

# The Shoreline Journal

## Tid-Bits

Short reads of important stories.

### COLCHESTER COUNTY: Highway 104, Upper Onslow

Exit 15 on Highway 104 westbound will be closed for repaving from Tuesday, May 19, until Friday, May 29. Drivers will be detoured to Exit 13 and can get back on the highway heading east to return to Exit 15, which connects to Highway 102. They will also have the option to get off the 104 at Exit 17 and get to the 102 through Onslow or Truro. This section of Exit 15 will be closed 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

### Need a Family Practice Registry - May 2026 Update

As of May 1, there are 60,193 Nova Scotians on the Need a Family Practice Registry. The last published number was on April 1, when there were 61,947 Nova Scotians on the registry.

By the end of April, the number of Nova Scotians on the registry dropped by 1,754. This number reflects the cumulative result of activity on the registry since its creation, including registrations, attachments to family doctors or nurse practitioners, and other updates to registration status over time. The percentage of the population on the registry is 5.5 per cent. Nova Scotia Health will next update the registry in early June.

To learn more about the Need a Family Practice Registry, or to register, confirm your registration, update your information, or remove your request, please visit <https://needfamilypractice.nshealth.ca>.

### New Arboretum on Eastern Shore

The Province is supporting renewal and preservation along the Eastern Shore in the wake of destruction caused by Hurricane Fiona in 2022. The storm made landfall near the Memory Lane Heritage Village in Lake Charlotte, knocking down close to 200 trees on the property.

Rather than simply replanting, the Lake Charlotte Area Heritage Society, the museum operator, saw an opportunity for something more - a dedicated area to protect and study trees and forest plants.

The society's vision for the Atlantic Coast Arboretum now has support from the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund. Timothy Halman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, announced today, May 14, that the project will receive \$131,548 from the fund.

Arboretums are dedicated places for scientific research and education on biodiversity, conservation, sustainability best practices, tree species and the impact of climate change on trees and forests. They also provide a home for wildlife, birds and endangered species and are a place for people to connect with and enjoy nature.

In addition to the arboretum on land the society owns, it would also like to create an arboretum catchment area comprised of four watersheds in eastern Halifax Regional Municipality. The catchment area would be about 82 per cent of the size of Prince Edward Island.

### Dashboard Improves Access to Workplace Safety Data

As part of national Safety and Health Week, May 4-9, Nova Scotia launched a new dashboard to improve access to workplace safety data. The Occupational Health and Safety Dashboard brings together key data on inspections, enforcement and incidents in one place, helping users better understand risks across industries and how safety trends and data change over time - and where attention and action are most needed.

The dashboard features six interactive charts comparing information monthly, quarterly or yearly. This includes inspections, orders issued, administrative penalties, serious incidents, investigations initiated and call inquiries.

The website is designed to make data more accessible and support stronger safety practices across the province. Additional data and features are planned in the future.

It marks the latest step in improving access to safety-related information, following the 2023 launch of Nova SAFE, a centralized online hub for workplace safety information and resources.

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### Notes from our Federal Capital - Alana Hirtle, MP

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biggest wharf-rebuild commitment Ottawa has ever made — nearly a billion dollars for necessary maintenance and modernization of our small craft harbours.

**SIMPLIFYING EI FOR THE MODERN ECONOMY:** The one-week waiting period has been waived. No longer delaying EI based on severance or vacation days. Work-Sharing programs enable employers to avoid layoffs by allowing employees on reduced hours to be topped up through EI.

#### **We're Building Things Again:**

**\$3 BILLION INVESTMENT IN ATLANTIC CANADA'S MILITARY:** Providing our Sailors, Soldiers, and Aviators with the support and resources they need. Plus — this represents years of trades work and supplier-contracts across the region.

**WIND WEST ATLANTIC:** Wind West Atlantic was named to the national list of priority projects — providing a fast-track for green energy projects that could drive our economy for generations to come.

**\$13 BILLION TO BUILD CANADA HOMES:** This government is committed to affordable housing across the country — through both government funded housing and streamlining the process and eliminating unnecessary delays for developers.

#### **Mark Carney's Commitment to Long-Term Transformation:**

None of this happened by accident, and none of it happened alone. Every item on that list is really a story about people — the wharf crews and harbour authority volunteers who kept the pressure on for funding, the dairy families who came out to meetings and made the case for their livelihoods, the tradespeople and small employers who showed up, spoke up, and refused to be treated as background noise.

I've spent my first year carrying these voices to Ottawa. And Ottawa, for once, has been listening — and then actually responding to issues in real-time. Mark Carney has made it clear that he is interested in taking action, rather than the political theatrics that can delay practical problem solving for Canadians.

This past year has also been shaped, in no small part, by the women of this riding. The nurses and continuing-care assistants holding our health system together. The women running farms, fishing operations, non-profits, and main-street businesses through an uncertain year. The volunteers organizing the food banks, the

fire department fundraisers, the community suppers. The new federal Personal Support Workers Tax Credit — up to \$1,100 a year — was a long-overdue recognition of a workforce that is overwhelmingly women, and it is the kind of progress that happens when people who do essential, undervalued work are finally seen.

I also want to speak plainly to the families who are still struggling. I understand that this list of accomplishments does not pay a heating bill or shorten a waitlist for care. If this year has been hard for your household, I want you to know that your struggle is not just a statistic to me, and you are not alone. My constituency offices are here for exactly these times. Whether it is a benefit you cannot navigate, a federal program you cannot reach, or a problem that simply needs someone in your corner, these offices exist to serve you. So please feel free to pick up the phone or pop in and see us in Amherst or Truro.

One year ago, the question hanging over our heads as Canadians was whether we were still capable of doing hard things — whether Ottawa could still build, protect, and deliver. Twelve months later, the question is a better one: which hard things do we tackle next?

There is more to do. There always is. But as a country we are operating from a position of greater strength today. Prime Minister Mark Carney is an "adult in the room"... at a moment in time where too many folks are confusing social media stunts with leadership. I believe we are properly navigating the hard decisions that must be made and we are creating the necessary framework for better days ahead.

Thank you for a year of trust. I continue to believe that, TOGETHER, we can do good things for Cumberland-Colchester.



*Alana Hirtle is the Member of Parliament for Cumberland-Colchester and serves on the Veterans Affairs Committee and Canadian Heritage Committee. Alana has two offices in Cumberland-Colchester for face-to-face services:*

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### News from our Provincial Council - Tim Houston

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and strategic minerals, we see the potential to advance four new mining projects this year alone. Last summer, NexGold received approval for the Goldboro Mine in Guysborough County that could generate up to 735 jobs and contribute \$2.1 billion to Nova Scotia's GDP.

We're also seeing companies return. St. Barbara recently received approval to process over three million tonnes of stockpiled ore at their Touquoy Mine site in Moose River, Halifax County. This project has the potential to create up to 197 jobs and generate \$151 million in economic activity in Nova Scotia.

This year, Nova Scotia will see progress on Canada's first offshore wind project, known as Wind West, as well as opportunities for natural gas.

We have invested \$30 million through Dalhousie University to work with communities and industry toward safe, sustainable development. The Subsurface Energy Research and Development In-

vestment Program includes \$24.3 million in direct reimbursements to support research and drilling.

Government is committed. Many Nova Scotians want to build local energy capacity and reduce reliance on the United States. I am with them.

Nova Scotia's opposition parties continue to doubt that natural resource projects can get off the ground, but they also doubted that our offshore oil and natural gas call for bids would get any bids.

If you can't imagine success, you'll never see it. Previous governments didn't believe that these projects would be possible here. Their policies and their attitudes reflected that, and investors noticed.

I believe in Nova Scotia and I'm confident we have what it takes and investors are noticing that, too.

**Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia can be reached at: [premier@novascotia.ca](mailto:premier@novascotia.ca) or 902-424-6600**

### News from our Provincial Capital - Tom Taggart

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pavement, it then freezes and expands creating a larger crack, this cycles over and over each time salt is applied and pretty soon there is a hole. Often these holes are patched but then end up as potholes again the very next spring. Public works has invested in new modern equipment that will grind out the entire pothole as well as all the cracks surrounding or spidering out from them. They are squared up with sharp defined edges. The grinder is then re-

moved from the machine and a screed or leveler is then attached which allows for a much smoother flatter surface allowing for better compaction. There is an expectation that this will dramatically improve the quality and lifespan of the patch.

That's it for now! Hope everyone enjoys the summer.

**Tom Taggart, MLA Colchester North, (O) - 902-641-2335, [tom.taggartmla@gmail.com](mailto:tom.taggartmla@gmail.com)**

## TC Chamber Golf Tournament!

The Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce annual golf tournament will be held June 19, 2026, at Mountain Golf Club for a day of networking, friendly competition, and fun on the course. With a 9:00 AM shotgun start, this tournament is a great opportunity to connect with fellow business leaders, entertain clients, or

simply enjoy a fantastic day outdoors with your team.

Registration is \$150 per person or \$525 for the team of four. Whether you're a seasoned golfer or just in it for the networking and laughs, everyone is welcome. Spots are limited. For more information or to register contact the Chamber's office.



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### HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday to Friday  
from 9:30am to 5:00pm