



# The Shoreline Journal

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## FRONT PAGE BRIEFS February 2020

The Truro Sports Heritage Society will hold its 36th annual banquet and awards ceremony at the Glengarry on Sunday, March 1st.

A complaint against Councillor Bob Pash has been filed with Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission for what is alleged to be improper remarks made at the municipalities staff Christmas Party at the Debert Hospitality Centre.

Doug Ledwidge, president and CEO of Ledwidge Lumber, Enfield, has joined the Forestry Transition Team as a new member. He has expertise in sawmill operations and can provide this perspective as the team moves forward. He participated in the team meeting earlier the week of January 10th. He replaces Robin Wilber, Elmsdale Lumber, who was removed from the board after he made public comments he felt the mill should be placed on "hot idle".

Before the end of January, Develop Nova Scotia is expected to announce its decision on Xplornet's application to provide broadband services to Cumberland-Colchester after the two counties choose the New Brunswick firm as its preferred ISP provider. Colchester has budgeted up to \$4-Million in its capital budget for upgrade of services, although the municipal contribution is expected to be much less.

Credit Unions in Nova Scotia will offer short-term repayable financing for forestry contractors affected by the pending closure of the Northern Pulp mill. The program will be available to eligible forestry contractors with the intention of helping them with payments on their equipment loans on a short-term basis. The transition team endorsed the approach at its latest meeting on Jan. 21. Qualifying contractors can access a line of credit, up to \$180,000, guaranteed by the province. Further details on eligibility are being finalized and will be made available soon. It is estimated \$5 million will be allocated for this initiative from the \$50-Million transition fund.

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The 2020 Dairy Farmers of Nova Scotia Board of Directors - Front (l to r): Hans Vermeulen, Gerrit Damsteegt, Byron Lamb, Andrew McCurdy, Elizabeth Crouse; Back (l to r): David Bekkers, Dustin Swinkels, Tony Versteeg, Greg Archibald, Brian Cameron. The DFNS held their AGM in Truro on January 15 and 16. See the stories from our dairy industry on pages 16, 17 and 24.

# Broadband by January 31?

By Maurice Rees

The long awaited multi-Million dollar announcement for Cumberland-Colchester is expected by end of January. (That is one of the problems with being a monthly newspaper. Important announcements can come a day or so after publication and it is almost a month before you have opportunity to put anything in print).

Sources indicate to the Shoreline Journal for over two weeks, Develop Nova Scotia (DNS), has been indicating an announcement is "moments away". Projects such as this one have to get in line in the political priority list and for sure the premier and other elected officials have had their hands full with issues surrounding the January 31st deadline on Boat Harbour.

It is slightly over two years since Bill Casey and Shoreline Journal publisher, Maurice Rees hosted a joint meeting between Colchester and Cumberland, which evolved into "kick-starting" the joint application for broadband for the two counties.

If the announcement evolves as expected, Casey & Rees will be able to claim total success, because their selec-

tion of Xplornet as the presenter to the joint meeting held at The Peg, Masstown, of the required Broadband, ISP provider will have evolved into Xplornet successfully meeting Develop Nova Scotia's stringent requirements.

During the joint meeting, Xplornet provided a rough approximate guesstimate of \$40+/- Million. It is not known, at this time, the financial arrangements with DNS. Those details will form part of the announcement expected to be by the end of January. It is known that last fall, when it reviewed its 5-year capital projections, Colchester budgeted an amount up to 4-Million. That was an outside figure with actual cost to the municipality expected to be much less.

According to the initial presentation the Xplornet construction process would ensure it was 5G ready, which the Federal Government has mandated it all ISP providers, must supply early in the 20's. The project, to all reports, is very unique for the following reasons:

- It is the first time two Nova Scotia counties have jointly volunteered to work to

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Kim Hillier reached out to a complete stranger, Arie Hoogerbrugge and offered him a warm place to stay for the night after she heard about his cycling journey which would take him through Great Village. (submitted photo)

## Cyclist Travels Shore on 55,000 km Journey

By Linda Harrington

Some of us have problems navigating our Canadian winter on four snow tires, imagine doing it on two narrow bicycle wheels?

Arie Hoogerbrugge has been gaining a bit of local attention throughout our Nova Scotia communities as he continues cycling not only across Canada but eventually, he plans to travel 55,000 kilometers to the tip of Argentina, with a few side excursions including Tuktoyaktuk, NWT.

His journey began back in November in St. Johns. On his website Arie says, "Part of the motivation behind my November 11th start date is to pedal a bike across Canada in the

middle of a Canadian winter. In my world this is perhaps the greatest challenge that I can come up with that would possibly push me to the point of failure." Over two months later, Arie is succeeding in pedalling forward and in making friends along the way!

Kim Hillier of Great Village heard about Arie's adventure and when she saw he was going through Great Village on Friday, January 17th she offered him her spare room. "He did take me up on the offer. Got here around 6 p.m. and we sat up till almost 1 a.m. talking," says Kim, who posted pics on her Facebook page, wishing him well on his journey. "He is an incredible person to be

doing what he's doing, and I would love to be at the end of his journey to hear the rest of the story in person," says Kim. She says he has some inspiring poetry on his webpage, and he spent some time explaining the meaning behind some of the writings. "There is a meaning behind them all and once you heard the meaning it made a lot more sense," she said, adding she encourages people to go to his website and read the posts.

Nancy Jennings encountered Arie as he made his way through Glenholme and they exchanged a wave and a smile. She had also heard of his adventure and knew immediately

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## Code of Conduct to be Adopted

By Maurice Rees

Colchester Council will adopt a Code of Conduct at its January meeting on the 30th. Various discussions have been held since 2017 and the Minister of Municipal Affairs requested all municipalities were required to adopt a code of conduct.

At council's committee meeting on adopting a code of conduct, municipal solicitor, Dennis James, pointed out to council the provincial act requiring a code of conduct has not been given royal assent and adopted.

When discussions on a code first surface, council requested staff formulate and submit a draft. Staff did as requested and presented to council. Several councillors, including Councillor Cooper, felt the submission was not appropriate and he would oppose.

On at the other end of the spectrum, Councillor Wade

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