

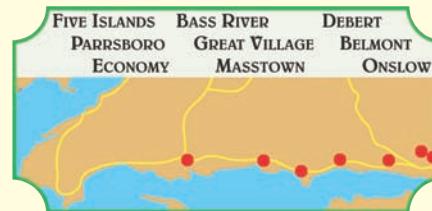


The Shoreline Journal

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FRONT PAGE BRIEFS

June 2023

We apologize if... you sent something to us and it is not in this issue. We were among the unfortunate ones to suffer a major computer crash. During the ordeal, we were without a computer for five days just before deadline. Thanks to Donald Cox, Fail-Safe Computers, who spent countless hours recovering data; building a new computer and transferring as much data as he could recover to the new machine. Now I am trying to learn the new updated version of Windows 10 and trying to find my older files. A computer crash is not something I would wish on my worst enemy, but am sincere in my apology for what is missing.

The sixth and final public open house session for Colchester's Municipal Planning Strategy initiative will be held Wednesday, June 7, 6:30-8:00pm at the Debert Legion. A similar event was held in Economy on May 9th drawing the largest crowd of the previous five public meetings.

Wentworth Recreation Centre Show and Shine will be held June 24th at 13752 HWY 4 Wentworth, NS. Breakfast @ 9am at Rec. Ctr. Canteen available all day!!! Show & Shine on the ball field 10 AM until 4 PM. For additional info contact: Sandra: (902) 899-8583, Email: sandra.mayne@ns.sympatico.ca

The last in a series of public meetings on Colchester's develop of a master plan and land use by-law will be held on June 7th from 6:30pm to 8pm at the Debert Legion. A similar meeting in Economy earlier in May attracted the largest crowd up to that time of five previous public meetings held around the municipality. See story elsewhere in this issue.

Grand Opening of Hearts Haven Memorial Park along Plains Road, Debert is planned for Sunday, July 23rd.

Bible Hill Village's annual meeting is being held on Monday, June 5, at 7pm, at H. Douglas Boyce Village Hall, 69 Pictou Road, Bible Hill. All are welcome.

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FCM Resolution – RCMP Retro Pay Costly

By Maurice Rees

Municipalities across Canada are in a pickle. The Federal Government, in its wisdom, finalized a new contract with the RCMP that included \$-Millions in back pay for the years starting in 2017, plus a hefty increase going forward. What was missing during the discussions was any representation from the Federal of Canadian Municipalities, whose members, across Canada will have to cough up

tax dollars to cover the "back pay", plus a significant increase going forward.

Deputy Mayor Geoff Stewart introduced a motion and received council's approval for Colchester to join FCM to include representatives from FCM in future negotiations. Stewart and Mayor Blair sit on the national FCM Board of Directors. Stewart is in line to become FCM Chair during the change-over in June 2025. At end of June (this month) he

moves from 2nd vice-president to 1st vice-president.

Today, the RCMP does federal, provincial, municipal and Indigenous policing in Nova Scotia through 53 detachments around the province, employing some 1,500 people, both uniformed and civilian. Nine municipalities in the province contract directly with the RCMP for municipal police services.

When Stewart was asked how much the retro-active pay

settlement will mean for Colchester he said it has been finalized, but it has been confirmed the municipalities who contract directly with the RCMP will face a cost of \$1.6-Million, plus the increased costs going forward.

The contract which became official in 2022 saw an increase of 11% across the board. At that time Colchester was paying \$5.2-million for policing costs. Based on these

continued on page 7

MMC Recommendations Part 1 of 4

This month the Shoreline Journal begins a four part series of the 130 recommendations contained in the Mass Murder Commission's Final Report. This segment contains the first 29 of 130 recommendations. Additional segments will be published in the July, August and September issues. This month the recommendations are contained on Pages 12 & 17 - easy to "pull-out and save".

We might not agree totally with the entirety or feel the recommendations were not as "inclusive" as we personally desired, but "It is the responsibility of everyone to study the recommendations and to use this publishing of the recommendations as a yardstick to hold those who bear responsibility for implementation to do so efficiently and in a timely manner.



Michael van den Hoek of Lowland Gardens delivered all the flowers and helped get them laid out as planned. The different plants should keep the garden blooming with colour all spring and summer.

See more photos on page 14. (Harrington Photo)

Hearts Haven Memorial Park to open July 23

By Linda Harrington

Work continues at Hearts Haven Memorial Park along Plains Road, Debert with a Grand Opening planned for Sunday, July 23rd.

The Park has been designed by the families of Kristen Beaton, a VON health-care worker who was pregnant with her second child, and Heather O'Brien, who was a VON nurse. They were both killed by a mass shooter on April 19, 2020 and there have been memorial sites along Plains Road since the tragedy. This beautiful Park will be away to honor their memory with a peaceful place for the community to enjoy nature and for families to bring their children to play.

An initial concept for the Memorial Park was created with direct input from the families, and Cobequid Consulting putting their visions onto paper and created the overall design with a gar-

den area on the east side of the brook in memory of Heather O'Brien, and a playground area on the west side of the brook in memory of Kristen Beaton. A crusher-dust 1.5km walking trail with two loops connects these areas, and a bridge will cross a brook located in the middle.

There have been many fund raisers and thousands of dollars in donations (both financial and in kind) received to meet the \$240,000 cost of the Park. One example of a heartfelt donation can be seen along the trail, where you will find two beautiful wooden benches donated by Colin Gero, who donated both his time and materials.

There have been a few setbacks during construction. The first was damage to trails after Hurricane Fiona and then two 18ft steel beams,

continued - with photos - on page 14

By Mitchell Bell, CPA, CA

Following the conclusion of nomination period for two Commissioners to serve on the Bible Hill Village Commission, the Clerk and Treasurer confirms that three nominations have been received. Accordingly, an election will be held to determine the successful candidates.

The nominated candidates are: Hema Chopra, Daniel Dwight Giddens and Tim Shea. An election will be held as follows: Advance Polling Day - Tuesday, June 6, between the

continued on page 3

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