



Engaging Youth in Municipal Government

November 4th, 2015

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Town of Truro*

Truro's Youth and Student Population

- Cobequid Educational Centre
 - Senior High School, Approx. 1,400 students in grades 10-12.
- Nova Scotia Community College – Truro Campus
 - Approx. 700 Full Time Students
- Dalhousie University Agricultural Campus, Bible Hill
 - Approx. 850 Full Time Students

Creating Partnerships

- Youth Engagement has become an increasingly important topic.
- Initiatives through the Town of Truro, Engage Truro/Colchester, and Youth themselves (“Home Grown” Event).
- Town of Truro has worked to create strong partnerships with Dalhousie, NSCC, and Chamber of Commerce on a number of Youth Initiatives.

Student Orientation Week

- Goal:
 - Get Youth more involved and knowledgeable about the local community – better engaged and more connected.
 - Make students feel more welcomed and valued in the community.
- Town of Truro, in partnership with both campus's, planned a number of initiatives throughout Orientation Week for students of Dalhousie Agricultural Campus and the NSCC, Truro Campus

Student Orientation Week

- Activities throughout the Week:
 - Free Ice Cream for Students at Victoria Park
 - Information Booth on Campus – information on local Parks and Recreational programs, Community Events, Volunteer Opportunities
 - Provide information in Student Orientation Packages – Town services, events, and Student Welcome Weekend.

Student Welcome Weekend

- Friday, Sept. 11 – Sunday, Sept 13, 2015
- Friday Evening:
 - “On A Budget BBQ”
 - “Where’s Mayor Bill Mills” – Scavenger Hunt throughout Downtown Truro
 - Live Music at the Truro Farmer’s Market
 - Outdoor Movie with Free Popcorn
 - A number of businesses offered Student Discounts throughout Downtown.

Student Welcome Event

- Saturday:
 - Truro's annual Embrace Festival (a festival which Multiculturalism and Diversity)
 - Featured live music, food, entertainment, demonstrations, and displays at the Truro Farmer's Market.
 - 2015 Theme – Welcome – to Students and Newcomers.
- Sunday:
 - Student Day at the Rath Eastlink Community Centre
 - Free Rock-climbing, Swimming, and Skating throughout the day.
 - Membership Specials for Students.

Truro Entrepreneurship Centre

- Town of Truro partnership with Dalhousie Agricultural Campus, Nova Scotia Community College, and Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce.
- Retaining and attracting students after graduation from post secondary education.
- Identified the need for some type of business centre with shared resources.
- Feasibility of creating a community entrepreneurship centre in Downtown Truro.

Truro Entrepreneurship Centre

- Feasibility testing to this point has involved:
 - Research of comparable facilities available and comparable community based facilities.
 - Engaging students to be involved in the process.
 - 4th Year Student Projects – organizing public meetings to gauge public interest, proposed structure of the facility, funding, business planning, etc.

Thank You

