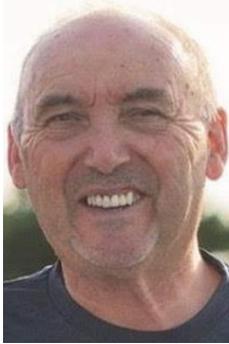


## 2021 Lieutenant Governor's Award of Excellence for l'Acadie and Francophonie

### Jude Avery



Mr. Avery, who is an educator and author, has made promoting his Acadian heritage and culture one of his main goals throughout his career as well as in his retirement. Amongst his many accomplishments in support of the Acadian culture, he published his first book titled *The Forgotten Acadians* in 2003, and his second will be published in the near future.

He has been an active member of numerous committees and organizations that have raised an awareness of the Acadian history in the region of Guysborough County. In fact, because of his perseverance, this community has been designated as an official Acadian community.

### Louis E Deveau



Mr. Louis E. Deveau is the Chairman and Founder of Acadian Seaplants Limited. He has been instrumental in building Acadian community capacity and remains a staunch supporter of the Acadian culture.

His desire to help others led to the establishment of The Louis E Deveau, Centre of Entrepreneurship, which offers Acadians and Francophones counselling in business through a network of mentors and professionals.

Mr. Deveau often attends various local Acadian community events and is always ready to lend a helping hand to the members of his community. He supports many organizations and youth activities in the community such as "Les Jeux de l'Acadie".

### Rebecca Lancaster



Rebecca Lancaster has been the Executive Director of Canadian Parents for French, Nova Scotia since 2005. Since working with CPF Nova Scotia, Mme Lancaster has increased the extra-curricular and co-curricular programming offered to students in French second language programs. Additionally, she has spoken with many parents who were contemplating French immersion to offer support and resources.

Mme Lancaster has worked actively on several committees with many francophone and francophile organizations such as the Centre communautaire du Grand-Havre and Alliance Francaise d'Halifax. Furthermore, she has been involved with organizing conferences and cultural events that involve French second language education.

### Sally Ross



Dr. Sally Ross has taught history and the culture of French Canada, specializing in Acadian studies for over thirty years. Amongst her many accomplishments in support of the Acadian culture, she co-authored *The Acadians of Nova Scotia* as well as published her second book *Les Écoles Acadiennes en Nouvelles Ecosse, 1758-2000* in 2001.

Dr. Ross continues her work as an Acadian ambassador, promoting the language, the culture and serving on various committees. She is the secretary of Les Amis de Grand Pré and has served as a media relations person for La Société Promotion Grand-Pré from 2009-2012.

### Adrien Comeau



Adrien B. Comeau, is a young Acadian from the region of Clare who is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Education at l'Université Sainte Anne. From a very young age, he has been enthusiastically promoting his Acadian heritage and his language. This has led to him being selected as the Youth representative for the upcoming Congrès Mondial Acadian that will be held in Clare and Argyle in 2024.

Mr. Comeau's community involvement touches a broad range of areas such as artistic, cultural, religious and social. For example, he has been a gymnastics coach since 2018, and he is also a founding member of the Pride Week in Clare. He is always ready to lend a helping hand to those in his community.

### Mbathio Thiams



Mbathio Thiam is a very enthusiastic grade 12 student at l'école Centre scolaire Étoile de l'Acadie in Sydney who is involved in various aspect of school life; for example, she is currently the president of the student council.

Miss Thiam constantly shows her pride in being Francophone in a minority environment and never hesitate to represent her school when the Conseil scolaire Acadien provincial needs a French student as a spokesperson.

In addition to excelling academically, Miss Thiam is driven by her creativity and her desire to inspire those in her community, which led her to establish a dance group as well as to volunteer her time as a tutor. She also established various committees that promote physical well-being and mental health.