

Landowners Seek Major Changes to Bill 4



Submitted by Todd Burgess

As Bill 4, the Biodiversity Act, is considered by the Law Amendments Committee of the NS Legislative Assembly, private landowners from across Nova Scotia are seeking major changes to Bill 4. Landowners have reviewed, considered and discussed Bill 4 among themselves and with other Nova Scotians. Bill 4 is a significant overreach by Government that impacts the rights of landowners to use and enjoy their land as they choose.

Under Bill 4 (sections 38, 53), the Minister would be able to order any landowner to do or not do something with their own land under the vague declaration that it somehow affected the biodiversity of the Province. Landowners could face fines of up to \$1

million dollars (section 44) for non-compliance. This unlimited authority affects every landowner whether the land generates income by farming or forestry, is used for recreation or just kept as a family haven.

Landowners have an undeniable bond with their lands. They care about the health of their land. Many landowners have been working on their land for generations demonstrating they understand sustainability. Landowners want their land to be healthy and sustainable for the long term. People should be respectful and considerate of how they use the environment for their livelihoods and their enjoyment. Landowners understand this, and do not require restrictions and large fines to motivate them.

Two-thirds of Nova Scotia's land is privately owned. In rural Nova Scotia, land is passed down through generations of a family. It is used to provide an income or shared with neighbours and the public for collective enjoyment. Because of this neighbourly approach, most of the multi use trails span many private properties. Up to now, very few of Nova Scotia's private landowners restricted public access to their properties. Bill 4 would force owners to reconsider their approach to public access because of the real threat of unjustified persecution by activists or prosecution by Govern-

ment.

Since the Concerned Private Landowners Coalition (CPLC) was formed just two weeks ago, over 15,000 Nova Scotians have visited our website (www.stopbill4.ca) and left passionate messages about how much their land means to them. Landowners have communicated with each other and their MLA's. The CPLC urges the NS Legislature to remove all sections of Bill 4 that affect private land and private land ownership. As an organization that values landowner rights and autonomy, we will leave it to Government to decide what it does with its own Crown Land and Bill 4. If the Government believes that biodiversity needs more attention, the CPLC would recommend a voluntary education and training program for landowners who wish to learn more.

The Concerned Private Landowners Coalition represents thousands of Nova Scotia's private landowners. Landowners vary in how their land is used. Some use it to generate income in farming or forestry. Others use their land for recreation such as hunting, hiking or ATV'ing. Still others keep their land as a natural haven for their peaceful enjoyment. There are over 40,000 landowners in Nova Scotia who own more than 5 acres of land.

For more information contact: **Todd Burgess, Forestry Outreach Coordinator, Forest Nova Scotia**
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Also see "Biodiversity Act - Bill 4" on page 18.

Fundy Discovery Site Presentation

At the March 2 presentation session before Colchester Council, presenters - Marc Belanger, AldrichPears Associates; Ron Burdock, Architecture49; Thomas McGuire, Group ATN presented the upgraded plan for the Fundy Discovery Site.

Included in the presentation was an overview of the interpretive approach taken with the project; plans for the visitor experience; visitor's centre concept; architectural concept; business plan; and the goals and objectives of the project which include showcasing the significance of the tidal bore, to develop a space that provides a memorable experience for the public, to establish the site as a gateway experience to the Bay of Fundy region, and to establish a sustainable operating model for the site.

At the end of the presentation moved by Mayor Blair, seconded by Councillor Sandeson, the presentation be received.

Motions from Feb 25TH Closed Session

By Maurice Rees

After emerging from its closed session, which started at 8:11 pm, during the February 25th council meeting, Colchester Council unanimously approved the requested Truro Colchester Partnership for Economic Prosperity contribution amount of \$64,350 for fiscal year 2021-22, contingent upon agreement of all other funding partners at the requested levels.

In another unanimous motion by Councillors Gregory and Taggart council approves the subdivision of Lancaster Crescent Lot 215 and the sale of the newly formed Lot 215a to Flower House Farm Inc. for \$20,000, including an option to purchase Lot 215b. Council authorized the Mayor and CAO to execute the purchase and sale agreement prepared by Legal Counsel for the transaction.

Just prior to adjourning at 10:35 pm, council approved two additional motions which included: A motion by Deputy Mayor Stewart and councillor Cooper, Council grant authority to March Committee to deal with the lease agreement as discussed in Closed Session. On motion by Councillors Boutilier and Patton, council approved changing the status of the Scale House and Drop Off Operator/Floater position from part-time to full-time and the vacancy be posted accordingly. Carried Unanimously.

\$100,000 for Accessible Washrooms

By Maurice Rees

The Federal drinking water standards on lead have changed, cutting the limit by half according to information reported to Colchester Council Committee at its March 11th meeting. She reported staff have undertaken a sampling program to evaluate the presence of lead in the Debert and Tatamagouche water systems.

Some issues have been identified and staff are dealing with the homeowners to identify problematic water fixtures. There is no evidence of lead piping in any of the utilities so far.

Public Works staff have submitted the application to have the French River Watershed designated as a protected area under the Environment Act. As of March 3, 2021, no decision has been received. Staff continues to work on Sewer By-law Compliance issues with the goal of removing high strength wastes from the systems. Staff

is also working with NS Environment to gain authority to seasonally disinfect treated wastewater effluent at our Lower Truro plant, meaning that UV systems would be shut down in winter, reducing power costs. The county was recently awarded a \$100K grant from the Federal Government to make four (4) of our Courthouse washrooms fully accessible. Staff has been providing information to the Village of

Bible Hill as part of their ongoing asset management project; Work is continuing at the Tatamagouche Water Plant to resolve changing pH issues, and to install all necessary equipment to address the problem. The results of the recent Inflow/Infiltration studies in Brookfield and Tatamagouche are being reviewed. Work will take place this summer to complete any necessary repairs. Public Works staff are corresponding with Nova Scotia Transportation regarding the new bridge construction on Hwy 289 in Brookfield.

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Elite Podiatry Opens in Downtown Truro

Downtown Truro has gained another business, in spite of some of the economic problems caused by CoVid-19. Located in the brick building at 802, Prince Street, Suite 201A, across from the Honeycomb Market in Truro's downtown, Elite Podiatry, a podiatry service opened a new office on March 4th. They are open, Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm.

Elite Podiatry offers foot mobilization and orthotic therapies, which when treated will increase the well-being of one's health and improve the lifestyle one would expect.

Those who suffer from the symptoms know when your feet hurt, your whole body hurts. If you are suffering from heel, knee or hip and back pain, you often can't wait to sit down and take off your shoes.

Elite Podiatry offers treatment options that are evidence-based to help cure foot pain either as a standard treatment process or part of a package.

At Elite Podiatry, they treat the source of your pain rather than just the symptoms. Their techniques are known to be very effective for many conditions of the lower limb and when implemented great results are regularly achieved.

Here are some examples of the ailments they treat successfully: arthritis, achilles tendonitis, bunions, flat, feet, hammer

toe, metatarsalgia (pain in the ball of the foot), morton's neuroma, plantar fasciitis (heel pain), sprain/ weak ankle, tired and sore feet and more ...

Bruce McLaggen, Podiatrist has been serving Nova Scotians for over twelve years. He says, "people no longer want to be passive consumers of healthcare, becoming dissatisfied with the mainstream options available to them. People are looking for treatment that can deliver results so that they can get back to their normal activities".

As a podiatrist, in my early years, I have had some success in resolving lower limb muscular skeletal problems, [MSK], but I knew there was more to research. My passion to find better methods to treat these painful conditions increased. Over the years my knowledge and skills grew as I learned from experts which in turn allowed me to develop new evidence based treatment protocols that have a good chance to resolve many of the pesky foot and heel pains known today.

You must call ahead for an appointment. Call 902-384-2141 or book online at www.elitepodiatryns.com.

Questions call or email eliteadmin@elitepodiatryns.com
 Visit the facebook page for a time limited discount coupon for new clients

Loves Rough Road (we all travel on)

Woke up this morning The first day of spring Looked down at my hand To where once was a ring For years it had been there A reminder of love Of friendship and honour From the heavens above	If you look there too hard You will never see That very person Whom is really meant to be The one who will keep Your very fragile heart From ever breaking down Or falling apart
Wake up on my pillow But please don't ever cry there Or i'll just die there While each teardrop falls Love is a rough road We all travel on	Wake up on my pillow But please don't ever cry there Or i'll just die there While each teardrop falls Love is a rough road We all travel on
All that i believed in Had somehow gone wrong For the headache was painful Such a sad song Would today be the day Would love soon be found Like the fresh scent of flowers Coming up from the ground	And when you find them Be sure that you stay All of your life Every night every day No matter what happens This you must do If you are to hold on And keep it true blue
Wake up on my pillow But please don't ever cry there Or i'll just die there While each teardrop falls Love is a rough road We all travel on	Wake up on my pillow But please don't ever cry there Or i'll just die there While each teardrop falls Love is a rough road We all travel on
For love is a garden Where all of us are Its paths they are many Some short and some far And where that we walk To find our soulmate Is something called destiny Or often called fate	Should life separate And break down your heart Remember that one rule Right from the start You must mend it And continue in hope that you find That one special person That one of a kind!
Wake up on my pillow But please don't ever cry there Or i'll just die there While each teardrop falls Love is a rough road We all travel on	Wake up on my pillow But please don't ever cry there Or i'll just die there While each teardrop falls Love is a rough road We all travel on

God bless and thank-you
Thomas A. Marshall (ex-navy)

Get rid of your Foot Pain

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Bruce McLaggen, BSc(Hons) DipPodMed

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