

The
Shoreline
Journal
Tid-Bits

Short reads of
important stories.

Premier Promotes Nova Scotia at Conference of Paris

Premier Tim Houston spoke at the International Economic Forum of the Americas' 9th annual Conference of Paris in France last week. The conference brought together international leaders from government, business and academia to share their knowledge and understanding of global economic, social and environmental issues to collaborate and collectively overcome these challenges. It also aims to nurture international trade between Europe and the Americas.

The Premier spoke at the conference on Wednesday, December 17, about Nova Scotia's latest developments in clean energy and regional co-operation. While in Paris, Premier Houston will also meet energy leaders with interests in projects in both renewable and traditional sectors. The Province is focused on making Nova Scotia more self-reliant by investing in the seafood sector, wind resources and critical minerals. Nova Scotia is a leader in the defence and security sector and ready to partner and adapt to meet defence needs in Canada and Europe.

In 2024, Nova Scotia exports to France totalled \$79.7 million; leading products included mollusks, lobsters, tires, aircraft parts and blueberries. Some of the top areas for potential growth include aerospace and defence, ocean technologies, seafood, clean energy, information communications technology, agri-food and beverages

Mission delegates were: Premier Houston; Colton LeBlanc, Minister of Growth and Development and Minister of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie; Nicole LaFosse Parker, Chief of Staff and General Counsel, Premier's Office; Executive Deputy Minister Tracey Tawee; Mike McMurray, Senior Executive Director, International Relations and Military Relations, Department of Intergovernmental Affairs; Jennifer L'Esperance, Senior Executive Director, Growth and Development; Chandra Pottle, Vice-President, Investment Attraction, Invest Nova Scotia; Suzanne Fraser, Director, Investment Attraction, Bioeconomy/Clean Technology, Invest Nova Scotia; and Stephen Hilchey, Director, Investment Attraction, Digital Economy/AI, Invest Nova Scotia

Site Selected for New Trenton School

The Province has selected the site for a new school in Trenton, Pictou County. Replacing Trenton Elementary and Trenton Middle schools, the new pre-primary to Grade 8 school will be built on land next to the Trenton Minor Sports Community Centre and Trenton Park. It will accommodate about 300 students.

More Affordable Housing Units Preserved in Annapolis Valley

Students now have more options for affordable housing in the Annapolis Valley. Student Housing Nova Scotia has purchased four multi-unit buildings in Lawrencetown and three in Kingston with the help of \$6.9 million in loans from the Province's Community Housing Acquisition Program.

The 22 units in Lawrencetown are near Nova Scotia Community College's Centre of Geographic Sciences campus, while the 34 units in Kingston are within a short drive to the Kingstec campus in Kentville and the Annapolis Valley campus in Middleton. The projects also received \$530,000 through the Community Housing Capital Fund, managed by the Community Housing Transformation Centre.

More Options for New Farmers, Growing Producers

The Province is launching a new program to help new farmers and growing agricultural producers access the farmland they need to start or grow their business. The Program for Accessing Agricultural Land will be delivered by the Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board.

The three-year pilot program includes four streams to address diverse challenges: a low-cost land leasing option to support new farmers and farmers who want to expand their farms; a second land leasing option that allows farmers to build equity for a future purchase; deferred financing to support farm growth in the early years and - startup loans for land, equipment and livestock to help new farmers.

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Notes from our Federal Capital - Alana Hirtle, MP

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public money, we're getting value—because every dollar saved from overpaying is a dollar that can support veterans in other critical ways. The price of Cannabis has changed as the market has had time to develop — and it just makes sense to adjust the policy to reflect that reality. I care too much about veterans across Cumberland-Colchester to let misinformation substitute for facts.

Veterans Spotlight: Progress on Ralston Armoury

My office continues to work with the Department of National Defence at local, regional, and national levels, and I'm genuinely encouraged by what's taking shape. The Nova Scotia Highlanders CO is coordinating with regional DND officials to identify a permanent home for the museum. They're assessing contamination levels in artifacts and planning to move approximately 65 items—mostly weapons—to secure vaults while a new location is established.

Potential sites in the Amherst area have been identified. The plan is to move artifacts once to their final location where they'll be properly remediated if necessary and then displayed with the dignity they deserve. The newly formed Nova Scotia Highlanders Community Council is establishing a Museum Committee to oversee this transition, ensuring the curator has the support needed for long-term success.

While we don't have firm timelines yet, we have something more fundamental: a viable plan with responsible parties committed to making it happen. Meetings in the coming weeks will refine details, engage community stakeholders, and move us forward. And yes, we're also working on support for the Cadet Program through this transition.

Budget 2025: No-Nonsense Nation Building

Prime Minister Mark Carney's Budget 2025 reflects exactly what Nova Scotia needs: no-nonsense finances focused on building long-term strength and independence for Canada.

The goal isn't austerity — it's affordability. It's more money in your pocket while actually investing in the infrastructure that makes rural life work—roads, bridges, clean water, and high-speed internet.

News from our Provincial Capital - Tom Taggart

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the transcript of this meeting. First, they advised that if resident wish to dispute their bill they should take a photo of their meter and send to NSP. They stated repeatedly that if they created a problem, they would make it right!! They would not cut off people's power as a result of a disputed bill. They would work with the resident to make it right. I feel these are the most critical comments of the entire meeting. Given that it has been since April that this breach occurred and we are currently in Dec with very little if any positive gains in recording the accuracy of usage and bills, I believe we are a long way from a resolution. I recommend keeping detailed records of any and all interaction with NSP.

News from our Provincial Council - Dave Ritcey

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20, 902-896-0987. Monday, 9:00 am - 5: pm; Tuesday, 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm; Wednesday, 9:00 am - 5: pm; Thursday, 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm; and Friday, 9:00 am - 5: pm.

Community Pharmacy Primary Care Clinic

Pharmacist-led clinics provide an extended suite of pharmacy primary care services at no charge to people with a valid Nova Scotia Health Card. . These services include assessment and prescribing for: Strep Throat; Pink Eye; UTIs; Chronic Disease Management (Diabetes, Asthma, COPD) and Prescription renewals for all medications and more. Publicly funded vaccines for adults and children are also available at these clinics as well as medical injections.

The Medicine Shoppe, Community Pharmacy Primary Care Clinic, 1B-664 Prince Street, 902-814-2679: Monday, 9.00 am - 5:30 pm; Tuesday, 9.00 am - 5:30 pm; Wednesday, 9.00 am - 5:30 pm; Thursday, 9.00 am - 5:30 pm;

We must diversify trade to reduce reliance on any single trade partner. We're creating nation-building jobs through large-scale energy, transport, and trade projects—creating middle-class careers, not gig-economy band-aids. For rural Nova Scotia, this means opportunities in defence supply chains and infrastructure projects that actually employ local firms.

Climate adaptation isn't some abstract environmental goal; it's economic strategy. Flood protection and resilient infrastructure protect assets. When we invest in making communities climate-ready, we're protecting homes, businesses, and livelihoods.

Budget 2025 delivers what we actually need: infrastructure, jobs, and basic services that work. It may not be poetry...but sometimes we're better served by spreadsheets.

Looking Ahead

Here's my commitment as we close out this year: I will continue sitting across tables from anyone and everyone that's committed to solving problems by working together towards real world solutions. I'm always keen to listen to what actually works in practice and what doesn't. And from there — turning those conversations into action. Whether it's supporting our fire chiefs, protecting veterans' services, or championing the infrastructure investments our region desperately needs—I'm here to get it done.

Looking forward to working

together in 2026!

Alana Hirtle

Alana

Alana Hirtle is the Member of Parliament for Cumberland-Colchester and serves on the Veterans Affairs Committee and the Joint Committee for the Scrutiny of Regulations. Alana has two offices for face-to-face services:

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That's it on NSP, for now.

Our MLA's do a lot of work in Standing Committees. In the new year I believe I will write more on these committees and their work.

The Christmas season is upon us. For many it is a busy season, take time to enjoy your family and friends. Remember there are many that are alone during this time and if the opportunity arises, pass a little love and cheer their way

In closing Zylpha and I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year.

Tom Taggart, MLA Colchester North, (O) - 902-641-2335, tom.taggartmla@gmail.com

pm; Friday, 9.00 am - 5:30 pm; Saturday, 9.00 am - 1:00 pm and Sunday, 9.00 am - 1:00 pm.

Enjoy spending quality time with your family and friends during the Holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Dave Ritcey is MLA, Truro-Millbrook-Bible Hill-Salmon River. He can be reached by telephone at 902-897-0884 or by e-mail at mlaritcey@bellaliant.com

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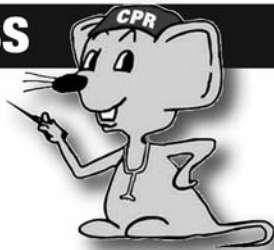
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