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After a century of paper-based operations, the Workers Compensation Board of Nova Scotia (WCB) is now providing online services to workers and employers. Physiotherapists and chiropractors can also invoice the WCB electronically, and communicate securely as part of their business. The new service channels are available through WCB's website, allowing secure, 24/7 access to account information, claim details, and more. They offer secure messaging, and direct links to resources that can support safe and timely return to the workplace. More features will be added as the WCB's modernization moves forward. For more information about WCB Nova Scotia's Online Channels and Modernization, visit www.wcb.ns.ca

Dianne Brushett, who was elected as MP in 1993, passed away on July 11th. Her obituary stated, After conquering lymphoma in 1991, Dianne received her Master's degree in Atlantic Canada Studies from St. Mary's University. She was a lifelong learner with an insatiable curiosity. In 1993, after years of public service in her community, Dianne was elected the first female Liberal Member of Parliament for Cumberland-Colchester and served between 1993 - 1997. Among her proudest achievements was serving with Prime Minister Jean Chretien. Born in Bath, New Brunswick, on October 11, 1942, Dianne was the youngest daughter of the late Margaret (Wright) Tompkins and Arthur Ford.

Jardine Transport Ltd. announced on July 12th it has acquired all of the outstanding shares of R.E.M Transport Ltd., an international long-haul trucking company based in Saint Stephen, New Brunswick. R.E.M. was established in 1973 and currently operates a fleet of more than fifty power units and sixty trailers servicing customers throughout most of Canada and the United States. The company has approximately seventy employees. Founded in 1978, Jardine Transport services a broad customer base in Ontario, Quebec, Atlantic Canada, Western Canada and the United States from its offices located in Fredericton and Saint Stephen, New Brunswick, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, and St. John's, Newfoundland. Jardine is part of the SeaFort group of companies.

Shortly after 5:00 pm on July 11 Colchester District RCMP responded to a motor vehicle collision between a motorcycle and a vehicle on the MacElmon Road, Debert, NS. The vehicle left the scene after hitting the motorcycle. The rider and passenger on the motorcycle were both treated by EHS and transported to hospital with minor injuries. The vehicle is described as grey, possibly a Toyota Corolla, which left the scene at a high rate of speed. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact Colchester District RCMP at 902 896-5000.

Royal Canadian Legion Cobequid Br. # 72 Great Village "Wheels To Meals" and "Open Mic" programs are cancelled for the summer. We "Thank" all who have attended to make them a success and ask you to watch the announcements in August for start-up dates in September.

Forward your Briefs to: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

News from our Provincial Capital

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support the Community Council in Londonderry regularly attend their fundraising activities. As the MLA for Colchester North, I am very pleased to announce this support of \$27 000 to the Londonderry Community Council.

Congratulations to both the community of Bass River and to

the community of Londonderry and to the volunteers who I see at every event. I commend them for their belief in the community and the hard work it takes to keep these centres as a hub of activity. I look forward to the work that can now be completed with this financial assistance from the Liberal Government.

Karen Casey, MLA Colchester North is Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance

News from our Municipal Council - District 10

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five minutes, I know she would be thrilled to see you. She may not be able to fully articulate her thoughts and you may have to intro-

duce yourself, but she will remember you and be thrilled to say Hi.

Enjoy the remainder of our summer.

Tom Taggart, Councillor District 10, Colchester County

Who pays for loss of Excise Tax Revenue?

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taxes were paid by Nova Scotians: \$242,228,189 for the provincial excise tax based on each litre of gas or diesel; \$133,594,501 generated from Provincial Sales Tax; \$132,953,593 for Federal Excise Tax; \$66,797,251 generated from Federal Sales Tax; \$56,277,267 generated from Tax-on-Tax for a whopping grand total of \$575,573,534.

Governments would have us believe, the excise tax on fuel is to maintain our highway system. If we presume that is correct let's examine what might happen if in the next 10 years, one third of the gas and diesel vehicles, in the province, are taken out of service and exchanged for electric vehicles.

If we equate number of vehicles directly to consumption, a reduction of 33% of the vehicles on the road would reduce Nova Scotia's Excise Tax on fuel by almost \$80-Million per year. In other words converting 33% of the fleet to electric vehicles reduces excise tax by \$1,538,461 per week or \$219,780 per day. If we look at the total tax generated from gas and diesel fuel, the tax loss by eliminating 33% of the fleet amounts to a revenue reduction of \$189,939,260 for all levels of government. Broken down to a week that's \$3,652,678, or \$521,811 per day.

To determine the number of registered highway vehicles in Nova Scotia, I Googled, "number of registered vehicles in Nova Scotia" Then I chose "Motor vehicle registrations by province - territory. I was taken to: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/tables-tableaux/sum-som/101/cst01/trade14a-eng.htm>

In 2016 Nova Scotia had 758,467 registered vehicles, of which 636,986 were listed as highway vehicles. Existing highways will still need to be

maintained. What will replace the \$80-Million lost in reduced Excise Tax revenue if 210,205 (33% highway) vehicles were converted to electricity?

If the same amount of Excise Tax is required for highway maintenance are drivers of 210,205 electric vehicles willing to pay a "up-front" excise tax replacement fee of \$7.31 per week should 33% of Nova Scotia's 636,986 highway registered vehicles in 2016 be converted to electricity.

Looking at the total tax generated from gas and diesel, converting 250,294 (33%) of highway vehicles to electricity will reduce the total tax take by \$189,939,260 just in Nova Scotia. As calculated earlier, of that amount \$80-Million is Excise Tax used for highway maintenance. My concern is what federal and provincial programs will be short-changed by the loss of the additional \$109-Million?

How happy would electric vehicle owners be if they were asked to contribute up to \$17.38 per week to cover the

total tax shortfall?

Will electric vehicle owners take pity on the 66% of us who are still driving a gas or diesel vehicle by paying an annual \$903.76 gas and diesel tax replacement fee over and above vehicle registration and

re-charging fees? Of that amount \$380.00 is Excise Tax needed for Highway maintenance.

After all Nova Scotia still needs the same amount of pot-hole filled roadways.

Your thoughts?

Observe Caution with Herbal Supplements

By Christine Urquhart

If you take herbal supplements, include a dose of safety in your routine:

1. Don't exceed the recommended dosages.
2. Tell your doctor what you're taking. Some herbs may interfere with other drugs or have other harmful effects.
3. Avoid taking herbs if you're pregnant or breast-feeding, unless your doctor approves.
4. Be cautious about using herbal products manufactured in foreign countries. Herbs in your food are different than herbs that you take/ingest for your health.

Herbs for food are easy to grow in your garden, in a container garden or just in your window box!

Fresh herbs, such as chives, mint, thyme and sage are easily grown and will continue to grow indoors if they are in a container.

Herbs such as chives and mint can be grown in your garden patch and will return each year.

Herbs are great for cooking with but, again, if you are taking herbs you have purchased as a supplement to your diet etc. be sure your Dr. knows!

Always better to be safe than sorry.

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