

REES' Pieces

Trump a Disastrous Saviour

In spite of all his threats, bullying, idiotic behaviour, there are a couple of areas where Donald J Trump displays a creative snake oil salesman stage presence, and has given Canada a tremendous previously unobtainable gift.

Hard to believe. I will explain later.

One thing we can universally agree: he has repeatedly told us what he was going to do. We might have dismissed the statement as being too outlandish, or thought he will never do that. If so, we were wrong and explains why we were initially ill prepared to mount an offense.

The maga-republican strategy comprised many elements of which the two important components included: Steve Bannon's statement "flood the zone". Put out so many items, those who opposing were getting dizzy going off in all directions. Then add Trump's outline of his crazy intentions. The purpose was to create hysteria causing us to take our eyes off the ball of what was really going on behind the scenes.

Meanwhile behind the scenes others were calculating how they could dismantle the country. Things like eliminate Department of Education; layoff 84,000 employees in Veterans Affairs; fire lawyers who worked for the Democrats or on the January 6th hearings and cause chaos globally.

Trump's tirades are really a smoke screen to what he and his 2025 administrative team and a multitude of backers are doing. He hopes his accusations of his intentions for Greenland, Panama, redevelopment of the Gaza Strip, withdrawing economic and intelligence support from Ukraine and toward Canada create enough chaos people ignore his team's power grab to privatize USA to become part of the Trump-Musk Billionaire Club.

Each of his tirades are designed to create havoc similar to adding a tablespoon of water to a pot of very hot frying oil. The instant reaction is to develop another rabbit hole for us to chase meanwhile he is issuing other executive orders.

The bullying and threats against the 51st state are real and should be treated as such. April 2, 2025 is the tentative timetable to implement tariffs, while he is issuing a new round of executive orders to dismantle and eliminate the Department of Education, or to throw out all the Environmental Protection Regulations

This current implementation timetable of massive tariffs against Canada and a host of other nations is real, but subject to change, or outright cancellation. Against Canada he is suggesting 25% tariff on steel and aluminum, plus other products, as he jumps around from one lily pad to another. It is important to bear in mind there could be another delay; rate of tariffs might be less or more; might not be implemented at all. The actual outcome will depend on who last bent his ear.

If we look at all these things from another perspective, Canada's reaction has been to develop a comprehensive plan of rebuttal. If he wishes to continue against us, he needs to someone to point out who during WWII went over the hill at Normandy changing the momentum of the ground war in Europe.

There two sides to all of this. In the short view Trump's tirades and focus on tariffs will be short lived and he will be onto something else. In the long view, he has dealt Canada an unbeatable winning hand.

I know, right now you think, I have gone off my rocker and should be locked up.

However, I plead for you to give me a chance to explain Canada's winning hand.

When Trump was threatening tariffs former Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called the premiers and territorial leaders to a meeting in Ottawa. The immediate outcome of the meeting was a pledge of UNITY to fight Trump's bullying initiatives. Although he still has not realized the gift he gave Canada. In the long term, Trump gave Canada a winning hand he will not be able to beat.

He united every politician and 40-million Canadians against him and his cult-like followers.

Yes, there will be short-term economic and emotional pain across Canada. This unifying gift will outlast all of us by decades or centuries.

However, we will win because we will buy LOCAL, not American; use our lumber to build affordable housing; use our steel to build a pipeline to the East Coast; invite Americans to emigrate to fill the gaps in our professional ranks, financial investments and labour pool.

Thank you, President Donald J Trump only you could give us this previously unobtainable gift.

Maurice

Letters to the editor

This is an open forum for your opinions and comments.

MAIL TO: The Shoreline Journal, P.O. Box 41, Bass River, NS, B0M 1B0
(902) 647-2968; Fax: 902-647-2194 Email: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

Dear Editor,

With a federal election fast approaching, I am writing to draw your readers' attention to an imminent threat to Canada's cultural sovereignty - one whose urgency grows by the day, as President Donald Trump continues his unprovoked economic attacks on our country.

Following decades of underfunding and institutional neglect from governments of all political stripes, the CBC now finds itself in the crosshairs of Pierre Poilievre's Conservatives, who are promising to defund it altogether.

We cannot stand by and let this happen. Canadians rely on the CBC for information, news, and entertainment that speaks to their daily realities and reaffirms their shared values. Defunding our national public broadcaster would inflict immeasurable harm on our communities, on our Canadian identity, and on our democratic health as a country.

Thankfully, the CBC doesn't belong to the politicians. It belongs to us, the Canadian public - and it's time we put our foot down. At this critical moment in history, Canadians from all walks of life are closing ranks around our storied institutions. And we expect our elected officials to do the same. We won't stand for vague promises, and we certainly won't tolerate any more threats to our shared way of life - foreign or domestic.

That's why I am standing with Friends of Canadian Media and its hundreds of thousands of supporters this election. When we head to the polls, we'll be voting to save the CBC. If the federal party leaders want to secure our vote, they have to stand up and support our national public broadcaster.

Sincerely,

The same letter was received multiple times from:

Leah Hamilton, Upper Stewiacke, NS

Debra Reynolds Banting, Lower Five Islands

Jessie Jaggard Drive, Wolfville, NS, CA, B4P 2S1

Kimberley Fowlow, Somerset, NS, CA, B0P 1E0

Sarah Coleman, Bible Hill, NS, CA, B2N 6A2

Karl Peters, Garlands Crossing, NS, CA, B0N 2T0

Colchester Public Works Report to Council

(The following is Michele Boudreau, Director Public Works, report to council at their March 13th committee meeting).

First and foremost, Happy Engineering Month! And kudos to the County for recognizing the value of having engineers on staff. The following summary presents some of the projects and initiatives currently being undertaken by the Public Works Department.

Staffing:

- No new staffing or staff changes have occurred since December 2024. We anticipate summer student hiring to begin in April. We have budgeted for a summer student in Wastewater Treatment.

Ongoing and Upcoming Projects

The following projects were recently completed: Tracker Road Sewage Lift Station, Debert; Stewiacke River Park Pedestrian Bridge (support for recreation).

Tendering:

We are preparing to tender the following projects for construction/completion in 2025: Pumping Station 17 Upgrades, Truro Heights - awarded to L&R Construction; Debert Roundabout, MacElmon Road - construction anticipated Summer 2025; MacElmon Road Watermain (short section); Great Village Sewer Renewal (short section) - awarded to Atlantic Snow and Ice; Fundy Discovery Site Trails - Tidal Bore Road and McClures Brook (design support for Recreation); Debert Sewage Plant 2 Abandonment; Springwaters Place Sidewalk Renewals (asphalt to concrete); Hilden Sidewalk from Avalon to Edward, new construction; Tatamagouche Trunk Sewer Upgrades (450 metres, Creamery Road to Legion); and Brookfield Sewer Line Upgrades (Highway 2).

Other tenders include: Pump Station Replacements, Robie Street and Hilden; Repaving, Osprey Court; Design Services, Tatamagouche and Great Village Sewage Plants - Upgrades; Installation of signalized pedestrian crossings on Main Street in Tatamagouche and Highway 289 in Brookfield; Engineering Services - Biosolids Facility Aeration Optimization and Upgrades; 1 Church Street Front Entryway - Design in Progress; Tender this Summer and Design of Upgrades, Debert Sewage Treatment Plant.

Regulatory: Public Works will be coordinating meetings for the Debert and Tatamagouche Source Water Protection Committees now that

the committee positions have been determined. The receiving water study for the Debert sewage plant has recently been completed and staff are working with NS Environment and Climate Change to finalize the upgrade standards for the plant.

Recent Equipment Purchases: Two new pickup trucks, Wastewater Collection and Wastewater Treatment; New flail mower; and Forklift for Wastewater Treatment

Other Tidbits: Staff attended a full week of All Hazards Incident Management Training as offered by Provincial EMO; NSPW recently approved the installation of a new crosswalk on Truro Heights Road at Ravine. This has already been included in the approved capital budget for 2025/26. Request for a crosswalk on Plains Road in Debert still under review by NSPW. Staff continue to work on plans to reduce inflow and infiltration of rainwater and groundwater into the sewer system. Current focus is on North River.

Staff are preparing a request for hydrogeological services to assess water availability to expand the Tatamagouche Water Utility's capacity. We will be issuing a tender for the purchase of two new 1.5T Trucks for Wastewater Collection. We continue to experience long delays with NS Power. Street lighting requests in Debert were made last year with very little progress to date.

Staff are working with the Recreation Department to carry out Walkability Audits in our communities. This will feed into plans to update the Active Transportation Strategy. A funding application to the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF) is being prepared, and will include the Tatamagouche Sewage Plant expansion project.

Staff worked with Community development to prepare a funding application for major updates to our Active Transportation Strategy. We continue our efforts to update our Colchester engineering standards

Proposed locations for speed monitoring units are being vetted by the Province. Staff have applied for funding for a sump pump disconnection program, which we hope to roll out in 2025. Ideally this will roll out as a grant program to encourage participation. Staff will need to coordinate activities for decommissioning of the Lower Truro Spring.

Michelle Boudreau, Director of Public Works can be reached at mboudreau@colchester.ca

The Shoreline Journal

Here's where to find us:

BASS RIVER:

Bayside Pharmacy
Dominion Chair Factory Store

BIBLE HILL:

C.W. Fraser Pharmacy
MacQuarries Pharmacy
Kennedy's Deli - Ryland Ave

DEBERT:

Debert Mini-Mart

FIVE ISLANDS:

Masstown Market Five Islands

GLENHOLME:

Double "C" Truckstop

GREAT VILLAGE:

Wilson's Gas

MAITLAND:

Frieze & Roy General Store

MASSTOWN:

Masstown Market
MTM Retail Gas (Petro-Can)

MILLBROOK:

Super 8 Motel

Hampton Inn & Suites

NORTH RIVER:

Grant's Grocery

PARRSBORO:

CrossRoads Co-op

Ken's Grocery

Wright's Pharmasave

TRURO:

Atlantic Superstore

Best Western Glengarry

Holiday Inn

MacQuarrie's Pharmasave

(Esplanade)

Rath Eastlink Comm Centre

Colchester East Hants Health

Centre - Coffee Shop

NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION:

Each classroom at the following schools will receive a copy of the Shoreline Journal:

Bass River Consolidated;
Great Village Elementary; Debert Elementary; Chiganois Elementary; Central Colchester Junior High School; Parrsboro Elementary and Parrsboro Regional High School.

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Maurice Rees, Publisher,
902-647-2968, or E-MAIL:
maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

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PHONE: 902-647-2968; Fax: 902-647-2194 Toll Free 1-800-406-1426; Cell: 902-890-9850 • E-MAIL: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

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