



MIA Tom Taggart passed along his appreciation and noted the importance of the new Support for Fire Protection Service Act to standardize fire services across the province.



Colchester County Mayor Christine Blair noted four of the current Colchester Councillors have experience in the Fire Service and passed along her appreciation to Members of the Debert Fire Brigade and their families.



Tidal Bore KOA Holiday Campground in Lower Debert (formerly known as Elm River Campground) underwent significant flooding after a noon high tide on Tuesday, March 18th due to torrential rainfall melting recent snow accumulation. Several roads were closed and power outages occurred in the Truro area during this weather event. (Harrington Photos)

Capital Plan 2026-27 Released

Communities across the province will benefit from the historic \$3.5-billion Capital Plan 2026-27, which funds important projects such as new and improved hospitals, public housing, schools, highways and more. This year's capital plan is Nova Scotia's largest ever, investing \$1.5 billion in More, Faster: The Action for Health Build plan and almost \$900 million in long-term care facilities.

Investments in healthcare facilities and equipment include: \$1.2 billion for the Halifax Infirmary expansion and the Cape Breton Regional Municipality Health Care redevelopment project; \$146.9 million for construction and renewal of other hospitals and medical facilities, including in Amherst, Yarmouth, Bridgewater and Halifax; \$67.7 million for One Person One Record, a health records digital transformation project; \$24.7 million to build modular dialysis units; \$21

million for Nova Scotia Health to repair and replace medical facilities; \$16 million to repair and replace medical equipment; \$12.5 million for the Multidisciplinary Oncology Partnership; \$12.2 million for new diagnostic imaging equipment and \$2.3 million for the first Menopause Centre of Excellence in the province.

Capital Plan 2026-27 also includes about \$465 million for projects outlined in the Five-Year Highway Improvement Plan released in December, as well as: \$873.8 million to build long-term care facilities; \$110.3 million to build and renovate schools; \$31.7 million for new public housing units and \$10.3 million for public housing maintenance; \$30.8 million to build Nova Scotia Community College student residences and \$10.8 million for modular child-care facilities.

2482 participated in Waste Reduction events



Submitted by Phillip Redden, B.Eng.

(Phillip Redden, B.Eng. Director of Solid Waste presented his 8-page report at council's committee meeting on March 12. This section deals with Waste Reduction.)

WASTE REDUCTION: Staffing/Events: Education: Contract Breakdown. There is a contract with Divert NS for Education and following is a snapshot of the contract breakdown agreement and requirements (highlighting a few important requirements but not all). The breakdown consists of presentations, engagements, event planning and coordinating, resource development, social media, on site visits and more. We are 100% complete on our education contract early with the deadline being for the Education Contract is March 31, 2026.

Description Contract Agreement/Requirement Completed: Residential/Community Engagements: required 7, completed 28; Virtual/Online Resources (SM Campaigns) required 1, completed 3; Business Visits required 7, completed 9; Gr PP - 12 Participation & Engagement required 503, completed 2482; Grade 5-8 Presentations required 4, completed 5; Girl Guide Presentation required 1, completed 3; Pharmacy

Visits required 16, completed 16 and Waste Reduction Week Event required 1, completed 2.

Residential and Community Engagement Highlights- Several presentations: Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture; NS Provincial Housing Agency; VON Adult Day; Truro Scouts; Virtual presentation for the Town of Stewiacke Councillors; Truro Vet Hospital; Shubenacadie Wildlife Park summer camp group; Several Career fairs/Job fairs; DalAC Open house;

We had several pop-up events at all the farmers' markets across Chester; Nova Institution for Women (we have been working with them since 2020)

Language Waste Sorting Guides: With the new changes for EPR, this has been a great opportunity to change our current waste sorting guides with the new updates, as well as add more language options. The system being used is Access Language Services Inc out of Bedford, and they are ISO certified in interpretation and translation. Going forward we will have sorting guides in the following languages: Arabic, Simplified Chinese, Hindi, French, Tagalog, Spanish and Punjabi.

Phillip Redden, B.Eng. is Director of Solid Waste at MRF in Kempton:

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