

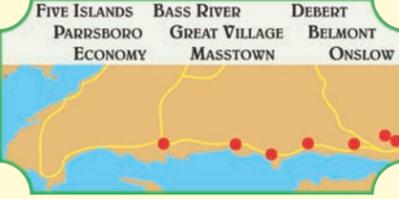
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63% of Portapique Project Committed

By Maurice Rees
The Portapique Community Build Up + Project has completed raising 63% of required funding to revitalize the 200 year old Portapique Community hall. The Community Campaign to raise the remaining \$300,000 is now underway. The project evolved following the mass casualties

which started in the community on April 18-19, 2020. Leadership of the Rotary Club of Truro, in partnership with the residents of Portapique has steered the project to a detailed and methodical undertaking. "Initially, we met with community members through focus groups and informal get-

together to learn what Rotary could do to support the residents of Portapique," said Rotarian Alana Hirtle. "Once it was established that an expansion of the hall and addition of a playground would be the project, we hit the ground running." So far, \$433,000 in cash has been donated or committed to

the project, and \$86,000 of in-kind donations. A beautiful playground designed and constructed by Cobequid Consulting has been installed, with much of the work being done by local residents. "We are so grateful for how Colchester and beyond has responded to this community driven project," said Andrew MacDonald, President of the Hall Trustees. "Their contributions have allowed the community's dream to come to life. Now that the playground is completed, we're seeing a positive change in Portapique."

The total cost of the project is \$822,000 which means \$300,000 of in kind and cash donations are needed to complete this project. "Seeing the progress that has happened is exciting. We had a grand opening for the new playground where we were joined by more than 100 supporters," said Hirtle. "To be able to celebrate with the community and hear their excitement for the next phase was reassurance that the new and improved Hall will be something the community enjoys

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FRONT PAGE BRIEFS December 2021

The 50th Tree for Boston was cut on November 10th on L'Arche Cape Breton's property in Orangedale, Inverness Co. The 60-year-old, 48-foot white spruce was donated by landowner L'Arche Cape Breton, a non-profit organization that creates safe, supportive homes and meaningful work for people with disabilities. "The Tree for Boston has been a symbol of appreciation, friendship and unity for 50 years," said Tory Rushton, Minister of Natural Resources and Renewables. "We will never forget the kindness the people of Boston showed Nova Scotia following the tragedy of the Halifax Explosion."

The RCMP Provincial Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Unit has charged Charles McLeod, 38, of Lower Truro with child luring and child pornography offences. On October 20, the RCMP ICE Unit, assisted by the RCMP Digital Forensic Services Unit and Colchester County District RCMP, executed a search warrant at a home in Lower Truro. Investigators were directed to the residence after receiving information from the National Child Exploitation Crime Centre (NCECC) in June, 2021. McLeod was arrested at the home without incident. He has been charged with Luring a Child and Making Sexually Explicit Material Available to a Child. McLeod was released on a number of strict conditions and will appear in Truro Provincial Court on January 12, 2022. The RCMP encourages citizens to be a voice for children who are victims of sexual exploitation by reporting any suspected offences to your local police or by using Canada's National tipline for reporting online sexual exploitation of children at www.cybertip.ca

Linda Giddens sent along an email, received from a friend, with a link to a feature 2,472 word story on the Elizabeth Bishop House, Great Village. Linda added the comment, "Anyone who has been in Great Village will be interested in reading this". Henri Cole who was born in Fukuoka, Japan has published ten collections of poetry, most recently *Blizzard*, and a memoir, *Orphic Paris*. A selected sonnets is forthcoming. The Paris Review - New, Tender, Quick: A Visit to the Elizabeth Bishop House. The link to read the article online is: https://www.theparisreview.org/blog/?post_type=post&p=155833



Three year old Malia Osborne laid painted rocks on behalf of the Grade Primary Class from Debert Elementary. You can enjoy the Shoreline Journal's coverage of local Remembrance Day services on pages 7, 8 and 9 of this Shoreline Journal.

Flood Risk & Municipal Infrastructure Funding

By Maurice Rees
Town of Stewiacke and County of Colchester will receive a total of \$139,107 out of \$1,013,155 awarded for sixteen municipal projects to help mitigate flood risk and support municipal infrastructure. The funding from two programs include, including \$781,316 for 11 projects under the Provincial Capital Assistance Program and \$231,839 for five projects under the Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program. Referring to the funding announcement, Christine Blair, Mayor, Municipality of the County of Colchester said, "We have been dedicated to addressing flood-prone areas of Colchester County for many years now and are pleased that this funding will help us continue our work to protect area homes and businesses both now and into the future." Provincial Capital Assistance Program will provide Town of Stewiacke: \$100,000 for well-water study - Phase III and Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program awarded Municipality of the County of

Colchester: \$39,107 for North River improvements - Franklin site project. The Provincial Capital Assistance Program and Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program are both application-based funding up to 50 per cent of project costs. "The money will support key projects that make a difference for communities and for residents," said John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. "Access to safe drinking water, wastewater treatment and addressing flood risk are vital for building strong, vibrant communities and supporting continued economic growth." Through the Provincial Capital Assistance Program, the Province contributes funds toward priority municipal infrastructure projects. Projects receiving funding in 2021-22 include a groundwater supply study, upgrades to drinking water and wastewater systems, and improvements to prevent salt water from entering a wastewater collection system during high tides.

The Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program provides funding to municipalities for projects that identify or mitigate flood risks. Projects receiving funding in 2021-22 include flood-risk studies and shoreline stabilization. Across the province the Capital Assistance Program recipients included: Municipality of the County of Richmond: \$25,000; Village of New Minas: \$100,000; Town of Stewiacke: \$100,000; Municipality of the County of Kings: \$15,893; Town of Annapolis Royal: \$100,000; Town of Port Hawkesbury: \$35,563; Village of St. Peter's: \$145,000; Town of Bridgewater: \$100,000; Town of Pictou: \$50,000; Region of Windsor and West Hants Municipality: \$57,360 and Town of Lunenburg: \$52,500. 2021-2022 Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program recipients are: Municipality of East Hants: \$19,553; Town of Digby: \$99,750; Region of Windsor and West Hants Municipality: \$39,109; Village of Port Williams: \$34,320 and Municipality of the County of Colchester: \$39,107.



Liza Madore stopped her morning drive to work on Plains Road in Debert. Such beauty found almost daily in the maritimes.

Pumphrey Charged After Two Armed Robberies

Colchester County District RCMP and the Truro Police Service have charged James Joseph Robert Pumphrey, 34, of Highland Village for two armed robberies in Colchester County. On November 2, at approximately 7:20 p.m., a man entered a gas station on Robie St. in Lower Truro and demanded money from an employee. The man threatened the employee with a weapon before he was given cash and he then fled the gas station on foot. RCMP responded immediately and with the assistance of a Police Dog Service team and the Truro Police Service, police recovered items belonging to the suspect nearby. The man was not located in the area. On November 3, at approximately 8 a.m., the same man entered a gas station on Willow St. in Truro and demanded money from an employee. The man again threatened the employee with a weapon before being given cash and fleeing

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