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At Colchester's council meeting on June 29th, Doug MacInnes, councillor for District 9, is expected to ask for a temporary leave of absence. Earlier this year, as Wilson's Home Heating Sales Manager he received a significant promotion resulting in extensive travel and additional responsibilities. He is anticipated to rejoin council in September.

The generosity of Maritimers came through loud and clear, when they pledged \$6,462,352.04 in support of the IWK on June 3 & 4 for another record-breaking year for the annual IWK Telethon on CTV. The show wrapped up for the 33rd time on Sunday evening after broadcasting live from the IWK Health Centre in Halifax and remote locations in Sydney, Saint John and Charlottetown this weekend.

Colchester District RCMP is investigating the theft of a side-by-side from a property on Crowes Mills Road. The side-by-side is a 2013 Can Am 'Maverick 1000', and is black and yellow in colour. It was taken sometime between May 12 and May 15. Colchester District RCMP is investigating this matter and is asking anyone with information about it to call them at 902 893 6820, or 1 800 803 RCMP (7267). Should you wish to remain anonymous, you can also contact Nova Scotia Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477)

On June 18th more than 5,000 people from across Canada and around the world participated in the IWK Run for Families on the Confederation Bridge as part of BridgeFest 150. They raised more than \$195,000 for the IWK Foundation and donations continue to pour in.

Jim Eisenhower, Michael Donovan and Chris Huskilon were inducted into the Nova Scotia Business Hall of Fame during a celebration of the event's 25th anniversary on May 31, 2017. The event was attended by over 1,000 c-suite executives and business leaders from all corners of industry. Through sponsorship, table sales, a raffle and personal pledges, the event raised \$544,896 in support of JA Nova Scotia programs, which was a record for the event. The event was chaired by Colin MacDonald; 2015 Laureate, corporate sponsor and personal donor.

On May 20 during National Impaired Driving Enforcement Day, Nova Scotia RCMP charged 17 motorists for impaired driving and issued nine roadside suspensions. Of those charged with impaired driving, 14 were impaired by alcohol and three were impaired by drug. Additionally this year, Nova Scotia RCMP issued nine roadside suspensions due to driving with a Blood Alcohol Content between 50-80 milligrams of alcohol in one hundred milliliters of blood (50mg% to 80mg%).

The Department of Natural Resources is giving every Grade 4 student in the province two free nights in one of Nova Scotia's 20 provincial camping parks. The Grade 4s Outdoors program also gives the students a nature passport to encourage exploration of parks or other natural space. The program exposes young people to the benefits of camping in provincial parks. There will also be a Learn2Camp weekend in July to teach the essentials of camping. Details are on the Nova Scotia parks website.

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2017 West Colchester 75 km YARD SALE JULY 8-9

"Past Years Have Been A Great Success, So We Want To Do It Again!"

Businesses or anyone wishing to help sponsor/promote this event with an ad please contact the undersigned. This is also a great opportunity for Community organizations, clubs, etc. to raise some money.

We want to get this going again with some help from the community. The date will be the weekend of July 9 and 10. Saturday & Sunday.

As before the sale will run along Highway #2 from Mingo's corner in Onslow to Parrsboro!

This is a great opportunity for households to turn those unwanted items into useful cash and recycle instead of hauling them off to the balefill.

**For further information
contact Clair Peers**

Call 902-897-5951

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News from our Federal Capital

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the fact that every expert report, including their own report from 2004, recommends the communications centre not be located in Halifax, for important reasons of redundancy and emergency preparedness.

The previous government decided to make the delivery of veterans' services more efficient by closing 9 regional Veterans Affairs

offices. It didn't work. That's why the current government reopened those offices: to ensure the people who are served by those offices received the level of service they expect and deserve.

It isn't about efficiency. It's about simplicity. The bureaucracy likes things to be simple.

The trouble is, when bureaucrats simplify things for themselves, it makes life for the rest of us more complicated.

Bill Casey, MP for Cumberland-Colchester

News from our Provincial Capital

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government we recognized the path forward needed to be one that we could afford. Taxpayers in the province work hard and we appreciate that. They need to know their Government will invest their dollars in Health, Education and Community Services.

As the MLA for Colchester North I am proud to be part of the Government that will do just that. It has been a privilege and a

pleasure to work with all constituents to ensure that we as a Government respond to their concerns. One of the first lessons an MLA can learn is to listen, understand and respect their constituents. It is that kind of a working relationship that has made Colchester North a better place to live and work and as your MLA since 2006, I am proud of our accomplishments. Let's continue to work together as we move forward.

Karen Casey, MLA, Colchester North

News from our Municipal Council - District 10

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cil committee meeting we approved an in-house "Internet Improvement, feasibility study and Plan Development".

Content of the Study and Plan would include: Mapping the current state of available service and gaps in Colchester County; Mapping and identifying ownership of existing system infrastructure (backbone, middle mile, last mile); Describing under-served areas according to system challenges and opportunities

(including property ownership and terrain mapping), number of households/businesses/institutions, gap solutions (with future-proofing perspective), jurisdictions, active ISPs in areas, and anticipated costs and funding scenarios for solutions;

The feasibility study will also include: prioritizing incremental installations in conjunction with above information (quick wins

and bang for buck analysis); Exploring funding and partnership opportunities, including other municipalities, community groups, businesses, Federal and Provincial agencies and departments; Considering other jurisdictions where municipalities have had central roles in internet improvements (eg. Ammon Idaho, Olds Alberta, Stratford Ontario, Annapolis County Nova Scotia); Methods of community engagement and funding mechanisms and other content identified in the project design or implementation phase.

It is my hope this will provide factual information which will allow council to fully understand what is needed to ensure our residents have access to quality affordable broadband.

Enjoy your summer!

Tom Taggart, Councilor District 10, Colchester County

News from our Municipal Council - District 9

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with Canada Post whose job it was to work with myself and the residents to find a compromise to the issue. His next statement was that they had no intentions of moving the boxes from there current location at the ballfield.

This gives you some idea what myself or any citizen trying to work with Canada Post is dealing with. I provided two new locations which they could consider but they refused to look at either of them. I reassured them the mail boxes will not be staying at the ballfield location and hopefully they will become part of the solution and not continue to be the problem. The good news is a site visit has been arranged at one of the new proposed locations and with reasonable heads prevailing this issue should be behind us very soon. I'll keep you posted.

On May 27th I attended the 70 anniversary celebrations for Gor-

don and Phyllis McCully in Debert. It was an honour to present them with a certificate from the County recognizing this amazing milestone in their lives. I also presented Phyllis with a certificate in celebration of her birthday which is the same day as their anniversary. Gordon and Phyllis have been a part of my life for as long as I can remember and certainly bring back some great memories of community spirit. God bless you both.

On June 10th Wanda and I along with our youngest granddaughter Raina attended the grand opening of the new Debert Community Centre which is located in the old Mason Lodge next to Angelina's Pizzeria. Congratulations to the Debert and Area Community Association board of directors for all the great work you have been doing within your community. The grand opening was a huge success and is only an indication of the great things to come from this community centre.

Doug MacInnes, Councillor District 9, Colchester County

OP-ED

Reverse Redundancy

By Bill Casey

Currently, 93% of police, fire, paramedic and ambulance calls in Nova Scotia are handled through two 911 communications centers. The RCMP operates one in Truro and the HRM Police have one in Dartmouth. Having the two equal centers located over 90 kilometers apart means that one center would likely be unaffected if the other area was disabled by a man-made or natural disaster. This is called redundancy. The RCMP is proposing to move its communication center to Dartmouth, eliminating that redundancy,

which provides a safety factor for all Nova Scotians.

This proposal is still being considered despite the fact that a 2004 RCMP comprehensive report on Emergency Communications facilities in Nova Scotia says "It is not recommended that the two largest police communications operations in Nova Scotia be placed within the same metropolitan area". The same report goes on to say, "Primary service delivery site should be outside of HRM due to risks of placing 2 largest police communications centers in close proximity to each other".

Two other frequently used manuals on emergency communications which guide Canadian police forces are the U.S Homeland Security Continuity Guidance manual and the National Emergency Number Association manual. Both emphasize the need for redundancy through separated locations. These reports state that "Organizations should have adequate, separate locations to ensure execution of their functions", and that there should be "sufficient distance between the facility location and other facilities". Also "It is desirable to have at least two layers of redundancy".

The common denominator in these three reports is the need for "redundancy".

At the moment, Nova Scotia

has redundancy in the emergency communications system. Locating the two main police communications systems in Dartmouth eliminates that redundancy and puts all Nova Scotians at risk of diminished emergency communications in the middle of a disaster when they need it the most.

This "reverse redundancy" is contrary to the RCMP's own conclusions and defies the primary redundancy standards established by experts in the field of emergency service delivery. The safety of Nova Scotians should be the number one concern and consideration for this proposal should end now.

Bill Casey is Member of Parliament for Cumberland-Colchester, Nova Scotia



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