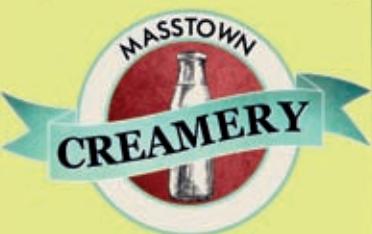


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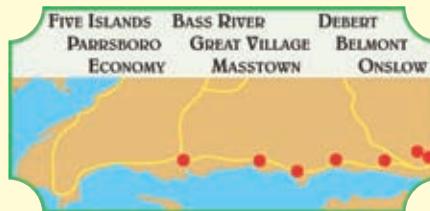
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FRONT PAGE BRIEFS March 2022

Truro Homeless Outreach is receiving \$20,000 in emergency funding to ensure more access to housing and supports this winter. MLA Dave Ritcey made the announcement on February 17th indicating the shelter is one of seven organizations across the province receiving special funding. The funding will supplement the incredible work dedicated volunteers and staff perform all over Nova Scotia to keep people who are housing insecure safe.

The Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce will hold its AGM including a 12 noon luncheon at the Truro Legion. Arnold Hagen, Owner of Harris Home Hardware (Truro & Bible Hill) and Truro Mall will be Guest Speaker, *Speaking on his Development Projects in the area*. The AGM will be held at 11 am, with a new slate of officers to be introduced and an outline of chamber activities. The luncheon is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Seats for the AGM and luncheon are going quickly. To register visit: www.trurocolchesterchamber.com

The provincial House of Assembly will open on March 24th. The first session of the 64th general assembly will resume at 1 p.m., Thursday, March 24. COVID-19 epidemiology and advice from public health will determine the nature of the session.

continued on page 6

Bladder Issues – March 10TH

A free Public Lecture from the Seniors' College Association of Nova Scotia ('SCANS') - "Bladder Issues: Why they happen, Why Kegels don't help, and How to Get Control Back" will be presented by Sarah Tanner, ND and Shelagh Meagher

This SCANS Public Lecture will be held by Zoom on March 10, 2022 at 2 pm. While the lecture is free to members and non-members, advance registration is required at: www.thescans.org



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500 More New Long-Term Care Beds

ester or nearby East Hants.

The Province will add 500 new beds in the long-term care system and is following through on commitments to build or renovate facilities across Nova Scotia. Work continues on 27 long-term care facilities currently in development. None of the mentioned facilities are located in Cumberland, Colch-

ester or nearby East Hants.

The 500 beds are in addition to more than 2,000 new or improved beds already in progress at 27 facilities. When complete, these construction projects will create or improve more than 2,800 beds across the province, exceeding the government's goal of building or renovating 2,500 beds over three years.

The 500 new long-term care beds will be built in Halifax Regional Municipality. A request for qualified suppliers was issued February 7 to determine who will be eligible to build the facilities. The 27 previously approved long-term care projects are at various stages of development, and the first



The sky comes alive with patterns that amaze the eyes. This image taken during another 'freeze-thaw' day demonstrates some of the beauty found right here in our backyard. (Liza Madore photo)

NS Premier Houston Releases Statement on Mass Casualty Commission

The following is a statement made by Premier Tim Houston on February 22, 2022.

This week marks the beginning of the inquiry into the April 18 and 19, 2020, mass casualty that took the lives of 22 Nova Scotians and an unborn child.

We must never lose sight of the reason for this public inquiry, to seek answers that lead to change and improve public safety.

Over the course of the last few weeks, I have heard family members express frustration and concern about the structure of the inquiry. They feel left in the dark. This is not only disrespectful, it should cause us all to pause and ask, if the families don't have confidence in the process, how can the public?

The reason Nova Scotians

pulled together and pushed for an inquiry as opposed to a review was to ensure that it was honest, comprehensive, detailed and most importantly, designed to answer questions. Yet, it is still not even known if key witnesses have been subpoenaed to testify, if there will be an opportunity to cross-examine them or if it will be a comprehensive list of witnesses. This uncertainty is causing further, unnecessary trauma.

For these reasons, the commission should meet with the families and their counsel to listen to their concerns and provide them with a plan that gives them confidence in the process.

To the families of: Tom Bagley, Kristen Beaton, Baby Beaton, Greg Blair, Jamie Blair, Joy Bond, Peter Bond, Corrie Ellison, Gina Goulet,



Premier Tim Houston

Frank Gulenchyn, Dawn Gulenchyn, Lillian Hyslop, Alanna Jenkins, Sean McLeod, Lisa McCullly, Heather O'Brien, Const. Heidi Stevenson, Elizabeth Joanne Thomas, Aaron Tuck, Emily Tuck, Jolene Oliver, Joey Webber and John Zahl.

As Premier, I stand with you. Together, we will continue to push for answers.

facilities will open in 2023.

As of February 7, there are 1,936 people on the long-term care waitlist, with 333 waiting in hospital. Approximately 7,500 Nova Scotians live in a long-term care facility and more than 21 per cent of Nova Scotia's population is over 65 years old, the third-highest percentage in the country.

NS Power Withdraws Application

After a strong opposition from several groups including the provincial government, NS Power president & CEO, Peter Gregg announced, on February 2, the company was withdrawing its application for the System Access Charge, which it had announced a few days earlier. A large public out roar, solar industry representatives presenting a strong opposition and the provincial government announcing it would oppose the application resulted in the immediate retreat.

The statement from NS Power President & CEO Peter Gregg is as follows:

We respect the role of government and the UARB. Our team of 2000 employees across Nova Scotia at Nova Scotia Power have and continue to support the greening of the grid and getting off coal by 2030, a path we've been on for over 15 years. We are committed to working together with government and stakeholders to meet our shared climate goals.

To that end, it is clear to us that the complexity of the Solar Net Metering issue means the right decision is to withdraw our application for the System Access Charge and we will immediately take the necessary steps to do so. As we stated yesterday, it is important to us to find solutions that support the important role of renewables to achieve these climate goals, and to ensure fairness for all Nova Scotia customers, which we remain committed to doing.