



Canada Day in Great Village! Come join all the fun! Also, come join the celebration of our heritage in Great Village! On Monday, August 7, 2017 the Great Village Community Association is partnering with Canada 150 to present three informative speakers providing insight into parts of the heritage along the northern shore of the Bay of Fundy. See Steve Mazur's story on page 32.

Roundabout Problem Solved

By Maurice Rees

The roundabout near Masstown Market should be completed soon, and modifications have been installed to permit over-length vehicles to navigate the tight turns. Earlier in June there was concern the Double C Truckstop would lose a significant portion of its business.

Keith Boddy, senior highway design engineer assured the Shoreline Journal in a telephone interview, the new roundabout currently under construction near Masstown Market was not undersized. He said the province has a standard design and sizing for roundabouts. During the conversation he added, during construction it might look smaller, but in fact, it is the same dimensions of a similar roundabout on Robie Street Truro.

The project can under criticism earlier in June when Peter Ross, manager of the oversized department at TDR Transport expressed concern his much larger rigs would not

be able to navigate the curves, because his oversize loads, which can only travel certain times and often have to use exit lanes at overpasses as they are too large to go under the concrete structures.

Ross expressed his concern to Debbie Cock, owner of Double C Truckstop and added because of the problems his drivers would have at the new roundabout, it would have a negative impact on business at the Double C. The truckstop is the only place between the Irving Big Stops at Enfield and Aulac, NB, when the oversize vehicles can get off the highway and have room to park. The vehicles are not permitted to travel at night or on weekends.

Cock and Ross took the concerns to local MLA, Karen Casey who arranged a meeting with Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) officials to seek a solution. The next day, the construction site was crawling with white helmets, charts, surveyor poles

and tapes double checking measurements.

In the early hours of the original turmoil many truckers claimed even the fuel carrying "b-trains" would not be able to use the roundabout to deliver fuel to Masstown Petro-Canada. Their original speculation was b-train drivers would have to use Highway #2 through Onslow, then retrace their steps back to the Truro area.

TIR officials feel they have found a solution. Rather than widening the driving areas, they have installed a graded apron between the concrete curbs and the exterior or interior grass areas. Instead of sod butting up against the curb, they have installed an overrun area behind the curbs. The overrun apron looks like a honeycomb and is filled with gravel. It will provide a solid base for the over-length vehicles to ride on without wheels sinking into what previously would have been a softer grassy area.

The roundabout is nearing completion and was originally scheduled to be completed by June 30th.

your help over the past year. (See you in the Fall).

Happy Anniversary wishes for June are passed along to Jean and Don (Padre) MacQueen, Loyis and Loyal Crocker, Debbie and Harold Barclay.

Happy Birthday wishes for June are passed along to Maurice MacDougall, Marilyn Dykens, Gordon McCully, Donna Eastcott, Charlie Borden (Sr.), Ardith McCully, Lee McCulloch and Debbie Cock.

Please don't forget to thank a Veteran; it is because of their sacrifices we are able to enjoy our Country and our freedom.

Please say a prayer for our troops who are serving in foreign countries and their families.

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Annapolis County Approves Multi Million Internet Investment

By Maurice Rees

When we were in the final production days of producing the June issue, Annapolis County was announcing its approval to build back bone fibre optic cable in key areas within the County boundaries, which will bring fibre or equally fast internet service to all residents and businesses.

County Council had approved a Temporary Borrowing Resolution (TBR) that puts forward a formal request to the Province of Nova Scotia for approval of the County's intent to borrow \$13,000,000. The Annapolis County contribution is part of a funding formula that includes federal, provincial and private sector contributions totaling almost \$18,000,000.

"Our citizens can expect fibre optic Internet speeds to equal or exceed the highest internet speeds anywhere in Canada, with service to homes in the range of 1 gigabit down and 1 gigabit up," (1 gigabit is equivalent to 1000 megabits). Final financing approval of our borrowing request is under review by the provincial Department of Municipal Affairs and we will know the outcome in the near future. The \$13,000,000 dollars borrowed for backbone fibre will be paid back by a separate contract with Mainland Telecom Inc," said Annapolis County Warden Timothy Habinski.

Mainland Telecom Inc. is a valley-based company chosen from a list of companies who responded to an Expression of Interest issued by the County over a year ago. The fibre optic build is planned to begin during this year's construction season and once the project is underway Mainland expects to have four separate crews working within Annapolis County. The fibre optic build is anticipated to take approximately 18 months.

Mainland Telecom Inc. stated, "Every home or business on the route will be capable of 10 Gbps from day one, although 1 Gbps will be the standard of offering. Commercial offerings will also include high capacity wavelength services for any business requiring low latency and high capacity to any of the major international fibre hubs across the globe," said Chris J. Norman, Mainland's Chief Technology Officer. "It is very important to look towards the future as demand for connectivity and capacity is increasing exponentially and we need to design for the long term. Fibre has a lifespan in the region of 40 years. This design will offer an excellent upgrade path," Norman added.

A backbone fibre optic cable is used to transmit very high-speed data, voice, and video through to homes, businesses, community halls, educational and government institutions. Backbone fibre is key infrastructure which will place a rural community on equal footing with urban centers and which supports the retention and attraction of people seeking access to the world while living in a rural community.

Fibre or equally high speed internet service has been mandated as an essential service by CRTC. At its June committee meeting of Colchester Council approval was given for staff to seek funding to undertake a feasibility study and to start searching for the larger dollars from other levels of government to implement a plan to bring fibre and equally high speed internet service to all areas of Colchester County. A backbone of fibre throughout the county would also permit inclusion of other services, such as telephone, television and delivery of security services to residences and businesses.

Tom Taggart Elected to FCM Board

Tom Taggart, councillor for District 10, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) for the third straight year. Board elections took place at FCM's June 1-4 national conference, which drew 2,000 municipal leaders from across Canada to the nation's capital.

"It's a real honour to be chosen by my peers to serve on FCM's national board," said Taggart. "Some of our biggest challenges in Colchester are also national challenges—whether that's jobs, growth or climate change. I'll be taking our local realities to the FCM table, and we'll be pressing for federal action that makes life better here at home and across Canada."

FCM is the national voice for 2,000 local governments, representing more than 90 percent of all Canadians. As a member of FCM's board, Taggart will help set the direction for an organization that is effectively transforming the role of municipalities on the national stage.

Over the last year, FCM has achieved unprecedented engagement with the federal government on local priorities. Following intensive advocacy by FCM, Federal Budget 2017 committed to invest \$81-billion in infrastructure over 11 years—including affordable housing, transit expansions, green infrastructure, and rural, northern and remote priorities.

"This is a critical year coming up for municipalities. We've got unprecedented federal investment on the table, but we need to make sure they get the details right. Then we'll be ready to turn investments into real outcomes in our communities."

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