

The
Shoreline
Journal
Tid-Bits *Short reads of
important stories.*

JD Bharvad receives 2026 Young Nature Leaders Grant

JD Bharvad, a conservation leader with Unama’ki Young Birders, is the recipient of Nature Canada’s 2026 Young Nature Leaders Grant. Unama’ki Young Birders, a youth-led birding and conservation initiative in Cape Breton which launched in June has already welcomed 15 participants to its first bird walk and continues to host regular biweekly outings.

The program provides inclusive, beginner-friendly bird walks for adults aged 19-40. Participants learn bird identification and conservation leadership skills, contribute to citizen science through eBird and iNaturalist, and build a deeper connection to nature.

Community members interested in following the initiative’s activities, upcoming events, and conservation efforts can connect with Unama’ki Young Birders on Facebook and Instagram

Province Invests \$620,000 in Agriculture Equipment

The Province is investing a total of \$620,000 through the Community Economic Development Fund to the Cape Breton-Richmond Federation of Agriculture and the Inverness/Victoria Federation of Agriculture to update and expand their equipment rental programs.

The provincial support includes: The Cape Breton-Richmond Federation of Agriculture is receiving \$330,000 for a new baler, rock picker, lime and fertilizer spreading equipment, tillage equipment, drills and various forage equipment. The Inverness/Victoria Federation of Agriculture is receiving \$290,000 for cattle-handling, forage, tillage and manure management equipment, as well as a new software system to better manage equipment rentals.

Human Rights Remedy Milestone Will Help

Many Nova Scotians with disabilities will soon be able to schedule and pay for the supports they need as the Province reaches a major milestone in implementing the Nova Scotia Human Rights Remedy. A core requirement of the remedy is individualized funding, which means providing money directly to the person or a family member so they can manage their supports and services. The Province has contracted with Seafair, a Canadian organization focused on community care, health and social innovation, to develop this new system, which is expected to be ready early next spring.

The three-year contract includes \$26.2 million to develop the new system and up to \$29 million to support people using it. People who currently receive funding through the Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care’s Home Support Direct Funding program will also use the new system.

The system, called the individualized funding backbone, will provide the navigation, technology and administrative services needed to support individualized funding. It will help participants manage their funding, including scheduling and paying for services, and reduce administrative barriers.

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News from our Provincial Council - Tim Houston

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These are people who work incredibly hard every day and we owe it to them to pursue big things.

That’s why our government is focused on protecting

our future by building the Nova Scotia that we know is possible.

**Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia can be reached at:
premier@novascotia.ca or 902-424-6600**

News from our Provincial Capital - Tom Taggart

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factory should get together and write a book. It is hard to imagine that in the late 1800’s chairs were manufactured here in Bass River and exported by sailing ships to the West Indies.

That is so unimaginable that I am actually wondering if that is my imagination, but I am pretty sure that is correct. Again, so many great memories of the people that shaped our lives. Names, rarely thought of today but folks who grew up in and around this community will remember fondly. Joyce Starrit, Walter Vance and I believe John Creelman’s father in the store. J S Creelman the owner at that time lived across the street from our family, what a

wonderful man. Walked up the hill, home for lunch every day, tall, slim man wearing a Fedora hat. I will stop now.

In closing it was nice to have Donald Cooke who would have been a sidekick of mine in roaming around the old factory who would have two generations of family decedents that were Chairmakers. Donald, accompanied by his nephew, William Fisher who could trace back three generations of chairmakers, were chosen to officially remove the covering over the sign The Chairmaker Bridge.

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News from our Provincial Capital - Dave Ritcey

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more choice and easier access to Canadian-made products. By reducing barriers and creating new economic opportunities, the Province is helping strengthen local businesses, support jobs, and grow Nova Scotia’s craft beverage sector.

Strengthening Our Defense Industry

The federal government has selected Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems (TKMS) to deliver Canada’s new fleet of 12 patrol submarines, with Halifax set to play a key role in maintaining and servicing six of the vessels throughout their lifespan.

Premier Tim Houston highlighted the announcement as a major economic opportunity for Nova Scotia, expected to generate billions of dollars in investment, create thousands of skilled jobs, and further strengthen the province’s leadership in Canada’s defence, shipbuilding, and ocean technology sector.

Improving Public Safety

The Province is introducing a new RCMP billing model that will strengthen police services and improve public safety across Nova Scotia.

An additional \$16 million from the Province in 2026-27 and \$18 million annually after that will help make communities safer and add 25 more officers across the province.

Increased provincial investments will result in savings for many municipalities. These savings must be reinvested into local public-safety priorities, such as layered policing, community safety planning, mental health and addictions response, and crime and violence prevention.

The new model provides a more equitable approach to provincial policing and associated costs and will consider: crime severity; geography; population; service demands and community public-safety pressures

Renewed Agreement on 9-8-8: Suicide Crisis Helpline

Nova Scotians thinking about suicide or worried about someone else who may be thinking about suicide will continue to have access to help through a simple three-digit number.

The 9-8-8: Suicide Crisis Helpline, which launched in

2023, provides support through calls and texts. The Province and federal government have renewed a memorandum of understanding to ensure continued access for Nova Scotians.

9-8-8 offers free support 24 hours a day, seven days a week. People are connected with trained responders who can provide immediate, compassionate help in English or French.

VirtualCareNS

Did you know that Nova Scotians with a primary care provider get two free visits through VirtualCareNS per year? And that those without a primary care provider have unlimited access to virtual care?

To learn more about VirtualCareNS and to register today, visit: www.virtualcarens.ca

Property Tax Rebate for Seniors

Applications are now open for the Property Tax Rebate for Seniors.

If you’re a low-income senior who qualifies for the Guaranteed Income Supplement, you could receive a rebate covering half of last year’s municipal property taxes, up to \$800.

Our government is committed to making life more affordable for Nova Scotians, and this program is one more way we’re helping seniors keep more money in their pockets. Applications are open until December 31.

Learn more and apply here:
<https://beta.novascotia.ca/apply-property-tax-rebate...>

Canada Day 2026

I started this column talking about summer being over, with the Legislature resuming on September 8th, I want to end this column talking about a very enjoyable activity at the beginning of summer: I always enjoy participating in the Village of Bible Hill’s annual Canada Day parade and celebrations at the Rec Park.

Special thanks to the CC Riders for joining Amber and I and helping give out candy and treats, and to the Village staff for organizing another fantastic Canada Day.

Dave Ritcey is MLA, Truro-Millbrook-Bible Hill-Salmon River. He can be reached by telephone at 902-897-0884 or by e-mail at mlaritcey@bellaliant.com

The
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Again this month, the *Shoreline Journal* and *South Cumberland News*, is experimenting with a slightly larger text font/type used within most of the articles you will enjoy in August. Your comments are welcome. We hope you are pleased with our choice. Please feel free to email us at maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

**Deadline for the October issue of
The Shoreline Journal is September 22.**

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