

# PAGE BRIEFS

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**Annual General Meeting** of the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce will be held March 13th, 2019, 11am at Best Western Glengarry. No charge for meeting. Call (902)895-6328, or email [ec@tcchamber.ca](mailto:ec@tcchamber.ca) to reserve your seat.

**The Disability Support Program** is inviting established service providers to apply for grants to develop new day programs and services for youth with disabilities aged 16-24. \$600,000 is now available to adult service centres, residential providers and other community service providers that currently operate a day program or have indicated a desire to support youth with disabilities. There is no limit on the application amount, but applicants should discuss proposals of more than \$50,000 with staff at the Department of Community Services. The application period is open until 4 p.m. on Feb. 28. Service providers interested in applying can contact the Disability Support Program at [YDPapplications@novascotia.ca](mailto:YDPapplications@novascotia.ca).

**Nova Scotia Business Inc.** (NSBI) has approved a business development incentive in the form of a payroll rebate for The Sydney Call Centre Inc. The Sydney Call Centre Inc. has the potential to create up to 750 jobs under the three-year payroll rebate agreement. Based on the maximum growth forecast of the agreement, NSBI estimates the company could spend \$49,500,000 in payroll. The Sydney Call Centre Inc. would be eligible for a smaller rebate if it creates fewer than 750 jobs.

**Innovacorp has announced** two new members to its board of directors: Nicole LeBlanc, a native of St. George, New Brunswick, and Eleanor Beaton of Windsor. Innovacorp plays a critical role in advancing Nova Scotia's economic growth strategy. For a complete list of board of directors, please visit: <https://innovacorp.ca/team>

## The Shoreline Tid-Bits Journal

### New Appointees to Develop Nova Scotia

Five new members were appointed to the Develop Nova Scotia board of directors by Minister of Business Geoff MacLellan. The appointments are for a four-year term and reflect government's commitment to more regional representation and skills alignment with the expanded provincial mandate of Develop Nova Scotia.

The new appointees are: Lori Burke, executive director, Cape Breton Centre for Craft and Design, South Side Boularderie, Victoria Co.; Maurice Fares, vice president operations, WM Fares Group, Halifax; Chrystal Fuller, principal, Brighter Community Planning and Consulting, Hantsport, Hants Co.; Stephen Slauenwhite, vice president and chief financial officer, Emmerson Packaging, Westchester, Cumberland Co. and Ronald Smith, independent corporate director, former senior vice president and chief financial officer, Emera, Yarmouth

"Develop Nova Scotia has a critical role to play in the growth of our communities and economy and these Nova Scotians have the backgrounds and skills to help lead the Crown corporation's success," said Mr. MacLellan. "They will provide critical perspectives, oversight and expertise to help strengthen their mission to enhance the province's communities and strategic economic infrastructure."

Develop Nova Scotia is responsible for leading sustainable development of high potential property and infrastructure across Nova Scotia to attract people and investment. Legislation to formally create Develop Nova Scotia as a new Crown corporation took place in the fall of 2018.

### Government Invests in Young Artists

The province is helping the Nova Scotia Talent Trust celebrate 75 years of supporting young artists with additional funding to help them turn dreams into careers. In addition to an annual grant of \$100,000, the province is providing additional, one-time funding of \$100,000 to further support young Nova Scotians who want to pursue artistic careers in theatre, film/new media, literary arts, dance, music, voice, circus arts, visual arts and design.

The Nova Scotia Talent Trust is a registered charity that provides scholarships to Nova Scotians. It was established in 1944 to support the budding career of opera singer Portia

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### News from our Federal Capital

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communication centres together in Dartmouth. I do not know which "risks" the RCMP authors were referring to in the statement above, but I think that Nova Scotians are entitled to know who they meant will be at risk, and who would be in harms way if they ignore these warnings from their own report. Whether it is RCMP officers, first responders or the public at risk, this plan should be stopped.

The number two requirement for choosing a location for an OCC is..... do not locate the communication centre near a source of "disruption or threat". To quote the Federal Emergency Measures Authority (FEMA) Continuity Manual .....

"Continuity facilities should have sufficient distance between the facility location and other facilities (hazardous materials sites, nuclear power plants) that are potential sources of disruptions or threats."

Ironically, the RCMP plan is to locate the new communications centre near the two exact hazards that FEMA identified as most

risky.

On the East side of Dartmouth is a special "nuclear dock" which hosts foreign nuclear powered submarines from Britain, France and the USA.

On the West side of Dartmouth is the DND Ammunition Depot. This is the ultimate hazardous material site, and even has an evacuation plan which includes the site of the new RCMP communications centre.

The new location for the OCC is right in the middle between these two "potential sources of disruptions and threats." Based on the FEMA report, it is the last place it should be.

There are several more shoes to drop, but that is a summary of the situation. I am 100% convinced that consolidating the two largest police communication centres in Dartmouth in close proximity of each other will put all Nova Scotians at unnecessary risk.

**Bill Casey is MP for Cumberland-Colchester**

### News from our Provincial Capital

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consider Nova Scotia. That in turn leads to more employment opportunities right here at home. And it is making a difference.

In fact, our unemployment rate in Nova Scotia is now at the lowest rate ever in the history of our province. That is good news. Our population is at the highest in our history. That is good news. More of our youth are staying in Nova Scotia than area leaving. That is good news. There are more full-time jobs in Nova Scotia now than in the past. That is good news.

Good fiscal health allows us to spend taxpayers' dollars on

much needed programs and services like Health Care and Education. It allows us to create a climate where businesses, both large and small, want to invest. As we build a stronger province, we recognize there will continue to be challenges. A balanced approach and management and control of our spending allows us to respond to those challenges in a positive way.

**Karen Casey is MLA for Colchester North, plus Minister of Finance; president of the Treasury Board and Deputy Premier.**

### News from our Municipal Council - District 10

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unique and significant Geological, Geographic and Cultural significance. This designation has a proven record of attracting large numbers of international tourists in particular from Europe and China.

It will provide our shore with great exposure and potential growth in the tourism industry. Our shore has great representation on this committee, Anita McLellan, citizen representative; Marlee Leslie, project coordinator; Devin Trefry, Municipal staff representative, as well as Mayor Blair and myself. Our goal is to have an application prepared and submitted by early spring.

As council representative on the Northern Region and Provincial Municipal Solid Waste committee it has been busy as well. The inability to sell or, sell at a cost recovery price, recyclables, is a concern and will undoubtedly have a negative impact on our upcoming budget discussions. As I have stated before, our Municipality operates a material recycling facility which provides this service to 15 different Municipalities across the province. Historically, this has been a positive experience as it has recorded a profit as well as provided 30 jobs in our rural Municipality. I worry that this may be coming to an end and difficult decisions will need to be made to protect taxpayers from potential losses. I also have been active as chair of the Priorities committee of the provincial Solid Waste chairs in working to gain a consensus both from Municipal units and Business to begin the process of bringing extended producer responsibility to Nova Scotia. This is a program that makes the producers of packaging materials responsible for the cost of recycling and disposing of these packaging materials. This is estimated to provide approximately \$18-Million in savings in recycling costs annually. Now that may seem pretty straight forward, however nothing is ever that simple. However, what I see as a crisis in the cost of recycling of many of

these recyclable packaging items will most certainly make these discussions more urgent. I as well as the six other regional chairs will be meeting this Thursday with Environment Minister and senior staff as we work cooperatively to remediate this and other solid waste issues.

Over the past month Colchester has held two open houses as well as a presentation to committee, to discuss options in regards to a new dog kennel bylaw. Staff is currently writing a new draft bylaw for review and discussion. This has been a long and in the beginning, very contentious issue, however I am confident in the end we will have a new bylaw that is considerate, open and accommodates everyone from the breeders to the kennel owners, doggie day care and the general public.

I would also like to advise that the Municipality has just posted the new position of Animal Control officer/ dog catcher. Further information can be found by going to the Municipal website or contacting the office by phone or I person.

I would also note that very soon the Municipality will be posting summer student jobs; I would encourage all to make sure any students in their life are aware of this and constantly check the Municipal web site for postings.

In closing I would comment I cannot come close to expressing my disappointment and anger at the RCMP's decision to close the telecom site in Truro and move those 55 good paying government jobs to Halifax Dartmouth. Just another example of lack of support for small towns and rural Nova Scotia...

Thanks for now Tom

**Tom Taggart is Colchester Municipal Councillor for District 10**

## Transitioning the Forest Industry for Nova Scotia

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ber sales prices are much more than chip sale prices. This would allow forest lot thinning crews to chip some small and or bent trees and truck loads to NSP.

Unless a harvesting contractor is working only for Northern Pulp they will have work because the saw mills are not closing. They will continue to buy saw logs and raw stud wood. Leave the small young

trees to grow another 50 years as forest for the next generation. Clear cutting is no more in most forests. Westfor can send Quebec forest workers home and use Nova Scotia contractor crews.

If Government decides to follow Prof Lahey's recommendations there will be some Crown lands forest harvesting - just not a lot of clear cuts which ruin soil and water.

Harvesters can choose to transition now or wait until they are suddenly out of work. Doing the same thing over and over while hoping for a different outcome is the way to failure.

A much longer version of this will run in the next Pictou Advocate.

**Don Wilson, Brule Point, N.S., Sustainable Forestry Products and Services.**

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