

Report on FCM Meetings

By Tom Taggart

As one of 4 elected from Nova Scotia On the Board of Canadian Federation of Municipalities Maurice has asked that I report to his readers on the highlights of the meetings and what the potential benefits will be for Colchester County. I am very happy to have this opportunity. The board met in Oakville, Ontario Sept 13 to 16.

The main focus was to set the Municipal goals and priorities as the Federal Government gets ready to roll out Phase 2 of the \$48-Billion Federal Infrastructure Fund. You may remember reading in the Shoreline last month that our Municipality received in excess of 2 million dollars in funding under phase 1 of this infrastructure fund.

This funding went to much needed upgrades in water and waste water, mostly in Debert and Tatamagouche. There are two things important to note here. First, this fund with 25% financial support of the Provincial Government has allowed the projects to go forward with the Municipality only paying 25 cents on each dollar.

Secondly, phase one was intended for necessary shovel

ready projects that would create employment and boost the economy in the short term. Fortunately, our Municipality has an ongoing priority list with preliminary work ready for when funding is available.

It is extremely important to note the week prior to our board meetings, seven members of our board were invited to by Federal Infrastructure Minister Amajet Sohi to a meeting with Federal and Provincial Ministers in Edmonton to discuss this Phase 2 Infrastructure Fund.

This is Historic as it is the first time ever, that Municipalities have been invited to participate in these discussions and I believe indicates the minister recognizes the value of our Municipal voice is setting National priorities. Karen Oldford, Mayor of Labrador City and Atlantic Caucus chair represented Atlantic Canada.

Our meetings revolved around our priorities for Phase 2. It is expected this fund will see the Feds fund 50% of eligible projects with the remaining 50% funding from Province and Municipalities. The Municipal priorities will focus around the following: Continued improvements to water and wastewater

facilities, enabling them to meet the current public health and environmental regulations; Funding for Energy retrofits for local buildings to create jobs, lower energy bills and reduce Canadian Greenhouse gas emissions. In this funding there will be a specific carve-out for social and affordable housing.

Also included in Phase two will be funding for projects to improve the resiliency of communities that may be affected by natural disaster related to Climate change, flooding etc. and funding for mass transit initiatives that will reduce gridlock and greenhouse gas emissions.

Other agenda items specific to FCM committees I sit on are as follows: Public Safety and crime prevention revolved around the legalization of Marijuana and RCMP labor relations and how they will directly impact Municipalities; Rural caucus priorities, continued requirements and funding, for expanded rural internet broadband and specific funding set aside in the infrastructure program for small rural communities.

The Social Economic Development Committee, of which I am Vice Chair, will focus primarily around the new Federal Government National Housing strategy and how it affects affordable housing and

homelessness.

In closing, I would like to say one of the highlights for me, as vice chair of this committee, was attending a breakfast meeting with National Chief Dwight

Dorey of the Indigenous Peoples Assembly of Canada. As he explained he represents Metis, status and non status Indians living off reserve in Canada. Chief Dorey advised

that 70% of the Indigenous people of Canada live off reserve and as such receive little support. It was a very interesting and enlightening conversation.

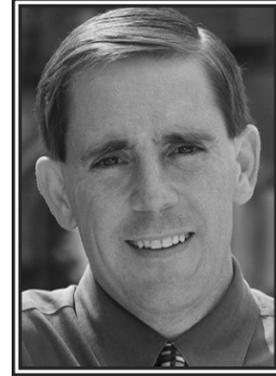
Alain J. Begin Now Judge Alain J. Begin

By Maurice Rees

Twenty two years after being called to the Nova Scotia Bar in June 1995, Alain J. Begin will now be called "your honour", following his September 1st appointment as Nova Scotia's newest judge. Prior to his recent appointment, Begin was a partner with the firm of McLellan Richards & Bégin, Truro. Judge Bégin is a former naval officer and graduate of the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario. He studied law at the University of Ottawa Law School, graduating in 1994.

His legal career has always been in Truro since admission to the bar in June 1995. He will sit primarily in Sydney Provincial Court, but will also be travelling around the province to do French language trials.

"The Provincial and Family Courts are some of the busiest courtrooms in the province, so I am very happy to have Judge



Bégin on board," said Chief Judge Pamela Williams. "With his reputation as a capable, fair and dedicated litigator in both criminal and civil matters, I know he will be a valuable addition to the Bench. Best wishes to him

in this exciting new stage of his legal career." He will be officially sworn in at a later date. He is one of five out of the thirty five full and six part-time Provincial and / or Family Court judges who are fully bilingual.

Volunteering has always been an important part of his life. Over the years he has been involved with a number of community and charitable organizations, including the Rotary Club of Truro, the Cobequid Arts Council, the Truro Curling Club, the Advisory Council for the Truro Farmers' Market, the Truro & District Chamber of Commerce, and the Truro chapter of the Brain Injury Association of Nova Scotia, among others.

Mayor and 2 Council Seats Up For Grabs

By Maurice Rees

The municipal election will not be as interesting as it would have been with every seat being contested. Yes, many councillors will serve another four years, because they were acclaimed. Not that it's a problem, but the situation arises. Did they get in via acclamation because they were doing such a good job, or is there a definite lack of interest in municipal office?

If it was because they were doing tremendous job, fine. However, if the lack of candidates is because no one cares, that is a big problem. It probably is lack of interest. For example, Christine Blair vacated a Bible Hill seat to run for mayor. Sometimes running against an incumbent is a difficult choice, but when an incumbent does not re-offer, occasionally, there is a long list of candidates.

However, Eric Boutillier tossed his hat in the ring. When nominations ceased, he was the only one offering for Bible Hill. Others to get elected by acclamation include: District 3, Geoff Stewart; District 4, Mike Cooper; District 5, Lloyd Gibbs; District 6, Karen MacKenzie; District 7, Michael Gregory; District 8, Ron Cavanaugh; District 9, Doug MacInnes and District 10, Tom Taggart.

Polling stations are being established in all districts, because Bob Taylor (incumbent) is being challenged by Christine Blair who vacated her Bible Hill seat to enter the mayoralty race. Candidates are active in only two of the districts. Bill Masters, incumbent is being challenged by Shawn Duffy for the seat in District 2, while in District 11, Wade Parker, is being challenged by Tom Burke.

In District 2, Bill Masters was first elected to Council in October 2000 and is currently serving his fourth term. He and his wife Debbie have been long time residents of Old Barns. They have three adult sons and six grandchildren. Bill recently retired from Nova Enterprises Ltd. in Truro Heights where he was part owner and General Manager. Masters was appointed as Deputy Mayor by his col-

leagues, and has completed four-year Municipal Administration Program from Dalhousie; seven years in municipal government and 39 years in business in the community. As Deputy Mayor he is a member of the Executive and Audit Committee, the Civic Centre Steering Committee and Operating Board.

Master's challenger is 37 year old Shawn Duffy. Originally from Collingwood, Duffy served seven years as a volunteer with the Collingwood Fire Department; graduating from Oxford Regional High School in 1998, the same year he was named Firefighter of the Year. Living in Truro Heights for almost seven years and before that also lived in the Truro area for some time. He lives with his common-law wife and two step-children. Duffy has previously been employed by Ski Wentworth and recently by Safety First of Lower Truro Road. He currently works for Hubtown Delivery Service in Bible Hill.

Over in Bible Hill's District 11, Wade Parker is serving his first term as Councillor in District 11. Parker was raised and currently resides in District 11 with his wife Cathy. He has two children, Lindsay Parker (29), and Chad Parker (25). Wade graduated from Cobequid

Educational Centre and is a Red Seal Technician in the Auto Body Trade. He previously worked as a Correctional Officer for 20 years at the Colchester County Correctional Centre. He then became self-employed, running two businesses. Currently, he still owns and operates Parker's Bailiff Services, and is the Manager of Pye's Collision Centre.

Wade has been awarded the Provincial Volunteer of the Year and the Pettigrew Recreation Leadership Awards for his involvement in winning the title of Hockeyville for Salmon River, NS. He is also the founder and board member of the Salmon River Hockey Society, an organization focusing on placing underprivileged children into hockey in Colchester County.

New comer to the Colchester Council scene is Tom Burke, who is challenging Wade Parker for the District 11 seat in Bible Hill. Burke is well known in Bible Hill having served as chairman of the Bible Hill Village Commission, a position he has held for six years.

When he resigned his chairmanship position to run for councillor, District 11, Burke was the longest-serving member of the Bible Hill Village Commission having been a member for 21 years and eight months.

THANK YOU



To the residents of District 9, I wish to express my sincerest THANK YOU for the trust you have placed in me to be your elected representative on Municipal Council for the next four years. It is an honour and responsibility I take very seriously.

Thank you
Doug MacInnes
Ph: 902-895-2242

THANK YOU



I would like to say a very sincere THANK YOU to the residents of District 10 for the trust they have placed in me by my acclamation to Municipal Council for the next 4 years. It is an honour and a responsibility that I take very seriously.

Thank you so much, Tom
Tom Taggart
902-647-2025

On the school board scene, all candidates in Colchester were elected via acclamation, which includes Jim Grue; Reg Pauley; Lauretta (Margie) Nicholson; Robert George; Vivian Farrell. CSAP representative, Jerome Breau was acclaimed for Colchester, Cumberland, Amherst, Oxford, Truro and Stewiacke

The only election for the school board is for the ANS position, where incumbent, Glenda Talbot-Richards is being challenged by Tamara Tynes Powell.



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Municipality of Colchester

Solid Waste Facilities'

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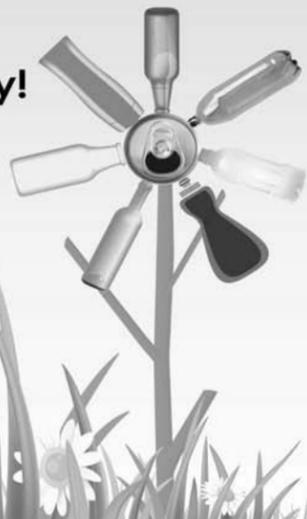
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Saturday October 1st 10am—2pm

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- Guided Facility Tours  (Balefill, Compost & Recycling)
- Touch-a-Truck - Bring your Camera!
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