

# Cultivating artistic endeavours & education



Mi'kmaw artist, Alan Syliboy from Millbrook First Nation is pictured with Laura Schneider, Curator, Director of the Cape Breton University Art Gallery at the Wagmatcook Aboriginal Art Exhibit, held recently at the Wagmatcook Culture and Heritage Centre. He has exhibited all around the world and this the first opportunity to show his work in a Native community.

by Jim Morrow

The new Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage received a mandate to contribute to communities through a focus on promoting and celebrating the province's diverse culture and heritage.

One of the ways this is being done is to provide grants. The results for three different programs were recently released. The Grants to Individuals Program, Cultural Opportunities for Youth Program and Cultural Activities Program all have benefited Victoria County artists.

The Grants to Individuals Program supports the creation of new works by

professional artists in all disciplines and promotes a broad understanding and appreciation of art and artists through professional development, creation and presentation of work by artists.

North River playwright Bev Brett has received funding under this program to develop a play with the working title of *The Healing Stone*

Celtic Colours International Festival received funding through the Cultural Opportunities for Youth Program.

The intent of the Cultural Opportunities for Youth Program is to: foster an appreciation for the value of arts; to expose youth to artistic and cultural

activity and to professional artists; to foster a life-long interest in and pursuit of artistic excellence; and to create a link between audience development and exposure to the arts.

Specifically the funding will assist Celtic Colours to bring professional Celtic musicians into schools for a performance -based presentation including professional development seminars for teachers.

The presence of cultural activities in our communities contributes significantly to our well-being and enriches the experiences of visitors to our province.

The purpose of the Cultural Activities Program is to help build communities through community arts and cultural activities. Communities can include geographic locales, as well as communities of interest such as those involved in visual arts, music or crafts.

Wagmatcook Culture and Heritage Centre received funding under this program to assist with the Wagmatcook

Aboriginal Art Exhibit. Supporting Aboriginal artists by showcasing the contributions of 10 current Mi'kmaq artists living and working in various Aboriginal communities across Nova Scotia. The funding will also provide for workshops and forums about aboriginal art for youth and adult.

Upcoming deadlines for applications are: September 15, 2011, for Emerging Music Business Program call Mickey Quase, at 902-424-8216; the Export Development Program for Music Nova Scotia, visit the Music Nova Scotia website at [www.musicnovascotia.ca](http://www.musicnovascotia.ca), or call 423.6271 or 1-888-343-6426 (toll-free) and the Industry Growth Program call Karen Williams, at 902-424-6397

October 15th, 2011 is the deadline for the Cultural Activities Program; the Cultural Opportunities for Youth Program, call Susan Jeffries, at 902-424-2873; and Grants to Organizations and Small Groups, call Meghan Hallett, 902-424-4179.

## Public invited to comment on proposed site selection

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As of January 1, 2011, about 8.6% of the Province (474,399 ha) was legally protected. That means that we need to protect about 3.4% more (188,961 ha) to achieve the 12 per cent goal.

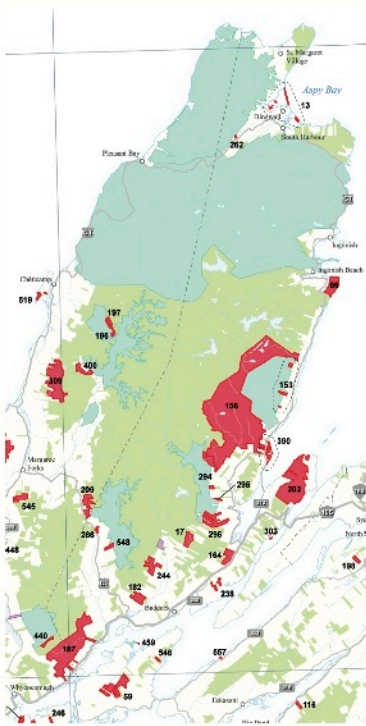
Twelve per cent is rooted in the World Commission on Environment and Development's 1987 Report - Our Common Future.

About 70% of Victoria County is provincial or federal land, and about 30% is privately owned.

Approximately 27% of the county is currently protected (18% Cape Breton Highlands National Park, and 9% provincial wilderness areas).

If all the 12% lands identified were selected for protection, about 34% of Victoria County would be legally protected.

Written comments on the 12 per cent review lands will be accepted until December 1st at Department of Environment, Protected Areas Branch, Box 442, Halifax, N.S., B3J 2P8 and by e-mail at [protectedareas@gov.ns.ca](mailto:protectedareas@gov.ns.ca).



The red areas are the proposed protected areas while the light blue areas are already protected.



## INVERARY RESORT

*What's going on*

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Concert /Dance  
Friday, September 2, 2011, 9:00pm-1:00am  
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**\$10.00** per person plus taxes  
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## Glass Artisans Studio & Gallery

Artists in residence from August 22nd to September 5th

- Glass blowers Matt Dyszkiewicz & Curtis Dionne -
- Lampwork bead artist Jessie Tessolin -



Come and watch glass being made. Open daily 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
45054 Cabot Trail, North Shore, Cape Breton, NS