

Truro & Colchester
CHAMBER
of Commerce

Panel to Discuss Impacts of Rising Fuel Costs

(Our apology to Sherry Martell, and Chamber Members. This column was omitted in error from the June issue. Even though a few items will be out of date, we wanted to inform general public of the constant hard work performed every working day by Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce staff and volunteer committees. We promise to be more careful in future - (Maurice Rees, Publisher)

Watching neighbouring provinces set their fuel prices each week a day before ours, Thursday night lineups at local service stations have become the norm as we brace ourselves for more jumps in cost. Interrupter clauses have also been invoked on a regular basis as prices have tipped well over the \$2 per liter mark for gasoline and diesel.

This spike in costs at the pump is not only hitting people's allowance for commuting or weekend

leisure activities, but nearly every product and service on the market.

Many are wondering what is at the root of the increase in fuel, the wide sweeping impacts and when, if ever, we may experience relief.

The Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce has arranged a panel discussion to share timely information about impacts across various sectors, as well as to aid in understanding the reasons behind the historically high price per litre.

The panel will feature a commodities expert with RBC, along with representation from agriculture, trucking and transportation, retail and grocery and export and manufacturing.

The panel will be held virtually on Friday, June 17 at 11 a.m. For information on how to register visit www.trurocolchesterchamber.com.

During the month of



Sherry Martell

June, the Chamber will also be focusing on supporting tourism. We recognize that in this region there are more than 3,500 jobs directly related to the tourism industry, many of which are employed at our member businesses. We have collaborated with several partners to produce an Explore Central NS tourism guide for this season. About 25,000 of them will be distributed across the province in early June. If you would like to pick copies up to have at your business location, please reach out to us by phone 902-895-6328 or via email, oa@tcchamber.ca

Beginning in early June you will also see the Explore Central NS brand across social media platforms and on TV. Updates have been made to the Explore Central NS website and businesses may purchase advertising on the

site. An events calendar has also been added and we welcome anyone who is coordinating an event in the region to reach out and let us know so we can add it to the site.

Once again, the Chamber will be providing three, \$1,000 scholarships to students graduating in Colchester County. This has been a long-standing tradition for our chamber and is a commitment by our board and membership to continue to invest in our youth. We were very pleased to see students from our local community participate in our Mayors and Chief's breakfast and look forward to working with school officials on ways the business community could better support our youth.

As a business association, we are continuously listening to our members and working with our partners to assist them to grow and thrive.

For more information about the Chamber's activities and programs visit our website or call 902-895-6328.

Sherry Martell ACE (She/Her) is Executive Director, Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce, 105B Walker Street, Truro, NS, B2N 4B1 and can be reached at: ed@tcchamber.ca or 902-895-6328

Truro Heights Sewer to be Upgraded

By **Maurice Rees**

Public Works Director, Michele Boudreau was successful in her request to Colchester Council on June 23 to proceed with the three phases of the Truro Heights Sewer upgrades in fiscal 2022/23. Moving up to include all three phases was prompted by NSTIR advising her the roadway is scheduled to be repaved in 2023.

Background data concerning the sewer line project included the main sewer line running down Truro Heights Road from Truro Heights Connector Road to Lower Truro Road requires an upsizing to support future potential development in the area. The total length of the subject sewer line is 1.9km.

This shortcoming in the sewer system was identified

in 2014/15, when a very large development was being proposed. At the time, a 3-phase project to upgrade the sewer system on Truro Heights Road was included in the capital budget, with work to take place over 3 construction seasons.

Shortly after capital budget approval, the proposed development was withdrawn, and the project no longer became critical. Since that time, the sewer upgrade project has been included in the 5-year capital budget in anticipation of large subdivision applications, however none materialized.

Therefore, the project has been bumped ahead each year. Council's approved capital budget includes Phases 1,

2 and 3 of the sewer replacement project, to occur between fiscal 2022/23 and 2024/25.

Boudreau informed council NS Public Works has recently advised that Truro Heights Road will be repaved during the 2023 construction season, which has a potential impact on the sewer upgrade project. It would be less than ideal to dig up new asphalt for the sewer upgrade project.

Council agreed with Boudreau it would be best to complete the sewer work prior to repaving. She informed council that is the quotes come in far above budgeted amount, they could cancel the job and not award the job.

Council's approved capital

budget includes: Phase 1 of the Truro Heights Sewer Upgrade project in fiscal 2022/23, at an estimated cost of \$570,000 (50% Gas Tax and 50% Sewer Capital). Phase 2 of the sewer upgrade project is included in fiscal 2023/24 at a cost of \$511,000 (100% Gas Tax), and Phase 3 is included in fiscal 2024/25 at a cost of \$393,000 (50% Sewer Capital, 50% Gas Tax).

Indications from Corporate Services (finance) suggested if the work proceeds the project can be funded 50% from Gas Tax and 50% from Sewer Capital.

I can't carry 10 litres of gasoline. But Jerry can.

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Colchester
be centred here.

Presentation Meeting
Tuesday, August 2 @ 6pm
(call ahead to confirm)

Council Committee Meeting
Thursday, August 11 @ 6pm

Council Meeting
Thursday, August 25 @ 6pm

Municipality of Colchester, 1 Church Street, Truro
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