

Taggart sweeps With 53.18%



Tom Taggart

Former Colchester Municipal Councillor, Tom Taggart, garnered 53.18% of the votes cast to become MLA for Colchester North. He was sworn in as the MLA in ceremonies in Halifax on August 30, just 13 days after the win.

Across the riding when all 27 polls reported Taggart was listed at 4,477 votes, out of the 8,419 votes cast. Twenty eight

votes were rejected. The constituency, which had been held by Karen Casey for a number of years, had 14,906 registered voters. Casey upon retirement was Deputy Premier, Minister of Finance and President of the Treasury Board.

Colchester voters were more engaged than across the province. Locally there was a turnout of 56.67%, whereas province-wide it was 1% lower at 55.67%.

Taggart had served as municipal councillor for Colchester District 10 since 2008. He also served for several years as one of four Nova Scotia representative to the Board of Federation of Canadian Municipalities. He also served on numerous committees within the Federation of Nova Scotia Municipalities.

Ritcey Wins With 4,025 Votes



Dave Ritcey

Dave Ritcey easily won re-election on August 17th with 4,025 votes representing 47.85% of 8,412 votes cast. He was first elected to the Nova Scotia House of Assembly for

Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook-Salmon River in a by-election in 2020 held to replace Lenore Zann when she resigned as NDP MLA when she moved to federal politics winning Cumberland Colchester for the Liberals replacing long service MP Bill Casey, who did not reoffer at that time.

Prior to becoming an MLA, Mr. Ritcey worked as a business development manager, food service manager, and a sports management executive. Voter turnout across the riding was 51.11% out of total registered voter list of 16,510.

Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook-Salmon River turn-out of 51.11% was below the provincial average of 55.67%.



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Strang, a public servant right into the middle of a political topic. Some loyal Liberals are starting to question the level of transparency why the DUI's were not revealed during the leadership race.

I will suggest the election outcome has different unrelated reasons which have not been mentioned to any public degree. It partially revolves around "Are we crystallized".

Crystallization of the human mind has evolved from 18 months of reduced inter-human interactions from being isolated and not doing the things we spent decades doing. During isolation we spent so much time trying to understand ourselves and how we were going to cope, that we have formed morals, standards and aspirations so deeply embedded within us they appear to be crystallized.

Although we might not realize it, but individually we have developed a new outlook with different expectations as to our careers; how we are

going to live and contribute to society in general. This is a reason why some sectors – hospitality, restaurants, bars, coffee shops, and retail are and will continue to face constant pressures bringing staffing levels back to required levels. Choices and expectations of everything around us have been crystallized.

Our crystallizing of internal thoughts is driving us to have different career expectations, but has not taken into consideration the changes we need

for "job-readiness". As a result some are content to do nothing, stay home relying on Covid grants, assistance or savings until the "new career" drops into our lap.

For our crystallized thoughts to become reality guidance counselors, and job re-training in mammoth proportions will be required to take us to the next level. It's a matter of going up the ladder one step at a time. With many in the hospitality, restaurant and service sectors wishing to move up, it will provide an opportunity for general laborers or "unskilled" seasonal workers to get into the once "glorified" positions in customer service, waiter / waitress careers and similar jobs.

We need a period of "togetherness" to decide how these massive personal expec-

tations can be implemented. There is an opportunity for Colchester and Cumberland to capture and implement retraining programs to capture the "new waves" to coincide with the lure of people wanting to move to the area so they are exposed to less population density, somewhat lower living costs and a higher standard of living.

The question right now is can political parties in the current federal election adjust their operations and voter appeal to garner support from the newly "crystallized thinking" voters. Will the crystallized thoughts providing an unexpected magnitude shift of the Nova Scotia election be a prelude to what might happen on September 20th?

Maurice

Harrison Re-Elected for 3RD Term

Larry Harrison was first elected to the Nova Scotia House of Assembly as MLA for Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley in 2013 and was re-elected in 2017. Harrison easily won re-election on August 17th, with 55.13% of the 7,468 votes cast.

The riding has a voter list of 14,321. Across the 38 polls, 29 votes were rejected. Voter turnout was 52.36%. He also is a Minister at Knox United Church in Brookfield and Middle Stewiacke United Church.



Larry Harrison

Provincial Summary of Election

Province-wide a difference of 7,451 votes separated the Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia from the Nova Scotia Liberal Party resulting in the PC win of 31 of 55 seats compared to Liberals dropping to 17 seats. Liberals, PC Party and NDP ran a full slate of 55 candidates, while the Green Party fielded 43 seats; Atlantica had 16 candidates.

Of the total field of 230 candidates there were 6 Independents, with Barbara Smith-McCrossin garnering 4,960 votes to be the only independ-

ent in the winning column. McCrossin defeated provincial newcomer, Bill Casey, a former long serving Member of Parliament for Cumberland Colchester.

Across the province there were 759,341 registered voters of which 422,758 votes were cast representing a turnout of 55.67%. Across the province there were 1,612 rejected votes and 95 declined votes for a total of 421,051 valid votes.



Barbara Smith-McCrossin

MASS CASUALTY COMMISSION

The Mass Casualty Commission is the independent public inquiry examining the April 2020 mass casualty in Nova Scotia.

The Commission's mandate is to:

- find out what happened
- explore the broader context and related issues
- provide meaningful recommendations to help protect our communities in the future

The memories of those who lost their lives, their families and everyone affected by this casualty are the driving force behind our work.

We want you to know about our work and how to get in touch if you have questions or information to share. We will post information about ongoing activities including upcoming Open Houses on our website. Your involvement will play an important role in the Commission's findings and recommendations.

STAY UPDATED, GET IN TOUCH, AND TAKE PART

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