

The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

Government Commits to Youth Commission

The learnings from the Restorative Inquiry into the Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children will have a positive and long-lasting impact by shaping important changes in how the government serves the needs of Nova Scotians. Premier Tim Houston tabled the third and final report of the Reflection and Action Task Group in the legislature on November 4 outlining the government's progress in addressing barriers and working to find solutions centred around people's needs. The commission will take a restorative approach, working with children and youth, families and the entire care system. It will be designed over the coming months by government and community partners, with related legislation being introduced in the spring of 2022.

Old-Growth Forest Policy Open for Public Input

The Province is updating the policy that protects old-growth forests on Crown land and is seeking public feedback. The current policy has been in place since 2012. The revised draft policy incorporates advancements in technology and research over the past decade. "Old-growth forests are an important part of the province's biodiversity and must be maintained and protected," said Natural Resources and Renewables Minister Tory Rushton. "Crown land belongs to all of us. We've heard from stakeholder groups about the draft policy, and now we want to give the public the chance to provide their feedback as we look to change the way Crown land is managed in this province." The draft policy can be found here: <https://novascotia.ca/old-forest-policy-consultation/> Written submissions will be accepted until December 8. Old-growth forests will be included in the conservation zone of the ecological forestry triad model, as recommended in Prof. William Lahey's report on forestry practices in Nova Scotia. Once finalized, the new policy will be incorporated into the department's process to review and approve harvest applications.

Foster Care Increases Support for Foster Families

To strengthen support for foster families and the children in their care, the Province will invest up to \$34 million over three years in a redesign of Nova Scotia's foster care system, creating a modern and sustainable system that provides families and children the supports they need to flourish. The redesign will include new financial supports and an immediate increase in per diem rates by \$15 a day. It will also include: engaging youth currently or formerly in care to hear their concerns and ideas; implementing a new system model that provides for a stronger community of support for foster families and children in care; new foster care placement types including enhanced respite care for children with specialized needs and improving communication and enhancing supports for foster parents during child welfare investigations. The redesigned foster care program will prioritize maintaining a child's culture while in care. Concerns and recommendations of First Nations and African Nova Scotian communities will be prioritized to ensure the needs of all children in foster care are met. One way this will be achieved is by recruiting more diverse foster families to ensure that children in care can be placed in culturally relevant homes within their respective communities. When the redesign is fully implemented, there will be an annual increase in the foster care system budget of \$16.7 million.

New Training Program for Boatbuilders

A partnership between the Province, the Nova Scotia Boatbuilders Association and Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) will provide skills training and employment opportunities while addressing a labour shortage in the boatbuilding industry. The Province is investing \$238,000 in an eight-week training program in composites fabrication through the One Journey Initiative. It is a partnership between the Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration, industry and community that provides skill development and employment opportunities to unemployed or underemployed Nova Scotians where there is an identified industry labour shortage. The training will be offered by NSCC and include hands-on learning for participants. Three South Shore companies are hosting the hands-on component this fall: RPS Composites in Mahone Bay, Stelia North America in Lunenburg and Dagley's Boatworks in East LaHave. Hands-on training during the winter 2022 course will take place at A.F. Theriault & Son Ltd. in Meteghan River. More than a dozen companies in the boatbuilding industry require people skilled in composites fabrication and are willing to hire participants who complete the program.

Quick facts about boatbuilding

In the recent announcement, 10 seats were allocated to both the fall 2021 and winter 2022 courses; the boatbuilders association is looking to add additional seats to the winter course for a total of 20 participants. After finishing the program, participants will receive a certificate from NSCC and be eligible to work in aerospace, boatbuilding or general composites fabrication; they can also begin their apprenticeship in the boatbuilder trade as designated under the Apprenticeship and Trades Qualifications Act. The boatbuilding and repair industry includes approximately 60 companies in Nova Scotia and employs over 1,000 people. Labour, Skills and Immigration invests approximately \$2.5 million annually in the One Journey Initiative, which supports up to 65 employers and helps 170 Nova Scotians with new skills and employment opportunities.

Tourism Industry Rebounds in July and August

Nova Scotia's tourism industry began to rebound in July and August as border restrictions eased and people grew more comfortable travelling. While visitation and accommodation bookings continue to be well below pre-pandemic levels, the industry is showing strong signs of recovery. Accommodation operators report 513,000 room nights sold in July and August, an increase of 82 per cent compared with the same months in 2020. During July and August, Nova Scotia welcomed 364,800 visitors. While visitors from Atlantic Canada continue to make up most of the visitors to the province (52 per cent), national and international visitors have begun to return with 45 per cent of visitors arriving from other regions of Canada, and three per cent arriving from the United States and overseas in July and August.

Legislation will Enshrine Mi'kmaq as Nova Scotia's First Language

Mi'kmaq is Nova Scotia's first language and legislation next spring will help preserve, revitalize and promote it. The number of people who can speak Mi'kmaq is in rapid decline and the Mi'kmaq language is at risk. The government will start working immediately with Mi'kmaq Kina'matnewey, the collective voice for Mi'kmaq education, and other Mi'kmaq organizations and communities to develop legislation to support this effort. "Language is a fundamental aspect of cultural identity and the Mi'kmaq language reflects the culture of the First Peoples of this province," said Karla MacFarlane, Minister of Lnu Affairs. "Mi'kmaq language revitalization is critical to understanding and preserving Mi'kmaq culture and supports ongoing reconciliation." Several Mi'kmaq language speakers are teaching and preserving the language in schools and communities. The Province will support those efforts by reinforcing the reconciliation work undertaken by the Treaty Education Nova Scotia initiative and through the collaborative development of legislation to ensure that hearing, seeing and speaking the language becomes a normal part of life in Nova Scotia.

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News from our Provincial Council

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viewing the facts, our government will make a decision in the best interest of the People of Nova Scotia.

Having previously commented on first setting in the Legislature, I must say that I rather enjoy my time on Committee's. I sit on Community Services; Private and Local Bills; Veterans Affairs and I Chair the Natural Resources Committee. These standing committees do not sit when the Legislature is in session, however, I had the opportunity to fill in for a colleague during Law Amendments and do enjoy the format. At these meetings, you actually get to interact with the public and it is a rewarding experience.

Many may have found this article, less interesting than some, however I just wanted to explain my thoughts, roles and responsibilities as a member of the government.

With respect to my time and schedule now the house is not in session. I will be in Halifax most Tuesdays for Committee work and Wednesdays for Caucus meetings. Monday, Thursday and Friday will be in the office preparing and gathering information with respect to advocating for

residents and available for meetings or out and about for meeting at people's homes or businesses. Saturday and Sunday will be home or attending events.

In Closing, I need to touch on Covid. These continue to be challenging times! Difficult Public Health Decisions are required. Not everyone is happy about those decisions. A Government has the responsibility to protect the citizens of this province, most importantly those more vulnerable.

This Government, as well as, the Previous Government takes advice from Public Health. Public Health takes advice from Provincial, National and International experts and scientists.

I want to be very clear on this! I fully support these difficult decisions and ask those who have not been vaccinated to reconsider. For myself and many others, the decision to get vaccinated was not so much to protect ourselves but to protect others in our lives and communities that we care about.

Tom Taggart, MLA, Colchester North, Ph: (0) - 902-641-2335, tom.taggartmla@gmail.com

News from our Municipal Council - District 10

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what I can do to help facilitate better access for our communities.

The proposed windmill farm had a lot inquires from residents of Highway 4 from Hart Lake, through to Folly Lake, and Glenholme. I was honest when expressing my lack of knowledge of this project. I learned a lot from these conversations which inspired me to want to learn more. I was able to attend the open house in Wentworth on October 5th at the recreation centre.

At this open house, I met more very passionate community members. I was able to take home literature that was put together by one of the community members. I have also visited the website: www.higginswind.com, in an attempt to find answers to questions I was asked on my journey. I have since joined the Community Liaison

Committee for the project and look forward to learning more in the coming days.

I believe thriving, healthy communities begin with the residents of each community. I look forward to working with you and your neighbors on the issues that matter to you. As I have said many times, I won't always have all the answers, but I am confident that I can help to find suitable solutions where they exist. You can contact me at (902) 890-1493 or via email vlomond@colchester.ca

Victoria Lomond is Colchester Councillor, District 10 and can be reached at 902-890-1493 or E-mail: vlomond@colchester.ca

Also see the story on Victoria Lomond's District 10 By-Election on page 4 and the numerical Results below.

Glenora Distillery Shipping to Germany

Glenora Distillers, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Canada (glenbreton-whisky.com) has announced they have shipped their first full container of their Glen Breton Single malt whisky to Germany. The company continues to expand its reach into International markets. The Glen Breton Rare 10-Year-Old is one of their most popular whiskies. This is a Canadian single malt, which is aged in American oak casks for over 10 years. It is produced at the Glenora Distillery, which is located on Cape Breton Island, considered as one of top international Islands in the world. Glen Breton has been sold in Germany over the last 20 years but this is the first time a company in Germany has ordered a full container of 10 of our different Glen Breton whiskies. Germany is more well known as a consumers of great

beers but it is also a tremendous market for single malt whiskies and now those who love their whisky will have an ability to try a wider selection of Glenora's fine single malt whisky's. The shipment is going to

Kirsch Imports in Germany. Contact Glenora Distillery for more information: For further information, please contact: Lauchie MacLean, President: lmaclea@glenora1.ca or 902-468-6516.

Colchester District 10 By-Election 2021 Results		
<i>The chart below shows the November 6th by-election results to replace Tom Taggart, who became MLA for the area</i>		
District 10	Victoria Lomond	Rebecca Taylor
10A – Five Islands Fire Hall	28	26
10B – Economy Rec Centre	49	38
10C – Bass River Fire Hall	83	72
10D – Londonderry Com Centre	85	35
10E – Great Village Fire Hall	55	64
10F – Masstown United Church	49	27
Advanced – Advanced Poll	95	72
Total District 10	444	334

The Shoreline Journal

Deadline for the January issue of The Shoreline Journal is Dec. 14.

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