

# OSCO Poll Responses from Candidates

See Little Dyke story on page 6.

Following the Little Dyke public meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup>, the Shoreline Journal reached out to candidates for the three mainline parties. The following questions were sent to Karen Casey, (LIB); James Finnie, (NDP) and Rebecca Taylor, (PC) concerning the intention of Irving-owned OSCO Ready-Mix, Glenholme to expand its aggregates operation to 10 times its current level.

Completed responses were received from candidates Finnie and Taylor. Karen Casey quickly sent a statement, which had been included in the story printed elsewhere, but indicated she might not have time to answer each question individually.

On Sunday morning, May 21<sup>st</sup>, she again replied: My time has been pre-determined and I am incredibly busy on the campaign trail spending time speaking with residents of Colchester North. I remain committed to working hard on behalf of the local residents in the area to reach a favourable outcome.

Here are the responses from candidates Finnie and Taylor:

Do you support the residents' request for a moratorium on expansion of the Glenholme Ready Mix / OSCO-IRVING OWNED Ready Mix gravel pit in the Little Dyke / Glenholme area? **(YES or NO)**

**(Finnie/NDP)** - Yes

**(Taylor/PC)** - We support community input.

If permission is given to expand the gravel pit, should it be permitted to operate 24 hours a day? **(YES or NO)**

**(Finnie/NDP)** - No

**(Taylor/PC)** - Time of operation should be determined in public consultation and in compliance with bylaws and legal requirements.

What consideration should be given to protection of "species at risk" for both plants or animals?

**(Finnie/NDP)** - Protection of the environment should be the priority overriding any commercial decision

**(Taylor/PC)** - Endangered

Species legislation, both provincial and federal must be followed by any developer. Being in contravention of these laws would severely limit or stop development.

Do "endangered species" concerns rate higher than corporate interests? **(YES or NO)**

**(Finnie/NDP)** - YES, Definitely.

**(Taylor/PC)** - YES

If permission to expand is granted what times, in the 24 hour clock, should it not be permitted to operate?

**(Finnie/NDP)** - It should not be allowed to operate between the hours of 17.00 & 08.00. It should also not be allowed to operate on weekends.

**(Taylor/PC)** - Time of operation should be determined in public consultation along with existing by laws and legal requirements.

What permitting process should be invoked at the regulatory level to ensure local residents' feelings and opinions are part of the process?

**(Finnie/NDP)** - Any body or committee should contain representatives of the residents association with the right of veto.

**(Taylor/PC)** - Local residents should be part of the public consultations.

Do you think a 76-acre gravel pit should be permitted within 100 feet of a marine habitat that contains "species at risk and "Endangered Species" **(Yes or NO)**

**(Finnie/NDP)** - NO, NEVER.

**(Taylor/PC)** - This is not a question of politics or opinion. Scientific expertise and application of existing laws should be the fundamental basis of deciding whether the location of this development is appropriate near a marine habitat, with or without species at risk/endangered.

If not, should legislation be changed to forbid a commercial enterprise from excavating land less than 500 feet from a marine habitat? **(Yes or NO)**

**(Finnie/NDP)** - Yes legisla-

tion should be changed, even 500' is not far enough.

**(Taylor/PC)** - No response.

Do you feel corporate operations of this nature, which may endanger a marine habitat, are conducive to the sustainable economic development of West Colchester?

**(Finnie/NDP)** - A commercial operation which is going to destroy the environment can never be conducive to the sustainable economic development of West Colchester.

**(Taylor/PC)** - I support sustainable development that meets the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

How much consideration should be given to local residents / landowners representing at least 60% of the properties bordering on this marine habitat?

**(Finnie/NDP)** - Large corporations should not be allowed to dictate the terms of any operation or expansion which would have detrimental effects on both the environment and residents/landowners quality of life. We live in an age where our environment is under constant relentless attack. Only by standing together against corporate pressure can we hope to save our precious natural resources and environment for future generations. We only have one planet. It is time to start taking care of it.

**(Taylor/PC)** - The effectiveness of a thorough environmental assessment process relies heavily on the views of local residents, particularly regarding the adverse affects upon them. It is not an easy decision, but the voices of people in the area are very important and we strongly urge that residents speak up and use the guidance provided above to do so as effectively as possible. We support sustainable development and that requires the input of citizens as well as science, economics and law.

# Colchester North 39 Years Old - 1978-2013

By Maurice Rees

For 111 years following Confederation 1867 until 1978 the electoral district of Colchester comprised the entire County and elected one member of the Nova Scotia House of Assembly. Then, in 1978 the boundaries were changed.

In 1978, Colchester was divided into three electoral districts, Colchester North, Colchester South, and Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook. With the provincial election for May 30th underway the Shoreline Journal did a historical analysis of the Colchester North riding researching voter patterns for the past 39 years, since 1978.

The popular vote, by a winning candidate shows Ed Lorraine having the lowest percentage of popular vote at 39.13% in the 1998 election, which was his last election before retiring. As the longest serving MLA for Colchester North he reached his pinnacle of popularity with 54.39% in 1993. He earned his title as the longest serving MLA, 14 years with two stints, 1981-1984 and 1988-1999.

Karen Casey has matched Ed Lorraine's span of continuous service of 11 years with her service from 2006 until present. If she wins the upcoming election she will need to serve at least three more years to be the longest serving MLA in number of years, but she would do it in continuous service.

Since becoming its own constituency in 1978, Colchester North has elected: William Campbell, (PC) 1978-1981; Ed Lorraine (Lib) 1981-1984; Jack Coupar (PC), 1984-1988; Ed Lorraine, (Lib), 1988-1999; Bill Langille, (PC), 1999-2006 and Karen Casey from 2006 until present.

As the constituency of Colchester North, the 1978 election saw William Campbell (PC) attract 3447 (49.36%); Liberal, Floyd Tucker with 3023 (43.30%), while Peter Robben carrying the NDP flag garnered 512 (7.33%). Total election expenses submitted to Elections Nova Scotia was \$19,334.94 with the Liberals spending \$12,336; PC's, \$6,736.10 and NDP, \$262.60.

In the 1981 election Ed Lorraine won the seat for the Liberals (3182 votes - 42.54%) beating PC's incumbent candidate, William Campbell (3171 votes - 42.39%) by 11 votes. NDP candidate Alan Marchback captured 1126 (15.05%) votes of 7479 total votes cast. The three candidates had total expenses of \$39,398. Broken down by candidate the expenses were Campbell, \$11,706;

Lorraine, \$22,036 and Marchbank, \$5,856.

In the 1984 election PC, Jack Coupar garnered 3796 (46.64%) of the 8138 votes cast, while Ed Lorraine at 3636 (44.67%) was 160 votes short. Alan Marchbank, who ran again for the NDP attracted 706 (8.67%). 1984 election expenses totaled \$59,709, a 51.55% increase over 1981. The PC's spent \$27,960; the Liberals \$25,079 and \$6,670 by the NDP.

In 1988 Ed Lorraine turned the tables on PC's, Jack Coupar willing by a margin of 163 votes, three more than he lost in 1984. Of the 9135 votes cast, voter attraction was Ed Lorraine 4,260 (46.63%); Jack Coupar, PC, 4097 (44.85%). Alan Marchbank, representing the NDP for the third time snagged 778 votes (8.52%). In 1988 election expenses show a total of \$72,877 was spent by the three parties in Colchester North: Coupar's, PC's \$32,349; Lorraine's, Liberals \$27,948 and Marchback's, NDP's \$2,580.

In 1993 Ed Lorraine was re-elected with 5123 (54.27%) of 9439 votes cast beating PC candidate, Tom Taggart, 3306 (35.02%), while Patsy Forrest running as the NDP candidate ended up with 1010 (10.7%). Election expenses totaled \$64,914, a drop of \$7,963 from the 1988 election. Liberals spent \$32,962; Progressive Conservatives, \$27,550 and the NDP, \$4,502.

The 1998 election was held March 24th with Ed Lorraine the victor with 3301 (39.13%) of 8435 votes cast, beating Janet Maybee, NDP, 2623 (31.09%) and PC candidate, Andy Williamson, who attracted 2511 (29.76%). Election expenses totaled \$68,636, broken down as follows: Liberals, \$27,204; PC, \$27,279 and NDP, \$14,153.

16 months later 1999 saw voters returning to the polls on July 27th. It was the first time since 1984 Ed Lorraine was not a candidate. John Davidson took the helm for the Liberals, but was unsuccessful succumbing to PC candidate, Bill Langille. Langille received 3728 (44.31%) of 8413 votes, with John Davidson finishing in third place for the Liberals at 2274 (27.03%) with NDP's Ralph Martin finishing second with 2411 (28.65%). Election expenses came in at \$82,370 broken down as follows: PC's \$31,520; Liberal, \$29,702 and NDP,

\$21,148.

In 2003 voter turn-out was 1046 less than 1999. On August 5, 2003 voters re-elected Bill Langille, PC, with 3324 (45.12%) of 7367 votes cast, while John Davidson gathered 2187 (29.69%) with Garfield Forrest, the NDP candidate finishing third at 1860 (25.25%) votes. Election expenses totaled \$81,787, broken down as follows: PC's, \$41,589; Liberals, \$20,588 and NDP, \$19,611.

With Bill Langille not the PC candidate in the June 13, 2006 election, it was time for Karen Casey to lead the PC team and she did so capturing 50.96% of total votes cast. Of 7494 voted counted, Casey garnered 3809 (50.96%), while Bob Taylor, carrying the Liberal banner, received 1979 (26.47%) and Rob Assels, representing the NDP finished third at 1511 (20.21%) votes. In 2006 the allowable election expense format changed with expense limit by all parties being \$60,863.97 for 13,001 registered voters. 56.97% of eligible voters cast ballots in the 2006 election.

In the June 9, 2009 election there were a total of 46 polling stations for 13,686 voters of which 7609 (55.60%) people exercised their right to vote. When votes were counted, Karen Casey, the PC candidate emerged the victor with 3784 (50.16%) votes, while Arthur Hartlen, for the NDP attracted 2354 votes (31.20%); with Lorenda Ebbett carrying the Liberal banner finishing third with 1243 (16.48%) votes. Judy Davis running for the Green Party finished with 163 votes (2.16%). The summary of election expenses were not listed on the Elections Nova Scotia website, as in previous elections.

The most recent provincial election was held October 8, 2013 with 13,961 eligible voters with 8249 (59.09%) casting ballots. Karen Casey, now carrying the Liberal banner, having crossed the floor almost two years earlier, increased her margin to 60.95% (5005 votes), while J.K. MacDonald (now deceased) attracted 2167 votes (26.39%) for the PC's. Jim Wyatt, Portapique, carrying the NDP banner attracted 1040 votes (12.66%).

In the current election campaign, Colchester North candidates are: Karen Casey, incumbent, for the Liberals; Rebecca Taylor, PC's and James Finnie, NDP.

# Committee Recommendations Approved

By Maurice Rees

The April 27th monthly meeting of Colchester Municipal Council confirmed five recommendations made at the April 12th committee meeting. The recommendations, covered in the May issue of the Shoreline Journal, included the following:

Debert Archaeology Program 2017 the testing of: 20 acres north of Tim Hortons and on the east side of McElmon Road; 10 acres west of McElmon Road, fronting on Highway 104; and lots 226 and 227 on Lancaster Crescent. Cost of the work to be

recorded as a deferred expense until the land is sold.

Kemptown/East Mountain Sewer Boundary approved the Sewer Area Rate for the Kemptown/East Mountain Sewer Boundary be applied to only those currently connected or to those who connect in future.

Bay of Fundy Gateway Project the report entitled the "Fundy Gateway Masterplan" be accepted as a concept document to inform the phased development of the former Palliser sight.

RECC Annual Reconciliation of Capital Expenditures:

\$14,222 plus HST be reimbursed to the Rath Eastlink Community Center in accordance with the Operating Agreement for fiscal 2016 - 2017.

Sponsorship Request - Association of Municipal Administrators Nova Scotia (AMANS) \$5,000 for the Association of Municipal Administrators Nova Scotia 2017 annual provincial conference being held in Truro.

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