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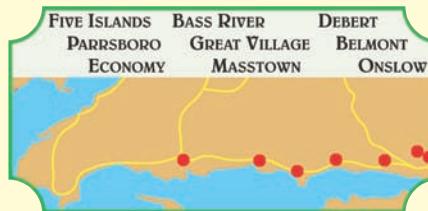
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# The Shoreline Journal

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## FRONT PAGE BRIEFS February 2022

Colchester County District RCMP is investigating a fatal house fire that occurred on Salmon River Rd. in Murray Siding on Sunday, January 23. At 4:31 a.m., RCMP, EHS, and fire responded to a house fire ad upon arrival, police observed the home was engulfed in flames. After the fire was extinguished, fire and EHS located a 67-year-old woman inside the home. Life saving efforts were attempted but were unsuccessful and the woman was pronounced deceased at the scene. Preliminary investigation has determined that the fire was not suspicious. No one else was injured.

Rinks in the Town of Truro will receive a total of \$38,544 in updates thanks to the Houston government's new Rink Revitalization Fund, Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook-Salmon River MLA Dave Ritcey announced on January 11<sup>th</sup>. Truro facilities are among the 33 rinks across the province receiving almost \$1 million in funding for repairs and upgrades through the new Rink Revitalization Fund. The West Colchester Recreation Association received \$11,609.83 for the facility in Debert. Curling clubs, arenas and permanent outdoor rinks that are open to the public are eligible for funding under the PC Rink Revitalization Fund. The types of projects receiving funding include purchasing a score clock, installing accessible entrance doors, upgrading refrigeration, foundation repairs and replacing rink board glass. The following is a list of the 2021-22 Rink Revitalization Fund recipients in Colchester and Cumberland Counties: Town of Oxford, \$92,733; Town of Truro, \$24,233 and, \$14,300 and West Colchester Recreation Association, Debert, \$11,609.

The letter of appointment for Geoff MacLellan, Chair of the planning task force on housing, is available online at: <https://novascotia.ca/housing-panel>. Mr. MacLellan was named Chair of the task force in November 2021 to address housing challenges in Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). The panel will review projects that have already gone through HRM's public planning process and a public hearing.

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Liza Madore caught the night sky and full moon just as it crested the fields like a groomed ski hill. (Liza Madore pic)

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## Watershed Designated 'Protected Water Area'

By Maurice Rees

The watershed that gives the people of Tatamagouche their drinking water is now protected provincially, further safeguarding their access to quality water. The French River watershed covers about 141 square kilometres along the Northumberland Strait; the watershed's headwaters begin

in the Cobequid Mountains and drain into Tatamagouche Bay. The Municipality of the County of Colchester approved protecting the French River watershed in January 2020.

Environment and Climate Change Minister Tim Halman designated the French River watershed as a protected

water area on Monday, January 24. This means that regulations under the Environment Act will help to protect the water that people in the Village of Tatamagouche use in their homes, businesses and to support services in their community.

The protected water area regulations protect drinking



A resident of Five Houses took this photo on the weekend following the storm as they waited for a backhoe to widen the road. Residents have commented they have not seen such a large formation of drifts for as long as they remember. (Contributed by M Barry) See more winter images on page 2 and 12.

## Building a More Resilient, Innovative Inclusive Atlantic Economy

In a 2021 year end report released on January 12th, ACOA summarized how it worked to deliver COVID-19 relief, targeted support to keep the region moving forward on the road to economic recovery. Throughout 2021, ACOA remained focused on the Government of Canada's commitment to fight COVID-19 and its economic impacts, providing targeted sector support to help the region recover and rebuild a more resilient, inclu-

sive economy for all Atlantic Canadians.

**Protecting jobs, strengthening key sectors:** On January 12th, the Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Official Languages and Minister responsible for ACOA, provided an overview of the impact of the Agency's investments in 2021.

"Since January 2021, ACOA delivered over \$314 million in support, assisting more than 1000 organizations and busi-

nesses, and creating over 1000 new jobs in Atlantic Canada," said Minister Petitpas Taylor. "These investments also helped protect more than 5000 jobs across our region."

These contributions included nearly \$96 million in COVID-focused support through emergency relief initiatives like the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF), the Canadian Seafood Stabilization Fund (CSSF) and the Regional Air Transportation Initiative (RATI).

In Budget 2021, the Government of Canada committed to help position Atlantic Canada for a robust recovery and long-term growth. As of

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water supplies by giving municipalities the authority to manage watersheds, including restricting or prohibiting activities that may impact water quality or quantity. After a watershed is designated as a protected water area, the utility is responsible for protecting the area and enforcing the regulations.

Michael Gregory, Councilor, Municipality of the County of Colchester and Chair, Tatamagouche Source Water Protection Committee said, "The watershed provides water for the village of Tatamagouche. It's important that we maintain the pristine water that the village is fortunate enough to have. I am pleased the government has taken into consideration the work that was done to protect the watershed and has designated it as a protected water area. Kudos need to go to the staff of the municipality for the work that went into getting here and to the community for standing up to be heard. I am over the moon."

The Municipality of the County of Colchester owns and operates the Tatamagouche water utility.

## Will 5 Employees Receive Preferential Treatment?

By Maurice Rees

I will begin this story with a question...

If you were a business administrator or executive in charge of approximately 130 employees would you give preferential treatment to five staffers and ignore the support of 125, who complied with your directives?

That is exactly what Colchester Council could do at the committee meeting on February 10th when it receives a staff report on establishing a policy on CoVid-19 vaccinations. At the January monthly meeting council spent almost 30 minutes discussion what needed to be in the vaccination policy, which had been discussed at various levels for several months.

Because councillors are not considered staff a separate

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