

# REES' Pieces

## Significant Changes Coming

There are major changes happening, which will cause Colchester to be the undisputed leader of the pact, bar none. Colchester's stock has been gradually rising as the most successful municipality in the province. Our geographical positioning, as HUB of Nova Scotia has always helped us when transportation became a factor. It has always been beneficial to be one hour and a half driving distance of 1.5-Million people in three provinces.

One could speculate that should the three Maritime Provinces ever unite, Truro/Colchester should be the capital - not because it is the financial/monetary capital, but for other more efficiency and prudent reasons. Think along with me and we'll list a few: Basically fog free; not a port city - less like to be bombed or invaded; less drug importation; adjoining Bay of Fundy coastal communities have UNESCO designation for a Global GeoPark; decommissioned army base comprising around 3,000 acres of raw land that also includes an airport - although upgrading is needed. Most of these are natural wonders, which nobody can take away.

However, in spite of all the upside, over the next five years Colchester is going to face its most difficult times. It will be a matter of capacity. How much more, we do; handle; build; afford to spend, where will we find them the tradesman and contractors what we need done now. If council thought they had a difficult budget period, think ahead 3-5 years. The first thing council and staff is figure out where they are going assist other levels of government to get their hands of \$50- to \$100-Million which will be needed for infrastructure. A new Hwy 104 interchange will cost at least \$20-Million. New rail beds and sidings are equally expensive Sewer and waterline services are not cheap. Just look at housing. It takes \$1-Million to build five houses. We don't have enough housing for existing people to live. If through a combination of existing businesses independently or collectively expanded and required 100 new workers, it would take \$20-Million to complete housing requirements and a lot of that is municipal infrastructure. If employment over the next year increased by 500 it will require a cool \$100-Million.

The other side of the story is where will contractors find the tradespeople. Will local suppliers be able to get the building and construction supplies? Perhaps the first things municipal staff should do is take a true leadership position completing a study and publishing a report; then hold counselling sessions with construction and trades companies. Irving Shipyard held 100's of supplier forums two years ahead of cutting steel. The provincial community college network must be advised if current economic expansion that appears to be coming our way happens, Colchester is going to need upwards of 3,000 new tradespeople within five years and we need housing for all of them.

It's nice for Colchester to be forging ahead on its way to be the province's municipal leader, but it comes at a cost. To avoid having egg all over our face, we best be prepared.

With Scotia Port, forecasting 4,600 FTE jobs during construction and \$470-Million in direct household income during the 20-year construction period it is a gigantic plum and is most welcomed. We could not be luckier. We must show our appreciation by proving we are up to the task of doing everything humanly possible to be a leader and get others up to speed even in providing accommodation and other levels of government deliver their services on time.

One last figure. If Scotia Port's projection of 4,600 FTE jobs during construction is realistic and workers will be onsite for a long duration, it probably includes 10,000+ people when you think about family. Which brings us back to 4,600 residential units. If half were houses and half were apartments let's use a construction cost of \$200,000 for house and \$100,000 for apartment, which is an average of \$150,000 per unit. In the final analysis \$1-Million will provide seven units. Mathematically, 4,600 residential units will require an investment of \$600-Million to house the workers to build Scotia Port. Then it's the Multi-millions required for Scotia Port.

Maurice

# Letters to the editor

This is an open forum for your opinions and comments.

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### New direction for Bass River Cemetery

Submitted by George Fulton  
Bass River Baptist Cemetery (BRBCA) had for many years, been taken care of by a small group in the community, foremost of those being the late James Chipman. As of August 2022, a new society for the preservation of the cemetery was formed.

The new direction and title are now -Bass River Baptist Cemetery Association (BRBCA).

BRBCA is now registered as a non-profit society with Registry of Joint Stocks-NS

BRBCA is also registered as a non-profit charity with

Canada Revenue Agency  
BRBCA has five directors but encourages others to join. The five directors are: Lyndan MacLellan (Pres. And Treasurer) David Teasdale (Vice-Pres. and Secretary) George Fulton, Todd Ryan and Glen MacIntosh (Directors)

BRBCA is looking for volunteers to help with minor maintenance and landscaping of older gravesites and those requiring further attention.

BRBCA relies financially on memorial donations, plot sales, and estate bequeaths to ensure the continued operation and maintenance of the cemetery. Official tax receipts are issued where applicable.

BRBCA depends on your

kind donations for the continuing care of our beloved community cemetery.

The assurance of perpetual care relies on the continued support of our community as well as the kind generous donations of family and friends of the departed.

All donations and/or bequeaths can be made payable to: Bass River Baptist Cemetery Association.

Let us honour the heritage of our community cemetery through the restoration and preservation of the final resting place of our ancestors and those who follow.

Please feel free to call Lyndan MacLellan (902-647-2554) or David Teasdale (902-893-

0823) or any of the Directors in regards to information on purchasing burial plots, making donations or bequeaths, wishing to become a Director, wanting to help with cemetery maintenance, or any other inquiries.

Have a great day!  
George

### Fireworks Are Not Permitted During A Burn Ban

The Province has increased the fine for violating the daily burn restrictions to \$25,000, effective May 16. #FireworksHurt requests the media's help to remind Nova Scotians that if the daily burn map is red it is also illegal to set off consumer fireworks. The \$25,000.00 fine also applies to a private fireworks event.

Climate change is causing our forests, parks and green spaces to become drier and more susceptible to fire. A single burning ember can ignite a massive blaze that could be devastating to a community, such as what we experienced in Nova Scotia last spring and summer.

#FireworksHurt is a group of over 3500 con-

cerned citizens who are fed up with the current state of fireworks availability in our province. Our mission is to encourage the Nova Scotia Government to enact a ban on the sale and use of consumer fireworks. Municipal noise bylaws don't work. We need a province-wide ban.

CONTACT: Dr. Hugh Chisholm, Media Contact  
tel: 902-225-6438 hughchisholm@me.com  
<http://www.banfireworksnovascotia.org>

Facebook:  
private page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/banfireworks-novascotia>

public page:

<https://www.facebook.com/fireworkshurt>

### Scotia Pool Hello Maurice,

I hope your day is going well. I am emailing in regard to the possible closure of scotia pool. I would like to start by saying that this pool is part of the community, and it is inclusive of all. It allows patrons to maintain relationships, get out of the house, it allows a little more privacy than the pools in the surrounding areas. One huge benefit of the pool is the fact that it is heated and is more of a therapy pool than a traditional swimming pool which is great for babies, kids, as well as those people with mobility issues. We travel from greenfield (12 min drive), and prefer going to scotia pool over other pools because of the sense of community, etc. We are also very fortunate we have vehicles, a lot of people don't, but at least they can walk if needed or take a taxi.

I would like to also state that it should be of note that there has been a recent purchase of a large parcel of land on Pictou road, from what I understand there will be at least 1 billion dollars in development of thousands of homes, apartments, condos, strip mall, etc. If we are adding this sort of resource to the town of bible hill/valley area, why would we be removing the pool? I would think we should be looking at the alternate and improving, and growing the pool so that we have a indoor splash pad, a party room for birthdays, etc. The town of bible hill expected to grow by the thousands and is estimated to be one of the fastest growing towns in Atlantic Canada over the next 10 years... why would we be taking away a resource that would add and potentially draw people and employment to the town. (see link : \$1B project could bring thousands of housing units to Bible Hill | CBC News)

With the addition of apartments and condos I would imagine elderly couples, people with

mobility issues, people with small families con-juring to the bible hill area who would all benefit from having a heated therapy pool. If we do not maintain this structure, update and add, it will only cost the town millions of dollars in a few years to build a new structure or get this one up and running again. Sure, we have the RECC... but have you tried being there when there are competitions/tournaments/concerts on... It is a great facility but its not always accessible. I think that we look at ways we can increase revenue of the pool to allow it to be more self-sustaining. I.e: Add a party room, for parties and events. Have something that will draw families in year-round, daily, etc.

I think it would be ridiculous, and a waste of tax dollars for a short term "win" of saving money, only to then spend millions on a new facility down the road (10 ish years). I also think that the pool allows for amazing job opportunities for the teens of our communities, making them responsible and considerate members of society. I have yet to have a negative interaction with any of the staff or patrons at the scotia pool, which says a lot in itself. I think it is a great way to get our seniors out of the house and decreasing the costs in our healthcare because of their improvements in health. I think that the people who are looking at shutting it down are looking for a quick fix... but not to save money. Think of the additional healthcare dollars that will be spent as the people who normally attend wont be, the people who normally attend swim lessons that cant afford to travel into town via taxi, or own a car. I think that we need this to draw people to the community, if not what do we even have? A Mcdonalds, Tim Hortons, and a Foodland....

Thank you for your time.  
Amanda Johnson

See also: Letters to the Editor on page 7

## The Shoreline Journal

Here's where to find us:

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Bayside Pharmacy  
Dominion Chair Factory Store
- BIBLE HILL:**  
C.W. Fraser Pharmacy  
MacQuarries Pharmacy  
Kennedy's Deli - Ryland Ave
- DEBERT:**  
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Rath Eastlink Comm Centre  
Colchester East Hants Health Centre - Coffee Shop
- NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION:**  
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Great Village Elementary; Debert Elementary; Chignois Elementary; Central Colchester Junior High School; Parrsboro Elementary and Parrsboro Regional High School.

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