

PHOTO FEATURE

Kids Day Brought to Great Village via a grant from the Along the Shore Health Board.



Allison Williams, Danielle Williams and Charlie Slack enjoy a visit with Santa and children's activities. The event was sponsored by the Saint James Preservation Society, with a grant from the Along the Shore Health Board. (Harrington Photo)



Alison Totten and Makayla Merzbach work on a colouring craft at the Great Village Children's Visit with Santa. (Harrington Photo)



Sloane Turner makes a marshmallow snowman at the Great Village Children's Visit with Santa. (Harrington Photo)

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of the auxiliary, as a fundraiser and as a supporter for your commitment to the safety of our homes, our property and our families. Going to bed at night knowing that this trained team is ready to respond quickly is very reassuring.

On behalf of all of my constituents in Colchester North, let me say thank you and wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Karen Casey, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and MLA, Colchester North.

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shine and warm weather so we can head for the beach. The festive season is upon us. I am sure most all will enjoy this time with our families. Unfortunately, not everyone is lucky enough to have family near and this can be a very lonely time of

year for them. So please keep this in mind and spread you joy wherever possible.

At this time I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year
Tom Taggart, Councillor District 10, Colchester County

News from our Municipal Council - District 9 Continued from page 5

Anytime we can get a 25 cent dollar it's a great deal for you the tax payer.

While still on the topic of Economic Development I am pleased to announce the County has finally signed an agreement between the Town of Truro, Millbrook First Nation, Town of Stewiacke and the business community to create a Regional Enterprise Network (REN). This has been almost four years in the making and I must say I'm very excited about our future growth as a region with everyone working together.

In today's business world partnerships are the key to success. The REN will provide regional economic leadership and help develop regional economic strategies, while supporting small, local businesses. The REN will allow us to better leverage government funding and programs together, create an economic development plan benefiting the entire region and ensure economic development activities are coordinated and strategic.

I'm thrilled to represent the County of Colchester on the REN Liaison & Oversight Committee. Myself and Councillor Parker will be representing the county and I can't wait to get to work. With the federal government sitting on \$186 billion in long-term infra-

structure funds there will be no better time than now to invest in projects such as the Debert Airport upgrades. Working together with all levels of government, Millbrook First Nation and the business community the creation of a REN will fill a great void in economic development in Colchester County.

My wife, Wanda and I recently attended the annual Onslow Belmont Fire Brigades Christmas Banquet. I look forward to this event every year as it gives us an opportunity to thank some of the most giving individuals you will ever have the pleasure of meeting. Thank you to all our volunteer fire fighters and first responders throughout Colchester. You help make our communities a safe place to live and play.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone. If you're looking for a way to work some of that turkey off don't forget those beautiful trail systems so many of us enjoy in the summer are still accessible in the winter. If the snow gets to deep just contact the county recreation department and borrow a set of snow shoes. They have lots in stock to lend out to groups, school's or organizations. For more information give them a call at 902-897-3185 or email them at recreation@colchester.ca. Enjoy the season!

Doug MacInnes, Councillor District 9, Colchester County

Bible Hill to Host Highland Games?

By Maurice Rees

Colchester council committee agreed to provide a letter of support to the Colchester Highland Games and Gathering Society for an event planned for Bible Hill as part of the Canada 150 celebrations. Council also approved recommendations from the nominating committee to add individuals to several committees. Details of the committee additions can be located elsewhere in this issue.

As a result of considerable discussion in previous meetings, council repealed and approved a new policy on Crosswalk Installation Policy and Crosswalk Supervision Policy, which have been brought forward and recommended by staff.

It was announced a new Regional Economic Network (REN) has been approved involving Colchester, Truro, Millbrook and Stewiacke, which will fill the void from CoRDA being disbanded a few years ago. Details were not revealed, but a press release will be released soon. It's understood the REN board

will be heavy on business owner involvement and supervision for the municipalities will be handled by a liaison committee comprised of council representatives.

An information item was presented to council outlining staff's study of Sewer Extensions in Great Village.

Council's approved 5-year capital budget contains only \$25,000 for design costs for a sewer extension along Highway #2 in Great Village in fiscal 2017/18. There are no monies budgeted for the construction of any sewer system extensions in Great Village. The current sewer area rate in Great Village is 12 cents per \$100 of assessment. Of the 12 cents, 4 cents are directed to capital and 8 cents are directed to operating.

Three options had been considered and are presented below:

Option 1 would service an additional 36 homes and 7 vacant parcels with a total taxable assessment of \$3,866,000. This would yield an annual revenue of \$4,639 from the sewer rate of which \$1546 would be directed

towards capital. Based on the capital construction cost of \$1.3M, the return on investment on the project would be 840 years unless another source of funding was identified. Where a typical funding program covers 2/3 of capital costs, the County portion could be reduced to \$433,000, reducing the return on investment period to 280 years.

Option 2 is being considered as the extension along Highway 2 up to civic #63 on Station Road. This extension would service an additional 10 homes and 7 vacant lots with a total taxable assessment \$585,000. This would yield an annual revenue of \$702 from the sewer rate of which \$234 would be directed towards capital. The capital construction cost for this section is estimated at \$450,000.

Option 2A is being considered as the extension along

Station Road from Civic #63 to Civic #137. This extension would service an additional 4 homes and 1 vacant lot with a total taxable assessment of \$636,000. This would yield an annual revenue of \$763 from the sewer rate of which \$254 would be directed towards capital. The capital construction cost of Option 2A is estimated at \$665,000

Realizing the project was too costly, Public Works Director, Michelle Newell said she was going to check into a program she understood has evolved in Richmond County, which involved the municipality making improvements to or building new sewer fields in areas, where beds not working properly were fixed, plus ongoing maintenance and pumping sewage tanks managed by the municipality with the costs being paid by the taxpayer over a period of years. She will report back to council at a future meeting.

Deadline for the February issue of
The Shoreline Journal is January 24

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