New Entrance Signs Installed at Parks

The following is an overview of activities in the Community Development Department since November 2024, which was presented by Paul Smith, Director, Community Services at the Colchester Council committee meeting on April 10th.

RECREATION SERVICES

Parks and Trails

In February, staff installed new park entrance signs at the regional parks: Stewiacke River Park, Five Islands Lighthouse Park and Nelson Memorial Park. Planning and design are underway for new entrance signs at other parks. All signs feature the Colchester brand.

Construction of the Fundy Discovery Site viewing deck was on hold for the winter but is nearing completion.

Eagle Beach Contracting completed the pedestrian trail bridge installation at Stewiacke River Park in January Surfacing of the trail at the bridge approaches and removal of the old bridge will take place this summer.

Design has been completed for replacing the small bridge with a culvert along the Cobequid Trail beside MC Power in Lower Truro. Construction will take place this summer.

New swings have been purchased for Five Islands Lighthouse Park and will be installed in early summer. Vandalism to the Nelson Memorial Park washroom building in fall 2024 was repaired over the winter months.

Various and numerous parties have already reserved Stewiacke River Park, Five Islands Lighthouse Park and Nelson Memorial Park for group gatherings and events from late Spring through Fall 2025.

Active Communities

The Recreation Department will be preparing for Fun in the Sun Day Camps. 2024 saw growth in participation numbers and staff are optimistic 2025 will be as positive as last year. Staff are currently working with CCRCE to secure facilities for use in several Colchester County communities. Camps are set to begin the 1st week of July and will continue through until the end of August.

Thanks to funding received from the Province of NS, additional locations will be added to the Camp schedule in 2025, specifically in the West Colchester area.

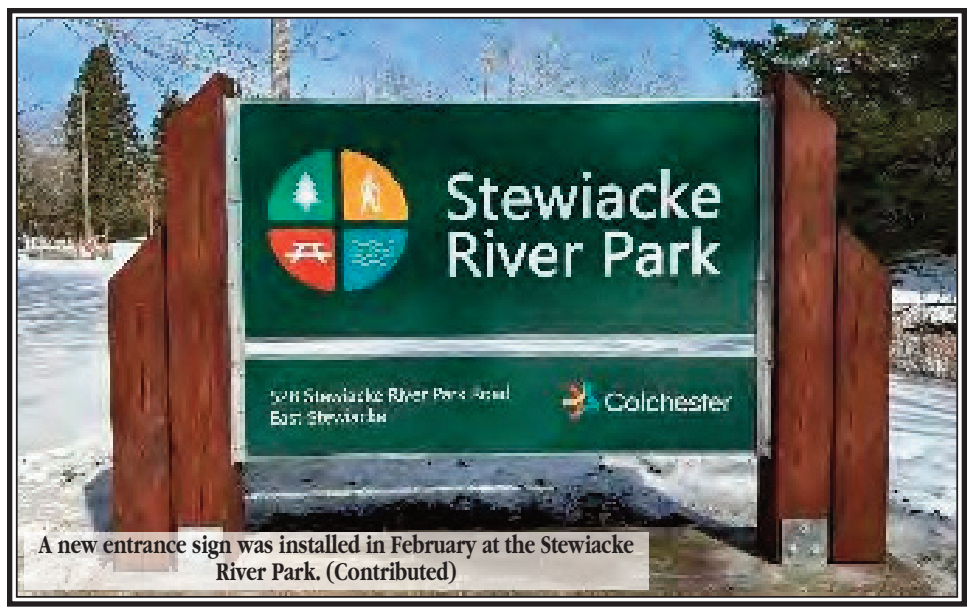
Recreation staff once again worked with community volunteers to provide Colchester County youth with the opportunity to participate in the sport of Ringette. There was a significant increase in the number of participants which allowed for the creation of two teams. Teams participated in several Ringette Jamborees, with Colchester hosting two at West Colchester United Arena. Staff plan to continue working with Ringette NS and local volunteers towards the creation of a sustainable Ringette program in Colchester County.

Colchester Multisport is nearing the end of the programming year. Once again, the program was a success thanks to several Community Sport Partners and part time recreation staff.

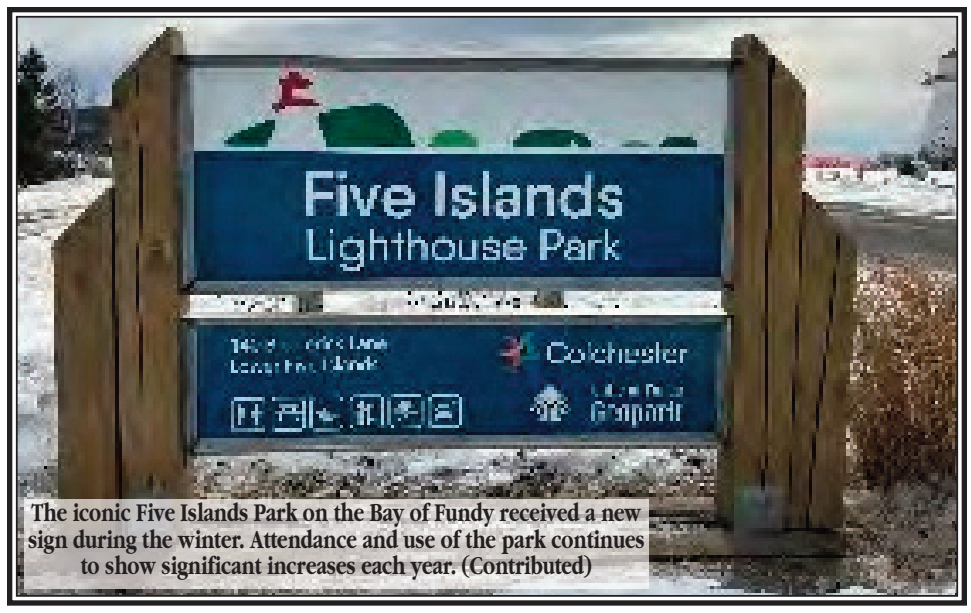
4 on 4 Women's Hockey League and the Women Learn 2 Play Hockey programs are now complete. Plans are underway for the 2025/2026 season with the hope of expanding the Learn to Play program in other communities in Colchester County.

An Adult Learn to Skate program was offered at the West Colchester United Arena from January to March, 2025. The program was very successful and will be offered again in 2026.

Throughout the past fiscal year, the Municipality worked with school and community groups to provide access to Recreation Facilities through our Facility Access program. This program continues to be well received by the community and has seen a significant increase in applications during the 2024/2025 time period.

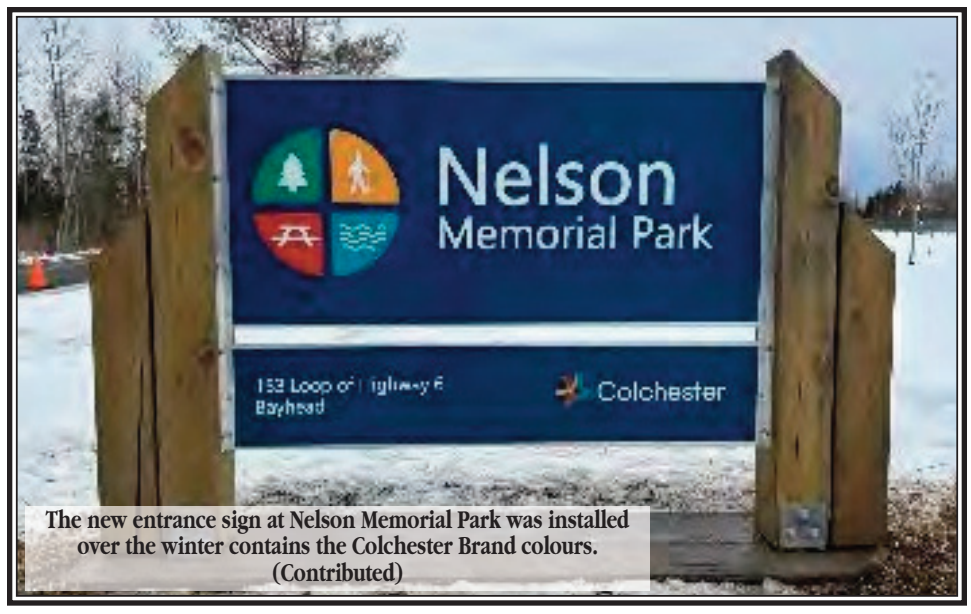


A new entrance sign was installed in February at the Stewiacke River Park. (Contributed)



The iconic Five Islands Park on the Bay of Fundy received a new sign during the winter. Attendance and use of the park continues to show significant increases each year. (Contributed)

Eagle Beach Contracting completed the pedestrian trail bridge installation at Stewiacke River Park in January. (Contributed)



The new entrance sign at Nelson Memorial Park was installed over the winter contains the Colchester Brand colours. (Contributed)

Assistant Development Officer Position Added

The following is an overview of activities in the Community Development Department since November 2024, which was presented by Paul Smith, Director, Community Services at the Colchester Council committee meeting on April 10th.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

The Development Officer continues to be occupied with increases in permit applications and subdivision plans over previous years. Inquiries from prospective developers/public as well as bylaw enforcement have grown significantly and form a large part of day-to-day activities.

An Assistant Development Officer position was filled in December of 2024 to offer much needed help, especially when the county-wide plan becomes effective in the Spring of 2025.

The Shoreline
is always interested in your submissions.

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