

# PAGE BRIEFS

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A new **Medical Imaging** and Radiation Therapy Professionals Act and its regulations are now in effect. The act also creates the new Nova Scotia College of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Professionals.

Four university students were each fined \$1,000 for violating the Health Protection Act (HPA) over the Labour Day weekend. Between September 4 and 7, RCMP received complaints about four students from outside of the Atlantic Bubble not self-isolating. Three of the students were located in Antigonish and one was located in Wolfville. Upon further investigation, RCMP officers determined that the individuals were in violation of Health Protection Act. Police issued each of the students a Summary Offence Ticket under Section 71(1)(b) of the Health Protection Act for Failing to Self-Isolate.

At 3:05 a.m., September 5<sup>th</sup>, Colchester RCMP and EHS responded to a medical emergency in Earltown where a 24-year-old Colchester County man was pronounced deceased at the scene and two other adult males were taken to hospital in life-threatening condition. A preliminary investigation indicated all three ingested a white powder substance. Police suspect the substance could have contained fentanyl or another toxic substance. The substance was immediately seized and sent for testing. According to Health Canada, fentanyl is a very potent opioid and a few grains can be enough to kill someone. Our primary concern is public safety and we want people to ensure they are aware of what may be circulating and to take the necessary precautions or rethink choices they may be about to make.

The **Shoreline Journal** WELCOMES YOUR STORY CONTRIBUTIONS

## News from our Federal Capital

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berry farmers after a killer frost, and apple growers after a hurricane and fire blight a few years ago. Farmers are the backbone of rural Canada. We need to support those who work hard to supply us with fresh, healthy food.

I visited the Friends of the Pugwash Estuary this month as well, to discuss the importance of protecting our salt marshes, tidal rivers and seabirds and wildlife in Northern Nova Scotia as well as the effects of a rising ocean on our coastal regions. Climate Change and Global Warming are again at work here and we must do our best to mitigate the damages.

After pushing the Department of Defense to preserve the Col. James Layton Ralston Armoury in Amherst, I was pleased to see progress at a meeting with DND and community stakeholders in Amherst. This meeting was held for the community to hear from DND about their plans to repair this historic building that houses the North Nova Scotia Highlanders Regimental Museum and is used by three cadet corps.

It was refreshing to hear that the scaffolding at the front of the building will be removed and replaced, and the front of the building, including the towers, will be repaired and stabilized.

DND will cover the cost of these repairs after which the Amherst Amouries Plus Society, with assistance from ACOA, will be able to have a feasibility study done to help decide how the building will be best repurposed for the community's future needs.

It's important to have a firm action plan as well as a communi-

cations plan to stay in touch with the community after so much confusion about the fate of the armoury over the past 20 years. I am glad to be able to play a role in helping save this iconic building that is so important to the community and I will hold DND's feet to the fire until it is done.

I'm very proud of the people of Amherst and Cumberland County, who have never given up their fight to save the building. If it weren't for them, we wouldn't be here today.

I was also pleased to visit FORCE in Parrsboro during September, where I announced the Government of Canada's \$9.4 million investment in clean, Tidal (Blue) Energy to combat Climate Change.

Clean, sustainable energy is the way of the future so it is exciting that we here in Cumberland-Colchester will play an important role in this.

I was also happy to take part in the recent Angel's Diner Chicken Light Cruise in Glenholme and Bass River to thank truckers for their contributions during the pandemic. Happy to join Bill Elliott & the Killbillys to sing for Nova Scotian truckers.

In these challenging times it is more important than ever that we look after each other. I will always cherish singing "Stand by Me" with Bill Elliott. Working together, standing by each other, having each other's backs, we can accomplish so much here in Cumberland-Colchester.

**Lenore Zann is MP for Cumberland-Colchester with offices in Amherst and Truro.**

## News from our Municipal Council - District 10

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lieve it is time our Municipality moved away from those core Municipal responsibilities and begin investing in supporting our rural communities. Thinking about policies that encourage growth. Housing or Doctors, or some type of "subsidized" rural transit. I purposely used the word "subsidized" here to get your attention.

When big cities or the Federal government pour billions of dollars annually into transit they call it "investing in our communities". I would suggest that some type of weekly public transit system throughout Colchester would also be a "investing in our commu-

nities" and I think it is HIGH TIME rural communities are worthy of investing in. Make our communities even better places to live and raise a family!

I believe we are in a time of change and the value of rural communities has never been clearer. It is time they are recognized, viewed as an asset! Their success and growth is tied to the investment and support of all three levels of Government.

That is my mission over the next four years.  
**Tom Taggart is Colchester municipal councillor for District 10.**

# CoVid-19 Business Adjustment Quiz

When the affects of CoVid-19 crippled businesses, many were forced to close temporarily until they figured out to implement safety procedures permitting them to re-open with a high level of safety for employees and customers.

Owners and management were forced to totally rethink their entire process. Many questions were asked and appropriate solutions were needed. Some are still trying to figure out new the "new" economy and public life will evolve.

The following completed quiz was sent to the Shoreline Journal by marketing and communications professional, Jeff Barsalou, Kohltech Windows & Entrance Systems, Debert. It shows what the company did to realign its operations and bring workers back to work. The early days of CoVid-19 was a traumatic time for the company, but after a lot of soul searching. Management reached out to supervisors and assembly line employees to find the appropriate solutions.

If your company is still having difficulty achieving the required business rebound, it is suggested, eliminate Kohltech's answers, but get your supervisors and employees engaged to provide answers and to help your company rebound to where it was prior to CoVid-19. The engagement process might even help improve your operations so you are a better company.

Are you up to the challenge to be better? Please read on.

How was your company affected by the coronavirus pandemic? For example, did you face economic difficulties or challenges with personnel not being able to come into work? Please be specific.

*Our business is about 60% renovation based and the pandemic immediately put a stop on the majority of renovation work and our business life-line. Our quoting levels dropped off by 50% and we were gravely concerned for our people, our customers and our business and whether or not we could survive. We had over 20% of our people were off for COVID related reasons and we had many others who had to be relocated to work from home. We were fortunate that we had a good base of employees and managers who showed up everyday to continue to build windows and doors.*

*Our sales team were not allowed to travel so we implemented video conference focus group meetings with our customers. The advantage of these calls was we were able to hear first hand what our dealers were going through and share best practices, especially during the first month of the pandemic with the constantly changing rules. We were also able to have our Senior Managers sit in on these calls and it was during one of these sessions that we developed the "Safe Guidelines for Install" to help our customers do safe installs.*

How did your company navigate and adapt to those challenges? What policies did you implement or put on hold? How did you pivot

operations in the office and/or in manufacturing facilities? Please be specific.

*We immediately moved to protect our cash and implemented several cash flow safeguards. We put a moratorium on all non-necessary spending and hosted a war room meeting everyday to review the pandemic situation, the impact and the changes we needed to make to stay healthy.*

*We also locked down our facility to protect our employees and our business. We implemented many policies that were above and beyond the recommendations of the health authorities including zoning the plants, separating wok areas and lunch areas, essential visitation only with strict guidelines and separated our key team members.*

*With quoting level projections looking grim, and many of our customers closed to retail, we looked at items that we could produce that would be needed during the pandemic such as gowns, face shields and social barriers. Many of the items would require sourcing new raw materials and implementing new processes in production and then tapping into a new market channel.*

*The sales team suggested we look at a glass barrier as many of the installations in the field were makeshift and temporary. Coincidentally at the same time, one of our building supply customers was looking to open his retail business and contacted us. Fortunately, building supply stores were considered essential but they could only open for retail with proper COVID safe guidelines, which included glass barriers. We mocked up a prototype using casement sash, stock tempered glass with a modified stop to accommodate single glazing, and fabricated the frame and legs from steel stock and had the prototype to them in 2 days.*

*We found out that plexiglass was sold out in many places so were able to supply many shields to customers in days using our stock tempered glass that we use for patio doors and door lites.*

*As more essential businesses started to open their retail operations, we started to receive orders through our dealers and word of mouth.*

*When it was announced that regular businesses could open up under*

*COVID rules, the flood gate of inquiries started. We realized that the bulky white casement sash was not going to work in retail businesses so we worked closely with a couple of restaurant owners to modify the frame, color, attachment method at the same time keeping in mind material we stocked and we wanted a simple manufacturing process. Within 2 weeks, we had developed the "Slimline" shield in black using narrow single hung sash. We worked with a local company to fabricate the legs and powder coat them in black and we set up a dedicated area in the plant to produce the new shields.*

*We have continued to improve the shield and offer different leg options for free standing, fixed and wall attachments. Business for the shield has been strong as we see more businesses, office, schools and government of-fice open up.*

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