

# Truro & Colchester CHAMBER of Commerce

## If "NO" You Are Missing Out - Big Time

By Sherry Martell

Have you attended a Chamber event this year? If you answer "no," you are missing out. Every year, the Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce hosts more than 30 events that include roundtables, breakfasts and lunches with themed speakers, workshops and educational sessions, along with some of our marquee events such as our Small Business Awards, Annual

Gala and Awards, Mayors and Chief's Breakfast and Golf tournament.

So why is this important to a busy business person? We provide opportunities for you to grow your connections, meet new suppliers and customers and to learn about programs that benefit you.

In the past three weeks there were more than 350 chances to make a new connection. We have built in



Sherry Martell

more time for networking in our event planning and always do our best to help make connections between guests.

It was especially meaningful for our Chamber to host our Annual Mayors and Chief's breakfast in Millbrook First Nation for the first time also

marking the kick off of National Indigenous History Month. We heard updates about community initiatives from Millbrook First Nation Chief Bob Gloade, and all three municipal mayors including Town of Truro Bill Mills, Colchester County Mayor Christine Blair, and Stewiacke Mayor George Lloy.

This was the last official Mayors and Chief's breakfast that Mayor Mills and Mayor Lloy will participate in as they will not be reoffering during this year's fall municipal elections.

The Chamber will be hosting a member's barbecue and luau on July 4 in partnership with Warmth by Design and Coldstream. This event is for members and their guests and a portion of the proceeds from the night will be donated to Scotia Pool in Bible Hill. This will be a great opportunity to

also learn about our new Chamber Perks App and our group trip to Ireland in the spring of 2025.

The menu will include a pulled pork, baked potato station, salads, rolls and cupcakes. We will also have live entertainment by Craig the Pilot. Tickets cost \$25 each and can be booked by visiting [www.trurocolchesterchamber.com](http://www.trurocolchesterchamber.com). Please join us for an evening for great food, fun and a prize for the best Hawaiian

outfit.

Our Explore Central NS tourism guides are hot off the press. Anyone wanting to have them placed at their business is welcome to reach out to the Chamber office by calling 902-895-6328.

**Sherry Martell is Executive Director of the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce and can be reached at [ed@tcchamber.ca](mailto:ed@tcchamber.ca) or 902-895-6328**



The Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce hosted a Tourism Discover Session in Truro on June 17 designed to educate front-end staff at tourism related businesses such as Visitor Information Centres, restaurants, hotels, etc., about local attractions. Jenna Verner of the Fundy Geological Centre spoke to the group about all there is to see and do in and around Parrsboro. (Contributed)



On June 13, Executive Director Sherry Martell attended the Nova Scotia Cooperative Council's 75th AGM. To mark the special occasion a book was written by Alec Bruce, 'The Cooperators: The People Behind the Rebirth of a Nova Scotia Movement, 1949-2024'. Bruce signed copies for guest and spoke briefly about his writing process. (Contributed)

## Geoff Stewart named President

The Municipality of Colchester's Deputy Mayor, Geoff Stewart, was recently named President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) at the organization's annual conference held, June 6-9, 2024. After rising through the ranks and completing terms as 3rd Vice President in 2021, 2nd Vice President in 2022, and 1st Vice President in 2023, Stewart is now the national organization's new leader. This is the first time that a representative from the Municipality of Colchester has held this position in the 123-year history of the FCM.

"I am extremely proud and honoured to have earned the trust and support of my peers to become President of the FCM Board. This is an organization that I am very passionate about and one that I believe can effect real change in municipalities all across Canada. I am especially proud to represent my home Municipality of Colchester in this important work and thank my family, municipal colleagues and staff who have supported me on this journey," says Deputy Mayor Stewart.

FCM advocates for municipalities across the country and ensures citizens' needs are reflected in federal policies and programs. It has been the national voice of municipal government since 1901. Members include more than 2,100 mu-



Deputy Mayor Stewart being presented with the President's Pin by now Past President Scott Pearce at the FCM Conference. (Contributed)

nicipalities of all sizes, from Canada's cities, and rural communities, to northern communities including 20 provincial and territorial municipal associations. Together, they represent more than 92 percent of all Canadians from coast to coast to coast.

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**NO COUNCIL EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 2024**

**UPCOMING IN AUGUST 2024**

**Presentations Meeting**  
Tuesday, Aug 6 @ 6pm

**Council Committee Meeting**  
Thursday, Aug 15 @ 6pm

**Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, Aug 29 @ 6pm

Municipality of Colchester, 1 Church Street, Truro  
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## The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

Continued from page 8

**MOVEit Public Report Released**

Nova Scotia has strengthened government's cybersecurity and improved the Province's ability to respond to cyberthreats since Nova Scotians' personal information was stolen in the MOVEit breach one year ago. The Province is also committed to further action on the evolving issues around cybersecurity as outlined in its final report on the breach, released today, May 29.

"I'd love to be able to say we will never face another cybersecurity breach. Cyberthreats are unfortunately a reality in the world we now live in. Everyone - governments, private companies and people - are all at risk. We must take steps to protect ourselves," said Cyber Security and Digital Solutions Minister Colton LeBlanc. "We learned important lessons from the MOVEit breach and our response to it. We made changes immediately, and we'll continue to strengthen our defences to keep Nova Scotians' information as safe as we can."

The Province has already acted on recommendations in the report. The recommendations include: enhance security within the MOVEit file transfer system; improve how data is classified and managed; ensure there is enhanced capacity to respond to large-scale breaches; continuously review and adapt the overall cybersecurity strategy to strengthen the ability to respond to large-scale events- require all staff to take mandatory cybersecurity awareness training every year and work closely with other jurisdictions, across Canada and around the world, to share information and build capacity in Nova Scotia. In total, responding to the MOVEit breach cost \$3.8 million.

**Province Renews Commitment to Mi'kmaw Students**

Mi'kmaw students who attend Nova Scotia's public schools will continue to receive programs and services they need to learn, grow and thrive with the signing of the most recent Mi'kmaq Education Agreement. Becky Druhan, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, and Chief Leroy Denny, Chair, Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey, signed the agreement today, May 30.

"For more than 25 years, we have had exceptional partners in education with Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey. We have worked together to enhance the education experience for Mi'kmaw students and enrich public schools by increasing the knowledge and understanding of L'nu ways of being and knowing, culture, language and history," said Minister Druhan. "We look forward to our continued partnership, which is helping to build a more inclusive education system that meets the needs of all Nova Scotian students."

The five-year agreement helps guide public school programs and services to support Mi'kmaw students who are members of Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey communities. It ensures there are opportunities for Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey to participate in decisions that impact Nova Scotia's education system. The agreement also provides guidelines for improved information sharing between the Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey on-reserve education system and the public school system to help smooth the transition for students from one to the other. Nova Scotia was the first jurisdiction

**2SLGBTQIA+ Action Plan Engagement**

The Province is creating an action plan to address the needs and concerns of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. The Office of Equity and Anti-Racism has started public engagement on development of the plan, part of the Equity and Anti-Racism Strategy released in July 2023.

"Hate and inequity have no place in our province. As leaders in addressing these issues, it is important that we start by asking how we can do a better job of serving all Nova Scotians," said Barbara Adams, Minister responsible for the Office of Equity and Anti-Racism. "By listening and going directly to the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, we can make government policies and programs more inclusive and improve people's lives."

Community organizations will conduct engagement sessions with the people they serve. The engagement will also include an online survey to collect ideas, demographic data and information about experiences with government programs and services, and the Office will lead three virtual sessions open to the broader rainbow community. The 2SLGBTQIA+ community has experienced a concerning increase in acts of hate since 2019 and has identified other issues, including service gaps and barriers to accessing health, employment and justice services and opportunities, to be addressed.

**Premier Announces Senior Public Service Appointments**

Premier Tim Houston announced two key appointments