

PAGE BRIEFS

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Membership surged by 400%

Membership in the Nova Scotia Progressive Conservative Party has surged leading up to the deadline to purchase a membership and be eligible to vote in the leadership race. As of the deadline, Party membership during the leadership race had increased by over 400%. The leadership candidates are: Julie Chaisson, Cecil Clarke, Tim Houston, John Lohr, and Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin. The Party has chosen a one member, one vote system of voting, weighted for equality of constituencies. Each constituency is allocated 100 points and votes will be allocated proportionally. Members may vote by mail-in ballot or in person at the October 26-27 convention in Halifax.

The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

Onslow Mountain male facing charges

A 29-year-old man from Onslow Mountain, is facing several charges following September 11 when members of Colchester District RCMP; Colchester Integrated Street Crime Unit (SCEU); Colchester General Investigation Section (GIS) and Local Intelligence Officers of Criminal Intelligence Service of Nova Scotia (CISNS) searched a home on Onslow Mountain Rd. in Onslow Mountain. As a result, a quantity of drugs were seized, including: cocaine, methamphetamine and cannabis marihuana. A loaded AR-15 .22 rifle, brass knuckles and a stun gun was also seized along with a side-by-side/ATV and a Sports Utility Vehicle. Six people were in the home at the time of the search, including a 4-year-old boy who was safely removed. The 29-year-old man from Onslow Mountain, is facing the following charges: Trafficking of Cocaine; Possession of Cocaine for the Purpose of Trafficking; Possession of Methamphetamine for the Purpose of Trafficking; Production of Cannabis Marihuana; Possession of Cannabis Marihuana for the Purpose of Trafficking; Possession of a Weapon for a Dangerous Purpose x 3; Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm; Unauthorized Possession of a Prohibited Device x 2; Unsafe Storage of a Firearm; Unauthorized Possession of a Weapon in a Motor Vehicle and Possession of a Weapon Obtained by the Commission of an Offence. The man was released from custody on conditions and is scheduled to appear in Truro Provincial Court on November 28, 2018. The investigation is ongoing.

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The Shoreline Journal

is proud to provide coverage of community events.

For coverage of your event contact Maurice Rees at 902-647-2968

REMINDER

Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade
2018 Harvest Sale & Auction
AT THE FIRE HALL IN ONSLOW.
Starts Friday, Sep. 28: 7 pm – 11 pm
Again on Sat. Sep. 29: 10 am - 5 pm
and 7 pm – Finish 11 pm

100's of household items appliances & furniture, good selection of **antiques & collectibles**. Sale of local produce, pickles, preserves & bake goods + **Donations from local merchants!**

Hourly Door Prize Draws & Grand prize draw at end of sale Saturday Night. Canteen Services available.

See also - and message us on our Facebook page!
 902-662-2555

THIS SALE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE FIRE HALL IN ONSLOW

IF YOU HAVE DONATIONS TO DROP OFF CONTACT US



News from our Federal Capital

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in air travel. First of all when I started there was no security at all at the gate no luggage checkno identification, no nothing...we just got on the plane by showing the boarding pass. Shortly after take-off the plane would start to fill up with smoke as passengers were allowed to light up cigarettes. Ashtrays were provided at every seat and they were usually full. Often the airlines would provide full meals whereas now you might get a bag of peanuts.

When I arrived in Ottawa in 1988 there was a strict dress code for the House of Commons. You could not be seated in the House without a suit and tie on. When the Reformers came in 1993 they pushed back on this and were soon wearing jeans and a sport coat. Then some ties came off and we now have a much lower level of dress code for men in the House of Commons.

A trend that I am very uncomfortable with is change in the way countries deal with each other. We have always had a process to handle differences and disputes between countries that involved diplomats and an orderly process. Now it is too often done by a few words in a "tweet" which are subject to public interpretation and misunderstandings. When it comes to foreign relations, I think the Twitter accounts should be closed.

One of the most dramatic changes in the last few years has been the impact of the internet on the media. At one time, a national journalist would call and ask for an opinion on an issue and give a deadline for the comment. There are no "deadlines" now, because the news is posted on the internet every minute of the day instantly. The "deadline" is always "now". I have often returned a call ten minutes after receiving the message only to be told... "too late, the story is already on the net". I don't believe this rush to be first on the net with the story has enhanced the quality of reporting.

Our newspapers have suffered through this communications revolution. They have lost readership and advertising dollars to the internet. When I started my political career, the Amherst Daily News had forty employees. They are no longer a "daily" and they are down to two or three employees. To me, this not a good trend

and I am sorry to see us going in this direction.

A free and vibrant press is absolutely necessary for a democracy to be successful. Journalists are often the first to identify shortcomings in government and we need this source of checks and balances no matter what party forms the government. In my view, any country which does not have a free and vibrant press cannot call itself a democracy.

On the other hand, some things stay the same. The very first debate I that I took part in was the 1988 debate on Free Trade with the United States. Sound familiar? The second debate was in 1989 about "the plight of our Aboriginal peoples". We had the exact same debate a year ago.

We still stand up to vote on every issue when it could be done electronically to save a lot of time. I attended the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture meeting in Truro last year where they had several votes on policy etc. Each Federation member had a remote and they did all of the votes in minutes. It was amazing. Last year the House of Commons had two series of votes that went over 24 hours non-stop without a break because we still stand up for every vote. Perhaps we should consult with the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture on how to do this.

Although my "career" has had some zig-zags, it has been very fulfilling. I have been elected and defeated, expelled, recycled and left for health reasons. Then I was recycled again in 2015, thanks to you. I understand that I am the only MP to ever get elected under three party flags and also elected as an Independent.

It has been an amazing experience and I am grateful to all of you for giving me this opportunity to represent Cumberland Colchester. Having said that, I will still be the MP for another year and will serve until the very last day. My offices will stay open until after the 2019 election and my excellent staff and I are all at your service.

Thank you very, very much.

Bill

Bill Casey is MP for Cumberland-Colchester.

News from our Provincial Capital

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physical activity in the county while connecting people with the history of Springhill's mining heritage.

The Town of Pictou will receive \$28,900 to implement active transportation projects, and the Town of New Glasgow will also receive \$5,000 to study the Samson, Pioneer and Johnny Miles Trails.

Connect2 aims to create and promote active transportation options for trips of two kilometres or less between community hubs

in rural and urban parts of the province. This year, Connect2 will invest more than \$600,000 to support 21 projects across the province. All projects will be completed by the end of March 2019. Application deadline has passed for the 2018/19 fiscal year.

For more information about Connect2, visit www.novascotia.ca/sustainabletransportation.

Karen Casey, MLA Colchester North is also Deputy Premier and President of the Treasury Board.

News from our Municipal Council - District 10

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based on whether they wish to take the time from their busy schedule to attend an evening meeting.

Regardless we will be having discussions with them. After full discussion and possibly some constructive debate, PAC will bring a recommendation to council which will then have a public discussion as they review, amend and make a final decision on what will hopefully be acceptable to the majority.

In other news I have spent the past week at FCM Board meetings at the Annapolis Basin Conference center in Annapolis County. It was nice to have fellow board members visiting the province to enjoy our outstanding scenery and quality of life.

It is too early to comment on most of the outcomes as they have not yet, been released to other Municipalities across Canada. However, I am very pleased and believe you will be as well, in what will be FCM's number one policy or position as we commence our lobby effort to all political parties in advance of next year's Federal Election.

This is worthy of note, because FCM is, as I have commented before, one of the most influential registered lobby groups in Canada. If I may tout my horn a little bit more. I am very proud of my role on this board. As I noted in June I was elected as Chair of Atlantic Caucus for this year and last week I was elected as vice chair of Rural Forum.

I consider Rural Forum to be the most important forum on the board. These are not appointments but positions that are voted on by my peers across Canada.

Now, just a short explanation of the Jordan Municipal Support Mission.

Global Affairs Canada and the Federation Of Canadian Municipalities are working together on this five year mission. We will be working with the Ministry of Municipal affairs and Jordanian Municipalities to improve municipal services, and to support municipal units in developing their leadership and governance skills, primarily in improving their effectiveness in engaging their communities and their citizens. The mission will also provide assistance in service provision. Municipal solid waste management has been identified as a top priority. That will be my main role.

Colchester's Councillor Eric Boutilier, and Economic Development Officer, Mark Austin are also engaged in this current mission. Their primary focus will be developing a curriculum for future workshops in training development of these fledgling municipalities in Jordan.

Hope to send further information and photos along to Maurice as the mission's trip unfolds this week.

Enjoy the fall. Tom

Tom Taggart is Colchester Councillor for District 10.

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