

The
Shoreline
Journal
Tid-Bits *Short reads of
important stories.*

Need a Family Practice Registry - July 2026 Update

As of July 1, there are 58,473 Nova Scotians on the Need a Family Practice Registry. The last published number was on June 1, when there were 60,579 Nova Scotians on the registry.

By the end of June, the number of Nova Scotians on the registry decreased by 2,106. This number reflects the cumulative result of activity on the registry since

Upgrades to Improve Comfort for Cancer Patients

A “home away from home” for Nova Scotians undergoing cancer treatment in Halifax will soon be a more comfortable place to stay with support from the Province. The Canadian Cancer Society’s Lodge That Gives, which provides temporary accommodation for people receiving cancer treatment and their families, will have a new low-carbon, energy efficient cooling and heating system installed.

The society received \$346,920 for the project from the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund, Timothy Halman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, announced July 10. The new system will improve energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save the society an estimated 35 per cent – upwards of \$30,000 each year – on its energy bills.

Province Planning future of A. Murray MacKay Bridge

The Province is exploring options for the future of the A. Murray MacKay Bridge. A request for proposals was issued July 10, for a consultant to evaluate viable long-term transportation options across the Halifax Harbour narrows.

The requested business case will: Complete an overview of the background, context and current state of the bridge; provide possible crossing options; outline preliminary design for preferred crossing option and identify cost estimates, procurement options and funding strategies.

The aim is to provide a comprehensive and detailed analysis of options to guide future decision making and potential implementation of a preferred option. The analysis will include financial feasibility, constructability, environmental impact, and social and cultural implications, as well as regulatory requirements, traffic flow, anticipated traffic disruptions and transit considerations.

Governments Renew Agreement on 9-8-8

Nova Scotians thinking about suicide or worried about someone else who may be thinking about suicide will continue to have access to help through a simple three-digit number. The 9-8-8: Suicide Crisis Helpline, which launched in 2023, provides support through calls and texts. The Province and federal government have renewed a memorandum of understanding to ensure continued access for Nova Scotians.

“9-8-8: Suicide Crisis Helpline is an important part of how we support people in crisis. Since it was launched, it has fielded thousands of calls from people when they’ve needed help the most,” said Brian Comer, Minister of Addictions and Mental Health. “By working together to support people anywhere in the province, the federal and provincial governments, alongside local partners, are helping ensure Nova Scotians can access timely, high-quality care when and where they need it most.”

9-8-8 offers free support 24 hours a day, seven days a week. People are connected with trained responders who can provide immediate, compassionate help in English or French.

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News from our Provincial Council - Tim Houston
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coming to Nova Scotia to build the next generation of naval and air fleets, modernize critical infrastructure and expand training and operational capacity. We also host the North American headquarters for NATO’s Defence Innovation Accelerator for the North Atlantic (DIANA).
Defence capability isn’t something you can create overnight. It depends on skilled people, purpose-built infra-

RECC Budget Approved

Continued from page 1
Councillor’s Martell and Patton voiced strong opposition to the budget approval because it included a line item budgeting for \$200,000 for rental fees of the temporary bleachers (see Bleacher War story on page 1), when they have been seized by NS Department of Public Works. The county does not have access to or possession of them.
The following is transcript of councillor Martell used as guide in her comments to council:
16 – RECC budget
I am speaking against the approval of this budget for the following reasons.
This isn’t about checking a box.
We are already into the second quarter of the year, I would have felt perhaps a bit more confident in these numbers if we could have even seen how the first quarter has been.
I have concerns over the projects of membership fees, food and beverage sales and certainly rentals. To project a \$200,000 source of revenue for renting bleachers that we currently don’t have in our possession does not offer confidence in that number. Even if we had been presented with information to suggest there is a list of people waiting for a green light to get them to their events would feel a bit better than just a dart in the dark based on if’s and when’s.
The other issue is that there is a \$100-125,000 budget implication for building naming rights that have not yet been secured along with a further assumptions mentioned during the presentation by the RECC staff at the joint council meeting, that there would be a “shared facilities maintenance agreement with local municipalities to cover increasing snow removal, insurance, landscaping and parking lot maintenance...” this request has not come before our council for consideration and we are only one partner. Has the Town of Truro approved this or has a request been made to them with a financial estimate of costs associated with such an agreement?
Maximizing local event funding support from DMOs and again mentioning more funding from Municipal Partners totaling \$150,000 of unconfirmed and unrequested funds.
So there is about a half a million dollars that is really “hopeful” but does not instill confidence for me to support this budget.
RECC Budget
• \$930k revenue for food and beverage which account for 16.8% of total budget.
• 2025 with Stampede and Rustic Table, F&B accounted for 15.7% (\$1,268,592) of total revenues. In 2024, prior to stampede and rustic table it was 12.6% (\$659,451).
Approaching Q2 with no events in pipeline, this is

structure, industrial capacity and leading-edge research and development hubs — and Nova Scotia has spent generations building all of these.
Nova Scotia has a proud history of supporting Canada’s defence both at home and abroad. That hasn’t changed.
When Canada calls, Nova Scotia delivers.
Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia can be reached at: premier@novascotia.ca or 902-424-6600

unrealistic and unattainable?
I will repeat for this council, what I brought up at our recent joint council:
At the last RECC Board Meeting it was noted that the 2025-2026 Board expense line item was budgeted at approximately \$31,000, however actual spending was over \$118,000, and the 2026-27 budget is now set at \$500?
• What costs are included in the \$500 budget for 2026-27? And...
• What caused the prior-year \$70k+ variance?
Follow UP - Given the unresolved issues around the audit, AGM, facility assessment, bleachers, Stampede/Rawhide contract, staffing, legal risk, and governance transition, is it realistic to budget effectively nothing for Board expense?
Are any governance, legal, consulting, professional, or transition-related costs expected this year but budgeted elsewhere?
Membership revenue and community access
Membership revenue is budgeted to increase. The current condition of the facility and the possibility of shutdowns or service interruptions while repairs are being completed most likely will negatively impact membership. There is also a decrease in marketing and promotion. Given the risk of shutdowns, paired with a decrease in marketing, how do you expect to grow membership, attract new users, and retain current users?
Cash flow and financial position
I don’t recall seeing an update cash-flow forecast for the current fiscal year. That should have been provided to Councils. I suspect there may be cash-flow concerns related to the delayed audit, delayed AGM, facility repairs, event revenue, grant timing, deferred revenue, outstanding liabilities, or unresolved contractual matters.
What is the current unrestricted cash position of the Society, and are there any amounts currently owing to vendors, contractors, staff, former staff, event providers, municipalities, funders, or other parties that could materially affect the Society’s cash position?
What is the plan if cash flow becomes insufficient before revenues, grants, or municipal contributions are received?
To Dan - do you have confidence in the RECC Board budget as presented at Joint Council on Tuesday evening, June 23rd, specifically that the revenue targets are achievable for 26-27? Does accepting the budget as presented expose council to unnecessary risk?
Is this council prepared to approve a budget that is so evidently unrealistic?
Council approved the budget with Martell and Patton the only nay votes.

Again this month, the *Shoreline Journal* and *South Cumberland News*, is experimenting with a slightly larger text font/type used within most of the articles you will enjoy in August. Your comments are welcome. We hope you are pleased with our choice. Please feel free to email us at maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

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