

# The Shoreline Tid-Bits

Journal

Continued from page 7

## RCMP dog helps locate missing people

An RCMP Dog and his handler helped searchers locate a man and two small children who were missing in a wooded area of Colchester County on April 3. Colchester District RCMP responded to the call on April 3 at 1:44 p.m. A man had taken two small children, ages three and five, for a walk in a wooded area and became lost. Family members were concerned that the three were overdue, and called police. Local Ground Search crews were called, and an RCMP Dog and Handler and air support were called as well.

The RCMP Dog found the scent of the missing people and located them, cold, and wet, in the woods. Police were able to get a helicopter to the area to pick the police officers, the dog, and the three missing people to safety. They had been in the woods for nearly six hours from the time they started their walk to the time they were found. The man and two children were in good health, however, were very cold when they were found.

## Driver charged with stunting, flight from police, and impaired driving

On April 5, at approximately 2 a.m., a member of Colchester District RCMP was monitoring traffic on Hwy. 102, when he noted a vehicle travelling at 161 km/hr. As it passed the police vehicle, the suspect vehicle accelerated to 178km/hr and the driver turned the lights off on the vehicle, in an apparent effort to evade the police. The police officer attempted a traffic stop however the suspect vehicle took Exit 12, and was located by police in a nearby driveway. The 29-year-old male driver from Halifax was showing signs of being impaired by alcohol. He took a Roadside Screening Device test and failed, and was then taken to Colchester District RCMP for additional testing. The driver was found to have a blood alcohol level over the legal limit. He was released later that morning and is facing the following criminal charges: Flight from Police; Operating a Conveyance While Impaired and Operating a Conveyance With a Blood Alcohol Concentration Over 80 mg%. In addition, he is being charged with Stunting under the Provincial Motor Vehicle Act. The vehicle was seized and impounded. The fine for stunting in Nova Scotia is \$2,422.50. He will appear in Truro Provincial Court at a later date.

## Develop Nova Scotia launches second round

On February 13, 2020, Develop Nova Scotia launched a second round Request for Proposals (RFP) that includes all areas that remain underserved and unserved after RFP 1. Late in February, they held a Bidder's Conference to talk through the RFP with many of our 15 pre-qualified providers. The RFP is set to close in late May and announcements for those projects are anticipated to begin later this summer.

## Internet for Nova Scotia Update April 2020

On March 20, with the ongoing COVID-19 situation, the Province identified up to \$15M in funding intended to support acceleration of Internet delivery. This was in addition to the \$45M originally committed to the first round of projects. These funds will come from the existing Nova Scotia Internet Funding Trust. The use of the funds will be subject to the same due diligence and approval by the Nova Scotia Internet Funding Trust and will only be invested if the solutions can be delivered materially more quickly - they are being evaluated on a case-by-case basis. This process is underway now and we hope to be in a position to share more details in the coming days. Project partners have been invited to propose accelerated solutions to identify ways to speed up delivery of Internet access, including additional funding to support accelerated project delivery, and removal of regulatory barriers and to identify additional interimulations, that could facilitate the delivery of healthcare and education at a community level across the province.

# Council to Meet Weekly During Covid-19

By Maurice Rees

During these unprecedented and historic times, Colchester Council will meet weekly on Thursdays where regular meetings are not scheduled, during and until the state of emergency in Nova Scotia is over was approved at Colchester Council Committee meeting on April 9th on motions by Councillors Boutilier and Masters. Councillors Cooper and MacKenzie opposed.

This motion was preceded by an earlier motion for council to proceed with budget deliberations, virtually, on April 16th for Maintenance Budget, April 23rd for Additions and Deletions, and April 27th if necessary, as a carryover for Additions and Deletions which was defeated with opposing votes by Councillors Boutilier, Masters, Cooper, Gibbs, Taggart and Parker (opposed) Due to technical difficulties, Councillor Gregory was not available for this

vote.

A further motion established Monday, April 20th and 27th were established as revised dates for budget meetings. CAO, Rob Simonds advised staff could provide a high-level overview about the budget during the meeting on April 16th allowing for more focused discussions on the 20th and 27th.

The Nominating Committee, on motions by Mayor Blair and councillor Parker, recommended to Council Committee Jessica Colley be appointed as the citizen representative to the Audit Committee for the remainder of the 2016-2020 term of Council.

In a letter dated April 2nd, Dwayne Boudreau, Chair RECC, asked Colchester Council accept the letter of request for the county's \$600,000 portion of the total \$1.2m operating grant to support the 2020-21 fiscal operational budget. In the letter, Boudreau requested and ad-

ditional \$16,250 to support a mandatory capital upgrade to our Building Management Software. The total cost of this capital project is \$32,500 and is shared by the Town of Truro. The request will be referred to budget deliberations.

Given the current situation with COVID-19 and the RECC being closed, a brief discussion was held on any required upgrades being done now during the shutdown. Council agreed the CAO reach out to discuss this with the RECC General Manager.

Kelly Gratto McCarthy, HR Specialist, provided Council with an overview of the proposed personnel policy on Volunteer Firefighters Leave noting the policy establishes fair and consistent practices and procedures regarding Volunteer Firefighters leave. Further discussion was held on staff investigating the inclusion of Ground Search and Rescue and

Special Hazards Response Unit Volunteers (SHRU) under this policy. It was confirmed that SHRU volunteers would be classed with Volunteer Firefighters. On motions by Councillors Gibbs and Boutilier Council Committee will recommend to Council that Policy 6.07 Volunteer Firefighter Leave, be approved, with amendments to include Ground Search and Rescue Volunteers."

The Municipality currently has employees who serve as volunteer firefighters. To ensure fair and consistent application of practices and procedures for those employees who are volunteer firefighters, this policy permits employees to leave the workplace during work hours to respond to emergency firefighter calls within the Municipality without loss of pay. To be eligible for Volunteer Firefighter Leave, employees will be required to request approval from the Municipality in writing and provide a copy of their volunteer firefighter certification.

# 14 Day Challenge Winners Announced

By Liz Yorke

On March 16 Fox Point Inn, outside Parrsboro, set up a fun and fabulous 14 Day Challenge on Facebook - the winner to get dinner for 2 at the Inn, once things get to the new normal. This is how it worked - every day Marion and Scott, co-owners of Fox Point Inn, posted a new challenge (question) on Facebook, related to a fun and interesting topic.

Every day participants responded to the challenge; all names were entered into a big stewing pot and Scott took care of the draw. Participation was open to everyone, everywhere, whether they live down the road from the Inn, or in other parts of Canada, North & South America, Europe, wherever.

To create a "Thank You" for their comments during the challenge Scott and Marion cre-

ated a TWIST; so rather than just one winner, they asked themselves - why not more! To add to the excitement the first draw was for a one night stay at their Inn, with a custom "made to order" breakfast. And since the Challenge was to run 14 days, why not give 14 prizes; 7 prizes for Dinner for 2 and 7 for Brunch for 2. A video of the draw is on the Fox Point Inn Facebook page.

Here are our lucky winners:

**1 Night Stay Upper Level Room...** has some pretty amazing views. Cindy Walker - Day 13 Candy Store/ Little Brown Bag.

**Dinner for 2 ... 7 times...** Katherine Moffat - Day 1 Happy makes me Smile Picture; Linda Weatherbee - Day 11 Song/Music/Artist; Ariana Smith - Day 9 Favorite Pet Picture; Virginia Tompkins - Day 6 Comfort Food; Larry Legere -

Day 7 Meet and Chat; Laurie Currie - Day 11 Song/ Music / Artist and Carolyn Houston - Day 13 Candy Store/ Little Brown Bag

**Brunch for 2 ... 7 times...**

Lynda McCully - Day 9 Favorite Pet Picture; Linda / Lily - Day 1 Happy makes me Smile Picture; Ronna Elms - Day 10 Childhood Memory; Laurie Currie - Day 9 Favorite Pet Picture; Michael Fuller - Day 8

Book and Author; Lesley Whitford- Fulton - Day 9 Favorite Pet Picture and Brady Aris - Day 8 Book and author

Fox Point Inn Congrats ALL the Winners and thanks those who participated. Once we are over our current health crisis, All winners will have their overnight stay / Dinner / Brunch at Fox Point Inn once the Covid-19 crisis is over. To watch the draw, go to Fox Point Inn, Nova Scotia on Facebook Video Tab

# Poetry Committee on Facebook

By Ruthie Patriquin

Although the Oxford Poetry Festival was cancelled due to COVID-19, the Poetry Committee wants to encourage residents to 'follow' the Poetry At Large facebook page. [www.facebook.com/PoetryAtLargeOxford/](http://www.facebook.com/PoetryAtLargeOxford/)

Some of the scheduled poets have given the Poetry Committee permission to post one or two of their poems. The committee is excited Richard Dittami has recorded six of his works for posting, including several new ones.

Richard has been one of the "favourites" at past Oxford Poetry Festivals and was scheduled this year as a Downtown poet and a Headliner at the Poetry Café. He describes himself as a "blue collar" poet, writing words that are real, visceral and delivering them with emphasis and rhythm that captures your attention. A transplant from the U.S., he now calls the Oxford area home.

Most of the entries were posted on Sunday, April 26. Residents are requested to encourage others to follow Poetry At Large. A link for a recent article by one of our Committee members can be found at: <https://www.thechronicleherald.ca/news/provincial/alan-walter-oxford-springtime-poetry-festival-taking-a-break-431567/>

As of April 15th the Community Economic Development office will be closed temporarily, a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ruthie Patriquin is Community Economic Development Officer for Town of Oxford



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