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The Cobequid Veterans Memorial Park will host a service for the Holocaust Remembrance on May 1, 2019. This service will begin at 7:30PM to remember the 6 million lost during WW2. Everyone is welcome, and a reception will follow at Victoria Hall.

Campsite Bookings begin April 2 for provincial park campsites for Five Islands, Amherst Shore and Cape Chignecto. Advocate Harbour, Cumberland Co. For the first time, reservations will open over two days. Eastern and most central region parks will start taking reservations on Tuesday, April 2 and western region parks will accept reservations starting Wednesday, April 3. Most day-use and camping parks will open Victoria Day weekend, while some will open in June. Visitors should check the provincial parks website at <http://parks.novascotia.ca> or social media for up-to-date information on openings. Reservations for campsites can be made by phone, toll free at 1-888-544-3434 or online at <http://parks.novascotia.ca> beginning at 9 a.m. Atlantic time.

Changes to the Judicature Act will help give Nova Scotia families improved access to a single, specialized court for all family law matters. This court will replace the current model, which requires many Nova Scotian families experiencing separation or divorce to deal with two separate courts. Unified family court sites currently exist in Halifax, Sydney and Port Hawkesbury. Expanding the model across the province will ensure that all Nova Scotians have access to a single, specialized court for all family law matters.

The Shoreline Tid-Bits Journal

Xplornet to deliver faster internet to PEI

Over 20,000 homes in over 300 communities in Prince Edward Island will soon have access to faster download speeds and the latest 5G-ready technology. Announced on March 15th President and CEO Allison Lenehan, said this investment will enable Xplornet, Canada's leading rural broadband provider, to provide rural residents of Prince Edward Island with access to Internet download speeds of up to 100 Megabits per second (Mbps) as early as next year. To deliver this service, Xplornet will deploy fibre as well as a 5G-ready wireless upgrade to its existing network using state-of-the-art hybrid fibre wireless technology. The plan makes effective use of Xplornet's licensed 3500 MHz spectrum to provide rural Canadians with 5G-ready service at the same time as our largest cities. The initiative is made possible through the investments of both the Province of Prince Edward Island and the Government of Canada, who recognize the importance of broadband for rural Canadians. "We have been making unprecedented investments in our network to offer our customers more," said Lenehan. The first phase of the project is expected to begin this year and to be completed by the end of 2023. Headquartered in Woodstock, New Brunswick, Xplornet Communications Inc. is one of Canada's leading broadband service providers. For over a decade, Xplornet has been providing innovative broadband solutions to rural customers at work, home and play across Canada. Today, Xplornet offers voice and data communication services through its unique fibre, wireless and satellite network that connects Canadians to what matters.

Physician recruiting in UK continues

Staff from the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration, Nova Scotia Health Authority and Nova Scotia College of Physicians and Surgeons made another trek to the United Kingdom (U.K.) to continue efforts to recruit more doctors to the province. Since launching the Physician Immigration Stream last February, 25 doctors have been recruited to live and work in Nova Scotia. The 20 family doctors and five specialists are working, or will be working, in communities across the province. Five of those doctors, from the U.K., recently started practicing in Dartmouth, accepting thousands of patients from the wait list.

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Deadline for the May issue of The Shoreline Journal is April 23.

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News from our Federal Capital

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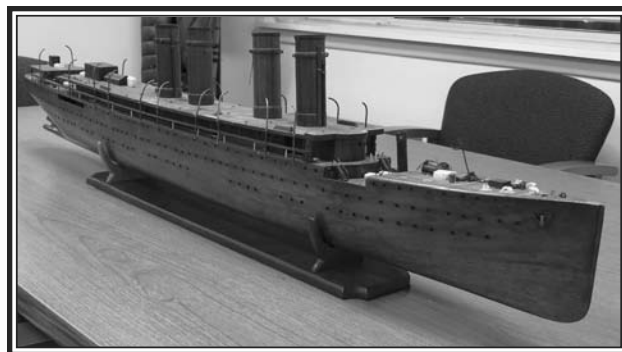
tatives from the German Embassy in Ottawa attend a small ceremony to recognize this piece of German-Canadian history.

Eleven of the German prisoners died while at the Amherst camp and there is a headstone in the Amherst cemetery where they were buried. The tentative plan is for the ceremony to happen on July 2 and will include a visit to the headstone, the POW site (now the Casey Concrete facility on Park Street), and the two museum displays. We are still putting the plan together but it is quite exciting working on it with the Town of Amherst officials and the German embassy officials.

One of the crafts made by the POWs is a large cello. It is currently on display in the Regimental Museum at the Amherst Armoury. I have this hope that one of the German musicians will play the cello during their visit in July. It would be the first time in 100 years that a German played this cello and it will be a special moment if we can make it happen.

There are many other interesting aspects to the Amherst Prisoner of War Camp story. Ukrainians were another group interned there, but the most famous prisoner of all was Leon Trotsky. He didn't like our Amherst hospitality but when he left for Russia, he took some of the German crafts with him. But that is another story altogether.

Bill Casey is MP for Cumberland-Colchester



This wooden ship model has been in the Casey household for decades. It is one of the models made by the Prisoners of War at the camp and appears to be a replica of the SS Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosser was sunk near Africa by the British Navy. 680 prisoners from the ship were brought to Amherst. (Submitted)



The former Malleable Iron Foundry, Park Street Amherst shown in early 1900's was the largest Prisoner of War Camp in Canada and operated at full capacity. (Submitted)



The Nova Scotia Highlander Regimental Museum in the Armouries has some of the crafts as does the Cumberland County Museum and Archives in Amherst. Casey's nephew, Matthew is rebuilding the rigging, the bridge, and lifeboats. It also needs new propellers and small pieces - but it is looking good. (Submitted)

News from our Municipal Council - District 10

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In fact there are some that see rural as a burden. I need to also say that as a board member of a national municipal board I am engaged and involved in policy discussion and debate on a regular basis. It is only natural to defend and support the demographic in which you live and work.

However, I am getting tired of hearing that the 22 big cities, that make up between 70 and 80 percent of the population of Canada are the engine that drives this Country. I will suggest the rurals or the remaining 20 % provide the fuel that fires the engine. Without that fuel the engine would stall. Where would they be without, agriculture and fisheries to feed the 80%. The stone to produce the concrete, or the forestry sector that produces the lumber, or the iron ore to manufacture the steel to construct the housing to shelter the 80% or the natural resources to produce the energy and the products that we all consume in our everyday life

I decided to do a little research. I took a look, at the statistics provided by our Canadian Government in the form of the Stats Canada reports, in particular the 2018 GDP or gross domestic products. Now I am not going to go into great detail on these numbers, just enough to make my point.

Overwhelmingly the portion of the Canadian GDP that is a result of activities in the big cities is made up of service industries. Lead by Real-estate, leasing and rentals, 247,170 x 1 million annually, Construction 135,420 x 1 million annually, and finance and insurance 129,996 x 1 million annually, I could go on and on, retail trade, accommodations and food service.

Yes there is no doubt, it is abundantly clear that those 22 big cities, the 80% are the engine that is driving this Country and there is no doubt that they are responsible for a very significant amount of the Canadian GDP.

However, the small towns and rural Municipalities, the 20% that encompasses the vast majority of the land mass of our country is, just as, quite possibly, more critical to the success and growth of our Country. The natural resources or what I would call the hard goods are critical. In hard goods, the mining, quarrying, oil and gas are clear leaders at 150,615 x 1 million annually, then we drop all the way down to Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting at 40,595 x 1 million annually.

Good lord, even Arts and Culture make up a larger portion of our GDP at 58,820 x 1 million than the sector that feeds this Country.

However, make no mistake about it that big engine that drives this country will sputter and stall without the fuel that runs it. It is high time that we, the small towns and rural municipalities of Canada, speak up and be recognized and valued for the part we play in our national success.

I am not just popping off about this to fill up this article, I spent all last week, debating, and helping develop policy that will be put forward on behalf of Canadian Municipalities, to all federal political parties in advance of the upcoming Federal Election. There were times I had to speak loudly to be heard.

Tom Taggart is Colchester Municipal Councillor for District 10

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