

## Colchester Purchases Trackless Sidewalk Plow

By Maurice Rees

Colchester's Public Works is getting a trackless sidewalk snowplow to upgrade its fleet of plows. At its November meeting council authorized the expenditure of \$105,925, excluding HST, to Saunders

Equipment for a new trackless sidewalk snowplow that includes a "V" plow and salt spreader attachment.

The slightly used trackless unit will replace the fleet's oldest unit also a 1990 trackless model. When the tender

closed on November 7th, bids were received from SNT Solutions (used - \$85,000); Holder (used - \$88,002 and New - \$116,748); MacFarlands (New Option 1 - \$108,640 and New Option 2 - \$117,581) and Saunders Equipment (used - \$100,755 and New - \$109,150).

The tenders as submitted by SNT Solutions and Holder were deemed incomplete as they did not meet the specifications for the vehicle. • The submissions by MacFarlands

and Saunders were found to be complete. The used unit from Saunders was shipped to the Truro Heights garage and inspected by staff and found to be in good condition.

The Saunders bid comprised a used Trackless sidewalk plow for a total cost of \$100,755 excluding taxes, plus the V Plow and Salt Spreader for an additional \$7,170, excluding taxes. Council's approved capital budget was set at \$115,000 for the purchase of a new sidewalk plow in 2018/2019.



## Boston Tree Sourced in Oxford

The city of Boston has erected a Christmas tree in the Boston Common since 1941. Since 1971 the tree has been supplied by the people of Nova Scotia, thanking the residents of Boston for their assistance following the Halifax Explosion of 1917.

The 2018 Tree for Boston was donated by Ross McKellar and Teresa Simpson, 6735 Little River Rd. in Oxford. It's the first time the traditional tree for Boston has been sourced in Cumberland County. It was cut on November 15th, then it was on display at several events before heading for Boston.

Even though it's the first tree from Cumberland, there has been a Cumberland connection for the past six years. Parrsboro native David MacFarlane has been driving the truck that delivers the tree to Boston and puts a Cumberland touch to this Christmas Tradition.

To remind Nova Scotians about the Halifax-Boston connection which devel-

oped when help came from Boston during the Halifax Explosion. On November 15th after the cutting ceremony, the tree was on public display at the Rath Eastlink Community Centre, 625 Abenaki Rd., Truro, at 2 p.m. On Friday, November 16, Deputy Premier Karen Casey hosted a public send-off for the tree at Halifax's Grand Parade at 11:30 a.m.

On Saturday, November 17, the tree appeared in the Chronicle Herald Holiday Parade of Lights in downtown Halifax at 6 p.m. On Sunday, November 18, the tree was on display at Atlantic Superstore, 126 South Albion St., Amherst at 10 a.m. before heading to New Brunswick enroute to Boston.

## Grants Help Improve Accessibility

Community groups and municipalities across the province are investing in capital improvements to improve accessibility at community and municipal facilities.

Municipal Affairs Minister Chuck Porter, on behalf of Communities, Culture and Heritage Minister Leo Glavine, announced 58 community projects will receive \$434,094 as a part of the Community ACCESS-Ability program.

Program funding is available to non-profit community groups and municipalities to remove barriers for persons with disabilities in public buildings and spaces.

Three grants have been approved in Cumberland and Colchester Counties. Being awarded funding includes: Cobequid Arts Council, \$2,666.66; First United Church, \$3,820.31; Municipality of Cumberland, \$6,200 and Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 80, \$2005.00

The program is still open to applications. Interested community groups and municipalities are encouraged to apply.

A list of grant recipients as of Dec. 3 and more information are available at, <https://cch.novascotia.ca/investing-our-future/community-funding-and-awards/community-access-ability-program>



## Long-term Care For Aging Parents

By Chris Urquhart

If you're considering long-term care options for an aging parent or other loved one, start the discussions early. If you wait too long, an illness or injury may force a hasty decision that everyone may later regret.

Start by helping your loved one compare various facilities, including services, prices and payment options. Chat about preferences and concerns.

If your loved one doesn't respond well to your efforts to talk about long-term care, don't give up. Consider involv-

ing a trusted clergy member, a doctor or an attorney. If you are that "old foggy" remember that your family only wants what is best for you.

Take the time to hear them out before vetoing their suggestions!

## OPEN HOUSES January 16 & 22

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special dog kennels, as we consider adoption of a bylaw in Colchester. This survey is one of many opportunities that the general public and stakeholders will have to contribute their perspectives on this matter. More information can be found within the survey and in your December Municipal Newsletter".

To take this survey, please follow this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WYFY7Q5>

Another company representative whose income is generated through health-care for animals stated, every councillor should have been holding a public meeting in their constituency. "How can they determine what is required and how the taxpayers feel, if they won't meet with their

constituents within their electoral district?"

The municipality has indicated it would be talking to stakeholders such as breeders, trainers, commercial boarding business owners, vet clinics and rescue groups. The two public sessions will not include any formal presentations at the sessions to be held on January 16 at the RECC from 2pm to 4pm and 6pm to 8pm. Interested persons are encouraged to drop in and talk to staff and Planning Advisory Committee members.

January 22nd will be a presentations night with the Planning Advisory Committee, starting at 7pm. The municipality is taking names of those interested in presenting. If numbers dictate the municipality is willing to hold additional meetings.



### Flu Shots are here! Are you protected?

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Happy New Year

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