

The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

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Funding to Support Municipal Projects

The Province is investing in 62 municipal projects involving infrastructure improvements, innovation and community development across Nova Scotia. Through five provincial programs, they will receive funding to enhance local services, create job opportunities and beautify communities.

The Province is investing more than \$2.3 million: 25 projects will receive a total of \$539,014 through the Beautification and Streetscaping Program, which helps communities create inviting spaces and attract more visitors; it funds up to 50 per cent of the costs of eligible projects, up to a maximum \$25,000; 12 projects will receive \$230,504 under the Community Works Program, which creates job opportunities for youth and unemployed people to gain skills and experience in their fields; 4 projects will share a combined investment of \$232,309 through the Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program, which promotes investment in infrastructure needed to protect communities from flooding; the program funds up to 50 per cent of eligible costs for each project.

5 projects under the Municipal Innovation Program - which funds up to 75 per cent of regional co-operation projects to support the long-term sustainability of local governments - will receive \$382,495; municipalities can apply for funding to support innovative approaches to regional collaboration and 16 projects under the Provincial Capital Assistance Program will receive \$950,128; the program contributes up to 50 per cent of project costs toward priority municipal infrastructure projects, including water and wastewater infrastructure assessments, updates to stormwater systems, and water treatment plant upgrades.

Travel Assistance Program for Surgical Patients

Nova Scotians who need to travel to other parts of the province for surgery will continue to receive support for travel and accommodation. The pilot, which began June 1, 2023, is extended to May 31, 2025. It provides reimbursement for: transportation costs at \$0.58 per kilometre when using personal vehicles; accommodation costs of up to \$85 per night if travelling more than 50 kilometres (one-way) and transportation and accommodation costs for someone to travel with the patient if necessary.

To be eligible for the program, Nova Scotians must: have a confirmed surgery, endoscopy or cystoscopy procedure date; be on the Nova Scotia Health wait list for surgery, or an endoscopy or cystoscopy procedure; be a resident of Nova Scotia with a valid health card; have a gross family income of less than \$35,000 per year and not have private insurance that covers travel or accommodation costs. People can apply at: <https://beta.novascotia.ca/surgical-access-initiative-program>

Amendments to Fees for Condominium Developers

The Province is taking more action on housing by reducing barriers for condominium developments. The changes will lower overall fees for most new and phased projects, making large-scale condo developments more cost-effective.

The new fee structure will combine the current base amount with a new per-unit fee. The previous value-based structure charged developers a per-unit fee based on the advertised sale price, which resulted in high registration fees for large developments. The amendments, in regulations under the Condominium Act, will make it easier for developers to predict in advance the fees they will owe. The changes will also result in an overall reduction in the total registration fees levied by the government.

New Communications Director

Premier Tim Houston announced on August 9, that Stephen Moore has been appointed Communications Director for the Premier's Office. Mr. Moore is currently the Executive Director of Forest Nova Scotia. Prior to that, he held positions at Saint Mary's University and MQO Research, as well as director of communications for the Premier's Office from 2014 to 2018. Mr. Moore's appointment became effective August 19.

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Bearcats Acquire 19 Year Old Forward Bolduc

The Truro Bearcats are pleased to announce the acquisition of 19 year old forward Matthew Bolduc from the QJHL's Valleyfield Braves in exchange for future considerations. The Val-D'Or product spent last season playing with his hometown Foreurs in the QMJHL appearing in 35 games and tallying a goal and 3 assists.



Matthew Bolduc at 12:30, and it's repeated again on Tuesday.

You can catch Bolduc and the rest of the Bearcats at training camp starting this coming Sunday. Welcome to Truro, Matthew!

Bearcat Banter: Fresh Start For All

Evaluation and decisions will be the main chores to be addressed over the next few weeks.

A big decision was reached late last week with the naming of Ryan Falkenham as a Bearcat Assistant Coach.

The Halifax native was a member of the 2013 Moosehead Memorial Cup team, and a former Moosehead Captain.

Following his playing career, he served two years as an Assistant with Drummondville, one season with Dalhousie Tiger hockey before a season as Head Coach at Citadel High. For the last two years he was Head Coach with the Junior "B" Liverpool Privateers/South Shore Lumberjacks.

For sure, the coaching staff awaits the start of Training Camp. It kicks off Sunday, August 25 with Registration, meetings and a Meet and Greet BBQ with players, parents, billets, volunteers and staff.

Come next Monday, it's all business. The thirty-plus prospects will be divided into two groups, each with a workout and practice. This begins

to the departure of Troy Howatt.

"We thank Troy for his years of service as the league's Director of Discipline and wish him well in the future," says MHL Interim President Kevin Mitchell.

McIsaac, a League Commissioner with the Nova Scotia U18 Major Hockey League, is well-seasoned in hockey in the Maritimes. After the Truro, N.S. native finished his playing career, he took up refereeing at age 22 and quickly moved up the ranks. McIsaac achieved

level five by age 27 and then the top refereeing rank with Hockey Canada of level six just seven years later.

He has refereed all levels of minor hockey, as well as Atlantic University Sport (AUS), Junior A, and Junior B. McIsaac's experience also includes officiating major tournaments such as the Fred Page Cup, Don Johnson Memorial, Allan Cup, and the World U17 Hockey championship. McIsaac retired from officiating in 2009.

The MHL welcomes McIsaac and his vast experience into this new role.

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Constituency Office
Phone: (902) 639-1010
Fax: (902) 639-2598

Mailing Address
PO Box 219
Stewiacke NS B0N 2J0

Physical Address
87 Main St West, Unit 3
Mastodon Ridge
Second Level
Stewiacke NS

Email: larryharrisonmla@gmail.com

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