

PAGE BRIEFS

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Creative Auto Images is moving. On October 3rd, 2017, they will be opening in their new location at 100 Pictou Road in Bible Hill. They will be closed from September 29th to October 2nd while are moving. Phone and fax numbers remain the same.

Natural Resources Minister Margaret Miller announced on Aug. 30 University of King's College president William Lahey will review forest practices and evaluate market access for private forest owners. Prof. Lahey is an associate professor at Dalhousie's Schulich School of Law and a former deputy minister of environment. Prof. Lahey will carry out a review of existing forest harvest practices including strengths and weaknesses and the overall role of Crown wood supply throughout Nova Scotia. He will provide recommendations for improvement regarding how Nova Scotia balances long-term environmental, social and economic interests in managing the province's forests. He will deliver a final report to the minister by Feb. 28, 2018. The report will be made public after the review period. The terms of reference are available at https://novascotia.ca/natr/forestry/Forest_Review/

The Province of Nova Scotia and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) have teamed up to provide greater support for Nova Scotia startups in the ocean and clean technology sectors. Six business acceleration programs will be delivered this fall, including a new Blue Solutions competition to find innovative ways to address problems in the ocean sectors. Innovacorp will manage the programs, which will provide funding and business guidance. The combined funding of \$920,000 from the two governments will support startups through six initiatives: Blue Solutions, a competition to find innovative solutions to problems in the ocean sector; three programs to help ocean technology companies develop their products and business models and demonstrate their prototypes in a real-life setting and two programs to help clean technology companies address technical and business milestones and move closer to investment readiness. Of the \$920,000, the Government of Canada is providing a \$500,000 non-repayable contribution to this initiative under ACOA's Business Development Program. The province, through Innovacorp, is providing the remaining \$420,000.

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How to Prevent or Reduce Contacts with Ticks

By Don Cameron

Ticks are most common and active in the spring (May-June), followed by the fall. They are carried by not only deer, but any warm-blooded animal, including birds, on which they can hitch a ride and get a blood meal. There are several ways to prevent or reduce contact with ticks when in areas with long grass, shrubs or woods, including:

Apply insect repellents containing DEET or Icaridin to exposed skin and clothes. Follow directions on the package carefully; Wear light colored, long sleeved shirts and pants, closed shoes, and tuck pant legs into socks and walk on well-traveled paths, avoiding high grass and vegetation.

Other things to do include: Check yourself, children, and pets after walking in grassy or wooded areas. Check

clothing and inspect skin including in and around ears, arm pits, inside belly button, groin, around the waist, and especially in hair and scalp area.

When possible, take a bath or shower within two hours of coming indoors. This makes it easier to find ticks and washes away loose ones. Remove ticks as soon as they are found. Carefully grasp ticks with tweezers as close to the skin as possible and pull the tick straight out. Clean and disinfect the area where the tick was attached to the skin.

Around the house or public property keep lawns mowed short. Put playground equipment in sunny, dry places, away from wooded areas, yard edges, and trees. Now that we can assume that we may come in contact with ticks when outside from spring to autumn, it is essential that individuals, including parents of small kids, establish a routine of checking for ticks on a daily basis.

We live in tick country.
Don Cameron, RPF works at Department of Natural Resources, Truro and frequently submits articles to the Shoreline Journal. See also page 24.



News from our Municipal Council - District 10

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Murray for meetings of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. It also just happens an "Oil Sands Trade Show" taking place in this city as well. I have been reading literature and understand some of the newest most modern and innovative waste water remediation companies in the world will promoting their technology at this show. I have secured an invitation and will be there.

Now back to my original message! Responsible Resource Development. Yesterday I was given a tour of one of the Suncor operations in the region. This particular operation was one of the original developments where they actually dig the oil saturated earth out of pits and remove the oil or bitumen from that earth, and transport to refineries across North America for refining. This is a first for me, and it is amazing.

Most all of us have read and seen much about this type of operation. The prevalent opinion is it is a large carbon producing, "dirty oil" project littered with contaminated sites and damaged wildlife etc. This is a real contrast to what I have actually viewed. Granted, this was a tour put on by industry.

However some things cannot be denied. This particular facility is monstrous and covers many hundreds of hectares. It straddles the Athabasca River, a huge glacier fed river. I have actually stood at the beginning of on a Glacier field in Northern Alberta some years ago.

Regardless this is a pristine river and this facility is literally on the banks of that river and it appears living in harmony with. We

all know the kind of outrage and the photos which would be on the nightly news if this river was being polluted.

Yes, as you go through the operation there are tailing ponds and wastewater remediation ponds and they are not that pretty. But they are certainly treated professionally and responsibly, with full regard to wildlife, the land and the residents of Northern Alberta. I also toured a 220 hectare reclamation project and wildlife rehabilitation area that was the early days of this development. Suncor has been operating this development for 50 years.

It appears to me, that this is what I would consider RESPONSIBLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT. I am sure it is not cheap.

Now let's down size this project a couple of hundred percent and look at the recent approval which was received by Osco Aggregates to expand their operation in Glenholme. This has been without question a major disappointment to residents, in particular those in the Little Dyke area. The Dept of Environment has issued a permit to allow a vast expansion, which has concerned residents. The key here will be to ensure all conditions of the operation's permit will be strictly enforced and continually monitored to ensure the resource can be developed with little or no impact on the residents, the wildlife and quality of life we all expect.

In closing I would like to refer back to the Debert odors and EnviroSystems. Their permit to operate under NS Dept of Environment states "no offensive odors are permitted".

Lets ensure that is a reality. Tom

Tom Taggart, Councilor District 10, Colchester County

Nova Scotia Student Absenteeism Policy Effective October 1

A new student attendance and engagement policy to address the growing concern of student absenteeism will come in effect October 1. The policy is designed to identify and address absenteeism before it becomes a problem for students through early and targeted interventions.

Under the policy: Students will be considered absent unless they are attending an activity that directly relates to their learning, or a school activity; teachers will not be required to prepare additional materials or release test and exam information ahead of their release to the class; Grade 10 to 12 students who miss more than 20 per cent of class time for a given course may lose a credit for that course based upon individual circumstance and the profes-

sional judgment of the teacher and principal and addressing absenteeism or chronic lateness will vary based on the age, grade and the individual circumstances of the student.

The policy is based on advice from the Council to Improve Classroom Conditions. Teachers, parents and students are invited to provide feedback on the policy and its implementation throughout the year. The department will review the policy and adjust based on lessons learned and feedback received after the 2017-18 school year.

A copy of the policy, operational plan and more information is available at www.ednet.ns.ca/student-attendance-and-engagement-policy

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October is bursting with excitement, Small Business Week, Elegant Steps Fall Fashion Show, Food Week from October 13-20, and Halloween. Lots of opportunity to learn something new with the Chamber of Commerce, Lunch and Learn programs, find the perfect costume for Halloween and perhaps eyeball some potential gifts for Christmas. Shopping local makes a difference and there is so much to choose from Downtown!



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