

REES' Pieces

OH, what to do or think.

Some days things are so contradictory, one doesn't know which way to turn.

Here's an example. The province is bearing down on motorists texting or using a cell phone while driving, yet General Motors is running a television ad campaign promoting WiFi in some models. Does that mean GM is encouraging people to break the law?

Fracking for natural gas is prohibited in Nova Scotia. If you watch CNN, there's a USA government ad stating it has become a global leader as a natural gas producer and exporter, because of fracking.

\$-Millions are proposed to build LNG terminals in Guysborough area for export to global destinations, requiring reversal of the Maritime Pipeline to bring fracked natural gas from the states, since Nova Scotia has a dwindling supply from our offshore gas fields.

Supposedly, Nova Scotia has tremendous "on-shore" natural gas reserves. Not that the USA makes all the right decisions, but if fracking was a major contributor to revitalizing their economy is there a lesson there for us? Test fracking drilling was done in the Kennetcook area. Why not use that site as a pilot project to see if fracking would work for us?

The Ivany Report was heralded as a roadmap to a prosperous future, yet we oppose many of the things detailed on what we need to do. Rural communities are being hollowed out every day, forcing us to be like mice in the cupboard fighting over crumbs instead of halting rural decline and moving forward.

Three more schools have closed and there is no appeal process. I'm not suggesting all schools should remain open. Changes would eliminate the worry about many more closures and ensure school boards worked to find a way to keep a school open.

It's hard to blame the school boards as they are working within current financial parameters. The rate of school closures would be reduced if the costs of that facility including maintenance, demolition and remediation of the site continued to be a part of that school boards budget.

Minor or major renovations are operational costs to be carried out within the board's budget. However, a new school can be built and it does not affect the local budget until it is opened. If a school is closed, the cost of maintenance, demolition and site remediation becomes the responsibility of the municipality.

If repairs, like a new roof, on a particular school is delayed, the cost of renovations should not be permitted as part of the amount a community must raise to establish an "education hub". Because legislation permits an "easy way out decision" to get them off budget it's difficult for staff to devote time and energy to work with the community to find a solution. Creativity would reign supreme if costs could not be transferred elsewhere. Keeping schools open should be an economic development initiative.

A number of the problems facing rural area would be eliminated if rules were changed so that an education facility stays within the school board's budget until a new use is found, or it's demolished and the site is remediated.

There is only one taxpayer. Do we wish our tax dollars to pay for education, keeping students in our community, or do we prefer our tax dollars to be diverted to demolition and site remediation companies?

If we wish to improve the rural economy we need to "save smaller schools".

If there are "endangered" areas, they should be identified 5-10 years in advance. Instead of a community investing all its energy, in a last minute panic, maybe an economic development team needs to work with the communities to encourage young families to stay or move there. It is more than relocating families. It is ensuring viable businesses exist to provide the jobs; internet speed needs to be the same as in an urban centre; office space should be available, so every provincial and municipal department can rent for a few hours to meet with local people.

A decade to implement a plan would eliminate some school closures and improve the rural economy at the same time. Then maybe the Ivany Report would be our solution.

Maurice

A new opportunity to grow your business. Welcome to StartupNY

<http://startup-ny.com/>

Special Op-Ed by Maurice Rees, Publisher

(I don't want anyone to think, I'm suggesting any of our business leaders and entrepreneurs should leave Colchester County or Nova Scotia. However, I watch a fair amount of CNN, after our local newscasts supper or late night, rather than watch some of the tv-evening soaps.

After several occasions of seeing an ad for "StartUp-NY", I decided to check online to find out about all the hype. They certainly have some attractive incentives, so thought it would be worthy to share with Colchester's the Mayor and Councillors, plus all Shoreline Journal Readers).

Thinking of Colchester in particular, we have a few assets some of which are unique to us and could play a major role in "StartUp-Colchester": The Debert Airport is the most "fog-free" airport in Atlantic Canada; Dal Agriculture Campus; Perinna and all leading research work being conducted at Agri-Tech Park; very strong diversified Agriculture Campus; relatively strong manufacturing sector and proximity to the Bay of Fundy to name just a few.

The following is what I found at the <http://startup-ny.com/> website in less than five minutes. It's taken word for word.

What is START-UP NY? START-UP NY offers new and expanding businesses the opportunity to operate tax-free for 10 years on or near eligible university or college campuses in New York State.

Partnering with these schools gives businesses direct access to advanced research laboratories, development resources and experts in key industries.

Who is START-UP NY for? To participate in START-UP NY, your company must meet the following requirements: be a new business in New York State, or an existing New York business relocating to or expanding within the state; partner with a New York State college or university and create new jobs and contribute to the economic development of the local community. *Your company should belong to one of the many eligible industries listed here:*

Advanced Materials & Manufacturing: New York is at the forefront of technology, boasting a wide range of advanced materials & manufacturing businesses - from special alloys to engineering polymers, and more. Materials produced in New York State provide the "enabling technology" for sectors such as electronics, computers, telecommunications, transportation, aerospace, medical equipment, construction and consumer products.

Biotech & Life Sciences: Countless medical discoveries have been made in New York. From vaccines to protect against polio, diphtheria and smallpox, to lifesaving antibiotics to breakthrough DNA discoveries - companies in New York State continue to lead innovation in biosciences. The State's exceptional research infrastructure - over 30 academic research centers - is ranked third in the nation in number of grant award for research institutions, supports resident bioscience companies and is key in attracting exceptional staff.

Cleantech & Renewable Energy:

Cleaner, greener energy development and deployment is a priority for New York State where we are transitioning to more resilient, less polluting, renewable energy technologies and products. NY leads the US in wind and clean technology patents and new energy storage products and systems often as the result of university-industry collaboration cultivated at more than two dozen Centers of Excellence and Centers of Advanced Technology.

Food & Beverage: 36,000 farms use 7-million acres to produce an array of food and beverage products in New York State. Access to fresh milk helps make NY the leading producer of yogurt. Field crops, fruits and vegetables returned \$2.7 billion to farmers. Resources coupled with world class education institutions such as Cornell, SUNY Cobleskill, SUNY Morrisville, Schenectady Community College and the Culinary Institute offer a wide range of agribusiness programs.

Optics & Imaging: More than 30,000 New Yorkers were employed in the Optics and Imaging industry in 2012. These technologies are enablers of productivity and efficiency,

have broad impacts and are at the core of all communications. R&D and skilled talent are the lifeblood of these industries. NY strategically invested in both for the last 20 years and as a result leads the nation in combined public and private R&D. A continuing stream of advances in these sectors pours from the state's top universities and commercial laboratories.

Tech & Electronics: NY is #3 in high tech employment, providing a workforce for many key industries such as data processing and computer facilities management. As the world's most advanced, university-driven research enterprise, SUNY Polytechnic Institute has over \$20 billion in high-tech investments, over 300 corporate partners and a statewide footprint.

Transportation Equipment: Did you know that 45% of all rail related expenditures are made in New York thanks to the influence of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority - one of the largest transportation authorities in the world. New York is also the largest producer of equipment for the transit industry.

What companies do not qualify to participate in START-UP NY?

The industries listed below are not typically eligible* to join START-UP NY, but may be eligible for one of the many other business incentive programs offered by New York State: Retail and wholesale businesses; Restaurants; Law and accounting firms; Medical or dental practices; Real estate management companies/brokers; Hospitality; Retail banking and Utilities and energy production

How do I get started? Submit the Pre-Qualification Form to find out if you are eligible.

We'll help find the right school for you to partner with based on geography and academic mission.

Work with the school you've been matched with to complete a Business Application.

Getting started is simple: The first step is to fill out the START-UP NY registration form to tell us more about your company and your goals. Are you looking to start a new company or relocate to New York from out-of-state or expand an existing New York State company? Under START-UP NY all three options are eligible as long as you're creating net new jobs in New York State. If you have already identified a school that you'd like to work with, please list the school in the registration form, or if you don't have a preference, we'll find the right fit for you. Once your registration is complete, we'll be in touch soon.

WE'LL HELP YOU CONNECT WITH A SCHOOL: START-UP NY connects businesses and schools based on geography and academic mission. We'll help find the right school for you to partner with, and once your company has found a school match you'll submit your START-UP NY application to that school.

COMPLETE A BUSINESS APPLICATION: If your application is accepted by the school, then the school will submit the application for review and approval from New York State. Once your application is approved by the state, you're all set to open for business.

The
Shoreline
Journal

Here's where
to find us:

BASS RIVER:

Bayside Pharmacy
Dominion Chair Factory Store

BELMONT:

A & N General Store.

BIBLE HILL:

C.W. Fraser Pharmacy
MacQuarries Pharmacy

DEBERT:

Barnhill's Superette
Debert Mini-Mart

FIVE ISLANDS:

Masstown Market Five Islands

GLENHOLME:

Double "C" Truckstop
Glenholme General Store

GREAT VILLAGE:

Wilson's Gas

MAITLAND:

Frieze & Roy General Store

MASSTOWN:

Masstown Market
MTM Retail Gas (Petro-Can)

NORTH RIVER:

Grant's Grocery

ONSLow:

Omslow Market

PARRSBORO:

CrossRoads Co-op
Ken's Grocery
Wright's Pharmasave

TRURO:

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Conversations at Thinkers' Lodge

By Mary Purdy

July 9th - The Thinkers' Lodge Society will be hosting a new speakers' series this summer called "Conversations at Thinkers' Lodge". The kick off to the series will be a free public Forum presented by the Canadian Pugwash Group at the Pugwash District High School cafeteria on Thursday, July 9 at 7:30pm.

Titled "Legacy of Hiroshima-70 years on, Lessons Learned and Unlearned", the forum will be moderated by Alexa McDonough and will include Dr. Kennette Benedict as a speaker. The Canadian Pugwash Group Conference will convene at Thinkers' Lodge National Historic site after the forum.

The new series is designed to inform, engage and inspire through conversations covering a variety of topics. These conversations are open to the public and will be held at 7pm at the Lobster Factory, which is located on the Thinkers' Lodge National Historic site in Pugwash.

A nominal fee will be charged to support the site. Upcoming presentations include: James Raffan, adventurer, geographer and critically acclaimed author of "Circling the Midnight Sun" on Thursday July 16 and Harry Thurston, award winning writer and naturalist on July 23.

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