

## www.recreationpei.ca

Facilities Focus: Feb. 2013 Issue 38

### **Inside this issue:**

# Islanders Working Together to Create Tobacco-Free Facilities son Project coordinator, says



Honourable Doug W. Currie Minister of Health and Wellness

Island communities, with the help of Recreation PEI, are working hard to ensure our recreation properties are and remain tobacco -free, says Minister of Health and Wellness Doug Currie. "Arenas and recreation facilities are the backbone of many communities and the focal point for many community events," said Minister Currie. "By making them tobacco -free we are providing members of the community the opportunity to enjoy a healthy family and community-friendly environment."

Thus far, 18 Island communities have adopted tobacco-free recreation policies and Recreation PEI is currently working with ten more communities. Frank Morri"The goal of tobacco-free policies is to protect individuals from the impact of second hand smoke, encourage adults to be positive role models. provide support to individuals quitting smoking, and reduce toxic cigarette butt litter." The tobacco-free policy bans the use of all tobacco products on municipal and recreation properties. This includes the perimeter of the property including parking lots. It also applies to events such as parades and concerts and all municipal sponsored activities. Recreation PEI also hosts free Tobacco-Free Recreation **Facilities Training Sessions** for frontline recreation facility workers including coaches, staff and volunteers across

Prince Edward Island. These sessions highlight methods for ensuring recreation facilities are tobacco-free and covers such topics as: community assessment, tobacco reduction strategy, community feedback, signage, enforcement, and annual evaluation.

"Our government is steadfast in our commitment to curb tobacco use and protect people from the effects of secondhand smoke," said Minister Currie. "By working together, we can effectively address the health consequences of tobacco use on Prince Edward Island."

Call Frank Morrison for a Tobacco-Free presentation in vour community 902.672.2567

CANADA Health and Wellness Tobacco-Free Facilities 1

More Island Rinks Adopt Helmet Policy

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Pool Admission Policies **UPEI** Facility is Gorgeous

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# More Island Rinks Adopt Helmet Wearing Policy



Jamie Gosbee (left) presents Helmet Policy Sign to Andrew MacAdam, Morell Rink Board Member.

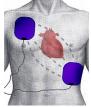
As of January 31, 2013, all public skaters aged 12 and under using the Morell Community Rink are required to wear a helmet before being allowed on the ice. Although it is mandatory for cyclists, skateboarders and in-line skaters to wear a helmet under the Motor Vehicle Act, it is not mandatory for ice-skating. Research done by

American pediatricians shows however, that ice-skating is found to produce three times as many head injuries than any of these road-related activities. This is because ice is a slippery surface and does not provide the same stability as pavement does. Louise Clarke, the Morell Community Rink Manager, believes that having a policy for mandatory helmet wearing is the right thing to do. "We believe that this is the smartest and safest decision and a lot of people are already on board." This policy is for children twelve and under but that certainly doesn't mean that teenagers and adults are safe without a helmet on. The rink has received a donation of helmets to allow users who don't have one the option of borrowing one from the rink.

Active & Safe PEI, a Recreation PEI program, who helped the facility to develop the policy, has made the helmets available via the Canadian Tire Jumpstart program in the hopes that more school skates can happen. Jamie Gosbee, Coordinator of Active & Safe PEI, says "many schools across the Island have had to reduce the frequency of or even cancel their skates due to a lack of helmets". He also helped with the same policy at the Credit Union Arena in Tignish and the North Star Arena in North Rustico. "Our goal is to get every rink across PEI thinking about adopting this policy", says Gosbee.

Active & Safe PEI is a Rec PEI program, funded in part by the Public Health Agency of Canada.

# AED Saves Life at Simmons Sports Arena in Charlottetown



Thirty (30) recreational facilities across PEI have acted pro-actively for the safety of their users and spectators. They all have

equipped their facilities with defibrillators. The machines, commonly referred to as AED's, are designed to be used as a first response in heart emergencies. Because of their step by step cues capacity, staff in facilities can be trained to use the machines in heart emergencies. Acquiring a defibrillator(s) has made recreation facilities safer places to be for both participants and spectators. Over the last couple of years, the AED has been used on a number people in the interim before EMS arrived. The most recent case involved hockey

player Ev White. Ev collapsed while playing old timers hockey at Simmons arena. Fortunately for Ev. Simmons was equipped with an AED purchased through a partnership grant program of the Department of Health and Wellness and Recreation PEI. Ev states" I am thankful to a lot of people for their support and kindness following my Cardiac Arrest Nov. 29th; I'd also like to thank Recreation PEI for having the foresight to put AED'S in rinks across the province. I am living proof their efforts were worthwhile, and willing to help promote this effort in any way I can". Recreation PEI identified the need for this risk management action in facilities and approached the department about being a partner in AED promotion in all public recreational

facilities. The Department of Health and Wellness saw the value and provided \$1000 grants to facilities who purchase the devices. Recreation PEI developed a grant application process for the devices that each cost about \$2000. Thirty facilities across the province purchased the devices and applied and were given the \$1000 grant. A number of other facilities added AED's on their own. "The response to this initiative was overwhelming" said Beth Grant, Rec PEI Executive Director. "Facilities and their funders or boards immediately saw the need and potential impact these devices. As a result they acted and a number of lives have been saved because this piece of safety equipment was available".





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# WE BRING ICE TO LIFE'

# **Doug Moore Scholarship Fund Supports Arena Training**

**Jet Ice Limited**, annually invites applicants for the Doug Moore

Scholarship Fund, dedicated to the memory of Mr. Doug Moore. Doug, the founder of Jet Ice Limited, was the Chief Engineer at Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto for 30 years. During his 40 years of service in our industry, Doug developed ice making concepts and theories that are recognized and accepted as standard in our facilities today. This Fund is based on his belief that any individual can achieve their goals with a little nudge of confidence and encouragement along the way. This Scholarship is dedicated to providing opportunities within the ice making forum for those candidates who are in true need and may not otherwise be able to afford the associated academic costs.

The only criteria to apply for funding will be that the recipient work full time in the field of Recreation or be attending a post secondary institution in a related discipline. They must demonstrate commitment and desire to learn and to actively participate in their ongoing professional development within the ice making community. The courses should represent leading edge, industry-related learning opportunities that prepare practitioners for the ever changing world of professional ice making.

# Recreation PEI will allocate \$1000 for the Doug Moore Scholarship for 2013. Deadline for applications is March 1, 2013.

"The International Icemakers Society supports professional development within the ice making community and would like to assist candidates in achieving their personal and professional goals" says Deborah Wilcock, Jet Ice G.M.

21st Annual Maritime Arena Operations Institute (MAOI) June 17—20, 2013 CARI Centre Charlottetown, PEI

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# HIGH FIVE ® as a Risk Management Tool



## Awareness within Your Programs & Facilities

Risk Management

It is a well-known fact that commitment to risk management greatly

The best way to play reduces an organization's exposure to

potentially harmful or dangerous situations. How an organization manages and handles situations of risk can have far reaching impacts for years. An organization can protect themselves and their participants from potentially dangerous situations by considering the following: Policies & Procedures; Staff Training; Communication; Recruit-

ment Plans; Management Practices; Evaluation of Programs; Adherence to Polices & Procedures; Ensuring that all staff and volunteers are aware of the policies and procedures around risk management is crucial.

Some techniques to ensuring effective risk management awareness are:

- Use staff meetings, staff training, website announcements, and emails to provide updates to programs, operations, personnel, etc.
- Implementing program evaluations, staff evaluations, and customer surveys
- Observing programs, staff, and

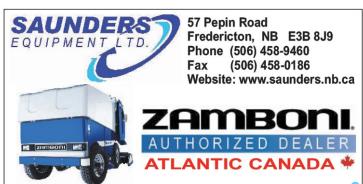
participants in action

• Site visitations throughout the organizations facilities

When risk management policies and procedures are communicated and implemented as intended, organizations generally receive fewer customer complaints, reduce of incidents of injury, increase returning staff and participants, receive positive feedback on surveys and are likely to be the 'program of choice' by parents looking for quality recreational programming form children.

For more information on this important topic you are invited to attend a HIGH FIVE ® Training program.





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Helping Islanders Get Active and Stay Healthy Recreation PEI, Inc is a not-for-profit volunteer driven organization. It primarily is a community/facility based membership of those who have an interest in delivering and promoting recreation and physical activity.

- \* Helping communities be healthier and active
- \* Educating program and facility leaders
- \* Promoting risk management for programs and facilities

ARENAS: **Carbon Monoxide Monitors** should be calibrated at the beginning of and the middle of your ice season, with a log kept of the dates of calibration. Handle the unit carefully and store it in a clean environment; if the unit falls or gets bumped, it should be calibrated immediately.







The best way to play











### Pools- Admission Policies that Work to Reduce Preventable Deaths

Drowning continues to be the second leading cause of preventable death in children under the age of 10 in Canada. With peak season for both indoor and seasonal pools around the corner, what can facility managers do to limit the risk of this at risk population? One of the most instrumental policies to have in place & enforce for pools and aquatics facilities is an admission policy which requires direct supervision by a parent or legal guardian.

Children under 7 years of age are the most at risk. The Lifesaving Society of Canada encourages facilities to adopt their "Within Arms Reach" policy which requires an adult to be within arm's reach of a child (under 7) at all times. But what about children ages 7 & up? Parental supervision is still important, but may not be required in the water. A policy to establish what ages require an adult to stay within the facility (either on the deck or close by) should be established and clearly communicated to patrons.

Here are some strategies for assisting enforcing an admission policy to your pool:

- 1. Educate the public before they show up at the facility by communicating the admission policy in the community newsletter, program guide or website.
- 2. Train the cashier or front-desk personnel to enforce the admission policy. A prearranged script of questions and actions should be provided to these staff.
- Use an identification system. Lifeguards should know who requires direct supervision or swim testing. Color coded bracelets or different admission stamps can assist lifeguards in enforcing the admission policies in the pools and on the deck.



# **UPEI Track and Field Facility Recognized as One of Canada's Most Beautiful Athletic Facilities**

MacLean's Magazine has listed UPEI in the top three of Gorgeous Track and Fields! The UPEI Alumni Canada Games Place is 6.8 million dollar project. It has: 1,335 spectator seats and 100 VIP seats; a 400 meter 8 lane track. It has facilities for steeple chase; long jump and triple jump; pole vault; discus and hammer throw; javelin and shot put. Congratulations!



# Protecting Playground Fun

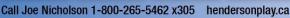
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