

# Truro Colchester Welcome Network Receives \$40,000



From left, Maryna Drygant, volunteer, Truro Colchester Welcome Network Association; Dave Ritcey, Minister of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage and MLA for Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook-Salmon River; Attorney General and Justice Minister Scott Armstrong, Minister responsible for the Office of Equity and Anti-Racism; Abhishek Bhatt, co-President, Truro Colchester Welcome Network Association (Province of Nova Scotia)

Truro Colchester Welcome Network Association was among group of 13 community-driven projects across Nova Scotia receiving \$40,000 to address systemic hate, inequity and racism.

“Addressing racism and systemic hate is work that shapes who we are as a province. It speaks to the kind of neighbours we choose to be and the future we want,” said Attorney General and Justice Minister Scott Armstrong, Minister responsible for the Office of Equity and Anti-Racism. “Building a truly inclusive province is a shared responsibility, and I am so pleased to be able to support these organizations that are driving positive change

and strengthening communities.”

About \$400,000 from the Office of Equity and Anti-Racism’s Community Network Grant program has been awarded for 2025-26.

The Truro Colchester Welcome Network Association received the funding for its work to support inclusion and retention of newcomers in the region through expanded community-based programs and services for newcomer youth in Colchester County, including social events, educational workshops, and intercultural training, alongside expanding their buddy system and neighbours without borders subcommittee.



Attorney General and Justice Minister Scott Armstrong, Minister responsible for the Office of Equity and Anti-Racism (left), speaks with Abhishek Bhatt, co-President, Truro Colchester Welcome Network Association, following the announcement at the Colchester-East Hants Public Library, Truro branch. (Province of Nova Scotia)

# Colchester Sandpit Expansion Approved

The Pit No. 4 sandpit in Glenholme, Colchester County, has received approval to expand. The facility, owned by OSCO Aggregates Ltd., provides high-quality sand to support Nova Scotia’s construction sector. It received its amended industrial approval February 20. Industrial approvals regulate the daily operations of projects or facilities and have terms and conditions that companies must comply with to safeguard the environment

“Nova Scotia’s pits and quarries give us the building blocks we depend on to build safe and modern roads, highways, homes, hospitals and schools,” said Timothy Halman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change. “All project approvals have stringent terms and conditions to protect the environment and human health and well-being.”

Pit No. 4 employs 15 full-time and seasonal workers and has contributed about \$2.5 million to the local economy over the past five years. The expansion will add up to 30 hectares to the pit area.

Most projects of this nature require two Department approvals, an environmental assessment approval - which Pit No. 4 received in July 2024 - and an industrial approval. All departmental approvals have terms and conditions to safe-

guard the environment and human health.

Nova Scotia’s mining and quarrying industry employs more than 3,000 people and is

one of the province’s highest-paying resource industries, with average total compensation (wages and benefits) of about \$102,000 per year.

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