

News from our Provincial Capital
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times short notice and were not that well attended. As I have stated before, it is hard to get folks to step up and ask for help. I am told that men from age 35 to 60 are the hardest to get to ask for help. Please step up!!! There is no stigma! Mental Health is a very serious HEALTH condition and is no different than any other medical condition.

On Thursday May 11, I replaced Minister Comer as he was ill and chaired a round table discussion with Federal Minister Bennett and invited mental health and community leaders to discuss and understand what might be the best path forward. It was a very interesting and learning opportunity for me. That has led to what I see as a wonderful opportunity for what I will call "Community Revitalization" I cannot take too much of the credit for this as it was actually a local community member who really brought this to my attention.

One of the pieces that I noted or liked the most about when the funding was announced was that they would access the needs and build programs to fit. I have suggested, especially given the difficulty in getting folks to step forward and ask for support that we begin by engaging and working within individual communities along the shore to become active and engaging with each other. There are lots of ways to make people well that are not considered "Clinical". In my work and travels, I often hear the term "Social Determinates of Health" I have asked for financial support to work within our rural communities to provide social and recreational opportunities with no cost to the participants. With the support of the Minister and Department of Addictions and Mental Health

I will soon be having what we may call "A tea and a Talk" meetings along the shore. The goal will be to see what the communities want for youth or adult recreational or social activities. Is it baseball or soccer, maybe Pickle Ball, which I know absolutely nothing about, but seems to be all the rage these days especially for Seniors. Is it card parties or checkers? What about activities that will bring both seniors and youth together? That is what we will be asking, we will then put together a funding request to support these activities.

I have asked the Along the Shore Health Board to assist in facilitating and putting the plan and funding request together. They have a network of current organizations. Additionally, I will work with staff from Depts of Health and Mental Health to organize meetings through out our communities to get the ideas and suggestions of our residents. I will be asking for volunteers who are willing to work and champion their ideas. Please note, I will not be asking for them to fundraise, only to provide their support and expertise. From these meetings, we will put together that document with a plan and I will make a funding request. This could be a great opportunity to energize us all!

As soon as the community dates are finalized, I will send a meeting notice to every home along the shore.

Stay safe, Enjoy the spring and I will update this next month in The Shoreline Journal.

Tom

Tom Taggart, MLA Colchester North can be reached at: tom.taggartmla@gmail.com (0) - 902-641-2335

The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

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University. The 2023 winners are: Charlotte Salley, École secondaire Mosaïque, social enterprise; Divjot Kalsi, Dr. John Hugh Gillis Regional High School, technology and Emmett Mont, Keegan Atkins, Duncan Isbister, Henry Mont and Braeden Weaver, Rocky Lake Junior High School, environmental stewardship

This year's judges were: Alfred Burgesson, founder and CEO, Tribe Network; Loretta Gould, Mi'kmaq artist; Edgar Samson, owner, Premium Seafoods Group and Chris Boulter, Executive Director, Education, Innovation, Programs and Services, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Funding Fast-Tracks Climate Change Action

Nova Scotia's youth will soon have a new way to give their ideas, advice and recommendations directly to government on how to respond to climate change. The Province announced \$800,000 in funding May 15, for the Clean Foundation to create a Youth Climate Council and support its work for the next five years. The funding was announced at the 2023 Clean Leadership Summer Internship Conference hosted by the Clean Foundation.

The Clean Foundation will manage this new advisory council. Minister Halman also announced \$250,000 for paid internships to help young people get the skills, training and experience they need to work in the clean economy or environmental sector.

Over 155 Nova Scotia youth are getting paid work experience with 98 employers this year through the Clean Leadership Summer Internship Program, which is partially funded by the Department of Environment and Climate Change and run by the Clean Foundation.

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Three Candidates in Bible Hill Election

hours of 11:00 am and 7:00 pm; Election Day - Saturday, June 10, between the hours of 9:00 am and 7:00 pm

The Village congratulates Commissioner Tom Burke on his retirement and

extends sincere thanks with appreciation for his devoted service to Bible Hill of more than twenty-six years. Commissioner Burke was first elected to the Commission in 1991 and served as Chair from 2010 to

2016. His term will expire on election day.

The 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.

Mitchell Bell, CPA, CA - Clerk and Treasurer, election@biblehill.ca

FCM Resolution – RCMP Retro Pay Costly

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factors one could easily conclude Colchester could be facing a bill upwards of 500,000 or more for the retro back pay portion dating back to 2017.

Council endorses the following resolution, Prioritizing Municipal Input in Future RCMP Contract Policing Decisions:

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada has made the decision in Budget 2023 to make municipalities responsible for all retroactive costs stemming from the latest RCMP collective bargaining agreement; and

WHEREAS, these extraordinary one-time costs, which in some jurisdictions amount to millions of dollars, will cause significant hardship for communities and residents across the country, and were negotiated without meaningful consultation or a seat at the table for the municipalities responsible for paying the bill; and

WHEREAS, municipal governments are already paying a growing share of policing costs, but unlike other orders of government, cannot run deficits to spread out the impact of these extraordinary one-time sums, and have limited revenue tools; and

WHEREAS, local governments will now be forced to make difficult decisions that will

impact residents, such as cutting essential services, reducing policing levels, raising property taxes significantly, and/or cancelling work on local infrastructure, at a time when Canadians' concerns about community safety and the cost of living are already rising; and

WHEREAS, going forward, it is critical that municipalities be proactively engaged in any forthcoming processes related to contract policing to prevent this occurring again; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Municipality of Colchester joins the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in calling on the federal government to commit to ensuring that local governments are meaningfully consulted, fully informed, and at the table on issues related to policing costs given the municipal role in keeping our communities safe; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipality of Colchester conveys this support in writing to local Members of Parliament.

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