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NEWS RELEASE

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Iconic Astor Theatre Receives \$500K Commitment from J&W Murphy Foundation

LIVERPOOL, Nova Scotia, April 2, 2025—The Astor Theatre Society proudly announces a 5-year \$500,000 commitment by the J&W Murphy Foundation to the iconic Astor Theater in Liverpool, Nova Scotia. The Foundation is donating \$100,000 per year over the next 5 years to go toward improving the operational sustainability and capacity building of the Astor Theatre and Town Hall Arts and Cultural Centre, positioning it for future growth.

The Astor's 5-year strategic plan encompasses extensive fund development, revamped marketing and communications with an emphasis on community outreach, and revitalized programming, including strengthening and expanding its flagship Astor Academy youth and seniors' programs with community input.

"The considered and thoughtful support of the J&W Murphy Foundation, highly respected in the Queens Community, will sustain the Astor and Town Hall Arts and Culture Centre for generations to come," said Lynn Cochrane, vice chair, the Astor Theatre Society.

"The Astor is important, it's iconic, and it's Liverpool – where a large piece of our hearts still live," said Lisa Murphy, chair of the J&W Murphy Foundation.

The Astor Theatre is Nova Scotia's oldest performing arts theatre. The goal of the Astor Theatre Society is to develop the Astor and Town Hall Arts and Cultural Centre to be the premier cultural and entertainment hub of the South Shore and beyond, fostering the next generation of young artists and providing an inspirational space for the broader community.

For more information about the Astor, visit astortheatre.ns.ca.



About J&W Murphy Foundation

The J&W Murphy Foundation was founded in 2008 by the late Janet and Dr. William Murphy, long-time residents of Liverpool, Nova Scotia, as a vehicle to give back to the community. The Foundation contributes to a wide variety of charitable causes.



About the Astor

Built in 1902, the Astor is Nova Scotia's oldest performing arts theatre, featuring live theatre, concerts, and movies. Its Town Hall Arts & Cultural Centre showcases artists and provides space for intimate concerts, events and meetings. The Astor, with its flagship Astor Academy programming, aims to be the premier cultural and entertainment hub of the South Shore and beyond, fostering the next generation of young artists and providing an inspirational space for the broader community. Find out more at astortheatre.ns.ca.