



The Shoreline Journal

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FRONT PAGE BRIEFS February 2018

STRESS RELIEF: I don't have gray hair; I have "wisdom highlights."

Colchester District RCMP is asking for the public's assistance in locating two snowmobiles that were stolen off a parked trailer at a business on the Hub Centre Dr. in Upper Onslow during the overnight on December 27. The snowmobiles are described below as: 2013 green and white Arctic Cat F800 with NS plate: HP675 attached and 2004 yellow and black Ski Doo MXZ with NS plate: DX339 attached. If you have any information about this incident, please call Colchester District RCMP at 902-896-5000 or Nova Scotia Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Isobel Susanne HARRISON wife of Colchester South MLA, Larry Harrison passed away peacefully on December 31, 2017 in the Palliative Care Unit of the Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. (See full obituary on the Obituaries Page (page 23) of this issue.

Marlee Lewis, Bass River / Upper Economy has been hired as coordinator of the Cliffs of Fundy Aspiring Geopark Project to assist the steering committee in preparing its application for a Geopark for the Bay of Fundy area from Advocate down to Parrsboro and along the shore to possibly include Bass River and Portapique area.

John Lohr, MLA for Kings North announced on January 8th when the Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia formally launches its leadership selection process within the next month he will put his name forward to be on the ballot to seek the PC Party leadership.

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The Mark Webb home on River Road, Debert was one of the finalists in the Debert & Area Community Christmas Lighting Contest. See two other amazing displays on page 18. (Submitted)

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Colchester Finds Market For Plastics

By Maurice Rees

Details were not available, but the good news at Colchester Council on Thursday, January 25th was Colchester has found a market to take it's low grade plastics. The news was revealed by Wayne Wamboldt, Director Solid Waste, who during discussion on solid

waste, stated he had received confirmation earlier that afternoon a source to take the plastics had been found.

Wamboldt who did not identify the county, but said it was offshore. He continued by saying his preference would be a "home grown" solution, so there



Tyson, from the Discovery Centre chats with Grade 1 and 2 students before they enter the planetarium set up in the gymnasium. See the Great Village Elementary School Notes on page 12.

Biosolids – Heavy Lifting Required

By Maurice Rees

Colchester council has to do some heavy lifting and make some astute decisions to reduce the cost of handling biosolids which has increased from projected \$268,000 for disposal at the Kemptown Balefill facility for a 122 month period commencing February 2016 to a projected cost of \$423,000 in the current year ending March 31, 2018 for shipping to Envirem in Miramichi, NB.

Information and various potential options were presented to council by Michelle Newell, Director Public Works at a January 9th presentation session requested because of ongoing discussions concerning biosolids, which are a by-product of treating sewage or wastewater. Contrary to popular belief, they are not formed of the solid organic material entering the treatment plant, but instead are mostly comprised of dead bacteria which were utilized in the treatment process to breakdown harmful organic matter. They also contain inert solids.

Tracking and calculating cost of biosolids becomes complicated, because since 2015 three entities have been involved with the municipality: Fundy Compost, the municipality's balefill facility and since February 2017 Envirem in Miramichi, NB.

The handling of Biosolids has become a topic of significant discussion since Fundy Compost, Pleasant Valley advised council it would stop accepting biosolids in February 2016. (Two separate stories on page 11 provide details on how Colchester generates biosolids and where they go).

In the past council has received information at with the addition of another building at the Kemptown facility, it would be possible to handle biosolids, or council could explore the creation of a "clay platform" to handle biosolids outside in a way similar to treatment of biosolids in Miramichi. Further details about these possibilities are contained in a separate story elsewhere in this issue.

During Newell's presenta-

tion deputy mayor Masters queried the possibility of reducing costs by purchasing a truck and driver to handle transportation. Transportation is calculated at \$1,200 per truckload totalling \$169,400 per year.

Several additional stories covering various aspect of Newell's presentation to council are printed on page 10 and 11 as feature pages in this issue.

Envirem operates 8 waste management facilities and two truck shops in the Maritimes. Their 100 acre facility in Miramichi is located near the Miramichi airport and includes a compost bagging facility as well as a composting site. They employ 40 people in Miramichi, with 3 to 6 of the employees operating the composting site. They compost 100,000 tonnes of material each year and most of the biosolid compost is used for non-bagged bulk manufactured topsoil.

In curing biosolids similar to Envirem in NB, councillor Stewart who is also president

various committee. Taggart is chair of the Northern Region's solid waste chairs committee and has attended many meetings at the provincial level.

Taggart's aspiration for the motion was for council to hopefully approve a ban on single use plastic bags. The topic is being discussed at all municipalities. Taggart said his committee had contacted seven municipalities in the northern region and although not all had responded, the results to date were 50/50.

During discussion, Mayor Blair mentioned the council's working committee, comprising herself, deputy mayor Masters, Councillor Taggart and staff had only met one time.

Taggart stated that a provincial chairs meeting with Minister, Iain Rankin, the minister indicated if there was to be a province-wide ban here would want a province-wide consensus. Film plastics comprise 5% of the recycle total, and the Northern Region chairs will only approve a ban if municipalities representing 70% of the population are in agreement.

Council indicated it wanted to have additional details on the impacts to residents, businesses and also impact on the plastics industry before making a decision.

In other matters relating to solid waste an information item confirmed council's decision securing True North Tax to review HST claims relating to the Wind Turbine project and newly constructed compost facility resulted in the county getting a rebate of \$244,185.85 HST rebate.

True North did not have an upfront fee for the HST audit covering the period of 2013-2017, but was paid \$73,838 (30% of the recovery) as its fee for the service.

of Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM) voiced the opinion council should explore the possibility with local suppliers as there is a supplier of lime, we have woodchips and sawdust, plus Truro Agromart is also involved in distributing the cured biosolids from Envirem.

In her comprehensive presentation to council on how to

continued on page 10

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