

\$127,500 Transit Study Underway

By Maurice Rees

Colchester and Truro have received \$102,800 (80%) for funding for a Regional Public Transit Feasibility Study through the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund (SCCF) administered by the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities on behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia.

Colchester and Truro have agreed to equally share the cost of the remaining twenty percent with Colchester and Truro each contributing \$10,225 in cash and \$2,625 in-kind.

Project scope: The study will investigate the feasibility of a regional public transit service that provides transit services to all areas within Truro and Colchester County. The goal of the study is to identify recommendations for public and shared transportation options based on a comprehensive analysis of technical, social, environmental and financial feasibility.

The project will include: Market research and analysis; Community and stakeholder engagement and consultation; A proposal for transit solutions; An assessment of financial feasibility and proposed business model; and analysis on the potential impact of transit solutions with a lens on economic, social and sustainable parameters Project Governance: Truro and Colchester will jointly retain the services of a consulting firm to produce the study and engage in data collection, modelling, research and required community engagement. The consulting firm will report directly to the working staff team, consisting of both Town of Truro and Colchester staff (Director of Community Development, Manager of Planning Services, Sustainability Planner & Economic Development Officer).

Advisory Group will be formed. The role of this group will be to provide objective advice, insights and professional recommendations at various progress points throughout the study process. Local municipal governments (Truro, Colchester and Stewiacke) and Millbrook First Nation will each be given a seat to represent their respective organizations.

The advisory group will be comprised of the following ten (10) members: Council member appointed by the Town of Truro, County of Colchester; Stewiacke (staff or council); Millbrook (staff or band member); staff members from Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce, Truro & Colchester Partnership for Economic Prosperity, Dalhousie University, Agricultural Campus, Nova Scotia Community College, Truro Campus, Truro-Colchester United Way, Yreach Truro, Colchester or North Shore Local Immigration Partnership and Joint Regional Transportation Agency.

Project Timeline & Milestones: November 15, 2024: Award of contract; November 21, 2024: Kick-off meeting; December 2024: Background Research & Assessment of Market Demand; January, February 2025: Community Engagement and June 30, 2025: Project Completion.

The Advisory Group will meet with the staff working group and/or the Consultant 3-4 times (or as necessary) throughout the project process to provide feedback, insights and recommendations at each milestone. The advisory group will also act as advocates for the project, and work to inform and update their respective organizations on project progress.

The Regional Transit Advisory group is not a formal committee of Council and will only be engaged during the duration of the feasibility study. Staff ask that each Council appoint a member to the committee by November 28, 2024. Staff will be reaching out to the mentioned organizations to inform them of the project and request their involvement, with the intent of having the Advisory Group formed by the end of November, 2024.

(The above article was compiled from an action item from the November 14th committee meeting media package.)

Bearcats on hand to help Colchester Food Network Food Drive

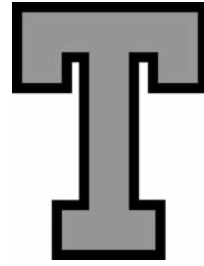
One of the big things in junior hockey is helping out in the community.

6 Bearcat players were on hand today at the Colchester Food Bank to help with the Colchester Food Network's annual Food Drive.

Pictured left to right are: Liam Welsh, Matt O'Neil, Creegan Tompkins, Tyler Guy, Camden McKenzie and Reese Allen.

A number of community events will be happening going into the holiday months, including Truro's Christmas Pa-

rade as well as the annual Teddy Bear Toss game happening at the RECC on Sunday, December 1st at 4pm when Yarmouth is in town.



Bearcats Add Former Captain Kodak To Scouting Staff



Holden Kodak

The Truro Bearcats are pleased to announce the addition of former team captain Holden Kodak to the Bearcats scouting staff.

The Cloverdale, British Columbia native spent a pair of seasons split between the WHL and BCHL before becoming a Bearcat during the 2020/21 season.

Holden would spent 2 seasons in a Truro jersey and captained our team in 2021/22 as we made our remarkable play-

off run, winning the Eastlink South division before falling short in the league final.

After his Bearcats career, Holden had a brief stint with Wilfred Laurier University be-

fore making his way back to Nova Scotia where he has been involved in some scouting roles in Atlantic Canada.

Holden joins Noah Poirier as the two new additions to a

revamped Bearcat scouting staff this season.

Welcome back to the Truro Bearcats organization, Holden!

MHL Standings as of Shoreline publishing date Wednesday, November 20.

EastLink South						GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	PTS
1	<u>Summerside Western Capitals</u>	21	16	3	2	0	34				
2	<u>Amherst Ramblers</u>	17	11	6	0	0	22				
3	<u>Yarmouth Mariners</u>	21	9	11	0	1	19				
4	<u>Truro Bearcats</u>	19	8	10	0	1	17				
5	<u>Pictou County Weeks Crushers</u>	21	7	11	3	0	17				
6	<u>Valley Wildcats</u>	22	8	14	0	0	16				

EastLink North						GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	PTS
1	<u>Edmundston Blizzard</u>	22	19	2	1	0	39				
2	<u>West Kent Steamers</u>	19	12	6	1	0	25				
3	<u>Campbellton Tigers</u>	20	10	8	2	0	22				
4	<u>Miramichi Timberwolves</u>	20	9	9	0	2	20				
5	<u>Fredericton Red Wings</u>	18	6	12	0	0	12				
6	<u>Grand Falls Rapids</u>	18	4	10	0	4	12				

Program Supports Municipal Infrastructure Priorities

Nova Scotia municipalities with projects that support growing communities, additional housing and other government priorities can now apply to a new funding program. The Growth and Renewal for Infrastructure Development Program was created to accelerate projects such as water, wastewater and stormwater management for housing development and sustainable growth. Funding is also available for projects that help municipalities adapt to climate change and improve accessibility.

Municipalities can leverage funding from the \$15-million program as their portion of other cost-shared infrastructure programs - flexibility that municipalities had requested.

Quick Facts: The program, which will be available annually, is a commitment in the recently negotiated service exchange agreement to help municipalities support provincial priorities; municipalities can have one active project at a time; preference will be given to ready-to-build projects with completed detailed design; and through the one-time \$102-million Municipal Capital Growth Program, the Province invested in enhancing capital municipal infrastructure across Nova Scotia.

Canada's Top Seafood Restaurant

Gift Certificates Available!

INSIDE DINING PLUS TAKE-OUT!

88 Esplanade, Truro, NS
902-895-1275
OPEN EVERYDAY 11am to 7pm
www.murphysfishandchips.com

John Ross & Sons LTD
 Metal Exchange & Enviro Depot

METAL EXCHANGE LOCATION
 85 Glassey Avenue, Truro Industrial Park
902-893-9429

- Top Prices for: Copper, Brass, Aluminum, Radiators, Batteries, Catalytic Converters, Stainless Steel & More!
- We Purchase: Scrap Vehicles, Freon Free Fridges, Stoves, Washers, Dryers & More!
- Sales of New & Used Structural Steel, Rebar, Wire Mesh and roofing.
- Luggage Containers, Hooklife and Roll Off Bins

And... ENVIRO DEPOT EXCHANGE LOCATION
 MOVED TO: 85 Glassey Avenue, Truro Industrial Park
Bottles, Cans, Paints at this location
 After Hours Call:
 Ruth Ogilvie 902-893-1953 | Jim Muise 902-890-6370

NOW is the Time To Save Money - Call Today!

SAVE MONEY ON YOUR HEATING BILL WITH TIME-OF-DAY RATES FROM NOVA SCOTIA POWER!

CERTIFIED ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGER CONTRACTOR | **PREFERRED CONTRACTOR**

Efficiency NS is offering rebates on ETS HEATERS (conditions apply)

Efficiency Nova Scotia **NOW** offers rebates for **OIL HEATED** homes as well as electric heated homes.

MAYNARD SIMPSON ELECTRIC
902.897.7859

Colchester Containers

• Construction Waste Removal • Demolition • Removal • Registered C&D Disposal •

• 7 yd and up to 40 yd bins and 20' Portable Storage Containers For Rent •

colchestercontainers@jrsons.ca
902-673-2808

ALL BRAND VENTILATION

IMPROVE YOUR AIR QUALITY

Heat Pump Cleaning Duct Cleaning

Improve your heating efficiency and air quality

902-893-0629 **Call Today**
 Sales and Service

Air Exchanger • HRV Service • Duct Cleaning