



Great Village resident Arthur Chisholm attended the October 14th CALA meeting held a meeting with community partners and learners in Great Village. (Submitted)

CALA looking for Story Tellers

By Mary Teed

On October 14, Colchester Adult Learning Association (CALA) held a meeting with community partners and learners in Great Village. For many years, CALA has enjoyed a presence in the Village, holding Family Literacy events and regular classes for upgrading and essentials skills.

More recently, CALA opened a Little Free Library next to Wilson's Gas Stop location in Great Village. Since July 2017, with the support of many community partners and generous individuals (Great Village Historical Society, Elizabeth Bishop Society and United Way) the Little Free Library has been extremely active and received a tremendous amount of positive feedback!

Several years ago, many community members joined CALA in producing 'Telling Our Stories', a volume of personal memories and photos of several elders in Great Village. That work was so well received it is now the time to launch a follow up to that project.

At last week's community meeting, CALA's Executive Director Mary Teed and instructor, Sarah Thornham explored ideas for the new project with Great Villagers who attended. They heard from some members of the GV Historical Society, CALA learners and other interested community

members about their interest and suggestions, and shared some wonderful storytelling as well!

At this time, CALA would like to connect with those in West Colchester with stories to share. They could be personal recollections or memories of events or happenings in the area in general. The project is open to anyone who identifies as a resident of West Colchester and is open to any age group. If you have questions, suggestions or a tale to tell, please contact CALA at 902 895 2464 or email calastaffperson@gmail.com. There are also paper forms available at the Great Village Legion that could be filled out in order for CALA staff to contact you, instead.

This is an exciting and important project, collecting stories to be passed down to future generations. Storytelling is literacy at its highest form. Everyone has a story to share and CALA hopes to help collect and celebrate the incredible stories "along the shore".

Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, November 14 at 1pm. CALA will be hosting a presentation by Artist and Cultural Educator Gerald Gloade from Mi'kmawey Debert Cultural Centre. All are welcome to this free-of-charge event. For more information, visit <http://www.mikmawey-debert.ca/home/>

French River Watershed Protection Started

By Maurice Rees

Residents in the gallery and The Tatamagouche Source Water Protection Committee were elated when Colchester Council unanimously approved a staff recommendation that Council directs staff to initiate the process for designation of the French River Watershed as a protected water area under section 106 of the Environment Act; and, That Council will forward a letter to the MLA to request a delay in the issuance of the request for proposals for mineral exploration rights in the French River watershed until such time as the protected water area designation process is complete.

There were approximately 30 concerned citizens in the gallery and gave council a loud round of applause, when the motion passed.

The Tatamagouche Source Water Protection Committee requested Council support the designation of the French River Watershed as a protected water area under the Environment Act. The Committee also asked Council request area MLA for a delay in the issuance of the Request for Proposals for the exploration permit.

In May of 2016, the Tatamagouche Source Water Protection Committee was made aware of some potential mineral extraction activities within the French River Watershed. Department of Natural Resources had been investigating potential mineral deposits within the watershed area and had placed a mineral closure on much of the area.

The Department of Mines and Energy will be requesting proposals from interested companies for the mineral exploration rights within the closure area. This request for proposals is expected to be issued for public comment in September and issued for proposals in October. The province expects that a mineral exploration permit will be issued in the 2018 calendar year.

There has been discussion and

debate at the committee level regarding the potential impact of mineral exploration and mining within the watershed area. The Committee has expressed concerns with potential impacts to water quality as a result of exploration and mining activities.

At their meeting of August 21, 2018, the committee unanimously passed two motions as

follows: The Committee recommends Council proceed immediately with the process for formal designation of the watershed as a protected water area under section 106 of the Environment Act. The second motion stated: The Committee recommends Council a letter be forwarded to the local MLA requesting a delay in the issuance of the request for proposals for mineral exploration rights until such time as the designation process is complete".

Council had previously forwarded a letter to the Minister of Natural Resources, Minister of the Environment and the MLA for Colchester North on March 12, 2018 requesting that the

release of the request for proposals be delayed. As of August 30th a delay has not been granted.

The main steps in the designation process are to define a specific boundary, develop regulations which control or prohibit certain activities, carry out a public consultation and submit a formal request to the Provincial Minister of the Environment.

The development of draft regulations will be carried out by the Source Water Protection

Committee and County staff, with support from Nova Scotia Environment. These regulations will be presented to Council for approval prior to a formal submission to the province.

During discussion Councillor Parker wanted the Salmon and North rivers added to the limitations, but he was advised the scope pertained only to areas what were municipal water sources, and municipal water is not sourced from either river.

The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

Four arrested in Bible Hill

Four people have been arrested following a search of an illegal marijuana storefront operation on Main St. in Bible Hill on October 10th. Following a four-month investigation, Colchester District RCMP, assisted by Colchester Street Crime Enforcement Unit (SCEU), seized quantities of marijuana and marijuana edibles. Four people are facing charges of Trafficking a Controlled Substance. One person, a 44-year-old man from Truro, was held in custody overnight while two other men, a 38-year-old man from Truro and a 25-year-old man from Lower Onslow were arrested on October 10. An additional person was arrested on October 11, a 31-year-old woman from Truro.

The 44-year-old man will be appearing in Truro Provincial Court. The two other men and the woman were released from police custody on conditions and are scheduled to attend Truro Provincial Court on December 12.

Nova Scotia population increases by 9,262

Nova Scotia's population has hit a record high, growing by more than 23,000 since 2015. There are of 959,942 Nova Scotians, Statistics Canada reported on September 27th, in its quarterly update. The data shows an increase of 9,262 since last July and strong immigration and interprovincial migration numbers.

The population data released includes: 2,568 more people moved to Nova Scotia than left; and, 5,137 newcomers came to Nova Scotia, second highest number of immigrants on record. For more information on population and other statistics, see www.novascotia.ca/finance/statistics/

NSPE moving toward long-term sustainability

Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Commission Act is being repealed as the provincial government takes steps toward the long-term sustainability of the current Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition site in Bible Hill. In the September 26th announcement Keith Colwell, Minister of Agriculture said, "The provincial exhibition and the raceway are valuable to the community and the agriculture industry. Winding up the current operations, together with a plan to revitalize the property, will put it on the right path as a strong economic driver in the community. We are working with the local community to build a stronger organization."

The Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board separated the property into two different areas in February 2018 for harness racing activities and exhibitions. Under new management, the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition was held in August. Under a new lease with the Truro Harness Horse Owners Association, the Truro Raceway continues to host live harness races and other racing related activities as an independent organization.

Additional infrastructure work may be required to enable the safe and best use of this government-owned complex.

Patterson Law's family law group adds lawyer

Cassandra Armsworthy was added to the team of Patterson Law, Truro office in September. Armsworthy will round out the expertise of Patterson Law's family law group. Her Masters of Law studies focussed on international family law and child protection.

Patterson Law is a Nova Scotia firm with offices in Halifax, Truro and New Glasgow. Patterson Law offers a broad range of legal resources providing solutions to individuals, companies and organizations in Nova Scotia and beyond.

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Heating Assistance Rebate Program Launched

By Maurice Rees

Nova Scotians can apply for the Heating Assistance Rebate Program (HARP) for a rebate up to \$200 to help people heat their homes. To qualify for the rebate, the income threshold for one-person households is \$29,000 and \$44,000 for households with more than one person. More than 42,000 people received rebates in 2017.

"Each winter I see how the program helps thousands of Nova Scotians manage their heating costs," said Karen Casey, MLA Colchester North. "The online application process is easy, fast and convenient and it has helped peo-

ple get their rebate sooner."

Applicants can check the status of their application using an online status checker. People can also register with Canada Revenue Agency for direct deposit into their bank accounts. The program closes March 31.

Paper application forms can be downloaded from the Service Nova Scotia website or picked up from Access Nova Scotia Centres, Community Services offices, MLA offices and at more than 70 community groups across the province.

For more information, visit <http://www.novascotia.ca/heatinghelp>

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