

# Summer Street getting new greenhouse

By Jake Boudrot

jakeboudrot@advocatemediacorp.com

Summer Street Industries is embarking on a multi-million-dollar greenhouse project.

The federal and provincial governments are providing a combined \$2.9 million in project funding, announced Tuesday morning.

Through ACOA, the federal government is contributing \$1.5 million, while the province's department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage is providing \$1 million. An additional \$400,000 is coming from the province's Agriculture department, and Summer Street Foundation is contributing \$500,000 toward the construction of a 12,000 square-foot commercial greenhouse, which is expected to begin this autumn.

"For the last four years, we

have been building this project with careful engagement of stakeholders, most notably Summer Street's participants, to ensure this vision will fulfill a need and objective for the individuals who will be the primary beneficiaries of this project," Liz LaPier, community development lead with Summer Street, said at the Tuesday morning announcement. "With today's announcement, we are delighted to move forward with the construction of a closed environment agriculture facility. The building will be designed to be sustainable, accessible, and have high standards for human and environmental health."

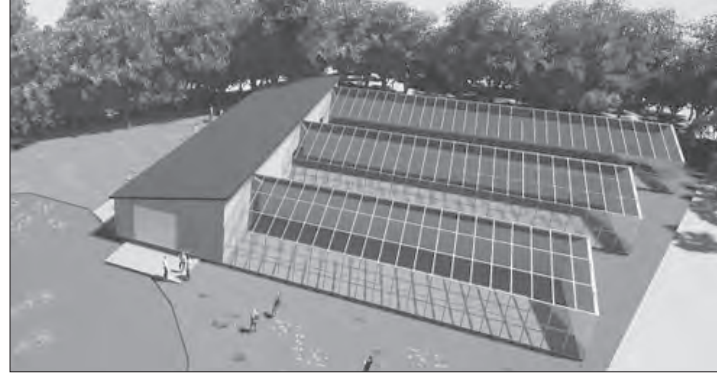
Bob Bennett, executive director of Summer Street Industries, said there will be three bays in the new greenhouse.

"One bay is going to be for Summer Street's programming,

so we will develop horticulture and gardening programs in that bay," added LaPier, following the announcement. "One bay is leasable production space for agricultural producers, so the goal there is to allow them to expand their production capacity, while simultaneously creating social programs and employment opportunities. The middle bay will be more of an innovation space. We have products that Summer Street wants to produce for the community. The participants are interested in creating a large volume of food for partners in the community like the food bank, or if there's an agricultural producer that's testing a product."

LaPier said they'll partner with people, such as the Dalhousie Agricultural Campus to develop some programs.

During the announcement,



Summer Street Industries is receiving close to \$3 million for a greenhouse project that will see a total of 12,000 square feet constructed.

(Submitted photo)

board chair Rae Gunn said Summer Street creates and facilitates opportunities for people with diverse abilities; opportunities that are mutually beneficial for clients, participants, and employees, as well as the community.

"We believe that we all have diverse abilities, and a successfully inclusive community finds ways for everyone to be involved and contribute," she said. "The Summer Street Greenhouse Project is the perfect example of the great things that will happen,

when all those pieces come together."

Tracy Hermillon, a member of the participant council, said the greenhouse project was viewed as "very important" to the organization right from the first time it was pitched.

"The project would give us new training and job opportunities, create education programs for participants such as 'Cooking on a Dime,' and it certainly will help us with food security," she said at the announcement. "We are looking forward to growing our own vegetables, as this will allow us to spend our food budget on other food groups."

"The greenhouse will also allow us to give back to our community."

Bennett added they are considering two areas in Pictou County for the greenhouse site.

# JayTheKidd drops new single, mixtape coming out this summer

By Jake Boudrot

jakeboudrot@advocatemediacorp.com

An 18-year-old hip-hop artist recently released a new single, is planning to release another single in June, then a mixtape in July.

JayTheKidd, or Jayden Duplessis from Lyons Brook, released his third hip-hop single, *2ManyProblems*, on May 5. It will appear on his debut mixtape *Better Late Than Never* planned for release in the summer.

"Now it'll be July because of the show dates. It'll be like a listening party," he said. "The project will be right around the start of July, mid-July."

JayTheKidd shot a video, which he hopes to release this summer, for one of the lead songs on the mixtape.

"This is the plan, to try and break through the next barrier. I feel like I'm at a certain level, which I'm totally happy about, but I'm just always about reaching the next level, the next goal," he said. "This has been the plan since last summer, last show. Pretty much a year building the whole plan of putting it out and getting it all mixed and mastered properly."

Calling it a "favourite of mine for a while now," JayTheKidd said there has been a great reception to *2ManyProblems*.

"The song is doing really good numbers in the States right now, more than here. There's probably 30,000 or 40,000 streams from the States right now just on the new song," he said.

JayTheKidd recorded his song at his home studio in Lyons Brook.

"I'm not a great mixer and masterer for the vocals but I can record my demos and I have a good mic that I'm able to send those vocals off to somebody that can make them sound more professional," he said. "A lot of these songs coming out, they're mixed by other people but recorded at my house."



Jayden Duplessis, also known as JayTheKidd on the music scene, released his third single earlier this month with plans on his fourth coming out in June, followed by his debut mixtape in July.

(AfterHourPrint photo)

Marthin Gundersen, an engineer established in Norway who has worked with Nova Scotian artists Classified and Quake Matthews, mixed and mastered the single.

The production comes from New Jersey-based producer Jai Lailli, who produced both of JayTheKidd's previous singles, *Revenge* and *I'm Back*, and produced multiple tracks on the debut mixtape.

The first single, which won't be on the mixtape, was recorded in the summer of 2021 and the second came out last September.

"The group of songs I'm

putting out, they're a little bit older, they're from about when I released my first song and I'm just getting them out now. They were more created all in a certain period of time and all have the certain same feel to it," he said. "I talk about the future a lot in my songs; talking about the future, what the future may hold, different future problems, money-wise, women-wise."

*Revenge* became a viral hit after it was released gathering a total of 320,000 streams across all platforms.

Noting that he has been making music for five years, JayTheKidd said he is constant-

ly "evolving and learning" to become a better artist. He said he's spent countless hours improving his skill set.

"I'm just really trying to break through in the province and get it more known. It's doing pretty good here in the county, but I want to go more provincially," he said.

JayTheKidd's first live performance took place in the summer of 2022 as COVID-19 slowed down.

"That was pretty sweet," he recalled. "It received a lot more attention than I initially thought."

Last summer, JayTheKidd headlined for 200 people in five days, and even had the opportunity to open up for Juno award winners Classified and JRDN.

"It was pretty cool, I got to meet (Classified) backstage and talk a little bit. He's a pretty cool guy," he said. "He's a big inspiration, especially because he's one of the main and only people that made it out, especially in hip-hop, from Nova Scotia."

With most of his time invested into finishing high school and working a full-time position in a group home, JayTheKidd had to use the time in between to make sure everyone in the province heard his music.

After graduating early from Northumberland Regional High School, this summer JayTheKidd will be performing at Glasgow Square and is hoping to take the music business program at Nova Scotia Community College in the autumn.

"This next level, I want to be able to do what I did here in Halifax and Truro too," he added. "The plan is to build a little bit of a tour so by the time the tour is coming, there'll be an actual bigger project. This is still the smaller one to get all the other songs out, and then there's newer songs that I've been working on that will be for the next project."



## MEMORIAL FOOD DRIVE RAISES THOUSANDS

The third annual Nick's Memorial Food Drive held April 30 raised more than 3,000 pounds of food and \$5,200 for the Pictou County Food Bank East. On hand for the food drive were, front from left, Lexie Worthen, Alta Munroe, Pam Hillier, Allie Pennington, Michelle MacNeil Worthen, Beth Koch, Blake Jewell, Marc Comeau. Standing in truck are Mike Ferguson and Laurie Moser.

(Jim McKenna photo)



Ivan Baker, day manager of the Pictou County Food Bank East, accepts donations from Michelle MacNeil Worthen on behalf Nick's Memorial Food Drive held April 30. The food drive in MacNeil Worthen's son's memory raised more than 3,000 pounds of food and \$5,200 for the food bank.

(Submitted photo)

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY

### BLAINE F. MACLANE EXCAVATION LTD.

blainefmaclane@eastlink.ca  
**902-922-3233**  
216 Coalburn MacLellans Brook Rd.

Visit our Facebook Page at Blaine F MacLane Excavation Limited

- Property development – mulching, grading, landscaping and driveways
- Shoreline protection, ponds, hydro-seeding / hay mulching
- Decorative stone, crushed glass, topsoil and gravels + delivery
- Specialized services – Directional Drilling, Hydrovac + 24 / 7 response

## C & J MARTIN Well Drilling Co. Ltd.

- Over 20 years experience
- Residential & Commercial
- Geothermal Drilling
- Guaranteed Workmanship
- Pump Sales & Service
- Free Estimates

**Stellarton, N.S.**

Phone: 902-752-4172 | Toll Free 1-888-377-WELL (9355)

209388