

## The Shoreline Tid-Bits Journal

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hours a day, seven days a week or can go to the closest emergency department; on-site service is currently available in 13 hospitals and health centres across the province and if on-site service is not available at a hospital, individuals will be transferred to a hospital that has an on-call SANE. Health-care teams at any hospital can complete the medical and forensic exam if the patient chooses to not be transferred. Other services available to people who have experienced sexual violence include free legal advice, dedicated sexual assault prosecutors and trauma therapy.

Additional Resources: <https://www.nshealth.ca/SANE>

### Utilities can spend up to \$1-Million

Nova Scotia Power, Nova Scotia Power Maritime Link and the Halifax Regional Water Commission will no longer be required to get approval from the Utility and Review Board to spend \$1 million or less. Previously, the limit was \$250,000. The Utility and Review Board hears about 40 applications per year for spending under \$1 million — replacing a transformer at a Nova Scotia Power hydro station generally costs more than \$250,000

### Amendments Support Tidal Energy Industry

Government is making changes to the Marine Renewable-energy Act to ensure Nova Scotia remains at the leading edge of developing tidal technologies and greening the electricity grid. Government will issue new power purchase agreements to existing feed-in-tariff holders. Developers will continue to have the ability to sell electricity to the utility for up to 15 years, once their projects are operational. Nova Scotia remains on track to meet or exceed the legislated target of having 40 per cent of electricity generated by renewable sources by 2020. This will enable a staged approach at the Fundy Ocean Research Centre for Energy and a demonstration at Grand Passage. There are currently four license holders at the FORCE test site in the Minas Passage. The department has also approved three demonstration permits. renewable energy use in Nova Scotia has more than tripled over the past 10 years.

Additional Resources: FORCE: <https://fundyforce.ca/>

### Supporting Infrastructure and Economic Growth

Amendments to the Expropriation Act to ensure landowners who have been impacted by expropriation are reasonably compensated. Changes will clarify what can be claimed through legal processes under the act and will transfer the hearing of certain claims, where no land is taken, from the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia. If the bill passes, the changes will be retroactive to June 1, 2019. Since 2008, the Nova Utility and Review Board has heard 72 expropriation claims; of these 28 were withdrawn.

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Truro & Colchester  
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Susan MacCallum,  
Executive Director,  
Colchester  
Community  
Workshops  
receives the  
Excellence in  
Community  
Development  
Award from Mayor  
Bill Mills, Town of  
Truro the award  
sponsor.  
(Rees Photo)

## Colchester Community Workshops wins Award

*The Excellence in Community Development Award is designed to recognize a business, community organization or social enterprise that has made significant and notable contributions to their community (cultural, social, environmental and/or economic) and one that serves as a catalyst for positive action, exhibiting the highest standards of leadership.*

Established in 1987, the Colchester Community Workshops employs 40 full and part-time staff as an adult service center that provides vocational training, along with social, leisure and recreational opportunities to adults with intellectual disabilities, residing within Colchester County. The workshop operates several programs that act as small businesses, each with its own revenue and expense budget to assist in meeting the operating costs of the organization. Programs include a thrift store, cafe, production of award ribbons and promotional buttons, product assembly for local business contracts such as Intertape Polymer, Kohler Windows and Eastlink and mail outs. The workshop is only 38 per cent government funded.

Non-revenue producing pro-

grams include community employment, life enhancement and an in-house cleaning/maintenance program. Fundraising is a key component of its operations in order to meet its annual operating budget. The workshop currently provides full-time or part-time service to 90 individuals. It operates programs that provide work/life skills that the client can transfer to community, employment situations and their home environment.

Another important piece to recognize is the amount of materials that this organization diverts from the Colchester Bale fill site. Last year, CCW diverted a total of 227 tonnes filtered from the donations received in the thrift store.

This year CCW organized the inaugural Disability Pride Day in Truro and encouraged other local interest groups to participate. It is realizing the true mandate of a "social enterprise" and provides paid employment to 12 of its participants within its thrift store and the café. Colchester Community Workshops is an organization committed to supporting clients to participate in their community in healthy and productive ways to their greatest potential.



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Erin Cook  
representing RBC  
presents Paul  
Garbes, Specialty  
Steel Inc., Debert  
with the 2019 Small  
Business  
Innovation Award.  
(Rees Photo)

## Specialty Steel wins Innovation Award

*The Small Business Innovation Award recognizes a Truro or Colchester County entrepreneur who has been in business for more than five years, who is continually modifying to demonstrate innovative leadership through the use of technology, development of new or value-added products and services and improved productivity. Those nominated for this award portray community spirit and generosity, consistently supporting community causes while growing the economy.*

Since 1983, the Garbes family has been building their business Specialty Steel Inc. in Debert. The company is a specialty metal fabricator, providing high-end designs and fabrication of many products. Its customer base of large and small construction companies along with real estate developers and mills, are spread across Atlantic Canada.

During the past five to eight years, Specialty Steel Inc has added Computer Numerical

Control equipment improving production and quality. New cutting-edge software has enabled them to also improve customer service addressing their needs on a more personal basis by allowing them to see 3D renderings before a product is manufactured.

Along with adding new technologies, the business is also on the move. A relocation is planned in the near future to Hub Centre Drive which will include a new improved five-axis laser allowing even more versatility.

The unique work they do for a broad customer base every day presents a new and exciting challenge which keeps employees engaged. The business has long-serving employees and long-time return customers. Garbes says it's the personal touch that sets them apart from their competition, sharing his view, "People want to be treated like people and not a number, saying good morning to everyone goes a long way."

The Deadline for the December issue of  
**Shoreline** Journal is November 19



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