

REES' Pieces

Let's invest in ourselves

Before I get into the main focus of this column, permit me to say a few words about immigrants and our need of more. We have three ways to grow our economy. (1) Keep our youth here. (2) become more daring, innovative and increase our efficiency. (3) Bring in a large number of immigrants, who have young families.

Nova Scotians know how to be friendly, helpful and welcoming. We can teach them English and help them find work. What we as commoners cannot do is control how their professional credentials are looked upon.

I listened to a segment on CBC Radio, Halifax, which profiled an immigrant couple from Pakistan who have been here for two years. He has work, but she can't get a job. She is trained as a hair dresser, but can't work in that field, because she is not accredited here.

Give me a break. Let her work as an apprentice for 6-12 months to improve language and to write for her ticket. Reduce her pay by 15% below the norm and give all or a portion of the reduction to the hosting shop. She stated if she can't find work soon they will move west.

Wouldn't hurt for us to stand up, and be counted. Write the premier or MLA. Government must become pro-active, if we hope to use immigration as way of growing our economy. Shameful.

Now onto the main focus of this column.

Negotiations and possible Canada Post strike seems to have focused on defined pensions. In Nova Scotia taxpayers have spent millions upon millions of dollars to top up the pension plans of many if not nearly every classification of government employee, because the markets did not perform enough to add more than was paid out.

Watch out, we'll be asked to top up the funds again within the next five years.

Don't get me wrong, defined pensions are fine, when everyone has one. But in Canada more than 50% of Canadians either have a small company pension, which will not be enough for them to live above the poverty line, or don't have any pension at all. As a result we face work slowdowns, stoppages, or possible strikes for "defined pensions".

Over 20 years ago, then Premier Frank McKenna, was on the bandwagon promoting the idea all pension monies from Atlantic Canada should be invested in the region. At that time, he said over \$600-Million in annual pension fund contributions were leaving the region, going primarily to Bay Street, Toronto.

I'd like to see a pension actuary run the numbers and tell us what would happen if what I am going to say actually happened.

Rather than borrow money from other countries, paying \$-Millions in interest to other economies each year, we need to invest in ourselves. If you wonder why so many immigrant families become successful, it's partially because they scrape up the money to buy a business, then everyone in the family works in the business. That's much like our farming families do, until the kids go to college. As the immigrant's business grows, they buy another business and another part of the family runs that business, and so it goes. They all work together, but not us Canadians. We become jealous, when a neighbouring family becomes successful.

All pension funds in Canada should be invested in Canada with a large percentage of the money available for the Federal, Provincial or Municipal Governments to borrow for every reason imaginable, including infrastructure - roads, bridges and hospitals. Sure the interest earned might be less than on the open market, but there is no risk. (No \$-Millions required to top-up nurses, teachers or public sector employee plans, because the markets performed badly or funds lost money).

Every time, we asked for a new road, school, or hospital, we would be borrowing from ourselves. Also public employees in charge various departments and those projects might take a second look, as a successful economy would positively impact their pensions.

The pension money would not be sent to Ottawa. Most of it would be kept in the province where it originated, to act as a large pool of money for all the public sector salaries and capital projects in that province. Ottawa would get some, maybe 30%.

That's what I call the "immigrant-family-business plan" for success.

Your thoughts?

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



Lloyd Wilcox Releases Biography

By Hope Bridgewater

Just before Wilcox gave the Seniors-55 Alive Course in Wentworth, he sent me his biography, which reveals the generous signs of his volunteering, and also the beauties of rural friendship, nature, and wildlife which he found in the Wentworth community. Here are his interesting comments: "Lloyd and Kathy Wilcox are not transplants from the city, but 36 year veterans of Wentworth Valley who did not choose Wentworth as Wentworth choose to let them visit and stay. Why, you ask? "What choice did we

have?" Lloyd relied. "Deer, rabbits, bear, geese, ducks, ground hogs, squirrels, raccoons, etc. Can't forget the beaver that liked to build dams to back up water on our property. Neighbours, if asked lend a helping hand. No phone, no TV, no computing thing, no street lights and car horns, clear stars fill the sky year round. When asked for snow, we receive, sun we get and rain (we get mud). What more would you want? Can't get all this in the city! Our two children Wendy and Scott with family of their own still enjoy the relaxed life of

Wentworth on weekends.

Now that we can spend more time in Wentworth, we offer our time to volunteer, to help and support those community raising projects. Lloyd says he is a registered member of the "Honey Do Club", we all know about this, but that's a good feeling! Nice to help out anytime.

Lloyd works for Safety Services, Nova Scotia and is an instructor on a defensive driving course. Lloyd and Kathy through the Wentworth Pioneers 50+ Club and Safety Services held a Seniors 55-Alive course, at the end of April.

Historic Sights Unavailable

Historic Sights is unavailable this month.

The Archival department at the Colchester Historem is looking for additional historical photos to prepare future articles for the Shoreline

Journal. If you have or know where there are great photos from years gone by, please contact Dick Akerman or Nan Harvey, archivist. Simply send an email with your name and phone number to:

archivist@colchesterhistorem.ca

Next year is Canada's 150th birthday. Let's find some of those great photos to help trace developments along the Bay of Fundy since Confederation.

Lock Your Vehicles or Remove Valuables

Colchester District RCMP are reminding the public to lock their vehicles when left unattended, and to keep valuables out of sight.

During the past few weeks, the RCMP received several complaints about suspicious activity in many areas.

During one weekend in the middle of May, several calls were received from homeowners in Truro Heights of a group of men entering unlocked vehicles and stealing small items like loose change.

Members of Colchester District RCMP, Millbrook RCMP and RCMP K-9 unit searched the area but did not locate the suspects.

Colchester District RCMP is encouraging the public to call police if they observe any suspicious activity. In addition, anyone with information about these incidents is asked to contact Colchester District RCMP at 902-893-6820 or Nova Scotia Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

You can also text TIP202 + your message to 'CRIMES' (274637) or submit a tip by Secure Web Tips at www.crimestoppers.ns.ca. Calls to Crime Stoppers are not taped or traced and if police make an arrest and lay charges based on a tip, callers qualify for a cash award.



Canada

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

DEBERT:

Barnhill's Superette
Debert Mini-Mart

FIVE ISLANDS:

Masstown Market Five Islands

GLENHOLME:

Double "C" Truckstop
Glenholme General Store

GREAT VILLAGE:

Wilson's Gas

MAITLAND:

Frieze & Roy General Store

MASSTOWN:

Masstown Market
MTM Retail Gas (Petro-Can)

NORTH RIVER:

Grant's Grocery

ONSLow:

Onslow Market

PARRSBORO:

CrossRoads Co-op
Ken's Grocery
Wright's Pharmasave

TRURO:

Atlantic Superstore
MacQuarrie's Pharmasave
(Esplanade)
tshirtsrus.ca
94 Esplanade Truro

*We are interested in placing the
Shoreline Journal in additional
locations.*

*If you have a suggestion, or wish to
have the Shoreline available from
your store, please contact:*

*Maurice Rees, Publisher
902-647-2968,
or E-MAIL:*

maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

The Shoreline Journal (circ. 1650) is a monthly community newspaper serving communities along the Glooscap Trail from Truro to Parrsboro, Nova Scotia serving the communities of Belmont/Debert, Wentworth/Londonderry, Onslow/Masstown along the shore to Great Village, Bass River, Economy, Five Islands and Lower Five Islands. It is published on the last Wednesday of each month (earlier in December) with a deadline of the 20th of the month.

MAILING ADDRESS: The Shoreline Journal, P.O. Box 41, Bass River, Nova Scotia, B0M 1B0.

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

EDITOR PUBLISHER: Maurice Rees • ADVERTISING: Maurice Rees • CIRCULATION: Dorothy Rees

Canadian Publications Mail Products Agreement #40048924, ISSN #1209-9198

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

LOCAL SUBSCRIPTIONS: B0M / B2N / B6L - \$23.00, PLUS HST = \$26.45 • OTHER PARTS OF NS: \$28.00 plus HST = \$32.20
ALL OTHER AREAS OF CANADA: \$30.00, plus HST = \$34.50 • USA SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$45.00
HST: #890564404RT001. Printed by Advocate Printing & Publishing Ltd, Pictou, Nova Scotia

All rights reserved. Material published in The Shoreline Journal may not be reproduced in any form without prior approval of the publisher. Material to be returned to sender must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope.

1996 Heritage Award recipient. Listed with Canadian Advertising Rates & Data (CARD) and Bowden's Media Monitoring Service.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) for our publishing activities. Canada The publisher is not responsible for minor errors in ads, which do not lessen the value of the item(s). The publisher is not responsible for space beyond that portion of the advertisement containing the item(s) in error. Letters to the editor are subject to editing or rejection, must be signed by the author and contain a phone number.



NEWSPAPERS ATLANTIC
TRUSTED | CONNECTED | TARGETED