

# St. John's

Words: Jesse Oye



Canada's easternmost skatepark couldn't have come sooner for this maritime province. The park is located at the highest point in the middle of the city of St. John's, Newfoundland. Northwest Rotary is the biggest concrete park in Atlantic Canada and its location offers a great view of the harbour and the narrows.

The hybrid design blends a large bowl section with a street course with banks on either side. It's built for speed, and in this windy city, you're going to need it. The original design be-

gan with the multi-hipped section in the bowl area, and then expanded into a remarkable mix of street elements. In the street area, the main piece is a massive fun box that can be hit from every direction. Another Spectrum design, Jimi worked with the local skaters and key members in the skateboard community like Jom Sparkes from Ballistic, the longest running skate shop in Newfoundland. This design also marked Jimi's first collaboration with landscape architect IPGM design.

Newfoundlanders are very polite and friendly people and the skaters are no exception. If you visit, you'll definitely enjoy skating with the local rippers like Ian Maddigan, Bud Patterson, Ian St. Aubin, Jared Hawco and Matt King. For the park opening, the city flew the Antisocial team of Rick McCranik, Jesse Bloor, Keegan Sauder and Dylan Doubt in from Vancouver. The team not only had the joy of skating the new park, but also saw the sun rise on the west coast, and set on the east coast on the same day.

Keegan Sauder, frontside nollie 180.



The west coast has been able to brag about having the best parks in the country for years. Parks like St. John's now show that while the west coast has had a head start, the east is catching up fast.

#### FACTS

**Sq. Ft. :** 16,600 sq.ft

**Obstacles :** 3' bowl transferring to multi height 6'- 8' bowl with extensions, escalators and hips. Small, medium and large banks with rails and hubbas and flat ledges, massive set of stairs, tons of step-ups, transfers, gaps, rails, ledges and more. Flatbank hips, manny pad, flat ledge and a multi-fun box.

## Nova Scotia Skateparks.

### Coal Harbour, NS

51 Forest Hill Parkway  
Shop contacts: Pro Skates. 902-629-6788

2,100 sq. ft., with a pyramid with ledge, flatbar, 6' descending curved flat bank, and stairs with hubba.



### Halifax, NS - Commons Bowl

Halifax Commons, Bell Road.  
Shop contact: Pro Skates. 902-429-6788

10,000 sq. ft. made up mostly of skater built obstacles, an old concrete bowl with rounded edges, a cornered 3 ft quarter pipe, a hipped 5 ft q-pipe, large 2-way with ledgers, and imported rails and ledges. Large Spectrum designed bowl and street park to be added to the site during the summer of 2005.



### New Minas, NS

6th Commercial St. next to the Village Municipal Hall  
Shop contact: Pro Skates in Halifax. 902-429-6788

2,000 sq. ft. 8' deep bowl w/over hailing into a bowl with lips on both sides. There is also a ledge to skate on the flat deck area.



Photo: Chris Bough

New Minas  
Skatepark, NS.

## Prince Edward Island Skateparks.

### Summerside, PEI - Generation XX Skatepark

328 Notre-dame St.  
Phone: 902-436-7699  
Shop Contact: Outer Limits. 902-569-5690

10,000 sq. ft. indoor park with wood ramps, 4' high half pipe, two quarter pipes, spine, funbox, launch ramp, rails, etc.



## Newfoundland Skateparks.

### St. John's, NF - Northwest Rotary

Blackley Ave. near Mundy Pond Rd.  
Shop contact: X-JT. 709-576-2650

16,000 sq. ft. 3' bowl transitioning to multi 6' - 8' bowl with external ramps, escalators, hips, small, medium and large banks with rails and hubba and flat ledges, massive set of stairs, tons of step-up, step down, transfers, gaps, rails, ledges, and more, flatbars, hips, mellowcat, flat ledge and a multi-lun box.

See park profile on p.54



### St. John's Skatepark, NF.

Ian St. Aubin  
Phone: 709-576-2650  
Phone: 709-576-2650