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# The Shoreline Journal



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## FRONT PAGE BRIEFS November 2024

**IT'S ELECTION TIME** - Nova Scotians will be going to the polls for a general election on Tuesday, November 26. Premier Tim Houston met with Lt-Gov. Arthur J. LeBlanc on October 27, to ask that he dissolve the General Assembly and call a general election. By law, the campaign must be a minimum of 30 days, and the election held on a Tuesday.

**This year's theme for Fire Prevention Week** was Smoke Alarms: Make Them Work for You. Nova Scotians are reminded to install smoke alarms throughout their homes and to check them regularly to make sure they are working. In Nova Scotia over the last three years, 24 per cent of fatalities happened in homes that did not have smoke alarms present and/or working properly. For another 24 per cent of fatalities, it could not be determined if there were smoke alarms present and/or working properly.

**The Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX)** opened the market in Halifax on October 8, in recognition of Nova Scotia's excellence in health research and innovation. Deputy Premier Allan MacMaster joined Rob Peterman, Chief Commercial Officer, TSX, to open the market at the Nova Scotia Health Innovation Hub, and recognize Nova Scotia's life sciences companies listed on the TSX. On Monday, October 7, TSX helped celebrate the 125th anniversary of High Liner Foods in Lunenburg. Economic Development Minister Susan Corkum-Greek joined Mr. Peterman and representatives from High Liner Foods to open the market from the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic. "There are dozens of Nova Scotian companies that trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange, and we are at this point because of the intersection of growth and opportunity," said Minister Corkum-Greek. "Nova Scotia is open for business - we are the place to be."

**Nova Scotia's HST to Drop in 2025** and Nova Scotians will see more money in their pockets beginning April 1, 2025, with a one percentage point reduction in the harmonized sales tax (HST) rate. "We're always looking for ways to provide relief to Nova Scotians. Now, in addition to indexing the personal income tax, we're lowering the HST rate to help people who are struggling with the cost of living and additional taxes from the federal government," said Premier Tim Houston. "This will be the largest tax break in Nova Scotia's history. It's the first time in 14 years that a provincial government in Nova Scotia has made changes to the sales tax. And this time it will be a decrease." Nova Scotia's HST combines the provincial value-added tax with the federal goods and services tax (GST), and it is applied to the same types of goods and services. The federal portion is five per cent and, on April 1, the provincial portion will decrease from 10 to nine per cent.

The new combined sales tax rate in Nova Scotia will be 14 per cent. Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Ontario also have a harmonized sales tax.

## Provincial Election/December Issue November 20<sup>TH</sup>

# Blair Wins by 344 Votes

*By Maurice Rees*  
In the October 19th municipal election Colchester's incumbent Mayor Christine Blair garnered 344 more votes than challenger, Deputy Mayor Geoff Stewart winning 5,784 to 5,440. In Colchester's eight districts which had voting for council positions a total of 8,809 voters took the effort to exercise their right to vote. Three seats have been filled by acclamation.

Municipal election results for Municipality of Colchester and Towns of Truro are included in this story.

In Municipality of Colchester municipal election Eight thousand eight hundred nine (8,809) votes were cast in eight of the election districts where elections were held. The other three seats were acclaimed.

**The acclaimed seat results for Districts 2, 7 and 8 are as follows:**

**District 2:** Laurie Sandeson, in seat held for several years by veteran councillor, Bill Masters, (now deceased) was returned for her second term by acclamation.

**District 7:** Sherry Martell, who recently resigned as Executive Director Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce was acclaimed for a four year term. She replaces veteran councillor, Mike Gregory, who did not re-offer.

**District 8:** Lisa Patton was acclaimed for her second term.

**Here are the election results for the remaining eight districts where voting took place:**

**District 1:** Eric Boutilier (Incumbent), 355 lost to Paul Weatherby, 469.

**District 3:** seat formerly held by Geoff Stewart, Deputy Mayor, who vacated the seat to run for Mayor's seat, Sheldon Richardson 538 won over Joel Dawe, 407.

**District 4:** Incumbent Mike Cooper recorded 568 votes compared to 365 for challenger John Viissers.

**District 5:** Incumbent Tim Johnson returning for his second term trounced Bonnie Brown, 718 to 193.

**District 6:** In seat formerly held by long serving Karen MacKenzie, who did not reoffer, newcomers, Nigel Leggett beat Kelly Herron-Jacobs, 929 to 383.

**District 9:** Debert's incumbent Marie Benoit, returning for her second term, beat challenger, Andrew MacKinnon 820 to 480.

**District 10:** West Colchester, District 10 attracted five contenders with Charlene Fletcher

beating incumbent Victoria Lomond 634 to 452. Other candidates included: Doug MacInnes, 80; Mike Rushton, 39 and Cherylann Slack, 93.

**District 11:** In seat vacated by long serving veteran councillor Wade Parker, Al Kennedy won with 573 votes compared to Wade MacCallum, (433) to Sean MacDonald, (280)

For the sole CSAP school board position. Jessica Hinton was ACCLAIMED.

*Colchester Mayor poll by poll results see page 10.*

*Colchester Council poll by poll results see page 9.*

**Town of Truro results are as follows:**

**Mayor** Cathy Hinton - (Acclaimed) when long serving veteran Mayor Bill Mills did not re-offer.

**Councillor, Ward 1:** Wayne Talbot (662 - ELECTED); Alison Graham (563 - ELECTED); Joe Andrew (264) and Paula Whitaker (214).

**Councillor, Ward 2:** Bill Thomas (773 - ELECTED); Jim Flemming (546 - ELECTED); Shelly DeViller (526) and Brenna Urquhart (259).

**Councillor, Ward 3:** Debra Pryor (829 - ELECTED); Ian McGrath (758 - ELECTED); Laura Henderson-Yorke (251) and Doug Gilliland (192)

For the sole CSAP school board position. Jessica Hinton was ACCLAIMED.

*Truro Mayor and Council results see page 7.*

**Town of Stewiacke results are as follows:**

**Mayor:** Doug Glasser (Acclaimed)

**Councillors:** Rebecca Rogers-Laing 317 (Elected); Suzanne Lutz 291 (Elected); David Leblanc 270 (Elected); Pam Osborne 229 (Elected) and Audrey Armsworthy 212

*Stewiacke Mayor and Council results see page 20.*



Sterling MacQuarrie was excited to look at the animals in the HRM 4-H petting zoo. The 2024 Kilt-Ober, held in Debert, is the first and only Halloween-themed Scottish Highland Games in Canada. More photos can be found on page 2 of this Shoreline Journal.

## Deer Hunt Plebiscite Strongly Supported

A municipal election plebiscite conducted in several urban communities of the Municipality of Colchester during the Municipal Election received overwhelming support for a managed deer hunt to help control growing deer populations. In 2025 data collection is anticipated to expand to the communities of Salmon River, Truro Heights, Lower Truro, and Hilden.

Similar to the Town of Truro, many communities throughout the Municipality of Colchester have experienced problematic increases in deer. These increases have disrupted local ecosystems, destroyed property (gardens and landscapes), and have resulted in numerous Deer Vehicle Collisions (DVCs) and unsafe driving conditions.

Earlier this Spring the Municipality began working with Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables (DNR&R) in the Brookside/Bible Hill/Valley area to collect the 3-years of data required before a managed deer hunt can be considered. In 2025 data collection is anticipated to expand to the communities of Salmon River, Truro Heights, Lower Truro, and Hilden. These communities will all be included in the plebiscite during the election and will be asked to respond "yes" or "no" to the following question: "Do you support a safely managed urban deer bow/crossbow hunt to control and reduce the urban deer population in and around your community?"

The Town of Truro spent several years in consultation with the DNR&R, researching, collecting data, and gauging public opinion on how best to address their deer problem. A resulting Deer Management Strategy concluded that a controlled managed hunt is the most favourable population reduction method, in terms of effectiveness, feasibility, public cost, capacity, and time to implement. The Town, in

*continued on page 7*

**SPECIAL NOTE:**  
Due to the provincial election on November 26, the December issue of the Shoreline Journal will be published a week earlier on November 20th - [maurice@theshorelinejournal.com](mailto:maurice@theshorelinejournal.com)

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