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# South Cumberland NEWS

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## South Cumberland Condolence Messages

The South Cumberland News reached out to elected federal, provincial and municipal levels of government who represent citizens of Cumberland in the areas most affected by the tragic mass murder events on April 18th and 19th. Their comments follow:

### Lenore Zann, MP

On the morning of Sunday April 19, 2020, the citizens of Cumberland-Colchester awoke to discover a devastating tragedy had played out in our normally peaceful little corner of the world.

Words cannot express my sorrow for the families, friends, fellow workers, & communities who, overnight, lost someone dear to them - and in such a horrific way. My heart goes out to everyone affected by this senseless act of violence. Meanwhile we Northern Nova Scotians are strong. We will rise again to fight another day.

Lenore Zann, MP Cumberland Colchester



Lenore Zann

### Tory Rushton, MLA

WE can and WE will get through this together. As a COMMUNITY, PROVINCE and COUNTRY. This has been a statement I have been using on all my social media post since March 15, 2020. On March 15, little did I know I would be utilizing my phrase of togetherness in a way I never imagined. On April 18 and 19, our province witnessed senseless acts that have impacted so many lives and communities. These acts do not define us as Nova Scotians. The acts of so many reaching out to help and help heal are what defines us as Nova Scotians. There were many areas impacted and Wentworth happens to be in Cumberland South which I represent. In a letter directed to the residents of Wentworth this week, I ensured them all we are here to listen and lean on. To all families, friends and communities, Nova Scotia is with you, today and all the tomorrows.

Tory Rushton, MLA, Cumberland South



Tory Rushton

### Allison Gillis, Warden

The events of April 18th and 19th have forever changed our municipality, our neighbouring municipalities, our province and our country. The senseless act of one man has cost us 22 lives. These individuals were vibrant family, friends and neighbours who were all a part of the very fabric of their communities. Barb Palmer, Councillor of District 6 and I have collaborated, and we would like to share a few words.

We want to send our condolences to the family and friends of the victims, not only in Wentworth, but to all who have been affected by this tragedy. Our hearts go out to everyone during this time of sadness, sorrow and grief as our community mourns this tremendous loss. The residents of this community have really come together as best they can during this time of isolation to support the families who have lost loved ones. We need to send a heartfelt thanks to the first responders who have been at the forefront of this devastation and to everyone who, through kindness, provided food and beverages for them while they worked through this trying time. As we begin the healing process, we need to remember that help is available for everyone and that we are not alone.

It is often said during tragedies like this that words cannot express our grief. Now, in the middle of a pandemic where we are unable to mourn face to face, words have become so incredibly important. I encourage everyone to tell your family and friends what they mean to you. To talk to each other, especially talk with those who mourn. Sing a song or write a poem to express what you are feeling. On the Municipality of Cumberland website, you can find phone numbers for organizations who can help you work through this tragic experience. Together, we will be Nova Scotia Strong.

Allison Gillis, Warden Municipality of the County of Cumberland



Allison Gillis

Cumberland Numbers for assistance:

Important numbers for all residents in this time of grief:

Mental Health Support - 1 888 429 8167

Kids Help Line - 1 800 668 6868

Morneau Shepell - 1 844 751 2133

#### READERS PLEASE NOTE:

More detailed coverage, including photos and stories of the tragic murders in Portapique can be found on Pages 12, 13, 15, 16 and 17 in the front section of this issue within The Shoreline Journal.

## Not so Pink Moon at Newville Lake

By Lawrence R Nicoll

Waiting for an old friend on April 7th, the new moon, but clouds are in the sky, and you wonder, will he come at all. The sun has fallen, dusk fills the land and a sudden glimmer of light of the horizon, perhaps a promise.

The clouds are still thick but not moving, they are low and suddenly the moon shows his head above them, rising until it is clear

in the gloom. A long lens well back to magnify the scene, I shoot a series quickly to light the foreground then focus on the settings I know work for the moon.

Home again I blend the two and my spirits are lifted, I am surrounded once again by the beauty that surrounds us every day

Lawrence R Nicoll is a landscape photographer and frequent contributor to South Cumberland News



On April 7th what was touted as the "Pink Moon" turned out to be "Not so Pink Moon" at Newville Lake. It was a stroke of luck and many year's experience, I was able to get this great shot. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)

## \$172<sup>00</sup> or \$345<sup>00</sup> Per Year?

By Maurice Rees

How much will Parrsboro property owners be asked to pay, \$172 or \$345 per year for 20 years? Will Cumberland Councillors choose Options #3 or #4 to lower the annual cost to residents and businesses to cover cost of overruns of the Parrsboro wastewater treatment plant. In preparation of its 2020/2021 operational budget council must determine how much to take from general revenues for the next 20 years.

The remaining annual cost will be paid through the Local Improvement Charge (LIC) for Parrsboro property owners for the wastewater treatment plant which incurred significant cost overruns. Last year property owners were informed that the annual cost would be approximately \$900, but council reduced last year's charge to \$345 and promised to find a long term solution.

Staff have come up with several options which would include paying a certain amount from general funds and the remainder of the cost covered by a LIC.

Information about the options available had been circulated to residents, with many recommending choosing capital cost sharing Option # 4, which would see an annual amount of \$280,000 taken from general revenue. Option 4 would reduce property owner annual payment to \$172 for each of 20 years.

Staff recommended Option #3, which would see \$210,000 taken from general revenues for each of 20 years and would necessitate a per property annual charge of \$345.00 for the same 20 year period. Option # 3 would add 1.37 cents per \$100 valuation to the tax rate. (On a \$200,000 property, this one item would add \$27.40 to

the general tax bill.). Property owners in Parrsboro would still have to pay the \$345.00 annual wastewater improvement fee, plus an amount within the general tax rate.

Councillor Rafuse speaking on the matter at council's meeting on April 1st said, "Parrsboro

was just starting to move ahead a bit. If Option #3 is chosen it will be a slap in the face. Several other councillors echoed sentiments of a preference for choosing Option #4.

Councillors were asked to submit their preference by *continued on page 2*

## No Word From UNESCO

Don Fletcher, chair, Cliffs of Fundy Geopark Society still has not received word from UNESCO concerning when it's meeting will be held to discuss approval for the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark. The local committee who had worked hard to host adjudicators last summer and to prepare the final documents in anticipation of final approvals being received in March.

However, Fletcher received an email on February 5th stating the meeting scheduled for end March has been

cancelled due to Covid-19 crisis. Fletcher reported he was advised by meeting and subsequent announcement could be delayed for up to two months. In a press release he stated the society would continue it's preparations and would be ready when official word is received.

With Covid-19 spreading globally since early February, he had not been advised when the meeting would be re-scheduled and an announcement would be forthcoming.

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