## News from our Federal Capital

*Continued from page 5*

cent increment;

- ending in 3, 4, 8, and 9 cents are rounded up to the nearest 5 cent increment;
- ending in 0 cent and 5 cents remain unchanged.

It's important to remember that this will only affect payments in cash. That means debit cards, credit cards, payment cards and cheques will not be impacted at all and will continue to be settled to the exact cent.

Finally, the penny will retain its value indefinitely. This means consumers can use pennies for cash transactions with businesses that choose to accept them, or cash them in at their local bank or credit union.

Consumers and businesses with questions about rounding and looking for more information on the phasing out of the penny can turn to: fin.gc.ca/1cent/index-eng.asp or call toll-free 1-800-O-Canada (1-800-622-6232).

As always, if you have questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact my office toll free at 1-888-752-0552; visit me website at www.scottarmstrongmp.ca ; add me as a friend on Facebook; or follow me on Twitter@Armstrong_MP.

***Scott Armstrong, MP Cumberland-Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley***

## News from our Provincial Council

*Continued from page 5*

shareholders. What Darrell Dexter has failed to do is to protect you and I … the ratepayers of Nova Scotia. Not only has he failed to protect us, he has failed to even stand up and negotiate in our best interest. He has also failed to acknowledge that there are steps the government can take to respond to the increasing power rates.

As Stephen McNeil has stated many times, a Liberal government will bring fairness back to power prices and break Nova Scotia Power's monopoly on electricity. This is based on the knowledge and research that has proven competition is good for the consumer. It gives them choices. Just look at the communication industry, when Nova Scotians were freed from the monopoly held by Maritime Tel and Tel. We now have a number of providers, who are all competing for our business. The same could happen with electricity. Right now we have no choice but to pay whatever rate Nova Scotia Power wants. Renewable energy producers could sell directly to consumers and consumers could have a choice. Let's look at New Brunswick … renewable producers can sell directly to customers. This creates competition and in 2012 New Brunswickers in fact saw no increase in electricity rates, while here in Nova Scotia people paid more. Competition in a regulated environment is one alternative. There are other places that the Dexter government has failed to stand up for Nova Scotians.

The Energy Efficiency Tax that we all pay, regardless of whether we ever benefit from the conservation programs it funds, should be funded out of the profits of Nova Scotia Power. In fact, in 2011, Efficiency Nova Scotia spent $41 million, with most of that money collected in the form of a surcharge on your power bill and mine. We have no choice but to pay it … Nova Scotia Power adds it to your bill every month.

Our position is that the benefits of that program need to be maintained, but should be funded out of the profits of the shareholders of Emera, not the pocket books of Nova Scotians. This can be done through legislation by a government that cares more about rate payers than it does about shareholders.

And then we have Muskrat Falls. There are more questions than answers around this project, but Dexter's NDP government is determined, once again, to protect Nova Scotia Power and Emera, rather than the people of Nova Scotia. As with most agreements signed by this government, the Premier has been outnegotiated. A recent study prepared by the Atlantic Institute for market Studies concluded that hydro power from Muskrat Falls will add to the power bills of Nova Scotians. Yet we have a Premier who has pushed forward, signed on behalf of Nova Scotians, for a project with many unanswered questions. Such as:

How much will this project cost taxpayers

How much would power delivered from Muskrat Falls cost, compared to the same amount from Hydro Quebec (some studies say twice as much)

Is the project really needed to met the electricity demands in Nova Scotia

Is Muskrat Falls a "green project"

Does the project support community-based energy generation in Nova Scotia

Has the economic impact and long-term contribution to economic growth in Nova Scotia been identified

Opposition Leader Stephen McNeil has been asking these questions on behalf of Nova Scotians. The Premier attempted to have a response through the Dalton Report. However, that Report was a non-tendered contract with a US Company, commissioned by the NDP, and paid for by Emera. Would you call that an independent study, or one that pays a consultant to support the position Dexter and Emera want Nova Scotians to believe? Remember the quote from Don Mills "there is no doubt that the NDP is closely allied with Nova Scotia Power".

We cannot afford, nor do we deserve more of the same from our government. We need a Premier who understands the issues and is prepared to stand up for all Nova Scotians. That is Stephen McNeil.

***Karen Casey, MLA, Colchester North Ph: 902-893-2180***

## News from our Municipal Council - District 10

*Continued from page 5*

duced right here in West Colchester. A wonderful achievement and I for one am proud of them.

I would like to thank the Mayor and the Director of Public Works with going forward to clear the ice jam in the Great Village River as I requested. We were fortunate and did not get the 45 millimeters of rain forecast and therefore possibly this was not necessary however I will always prefer proactive over the potential for disaster.

Finally the New Civic Center is opening. I applaud the decision to not charge for the use of the walking track. Please take the time to stop in a view the new facility and take a walk around the track.

Tom

***Tom Taggart, Councilor District 10, Colchester County***

## News from our Municipal Council - District 9

*Continued from page 5*

the same Standard Guidelines to follow as an Atlantic Canada operation when it comes to disease control or cleanliness?

Yes it is important to shop at our local markets and stores but it is even more important when doing so to make sure we support our local beef, dairy, poultry, horticultural farms, clothing manufactures, winery's and all the other great producers and manufactures we have right here at home.

Your first choice should be Nova Scotia made or produced products and then Canadian made. If you can't find it in your local store then ask for it so our retailers know you care about "where" your products are coming from.

Don't be afraid to demand that the retailer carry local merchandise rather than imports as it is your money, health and our environment that you are speaking up for. Remember the customer is always right and if the local merchant keeps hearing their customers demanding local merchandise they will go out of their way to deliver it to you.

On a different note, I attended a Public Information Session held by the Department of National Defense (DND) at the Debert Hospitality Conference Centre on Unexploded Explosive Ordnance (UXO) safety in the Debert area. This was a very informative session regarding where the UXO's may be found on the old military base and the procedures to follow if encountering one. The bottom line of the entire session was very simple, if you find something that you suspect may be a UXO do not touch it, mark the area and proceed back out of the area the same way you came in. Call 911 and report your findings.

Lastly, on my way out to the UXO meeting on February12th I noticed Nova Scotia Power had finally installed the new flood light to illuminate the Welcome to Debert sign. I say finally because the Debert Garden Club had been trying to have the sign lit up for the past 18 months. I have a friend who always has a quote at the end of her emails and the one she has been using lately goes like this "Very great change starts from very small conversations, held among people who care." - Margaret Wheatley. Isn't this the truth Lynn?

If you wish to contact me on this issue or any other matter I can be reached at 895-2242 or drop me a line at councillordistrict9@colchester.ca

***Doug MacInnes, Councillor District 9, Colchester County***

**Deadline for the April issue of The Shoreline Journal is March 19**

# Debert Legion Notes

***By Danny Martell***

Well football fans, Super Bowl Sunday has come and gone for another year and a tip of the hat and a special thank you is passed along to Erin Densmore and her helpers who, despite deplorable weather, held a Super Bowl Sunday here at the Branch and it was a big success with a very good crowd in attendance, with lots of goodies given away.

The winners of the pools ($25 each) were Marilyn Dykens, Joe Rohrback, Paul Eastcott, Bob Pash, Bruce Higgins, Jeff Davis, Ronnie/Joe and Gena Priest.

One has to wonder how or why Neil Bennett missed his chair?? Was the game that exciting or was there another reason? Thanks Erin for a job well done.

A quick look at the Dart League standings show Team 6 with Craig Fraser, Brenda Forbes and Ron Eastcott comfortably in front with 105 points. Coming along in second place is Team 1 with Eric Barnhill, Deanna Martell and Audrey Gallagher, they have 92 points. Rounding out the top three is team 8 with 88 points, Charmaine Turner, Dorothy Pace and Wilfred Crowe.

Craig Fraser has the only 180 so far. High Starts- Ron Eastcott, 160 and Deanna Martell, 125. High Finish- Wilfred Crowe, 116 and Charmaine Turner, 95. High Score- Eric Barnhill, 160 and Barb Scott, 174. Most Starts- Skip Dawson, 94 and Debbie Cock, 74. Most Finishes- Craig Fraser, 58; Deanna Martell and Debbie Cock with 31. Most Tinkles- Dave MacPhee, 161 (Avg.- 10), Brenda Forbes, 184 (Avg. 10:2). Least Tinkles- Ron Eastcott, 26 (Avg. 1:5), Kathy Barnhill, 26 (Avg. 1:8). These stats are up to 21st Feb. (Thanks Skipper)

The standings and individual stats for the Crib League are as follows and this includes games up to and including February 13th.

Stop the Press and Hold You Cards! Debbie Cock and Ron (Easy) Eastcott have been knocked out of first place. Marilyn Dykens and Lauchie Rector have taken over first place and pushed Debbie and Ron back to second place. Joe Rohrback and Yvon Thuot round out the top three teams in the standings.

There have been twenty, 24 Hands and Betty Thompson leads the way with 4. Most Winning Nights is shared by Debbie and Ron, along with Joe and Yvon, they have 3 each. (Thanks Earl).

Congratulations are passed along to Comrade K.C. Allen who won the Early Bird Draw for a free membership. Ken will have his dues (34 year member) paid for 2013, by the Branch.

The Zone 10 Crib Play-Offs will be held here at the Branch 106 on Saturday, March 23rd.

Happy Birthday wishes for February are passed along to Ralph Turner (Jr.), Tim Martell, Charlie Borden (Jr.) Gerry Dykens, Gordon Slack, George Cooke, Kaye Rushton, Glynn Balsom, Owen (Odie) Slack, Norman Eastcott, Sam Worthington, Don (Wolfman) MacDougall.

Please don't forget to thank a Veteran, it is because of their sacrifices that we are able to enjoy our freedom and our Country. Please say a prayer for our troops who are serving in foreign countries and their families.

## March 31st RRSP Deadline Looms

*Continued from page 4*

the retirement vehicle they need, there is comfort in having the right strategy. It begins with examining the way in which the RRSP is invested. Generally speaking, bonds and other interest-bearing investments are best kept within an RRSP to remain tax sheltered while the most favorably taxed investments, such as those that produce capital gains and dividends, should be outside the RRSP.

Asset allocation relative to age is an important consideration. According to the BMO study, sixty per cent of Canadian investors have specific time frames or target dates to reach their financial goals and eighty-nine per cent agree that it is important to hold investments that evolve over time, becoming less risky as key life events approach. While that may be what the majority believes, only 49 per cent invest accordingly.

At any stage of life retirement planning requires careful thinking. Don't allow an investing process to impede your thought processes by introducing stress.

***Kim Inglis, CIM, PFP, FCSI, AIFP is an Investment Advisor & Portfolio Manager with Canaccord Wealth Management, a division of Canaccord Genuity Corp., Member – Canadian Investor Protection Fund. www.reynoldsinglis.ca. The views in this column are solely those of the author.***

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