

The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

YourHealthNS to Include X-ray Reports

Nova Scotians will soon be able to access more information about their X-ray results through the YourHealthNS app. X-ray reports completed as of July 15, and onward will be available through the app 14 days later. The report includes findings from the X-ray, a comparison with any previous X-rays, the patient's history and a summary.

X-ray reports will add to the information - date, time and location of the scan, body part scanned and the provider who requested the X-ray - currently available through the app. Images will not be available. Earlier this month, the Province expanded access to electronic health records to people provincewide with a valid Nova Scotia health card who are 16 and older.

More than 600,000 X-rays were performed in Nova Scotia in 2023

Events, Healthcare Focus of Premier's Visit to Calgary

Premier Tim Houston on a visit to Calgary, July 4, to July 7 advanced Nova Scotia's intent to attract more healthcare innovation and large-scale events to the province.

The Premier will attend the Calgary Stampede, along with representatives from the upcoming Nova Scotia Stampede that will take place this fall in Truro and Bible Hill. It will be a first-of-its-kind event in Nova Scotia and include professional rodeo events such as saddle bronc riding, bareback riding, bull riding and barrel racing and other gymkhana events (timed horseback competitions focused on speed and agility through obstacle courses). The event will also support hotels, restaurants and other local businesses.

Premier Houston will also meet with Siemens to discuss new MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) technology and robotics for orthopedics, and Hockey Canada to discuss opportunities to bring more world-class events to Nova Scotia.

continued on page 8

Grants Totalling \$289,300

By Maurice Rees

Grants to six organizations totalling over \$289,300 were announced on July 23 by local MLA, Dave Ritcey. Recipients were: Town of Truro (Truro Amateur Athletic Club, \$150,000; STEPs on Arthur Society, \$50,000; Municipality of the County of Colchester - over \$47,000; Cobequid Society for Athletic Excellence - over \$33,000; The Lotus Centre: A Resource Society for Women - over \$9,000 and Truro Development Corporation - over \$300.

"This investment is not just about improving infrastructure, it's about supporting our community, promoting unity and ensuring everyone feels included," said Dave Ritcey, MLA for Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook-Salmon River, on behalf of Allan MacMaster, Minister of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage. "By enhancing these spaces, we can strengthen the ties that connect our communities."

The Town of Truro received funding to cover the increased costs of major renovations and accessibility upgrades at the Truro Amateur Athletic Club grounds. This includes a refit of the existing grounds with a multi-sport all-weather field and a revamped baseball field with upgraded amenities.

The STEPs on Arthur Society, an organization that provides supports and opportunities for adults with intellectual disabilities, received funding to replace the roof on Rotary House, one of its facilities.

The Municipality of the County of Colchester received funding to replace the Stewiacke River Park Trail Bridge.

Other organizations in Truro are also receiving provincial grants for upgrades: Cobequid Society for Athletic Excellence - install a generator at the Cougar Dome multi-sport facility; he Lotus Centre - paint building exterior and Truro Development Corporation - make accessibility improvements to doors at its facility.

Stephen Creelman, Board President, STEPs on Arthur Society said "STEPs on Arthur creates opportunities and provides support to adults with intellectual disabilities, maximizing their potential within our community. The \$50,000 grant was applied directly toward a much-needed roof replacement of STEPs on Arthur's Rotary House building. Rotary House along with Delaney House are the two main facilities that house STEPs day-to-day operations. STEPs is most grateful and truly appreciative of receiving this funding, helping to ensure the ongoing sustainability and protection of our facility assets."

News from our Federal Capital - Dr. Stephen Ellis

Continued from page 5

Dental care program full of cavities

For residents following the Liberal government's disastrous introduction of dental care for Canadians, things have gone from bad to worse regarding its implementation.

The Canada Dental Care Plan is riddled with chaos, backlogs, red tape, and higher costs. Even the president of the Canadian Dental Association has refused to sign up his own dental practice onto Trudeau's failed system. While many Canadians don't even qualify for this so called "universal" program, those who do may still have to pay out of pocket. Trudeau and his Health Minister Mark Holland have been lying to Canadians by calling this program 'free' and 'universal'. It is not, and dental associations have asked the Trudeau government to tell Canadians the truth and actively inform Canadians they will likely have to pay out of pocket.

Common sense Conservatives will axe Trudeau's carbon tax, build the homes, and reign in his inflationary waste to bring down costs for families so they can finally afford to visit the dentist.

In the office

Since Parliament's summer break began, I have split my time at our Truro and Amherst offices, meeting with people and interest groups. I place my emphasis on individuals and their problems.

One of them really sticks in my mind. It's a case handled by constituency assistant Holly Miller.

Jim Fear is a Canadian citizen who was born in Germany, living his early life on a Canadian Forces base, a son of a Canadian soldier.

Jim is now an adult, living in Colchester. Someone stole his identification, including his birth certificate. What happened next is a red tape nightmare created by a bureaucratic mess.

The federal department of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada told Jim that to receive a replacement Canadian citizen status card, he would first have to supply his birth certificate - that was on file in Germany.

The German Embassy told Jim he would have to go to Germany to obtain a printout of his birth certificate, but he couldn't because he didn't have a Canadian passport. To get a passport, Jim Fear was required to prove his identity as a Canadian which, of course, he couldn't provide!

Holly went through one hoop after another to bring this case to a successful conclusion. I am pleased to report that Jim Fear now has all his identification papers replaced.

This is just one of the services available at our offices in Amherst and Truro.

News from our Provincial Council - Tim Houston

Continued from page 5

We're getting paramedics the support they need, on the job and outside of it.

We've hired nearly 140 operators to handle routine transfers to support our paramedics so they can be where they're needed most - responding to emergencies.

Our new LifeFlight plane transports non-critical patients from Yarmouth or Sydney to Halifax and has saved more than 8,500 hours of ground ambulance time since it launched a year ago, keeping more ambulances in communities.

And a new contract with paramedics, transport operators and flight nurses includes higher pay, retention bonuses pay and other benefits, making Nova Scotia an even more attractive place to

On the road

I accepted an invitation to tour the Stanfield International Airport. With officials, we discussed the Verified Traveller Program and security measures rolled out to improve efficiency at peak travel times. I look forward to continuing the development of aviation in Nova Scotia!

On Canada Day, our team did a fantastic job covering the large geographic constituency. I was in Amherst and Pugwash for celebrations of Canada's 157th birthday. We were also in Brookfield, Bible Hill, Parrsboro and I finished the day in Truro. The weather was sunny and warm, and it was great to meet and embrace so many folks in just one day!

I love the Heartland Tour Nova Scotia, and I rode the roads again July 10 in Amherst.

From Sydney to Yarmouth and so many communities in between - the Heartland Tour encourages, inspires, and supports people on their journey through maintaining, improving and/or restoring your health! This year, they added a stop in Amherst. I participated in the 22km bike ride, and it was incredible!

I'm really looking forward to next year's ride!

Blueberries

The blueberry industry in Cumberland-Colchester is a vital one for our economy. Thousands of acres of land are dedicated to growing the 'wild' variety, most of which is, following early August harvest, frozen and exported around the world.

I had the pleasure of attending the Wild Blueberry Producers Association of Nova Scotia (WBPANS) annual Field Day at the Kit-tilsen Farm outside of Debert on July 17.

Blueberry producers are facing many challenges in 2024 that have been met, aside from the weather that dictates whether wallets are half full - or empty.

I was impressed to view 21st Century machinery such as computerized harvesters and spraying equipment, that has increased production capacity enormously. What really caught my eye was a \$50,000 experimental drone sprayer that can self-adjust its height above the terrain below, as it speedily disperses pest controls across a blueberry field.

And then there is AI, and cameras that can detect weed growth! I had insightful discussions with WBPANS executive director Peter Burgess and legendary producer Ron Welton.

Dr Stephen Ellis is MP for Cumberland Colchester. He can be reached at: 902-895-2863, or E-mail: stephen.ellis@parl.gc.ca

News from our Municipal Council - Victoria Lomond, District 10

Continued from page 5

Voters will see changes with the upcoming municipal election in October this year. Colchester council voted to incorporate electronic voting. My hope is that this shift makes the voting experience easier, convenient and more accessible for folks. The directions will be clearly explained on your voters card when they arrive in the fall. Don't worry, paper ballots will still be an option-

work and stay.

We also created PSPNET, a free, confidential program designed to meet the unique mental health needs of first responders, including paramedics, so they can continue to be there for us when we need them. Reducing ambulance wait times has been one of the most pressing and persistent challenges to fixing healthcare. But it is not one we're shying away from.

I thank every paramedic and emergency medical responder for the work they do on behalf of Nova Scotians. You give your time, skills and heart to save the lives of Nova Scotians everyday. We will continue to support you.

Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia can be reached at: premier@novascotia.ca or 902-424-6600

although your polling station may have changed locations. More information on this will be coming soon.

As always, I look forward to seeing you at community events in Colchester, if you see me out and about, please be sure to say, "Hi." Have a wonderful month.

Victoria Lomond is municipal councillor for District 10 and can be reached at vlomond@colchester.ca or 902 890-1493

Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce's annual Mayors and Chief's Breakfast was held on June 4th at Legends Bingo Facility, Millbrook.

Colchester County Mayor Christine Blair's remarks can be found on page 9 of this issue.

Town of Truro Mayor Bill Mills' speech and a few photos can be found on page 19.

In September's issue of the Shoreline Journal we will be proud to bring you contents of speeches from both Millbrook First Nation Chief Bob Gloade, and Stewiacke Town Mayor George Lloy.

Masstown Hardware



Your Trusted Building Supply Dealer

Highway 2, Masstown

902-662-3262

www.masstownhardware.ca



Guardian

Masstown Pharmacy

10655 Highway #2, Masstown

Call or text us at 902-603-1010

We offer a wide range of health and wellness services including:

- Pharmacist Prescribing
- Immunization and Injection Services • Easy Prescription Transfers
- Blister Packaging • Medication Reviews

"We carry a wide variety of over-the-counter items!"

HOURS OF OPERATION:
Monday to Friday
from 9:30am to 5:00pm