

The

Shoreline

Journal

Tid-Bits

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Fireworks Banned Provincewide

To protect communities across Nova Scotia and lower the risk of wildfires, the Province has banned the use of all fireworks.

As of August 6, all fireworks and pyrotechnic special effects are not permitted as long as a burn ban is in effect. There is currently a ban in place until October 15 or until conditions allow it to be lifted. The fine for violating the fireworks ban is \$25,000.

The new ban applies to consumer and display fireworks and pyrotechnic special effects even if they have the appropriate approvals.

Regional Transportation Plan Released

The Regional Transportation Plan, released August 6, presents a series of actions to transform the transportation system over the next 20 years and beyond.

The first of its kind in Atlantic Canada, the plan offers solutions to manage the challenges of growth – targeted infrastructure interventions, increased transportation options, better goods movement, integration of new technologies, more efficient land use and transportation planning, and evaluation metrics.

“The RTP is a blueprint for the future of regional transportation,” said Public Works Minister Fred Tilley. “It’s a baseline for the Province to work in collaboration with partners, and it will help guide us as we continue planning for growth and development. It will also support the prioritization of significant infrastructure projects and identify potential funding as we begin to address the greater needs of the travelling public.”

The Province has identified several projects for preliminary work: conduct a Halifax peninsula core street review; work with partners and existing systems to begin establishing a regional transportation management centre and intelligent transportation systems; develop a strategy to launch an inter-municipal bus service; investigate corridors for conversion to high occupancy vehicle lanes; explore future road corridors in the region, including Shearwater and Beaver Bank connectors; explore options for future fixed harbour crossings; conduct corridor reviews of the Macdonald Bridge and Young Street; review active transportation projects to preserve existing road capacity and explore future harbour ferry terminal locations.

Link Nova Scotia, formerly the Joint Regional Transportation Agency, was created in 2021 to address transportation issues and opportunities to support Nova Scotia’s population growth. It was tasked with doing a comprehensive review of all modes of transportation within 100 kilometres of Halifax Regional Municipality and presenting recommendations to the Province.

New Fund to Support Growth in Agriculture, Seafood Sectors

The Province is launching a new fund to support big, bold projects in the agriculture and seafood sectors.

“This fund is about supporting the people who bring new ideas to grow our economy and help businesses,” said Greg Morrow, Minister of Agriculture. “Agriculture and seafood are important traditional industries in our province. But we can’t keep doing things the same old way – we need to support fresh thinking and innovation.”

The Nova Scotia Seafood and Agriculture Strategic Investment Fund will support companies proposing large-scale projects that boost productivity and help their business expand. It could involve adopting new technology, changing how they do business, or finding new markets for their products.

“We are looking for creative ideas that can take businesses to the next level,” said Kent Smith, Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture. “This isn’t just about helping individual companies, this is an all-hands-on-deck effort to build stronger industries and a stronger province.”



This recent weekend photo shows the pilings in recent depths of driven into the river bed at the Portapique Bridge awaiting return of the construction crew. Many had expected the bridge to open at the end of August, but it will be well into fall before the bridge reopens. (Rees Photo)

Director’s Report: Plan It Colchester

The following is an overview of activities in the Community Development Department since April 2025, which Paul Smith, Director circulated to council at its August 14 Council Committee meeting. This section focuses on the “Plan It Colchester - County-wide planning” initiative.

Plan It Colchester - County-wide planning:

- The Minister of Municipal Affairs approved the Municipality’s county-wide planning documents which became effective on June 12, 2025. The transition from the previous Central Colchester MPS and LUB has been going well, and it is likely staff will need to prepare some administrative amendments to ensure the Land Use Bylaw carries out the intent of the Planning Strategy.
- Postcards have been mailed to all households in Colchester advising residents of the new planning requirements together with contact and reference information. The documents can be found on the Municipality’s website at Plan It Colchester - Municipality of Colchester.
- With the county-wide plan and by-law in effect, staff are in the process of preparing amendments to Council’s policies concerning the formation and function of a consolidated and expanded Planning Advisory

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The long extended boom on this crane is necessary to hold the driver for the new pilings being installed to repair the bridge, which was quickly closed in April due to severe rot and decay of the bridge infrastructure. The bridge closure and 15 minute Montrose detour has negatively impacted visitation to the area especially the Bass River Heritage Museum and Veterans Memorial Park. (Rees Photo)

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