

Protect Wentworth Makes Presentation to Council

By Nancy Frame

(Editor's Note: Because of the speculation the Federal election would be called on Sunday, March 23rd, we delayed publishing the April issue by a week. If not for the delay, this article would have appeared prior to council's monthly meeting on March 27. Following is the communication from Protect Wentworth supporters outlining their position with respect to the Public Hearing being hosted by Colchester County Council on March 27 and the recent announcement by Minister John Lohr related to Industrial Wind Turbine Regulations.)

The Protect Wentworth valley committee also requested local MLA's (Scott Armstrong, David Ritcey and Tom Taggart) to be in attendance at the Public Hearing so that they might gain an understanding of the significant energy and resources that has been committed to drafting of these regulations. We have also asked that they provide the Province rationale for the reduction in community safeguards including what benefit to our Community's, environment and future generations will be.

See communication to Protect Wentworth supporters:



Good afternoon

We wanted to make contact to advise of the Public Hearing being held by Colchester County Council, related to the adoption of the Draft Municipal Planning Strategy and Draft Land Use Bylaws. We also wanted to make you aware of the new regulations all Mayors and Wardens in the province have recently been informed of by the Honourable John A. Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (see excerpt of this letter in italics below). As a result of this new provincial regulation Industrial Wind Turbines will be subject to a minimum set back requirement of approximately 800 metres from dwellings, rather than the 2km set back as included in the Draft Colchester Land Use Bylaw and the current stand-

alone Wind Turbine bylaw now in place in Colchester County.

We applaud Colchester County Council given that it is our understanding it is their intention to approve and submit the Land Use Bylaws including the 2 km set back provision as drafted regardless of the fact that the Province based on its new regulation will likely override their submission and impose the reduced set back requirement.

It is very disappointing and concerning to our group given the resources, energy and passion that many in our community including Protect Wentworth have committed to working with Council on Industrial Wind Turbine safeguards, including presentations, discussions, written submissions in the last few

years, that the Province would ignore the voice of the community and impose reduced safeguards without public consultation or input. We question what "special interest groups" are the Province committed to Protecting?

We object to what appears to be a very heavy-handed pattern by the Province of curtailing a community's right to plan and that they have done so without any consultation or recognition of communities that have already examined these issues and come to a fair and balanced approach.

We encourage all who are able to attend the Public Hearing on March 27 and support the objection to the Province's disregard of transparent and inclusive community planning processes in our Province.

From John A. Lohr to all Mayors and Wardens:

Dear Mayors and Wardens: I am writing to inform you that the Minimum Planning Regulations under Section 214 of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) and Section 229 of the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter (HRMC) have been amended to implement a maximum setback for commercial wind turbines. The new regulations will require that the maximum distance between a commercial wind turbine and a dwelling cannot be more than either four times the height of the turbine, or the distance needed to keep noise levels below 40 decibels outside the home and limit shadow flicker to no more than 30 minutes a day or 30 hours a year. Additionally, the amendments stipulate that visual impact or aesthetic appearance of a wind turbine development is not a matter Council can consider prior to approval.

Thank-you, Protect Wentworth Valley Committee

Land-Use By-law Passes

Continued from page 1

March 20, 2025, Council approved the incorporation of the changes into the draft county-wide planning documents.

Due to the size and number of attachments, the draft planning documents can be found on the Municipal website at <https://www.colchester.ca/planning-it-colchester>

Three existing by-laws need to be preserved as they contain enforcement mechanisms for existing permits or licenses granted under them.

This includes the Commercial Dog Care Kennel Facility By-law Chapter 36; Land Lease Development By-law Chapter 28; and Wind Turbine Development By-law Chapter 56. These will be amended as attached. These By-laws will be brought forward for approval in April.

The draft documents are correctly before Council and staff are recommending their approval and adoption.

Chignecto Isthmus Agreement Reached

Continued from page 1

years. This represents 25 per cent of the total project cost. New Brunswick will contribute the same amount.

The federal government has agreed to pay \$325 million through the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund.

Nova Scotia maintains its position that the federal government is fully responsible for this project and will maintain its reference to the court. However, it is in everyone's best interests to strengthen and protect this interprovincial trade corridor as soon as possible.

Susan Holt, Premier of New Brunswick said, "This is a necessary partnership with the federal government and our neighbours in Nova Scotia to protect this critical land corridor. This announcement provides much needed certainty

and security for the people living in the region and presents us with a major project and economic opportunity for New Brunswick business. However, this is only the first step in implementing a long-term climate mitigation solution for the Chignecto Isthmus."

The dykes and aboiteaux protecting the Chignecto Isthmus were originally installed in the late 1600s. The dykeland system protects communities, infrastructure and natural resources from rising sea levels in the Bay of Fundy.

More than \$100 million per day, or \$35 billion a year, in trade crosses the isthmus on the Trans-Canada Highway and CN Rail lines. The isthmus also houses windmills, major power transmission lines, natural gas lines and telecommunications lines.

Portapique Market gets \$27,400 Grant

Continued from page 1

derserved groups include the Mi'kmaq and people of Indigenous descent, African Nova Scotians and people of African descent, people of colour/racialized people, people with disabilities, 2SLGBTQIA+, newcomers (immigrants or refugees), minority faith-based groups and people who are neurodivergent.

Grants have been awarded to the following organizations and projects:

- African Nova Scotian Justice Institute - \$22,500 to support Black and African Nova Scotians in correctional facilities in accessing culturally relevant legal and community-based resources
- Alma Matters Housing Association - \$37,800 for a video and podcast series featuring people from different backgrounds having meaningful discussions around their opposing views
- BGC Cape Breton - \$40,000 to empower underserved youth in Cape Breton through anti-racism education, a new digital platform to connect youth to services and cultural activities such as storytelling and art
- Black Wellness Co-Operative - \$37,800 to build and improve access to culturally relevant exercise oncology programs in safe and inclusive spaces with a focus on Black Nova Scotians
- Health Equity Alliance of Nova Scotia - \$39,900 for a five-day event that will offer culturally relevant sexual health education in a supportive environment to leaders of

- BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and people of colour) communities
- Nova Scotia Association of Black Social Workers - \$40,000 for one year of monthly meetings where families of biracial children can share their experiences and support one another
- Portapique Market - \$27,400 to provide training to staff, volunteers and community members to enhance inclusiveness and cultural sensitivity
- Prescott Group Society - \$35,700 to create a new accessible and inclusive community hub where people with intellectual and developmental disabilities will lead research on how to make the space welcoming
- Queer Health Coalition - \$40,000 to provide education and training to healthcare professionals on the unique needs of queer, newcomer and women from minority faith-based communities when accessing healthcare services
- Rainbow Refugee Association of Nova Scotia - \$40,000 to build new training opportunities and expand a volunteer program that supports 2SLGBTQIA+ refugees and newcomers
- Souls Harbour Rescue Mission - \$40,000 to support its work in the Eastern Shore to promote long-term stability and social inclusion for marginalized populations, including people with disabilities; survivors of violence; and people in rural areas.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.theshorelinejournal.com

Scotia Metal Products Ltd

Metal Roofing & Siding

Made in Nova Scotia
Many Colours to choose from
Visit our showroom at
188 Joseph Zatzman Drive Dartmouth

902-468-7217

www.scotiametal.ca

WE ARE OPEN FOR BUSINESS

AVG. CloudCare™

Is a virus driving you crazy?
Bring it to us for CPR - \$83 + HST

Need antivirus Software?
AVG Antivirus - \$50 + HST for two years

www.failSAFE-computer.com

10 Dominion Street
893-2171
askus@failSAFE-computer.com
Proudly Educating our Customers in Plain English

- COMPUTER & LAPTOP SALES
- WIRELESS/ROUTER SECURITY
- VIRUS & SPYWARE REMOVAL
- CABLES & ACCESSORIES
- OPEN: Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30
Saturday 9:00-1:00

Warfarin INR tests done IN-STORE.

Call for details!

Guardian

Bayside Pharmacy
6044 Highway #2
Bass River
Tel: 902-647-2552

Hours of Operation:
Monday 9:30-7
Tuesday 9:30-5
Wednesday 9:30-5
Thursday 9:30-5
Friday 9:30-5

We administer the Shingles Vaccine. Prevention is the best medicine!!

We offer FREE local delivery – just let us know if you can't make it in and we will bring your prescription to your door!

Our pharmacists perform minor ailment prescribing!

Thank you to all of our loyal customers!

Sincerely,
Todd MacKinnon, Pharmacist Owner