



WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN COLCHESTER & CUMBERLAND COUNTIES

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## BIG Ideas

By Sarah Flemming

We hope you will join the United Way of Colchester & Cumberland Counties along with the Northern Zone Community Health Boards as we learn about Basic Income Guarantee (BIG) and the impacts of poverty on health outcomes, individual wellness and community cohesion.

We are thrilled to welcome the Honourable Senator Wanda Thomas Bernard, PhD, C.M., O.N.S. - the first African Nova Scotian woman to be appointed to the Senate of Canada, representing the province of Nova Scotia and her hometown of East Preston - to offer the keynote address and to lead us through the discussions of the day.

"Having a Universal basic income would mean that everyone, regardless of their work status, would have enough money for basic needs," says Colleen Dowe,

Community Health Board Coordinator, Cumberland County. "Senator Wanda Bernard has been a strong advocate for social justice and a longtime BIG supporter. At the 2019 Conference, Basic Income, the Evidence Speaks, Senator Bernard gave the opening comments entitled 'What's Holding us Back?' She argued that the research has been done and Manitoba's Mincome project was proof that it worked."

"We are honoured to support such a vital discussion on basic income and its impact on community health in the communities we all have the privilege to serve," says Jennifer Hamilton Upham, co-managing partner at Patterson Law and sponsor of this event. "The opportunity to hear the Honourable Wanda Thomas Bernard's keynote address is truly exciting, as her advocacy for human rights, mental health, and di-

versity deeply resonates with the values of our firm, our team members, and our clients. Beyond sponsoring this event, it's crucial for legal professionals like ourselves to actively engage in discussions on community health. Understanding the environments in which we live and practice law through insights from topic experts and community leaders is essential."

The Honourable Senator Wanda Thomas Bernard understands and addresses head-on the lifelong impacts of poverty. As a keynote speaker, Senator Thomas Bernard speaks from the heart and has a distinct way of remaining personable while holding all of us accountable for action. All people deserve the autonomy to make and create the life they aspire to live. Basic income provides that opportunity.

I look forward to hosting

**Sarah Flemming is Executive Director, United Way of Colchester County and can be reached at: 902.895.9313 / [unitedwaycolchester.ca](http://unitedwaycolchester.ca) | @uwcolchester**

this event and continuing this important discussion: Tuesday, September 10

9:30 am - 12:00 pm, Marigold Cultural Centre, Truro NS, \$20

The event will also feature a panel discussion on the impacts of poverty on health outcomes, featuring Dr. Ryan Sommers, Senior Regional Medical Officer of Health, Medical Director of Public Health and Family Physician as well as other local advocates for poverty reduction.

For more information and to purchase a ticket, visit: [www.eventbrite.ca/e/big-ideas-a-conversation-about-basic-income-guarantee-ticket-s-939514431957](http://www.eventbrite.ca/e/big-ideas-a-conversation-about-basic-income-guarantee-ticket-s-939514431957)

If ticket price is a barrier or you would like to sponsor a ticket for someone else to attend, please contact the United Way: [coordinator@colchester.unitedway.ca](mailto:coordinator@colchester.unitedway.ca) or 902.895.9313.

## RCMP Seeking Owners of Recovered Property

Cumberland County District RCMP is looking to identify the owners of property recovered following the execution of multiple search warrants in West Brook, Maccan, Birchwood, and Handsford.

During searches of properties in West Brook, Maccan, Birchwood, and Handsford between February and July 2024, Cumberland County District RCMP and the Cumberland County Integrated Street Crime Enforcement Unit located property believed to have been obtained by crime. Officers were able to return some items to the rightful owners; however, many items have yet to be reported as stolen or claimed.

The recovered items include: Power tools; Chain saws; Solar power/heavy



truck batteries; Hand tools (masonry, carpentry etc.); Motorcycles; Well tanks; ATVs; Snow blower; Side-by-side/snowmobile tracks; Generators; Trailers (enclosed and flat deck); Water pump; Heaters and Trailer axles

If you have had property stolen and have not previously reported it, or did not previously provide serial numbers to item details, please contact Cumberland County District RCMP at 902-667-3859. An officer will verify your missing items against those recovered.

The Cumberland Street Crime Enforcement Unit includes members of the Cumberland County District RCMP and the Amherst Police Department - Amherst NS.

## The Shoreline Tid-Bits Journal

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### Community Housing Capital Fund Launched

Non-profits and community housing organizations will soon have access to capital grants to help with the purchase and preservation of existing affordable rental housing.

The Community Housing Capital Fund will provide one-time equity grants to help pre-qualified community housing organizations finance the purchase of existing residential rental buildings (five units or more) and keep rents affordable.

Interested community housing providers will be required to complete a pre-qualification process to apply for funding. The Community Housing Transformation Centre will administer the program and allocate funds to pre-qualified organizations for approved projects over the next two years.

Pre-qualification begins in September. Details can be found on the Community Housing Transformation Centre website at: <https://centre.support/grants/nova-scotia-community-housing-capital-fund/>

### New Short-Term Rental Regulations Starting in September

New regulations for short-term rentals such as Airbnbs take effect on September 30 and will help make more long-term housing available. Regulations under the Short-term Rentals Registration Act include new registration requirements, host categories, rates and penalties.

Under the new registration requirements: all tourist accommodations and short-term rentals will be required to provide supporting documentation such as proof of compliance with municipal bylaws and, where applicable, written consent from the property owner(s) or condo board, and proof of primary residence; annual registration rates range from \$50 to \$2,000 per unit depending on the accommodation type and location; higher rates apply to short-term rentals in areas where the need for housing is greater and unregistered or non-compliant short-term rental operators may be subject to fines up to \$100,000.

Annual registration rates for traditional tourist accommodations, such as motels, hotels and inns, are not changing.

### Cellular Investment to Enhance Safety, Connectivity

Nova Scotians in areas with no cellular service will soon have better connectivity as a result of the Province's largest ever investment in cellular infrastructure, which will enhance existing infrastructure and add more towers over the next two years. The investment will enhance coverage in rural and remote communities across the province. Rogers has been selected following a request for proposals to upgrade infrastructure at 27 existing sites and connect them to the Rogers 5G network. Through an additional investment of \$18.6 million in the Cellular for Nova Scotia Program, the Province also plans to add 27 new provincially owned telecommunication towers in unserved areas. These are in addition to four announced in October 2023.

### Incentive Program for Mentoring Apprentices

A new financial incentive recognizes the vital role certified trades professionals have in supporting and training apprentices. The Journeyman Financial Incentive Program provides up to \$2,500 to journeymen actively mentoring apprentices. The goal of the new program is to increase the number of apprentices becoming certified journeymen.

Employers were being contacted via email by the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency throughout August and asked to nominate up to five journeymen for every apprentice who progressed to the next level of their apprenticeship between August 1 and July 31 each year. For each level an apprentice progresses, \$2,500 will be distributed equally among the eligible journeymen.

Eligible journeymen will be supported through online mentorship training that will include basic communication skills, interactive elements, scenarios, videos and quizzes.

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**Colchester**  
be centred here.

**Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, Aug 29 @ 6pm

**Presentations Meeting**  
Tuesday, Sept 3 @ 6pm

**Council Committee Meeting**  
Thursday, Sept 12 @ 6pm

**Council Meeting**  
Wednesday, Sept 24 @ 6pm

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