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Develop Nova Scotia Questions and Answers

By Maurice Rees

Develop Nova Scotia's press release on February 7th announced several projects around the province and not specifically on Colchester and Cumberland Counties approved initiative which will involve investments totaling \$60.2-Million. The press release also included some "quick facts" that also apply to the entire province.

To help the reader fully understand the entire initiative, we have reprinted the data from their press release as follows:

Q. When will I get high-speed service?

If your home/business is included in this round of projects, work should be substantially complete within 12 months. For the remaining areas, the next RFP goes out within the next week and we're aiming for announcements later this summer. Connecting 95% of Nova Scotians is a big undertaking and these projects can typically take between 2-5 years.

With today's announcement, we've cut by half the number of unserved and underserved homes and businesses to be covered, and they remain our priority.

Q. My community is mentioned in today's announcement? What's next?

Now that contracts are signed, service providers will work on additional engineering required to refine their plans down to specific street- and address-level detail. Information on those details will be provided by the service providers, when available. As work proceeds, impacted Nova Scotians will be notified by service providers as to when and how to have their homes and businesses connected. Develop Nova Scotia will also be hosting community drop-in events over the coming weeks and months and will welcome members of the general public.

Q. What's the overall timeline for Nova Scotia?

Connecting 95% of Nova Scotians is a big undertaking and these projects can typically take between 2-5 years. The timing of your

access depends on when we receive a proposed project for your area, what already exists in your community, and how quickly providers can upgrade existing technology or install new technology. With today's announcement, we've cut by half the number of unserved and underserved homes and businesses to be covered, and they remain our priority.

Q. How will the providers be held accountable?

In addition to contribution agreements, contracts with providers also include multi-year service delivery agreements. These ensure accountability for service and quality standards, a competitive pricing structure, and ongoing maintenance and investment in the network. Service level agreements will be managed by Develop Nova Scotia.

Quick Facts:

Wired technology projects will provide minimum speeds of 50 Mbps to download, and 10 Mbps to upload, while wireless technologies will provide minimum speeds of 25 Mbps to download, and 5 Mbps to upload, allowing users to browse email, download music and large files, play online games, and stream high definition video

10 pre-qualified internet service providers were invited to submit proposals for this request for proposals- a second round of five pre-qualified providers is approved and all 15 are eligible to respond to all future request for proposals

Develop Nova Scotia is the Crown corporation responsible for the strategy to help connect more communities across the province connecting more than 95 per cent of Nova Scotians is a big project and these projects can typically take two to five years

Additional Resources: A breakdown list of communities by provider, access to potential number of connections, as well as Internet Trust funding, by zone, is available at <https://developns.ca/projects/high-speed-internet/>

OOPS...we Goofed

(A story on front page of last month's issue contained several errors. We apologize, and have provided the following space to Paulette L. Josey, President of the Chignecto Glooscap Snowmobile Association, who advised us of the errors).

I am sending this email further to the telephone conversation we had on Monday of this week. I am Paulette L. Josey, President of the Chignecto Glooscap Snowmobile Association. This is concerning the article in the Shoreline regarding Snowmobile Club to Build New Clubhouse. I will not try to write an article, I could not even come near your

expert writing so I will list the facts for our club and leave it with you.

Two separate clubs were started in 1993/1994. Parrsboro Club was called the Glooscap Snowmobile Club, the River Hebert called the Chignecto Trail Snowmobile Association. In 2007/2008 the two clubs joined together as one to become the Chignecto Glooscap Snowmobile Association.

Our club meets the first Wednesday of each month from October to April, we have fundraisers during the year which we thank all of our supporters from River Hebert to Parrsboro and beyond that come to these

events to help us raise money to keep the trails groomed during the winter plus clear of debris for people to use for hiking, running, travelling in this area on side by sides, etc.

We groom 300 kilometers of trails from River Hebert to Parrsboro for which we thank our members for the many long hours on the groomers to make the trails perfect as they can so that the many snowmobilers who come to the area will enjoy their trips. We have purchased a piece of land across from the Crossroads Garage where we eventually plan to build a clubhouse as well as storage for our two groomers. Being close to the Glooscap

Restaurant is a plus for all snowmobilers to have the trail going there, we have just opened a trail this year going to Wheaton's Irving, Tim Horton's, the Co-op in addition to all of the many stores as well as eating facilities in Parrsboro which are easily assessed with a short walk.

The Glooscap Restaurant have been kind enough to allow us to hold our meetings once a month in their conference room. Anyone that would like to join our club will be welcomed. We presently have 45 members and many volunteers who we thank for their support.

We are holding an auction on the 25th of April at the Parrsboro Fire Hall from 11 to 2, items for both men & women this year. Come out to support your local snowmobile club.



This photo shows the site of the future Fundy Trail Snowmobile Club's new clubhouse which will be built across the road from Cross Roads Garage, next to the cemetery. (Lawrence R Nicoll Photo)

Government Creates \$161-Million Fund

Government will invest \$161 million to address cash flow and access to credit for small and medium-sized businesses in Nova Scotia as the result of the Covid-19 causing the economy to collapse.

Government will defer payments until June 30 for: All government loans, including those under the Farm Loan Board, Fisheries and Aquaculture Loan Board, Jobs Fund, Nova Scotia Business Fund, Municipal Finance Corp. and Housing Nova Scotia; small business fees, including business renewal fees and workers compensation premiums. A list of fees will be posted online during the week of March 23.

Changes to the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program, administered through credit unions, include: deferring principal and interest payments until June 30; enhancing the program to make it easier for businesses to access credit up to \$500,000 and those who might not qualify for a loan, government will guarantee the first \$100,000

Further measures include: small businesses which do business with the government will be paid within five days instead of the standard 30 days; suspending payments on Nova Scotia student loans for six months, from March 30 to September 30 and students do not have to apply and ensure

ing more Nova Scotians can access the internet to work from home, by providing \$15 million as an incentive to providers to speed up projects under the Internet for Nova Scotia Initiative and complete them as soon as possible.

Hal Bruce at The Hall

By Patricia Burke

Producer, songwriter and entertainer extraordinaire Hal Bruce will perform a concert at The Hall on Saturday, April 25, 2020 at 8 pm. Hal Bruce is a One Man, One Voice, One Guitar and big sound. He plays many of the 60's and 70's hits and as well as some of the recent hits.

Hal was travelled to Europe, Australia, South America, Caribbean Islands and USA and extensively throughout Canada. He plays

concerts in Casino's, festivals, Theatres, Cruises and private events.

Tickets are on sale at Harrison's Home Hardware, Love Jill Boutique, Lynda's Guys and Gals Hair Design and Ken's Grocery and are available on line at www.thehall.ca and go to on line payments section. Major credit cards can be used there. You must be 19+ to attend. Bar available. This concert is sponsored by The Parrsboro Band Assoc.

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