



Juanita Spencer, CEO, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities is flanked by Tom Taggart, MLA Colchester North and Amherst Mayor David Kogan following Taggart announcing \$349,300 in funding for the project from the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund. (CNS Photo)

Funding for Flood Prevention in Amherst

The Town of Amherst will upgrade its infrastructure to help protect against climate-related flooding following province's announcement \$349,300 in funding for the project from the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund on September 26.

"We are seeing more and more of the devastating impacts that climate-related flooding can have on our communities," said Tom Taggart, MLA for Colchester North, on behalf of Timothy Halman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change. "This investment not only strengthens

Amherst's ability to respond to climate change, but also serves as a model for other communities striving for a more sustainable future. Together, we are paving the way towards a greener, more resilient Nova Scotia."

With this funding, the Town of Amherst will complete a stormwater management study and improve stormwater infrastructure. The upgrades will help reduce the risk of flooding in the area surrounding Dickey Brook, protecting the community from damage during heavy rainfall or storms.

May 1: First Responders Recognition Day

Professional and volunteer first responders will soon have a day that recognizes their bravery and unwavering commitment to protecting people and their communities in the face of extraordinary circumstances. May 1 is proposed as First Responders' Day in Nova Scotia as a day of recognition, not a holiday

On October 12, Premier Tim Houston introduced new legislation to recognize these everyday heroes for their ongoing dedication to keeping Nova Scotians safe, as well as their critical day-to-day roles in healthcare, law enforcement and emergency services.

"Every day, first responders place themselves in harm's way to keep us safe. They are our province's heroes, and they deserve a day of recognition for the essential role they play in the safety of our communities," said Premier Houston. "We want them to know we appreciate the important work they do to help others."

The legislation would proclaim May 1 of each year as First Responders' Day in Nova Scotia. It is intended to acknowledge, honour, commemorate and celebrate the dedication, sacrifices and achievements of all professional and volunteer first re-

sponders in the province. The legislation will take effect upon royal assent.

"Each and every day across our province, first responders make a difference in their communities when using their training, knowledge and skills to help their fellow Nova Scotians. The addition of a First Responders' Day in the province of Nova Scotia will highlight the efforts, dedication and passion that first responders in our province have to serve others at a moment's notice.", Greg Jones, President, Fire Service Association of Nova Scotia

First responders include volunteers or professionals who are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, evidence and the environment during an emergency such as police, firefighters, military personnel, auxiliary coast guard members, paramedics, dispatchers, doctors, nurses, medical evacuation pilots, mental health providers, emergency managers, tow truck drivers and ground search and rescue volunteers.



Truro to get New Public Housing Units

It's not known how many but Truro will get some of the more than 200 new public housing units to be built for Nova Scotians in need as part of an \$83-million initiative announced on September 27 by Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister John Lohr and Andy Fillmore, Member of Parliament for Halifax, on behalf of Sean Fraser, federal Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities.

In a related but separate press release, Dave Ritcey stated, "More than \$2.2 million in planned spending will be invested in housing in Truro".

The announced \$83 million will create 222 new public housing units, including 80 that will be fully barrier-free. The new housing will serve 522 families, indi-

viduals and low-income seniors in rural and urban communities across Nova Scotia.

The units will be built on provincially owned land close to existing public housing developments in: Bridgewater, Kentville, Truro, Cape

Breton (multiple locations) and Halifax Regional Municipality (multiple locations).

The Province also announced plans for pilot programs aimed at creating more options and opportunities to add housing to exist-

ing properties, create mixed-income communities, and transfer some existing public housing units to community-based housing organizations and/or resident ownership.



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Journal

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Eileen Alma named Coady Institute ED

A familiar face with more than 30 years of experience in the development sector has been selected as the new Executive Director of Coady Institute. Eileen Alma was appointed to the position for a five-year term beginning immediately.

For the past 16 months, Eileen has been serving as interim Executive Director while a committee led by St. Francis Xavier University Academic Vice-President and Provost Dr. Amanda Cockshutt conducted the search process. Representatives of the university's Board of Governors, faculty, Coady staff members, and Coady partners served on the committee.

Public Prosecution Adds Equity, Diversity Strategist

Equity and diversity strategist Angela Johnson joined the Public Prosecution Service's executive team effective Tuesday, October 3, after being seconded from the Public Service Commission (PSC). As Director of Equity and Strategic Relations, Ms. Johnson will help guide and support the PPS in growing a more diverse workforce and will be an important resource for the PPS's Equity and Diversity Committee. Ms. Johnson will establish relationships with diverse communities to foster understanding at the PPS of the issues and concerns within those communities.

After several years working as a television producer, host, associate director, reporter and researcher in film and television, she joined Communications Nova Scotia in 2004. In 2006, Ms. Johnson was one of three people responsible for developing the strategic overview and implementation of the Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs and one of its first staff members until 2010. She then worked in a senior communications capacity with various government departments.

After working with Engage Nova Scotia as director of strategic relations responsible for developing a framework to engage diverse and cultural communities in the Province's growth, Ms. Johnson joined the PSC in 2017 to develop and lead a plan to support employee/internal communications across government, which led to her current role as the Director of Corporate Employee Communications and Strategic Relations for the provincial government.

Making Communities Resilient to Climate Change

Communities across Nova Scotia will be able to do more to prepare for, and respond to, climate change with a \$15.4-million top-up to the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund. The additional funding will extend the program to 2028 and help more Nova Scotians and communities respond to climate change, prepare for extreme weather events, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and switch to clean, renewable and more affordable energy.

"This past summer was extremely difficult for people across our province with unprecedented wildfires and flooding -

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Hours - 8:30am - 3:30pm

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