

The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

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Province Paves Way for Clean Energy Projects

The Province continues to pave the way for clean energy projects and the jobs and investments they bring for Nova Scotians. The Powering the Offshore Act, introduced today, September 26, updates legislation related to offshore wind, tidal energy and the Nova Scotia-New Brunswick intertie.

“We’re unleashing Nova Scotia’s untapped potential to make our province a clean energy and economic powerhouse,” said Energy Minister Trevor Boudreau. “This means good jobs, stronger communities and more opportunities right here at home. And it means we can pay for the investment our province needs in areas like healthcare, highways and homes.”

The act changes three pieces of energy legislation: Changes to the Electricity Act will allow power purchase agreements to keep all options open for using the tremendous resource of Nova Scotia’s offshore wind, including domestic use. Through Wind West, the Province is calling on the federal government to support the transmission infrastructure needed to export most of that energy. Another amendment will change the generation facilities section of the Electricity Act, which has been used to designate clean energy projects outside of government procurements. Because supporting too many projects could pose a risk to ratepayers, the amendment will cap energy from these projects at their current volume of 1,140 megawatts so that no new project can be added unless another does not proceed.

Changes to the Marine Renewable-energy Act will create the ability to merge licences for tidal energy projects. This follows changes made last year that created the ability to split licences. Both changes are based on industry feedback and make the licensing process more responsive to changing business needs.

Changes to the Public Utilities Act will make it clear that Nova Scotia Power is exempt from municipal taxation and building code requirements for its capital assets – including when the utility co-owns an asset, such as the Nova Scotia-New Brunswick intertie. Municipalities receive payments in lieu of taxes from the utility for all the electricity infrastructure it owns.

New Legislation to Drive Economic Growth, Reduce Red Tape

New legislation introduced September 24, will drive economic growth and attract investment by reducing red tape and improving service. The Making Business Easier Act builds on Nova Scotia’s national leadership in red tape reduction while positioning the province to compete globally in sectors such as critical minerals and clean energy.

“Nova Scotia is open for business,” said Timothy Halman, Minister of Service Efficiency. “Since 2021, government has helped save businesses over \$21 million by cutting red tape, removing regulatory burden and improving service for Nova Scotians. This legislation will build on that success.”

Key elements of the legislation include: streamlined processes and regulations for the natural resource sector – particularly mining – to improve efficiency and attract investment while maintaining existing protections for the environment, health and safety; improvements to permitting and licensing, including the elimination of several low-risk permits, and the introduction of service standards to save Nova Scotians valuable time and money and practical changes that repeal or modernize outdated acts to provide better clarity and improve service.

By making it easier and faster to move mining projects forward, Nova Scotia expects to build stronger supply chains, grow exports, increase revenues and create more jobs, especially in rural areas. The legislation is expected to save businesses and Nova Scotians more than \$800,000 annually.

These changes mark the first step in a broader effort to improve permitting and regulatory processes across government. More initiatives are planned in the lead-up to Red Tape Awareness Week in January as part of the Province’s ongoing commitment to regulatory modernization and service efficiency.

Amendments to Improve Service, Efficiency in Justice System

New legislation introduced September 24, will modernize laws and make the justice system more efficient.

The Justice Administration Amendment (Fall 2025) Act makes it possible to expand the program that recalculates child support orders, eases the workload of the chief medical examiner by allowing a qualified alternate to chair death review committees, aligns jury eligibility rules with the Criminal Code, expands who can witness affidavits to improve probate matters, and repeals outdated law stamp requirements.

Amendments to the Civil Forfeiture Act strengthen Nova Scotia’s ability to address organized crime and money laundering. They introduce administrative forfeiture for property under \$125,000 obtained through crime, clarify what constitutes a proceed of crime, and update the ways forfeiture funds are used to support victims and crime prevention programs.

The Order of Nova Scotia Act will be amended to increase the number of Nova Scotians who can receive the honour, from five to up to 10 annually, along with other administrative changes.

A request from the auditor general is reflected in amendments to the Auditor General Act that will remove the requirement for the auditor general to review and provide an opinion on the revenue estimates used in the provincial budget.

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Director’s Report - Property Information - GIS Services



The following is an overview of activities in the Community Development Department since April 2025, which Paul Smith, Director circulated to council at its August 14 Council meeting. This section focuses on the “Property Information - GIS Services”.

Property Information - GIS Services

- Spatial Data and Mapping:**
- Updates to print and web mapping related to the recently adopted county-wide municipal planning strategy and land use by-law have been completed.
 - Similarly, automated data processing workflows have been revised and updated to accommodate newly expanded zoning coverage and other related factors, for integration with web mapping, property information data management, and online permit processing.
 - Production and maintenance of web-based map services for municipal staff and the public continues, with an ongoing focus on possible enhancements or additional content.
 - A new county-wide aerial imagery mosaic dataset has been acquired from the provincial geomatics office and added to our spatial data repository for use in ortho mapping and interpretation.

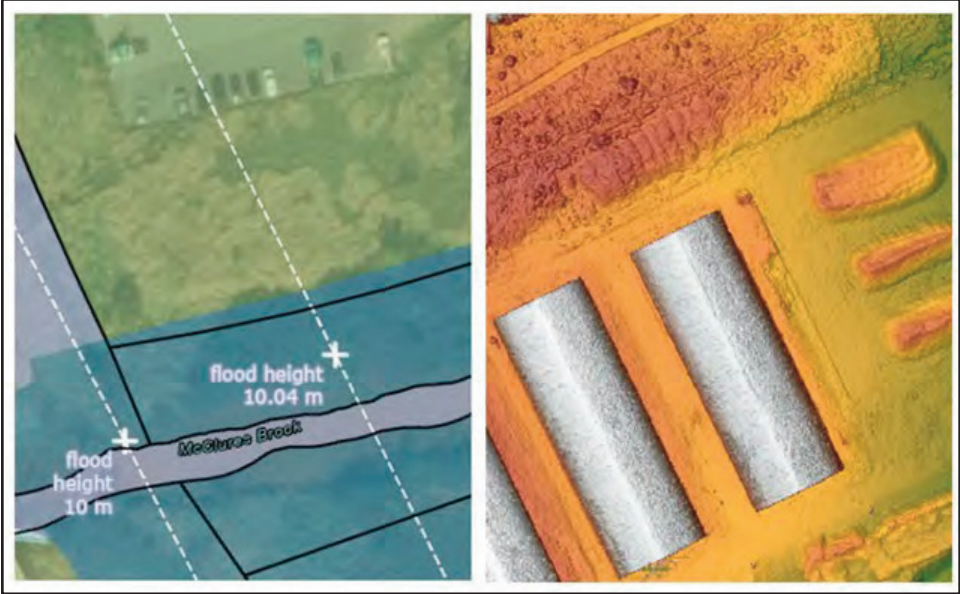
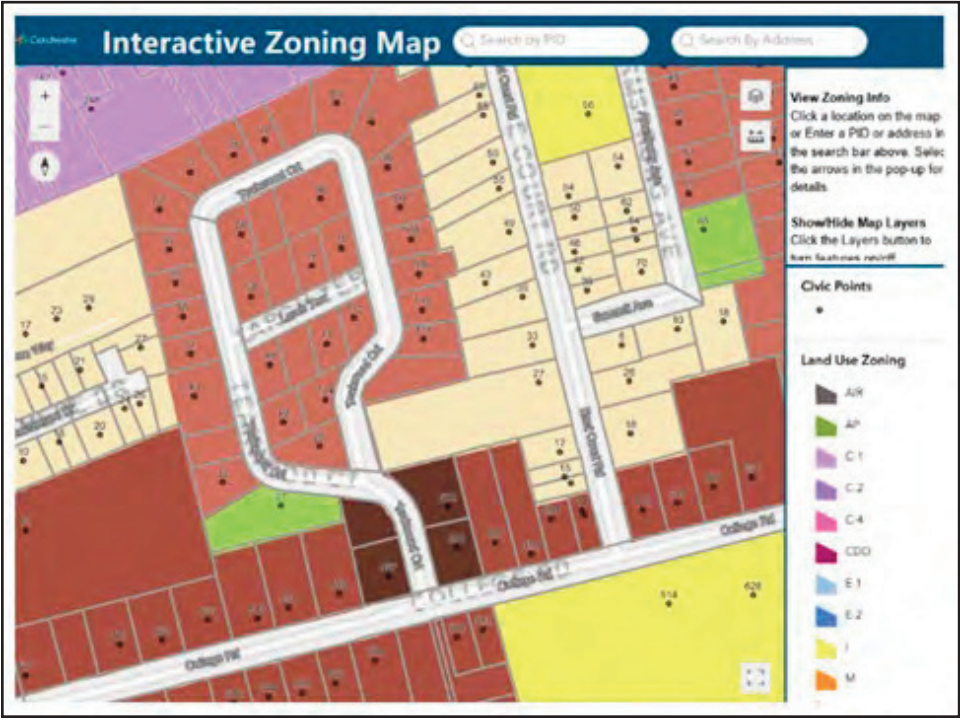
Current & Ongoing Projects:

- Mapping, spatial analytics, and statistics reporting for internal municipal staff projects, and external organizations such as CCRCE and PVSC.
- Civic address administration continues through our busiest time of year, due to a steadily increasing volume in local development and construction.
- Field data collection, processing and analysis of drone imagery for photogrammetry, ortho mapping, and asset management.
- Site mapping and data queries as required by planning and development staff. Web map application and printed map production for Colchester EMO. Compiling and updating of municipal tax area rate mapping.
- GIS data compilation and analytics of flood zones and affected topography, providing staff with development site elevation measurements and building

freeboard calculations. Continued maintenance and enhancements for our online municipal building per-

- mit management system.
- Facilitated NSCC student work placement focusing on coding for geoprocess-

ing of data, and production of updated road indexes and printed county road maps.



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