

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mount Pearl Celebrates Youth Excellence at 35th Annual Focus on Youth Awards

May 15, 2025 (Mount Pearl, NL) – Last Night, the City of Mount Pearl held its 35th Annual Focus on Youth Awards to recognize the accomplishments of its top youth in the areas of arts, sports, science, self-improvement, and volunteerism. The event was held at the Mount Pearl Glacier and hosted by 2024 Youth of the Year Award co-winners, Eamon Fogwill and Courtney Abbott.

"In Mount Pearl, our youth continue to demonstrate extraordinary potential and drive. They're not just future leaders—they're actively shaping our community today as innovators, volunteers, and change-makers," said Mayor Dave Aker. "As we celebrate this 35th anniversary of the Focus on Youth Awards, our city remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting and empowering young talent. The achievements we recognize today reflect not just individual excellence, but the vibrant spirit of our entire community."

The winners of the 35th Focus on Youth Awards include:

- **Youth S.T.E.M. Award** – Ian Cole
- **Literary Arts Award** – Rachel Spurrell
- **Visual Arts Award** – Varvara Korotnyska
- **Performing Arts Individual Award** – Alex Taylor
- **Performing Arts Recognition** – Mount Pearl Senior High - Cinderella
- **Sports Team of the Year** – The Mount Pearl-Paradise Skating Club – Gold Starlites Synchronized Skating Team
- **Youth Athletes of the Year** – Falon McLoughlan & Jordan Flynn
- **RNC Youth in Service Award** – Alex Taylor
- **Youth Group of the Year** – Mount Pearl Senior High Student Council
- **Youth Opportunity Fund Youth Volunteer of the Year** – Alex Taylor
- **Rossiter Memorial Youth of the Year** – Emma Neville & Falon McLoughlan

About the Focus on Youth Awards

The Focus on Youth Awards is an annual banquet and show hosted by the City of Mount Pearl. This year, the gala featured performances by Mackenzie Critch, Alex Taylor, Imani Dacres, Hannah Connolly, the MPSH Cinderella cast, and Daughters of the Rock.

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