

# Clean Air funding announced in Liverpool

By Katie Ingram  
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Certain businesses and organizations within Queens County have been given provincial funding from the ecoNova Scotia Fund for Clean Air and Climate Change.

In a press conference on May 28th, Nova Scotia's Environment Minister, Sterling Belliveau announced that the Mersey Tobetic Research Institute (MTRI) and the



MTRI's Executive Director Amanda Lavers discusses her project with Environment Minister Sterling Belliveau.

Katie Ingram Photo

of Queens Municipality would be among other successful applicants in Nova Scotia to receive funding from ecoNova Scotia reinforce the importance and necessity having more environmentally friendly communities.

"These projects" said Belliveau "will help the province meet its air quality and climate change goals, while helping the green economy."

With the funding provided, Belliveau says that the municipalities and businesses will be able to make a positive impact on certain environmental issues, such as climate change.

The projects that EcoNova Scotia has funded are expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 1700 tonnes or 10% less than the amount recorded in 1990 and reduce air pollution, such as carbon monoxide, by 4500 kilograms. The minister hopes the province will reach these goals by 2020.

MTRI, a charitable organization will receive \$56 525 to expand and retrofit their field station by building a 1500 square foot straw bale house that will act as a example of a carbon-neutral building and help with research.

According to Amanda Lavers Executive Director of MTRI, the institute is currently housed in small building and with the help of additional funding they can "promote the sustainable use of resources" while also giving the researchers more space to conduct their studies. Something Lavers says will help benefit the institute's future.

In turn, the Region is also receiving funding to help with Queens Place Recreation Centre and an energy audit. For Queens Place the region will receive \$137 150 to make sure that once Queens Place is constructed it will be an energy efficient building. Subsequently, the municipality has also received an additional \$10 000 for the energy audit.

"We are looking forward to Queens Place," said Mayor John Leefe "much of the money will go toward greening the building. To give an indication of how serious we are, to work with our architect we have hired a energy consultant."

Leefe continued saying the municipality is thankful for the funding, as it will help the region become more environmentally friendly.

Belliveau concluded in his speech by setting out the mission of ecoNova Scotia. The proponents receiving ecoNova Scotia funding today are helping to ensure Nova Scotia