writing has been nominated for both a Canadian Comedy Award and a Writer's Guild of Canada Award.

When not writing third person biographies, Peter writes for various television shows and travels the country performing stand up comedy.

" A Peter White Christmas" will be an evening of fun and comedy giving folks some time to relax and have a laugh during what is a busy time of year," commented Carlton Munroe, Manager, Glasgow Square Theatre.

## Henderson Paris appointed to the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission

The Province of Nova Scotia has appointed Henderson Paris of New Glasgow to the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission.

"Mr. Paris has a long commitment to human rights and we are pleased he has accepted this appointment," said Ross Landry, Minister responsible for the Human Rights Act.

"He will make a significant contribution to the work of the commission in enhancing and promoting human rights in the province."

Mr. Paris is a community leader in Pictou County. Over twenty years ago, he founded the Annual Run Against Racism. "It was during the fall of the year 1989 I started wondering what I could do about bringing more awareness to the problem of racism and discrimination," stated on the Run Against Racism Background webpage. Since that time, the Annual Run Against Racism and Henderson's message has created awareness in the local community, in his province and beyond.

In 2000, Henderson received a Race Relations Award in 2000 from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for creating change and promoting diversity.

"I welcome Mr. Paris as a new commissioner. His experiences will be invaluable to the commission as we continue to work towards a Nova Scotia that is free from prejudice and discrimination," said Ernie Bolivar, chair of the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission.



New Glasgow Town Councillor Henderson Paris has recently been appointed to the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission .

## Sobeys Slam 2010 Rocks

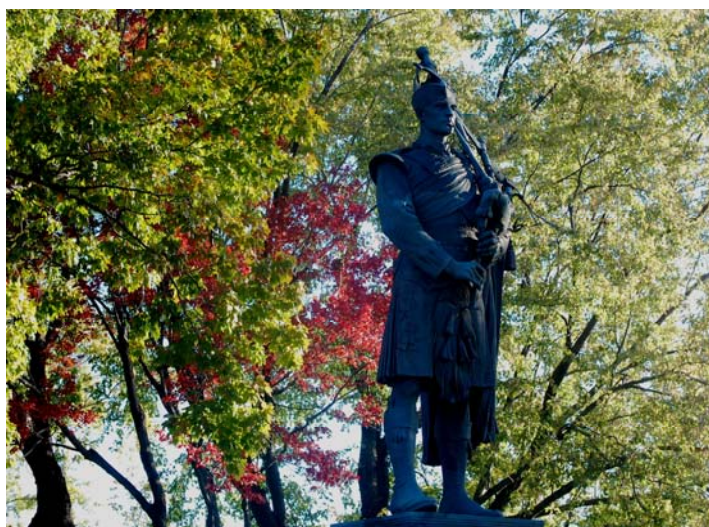
The sights and sounds of heavy, polished granite stones gliding on hard ice towards a target area called a house as the skip calls to her team will be heard from November 11-14 at John Brother Mac Donald Stadium. Teams will compete for a total prize purse of \$60,000, which is the highest prize being offered in women's curling events.

Since 2007 the Sobeys Slam curling event has been hosted in New Glasgow as part of the World Curling Tour's Grand Slam series, The Sobeys Slam is one of only three women's stops on the tour, joining curling hotbeds Calgary and Winnipeg as host cities. Through its partnership with the Town of New Glasgow, the

Sobeys Slam is also the only women's event on the tour to take place in an arena.

New Glasgow Mayor Barrie MacMillan commented, "Event Chair Jim Nix and the Bluenose Curling Committee did an extraordinary job organizing successful events in 2007 and 2008 and we anticipate the 2010 edition to be yet another world class event. To see the John Brother MacDonald Stadium transformed into an elite curling venue is a remarkable sight and great source of community pride. We are so delighted to be able to provide such a quality setting for curlers and spectators alike and to help showcase New Glasgow, Pictou County, and Nova Scotia to curling fans around the world. "

Included in the Sobeys Slam events will be a men's elite round robin invitational which will run concurrently with this year's Grand Slam Event. Eight men's teams will compete during the Sobeys Slam and promises curling fans the best men's competition this season.



### Lest We Forget

**On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, we paused in memory of the thousands of men and women who sacrificed their lives in military service**

## Recreation & Leisure Services Launches Program Guide & Contact List

The Recreation division of New Glasgow Community Development Department has launched a program guide and contact list for Town of New Glasgow residents to obtain information for recreation and sport activities in New Glasgow.

"This brochure provides a quick reference guide of recreation programs for all ages and the community groups and facility contacts," stated Norma MacLeod, Recreation Manager. "Staff made contact with community groups confirming programming, locations and schedules. This is the first edition and public

feedback is welcomed so that we may continue to update the listings for the summer guide," stated Ms. MacLeod.

The Guide and Contact List are categorized by the following programs: baby and toddler, youth, adult and senior programs. Also included in the listing are the town's sport and non-profit organizations. Fall programs for Christmas are noted.

The Program Guide and Contact List will be available to Town of New Glasgow residents at the New Glasgow Town Hall, New Glasgow

Library, Glasgow Square Theatre, John Brother Mac Donald Stadium, Senior's 55+ Club, The North End Recreation Centre, Ward One Recreation Centre and Westside Community Centre. The guide is also available on the Town of New Glasgow website at [www.newglasgow.ca](http://www.newglasgow.ca).

"This brochure has created an inventory to build upon, enabling the public to locate the accurate contact person. Because volunteers transfer within non-profit organizations, it is important to share that information with recreation staff," explained Ms. MacLeod.

For further information, call 755-8363.

## Harvest Time in Downtown New Glasgow Huge Success

Despite rain, Downtown New Glasgow celebrated the Autumn harvest with the season finale of the New Glasgow Farmers Market, an outdoor kitchen party, trick or treating, wagon rides, musical entertainment, pumpkin carving/painting and pie contests and a fall workshop.

"The downtown had over 800 children and their families visit for wagon rides, treats and organized children activities," says Zelda Crossman, President of the New Glasgow Development Commission. "We had a full day of celebrating fall harvest and Halloween with students playing instruments and singing. Harvest Time drew community, merchants and volunteers to enjoy activities in our core."

The final New Glasgow Farmers Market of the season was held with large crowds and wonderful autumn products. Margie Beck, a New Glasgow Communities in Bloom Committee member presented a Fall Recipes Workshop. "Despite cool rainy weather, life under the Community in Blooms presentation tent was warm and cozy, commented Ms.

Beck. "We had a wonderful gathering at the Farmers Market. The workshop had about 40 participants. Samples of gooseberry jelly were given out, participants frosted muffins in a Halloween theme, sampled carrot cookies and dill pickles and learned to make a treat basket and flatbread for donairs and wraps. John Carter and Gladys Haddad were our very efficient Sous chefs. I want to thank to them for a job well done!"

Winners of the pie contest were Victoria Bernard first place with pumpkin pie, Rilda Scanlan second place with peach cranberry apple pie and Margie Cameron 3<sup>rd</sup> place with apple pie. "The harvest time event is a great annual event for Pictou County that supports local business, farmers and artisans, which are all essential economic drivers for our community, stated Katy MacDonald, Community Development Officer, Pictou Regional Development Authority.

The Best Pumpkin Carving and Best Painted Pumpkin contests for youth and adults also took place. Winner of the Carving contest was Keith Matheson from Carver's Coffee and Pub in Pictou with

second place going to Suzanne Cloutier. The winner of the Painted Pumpkin contest was Megan MacDonald.

Susan Stephen, New Glasgow Farmers Market Chair was thrilled with the turnout at the final farmers market of the season, "The New Glasgow Farmers Market was wall-to-wall people celebrating the Fall Harvest. With lots of fun activities and full vendor tables, it was a great event. Thanks from the Market Co-op Board to the Town of New Glasgow and NGDC for the great planning and promotion."

By afternoon, the sky cleared for the Harvest Outdoor Kitchen Party held on the patio at the New Glasgow Library with Mountain Memories Blue Grass and Old-time Music Band. Also throughout the downtown core were street performances by music students of Janet Proudfoot and Fleur Mainville who entertained everyone as they enjoyed the day's events.

"The day was a great close to the harvest season and a showcase for Downtown as the heart of the community and a shopping destination that is special and



unique with high quality items," says Kim Dickson, New Glasgow's Director of Marketing and Communications. "Downtown was alive with the sights, sounds and flavours of the fall harvest and Halloween. It is was an event families enjoyed and we are looking forward to continuing Harvest Time as an annual event."

Harvest Time is presented by the New Glasgow Development Commission, and sponsored by NGDC, the Town of New Glasgow, Pictou County Tourist Association, New Glasgow Communities in Bloom and the Pictou Regional Development Agency.

## New Glasgow pays tribute to Viola Desmond during 2010 Black Gala Homecoming

This summer, part of the 2010 Black Gala Homecoming, the Town of New Glasgow paid special tribute to Viola Desmond during the week-long festivities.

New Glasgow Mayor Barrie MacMillan and members of Town Council were joined by special guests the Honorable Mayann Francis, Lt. Governor of Nova Scotia; the Honorable Peter MacKay, Federal Minister of Defense; the Honorable Darrell Dexter, Premier of Nova Scotia; and the Honorable Ross Landry, Nova Scotia Minister of Justice to pay tribute to and honor

Ms Desmond during a series of events marking her contribution and leadership as a champion of social justice.

Mayor MacMillan says New Glasgow was honored to recognize Ms Desmond and her determination to face adversity and create social change.

"Ms Desmond embodies the qualities of courage, strength, and grace from which we can all admire and learn. Her actions have generated great positive change not only in New Glasgow, but also in the province and beyond, furthering the civil rights movement in Canada," explains Mayor MacMillan.

In 1946, Ms Desmond refused to follow segregation rules at the Roseland Theatre in New Glasgow. On April 14, 2010, she posthumously received a free pardon and official apology from the Government of Nova Scotia. Ms Desmond passed away in New York in 1965.

"With the memorials unveiled during the 2010 Black Gala Homecoming, New Glasgow celebrated and preserved Ms Desmond's story for future generations. It is only fitting that these tributes took place against the backdrop of the Homecoming and its celebration of the heritage, culture and contributions of the African Nova Scotian community to our town, our province and our country," Mayor MacMillan continues.

Councilor Clyde Fraser, Chair of the New Glasgow Heritage Committee, feels that the message of Ms Desmond's story has enriched New Glasgow.

"The New Glasgow Heritage Committee was



The Honorable Darrell Dexter, Premier of Nova Scotia, Honorable Ross Landry Nova Scotia Minister of Justice join New Glasgow Mayor Barrie MacMillan beside the Grant of Free Pardon for Viola Desmond. Below Honorable Mayann Francis, Lt. Governor of Nova Scotia and Wanda Robson, Viola Desmond's sister, stand in front of the portrait of Viola commissioned by the Town of New Glasgow and the Office of the Lt. Governor.

proud to participate in this momentous occasion. Viola Desmond has had a positive impact on the history of Pictou County and Nova Scotia and the evolution of social justice in our community. We hope that this increased awareness of her story will continue to enlighten us," says Fraser.

Ms Desmond was honored during a series of events throughout the Black Gala Homecoming.

On Monday, August 16, the dedication of a commemorative bench took place at the Africentric Heritage Park on the Vale Road hosted by the Town of New Glasgow and the Africentric Heritage Park Committee.

The unveiling of an interpretive panel of Ms Desmond's story also took place on Monday in Laurie Park on the corner of Dalhousie and Temperance Streets. The panel will be housed outside the New Glasgow Library by the fall.

An official portrait of Ms Desmond, commissioned by the office of the Lt-Governor and the Town of New Glasgow and created by local artist David MacIntosh, was unveiled along with a special presentation by Nova Scotia Minister of Justice Ross Landry on Monday in Council Chambers of Town Hall.

On Tuesday, August 17, there was a book launch at Glasgow Square Theatre for *Sister to Courage*, a memoir written by Wanda Robson,



one of the sisters of Viola Desmond. Ms Robson was on hand to sign copies of her new book. Tuesday evening saw events return to Council Chambers with a civic reception in honor of the Black Gala Homecoming.

The tributes for Ms Desmond took place alongside the celebrations of the Black Gala Homecoming running from August 13 to 20 in New Glasgow.

Every five years, New Glasgow celebrates the African Nova Scotian community during the Homecoming. The festivities see the return of many friends, family and former residents to New Glasgow for the special occasion.

**"Ms Desmond embodies the qualities of courage, strength, and grace from which we can all admire and learn."  
Mayor Barrie MacMillan**

## Municipal Business Breakfast Museum of Industry November 5, 2010 Showcases Regional Projects



Sod turning ceremony held at the site of the Pictou County Wellness Centre. Left to Right: Ron Baillie, Warden of the Municipality of the County of Pictou and Chair of the PCWCB Authority; Minister Ross Landry, MLA Pictou Centre; the Honourable Peter MacKay, MP for Central Nova; New Glasgow Mayor Barrie MacMillan; Westville Mayor Roger MacKay; Stellarton Mayor Joe Gennoe; Pictou Mayor Joe Hawes; and Trenton Mayor Glen MacKinnon

On November 5th, the five Mayors and the Warden of Pictou County hosted a municipal business breakfast to provide an update to the business community on several regional projects the municipalities are collectively working on as well as to host the announcement of a new recruitment and retention initiative.

Each of the mayors, as well as the warden, gave those attending the session an update on some of the projects currently underway in the county. They include:

**Pictou County Wellness Centre:** New Glasgow Mayor Barrie MacMillan explained the assets of the Wellness centre will include a twin pad arena with two NHL size ice surfaces, a six lane 25 metre pool, a warm water therapeutic pool, a regulation size gym with a rock climbing wall, a dedicated fitness centre, multi-purpose community and conference space, a walking track, dedicated youth and child care rooms and licenses child care facility, multi use spaces, food service and administration offices. The total cost of the project is \$35 million with \$9 million coming collectively from the six municipalities throughout Pictou County, and a total of \$22 million coming from the Government of Canada and the Province of Nova Scotia while County residents can expect the launch of a corporate campaign to raise the additional \$4 million needed to construct the facility to begin this month. A contest is also planned in the near future to name the facility. "We've made remarkable progress. We will be building a facility that is accessible and will have an energy efficient design," stated Mayor MacMillan. "The Wellness Centre will play a critical role in propelling Pictou County's status as a great place to live, work and do business."

**Shared Services - Stellarton Mayor Joe Gennoe** says the six municipalities are now looking at new ways to streamline services to provide residents with what they need and want in the most environmentally-friendly and economically feasible way possible. Stellarton Mayor Joe Gennoe reviewed the creation of the Pictou County Shared Services Authority which replaced the Pictou County District Planning Commission which had three separate boards responsible for land use planning, waste collection, and sewage treatment which was based on

uniform tax assessment among the local municipalities.

**Municipal Infrastructure - Pictou Mayor Joe Hawes** urged businesses to push for the provincial and federal governments to increase funding for infrastructure projects from the traditional one-third model. Municipalities aren't able to do as much as is necessary with their funding solely coming from residential tax rates, he said. Municipalities were required to complete the ICSP exercise to qualify for funds from the Canada / Nova Scotia gas tax agreement. "We are willing to put up one-third of the funding," he said. "An infrastructure master plan needs to be part of our county-wide governance."

**Recruitment and Retention Strategy -** Guests at the municipal business breakfast were introduced to a long term recruitment and retention strategy to secure talented professionals to work and live in our region of Pictou County by Westville Mayor Roger MacKay and CEO of the Pictou County Health Authority Pat Lee. Within the next 20 years, nearly 30 per cent of Pictou County's population will be over the age of 65 explained Mayor MacKay. The impact will be substantial and business and community leaders must prepare for the future now. One of the key steps that are being taken to address the situation is an attraction and retention program titled, "*Pictou County- Where Work Meets Life.*"

Pat Lee, CEO of the Pictou County Health Authority, said that surveys done with business leaders, expatriates and new residents helped create the concept. "We were told consistently that Pictou County is a place where work meets life - and that you can have both," he explained to the more than 150 people in attendance at the Museum of Industry in Stellarton.

Pictou County businesses were encouraged to use the Where Work Meets Life logo and images, as well as to highlight regional success stories, in their communications and marketing efforts. The program will provide businesses with resources that include a Pictou County careers portal, a community asset map, and recruitment-focused marketing materials.

"Cooperation among Pictou County's municipal

leaders is necessary and is helping the county forge ahead," said National Minister of Defense Peter MacKay who was guest speaker at the morning event. I think there is a very positive feeling- there's a sense of the momentum," Minister MacKay said.

**DSME Trenton - Trenton Mayor Glen MacKinnon** highlighted some of the most recent developments at the plant, indicating that more than 30 people have been hired, 10 of whom are former Trenton Works employees. The major employment drive will begin in early 2011. Central Nova MP Peter MacKay spoke briefly about DSME while addressing the group and indicated there was another Korean company who is currently looking at a partnership that will install windmills in the area. Mayor MacKinnon praised the local business community's cooperation from preliminary discussions with representatives from the parent South Korean company Daewoo until the joint agreement it signed with the province last spring.

Municipal governments have thrown their support behind the program, added Warden Ronnie Baillie. "We'll support businesses any way we possibly can to attract and retain professionals," Baillie said. "Whether it's infrastructure, housing, anything is possible."



**New Glasgow  
Flourish**

**New Glasgow Now  
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