

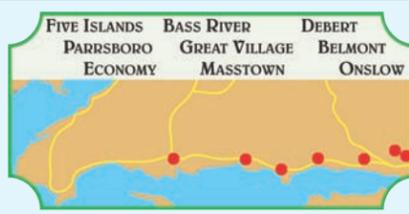
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FRONT PAGE BRIEFS June 2020

Stress Relief: A recent study has found women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.

Each July we publish photos of area elementary students (Debert, Chiganois, Great Village, Bass River, Parrsboro, and Advocate, who will be transferring to Junior High School. Since the schools are closed obtaining photos of graduating students will not be possible. We wish to continue the annual tradition and encourage parents to send photo of their family member and we will publish free-of-charge in the July issue. Please submit photo, with name by June 10th to: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

After a lengthy discussion on May 21st Colchester council, at the urging of Councillor Tom Taggart, agreed any funds it receives as relief funds for the mass murder victims on April 18 & 19th will be held in trust and then passed on to the **Nova Scotia Remembers Legacy Society** once it completes its formalization and has obtained charitable society status.

Debris from the houses, buildings and vehicles which were torched in Portapique on April 18th has been cleaned up. Area Councillor Tom Taggart provided an update to council on May 21st and also stated a large refuse container has been placed in the area for local residents to dispose of any items connected with the tragic situation. The container was donated by one of the Recycling companies and will be hauled away at no charge.

Repaving of the entrance roads into the Fundy Discovery Site has been completed. Councillor Bill Masters commented on the vast improvement accessing the iconic site.

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Small gestures can mean so much in times of crisis. The Little Free Library in Great Village was temporarily repurposed with food items during the Covid-19 pandemic. (Harrington Photo)

Gloade and Casey Concur "Bias and Distortion"

By Maurice Rees
Bob Gloade, Millbrook chief and former MP, Bill Casey agree Millbrook was cheated out of relocating the Truro-based 911 Emergency Call centre to lands owned by the band located six kilometers to the westerly side of its current location. Chief Gloade is reported to saying, "Competition for new N.S. RCMP dispatch centre 'falsely stacked' against First Nation's bid" while former Liberal MP Bill Casey says "They cheated Millbrook First Nation out of a chance at this". Using words like "distorted

and biased," to express his disappointment, Chief Gloade wants the site selection process to be re-done. Casey maintains the RCMP manipulated the competition to get a pre-determined outcome and make the centre operational at the 80 Garlands Avenue, Dartmouth location in 2021. The battle over relocation has been ongoing since the Nova Scotia RCMP announced in 2019 that it had decided to move its communications centre from Truro, N.S., to the RCMP's provincial headquarters in Dartmouth.

Chief Gloade wrote Public Safety Minister Bill Blair on March 25th pointing out according to information in an RCMP internal report, the RCMP added \$1.6 million to Millbrook First Nation's proposal while listing zero rent for its preferred option — the headquarters in Dartmouth. He added, "Millbrook First Nation provided a proposal in good faith, but we now know that the competition was falsely stacked, which creates a situation of distortion and bias". The centre handles 911

calls, calls from the public and handles dispatches for 54 detachments and districts. The RCMP reviewed six options before deciding on its headquarters, according to an internal 2017 report, but opponents to the review outcome claim the RCMP report assigned an extra \$1.6 million to every relocation except its headquarters option. While the RCMP claimed "zero" rent for the Dartmouth location, according to Public Works records the cost of rental space in the building

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An artist conception of a Basket Handle Bridge submitted by COWI engineering is shown in place spanning 110 meters over the Salmon River from the Fundy Discovery site, former Palliser Property, to the dyke across the river. (Submitted)

Basket Handle Steel Arch Bridge May Cost \$6-5-Million

By Maurice Rees
A basket handle steel arch bridge design to cross the Salmon River at the Fundy Discovery Site was the choice of councillors during the resumption of a Special Council meeting on May 7th. The chosen design is pegged at \$6.5-Million compared to the alternative Single Steel Arch design which was estimated at \$7.2-Million. The item presented by Paul Smith was originally slated for the April 30th meeting, but was deferred to May 7th, when the meeting exceeded agreed time limits. Smith's intention was to provide Council with an update and recommendation on a recent presentation and report to the Bridge Steering Committee by COWI engineering on the preliminary design and Class "D" costing of two potential bridge designs for the Fundy Discovery Site. At their regular monthly meeting in March of 2020, Council agreed with the recommendation of the Bridge Steering Committee to award a contract to COWI Engineering of Halifax for the design of

the pedestrian bridge planned for the Fundy Discovery Site. The bridge is a major infrastructure investment at the site and is intended to become an iconic landmark that serves a multitude of purposes. The Bridge Steering Committee is comprised of Deputy Mayor Stewart and Councillor Masters who have served on the masterplan committee since its inception in 2016. Staff members include Michelle Newel, Crawford Macpherson, Hilary Paquet and Paul Smith. The budget had been developed through a previous scoping study pre-

pared by Harbourside Engineering in 2015 which outlined probable costs for several structure designs spanning 110 meters over the Salmon River. Smith reported the preliminary design options have been developed and based on several criteria that includes: architectural design respecting the vision for the site; potential for the bridge to become an iconic landmark; durability with low maintenance costs, safe and separated pedestrian and cyclist traffic, lighting options, accessibility, structural capacity to

allow maintenance vehicles cross, and constructability with consideration given to local capabilities to do the work. Among the advantages highlighted by Smith in his presentation to council he hailed the Basket Handle Steel Arch which is slated to cost \$6.5-Million as: Less expensive than Option 2, \$700,000 less; Flexible deck space for events and programs; Ease of snow-clearing and Excellent lighting options. He did list shortfalls such as: No integrated viewing platform

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Nova Scotia Remembers Legacy Society

By Maurice Rees
Establishing "Nova Scotia Remembers Legacy Society" a non-profit organization will happen soon, if Tiffany Ward, Economy achieves her aspirations. Ward, Economy was the inspirational leader whose efforts resulted in "Nova Scotia Remembers" going from a thought to reality. Along the way she gathered support from Cee Van den Hoek, Great

Village Antiques Exchange and Jonathan Torrens who lives in Onslow and became famous for his role in Trailer Park Boys. When the trio got started they reached out to colleagues and friends, resulting in a national CBC-TV broadcast inclusive of many leading Canadian artists, the Prime Minister, Premier and host of other dignitaries. But Ward, with her vision, compassion and effort wasn't

done. Soon she was working on and achieving almost instant success to establish a non-profit organization tentatively called, Nova Scotia Remembers Legacy Society. The purpose of the organization will be to receive donations and raise funds in other ways to be managed and used for the benefit of (and in honour of) the families and communi-

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