

The Shoreline Tid-Bits Journal

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Transportation Leaders from 25 Countries in Halifax

For the first time in 20 years, delegates from 25 countries gathered in Halifax for the 87th International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association's (IBTTA) annual meeting and exhibition. More than 650 transportation experts met at the Halifax Convention Centre, Sept. 15 to 17. At the conference, transportation leaders from around the globe shared best practices, while discussing advancements and improvements in tolling and transportation technologies providing drivers with greater mobility and enhanced safety. The Halifax Convention Centre worked with Halifax Harbour Bridges and Taste of Nova Scotia to give delegates a taste of local flavours during the event. Delegates will be participating in a tour of the completed Big Lift project on the newly renovated Macdonald Bridge.

Xplornet to build national 5G rural broadband network

Xplornet Communications Inc., Canada's largest rural-focused broadband service provider, announced on September 12, it has sublicensed 40MHz of AWS-4 spectrum from TerreStar Solutions Inc. The spectrum covers most of the rural households located across Canada's ten provinces and will enable Xplornet to build a national 5G wireless broadband network for rural Canadians. Although not confirmed by Develop Nova Scotia, Xplornet is believed to have been chosen by Cumberland and Colchester municipalities in an application submitted at the end of June, 2019. Sources indicate the company is in contract negotiations with Develop Nova Scotia and the two municipalities. An announcement date has not been confirmed. The spectrum agreement with TerreStar makes over 500 million MHzPOP of mid-band spectrum available to Xplornet for deployment in 37 tier 3 and 13 tier 4 areas across Canada until March 2035, with an option for Xplornet to extend the term of the agreement should TerreStar's AWS-4 spectrum licences be renewed. The spectrum band is downlink mobile spectrum in the 2000 MHz to 2020 MHz and 2180 MHz to 2200 MHz frequency ranges that can be used to provide fixed or mobile broadband. This spectrum investment will enable Xplornet to develop the latest wireless technology to deliver future 5G services, including speeds of 100 Megabits per second (Mbps) and affordable unlimited data plans for rural broadband customers across Canada. Xplornet is currently working with leading equipment manufacturers to develop 5G-ready radio access equipment and consumer premise equipment, meeting the 3GPP standards. The AWS-4 downlink spectrum will be paired with available uplink spectrum, including spectrum currently held by Xplornet. The AWS-4 spectrum is one of a number of bands that will be deployed to deliver 5G services. Xplornet holds mobile and fixed licensed spectrum in the 3500 MHz, 2500 MHz, 600 MHz, 700 MHz and AWS-1 bands. Through the AWS-4 spectrum transaction, innovation with global equipment manufacturers and investment of over \$500 million in the next five years, Xplornet plans to deliver 5G wireless services to rural Canadians.

Support Our Seniors Canada.

A grassroots advocacy movement, "Support our Seniors Canada, originating in Newfoundland and Labrador is rapidly gaining momentum across Canada. The group is demanding the Federal Government immediately rectify the economic crisis that many seniors across this country who are living far below the poverty line of \$25,000 per year and are forced to live on annual stipends of between \$15,000 and \$18,000. The advocacy group claims impoverished circumstances cause senior to use food banks, soup kitchens and thrift shops. They claim seniors can't afford decent housing, healthy food, heat, transit and the many essential health aids not covered by health care. Seniors living below the poverty line are encouraged to join Support Our Seniors Canada on Facebook or contact seniorfairness@gmail.com.

Five-year Memorandum of Understanding

Government and Nova Scotia universities will continue to work together to provide high-quality, accessible education through a newly signed five-year memorandum of understanding (MOU). The agreement will continue the progress that has been made on preventing sexual violence on university campuses, first outlined in the 2015-19 agreement. Universities have committed to reviewing their stand-alone sexual violence policies every three years. The annual increase to tuition for Nova Scotia students enrolled in undergraduate programs is capped at three per cent per year. The parties agreed to advance new ideas in support of student experience with a focus on proactive and meaningful consultation with students and elected student representatives. The universities have committed to implementing a university-student consultation framework by March 31, 2020.

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Canadians have more money in their pockets, with the typical middle class family being more than \$2,000 better off every year, compared to 2015. Under our plan, Canadians created over 1 million new jobs. Under Liberal leadership, this momentum will continue. As an MLA, my focus was on protecting our rural way of life and keeping our economy strong. As the Member of Parliament for Cumberland-Colchester that is still my focus.

Many feel immigration is key to growing our economy. How many (4 person) refugee families should be invited to move to Cumberland-Colchester?

(Armstrong - Conservative): Immigration is key to growing our population and our economy. We must prioritize those skilled immigrants who are needed in our workforce...doctors, engineers, trades people and others. We should bring as many as are willing to come to our area, so long as they fill in-demand jobs in our economy. A Conservative Government would once again make economic need a top consideration in our Immigration system.

(Blanch - Green Party): 80,000 people live in Cumberland-Colchester. 21.4% of Colchester and 25.7% of Cumberland residents are over 65 (2016) compared to NS at 19.9% and Canada at 16.9%. Cumberland's population declined by 4.3% and Colchester's by 0.8% between 2011 and 2016. Young people are leaving our community. Youth must be retained and attracted and immigration must be encouraged and embraced. It would take 800 people a year, (200 families), over 5 years, to replace the population decline from 2011 and 2016. This would be an ultimate immigration goal (including people from other provinces) but we would have to establish appropriate services to welcome and support these families before we could welcome so many.

(Duchesne - NDP): In order to bring immigrant families here we need to be sure that there are local support groups to help them settle and feel welcome. So rather than a number I would say as many as we can be sure we have the social infrastructure in place to provide support for.

(Zann - Liberal): I don't think it's a matter of how many families should be invited, but how many we can responsibly welcome. Immigration is the key to growth for rural Nova Scotia. Immigrants bring not only a diverse culture that breathes life into our communities, they also contribute meaningfully to the economy.

What leadership will you provide to eliminate racism and further marginalization of those at the lower end of the economic ladder?

(Armstrong - Conservative): As with most other aspects of the MP's job, collaboration is key. Working with communities and groups to understand their issues and priorities is important. This understanding and cooperative relationship is needed to make progress and ensure any marginalized group receives of opportunity.

(Blanch - Green Party): I have a long and proven track record of opposing racism and classism. I will hold a regular town-hall meetings with citizens from all communities to strive to better understand the issues that are important to people. I will speak out against racism. I will implement the Green Party's policies of UBI, Universal Pharmacare, and Free Tuition to ensure equal opportunities are available to all residents of our riding and of Canada.

(Duchesne - NDP): I would be a strong advocate for the implementation of the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Report. I would work closely and respectfully with First Nations and African Nova Scotian communities to understand and support their demands. I would urge compulsory sensitivity training for police, people working in the justice and corrections systems and in the education system and all other government workers in their dealings with people who are marginalized for whatever reason. I would organize and offer to accompany people from marginalized groups to speak at schools, church groups, service clubs and other community organizations so that they could tell their stories and help people to understand systemic racism. I would point out that people do not choose to be poor.

(Zann - Liberal): I have always fought to end racism and the marginalization of all people, my record as an MLA is a testament to that fight. I have worked incredibly hard to cultivate relationships across all communities, and to be a voice for those who have been pushed aside and ignored. Equality. Respect. Dignity. Those should be the watch-words that we all live by.

Why do you think you are the best person to be chosen as Cumberland-Colchester's Member of Parliament?

(Armstrong - Conservative): I feel I am the best person to represent Cumberland - Colchester in the House of Commons because I have been there; I have delivered; and I represent a party who best represents the interests of rural Canadians. As MP from 2009-2015 I delivered tens of millions of dollars to this riding which improved our infrastructure, created jobs, and made our communities safer and better places to live. And I am the only candidate who represents a party who believes in making life more affordable through lower taxes. On October 21st, I ask for your support. I am working for you!

(Blanch - Green Party): I will fight tirelessly for the people of Cumberland-Colchester and simultaneously the people of Canada and the planet. I am actually an honest politician.

(Duchesne - NDP): I volunteer at the Oxford Food Bank. I have been a journalist and a teacher in both urban and rural areas of Nova Scotia and I taught for ten years in First Nations communities in northern Quebec and Ontario. My experience has taught me how to listen and to understand the perspective of others and has given me direct knowledge of just how much many people struggle to get by. I feel strongly that the economy is out of balance and that we have to act to change a situation where the few are getting obscenely rich while the majority of us are losing ground. I am fully convinced that we have to take urgent action now to mitigate the effects of climate change and I see in this climate crisis an opportunity to create good new green jobs while moving toward a low carbon environment that will be healthier for us all.

(Zann - Liberal): I first ran for politics in 2009 because I wanted to "change the world". Now, I realize each of us needs to BE the change we want to see! That's why, with 10 years of experience as an MLA, I am ready to be your voice in Ottawa. As MP I will put the interests and well-being of my constituents first - above party politics. I am committed to preserving our rural way of life, to improving healthcare and protecting seniors, to ensuring all residents have access to quality Internet, and to investing in green jobs and the creative economy. I have, and will continue to stand, with women, workers, and First Nations to create a more equal playing field, while keeping our economy strong. I am ready to address the climate crisis head-on. We must act now to mitigate the damage and protect our air and water. Surely that is the legacy we want to leave our children and grandchildren. If elected, I will be only the second woman ever to represent our Federal riding in Ottawa.

Supplementary Income?

Are you interested in supplementing your income with occasional part-time sales and other responsibilities?

If you enjoy meeting people wish to earn extra income and are semi-retired; stay-at-home parent, or an ambitious high school or college student, we should talk. Most work can be done from home for those with telephone and computer skills.

The Shoreline Journal / South Cumberland News is looking for numerous casual / part-time people in South Cumberland (Parrsboro to Oxford areas) and numerous communities in Colchester. Remuneration is based on commission or project basis.

We wish to strengthen our team in the following categories:

- Advertising sales (Truro, Bible Hill, Springhill, Oxford)
- Local circulation sales representatives. (Cumberland & Colchester Counties)
- Some opportunities exist for freelance writers/photographers.

If any of these positions appeal to you, please send Introductory E-mail to: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com or call, **902-647-2968**.

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