

REES' Pieces

Liberal MP's to blame

History has constantly demonstrated, it is a long road that doesn't have any turns, also it is inevitable in time things come full circle but not with the same opportunities.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February sent shivers throughout Europe and UK worrying about maintaining a supply of natural gas, which comprises 50% of their purchases which equates to about 40% of Russia's export portfolio. With winter arriving many of the forty plus membership of NATO are shaking in their boots wondering if they will freeze this winter.

Globally, it is imperative we reduce fossil fuel emissions, and governments, for the most part are implementing changes. However, during the phase out period of aggressive reductions current needs must be met to continue economic activity and avoid freezing to death.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine triggered a global scramble for gas. European policymakers are facing a mammoth decision. Do they continue to support NATO's series of blockades against Russia, and risk not having any gas or cave in to Putin's demands to ensure he doesn't shut down the pipelines letting then freeze.

Canada has an abundance of oil and gas reserves. Nearly twenty years ago numerous LNG were speculated Canada-wide. Two prominent ones for Atlantic Canada were Pieridae for Goldboro and Saint John and possibly Belledune for New Brunswick. LNG facilities went out of vogue as prices dropped and it appeared pipeline expansion appeared impossible. Without strong political support the mountain was too steep to climb.

Pieridae LNG Goldboro among the favourites decades ago. It's still prominent hoping a \$3-billion LNG facility will ship gas by 2027. To make it possible then and now requires: TC Energy must expand capacity on an existing pipeline network; Government must be keen to work with all stakeholders to reduce friction in the regulatory process; speed up approvals; get Ontario and Quebec, where opposition was the greatest two decades ago.

As we look back to assess historical decisions or should we say when action should have been taken but wasn't, 20/20 vision or a Monday morning quarterback reveals the unfortunate lack of action, which would have placed Canada as a global leader, and brought significant benefit to Atlantic Canada.

Back in the 60's and 70's Canada's armed forces proudly wore the reputation as the Peacekeeping experts around the world. Hence the Lester Pearson Peacekeeping Centre was formed at former CFB Cornwallis.

In early 21st Century fifty years later an opportunity equally as important existed, but Canada's political leaders failed to use their crystal ball to put Canada into a global leadership position that would last for decades.

The political climate was ripe a few years ago to overcome opposition in Ontario and Quebec to permit a new section and expansion of existing pipeline network. If those initiatives became reality Saint John and Goldboro, today, would have fully functioning LNG export facilities and be in a strong position to be a potential new and reliable LNG supplier due to its abundant reserves and proximity to Europe.

Had that happened, thousands of jobs would have been created, new businesses supporting LNG and gas industries would have relocated here or started anew.

It is impossible to confirm for sure, but there is a strong possibility New Brunswick and Nova Scotia would be among the top four provincial economies in a time when NATO and the "free world" continue to battle Russia over its invasion of Ukraine.

It is easy to point the finger and accurately determine who is to blame for the lack of LNG export facilities in Atlantic Canada. If you remember, at that time, Atlantic Canada was represented by thirty two (32) Liberal Members of Parliament. The power was within their grasp to "shake-down" Ottawa to have made it happen. By now we would have been the main force to ensure Ukraine continues to exist in a safe and peaceful environment, and have all European members of NATO clamouring to do more business with Canada.

Are you proud our 32 MP's from that era did not have foresight and a backbone? Now that Canada is needed even more, who will have the intestinal fortitude to make it happen today. Will all Atlantic MP's work as a unit of one for betterment of Atlantic Canada and the world.

Maurice

Additional Hurricane Fiona Financial Support

Nova Scotians who have been severely impacted by Hurricane Fiona will receive financial support from the Province as the result of a variety of supports announced by Premier Tim Houston at a news conference on September 26

"Yesterday, I toured some of the hardest hit areas of the province with the Ministers of EMO, Finance and Treasury Board, Addictions and Mental Health and Public Works. We heard from Nova Scotians directly impacted about measures we need to take," said Premier Houston. "Disaster relief funding will be helpful for uninsured losses, but we know this may take time and there will be gaps. That is why we are taking action and giving more support to Nova Scotians most affected by the storm."

The following one-time financial assistance will be offered to eligible Nova Scotians:

\$100 for every household that lost power for at least 48 hours to cover the cost of spoiled food;

\$250 for every person that has to pay for tree or debris removal from their property;

an additional \$250 on top of the existing \$750 seniors care grant to help with storm reparations;

\$150 to all current income assistance recipients, including Disability Support Program participants receiving income support;

\$1,000 per household in emergency funding for people ordered out of their homes or who cannot return to their homes;

People can register with the Canadian Red Cross online at <https://www.redcross.ca/how-we-help/current-emergency-responses/hurricane-fiona-2022> or by calling 1-800-863-6582 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

"This storm has affected Nova Scotians in unimaginable ways and we want people to know the Province is here to support them. We have a team working on getting money in the hands of people as soon as possible. We know it will help," John Lohr, Minister responsible for the Emergency Management Office.

Funding will also be provided to support community organizations that help people:

a \$2-million fund will assist community centres with the purchase and installation of generators;

\$500,000 to Feed Nova Scotia and \$150,000 in total for non-member food banks in Cape Breton and eastern Nova Scotia;

\$100,000 to Salvation Army and Red Cross organizations in Cape Breton;

\$100,000 in total to shelters in Cape Breton and eastern Nova Scotia to help with extra demand;

\$100,000 to establish a hotel fund, administered by Cape Breton Community Housing, to provide temporary accommodations for people in shelters who cannot go back into their homes;

\$150,000 to distribute support to families in need through the SchoolsPlus program; the support will come in the form of grocery store cards and access to food, where possible.

Details about these grants and how to apply will be available soon.

On September 26th, the

Expanded Seniors Care Grant Open for Applications

Older Nova Scotians can now apply for grants to help with the cost of household chores, healthcare services and home heating. The Seniors Care Grant program provides up to \$500 to help support eligible seniors to live well at home. People applying for the grant are also able to apply for a new, one-time grant of \$250 to help with heating costs.

"We know that rising costs, growing healthcare needs, and challenges completing household chores make it difficult for some older Nova Scotians to live comfortably in their own homes," said Barbara Adams, Minister of Seniors and Long-Term Care. "By expanding the types of services supported through the Seniors Care Grant and helping with heating costs, we are giving seniors the help they need and the peace of mind they deserve."

The Seniors Care Grant helps cover the costs of services such as snow removal, small repairs, lawn care, transportation, and grocery and medication delivery. The list of eligible expenses has been expanded this year to include phone and internet costs, and health services like eye exams, dental work, mental health supports, physical therapy and foot care.

The new \$250 home heating grant is available to eligible Nova Scotians 65 and older, including people who have already received money through the Seniors Care Grant or Heating Assistance Rebate Program in the past year. The grant is available for the cost of furnace oil,

natural gas, propane, firewood, wood pellets and electricity.

More information about the grants, including how to apply, who is eligible and eligible services is available:

at the program website: <https://beta.novascotia.ca/apply-help-household-costs-seniors-care-grant>

by email: seniorsgrant@novascotia.ca by calling toll-free: 1-800-670-4357.

Applications close on March 31, 2023. Expansion of the Seniors Care Grant program is part of Action for Health, the government's strategic plan to improve healthcare in Nova Scotia.

Additional Resources:

News release - Helping Seniors Cover Heating Bills, Other Increasing Costs: <https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20220728003>

Heating Assistance Rebate Program:

<https://beta.novascotia.ca/apply-heating-assistance-rebate-heating-assistance-rebate-program>

Property Tax Rebate for Seniors:

<https://beta.novascotia.ca/apply-property-tax-rebate-property-tax-rebate-seniors>

Financial assistance and grant programs for homeowners:

<https://housing.novascotia.ca/programs/financial-assistance-and-grant-programs-homeowners>

Guided Hikes and Walks offered throughout NS

Submitted by Janet Barlow

Ever want to explore the trails in your community? Participate in a guided hike or walk in your area to enjoy the fall colours and see where the trails lead you!

"Fall is a perfect time to experience nature in our beautiful province. Whether you are a seasoned hiker or someone who enjoys less strenuous outings, our guided hike and walk series has you covered," says Janet Barlow, Hike Nova Scotia Executive Director.

Hike NS and 18 host organizations have partnered to offer the Fall Guided Hike and Walk Series from September 17th to November 20th. There are 39 walks scheduled province-wide. Local folks lead the walks, and participants qualify to win trail prizes. Some of the free or low-cost walks require pre-registration.

The full schedule with registration details and directions can be found at www.hikenovascotia.ca. Hikes are listed by month and region: Annapolis Valley, Halifax, Highland, Fundy, and South Shore. The schedule includes hike/walk lengths and difficulty levels.

Hike NS thanks its local partners on the ground for organizing the walks as well as The Trail Shop, Goose Lane Editions, and the NS Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage for their support. Hike NS encourages and promotes a growing walking and hiking culture throughout the province, striving to be the voice for those who hike, walk and snowshoe.

For more information on these events or Hike Nova Scotia contact: Alisha Christie, Hike Nova Scotia (902) 932-6902, admin@hikenovascotia.ca, www.hikenovascotia.ca

Province also launched the Disaster Financial Assistance Program to help those whose losses from hurricane Fiona are not covered by insurance. The Province estimates program costs to be at least \$40 million, but costs will depend on utilization

Additional Resources:

Applications and more information on disaster financial assistance are available at: <https://beta.novascotia.ca/disaster-financial-assistance-storm-flooding>

Information on emergency and disaster preparedness:

<https://novascotia.ca/emergency-education/>

Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing on Twitter:

https://twitter.com/NS_DMA

Nova Scotia Emergency Management Office on Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/nsemo>

The Shoreline Journal

Here's where to find us:

BASS RIVER:

Bayside Pharmacy
Dominion Chair Factory Store

BIBLE HILL:

C.W. Fraser Pharmacy
MacQuarries Pharmacy
Kennedy's Deli - Ryland Ave

DEBERT:

Debert Mini-Mart

FIVE ISLANDS:

Masstown Market Five Islands

GLENHOLME:

Double "C" Truckstop

GREAT VILLAGE:

Wilson's Gas

MAITLAND:

Frieze & Roy General Store

MASSTOWN:

Masstown Market
MTM Retail Gas (Petro-Can)

MILLBROOK:

Super 8 Motel
Hampton Inn & Suites

NORTH RIVER:

Grant's Grocery

PARRSBORO:

CrossRoads Co-op
Ken's Grocery
Wright's Pharmasave

TRURO:

Atlantic Superstore
Best Western Glengarry
Holiday Inn
MacQuarrie's Pharmasave (Esplanade)

Rath Eastlink Comm Centre
Colchester East Hants Health Centre - Coffee Shop

NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION:

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Bass River Consolidated;
Great Village Elementary; Debert Elementary; Chiganois Elementary; Central Colchester Junior High School; Parrsboro Elementary and Parrsboro Regional High School.

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