

## PHOTO FEATURE

There was good support for the Colchester Show n' Shine, sponsored by the newly formed Mercury Club held at The Peg, Masstown on June 3rd and 4th. Proceeds from admission and raffles held by the Mercury Club were shared with the Cobequid Special Olympics. (Harrington Photos)



## Colchester Council Briefs from May 25<sup>TH</sup> Meeting

**Patterson Law** was reappointed municipal solicitors for 2017-18 at Colchester's council meeting on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Patterson Law has provided legal services to the Municipality for over 20 years with Dennis James being Municipality's Solicitor since 2002. The motion was approved based on staff's recommendation, "Council waive policy and appoint Patterson Law as the Municipality's Solicitor". The recommendation included, "In addition to the excellent service provided by Patterson Law, there is certainly a benefit realized by having continuity on the legal files currently before the Municipality".

**Council approved a motion** to receive and accept the Truro-Colchester Event Attraction Committee Five-year Strategy document which had been presented to the Joint Meeting of Truro and Colchester councils on March 2, 2017. The joint council presentation was made by Committee Chair Nick Sharpe and Vice

Chair Tanya Colburne. Colchester's motion also included a requirement representatives of the Event Attraction Committee be invited to report on their activities and spending at two or more Joint Council or Council meetings in 2017-18." Council's acceptance does not obligate it to any expenditure of funds.

**As reported in the June issue**, the four motions coming out of the May 9<sup>th</sup> committee meeting, were approved by council on May 25<sup>th</sup>. They included: Debert Airfield Infrastructure upgrades; proposed amendments to Dangerous and Unsightly premises procedure and Hub Centre Drive paving and street lighting. An agreement with Truro Flying Club's agreement to be airport operator, which had been finalized in council's in-camera session. Details of the agreement are contained in a separate story in this issue.

**Area taxation rates** for the municipality were ap-

proved for 2017-2018, remaining the same as 2016-2017, with only a couple of exceptions. In North River the fire protection rate was increased from 8 cents to 14 cents. In Valley, the cross-walk supervision charge of \$34 per household has been eliminated with the costs being transferred to the Active Transportation regular budget. The garbage/compost/disposal fee of \$110 per household remains unchanged. The charge is composed of: collection \$38.50; disposal \$29.50 and Composting \$42.00. Budgeted figures are based on 16,624 households in the municipality.

**Urban street lighting rate** has been reduced from three cents to two cents. In North River the area street lighting rate dropped from .05/\$100 to .03/\$100. Stewiacke East School enhancements area rate of .03 has been eliminated.

**Rotary Week** will be proclaimed annually for the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in April on an ongoing

basis a result of a letter from Ted Jordan, President, Rotary Club of Truro.

**Council will provide** a letter of support for the Community Support Network who are applying for funding through Nova Scotia Department of Community Services. The Colchester Sexual Assault Centre has been selected as the proponent to access funding for the area. Councillor Lloyd Gibbs voted "nay" on the motion.

**A sidewalk along** Highway 311 in North River, from the gravel pit to Molly's Dairy Bar has been added to the capital plan for consideration. The matter was raised by Councillor Ron Cavanaugh, who said with the number of children in the area and safety being an issue, many residents are once again requesting sidewalks.

**Other matters before** Council's May 25<sup>th</sup> meeting are presented in separate stories elsewhere in this issue.

## Baillie Announces Shadow Cabinet

Progressive Conservative Leader Jamie Baillie has announced the Official Opposition critic responsibilities. The responsibilities are: Jamie Baillie, Leader, MLA Cumberland South. Critic Responsibilities: Premier's Office; Executive Council; and Intergovernmental Affairs Pat Dunn, Deputy Leader, MLA Pictou Centre. Critic Responsibilities: Public Service Commission; and African Nova Scotian Affairs. Chris d'Entremont, House Leader, MLA Argyle-Barrington. Critic Responsibilities: Internal Services; Communications Nova Scotia; and Acadian Affairs and Francophonie.

Alfie MacLeod, Deputy House Leader, MLA Sydney River-Mira-Louisbourg. Critic Responsibilities: Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal; and Aboriginal Affairs. Karla MacFarlane, Caucus Chair, MLA Pictou West. Critic Responsibilities: Justice; Attorney General; and Military Relations.

Eddie Orrell, Whip, MLA Northside-Westmount. Critic Responsibilities: Labour and Advanced Education. Allan MacMaster, Chair of Public Accounts Committee, MLA Inverness. Critic Responsibilities: Energy; Service Nova Scotia; and Gaelic Affairs. John Lohr, MLA Kings North. Critic Re-

sponsibilities: Agriculture; Fisheries and Aquaculture; Immigration; and Labour Relations.

Tim Houston, MLA Pictou East, Public Accounts Committee member. Critic Responsibilities: Finance; Nova Scotia Liquor Corp.; and Regulatory Affairs and Service Effectiveness. Keith Bain, MLA Victoria-The Lakes. Critic Responsibilities: Natural Resources. Larry Harrison, MLA Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley. Critic Responsibilities: Communities, Culture and Heritage; and Seniors. Tim Halman, Deputy Caucus Chair, MLA Dartmouth East. Critic Responsibilities: Education and Early Childhood Development; and Youth. Kim Masland, Deputy Whip, MLA Queens-Shelburne. Critic Responsibilities: Environment.

Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin, MLA Cumberland North, Critic Responsibilities: Health and Wellness. Alana Paon, MLA Richmond. Critic Responsibilities: Business; Trade; Tourism Nova Scotia; Nova Scotia Business Inc.; and Innovacorp. Barbara Adams, MLA Cole Harbour-Eastern Passage. Critic Responsibilities: Community Services; and Advisory Council on the Status of Women. Brad Johns, MLA Sackville-Beaver Bank. Critic Responsibilities: Municipal Affairs; and Emergency Management Office.

## \$75,000 Approved For Facility Upgrade

By *Maurice Rees*

An information item circulated at council's committee meeting on June 15th stated: Anticipating council would want to implement modest site improvements to the former Palliser Property, staff applied to a Nova Scotia Recreation facility grant pro-

gram which resulted in approval of \$75,000, as 1/3 share.

While preparing the application, staff reviewed the proposed implementation plan contained in the recently completed Fundy Gateway Masterplan. A slightly revised version of this was presented at a Joint

Council Session in March of this year which highlighted the need for a few basic site amenities and services which included a washroom facility with service extensions, construction of a dike trail, a natural playground as well as connections to the Cobequid Trail. These were identified as

priority components throughout the consultation phase of the masterplan process.

To maximize the benefit of this funding opportunity, the Municipality would need to commit a minimum of \$150,000 towards the initial phase. Total net costs for this component is expected to be \$290,000.

## Taggart Appointed to Divert NS Board

By *Maurice Rees*

The annual general meeting of Divert NS held in Truro on June 22nd included Tom Taggart, councillor for Colchester District 10 being appointed to the Board of Directors and December Sampson, Cobequid Education Centre, Truro receiving one of six \$2,500 scholarships. Iain Rankin newly appointed Nova Scotia Minister of Environment also attended the AGM.

Board Chair, Leland Anthony, Yarmouth announced \$64,759 in funding to research Innovative Approaches to Value-Added Product Capture from Composting Municipal Source-Separated Organics. The project is a joint venture between Dalhousie University Agricultural Campus and Acadia University. Dr. Gordon Price and Dr. Paul Arnold, lead researchers on the project,

were present at the announcement, and Dr. Price presented the project scope.

The Divert NS Champion of the Environment Scholarship recipients were also announced, providing \$20,000 in scholarships for seven Grade 12 students, including six regional scholarships for \$2,500 each, and one provincial scholarship for \$5,000. 2017 Divert Nova Scotia Champion of the Environment Scholarship re-

ipients included: Provincial \$5,000 scholarship winner: Thomas King, Shelburne Regional High. Regional \$2,500 scholarship winners were: Mya McHugh, Strait Area Education-Recreation Centre; Paget Houston, North Nova Education Centre, New Glasgow; December Sampson, Cobequid Education Centre, Truro; Hannah Estabrook, Citadel High, Halifax; Rose Schoonhoven, Horton High,

Greenwich and Claudia Crocker, Islands Consolidated, Freeport

Taggart's appointment to the board was part of a ceremony which included Bill Morash, Farnell Packaging Limited, and Nick Moryto, Consultant, being reappointed for their second three-year term. Laurel Schut, Co-director of FOUND Forgotten Food and Dalhousie University's College of Sustainability is the other new board member.

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