

The Shoreline Tid-Bits Journal

Drug offences for PEI man

On the afternoon of August 15, Colchester County District RCMP responded to a single vehicle collision on Hwy. 104 east-bound near East Mountain. During the course of the investigation, RCMP members located and seized cocaine, marihuana and a sensory irritant canister. The driver and lone occupant, a 29-year-old man from Prince Edward Island (PEI), was arrested without incident. The driver was not injured during the collision.

The driver was released from custody and is facing charges of Possession for the Purpose of Trafficking, Possession of a Controlled Substance and Possession of a Prohibited Weapon. He is also charged under the Cannabis Control Act for Illegally Transporting Cannabis in a Vehicle. He is scheduled to appear in Truro Provincial Court on October 14.

Give a Little, Help a Lot campaign receives \$286,000

The IWK Foundation and Loblaw Companies Limited announced this year's Give a Little, Help a Lot campaign has raised \$286,000 for the IWK through in-store fundraising at Atlantic Superstore and other Loblaw grocery stores across the Maritimes. Funds raised through the campaign go to help support the most urgent priority needs of the IWK, which may include the purchase of priority equipment and advanced technology.

The campaign went ahead in July despite the pandemic, knowing that support is needed now more than ever. Due to the dedication of store colleagues and the generosity of customers, this year's efforts raised \$25,000 more than the 2019 campaign.

Police car decals made months before killings

The Dartmouth dentist who carried out Canada's most deadly mass shooting in April had a key element of his deadly scheme in place last year. Parole documents show that Peter Alan Griffon, the convicted cocaine distributor for a Mexican drug cartel who made the fake RCMP car decals, did so months before the shooting started. Griffon made the decals without permission of the owner of the business where he had been working. Griffon's full parole has been revoked.

Griffon's parole was suspended after the man he made the decals for killed 22 people in a shooting rampage that started in Portapique April 18 and ended 13 hours later when an RCMP officer shot the gunman dead in Enfield.

Apparently Griffon told his parole officer he did not make police decals that would be installed on the car utilized by the shooter. The interview resulted in police securing a search warrant for his workplace, discovering you had produced the decals. A photo of the completed work was found on Griffon's phone.

Griffon later admitted to producing the decals "that were eventually affixed to a falsified RCMP vehicle," say parole documents. "The person who requested the decals, who was also the

continued on page 7

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News from our Federal Capital

Continued from page 5

Dr Calder shared fascinating information about the region's 300 million years of history, explaining that along with having the world's highest tides, it's the best place on Earth to actually see the evidence of the assembly, and breakup, of the earth's original sole continent known as Pangea.

Geoparks are sites of geological significance and are designed to promote tourism and celebrate a region's uniqueness and there are now five UNESCO Global Geoparks in Canada, and only 161 worldwide. A lot of work was done to achieve this distinction - and I am grateful to our federal government for providing the \$186,000.00 necessary to apply for this important designation.

The Cliffs of Fundy Geopark includes geosites along the Fundy Shore in Cumberland and Colchester counties so there is much to see. I look forward to exploring more of the area when the tide is out! Congratulations to Beth Peterkin for being named Manager of the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark. People interested in serving on the Geopark committee are invited to email: manager@fundygeopark.ca

Other things I've managed to do so far in 2020 include: Secured \$53 million in federal investments in projects large and small right across Cumberland Colchester to create local jobs and invest in

rural Infrastructure, innovation & community development; Helped procure a federal contract for Stanfields Inc worth \$24 million to make PPE locally (2.6 million hospital gowns & masks) for frontline workers while providing good local jobs; Securing federal funding from the Department of National Defense to make vital repairs to the Amherst Armoury; Secured \$75,927.00 for the Village of Bible Hill under the Enabling Accessibility Fund for ramps, an accessible washroom and accessible doors; Publicly and privately lobbied Government to order a Public Inquiry into the mass-shooting in Colchester County so that Nova Scotians can get the answers we need and prevent a similar tragedy in future; Secured funding for Cumberland-Colchester women's centres and shelters to protect women from domestic and intimate partner violence and currently pushing for Red Flag Laws for further protection and Successfully lobbied the provincial government for a new elementary school in Springhill and new hospital in Pugwash which constituents told me are badly needed.

Look for me on the trail as I visit each part of the riding in the next two months. I look forward to seeing you!

Lenore

Lenore Zann is MP for Cumberland-Colchester

News from our Municipal Council - District 10

Continued from page 5

representative on council. I wish to advise now that I will be meeting with returning officer on August 28 to file my nomination papers and if Maurice permits (would understand if he thought unfair) will talk about where I see the future for West Colchester

over the next 4 years.

Enjoy what is left of the summer.

Tom

Tom Taggart is Colchester municipal councillor for District 10.

Letters to the editor

Continued from page 4

have the vital protection they need to do their jobs.

The Agreement also makes a significant investment to ensure sufficient and safe child-care is available for families. By ensuring staff and children are

safe, parents will have the peace of mind to feel confident returning to work.

The federal government is creating a temporary national sick leave program so no one feels pressured to go to work when sick. The program will

provide 10 days of paid sick leave to workers who do not already qualify through their employers to ensure they can stay home and get well.

Throughout these difficult times, Canadians have stood together to look out for one

another and protect our communities.

Our government will continue to ensure that Canadians have the supports to stay safe and get through this pandemic.

*Yours sincerely,
Deb Schulte*

Canada's Minister of Seniors

August 12, 2020
Hon. Bill Blair
Minister of Public Safety
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Hon. Minister Blair,

As you are aware, the tragedy that occurred in Nova Scotia on April 18 and 19, rocked the lives of many Nova Scotians. The impacts are wide-ranging, and the sadness, concern, confusion, and anger is felt across the province and country.

There are so many questions that we must try to have answered in order to restore our trust and faith in the administration of justice and our own public safety. We must learn any lessons that can be learned to help prevent future harms. But above all else, the families of those 22 victims deserve answers on how this could have happened to their loved ones.

In that vein, I was pleased that the public pressure by the

victims' families and concerned Nova Scotians caused you and Minister Furey to change course and order the full public inquiry. I was disappointed our Nova Scotia Members of Parliament did not speak up until the public pressure mounted, but nonetheless, I am thankful that you eventually came to the right decision.

A full inquiry is the only way to answer the questions that so many of us have. It is the only way to show that the federal and provincial governments are doing everything possible to protect residents.

As you can appreciate, given the initial efforts by Provincial and Federal Liberals to dilute the review process, there are mounting concerns that similar efforts will be made with the inquiry, particularly where the terms of reference have not been set.

In that vein, as Leader of

the Official Opposition in Nova Scotia, I felt it incumbent that I share with you the concerns that have been raised with me to ensure that all efforts are made to have them addressed.

I am writing to you as opposed to Minister Furey as there are obvious concerns about his conflict that have been presented to the Conflicts Commissioner for consideration. As such, I would ask that in preparing the terms of reference, you include the following:

- The inquiry must take place in Nova Scotia. Families should not be forced to relive the horror while travelling away from their loved ones, or worse, be prevented from attending in person and serving as the face of the 22 Nova Scotians taken from us.
- The circumstances surrounding the shooter's access to weapons and RCMP vehicles and uniforms, including a review of the ongoing sales of those items.
- The roles, responsibilities, and actions of the RCMP related to the events of April 18 and 19, along with a broader review of the related policies that led to any decisions that were made. A full review of policing policies such as "risk it out" and general rural policing, should take place.
- The role of confidential informants within the RCMP and an analysis on whether the shooter was an informant; his historic involvement with the RCMP; and his engagement with them during the period he was active on April 18 and 19.
- The provincial procedures surrounding the deployment of the emergency alert system.
- The impact of domestic violence on this incident, and a broader review of domestic violence in Nova Scotia.
- The composition of the panel should be amended. At

the very least, the panel should consist of five members, with at least three residing out of province. It is essential that this inquiry be conducted by an independent and impartial body, free of bias or political interference. It is only through this elevated level of transparency that the public will have confidence in the process, and that the findings that will result in real and meaningful change. For greater confidence in the process, the forum could be changed to a judicial inquiry, allowing for greater transparency and disclosure from witnesses.

Additionally, it is my understanding that the RCMP handbook on confidential sources (section 3.3) may preclude honest testimony on subjects like confidential informants, unless that information is demanded by a properly empanelled Judge.

Can you confirm that the makeup of the inquiry as it currently stands is judicial in nature and assure Nova Scotians that those called to provide evidence would have a legal obligation to be truthful and/or provide accurate information? Conversely, if the makeup of the inquiry is not judicial, and does not require truthful testimony, is it your intention to support a toothless process in which witnesses are not required to provide open and honest testimony?

This above-noted list is just a start. Any inquiry must be broad enough to spur wholesale, systematic changes and ensure necessary legislative and procedural changes are enacted, both provincially and federally.

Yours truly, Tim Houston
Leader, Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia

Cc: Mark Furey, Minister of Justice (Nova Scotia)
David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General (Canada)



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