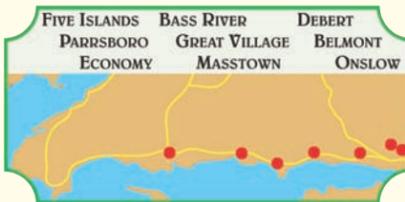


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Will Fibre Speed Internet Come To Colchester?

By Maurice Rees

Premier McNeil's announcement on March 15th more than \$120 million in one-time funding will be used to help expand and improve high-speed internet service to homes and businesses across

the province could be good news for Colchester area residents. The funds for the initiative are being sourced from offshore revenues generated within the last 20 years.

Many claim high-speed or service equal to fibre speed is

"a right" and Nova Scotia is lagging behind. Last summer Colchester Council allocated \$9,000 for a study and was to receive a staff report in November. At last check, staff had not even started the analysis or issued an invitation for a

consult to assist.

Councillor Tom Taggart who is also a director of the national body, Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) is expected to bring the matter back to council soon, based on what he has learned at recent FCM meetings in Ottawa. Cumberland-Colchester MP, Bill Casey is feeling the heat from residents, businesses and municipalities within his constituency to help bring fibre speed internet to the area.

Last year Annapolis County approved an initiative to invest approximately \$14.8-Million of from its coffers to go along with funding from the province and Ottawa to complete a \$21.4-Million roll-out of fibre speed service to the entire county. Being the first such project, it has run into regulator snags and is about a year behind schedule. The county anticipates contract signing soon, which would be followed by approximately 300 days of construction and installation.

Not to editorialize, but if Colchester residents want fibre speed service, they need to get involved, help find private sector investment and communicate with municipal, provincial and federal representatives. Sources indicate a small group of citizens are attempting to develop a plan for presentation to elected representatives and to seek some levels of private sector funding.

FRONT PAGE BRIEFS

April 2018

Stress Relief: At my age "Getting lucky" means walking into a room and remembering what I came in there for. If that wasn't enough: Old age is coming at a really bad time.

The day-long Central Woodland Conference, part of the 2018 Woodland Conferences series, will be held at Summer Street Industries, 72 Park Street, New Glasgow, Saturday, April 7, 2018.

Emily Gratton, Truro was elected as a member of the Communications Committee, Canadian Kennel Club at a meeting of the club's board of directors held in Etobicoke, ON on March 17th and 18th. She will be joined on the committee by Jean Delisle, Trina Gallop and Corrie Horne. She was advised via Email on March 20th by Lance Novak, Executive Director.

The Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce 128th Annual Awards and Dinner Gala will be held April 12th from 6:30-8:30 pm at the Best Western Glengarry. Two prestigious awards, for which nominations closed on March 16th, will be awarded for BDC Business Person of the Year Award and Community Credit Union Business Excellence Award. Guest speaker will be Senator Daniel Christmas. Tickets are \$50+hst for members and \$60+hst for non-members.

March 15th was the official start of the wildfire risk season. Check the BurnSafe website at novascotia.ca/BurnSafe for counties and municipalities where domestic burning of brush and campfires are permitted or restricted. Burning restrictions apply until Oct. 15. Between March and April during the last five years, firefighters fought 295 wildfires in Nova Scotia. The BurnSafe map is updated daily at 2 p.m. to show if domestic burning of brush and campfires is permitted that day. The burning restriction information on the BurnSafe map is also available, in a recorded message, by calling toll-free, 1-855-564-2876 (B-U-R-N). The BurnSafe map applies only to domestic burning. Industrial burning still requires a paper permit from the Department of Natural Resources.

continued on page 6



Robyn Deveau, Property Guys, presents Noah Berniquier with the 15 and under male athlete of the year award. The 34th Truro Sport Heritage Awards were presented in a gala event held at the Best Western Glengarry. Many of the awards are featured on various pages of this Shoreline Journal. (Photos by Sheryl Deuville)

Male Athlete of the Year - 15 and Under • Noah Berniquier

Noah is a superior multi-sport athlete who has been a dominate figure in every sport he has participated in this year. Representing Central Colchester Junior High he placed 1st in the long jump,

triple jump, high jump and javelin in districts, regional's and at the provincial level. He placed 4th in the high jump at provincials. He was the starting goal keeper with an undefeated record all season in

soccer, which resulted in the team becoming the district and regional champions. He is co-Captain for the CCJH Volleyball team who finished 2nd at the District/Regional Championships. He is also a left fielder for the Colchester Royal U-18 Men's Softball Team and competed at the National Championships where the team placed 4th out of 12.

He has received the NSSAF Good Sport Award, Coaches Choice Award and Track & Field MVP all through his years at CCJH.

Village Follies Dinner Theatre

The annual community performances of Village Follies Dinner Theatre will be held at 7:00 PM on May 4th, 5th, 10th, 11th, and 12th and a matinee on Sunday, May 6th at 4:00 PM.

All include a delicious three course meal at the Debert Legion. Tickets are just \$35 each. To order tickets phone 902-986-1710.



Practice for Village Follies Dinner Theatre production "I Fought the Law" are in full swing at the Debert Legion. Tickets for the performances are still available by phone at 902-986-1710. Left to right- Lynn Macpherson, Paul Gamble, John Harrington, Malcolm Macpherson, Lisa Gamble. (Harrington Photo)

Council Writes off \$10,497

By Maurice Rees

Colchester council agreed to write-off \$10,497.36 in uncollectable taxes at its committee meeting on March 8th. The 2017 amount is up from \$5,952.97 for the previous year. Of the 11 properties seven involved mobile homes totaling \$5,257.90, representing 50% of the outstanding amounts. Another amount was for land in Great Village, amounting to \$1,314.56, which in 2014 was transferred to Her Majesty the Queen and should have been exempt. Similarly, land in Tatamagouche owing \$1,180.78 was an entry error as it had been transferred to the Queen in 2014 and additional balances were not paid by the previous owners. Truro Reliable Roofing was listed as owing \$2,692.48 for tipping fees at the Kempton facility, but the company has ceased to operate and owners are not locatable.

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