



Good evening everyone, and thank you for being here tonight.

This has been a year of renewal for the RECC — one defined by rebuilding, focus, and forward momentum. As many of you know, we are an interim board, which came together in June. From our very first meeting, our goal was clear: to restore confidence in the organization through strong governance, transparency, and collaboration.

Our board is made up of twelve directors. Six of those directors are volunteer community board members, four are elected officials – two from the County of Colchester, and two from the Town of Truro, along with the CAOs from both the Town of Truro and the County of Colchester sitting as ex-officio board members.

Over the past three months, we have worked hard to strengthen how this organization operates — re-establishing policies, clarifying roles and responsibilities, and ensuring that the RECC is governed with accountability and purpose. We take seriously the responsibility of guiding one of our community's greatest assets, and we are committed to being transparent, accountable, and always focused on the long-term health and vibrancy of our community. It has been encouraging to see the board work together so effectively, even as we've navigated complex issues and significant change.

We are also making progress in caring for the facility itself. The building is aging, and it requires thoughtful and proactive attention. This board is making it a priority to address critical repairs and maintenance. We are assisting the municipalities in moving the multi-stack project forward. This is a vital investment the municipalities are making in their facility — one that will ensure reliable ice operations and improved energy efficiency for years to come. We are also currently developing a list of additional repairs needed throughout the building, which we will be prioritizing to ensure the facility remains safe, efficient, and welcoming.

This past year also gave us much to celebrate. The Nova Scotia Stampede, hosted at the NSPE grounds, was a tremendous success and a proud moment for our community. The Stampede is one of many successful events hosted by the Central Nova Scotia Civic Centre Society, such as Christmas at the RECC, 5 major cheerleading competitions, Sawyer Brown concert, Monster Madness Truck Show, the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition, FireFit, Truro Home and Outdoor Show...the list goes on and on. These events do more than fill seats — they create memories, fuel our economy, showcase our region, and shine a spotlight on the incredible talent and hospitality we have here in Central Nova Scotia. Through these hosting opportunities, significant new revenues have been generated by the Society with the goal of enhancing financial sustainability for the organization while creating lasting legacies for the community.



All of these events are guided by a strong strategic plan developed last year. The plan focuses on four key pillars: Building Strong Communities, Elevating Event Attraction and Hosting, Enabling Us to Perform at Our Best, and Cultivating a Great Place to Work and Volunteer.

This strategic plan is more than just a document—it's a living roadmap shaped by the voices of our community, volunteers, staff, funders, local businesses, and partners. It charts a course toward a future that is both ambitious and grounded, and we are deeply committed to supporting, evaluating, and adapting it every step of the way.

None of this work happens in isolation. I want to sincerely thank our municipal partners — the Town of Truro and the Municipality of Colchester — for their ongoing partnership and investment in this shared asset. Thank you as well to Matt, our CEO, and to the staff team for their dedication, professionalism, and commitment to making this facility a welcoming place for all who walk through its doors.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank former board members for their dedication and service to the RECC. Their efforts have contributed to the foundation that we continue to build upon today.

And finally, to my fellow board members, thank you for your time, insight, and integrity. You have stepped into an evolving, multi-layered environment with openness and resolve, and I could not be more proud of the work we've accomplished together in a very short time.

As we look ahead to 2026, our priorities are clear: to complete the key capital projects, strengthen long-term financial sustainability, and ensure that the RECC continues to grow as a centre for sport, recreation, and community connection.

Thank you for your continued support and confidence. It's an honour to serve as your Chair, and I look forward to what we'll achieve together in the year ahead.

Interim Chair,

Stephanie Jones