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Also see Page 26

50% Deposit Required on Flooding Projects

By Maurice Rees

A flood damage program designed to assist property owners whose property is subject to flooding has hit a snag. The program was last updated in 2015.

However, since 2016/17, the program administered by the Flood Advisory Committee, has encountered problems with property owners paying their "previously agreed-upon"

share.

Although amounts or property owner names were not provided, in 2016/17 the committee was involved in eleven cost shared projects.

Five of the projects were not paid on-time, and as of early January 2019 four projects still have outstanding amounts.

At their meeting of December 4, 2018, the Flood

Advisory Committee passed a motion recommending the policy be updated to require property owners deposit 50% of their estimated share of project costs prior to the start of any work on their property.

The changes require payment of 50% of the property owner's estimated cost share prior to the start of any work.

Property owners may still choose to repay the remaining 50% over a year, either as a lump sum, or with 12 equal monthly payments.

The available reduction in applicant's costs are as follows:

- Residential Property 75%;
- Commercial Property 50%;
- Active Farmland 25%;
- Vacant Residential Land 10%;
- Vacant Commercial land 10% and
- Vacant Farmland 10%.

Council committee's recommendation will be formalized at the monthly meeting on January 31.

FRONT PAGE BRIEFS February 2019

STRESS RELIEF: Remember back when we were kids and every time it was below zero out they closed school? Me neither. Why do I have to press one for English when they're just going to transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?

We are searching for area residents who will be 90 in 2019, or are older and have not attended the Shoreline Journal's Annual 90 & 90+ birthday party. We ask you to send the name, birthday and phone number of area residents, even if they have attended previously. We don't want to miss anyone. Party will be held in Economy on May 11, 2019. Please send details to Maurice Rees, 902-647-2968, or maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

Nova Scotia's political scene is changing. A couple of months ago Bill Casey, who has represented the Cumberland-Colchester area in Ottawa for a period spanning 30 years would not be re-offering in the 2019 Federal Election. On January 10th Scott Brison who has represented the Kings-Hants riding for 22 years announced he will be spending more time with his four-year old twins and will not seek re-election.

Medical teams and patients at the QEII Health Sciences Centre in Halifax will soon have faster access to critical information needed for diagnosis and treatment of traumatic brain injuries. A partnership between Nova Scotia Health Authority and Synaptive Medical Inc. will see the installation of a dedicated magnetic resonance imaging machine, commonly known as an MRI, in the emergency department.

REDspace is a full-service digital studio specializing in mobile, web, video and gaming for media brands and networks including Turner, NBC, FOX, Viacom, and Sony Pictures. The company provides new ways for its clients to deliver interactive experiences to its users around the world. Nova Scotia Busi-

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The Honourable Melanie Joly, Minister of Tourism, Official Languages and La Francophonie, was at Masstown Butcher and Creamery on Jan. 10th to announce a \$277,950 contribution from the Government of Canada, through ACOA's Business Development Program, to Taste of Nova Scotia to support the sustainable growth of food tourism in Nova Scotia. Speakers at funding announcement were (left to right) Bill Casey, Member of Parliament for Cumberland-Colchester, The Honourable Melanie Joly, Laurie Jennings, Masstown Market, Emily Haynes, Executive Director, Taste of Nova Scotia and Geoff MacLellan, Minister of Business. (Harrington Photo)

Solar Colchester PV Program Expected Soon

By Maurice Rees

Colchester property owners can expect, in late spring 2019, the municipality to roll-out of "Solar Colchester" to encourage the installation of residential Solar PV systems. Details have not been finalized, but the municipality would participate in bulk purchasing to lower the price, the finance purchase and installation. All costs would be added to the tax bill, paid over a certain period of time. The transactions would include a "lien" on the property.

During council's committee meeting on January 10th approval was given to move the Solar Colchester PACE By-law to first reading on January 31, 2019. The PACE By-law is required to establish the mechanism and conditions by which the Municipality can

loan and recoup funds under the Solar Colchester program.

On November 28th, council accepted the RFP proposal of Supernova Energy Solutions and instructed staff begin designing a 'Solar Colchester' program to encourage the installation of Solar PV systems in Colchester. The Colchester program is being modelled after a similar program in HRM.

Acceptance of the RFP created a partnership between Colchester and Supernova Energy Solutions to design and implement a Municipal Solar PV Program. Staff have been working with Bruce Thompson of Supernova Energy Solutions to design the Program and application process, with the hope of launching the Program in the Spring of 2019.

The Solar Colchester PACE

By-law will permit the Municipality to charge interest on the Solar Energy Improvement Charge. It does not, however, establish a lending rate/interest rate for financing solar projects; a rate must be decided at a later date and enacted through policy.

Staff are recommending the Program focus on residential projects in the beginning. The scale of a commercial project could limit the Municipality's ability to support more projects.

The Municipal Program is also being designed to complement Efficiency NS's residential solar rebate. Depending upon interest, the Program could be amended to include commercial applications in future years.



Gerrit Damsteegt presents retiring director Derick Canning with a token of appreciation on behalf of the Dairy Farmers of Nova Scotia Board of Directors. Stories and photos on pages 16, 17 and 18.

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