

The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

Continued from page 16

Licensed Child Care Reopened June 15

Nova Scotia's licensed child care centres and family day-care homes reopened June 15 beginning at a minimum 50 per cent capacity and can move up to 100 per cent if they are able to meet public health's COVID-19 guidelines for child care settings. Family day-care homes will open at full capacity. All facilities must follow COVID-19 guidelines outlined by public health.

Based on these guidelines, all licensed child care providers were required to have an individual site-based plan in place to support reopening. Plans include measures such as: increased cleaning; staggered pick-up and drop-off times; limit the number of essential visitors entering the facility; have children sleep six feet apart during nap time; create groups so the same children are together every day; limit contact with other groups in the centre and practice social distancing among staff, visitors and other groups when and where possible.

Government will also provide hand sanitizer and single-use surgical masks to licensed facilities for the next six months. Families will not be required to pay fees if they cannot access their child care space or are not ready to return. Providers will receive funding on a sliding scale until September as they increase their capacity from 50 per cent in accordance with public health guidelines. Families are encouraged to talk to their providers regarding timing of re-enrolling their child in licensed child care. The public health guidelines for licensed child care are available at, <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/education>.

Camping Season Opened in June

The Shubenacadie Wildlife Park and Nova Scotia's 20 provincial camping parks reopened in June with new measures in place to ensure Nova Scotians can safely enjoy their visits. The wildlife park re-opened with reduced visitor capacity and modified hours to allow added time for cleaning. The park will open at 9 a.m. and close at 6 p.m. daily, with the final admissions at 5:30 p.m.

Provincial campgrounds opened June 15, at a reduced capacity. The number of available campsites has been reduced by 30 per cent to ensure physical distancing requirements are met. Campers can expect more frequent cleaning of common areas, signs to promote physical distancing and other healthy practices, and changes to the on-site check-in process to minimize physical contact with park employees.

Provincial campgrounds will only be open to Nova Scotians. Reservations from out of province visitors will not be accepted in accordance with public health orders. Only registered campers will be allowed to enter campgrounds.

Additional information Nova Scotia Provincial Parks website: <https://parks.novascotia.ca/>

Province Invests \$230 Million

Up to 2,000 local jobs will be created as Nova Scotians get back to work on more than 200 infrastructure projects across the province. The province is investing up to \$230 million to improve infrastructure and help get the economy moving again. The provincial stimulus investments come in addition to the record \$1 billion capital plan announced earlier this year.

The projects include new investments that can be started right away along with previously approved projects that will be accelerated or will receive increased funding under the plan. They include investments in: additional paving for 100 series highways and local roads across the province; expansion of the gravel road program; replacement of at least six bridges, including Dillmans, Meagher's Grant, HRM; Hydes, Lantz, Hants Co.; Clam Harbour, Clam Harbour, HRM; Capt. Gillis, near Port Hood in Inverness Co.; Nelson's, Margaree, Inverness Co.; Mira Gut, Cape Breton Regional Municipality; renovations and upgrades for the Halifax provincial court; school repairs, including roofs, windows and mechanical upgrades; provincial waterfronts.

Other investments include: provincial museum upgrades, including increased funding for Perkins House, Liverpool; four provincially owned small option homes; dyke rehabilitation at locations around the province and campus upgrades to the NSCC campuses. For more information, go to: <https://beta.novascotia.ca/>

Nova Scotians Encouraged to Support Local Tourism

Tourism Nova Scotia has launched a new marketing campaign encouraging Nova Scotians to explore the province and support local tourism businesses. Nova Scotia's tourism industry will rely more than ever on visitors from within the province," said Premier Stephen McNeil. "This year I invite Nova Scotians to travel within the province and rediscover the things that have drawn visitors here from all over the world."

The campaign includes television ads, digital banner ads and videos, search marketing and social media tactics that feature photos and videos created with local operators. The ads feature a brand new cover of the beloved song Somewhere Over the Rainbow by local musician Jennah Barry.

The Rediscover Nova Scotia Marketing Campaign can be viewed at <https://tourismns.ca/2020marketingcampaign>

RCMP Community Policing Resolution

By Maurice Rees

As one of four Nova Scotia municipal politicians who sit on the board of Federation of Canadian Municipalities Councillor Tom Taggart request Colchester Council send of letter to FCM approving their support for several FCM initiatives regarding RCMP policing contract and community policing.

Most of Taggart's recent efforts have focusing the following through on various activities since the April 18-19 mass murder which started in Portapique, including development of the Nova Scotia Remembers Legacy Society, location and construction of a monument, plus FCM's policing initiatives.

As part of his presentation Taggart noted the RCMP currently provides contract policing services to all Canadian provinces and territories, with the exception of Ontario and Quebec, covering 75% of Canada's geography, over one-fifth of Canada's population, and approximately 150 municipalities; the RCMP contract policing program operates under Provincial/Territorial Police Service Agreements (PPSA; PTSA) and Municipal Police Service Agreements (MPSA), through which provinces/territories and municipalities establish police resources, budgets, and priorities,

in consultation with the RCMP and the RCMP counts transfers, health-related absences, vacations, leaves, and other 'soft' vacancies towards meeting the agreed-upon Police Service Agreement (PSA) staffing levels.

Other points raised in his presentation included the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security concluded that effective crime reduction has four components, including adequate police resources, partnerships with communities, robust victim supports, and a justice system that inspires public confidence; the deadliest mass shooting in Canadian history has brought urgency to the issue of modernizing the RCMP; and the Black Lives Matter movement and calls to justice of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls are bringing to light the need to reform policing.

The background data supplied by FCM included four resolutions asking for support of FCM's initiatives to urge the federal government to work with the RCMP to amend the definition of staffing levels, under PPSAs, PTSAs, and MPSAs, to ensure transfers, health-related absences, vacations, leaves, and other 'soft' vacancies do not count towards staffing levels

under those agreements and urge the federal government to work with the RCMP and Canadian municipalities to increase RCMP graduation rates in order to ensure, adequate staffing in rural communities in a manner that integrates officers into those communities in order to maximize the prevention of crime and community safety.

The final requested resolution called upon the Federation of Canadian Municipalities urge

RCMP Injured in Great Village

By Maurice Rees

Great Village Firehall was used as a staging ground for RCMP when an incident occurred following two 911 calls about an unwanted person making threats at an area address. After a physical confrontation with the responding RCMP officer, the man barricaded himself in the house and threatened to harm himself

RCMP also closed Highway 2, which because of the April 18-19 mass murders in nearby Portapique caused near panic and plenty of worry for area residents. More Mounties responded to the scene, including a crisis negotiator and the Emergency Response Team (ERT).

A short time after the ERT surrounded the residence, the

the federal government to work with municipalities in order to modernize the RCMP contract policing program to ensure that the program provides not only police resources but also resources for partnership development with health and social service agencies at the local level, particularly those that are run by and serve black, indigenous and other racialized communities.

Council approved sending the letter of support as soon as possible to meet a deadline suggested by FCM.

man exited the residence and he was taken into custody. The police officer who initially responded to the scene sustained serious, nonlife-threatening injuries and was taken to hospital by EHS.

When released from hospital several hours later his injuries involved: staples in his head, lip glued back together, his face was swollen, bruised all over. He had to have x-rays of his face because they thought his orbital bone was broken and he received a serious concussion. No one else was injured.

The 49-year-old Great Village man is facing charges of uttering threats, assaulting a police officer causing bodily harm, and obstruction.

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