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# The Shoreline Journal

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## \$532,000 Humidity Dilemma

By Maurice Rees

Just when negative comments about the RECC were starting to subside, they are about to increase again. In January Truro and Colchester council's will be asked to decide on spending \$532,000

to invest in a dehumidification upgrade at the RECC facility, to eliminate ice-level fog and in the long term to save the building's interior envelope from deteriorating.

The centre's problems, since it's opening in March

2013, have been an ongoing concern to staff, elected officials and funding partners for a variety of problems which initially were deemed major deficiencies, including annual operating costs at approximately \$750,000, which are

approximately 5 times consultant and expert professional projections of \$142,000. It has never performed to expectations.

Recognizing humidity would cause problems beyond the clock not working properly, due to extreme corrosion of wires and internal components, and the ceiling starting to rust, the board of directors engaged MCW, Maricor to seek possible solutions.

MCW Maricor, the engineering firm tasked to find solutions to the humidity issues, has determined to host ice-based events, at times other than mid-winter, the RECC needs to have ten times its current dehumidification capability to deal with moisture conditions for the arena to maintain high standards of ice surface and viewer experience for an event of 1,000 - 1,500 spectators during humid ambient weather conditions. The projected cost to boost dehumidification is \$532,000.

MCW Maricor, a division of the MCW Group of Companies, has its primary Maritime office in Moncton, but other offices in Saint John, Halifax and Truro. Eight offices of the MCW Group are in western Canada as far west as Vancouver. It also has a UK Office in London, England.

The team at MCW Maricor, Truro offers municipal and energy engineering contractors to assist with mechanical and electrical needs, with the help of consultants and engineers performing studies and

## FRONT PAGE BRIEFS January 2017

**STRESS RELIEF:** Here's a few words to get you smiling before you start reading this issue: I changed my car horn to gunshot sounds. People get out of the way much faster now. *If that wasn't enough:* Gone are the days when girls used to cook like their mothers. Now they drink like their fathers.

The Shoreline Journal's annual 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party will be held in early May. If you have a relative or friend who lives or were originally from the area from the Onslow to Advocate, who will be 90 in 2017, they will be invited to attend. Similarly, if you know someone who was born prior to 1927, but has not attended the annual party, please send their name, age, address and phone number to: [maurice@theshorelinejournal.com](mailto:maurice@theshorelinejournal.com), or call 902-647-2968.

**Viola Desmond**, often described as Canada's Rosa Parks for her 1946 decision to sit in a whites-only section of a Nova Scotia movie theatre, will be the first Canadian woman to be celebrated on the face of a banknote. Desmond will grace the front of the \$10 bill when the next series goes into circulation in 2018. A businesswoman turned civil libertarian, Desmond built a business as a beautician and, through her beauty school, was a mentor to young black women in Nova Scotia. It was in 1946 when she rejected racial discrimination by sitting in a whites-only section of a New Glasgow movie theatre. She was arrested and fined; her actions inspired later generations of black people in Nova Scotia and the rest of Canada. While it's the first time a woman other than the Queen has been on

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Santa tells Myrah Priest to make sure she leaves some cookies and milk at her house for him on Christmas Eve. Santa stopped by the Masstown Market for complimentary photos on Dec. 11th. (Harrington Photo)

## Things Happen for a Reason!

By Linda Harrington

A while back I was contacted by Walter Millen, a collector of military medals. He had just purchased WWI medals from an antique dealer in Amherst and he believed they might belong to one of my relatives.

Walter kindly brought the medals to my house and sure enough they had the name of my great uncle Major Arthur McKay Ross engraved on them. He was killed in action at the battle of Vimy Ridge.

Arthur McKay Ross was born in Tatamagouche in 1889, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Ross of Waldegrave, NS.

He was the eldest of five children and joined the military at a young age, first training at Aldershot when only 17. In 1911, he was one of the members of the Seventy-Sixth

Nova Scotia Regiment chosen to represent the Canadian militia at the coronation of King George.

My uncle Richard (Dick) Ross, who passed away a few years ago, had once told Walter to let him know if Arthur's medals every turned



Arthur McKay Ross

up. Uncle Dick had a keen interest in the family military history, having served as a Peacekeeper himself. Dick was also instrumental, along with former MLA for Colchester North, Bill Langille, in having Peacekeeper's Day recognized in Nova Scotia on August 9th. He visited uncle Arthur's grave while on trips to Europe in 1990, 1995 and 2000 and placed a wreath and Canada flag on his grave. I guess Uncle Dick's love of family history has been passed on to me.

I simply had to pursue the mystery of "why" and "how" these medals had turned up now. I tried searching the internet and online phone books but could not get a match. A few years ago, I had been in contact with one of the descendants of Arthur McKay Ross and she had given me names, birthdates

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## Rescheduled for January 10

Efforts to revitalize economic activity and strive for better community services from Five Islands to Masstown has been ongoing since May 2016. Several public meetings have been held which resulted in a consensus to potentially reactivate the idle West Colchester Community Development Association (WCCDA).

A meeting previously scheduled for December 6th was cancelled because an update of the by-laws and financial statements were not completed. The meeting has been rescheduled to January 10th at the Bass River Fire Hall commencing at 7:00pm.

Individual residents and community group representatives, who are interested in creating one voice to represent the areas from Five Islands to Masstown in the quest for better services and improved economic development are asked to attend.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son

The greatest gift is family.  
May you and yours have the merriest of holidays.  
From our family to yours.

Merry Christmas

The Shoreline Journal

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