

"We are here to make Nova Scotia a better place for tomorrow and for future generations... We can reach even higher as a province than we ever have before. We can turn our stumbling blocks into stepping stones."

(Andrew Younger, September 21, 2009)



Andrew Younger

MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

DARTMOUTH EAST



Presenting a resolution passed by the Nova Scotia Legislature to Tattletales co-owners Anne and Vince Whebby recognizing their support of school fundraising projects and work with the United Way.

The Historic Shubenacadie Canal

The Shubenacadie Canal is an important part of Dartmouth's history. It has also become an important heritage and recreational attraction all the way across the province to its end in Maitland.

The Canal Commission has embarked on an ambitious fundraising effort to maintain archeological significant sites along the canal and possibly make some parts of the canal passable by small boats in the future.

I recently introduced a bill in the legislature to officially recognize archeological sites located on crown land that are associated with the canal's history.

As government support has decreased for the commission in recent years, I'm pleased to work with the commission to ensure they continue to meet their mandate of ensuring the waterway is enjoyed by all.



Speaking at Atlantic Canada's inaugural Consumer Choice Awards at the World Trade & Convention Centre.

As your representative in the Nova Scotia Legislature, it continues to be my pleasure and privilege to represent your concerns and be there to assist you in navigating government services.

In recent sittings of the legislature I've raised local issues important to you such as the Prince Andrew High School renovations, concerns over taxation and economic growth, uncertainty about education funding, and the future of the Shubenacadie Canal Commission.

I've introduced a variety of legislation including a bill that would allow renewable energy suppliers to compete with Nova Scotia Power and sell directly to consumers and a bill to improve crosswalk safety supported by a petition signed by more than 3,000 local residents.

Some of the legislation I have introduced has already passed through the legislature into law.

A bill I introduced to make automatic medical alert systems tax deductible was partially incorporated in a government bill last fall. My bill to improve safety and clarify road rules for cyclists and motorists was accepted by government and included in a larger government bill dealing with other cycling issues.

In addition to representing you as an MLA, I have been appointed by the Honourable Stephen McNeil as the Deputy House Leader for the Liberal Caucus, and I am the Official Opposition critic for the Departments of Environment, Energy, and Communications Nova Scotia.

I am happy to continue to assist and represent you as a Member of the Legislative Assembly.

I encourage you to contact my office if there is any way you feel I can be of assistance or if you would like to discuss concerns or ideas for improvement in government programs or services.



Top: Canada Games celebration at Caledonia Junior High with Nova Scotia Team gymnast Abby Murrin.



Bottom: Sod turning for the new long term care facility under construction on Admiral Street.

Connecting Through Social Media

In an effort to ensure you have as many ways to get information about the work I'm doing on your behalf and to interact with me, I've established a strong presence in social media and on the internet.

My website includes a wide variety of community information including maps of Shubie Park, information on the redevelopment of Main Street, and links to local schools, community facilities, and programs and services at all levels of government and in the community.

You can follow me on Twitter, Facebook, or LinkedIn by going to my website at andrewyounger.ca and clicking the links.

I also write a periodic blog about the issues of the day. You can read it online or have it delivered automatically by RSS or e-mail feed.



E-Mail Newsletter

Sign up for my monthly e-mail newsletter online at www.andrewyounger.ca

Each month's issue includes information on government programs, listings of upcoming community events, and commentary about some of the major issues of the day.

Have an event you want listed? Send an e-mail with the details to info@andrewyounger.ca

Greener Energy, More Stable Electricity Prices

From groceries, to electricity, to gasoline, to the cost of heating your home, the cost of living has been increasing with no sign of slowing down. Many of these increases are related to increases in the cost of fossil fuels like crude oil.

Electrical bills increased on January 1 and increases for future years have already been approved by the Utility and Review Board.

Stabilizing electricity requires moving away from coal based generation. Nova Scotia's heavy reliance on coal negatively impacts air quality, increases greenhouse gases, and all but ensures a continuous upward trend in power bills. Recent changes to weaken mercury emission targets for Nova Scotia Power are likely to result in even higher rates in the future.

Renewable energy is now a small part of Nova Scotia's energy mix. However much more needs to be done. I've tabled legislation to improve competition and access to financing for renewable energy producers. Promoting greener energy and more stable



Andrew tours the 50MW Nuttby Mountain Wind Farm. It generates enough energy for 15,000 homes.

electricity prices in Nova Scotia is a priority for me and my caucus colleagues.

Of course the easiest way to reduce energy costs for homeowners and businesses is to not use the energy in the first place. I've pushed for tax incentives for energy retrofits of residential and commercial properties. Such incentives are good for the province both environmentally and financially.

There are many other important issues related to electricity. These include reliability, the strength of Nova Scotia's electrical grid, and the structure and cost of energy efficiency programs. In addition to working in the legislature on these issues, I regularly appear as an official intervenor during Utility and Review Board hearings on your behalf.

"It's not always about cutting, it's about doing things better."

(Andrew Younger, March 29, 2010)

Dartmouth Heritage Museum On The Move

Since 1967 the Dartmouth Heritage Museum has been the heart of our community's social heritage history.

You may have heard that, with the support of area MLAs and Halifax Regional Council, the museum has secured the old city hall building on the Dartmouth waterfront as its new home. The museum is beginning an ambitious fundraising effort to raise money for the retrofit of the old city hall building.

The museum needs volunteers to help coordinate fundraising efforts and ultimately, the move. The museum is looking for creative and energetic people willing to lend their talents and time. Whether you can offer an afternoon selling raffle tickets or more time heading up a committee to develop a major fundraiser, your contribution is important.

If you can help, call the museum today at 464-2916.

Don't have time to volunteer? Please be sure to support the museum by attending their upcoming events. I will be including as many museum events as possible in my monthly e-newsletter so be sure to sign up.

A new and permanent home for the Dartmouth Heritage Museum and the many artifacts sitting in storage has been a long awaited dream. It is nearing reality. The media has called the museum "The Little Museum That Could".

You can be part of making it the "Large Museum That Did".



Top: Presenting Duke of Edinburgh Awards to students at Ellenvale Junior High School;

Middle: Attending Remembrance Day events at the Army Navy Air Force Club on Main Street;

Bottom: Greeting Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II during the 2010 Royal Visit.



The Order of Nova Scotia

The Order of Nova Scotia is the highest honour of the Province of Nova Scotia.

Established in 2001, the award encourages excellence by recognizing Nova Scotians for their outstanding contributions and achievements.

Up to six awards are made each year including one for a Nova Scotian between 16 and 25. The Order may be awarded posthumously, if the person is nominated within one year of their death.

Previous recipients have included Ruth Goldbloom, Anne Murray, Sydney Crosby, Tom Forrestall, Mel Boutilier, Chalmers Doane, Muriel Duckworth, and Daniel Paul.

Anyone can nominate someone for the Order of Nova Scotia.

If you know someone who has made an important contribution to the cultural life or the social or economic well-being of our province, you should consider nominating him or her for the Order of Nova Scotia.

Nominations are accepted throughout the year, however the deadline to be considered for the 2011 award is March 21.

Contact my office at 406-4420 for a nomination form.



From top to bottom: The Order of Nova Scotia medal; With Mel and Thelma Boutlier at a celebration of Mel's Order of Nova Scotia and Order of Canada awards; With Sidney Crosby at his investiture into the Order of Nova Scotia.

