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# SCOTIA GARDENER

Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Association of Garden Clubs

## President's Report

Hello Fellow Gardeners

It is hard to believe that it is November! But what a glorious autumn it has been! Most of our garden clean-up is completed, bulbs planted, etc., and if you are like me, already thinking about how beautiful everything will look in the spring. Another year of thinking, "I won't buy anything new this year; I will look after what I already have." Well, that didn't work for me again. I stopped counting at 20 new plants and that isn't counting the bulbs.

It has been an exciting time for the NSAGC. Our new website is up and running @ [www.nsagc.com](http://www.nsagc.com). Thank you to our committee members for all of your hard work to make this happen: Lis Jackson, Paul Despres, Sarah Cluett, Arthur Haskins, Andrew Clinch. It is user friendly with lots of great information!

The Flower Show Handbook is ready thanks to Paul Despres. Check out the website to download your own copy! All the Directors and those clubs who hold Flower Shows in their area already have, or will have, a copy. You can also purchase a copy by contracting Lis Jackson.

NSAGC is still supporting any club wishing to plant a tree in their area. The tree can be purchased and planted at any time. You don't have to wait till September for the National Plant a Tree program. All that is required is that you send your receipt to our Treasurer, Lis Jackson and your club will be reimbursed \$20.

The online Horticultural Judges Course will be starting January 2016. Contact Arthur Haskins if you are interested.

Provincial Gardening Week (PGW) had various activities across the Province. We encourage you to continue promoting PGW in your own area, in your own unique way. No activity is too small. A poster has been approved by the Board and it will serve as our logo as well. Thanks to Don Butler for all of his hard work to make this happen.

At our Annual General Meeting (AGM), it was apparent that many are not aware of the purpose and/or use of the "Voting Card". We want to make sure that you, as members of the NSAGC, are aware of the importance of representing your club at the AGM (voting with your card requires a show of hands, with your card raised in favour of or against the item brought to the floor). Area Directors will ensure that the cards handed out will have the instructions on the back of the cards as a reminder of what they are used for and will answer any questions that you may have.

Of particular importance is the reminder to the clubs that your Assessment Sheets/Dues have a firm deadline of March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Your Directors will make sure that you understand the ramifications of missing this deadline. Susan and Lis are also addressing this in more detail in the Scotia Gardener. If your clubs do not meet over the winter, perhaps you may want to consider completing these forms by the end of December and sending your dues in early.

We are striving to increase our NSAGC membership so try to get the word out about how much fun it is to belong to a group that shares your passion for gardening. There are a few positions opening on the Board. Perhaps this might be something that you would be interested in doing. We welcome you and will help you in any way that we can.

Thank you to District 2 for inviting me to your Fall Rally. It was a wonderful day, packed full of information, great food and a warm, friendly group of "fellow gardeners". My apologies to District 3 for not being able to attend your meeting as the meetings were both on the same day. A sincere thank you to Liz Hill for offering to bring my greetings from the Board to your group. I know you had a wonderful day.

Enjoy this beautiful autumn!

Patsy MacKenzie



September meeting of the Board, NSAGC

### NSAGC's Scotia Gardener

The Scotia Gardener is published in October, December, April and July.

We welcome articles, pictures, notices, items of interest to gardeners. Please send to: Ann Jones, Editor, 429 Lakeside Rd, PO box 167, Hebron, NS, B5A 5Z8 or e-mail to: [annjones@eastlink.ca](mailto:annjones@eastlink.ca). Phone 902 742 1978 or cell 902 748 5948. Deadline for the April is March 15, 2016

If you would like to place an advertisement in the Scotia Gardener, please contact Don Butler at [butlerdon@live.ca](mailto:butlerdon@live.ca)

**Note: The Editor of the Scotia Gardener retains exclusive control over the content and format of the newsletter. All information submitted for publication will be subject to and will be included or excluded in the newsletter on the sole discretion of the Editor.**

### NSAGC Photo Contest 2015 for 2016



Freezing Rain Aftermath 07 2013 Dec 25 by Jeannie Gibson Collins of the Valley Garden Club.

Jeannie's photograph is a reminder that even when your garden is slumbering under ice and snow that there is still beauty to be captured. Put away your garden tools but do not put away your camera.

This year's NSAGC photo has a deadline of Sunday May 8th .

- Contestants will be given digital access to the gallery showing all the entries.
- Contestants will receive a newsletter reporting on the results of the contest.
- All judges' comments will be recorded and shared with contestants.
- The three best pictures will be awarded prizes.

For details of the classes and rules, go to the NSAGC web site at

<http://www.nsagc.com/awardB.html> (This url may change later as the NSAGC web site is being redesigned).

The 12 classes will remain the same as last year.

Accept the challenge and submit your photographs.

#### Tags and Seals from NSAGC

For your next Flower/Vegetable Show don't forget to order your Tags and Seals from the NSAGC. NSAGC provides 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, Honorable Mention and Best in Show Seals or stickers for the judges to use during your show. These seals can be placed on the Flower Show Tags after judging. It is a nice way to remember what award you won.

The Tags have room for the class, selection, variety, exhibitor's number, name and address. The participant's information can be covered during the judging by a fold and a slot to insert the end of the tag so the judges can't see who the exhibitor is.

The Tags & Seals are both 10 cents each to purchase through your garden club. These can be mailed to your club or your club can save on postage by being picked up during our Annual NSAGC Convention.

If your club would like to place an order please contact Sarah Cluett either by phone or email. The phone number is (902)463-3685 or email address is [sarah.cluett@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.cluett@gmail.com).

Sarah Cluett, NSAGC Tags & Seals

#### Coming Events

##### Bible Hill Garden Club

December 10th

Annual Christmas Party  
And Pot Luck Feast  
6:00 pm

Jim & Jenny's

29 English Oaks Dr.

##### Yarmouth Garden Club

Saturday, December 12th

Annual Christmas luncheon  
Pot Luck

12:00 Noon, Yarmouth Lions Hall  
Parade Street

Show-and-Tell Christmas Crafts



#### Notes from 2016 AGM/Convention Chair Don Butler

The 2016 hosting committee for Convention 2016 has been hard at work since September of 2014. Much of the preparation work has been done, but there are so much more to do to ensure this is a wonderful conference for all who attend. A maximum of 250 delegates can be accepted, so don't leave your registration plans to the last minute.

We want to keep you up to date on various details.

The convention will be held at the Pictou County Wellness Center which is located just off exit 23, TCH. This is a beautiful new facility with lots of parking and space in the building.

The two named hosting hotels, Travelodge & Holiday Inn Express are less than a km from the Center. Both provide a complimentary breakfast. They are holding blocks of rooms for us until May 1<sup>st</sup>. When you make contact with them, identify yourself as being part of the garden club convention.

The Friday afternoon boat tour will leave from New Glasgow and take passengers down to Pictou and back. The cost is \$25.00/person and a limited number of passengers can be accommodated.

Our theme is "Touched by a Garden." We hope to make this a very special convention for all to enjoy.



# NSAGC CONVENTION 2016

**Hosted by Eastern District #2  
Pictou County Wellness Centre**

**June 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 2016**

***“Touched By A Garden”***

<b>Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	1:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Registraton
	1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Self- Guided Tours
	2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Riverboat Cruise
	2:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Vendors Open
	6:00 pm	Floral Competton Designs in Place
	6:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Ofcial Opening - Don Butler, Conventon Chair Special Welcome by Municipality of Pictou County Warden Ron Baillie
		Patsy MacKenzie, Chairperson, NSAGC Announcements
	7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Denise Adams - Embracing Natve & Naturalized Plants
8:00 pm	Entertainment, Social Time, Cash Bar	
<b>Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup></b>	8:00 am – 10:00 am	Registraton
	8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Vendors Open
	8:45 am – 9:45 am	NSAGC Annual General Meetng & AGM Special Door Prize
	9:45 am – 10:15 am	Nutriton Break
	10:15 am – 11:00 am	Randy Lauf - Not All Insects in Your Garden Should Bug You
	11:05 am – 11:50 am	Lord Abbey, Hortcultural Therapy - Therapeutc Benefits of Plants and Their Use, The Past, Present & Future
	11:55 am – 12:00 pm	Announcements
	12:00 pm – 1:15 pm	Lunch
	1:20 pm – 2:05 pm	Dawn Westhaver - Milkweed & Monarch Buterfies
	2:05 pm – 2:35 pm	Nutriton Break
	2:35 pm – 3:20 pm	Marc Gabrieau - From the Garden to the Table
	3:25 pm – 4:10 pm	Philip Ruiz - Ergonomics of the Garden - How to Make the Best Moves While Gardening
	4:15 pm	Door Prizes, Announcements
	6:00 pm	Banquet Evie Fraser, District 2 Director& MC Banquet Speaker - Carol Goodwin - Touched By a Garden Awards, Conventon 2017, Closing Remarks

## NSAGC Plant Giveaway for 2016

The perennial selected for 2016 is Ligularia 'Othello'. This is a perennial with bright yellow clusters of flowers and dark leaves blooming later in the summer, standing close to three and a half feet tall it should be placed at the back of the border or bed. This is a truly outstanding specimen perennial plant for any garden. For those gardeners who like to plant in groups of three or mass plantings additional plants can be obtained by your club placing a bulk order as described below.



### BULK ORDERS OF LIGULARIA 'OTHELLO' ORDER FORM FOR LIGULARIA 'Othello' PLANTS

Name of Club \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Plants Requested @ \$2 each \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ enclosed. \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person in Club \_\_\_\_\_

Fill in Order Form, make cheque or MO out to the **Nova Scotia Association of Garden Clubs** and forward to:

Arthur Haskins, 8780 Highway #2, Great Village, NS., B0M 1L0

For any further information contact Arthur at 902 668-2838 or ahaskins@eastlink.ca

Plants to be picked up at the Convention in June.

### **Central District 3 Annual Meeting**

The NSAGC Central District held their annual meeting on Saturday, October 17. The Cobequid Garden Club (Bass River, Economy, Five Islands) hosted members at the Economy Recreation Centre in Economy. Approximately 95 garden club members were in attendance and eleven clubs were represented. It was a beautiful fall afternoon and many who travelled to the meeting commented on the scenic drive along Cobequid Bay and the beautiful fall colours.

The spacious hall was decorated with lovely seasonal arrangements of fall flowers, gourds and pumpkins. One

Peirce (<http://elizabethpeirce.weebly.com>) speaking on canning and preserving the bounty from our gardens. In addition to being a preserving and canning aficionado, Elizabeth is an editor and author, having published a number of books through Nimbus Publishing including Grow Organic and Canning, Pickling and Preserving the Maritime Harvest.

There were numerous door prizes awarded and a wonderful lunch buffet provided. Guests went home happy, informed and full. Thank you to the Cobequid Garden Club for the wonderful afternoon.

Patti Sharpe, Director



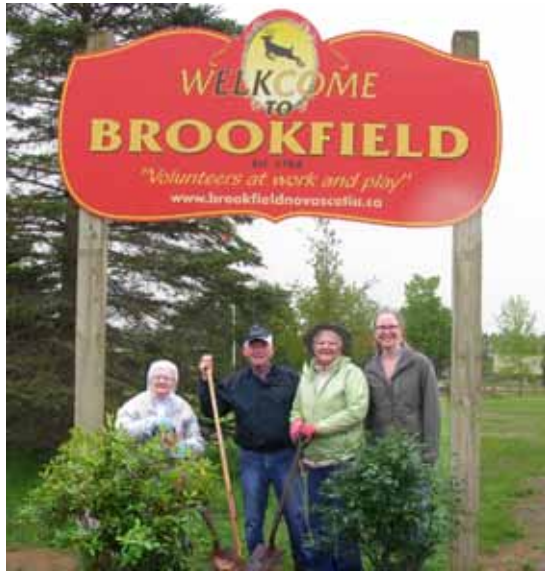
lucky guest at each table took home the centrepiece. Goody bags contained a selection of fall bulbs.

Central District South Director Liz Hill opened the meeting and brought greetings from NSAGC chair Patsy MacKenzie. Each club gave a brief report of their activities throughout the past year. The guest speaker was Elizabeth



Always great food at a Central District Meeting

**Brookfield Garden club Decorates their Community**



Shrub Planting Crew

Brookfield Garden Club is for the third year decorating our community with Christmas wreaths. Wreaths are sponsored by local folks, which include businesses, clubs and families. The wreaths hang from locally made brackets with plaques on utility poles along the main streets of the village. The work of attaching the wreaths to the brackets is done by members and family. Our community has shown great support!



Bulb Planting Crew

This summer our club celebrated Nova Scotia gardening week by purchasing and planting two shrubs and later in the season added several more. We started with burning bush, pj m rhodo, from Charlie the Tree Guy, then from the Superstore we planted 3-'golden mop' false cypress, 2-'blue star' juniper, beneath our Welcome to Brookfield sign on Pleasant Valley Rd. leading into Brookfield from the 102 hwy on the Ed Creelman Park property with our historical CN Train Station Building. During the first hot day in May, Heather C and Chip M were seen shoveling two yard of soil from Fundy Composting off the back of a half ton truck into the area prepared by the Brookfield Mens Club beneath the sign. On a misty Saturday during N.S. Gardening week several members were present for the planting of the shrubs and mulching. The shrubs look wonderful despite our dry summer spell!

Our Club made a profit last year on our wreath sales so we chose to fund a scholarship at the South Colchester Academy for a student interested in attending the Dalhousie Agricultural College.

We entered the Veseys bulb offer. We didn't win but we received a nice letter and approximately 50+ different bulbs which we traded for all red & white. One lovely Friday morning in October several members planted the bulbs amongst our shrubs around the Welcome to Brookfield sign. We are excited to see if the tulips survive the wild life which is always a challenge when planting tulips. We are hoping for a beautiful show of colour in the spring of 2016. Plentiful planting days to all from Brookfield Garden club/written by Susan Stevenson

First photo is the bulb planting crew , Second photo is the shrub planting crew.

Susan Stevenson

**CUBA GARDEN/CULTURE TOURS**

CUBA1TOURS, OF COURTENAY, BC HAS BEEN OFFERING SMALL GROUP TOURS TO CUBA SINCE 1994. ALL TOURS ARE FULLY GUIDED AND TRAVEL IS IN A MODERN, A/C BUS. ALL TOURS LIMITED TO 20 PAX AND EARLY REGISTRATION MOST IMPORTANT. ALL TOUR DETAILS AND CONTACTS ARE AT: [WWW.CUBA1TOURS.COM](http://WWW.CUBA1TOURS.COM)



**THE NSAGC IS NOW ON FACEBOOK AND THE WEB**

If you are a facebook user, join the NSAGC Group. We now have almost 1000 gardeners who have joined. Every member of the group can post events, pictures, questions, answers. Any member can also invite new members to join the NSAGC group. Just go to Groups, search NSAGC on the top bar and ask to join. Questions? Contact [annjones@eastlink.ca](mailto:annjones@eastlink.ca)



Check out our **New Look** NSAGC Website  
[www.nsagc.com](http://www.nsagc.com)

The NSAGC facebook Group compliments our NSAGC website [www.nsagc.com](http://www.nsagc.com) where you can find a list of NSAGC Executive and Directors, supports to Clubs, NSAGC projects & awards, and information of the AGM.

### District 2 Fall Rally

It was a great day to be a gardener in District 2 on October 17<sup>th</sup>. Ninety five of them registered for their annual Fall Rally, hosted by the Lismore & District Club at their community hall.

Registration began at 9:00 a.m. and as people arrived they were greeted by the music of The Dock Gang, a local Irish/Scottish Band. Under the theme, "Gardening By The Sea," Angie VanKessel, West River Greenhouses, enlightened her audience to the challenges and the joys of gardening near the ocean. Glen Higbee, New Ross, proved to be a fountain of knowledge when he gave a presentation on the growing and care of high bush blueberries.



NSAGC President Patsy MacKenzie presents award to Joanne Shells, driftwood and dried flowers were presented to the group and each club chose a team who in tern created beautiful center pieces. This proved to be a real fun exercise.

After a fish chowder lunch Arthur Haskin, a noted dahlia grower in the province, was the first speaker. His topic was the growing and the care of dahlia bulbs and he also answered many questions from the audience. Final speaker of the day gave a timely presentation on the collecting and preserving of seeds.

Greetings were given by District 2 Area Director, Evie Fraser and by provincial president, Patsy MacKenzie. All and all it was a most enjoyable day which provided information and fellowship which will be reflected upon clearly through the long winter months ahead. Hats of to the Lismore & District Garden Club members for hosting such a great day. As one delegate put it, "it was wonderful to be in a room filled with like minded, enthusiastic gardeners."

Don Butler



Pictured below are the Gardeners of the year for District 2. (L.to R.) Evie Fraser, District 2 Director. Pat Smith, Antigonish. Genesta Atkins, Guysborough & District. Carol MacDonald, Lismore & Distirct. Sharon Reid, St. Mary's. Beth Henderson, Pictou. Patsy MacKenzie, Provincial President. Nancy Pettipas, New Glasgow. Mary K & Clarrie MacKinnon standing in for Westville winners, Donnie & Kim Gordon.

### NSAGC AGM/Convention Coverage from the Yarmouth Vanguard Headline

#### NSAGC convention a "roaring success" in Yarmouth By Carla Allen

#### THE VANGUARD (reprinted with permission)

Yarmouth's attractions were admired by hundreds of gardeners from throughout the province, during the annual Nova Scotia Association of Garden Club convention on June 5/6. The event took place at the Rodd Grand Hotel and was hosted by clubs in the Western District #7.

Yarmouth Garden Club president Vivian Kennedy was chair of the convention committee.

"It was a roaring success," she said. "I met people on Sunday that had decided to stay an extra day to see more sights in the area.

"The speakers were well received, the vendors did well and the ghost walk was highly successful," she said.

Kennedy commended the Rodd Grand Hotel on providing the "excellent" venue for the event. The Nova Scotia Association of Garden Clubs (NSAGC) is made up of garden clubs and horticultural societies from all areas of Nova Scotia.

The 2016 NSAGC convention will be held in Pictou the first weekend in June.

Over 200 gardeners from across the province took part in the convention, which included a vendor display.

"Little conventions do big things for town, no doubt," said Kennedy.



Gardeners from clubs across the province attended the annual Nova Scotia Association of Garden Club convention held at the Rodd Grand Hotel on June 5/6. CARLA ALLEN PHOTO



Two local gardens were open to the Nova Scotia Association of Garden Club convention delegates on the weekend. Close to 100 toured Carla Allen's property on Cliff Street. CARLA ALLEN PHOTO

**Yarmouth Garden Club**

2015 has been very busy for our Club. We hold monthly meetings throughout the fall, winter and spring as well as a number of special events. In May we held our very popular Plant Sale, In June.

Add to this, with other Clubs in District 7, we hosted the NSAGC Convention.

After all this activity and excitement, it was nice to settled down to a relaxing summer of garden tours.

This year we had 21 gardens on the tour and a closing Pot luck to end the season. These photos are just a sample of our gardens.

Vivian Kennedy



Garden of Kathy d'Entremont



Garden of Penny Payalma



End of summer Potluck in the garden pf Randy & Kelly Pippy

**NSAGC Executive**

**Chair, Patsy MacKenzie,**

902-674-2374, [patmk30@hotmail.com](mailto:patmk30@hotmail.com)

**Vice-Chair, Vicki Willis**

902-789-1612, [vwillis53@hotmail.com](mailto:vwillis53@hotmail.com)

**Past Chair, Don Butler,**

902-926-2589, [butlerdon@live.ca](mailto:butlerdon@live.ca)

**Secretary, Susan Hazelwood,**

902-469-3661, [susan.hazelwood@eastlink.ca](mailto:susan.hazelwood@eastlink.ca)

**Treasurer, Lis Jackson,**

902-405-5494, [lisj@hfx.eastlink.ca](mailto:lisj@hfx.eastlink.ca)

**Committees**

**Awards Committee, Lorna Williams**

902-794-2893, [lorna\\_williams640@yahoo.ca](mailto:lorna_williams640@yahoo.ca)

**Future Projects Committee, Arthur Haskins,**

902-668-2838, [ahaskins@eastlink.ca](mailto:ahaskins@eastlink.ca)

**Historian, vacant**

**Photo Contest Committee, Andrew Clinch**

902-847-9464, [aclinch@eastlink.ca](mailto:aclinch@eastlink.ca)

**Tags & Seals, Sarah Cluett,**

902-463-3685, [sarah.cluett@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.cluett@gmail.com)

**Scotia Gardener Newsletter, Ann Jones**

902-742-1978, 902 748 5948 cell, [annjones@eastlink.ca](mailto:annjones@eastlink.ca)

**Web Master, Paul Despres,**

902-847-1001/403-630-7814, [pdespres@av.eastlink.ca](mailto:pdespres@av.eastlink.ca)

**Directors**

**Cape Breton District # 1, Dona Benac, Director,**

902-794-3197, [dlbeb75@hotmail.com](mailto:dlbeb75@hotmail.com)

**Eastern District # 2, Evie Fraser, Director,**

902-752-2149, [evie.fraser@eastlink.ca](mailto:evie.fraser@eastlink.ca)

**District #3 Central North, Vacant**

**District #3 Central South, Vacant**

**Halifax District # 4, Pamela MacLean, Director,**

902-832-7006, [pamela.macleam@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.macleam@gmail.com)

**Valley District # 5, Paul Despres, Director,**

902-847-1772, [pdespres@av.eastlink.ca](mailto:pdespres@av.eastlink.ca)

**South Shore District # 6, Myra Knight, Director,**

902-277-0247, [myra484@eastlink.ca](mailto:myra484@eastlink.ca)

**Western District # 7 Ann Jones, Director**

902-742-1978, [annjones@eastlink.ca](mailto:annjones@eastlink.ca)

**NSAGC Treasurer  
Are YOU Interested?**

The main duties are:

Record and deposit Garden club fee's

Pay Executive and Board expenses

Keep a set of Financial Statements

Attend Executive and Board meetings twice a year

This is a very rewarding position! The existing treasurer, Lis Jackson, has held this position for nine years and is willing to help transition this to the new person taking over. Please contact Lis at [lisj@eastlink.ca](mailto:lisj@eastlink.ca) with any questions.



# 2016 NSAGC Convention

Hosted by Eastern District

3&4 June 2016

Pictou County Health & Wellness Centre, New Glasgow, NS

## "Touched by a Garden"

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Home or Business) 902- \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) 902- \_\_\_\_\_ (Other) 902- \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Complete Mailing)

Garden Club or Society Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please: One Person per Form**

**Convention Fees (included: Friday evening Reception, Attendance at all Presentations, Saturday Lunch, and Refreshment Breaks)**

Garden Club or Affiliated Society Member	\$35.00	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Non-Member	\$45.00	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Water (Boat) Tour	\$25.00	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Self-Guided Garden Tours	\$0.00	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Banquet (Saturday Evening)	\$35.00	→	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Chicken	<input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Total</b>
	Vegetarian	<input type="checkbox"/>		
				\$ _____

Refunds will be given, if requested until 1 May 2016. After that date refunds will be considered by the convention committee based on information provided by the person making the request.

**Please make us aware of Special Concerns:** (Dietary, Mobility, etc)

The Wellness centre is very accessible and well equipped but the organizers would appreciate being made aware of any special considerations that may impede your having the best possible experience while attending the convention.

Rooms have been set aside at the Travel Lodge for \$93.00 per night and the Holiday Inn Express for \$113.00 per night for convention attendees (plus HST). Mention this when you make your reservations.

Mail Registration Form to:  
(with a Cheque Attached)

**A.M.Burns-Burrell, 91 Birch Hill Lane, R.R. #3, Pictou, NS, B0K 1H0**  
**Make Cheques Payable to: NSAGC 2016 Convention**

For additional information or questions

Telephone **David or Angie at 902-485-6369** or E-Mail **nsagc2016convention@gmail.com**

**Registration Closes 1 May 2016**