

# REES' Pieces

## AN EXERCISE: Crystal-Balling Trump

By Maurice Rees

To crystal-ball Trump, we need not look at pre-2026 events. In quest for global prominence and control of much of the global oil supply, early 2026 intervention into Venezuela was a test and much needed diversion. Diversion was required to avoid internal ongoing revelations about the Epstein files and to cast our eyes away from ICE's rapid acquisition of gigantic empty warehouses for conversion to "illegal" immigrant holding facilities.

The early 2026 several hour military invasion of Venezuela, completed with total expertise, resulted in nabbing its multi-decade iron fisted leader and whisking him and his wife off to a solitary life in USA prisons facing a multiple of serious charges. To date it appears the remainder of the Venezuelan rulers and followers are, biding their time, or content to follow Trump's directions and let him have control or possession of a lot of their oil. Recently he indicated the Castro led island is next on the list.

Many suggest Trump was persuaded by Isreal's Prime Minister Benjamin "Bibi" Netanyahu, to fulfill his personal desire to be triumphant in the decades-long conflict between Israel and Iran. Bibi has come under scrutiny in recent years after corruption charges were brought against him. While Trump was busy bombing Iran, Bibi turned his attention to bombing the daylight out of southern Lebanon.

Trump's involvement in Venezuela and its multi-million barrel of oil reserves has given rise to his desire for more power by wishing to take control of Cuba by shutting off its only energy supply hoping to pressure Cuba into submission.

Pakistan's leadership in bringing USA and Iranian teams together for a 20-hour negotiating session resulted in failure. Neither team would move from the USA ten-point demand and Iran's 15-point demand to reach a settlement.

The global economy is in chaos, and will continue as such, because Iran continues to control the Strait of Hormuz shutting off 20% of the global oil supply which normally sees over 100 large bulk carriers plying the narrow channel on daily basis.

Oil has risen from \$80 per barrel to \$108-\$112 per barrel since USA started 2026 bombing of Iran. Rather than implementing a blockade of Hormuz, or potentially committing War Crimes, the world might be better off maintaining the current fragile ceasefire, even for several years until long-term solution is found.

Letting Iran charge a \$1 per barrel toll to safely navigate Hormuz the price of OPEC oil will settle back to its \$80 plus \$1 level allowing the economy to settle down to its January 2026 level. Based on quantities shipped, Iran should share the Hormuz toll with neighbouring Mideast oil producers to be used for reconstruction of USA and Iran 2026 bombed facilities. It's doubtful USA would agree to restitution.

It's hard to conceive knowledgeable world leaders can't find solution and maintain the ceasefire let the economy settle down while businesses are provided with a level of security, unless one of the parties has several ulterior motives - Iran to achieve nuclear status and USA to increase power and control over the global energy supply.

If we are still wondering what invisible factors might exist causing a solution to escape fruition, maybe we should try crystal-balling Trump.

Could it be possible: Canada as a 51st nation; gain control of / owner of Greenland; Venezuela leader and oil reserves; bombing Iran and upsetting a decades-long fragile Mideast tolerable situation, except Isreal-Gaza, and Cuba is next are nothing but a series of deflection and evasion tactics against release of the complete Epstein files and what is actually going on behind the scenes in the USA?

If we could get inside Trump's head and do some crystal-balling searches might we find: ICE's rapid acquisition in 2026 of empty warehouses for conversion to "illegal" immigrant holding facilities is really for other purposes?

With the infrastructure already in place, able to be emptied quickly of "illegal" immigrants in early 2028, might the real purpose for the facilities is to be used as Marshall-law detention facilities for USA citizens as the county approaches a disruptive 2028 election?

**Maurice Rees, publisher has a newspaper publishing career spanning seven decades.**

# Letters to the editor

This is an open forum for your opinions and comments.

MAIL TO: The Shoreline Journal, P.O. Box 41, Bass River, NS, B0M 1B0  
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## Letter to Hon Tim Halman

The following is Moose Conservation Association letter to Honorable Tim Halman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change expressing concerns about the approval of Eigg Mountain Wind Farm project Environmental Assessment.

Department of Environment and Climate Change  
Barrington Tower, 1894 Barrington Street, Suite 1800, P.O. Box 442  
Halifax, NS B3J 2P8

Dear Minister Halman,

We are writing to you with the utmost urgency to convey our deep concerns about the Eigg Mountain Wind Farm project Environmental Assessment. The Moose Conservation Association of Nova Scotia has provided a detailed submission to the public comments section of that assessment, outlining our concerns about the total placement area of the proposed development.

We have been reviewing this project for almost a year now including numerous open houses, email, phone and in-person communications with the developer and their contracted environmental assessor, site visits and explorations, relevant data analysis and placing trail cameras in the area, along with conducting public information activities in social, print, radio and TV media.

Over that period of work it has become increasingly clear how vital the project area is to the resident moose population. Not only is it in a unique, delicate, wetland and old growth area, it is interwoven with existing portions of the Eigg Mountain- James River Wilderness Area. To make matters worse, it is in close proximity to the existing 27 tower Glen Dhu project making it the last development free area in the general vicinity. It is our firm position that the proposed project area should be given serious consideration for addition to that protected area. To that end we have attached our latest public outreach video.

While reviewing the Eigg Mountain project it came to our attention that the recently constructed doubling of the Trans Canada Highway below it failed to construct wildlife crossings. Rather fencing blockades to prevent it were installed. In the past, moose could cross at some risk to the areas south of that highway but they, at least, were not impeded. Through the course of that review we learned that south of the highway there are three more wind projects in various stages: the Weavers

Mountain Project currently under construction, the Sugar Maple Project that has just submitted their Environmental Assessment to your office on April 2nd and the proposed Yellow Birch Project.

Taken as a whole, the five projects are located in what was once an area where the resident moose population thrived in relatively large numbers. That is no longer the case except where the proposed Eigg Mountain Project is located along with the interwoven Eigg Mountain-James River Wilderness Area. As should be made clear by the numerous factors mentioned, development of the Eigg Mountain Project will be the last nail in the coffin of mainland moose in the Northeastern Pictou - Antigonish Highlands, dangerously threatening the survival of the second largest concentration of mainland moose in the province.

As we are sure you are aware there is a legislated requirement, through the 2021 Mainland Moose Recovery Plan, for your department to protect moose in the area. Allowing the Eigg Mountain Project to proceed would effectively signal your departments and governments abandonment of that legislation. This, at the same point where you also risk missing your legislated targets on additions of protected areas to the current percentage.

Eigg Mountain presents you with the rare opportunity, with one stroke of a pen, to demonstrate your government's foresight and commitment to both protection of the natural environment and the wildlife dependent on it for their survival.

MCANS hope is that you will honor your commitments to yourself and them, when you make the decision on which path to take.

Respectfully, Al Muir, President  
Moose Conservation of Nova Scotia

## OP-ED

### OP-ED Remembering April 18-19, 2020

days a week at 1-888-429-8167. You can also reach out to 211 for help identifying additional mental health resources and supports.

As a province, we will never forget the lives that were lost: Tom Bagley, Kristen Beaton and unborn child, Greg and Jamie Blair, Joy Bond and Peter Bond, Lillian Campbell, Corrie Ellison, Gina

Goulet, Dawn and Frank Gulenchyn, Alanna Jenkins and Sean McLeod, Lisa McCully, Heather O'Brien, Jolene Oliver, Aaron Tuck and Emily Tuck, a teenager, Const. Heidi Stevenson, E. Joanne Thomas and John Zahl and Joey Webber.

Tim Houston is Premier of  
Nova Scotia

NOTE: The following is a statement from Premier Tim Houston.

It has been six years since Nova Scotia was forever changed by the events of April 18-19, 2020 - an event that stole the lives of innocent people in senseless acts of violence, and impacted countless others.

We continue to remember and honour the victims and survivors. May they feel the love and support of all Nova Scotians, today and every day.

This weekend, we will lower the flags at Province House and all provincial government buildings and institutions to half-mast in recognition of the mass casualty. I encourage citizens, businesses and community organizations that fly flags to join us.

As a government, we are working hard to implement recommendations made by the Mass Casualty Commission. This is the driving force as we work with municipalities, the federal government and the RCMP to make communities in Nova Scotia safer.

We are committed to making real change.

We also recognize that remembering and reflecting on these events may affect Nova Scotians in different ways. If you are struggling and need support, the provincial mental health crisis line is available 24 hours a day, seven

## OP-ED

### Statement on Six Years Since Mass Casualty

NOTE: The following is a statement from Myra Freeman, Chair, on behalf of the Progress Monitoring Committee.

It has been six years since the events of April 18 and 19, 2020, that forever changed the lives of families, survivors, communities and all Nova Scotians. The grief experienced was felt across Canada, in the United States and beyond, and can still be felt to this day.

We will never forget: Tom Bagley, Kristen Beaton and unborn child, Greg and Jamie Blair, Joy Bond and Peter Bond, Lillian Campbell, Corrie Ellison, Gina Goulet, Dawn and Frank Gulenchyn, Alanna Jenkins and Sean McLeod, Lisa McCully, Heather O'Brien, Jolene Oliver, Aaron Tuck and Emily Tuck, a teenager, Const. Heidi Stevenson, E. Joanne Thomas and John Zahl and Joey Webber

The Progress Monitoring Committee is working through the final year of its mandate, and

we remain committed to monitoring and reporting publicly on the initiatives that the governments of Canada and Nova Scotia, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, are undertaking in response to the Mass Casualty Commission final report.

As we take the time to mourn and reflect, it is important now, more than ever, that governments and the RCMP continue to be transparent and accountable, and that all Nova Scotians feel shared responsibility to keep our communities safe. It will take all of us to make the lasting, societal change.

We extend our deepest sympathies to everyone impacted by the mass casualty. We thank everyone who continues to advocate and take action to create meaningful change.

Myra Freeman is Chair of the  
Progress Monitoring  
Committee in the Mass  
Casualty Commission.

The  
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to find us:

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Bayside Pharmacy  
Dominion Chair Factory Store

#### BIBLE HILL:

C.W. Fraser Pharmacy  
MacQuarries Pharmacy  
Kennedy's Deli - Ryland Ave

#### DEBERT:

Debert Mini-Mart

#### FIVE ISLANDS:

Masstown Market Five Islands

#### GLENHOLME:

Double "C" Truckstop

#### GREAT VILLAGE:

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#### MAITLAND:

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#### MASSTOWN:

Masstown Market  
MTM Retail Gas (Petro-Can)

#### MILLBROOK:

Super 8 Motel

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#### NORTH RIVER:

Grant's Grocery

#### PARRSBORO:

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