

The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

Premiers Unite in Trade Mission to Washington

Premier Tim Houston joined other Canadian premiers as part of the Council of the Federation mission to Washington, D.C., next week. The delegation of 13 premiers met with U.S. political and business leaders to remind them of how both countries significantly benefit from free trade. "I'm proud to stand in solidarity with my provincial and territorial colleagues and remind our American friends and allies that our economies thrive when we work together," said Premier Houston.

"We know the stakes are high - not just for Canadians and Nova Scotians but also for Americans who will also pay the price if tariffs are imposed." Premier Houston has a full schedule of meetings and events February 11-12. In addition to discussing the importance of stabilizing North America's partnership, the premiers will also continue discussions on removing interprovincial trade barriers, improving labour mobility and diversifying markets.

Funding Will Help Nova Scotians Access Food

The Province of Nova Scotia is investing in community grants for Shelburne County to build a solar-powered greenhouse and for electric vehicle (EV) charging stations and to connect people through the province with emergency food kits.

"The Community Garden and Foodshare Association of Shelburne County is receiving \$142,158 to build a solar-powered greenhouse that will provide fresh vegetables throughout the year to people in need and to the local food bank. The greenhouse will have battery storage and be able to send power back to the grid when it is not being used.

Feed Nova Scotia is receiving \$80,000 to create and distribute emergency food kits to help prepare people ahead of storms and other emergencies.

The kits will include essential food supplies and helpful resources, like where to find shelter and how to safely store and share food during an emergency event.

The Municipality of the District of Shelburne is receiving \$214,200 to install solar panels and EV charging stations at its municipal building in Shelburne. The stations will be available to residents and community transit vehicles.

Nominations Open for Lieutenant-Governor's Award

The nomination period for the Lieutenant-Governor's Award of Excellence for l'Acadie and Francophonie is now open. The award recognizes individuals whose social, economic or cultural contributions have made a significant impact on the francophone community and Nova Scotia as a whole.

Recipients will be recognized in three categories: - francophone - a resident who identifies as francophone; francophile - a resident who does not identify as francophone but actively supports and promotes the French language and culture and youth - a resident under 25.

Nominations close March 21.

The selection committee includes representatives from Université Sainte-Anne, La Fédération acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse, L'Alliance Française, the Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie, a Francophone recipient of the Order of Nova Scotia or Order of Canada, a youth member and a former award recipient.

Call for Medal of Bravery Nominations

Applications for the Province's highest recognition for bravery opened today, February 3.

"As Nova Scotians, we pull together, we watch out for one another, and we rise to the challenge time and time again," said Premier Tim Houston.

"The Medal of Bravery is an opportunity to recognize the everyday heroes among us who - when faced with immediate danger - showed remarkable courage and bravery."

The nomination form is available at Access Nova Scotia centres, MLA offices and online: <https://novascotia.ca/bravery/pub/nova-scotia-bravery-award-nomination-form.pdf>

The deadline for nominations is May 1.

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Notes from our Provincial Capital

Column not available for March 2025.



Tim Houston

Notes from our Provincial Capital

Column not available for March 2025.



Dave Ritcey

Notes from our Municipal Council - District 9

Column not available for March 2025.



Marie Benoit

Sewer Pumping Station # 17 to be Upgraded

L&R Construction LTD has been awarded a contract for \$266,858.96m to upgrade the Sewer Pumping Station # 17, located on Downsview Drive in Lower Truro. Dexter Construction Company LTD was the second bidder at \$493,100.00.

The Municipality owns 31 sanitary sewer pumping stations which are located throughout the various sewer-serviced areas in Colchester County. Ongoing maintenance and upgrades of these stations is critical for the continued function of the sanitary sewer collection system.

As-built drawings for this station are dated February 1976, which indicate that this station is approximately 49 years old. Throughout the life of the station, various components have been replaced as part of routine maintenance, however a complete overhaul is now required.

Council's approved 5-year capital budget from 2024/25 includes \$520,000 for the replacement of the entire station. 50% of the Project is to be funded by Sewer Capital, and 50% is to be funded by the Municipal Capital Growth Program (MCGP).

During project planning, it was determined that the existing concrete wet well is still in acceptable condition, and property constraints would make full replacement of the station very challenging. It was determined that all internal mechanical and electrical components of the station would be replaced, and the existing concrete wet well would remain in place.

Components of the station which will be replaced include: pumps, piping, valves, electrical components, control panel & control panel monument, communication equipment, and a cover for the existing concrete wet well. In addition to this, approximately 5 meters of pressurized forcemain exiting the station will also be replaced.

A total of 17 prospective bidders requested the tender documents and 2 bids were received by the closing date of January 27th at 3PM.

The tender was awarded to L&R Construction LTD as the total contract value fell within the approved capital budget, and within the CAO's authority to award under the Municipality's Procurement Policy.

In addition to the tender value, other project costs will include Staff Time & Expenses (\$20,000), Rebated Tax (\$11,223.28), and Contingency/Miscellaneous (\$6,917.76). Total anticipated project commitment is \$305,000, which is within the approved budget of \$520,000.

The work will begin in early spring with a projected completion date of September 30, 2025.

This project was previously tendered in August 2024, however it received no bidders. It was determined that this was likely due to industry capacity at that time of year, and the relatively small size of the project.

In January 2025, this project was re-tendered. Tender documents for the improvements were prepared in-house and tenders were posted on the Provincial and Municipal websites on January 7, 2025.

The work will begin in early spring with a projected completion date of September 30, 2025.

"How to do Business in Colchester" – a new guide

Colchester's Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) program is ongoing, according to Jenn Martin, Economic Development Officer in a report to council on February 13th. The program is designed to foster the growth and retention of businesses based in Colchester County. By engaging businesses through an online introductory survey and in-person interview meetings, Martin said, "We aim to gather valuable insights, provide resources to overcome challenges, and enhance the capacity of the local business community through collaboration across various sectors as part of the County's Economic Development priorities".

"How to do Business in Colchester" Guide is a new guide which has been created to support both new and existing businesses in Colchester County. It includes a detailed directory of Colchester's Municipal Departments with contacts and key information relevant to operating and developing a business in the area, a list of external partners offering business support, a Q&A section, and key statistics highlighting the benefits of doing business in Colchester.

The guide will be available on the Colchester.ca website with clickable links and in printed format for distribution to businesses.

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