



At the recent Hike NS Summit at Oak Island Inn attended by 175 people, Garnet McLauchlin received the special Summit Award. McLauchlin, of Economy, received the award for his long term leadership in planning, creating and leadership in the Nova Scotia trails community. The award was presented by Hike NS Board Member Deb Ryan (left) and Exec Director Janet Barlow. (Submitted)

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**When Councillor Gibbs introduced** keeping of bees in residential areas earlier this year, the matter became the responsibility of the Planning Advisory Committee. PAC has held its first meeting concerning the keeping of bees in residential neighbourhoods. The Committee reviewed the staff research to date and based on the staff recommendation, agreed to conduct greater consultation with the small scale, commercial bee farmers. Previously, staff were not aware of the number of small scale bee keepers in Colchester County and the number of bee farmers that could be impacted by new regulations.

## The Shoreline Tid-Bits Journal

### Antlerless deer hunting stamp

Hunters have until midnight August 31<sup>st</sup> to apply for an antlerless deer hunting stamp for the 2019 hunting season. There are 5,000 antlerless deer hunting stamps available this year. The antlerless deer draw is a major part of sustainably managing the deer population. Stamps are available for zones 101, 103, 104, 106, 108, and 110 in mainland Nova Scotia. Antlerless deer stamps aren't needed for zones 102, 105, 107, or 109, as these zones are open to harvesting deer of either sex. No antlerless deer can be hunted in zones 111 and 112 in Cape Breton this year. The application fee is \$8.04, plus HST. Qualified hunters can apply by calling 1-900-565-3337, or online at <https://novascotia.ca/natr/draws/deerdraw/>. They can apply to have the fee billed directly to their landline phone. The draw will take place Tuesday, Sept. 3. Winners will be notified by mail. Applicants may check their draw results online beginning at noon on Tuesday, Sept. 3. Additional information, including a detailed map of deer management zones is available at <https://novascotia.ca/natr/draws/deerdraw/>

### Four groups receive \$322,000 for trail development

Four area community groups have received funding to improve trails as part of 29 groups who shared \$972,000 in 2019/2020 trail development funding. Receiving funding were: Cumberland Snowmobile Club, \$55,000.00; Municipality of Colchester, \$35,000.00; Tatamagouche and Area Trail Association, \$20,000.00 and Shubenacadie Watershed Environmental Protection Society, \$212,000.00. Government is investing more than \$972,000 in trail development projects to help promote healthy, active communities. The investments were made through the Recreational Trail Expansion Grant Program, which helps community groups, municipalities and not-for-profit organizations develop new trails and make capital and infrastructure upgrades to existing trails. A list of organizations receiving grants can be found at <https://cch.novascotia.ca/trail-funding-programs>

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### News from our Federal Capital

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these predictions as inevitable.

Indications are the most vulnerable area will be at the head of the Bay because of the exaggerated effect of the tides in the Bay of Fundy. A small increase at the mouth of the Bay will become a considerably larger increase at the head of the Bay in the same way that the tides are exaggerated now.

This \$700,000 study is being co-funded by the province of

Nova Scotia, the Province of New Brunswick and the Government of Canada. All Nova Scotians will be at the forefront of rising sea level issues, but those along the Bay of Fundy shores will be some of the most impacted anywhere.

**Bill Casey has been the area MP for 30 years and will not be reoffering during the upcoming election**

### News from our Provincial Capital

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projects like the QEII Health Services Centre Re-development Plan. This plan includes the expansion of the Halifax Infirmary, the building of the Halifax Hospice Residence, the new QEII Cancer Care Centre which allows all cancer care to be offered in one location, the Community Outpatient Centre in Bayers Lake which provides a more convenient option for clinic and specialist appointments for thousands of Nova Scotians like those of us in Colchester North, who travel to Halifax for such services, a second outpatient centre for those requiring day surgery at the Halifax Infirmary, and a renovated Dartmouth General which will double the number of operating rooms from 4 to 8, as well as adding 50 new hospital beds.

In addition, a major expansion with the Cape Breton Hospital Re-development will provide health care workers and patients with access to a new, modern facility that both deserve. During the recruitment process, doctors have expressed their desire to work in a modern facility with current technologies and equipment.

We are fortunate in Colchester North to have our modern facility in Truro, and working in that hospital has proven to be an incentive for attracting new recruits. In fact, the Colchester Hospital was one site selected by Dalhousie University to host their Family Residency Training Program, and 2 residency doctors are currently completing a 2 year program in that facility.

Let's hope they choose to stay and practice in Colchester County. We are also increasing the number of seats at the Dalhousie Medical School, so Nova Scotia high school graduates can stay and train in their own province. The province has recently funded 10 additional seats for family medicine, 15 additional seats for specialists and 25 new seats for training nurse practitioners.

Considering both the short and long term investments in doctor recruitment and retention, we are encouraged over 200 new doctors have been hired over the last two years, and we look forward to continued success. It has been, and continues to be a priority for our Government.

**Karen Casey is MLA, Colchester North and Deputy Premier.**

### News from our Municipal Council - District 10

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this CRTC announcement will be positive for Colchester residents as it will ensure competition and hopefully reduce costs. As for full coverage and our work to ensure all our residents get high speeds. Stay tuned, things are progressing well.

The part that really angers me is that once again, this shines a light on how rural communities often get left behind. So here I go on my rant, but I feel very passionate about this and the more I learn the more passionate I become.

More and more rural communities are becoming irrelevant. When I really look at this I believe we or I are partly responsible for this. Bare with me here. When I was much younger our communities were thriving and relatively prosperous. Times change, transportation became easier, we began migrating toward towns or urban centers, community stores and service stations started closing. We said "O Well" that is progress, nothing we can do, we just accepted this.

To highlight this I will use the example of bus service, twenty plus years ago we lost the Acadian lines bus service, we said, That's progress, not enough users, we cannot expect Government to subsidize that. We just have to accept this.

Three years ago I sat at a nation board table and debated/ discussed the closure of the Grey Hound service in Western Canada and Northern B.C. Those Municipalities had brought this to the table and were asking, FCM for a resolution be sent to Federal Government asking for assistance. I voted against, because I thought, well if you don't use it we cannot expect the government to subsidize. My point is that we have always just accepted, never questioned, "That's progress". Governments loved this as it cheaper to provide services in urban centers.

That brings us to today. I know I am repeating myself, 80% of the population of Canada lives in 22 big cities. Today, how are Governments, Federal, Provincial and Municipal responding to these challenges? They are calling for Billions and Billions of dollars to be allocated for Mass/ Public transit, the cities have grown, there is gridlock, something must be done.

Once again I say Billions and Billions, if you do not believe me, watch the National news as we get into this election cycle. Nobody is saying "O Well" that's progress. They are saying, we must do this. Then, watch for the demand for public housing/ affordable housing for the city dwellers. That will get close to the Billions as well. What is being discussed about rural. Very little.

I may be a bit narrow minded on this, but I believe we are close to the tide turning. I know for sure in Nova Scotia, the urban core outside of Halifax, small towns are struggling to provide services and most

likely will not survive without the support of the rural Municipalities that surround them.

I firmly believe, and need to say my Municipal involvement both Provincially and Nationally gives me some validity or qualification to say this. I firmly believe if we stand up and support rural communities and recognize our value and the contribution we make to our Country as a whole we will/are turning the corner.

I know for a fact, the number one driver of the Real-estate market in Central Nova Scotia today is interprovincial immigration. People wanting to get out of the rat race of the big cities and move to rural for a quality of life that is second to none, Modern technology such as competitive high speed both in quality and price is allowing more and more people to achieve this quality of life. This is not just my rant or speculation.

National studies are showing this. I commented in a previous article rural communities are growing and projected to grow by 7% over the next 10 years. This will support our schools, our doctors and what infrastructure that has survived. We will be relevant again. We need to start believing and standing up. When politicians come knocking over the next 2 months, "Ask them, what are you going to do for me? What specifically are you going to do to make my small community better".

WOW, this was just going to be a short rant about how important the CRTC ruling was and to pick on Bell because they are punishing rural Canada over the decision.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and look forward to a beautiful fall season.

**Tom Taggart is Colchester Municipal Councillor for District 10.**

## Grant Request Denied

By Maurice Rees

Colchester committee denied a request for a \$2,300 grant for the Red Clay Studio Society, Bass River in support of the White Rabbit Residency and Festival on August 17 and 18, 2019. The application was late being submitted and council felt the event, event thought it attracts 250 people

to the area, it was much like a private event.

The event budget showed revenue of \$25,034 and net profit of \$1,545. In past years, Council has approved in-kind support via advertising the event in the County newsletter. Organizers will be advised of deadlines and procedures of the annual grant program.



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