



Municipality of the County of Colchester

Inside this issue:

Colchester Supports CMHA Building Campaign	3
Cliffs of Fundy Geopark	3
What Do I Need to Know Before Buying a Home?	4
Waste Resource Management	6
Recreation	8
Animal Control	9
Saltscapes Expo	9
Tax Sale	10
Solar Colchester	10
Will Your Property be Vacant Over the Winter?	10
A Message from the RCMP	11
Valentine's for Seniors	12
Mayor's Challenge Curling Results	12
Employee Recognition	12

March 2019

Volume 24 Issue 1

Low Income Municipal Tax Assistance Program

SUBMISSION DEADLINE - MAY 10, 2019

Residential property owners may be eligible for an exemption on their 2019/2020 property taxes, up to a maximum of \$325.29. To qualify, applicants must own and occupy the property as their principal residence and fall into one of the categories in the table below:

<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Gross Income</u>	<u>Exemption</u>
Single	Less than \$25,838	\$195.17
Family of 2	Less than \$34,126	\$260.23
Family of 3 or more	Less than \$40,951	\$325.29

Gross Income refers to the total gross income from all sources for the calendar year ending December 31, 2018. This must include the income of all members of the household, except full-time students. You should not include income from the following sources: War Veterans Allowance Act (Canada); Veterans Affairs Canada, Pension; Child Tax Benefit; or GST/HST Rebate.

Application forms will automatically be mailed to last year's eligible applicants. If you have not received your application form by April 1st, please call 902-897-3162.

Late applications will not be accepted.

Applicants must reapply annually. If you did not receive the exemption last year, you may obtain an application from the Municipal Tax Office, 1 Church Street Truro, or by calling 902-897-3162.

For income verification purposes, please bring your 2018 **INCOME TAX RETURN**, which you submit to Revenue Canada. If you have filed via telephone through the File My Return service, please request a proof of income statement Option 'C' Print to provide as proof of income.

Notice of Assessments will NOT be accepted.

From the Mayor's Desk

It's been my pleasure to serve as your Mayor nearly two and a half years. Along with lots of work and difficult decisions, I continue to be inspired by our resourceful and generous communities. Here are some issues currently before Council:

Budget: The 2018-19 fiscal year ends March 31st. Your County Council is now carefully budgeting for 2019-20.

21 applications were received from community groups for support for various projects or events. The total grant request of \$250,000 is over what our budget allows. With so many worthy causes, deciding grant distribution is a challenging task. Council looks at each request thoroughly to reach its decisions.

**Tatamagouche
Water Utility
Rate Increase
Reminder
Page 10**

Each year, around 48% of our collected taxes are sent to the provincial and federal governments for services such as education and policing. Our municipality has no control over the amounts we are billed for these services.

Canada Post Addresses: In January 2019, Canada Post sent out letters to customers in Colchester County “formally recognizing” areas by community name in Colchester County and stating the mailing address would no longer be classified as “Truro.” Pockets within Bible Hill, Valley and Salmon River were involved in this change. The letter states the “new addresses will be active with Canada Post on March 18, 2019.”

Many will recall when the rural route numbers in Truro were eliminated in 2006-07 and replaced by civic addresses using community names. But areas in Bible Hill, Valley and Salmon River were split between the community name and Truro for mailing. The Village of Bible Hill has, for many years, attempted to have its whole community recognized for the purposes of mail delivery and as recently as 2018 wrote to Canada Post requesting consistency.

Unfortunately, the letter from Canada Post states that the long-awaited was being done, “at the request of the County of Colchester.” This was not the case; the request came from the Village of Bible Hill Commission. However, Canada Post does contact Colchester County to enquire about community names. Colchester has 125 identified communities and is pleased to have a good working relationship with Canada Post. So, whatever the case, the end result is there are many of us changing our mailing addresses as our communities are finally being recognized appropriately for mail delivery.

Councillors’ Tax Exemption: A 70-year old federal tax exemption for elected municipal officials expired on January 1, 2019. This has reduced their net, or after-tax, remuneration.

The one-third exemption was set up to compensate officials who were incurring expenses without being adequately reimbursed. In March 2017, the federal government passed Bill C-44 eliminating the one-third exemption for elected officials. This impacts rural elected officials, like those from Colchester County, disproportionately and results in a reduction in net compensation of approximately 12.9 per cent.

Each municipality in Nova Scotia is deciding how to deal with this change. Four options to consider are outlined in a guide from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). First, Councils could compensate the loss with a salary adjustment to allow elected officials to stay at the level in place prior to the change. Option 2 is a partial salary adjustment to ease the loss. However, the net loss could compound the challenge of attracting candidates of diverse means for elected office. Option 3 from FCM suggests expanded expense policies. This would involve the Canada Revenue Agency determining which benefits are taxable. Finally, Option 4 is to take no action. This would decrease the take-home compensation for elected officials and not impact municipal budgets. Again, this would discourage candidates to run for municipal office.

The FCM, as well as the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM), recommends municipalities support their elected officials by avoiding abrupt changes in compensation, allowing them net compensation at the same levels they experienced pre-tax exemption loss. Colchester County hired an objective third party to carry out a review and bring back recommendations to Council. A decision is expected by the end of March.

RCMP Operational Communications Centre (OCC), Truro: Although the RCMP’s OCC is geographically located within the Town of Truro, many of the employees in that facility have their homes and are raising their families outside the town, in Colchester County.

On February 7, following an announcement to RCMP staff stationed on Prince Street in Truro, that the OCC would be closing February 2021 and moving to Dartmouth to be part of the OCC there, A/Commr. Lee Bergerman, Commanding Officer “H” Division, RCMP, accompanied by Marlene Snowdon, RCMP, met with local elected officials with a similar announcement. Those in attendance were Mayor Bill Mills; MP Bill Casey; and Councillor Barry Gloade on behalf of Chief Bob Gloade, Millbrook First Nation; Stephanie McNeil, Constituency Assistant to MLA Zann represented Ms. Zann; and I represented Colchester County.

Other than the message bearers who attempted to justify such a move, all of us present considered this move to be one that will put Nova Scotians at risk. Every emergency measures professional recognizes that communication centres of equal capacity need to be located at least 100 km from each other for resilience. The RCMP itself located the OCC in Truro for that very reason. This is a matter of public safety.

MP Casey and your municipal leaders will continue this fight to keep the OCC in Colchester County.

Personal Note: I want to thank the Women's Institute of Nova Scotia (WINS), North River Branch, for the privilege of making me an Honorary Member. It's always a pleasure to be a guest speaker at their meetings. Becoming part of this highly respected organization in this manner is very special. Thank you again.

Christine Blair, Mayor



Mayor Christine Blair presenting the cheque to Susan Henderson, Executive Director of the Canadian Mental Health Association, Colchester-East Hants Branch.

Colchester Supports Canadian Mental Health Association Building Campaign

On Tuesday, January 15, 2019, the Municipality of Colchester made its support for the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), Colchester-East Hants Branch, official when a contract was signed and a cheque for \$50,000 was presented to the Association by Mayor Christine Blair. The cheque was the first installment of a total \$100,000 committed by the Municipality to establish a new community mental health centre in the area.

The Canadian Mental Health Association, Colchester-East Hants Branch, offers Direct Service Programs to individuals living with mental health concerns. Programs include a Community Outreach Program, Independent Living Support Program, SOUP (Supported Opportunities for Unemployed Persons) Café, The Club (previously called The Friendship Club), Youth Outreach Program and a Community Housing Outreach Program.

Cliffs of Fundy Geopark

The Cliffs of Fundy Geopark Society is working to establish a UNESCO designated Global Geopark from Debert to Apple River. The project will promote important geological and heritage sites of the region and is anticipated to be a major tourism draw for the area.

In November 2018, Cliffs of Fundy reached a significant milestone when the Canadian National Committee for Geoparks and the Canadian Commission for UNESCO endorsed its application to UNESCO head office in Paris. The Society is hopeful that it will host a UNESCO evaluation team later this year.

To learn more about the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark, or upcoming community meetings, visit www.facebook.com/fundygeopark or contact Project Coordinator Marlee Leslie by calling 902-216-1221 or email coordinator@fundygeopark.ca.

What Do I Need to Know Before Buying a Home?



If you are thinking of buying a new home, you may want to consider the following before finalizing your transaction:

Who owns the road I will use to access my house?

Roads can either be owned by the Province, by the County or by private individuals or companies. Who owns the road will affect how it is plowed and maintained, and could affect your services such as garbage pick up, school bus routes and access to emergency vehicles.

Call the County Office to find out more on road ownership before buying.

Does my home have access to water?

If your home is using well water, any related questions can be answered by Nova Scotia Environment at 902-893-5880. If you are located in Debert or Tatamagouche, you may have access to a public water supply. Contact us to find out more about your water connection, including setting up a water account, cost for water and making a connection.

Does my home have access to a sewer system?

The County operates several public sewer systems in areas such as Tatamagouche, Debert, Great Village, Brookfield, Hilden, Valley, Bible Hill, Salmon River and Truro Heights. If you want to know more about an existing sewer connection, connecting to our sewer and related costs, please contact the Public Works Office. If you are located outside of a sewer serviced area and have any questions about on-site septic fields, please contact Nova Scotia Environment.

For additional information, please contact the Public Works Office at 902-897-3175.

Where is my organics green cart, I can't find it?

Every home has been provided with a green cart that remains a part of the residential property. If there isn't a green cart, you may need to purchase a new one from the County or make it a part of your real estate transaction to have one replaced.

What do I do if my green cart is broken?

Some of the older green carts are starting to break and need replacement or repairs. Contact us to learn about your options.

Where can I get a small kitchen green bin?

You can purchase a mini bin from the County Tax Office, 1 Church Street, Truro.

How do I find out when garbage collection takes place and what are the rules?

You can download the free Colchester Waste App, visit our website at www.colchester.ca/collection-schedules or call the Colchester Solid Waste Helpline.

For additional information on the purchase, delivery or repair of a green cart, or for garbage pickup details, please contact the Colchester Solid Waste Helpline at 902-895-4777.

The house I want to buy has a second unit or in-law suite. Is it legal?

Permits are always required to add apartments and in-law suites to existing homes as they require fire separations and other code requirements to be met for safety purposes. Contact the Building Inspection Office and check

before purchasing the property. Once the sale is final, you are the new owner and are required to bring the unit up to code which may have substantial associated costs. Also, some zones in Colchester County do not permit additional units, so be sure to speak with the Development Officer.

A house is and always was a house, right?

In the age of tiny houses and trying to avoid code requirements, sheds and garages are sometimes turned into homes without the required permits. Although we do catch some of these properties during routine inspections, be sure your lawyer checks to ensure this is not the case with your new cottage or home. Permits and code requirements are not the same for sheds and garages as they would be for a new home/cottage. The cost of bringing these buildings up to code can be substantial and is one that is the responsibility of the current property owner.

Can I keep animals on my property?

Some zones in Colchester County require large setbacks for buildings and fenced areas to house animals that cannot be met due to lot size. Be sure to speak with the Development Officer to see if the home you are considering can meet these setbacks.

Can I expand my house or build other buildings on my property?

Zoned areas in Colchester County may have increased setbacks compared to the fire safety setbacks required under the building code. To review the setbacks needed for any planned addition or to change the house, please contact a Building Inspector and the Development Officer to ensure you have the space required for an addition.

Can I run a business out of my home?

Some zones in Colchester County do not permit businesses, home occupations or commercial uses. Be sure to speak with the Development Officer to see if you can utilize the home in the way you have been planning.

What are the rules surrounding dog licensing in Colchester County?

It is the law in Colchester County to register your dog annually for a fee of \$12.00. Tags can be purchased at numerous locations throughout the County. For a list of tag vendors, see the article on page 9, contact our office or visit our website at www.colchester.ca/animal-control.

Please contact the Community Development Office at 902-897-3170 for additional information relating to building permits, zoning and animal control services.

Are there outstanding taxes on the house I want to buy?

Having your realtor or lawyer order a tax certificate from the County is a great way to protect yourself from unwanted expenses. For a fee of only \$25.00, you can find out about any outstanding taxes, utility account balance or liens on your future property. If you are buying a new home that has an existing water connection, be sure that a final meter reading has been recorded by the water utility before taking ownership of the new property.

How much will my taxes cost and when are taxes due?

Each year Council sets a residential and commercial base tax rate to be applied towards a taxable properties assessed value. The majority of properties in Colchester County also have area tax rates depending on the location and services available. Please contact the Tax Office if you have any questions in regard to the current tax rate or area rates that apply to your property. Annual tax bills are mailed once, in June, and are due August 31st of each year.

For more information, please contact the Tax Office at 902-897-3150.

Waste Resource Management

Waste Reduction Helpline: 902-895-4777

Website: www.colchester.ca

Follow us on Twitter @ColchesterWRM

Like us on Facebook - Colchester WRM

Colchester Balefill Facility

188 Mingo Road, Exit 18
Highway 104 Kemptown

Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Materials Recovery Facility

185 Mingo Road, Exit 18
Highway 104 Kemptown

Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Reminder: All visitors must report to the scale house prior to unloading materials. The scale house operator can accept cash, a personal cheque, or Interac as payment for disposal. The scale house is **not** equipped with a credit card machine. All loads must be tarped to prevent litter problems. Untarped loads will be subject to a \$20 surcharge.

The Balefill and Materials Recovery Facilities will be **closed** on April 19th for Good Friday, April 22nd for Easter Monday and Monday, May 20th for Victoria Day.

If your regular collection day falls on a holiday, an alternate collection will take place on the **following Monday**. Please refer to your waste collection schedule for details or download our FREE Colchester Waste app. Material must be curbside by 7:00 am on your collection day.

Blue Bags for Recyclables

Colchester County residents are asked to only use blue bags for curbside recyclables collection. This request is to assist the collection crews with easily identifying which bags are to be picked up for recycling. Since garbage, recyclables and compost are collected on the same day, recyclables that are placed in blue bags help the drivers to determine which truck should pick up the materials. This allows for items to be collected more efficiently and safely. It can be difficult to determine which bags are recycling when they are placed in clear bags sometimes due to darkness, rain, snow or clean looking garbage. For example: bathroom waste, diapers and feminine hygiene products can end up on the sorting line in front of our Materials Recovery Facility workers as it is mistaken for recyclables in a plastic bag. This can contaminate many more clean recyclables. Thank you for your attention on this!



Construction and Demolition Waste Tipping Fee Change

Effective April 1, 2019, the tipping fee to drop off unsorted loads of construction and demolition waste will increase from \$35 per metric tonne to \$75 per metric tonne. This increase still keeps the fee well below the provincial average of \$94 per metric tonne. **Sorting saves you money!** When you sort items such as wood, metal, shingles and clean drywall at the Balefill Facility, the tipping fee is \$35 per metric tonne. Sorting these items not only saves valuable resources that can be recycled, repurposed or composted, but also extends the life of the construction and demolition waste disposal cell. Thank you for your cooperation!



We Can All Do Our Part to Reduce Plastic Use

Nova Scotians use 300 to 500 million single use plastic shopping bags every year. At the Colchester Materials Recovery Facility each working day, we sort and process 3.25 bales of plastic film. This equals 4,940 pounds or 2.24 metric tonnes. Based on the average weight of a plastic bag, this equals 407,255 plastic bags EVERY day!

The best solution is to CONSUME less. Use reusable bags and rethink all disposable products. Refuse a bag when one is not necessary. Thank you for reducing the use of plastic.

Top 5 Alerts from Our Recycling Facility

Have you ever wondered how all of those recyclable items you place in your blue bags get sorted? Our recycling facility uses conveyor belts to move the materials and a very dedicated staff that hand pick items into separate streams. They do a great job sorting these valuable resources to keep them out of the landfill and give them a new life.

Staff has been noticing some problem items that are arriving in recycling bags. Help keep the quality of our recyclables high by putting the following items in the right place.

- **Paper in the Wrong Bag** – Paper products MUST be placed in a separate bag from your container recyclables. When paper products get mixed with other recyclables, they become contaminated and unmarketable thus we lose these valuable resources. **Please use blue bags for your recyclables!**
- **Medical Waste, Syringes and Needles** – These products should NEVER be placed in your recycling bag, loose or in any sort of container. This puts collection and processing staff at a major risk for injury and illness. If you use needles or syringes for medical conditions, please pick up a free Safe Sharps container from your pharmacy. Once filled, these containers can be taken back to the pharmacy to ensure safe disposal.
- **Household Batteries** - These do not go in the curbside recycling program. There are drop off sites across the Municipality and Household Hazardous Event days where they can be brought for recycling. Please tape across the two terminals on the 9 volt square batteries, for safety. Call our Helpline at 902-895-4777 to find the nearest drop off site.
- **Milk Cartons** – These should always be placed in your containers recycling bag with your plastics, bottles, and cans. This item is commonly mistaken for belonging in the paper recycling bag. So common in fact that each day, the staff at our recycling facility pull upwards of 250 milk cartons off of the paper sorting conveyor line to make sure they get to the right place with the other containers! This takes time and slows down operations. Placing these in your container recycling bag at home helps keep our facility more efficient.
- **Clean Recyclables** – Please ensure that containers are empty and rinsed before placing them in your blue bag for collection. When containers are not empty or clean, they can contaminate many other clean recyclables at our facility. We greatly appreciate your help in sending clean recyclables to us!

See us in Action! – All of the recyclables that arrive at our facility are sorted by hand by our dedicated employees. Check out our video to see us in action at www.colchester.ca/recycling-in-colchester to find out 'Where does it go?'. This will give you a firsthand look at why it is so important to properly sort your recyclables and ensure they are clean when they are placed into your bags.

We thank you for your continued cooperation!

Recreation



Step into Spring is Colchester Recreation's 8-week walking program. It's an easy and fun way to improve your activity level. Simply register for the program, wear a pedometer or fitness/activity tracker, record your daily step counts and submit your weekly total to Colchester Recreation by email or phone. The registration fee (\$10 for a pedometer, \$5 if you have your own device) gets you a reusable bag and incentives to keep you motivated. Send us your weekly step count total for a chance to win prizes each week!

Step into Spring begins March 30th and runs until May 24th. Registration begins March 22nd in Recreation Offices at the Municipality of Colchester, Town of Truro, Village of Bible Hill, and Town of Stewiacke. For more information contact Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185 or visit www.colchester.ca/spring.

Regional Parks Open May 11th

Regular service resumes at municipal regional parks on May 11, 2019. Experience the spectacular, panoramic view of the Minas Basin at **Five Islands Lighthouse Park**; stroll on the shaded paths along the river at **Stewiacke River Park**; and ride your bicycle on the Butter Trail through **Nelson Memorial Park**. These parks feature picnic shelters, a playground, walking paths and washrooms. Visit www.colchester.ca/parks for directions and more information.



A historic lighthouse, an ocean breeze, a panoramic view, amazing tides, a playship to sail...all this awaits at Five Islands Lighthouse Park. (Photo credit: Tourism NS)



National Volunteer Week is a time to celebrate and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers. If you are a volunteer – thank you! If you know someone who donates their time to help others and their community, please take a moment to thank them. The Municipality is pleased to support and recognize volunteers in our communities. For more information, contact Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185 or recreation@colchester.ca.



Cobequid Trail – Eagle Crest in Bible Hill

Your Next Trail Adventure

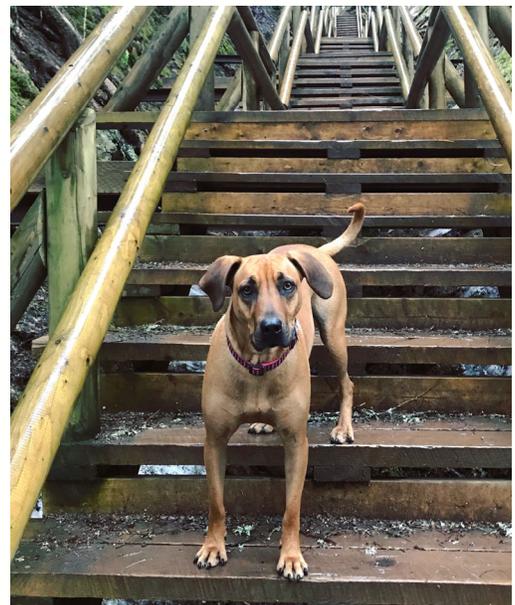
Make trails part of your active outdoor adventures this spring. With more than 150 km of walking, hiking and bicycling trails to explore, Colchester County has something for everyone...seacoasts and salt marshes; gorges and waterfalls; flat rail trails; paths in the hills; wonderful wetlands and shaded brooks. Explore a trail. Enrich your soul. Exercise your body. Refresh your mind.

Plan your next trail adventure at www.colchester.ca/trails.

Animal Control Dog Registration and Tags

As per the County's Dog By-law, dogs must be registered and tagged annually by January 10th of each year. Tags can still be purchased throughout the year. If you live in Colchester County, you can register your dog and purchase your tags at the following locations:

- Central Nova Animal Hospital – 29 Main Street, Bible Hill
- Fundy Veterinarians – 6 Greenfield Road, Murray Siding
- Fundy Veterinarians – 21089 Highway 2, Shubenacadie
- Truro Veterinary Hospital – 165 Arthur Street, Truro
- All My Pets – 1205 Salmon River Road, Salmon River
- Cross Road Boarding Training and Behaviour – 10 Cross Road, Great Village
- The Store – 1171 Highway 311, North River
- Stay N Play Canine Centre – 214 Crossley Avenue, Truro
- Futureworx – 229 Main Street, Tatamagouche
- SPCA – 408 Industrial Avenue, Truro
- Colchester County Community Development Office - 1 Church Street, Truro



We would like to congratulate our lucky early bird draw winners, Craig and Nancy Thurston and Jeff Colburne, for purchasing their 2019 dog tags before the January 10th deadline.

Colchester to Be Promoted at Popular Halifax Tradeshow

The Municipality of Colchester is set to have a presence at the popular Saltscapes Expo in Halifax at Exhibition Park this April 26-28. The Expo is a lifestyle show that draws over 40,000 consumers each year and provides an opportunity to showcase all that our great country has to offer. Colchester will partner with the Town of Truro, Downtown Truro Partnership and other regional partners to increase the overall exposure for our area. To learn more about the show visit www.saltscapesexpo.com.



Tax Office

Tatamagouche Water Utility Rate Increase Reminder

Effective Date	5/8" Meter	1" Meter	1 1/2" Meter	2" Meter	Water Consumption Rate (per cubic)	Bulk Water Rate (per cubic meter)	New Account Connection Fee	New Account Deposit Fee
April 1, 2019	\$104.79	\$252.94	\$499.86	\$796.16	\$2.72	\$8.53	\$60.00	\$100.00

Did You Know?

When selling your property, please notify us at 902-897-3152 to ensure a meter reading will be taken on the closing date.

Tax Sale

The next Tax Sale is scheduled for April 30, 2019. The sale will take place at 10:00 am in Courtroom #2 at the Municipal Courthouse. The Tax Sale will be advertised in the local newspapers on Thursday, March 28, 2019 and Thursday, April 25, 2019. For more information about the Tax Sale, please visit our website at www.colchester.ca/tax-sales or call the Tax Office at 902-897-3162.

Solar Colchester – Solar PV Financing



Coming soon! Colchester is launching a new solar panel financing program for eligible residential property owners and non-profits. The *Solar Colchester* program will allow property owners to finance the purchase and installation of photovoltaic (PV) solar panels through the Municipality at a low interest rate. Solar panels generate renewable energy, reducing carbon emissions and saving you money on your power bill.

Visit www.mysolarcolchester.ca or call Colchester Community Development at 902-897-3170 for more information.

Will Your Property Be Vacant over the Winter?

If you are connected to a public water system and plan to keep your property vacant over the winter, it's a great idea to ask for a temporary water shut off. Even though you might shut the water off inside your home, pipes can still freeze between your shut off and your foundation wall, leaving you open to major water damage. The cost for a utility shut off is \$50 in Debert and \$60 in Tatamagouche, and there is no fee to have the water turned back on in the spring during our regular working hours.

A Message from the RCMP

#9PM Routine - Crime Prevention Campaign



Crime Prevention and Reduction is one of "H" Division's Annual Performance Plan (APP) priorities. In early January 2019, the Nova Scotia RCMP launched a new crime prevention campaign to help residents protect their property against theft. This campaign, called the 9 p.m. Routine, was launched in Florida in 2016 and has since spread to police forces across North America.

The RCMP will be the first force to bring the 9 p.m. Routine to Nova Scotia, and will use a variety of tactics to support it. A majority of property crimes occur in late evening and during the night, hence this program includes daily 9 p.m. social media reminders for residents to protect their property through the following simple steps:

- Remove keys, wallets, cash, garage door openers and other valuables from vehicles.
- Ensure vehicle and home windows are shut (and locked, if possible).
- Close and lock doors on vehicles and homes.
- Close overhead garage doors.
- Turn on outside lights.
- Post that you've completed the #9PMRoutine on social media and tag Nova Scotia RCMP.

You are encouraged to follow along on Twitter (www.twitter.com/RCMPNS) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/rcmpns/>) where the campaign will use the hashtag #9PMRoutine.

RCMP Asks Motorists to Drive for Today's Winter Weather Conditions

Winter is upon us and winter driving can challenge even the best drivers.

The RCMP is reminding motorists to prepare for the roads ahead and drive cautiously. For all winter travel, you should plan ahead - check the weather and road conditions before heading out and adjust your expected arrival time accordingly. You can find information on road conditions on the Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal website at <https://511.novascotia.ca>.

A few tips to remember when travelling this winter:

- Slow down. Roads are unpredictable when they're slippery and it is best to drive at a slower speed than you would normally.
- Keep your distance. It takes longer to stop on a slippery road. Look ahead and keep plenty of distance between you and other vehicles.
- Take your time. Accelerate and stop gradually to maintain traction and avoid spinning your wheels.
- Stay focused. Focusing on the road ahead positions drivers to respond to the unexpected challenges that winter weather presents.

Road safety is everyone's responsibility. Help protect yourself and others by driving for the weather conditions and if they are bad, the best advice is to stay at home.



Municipality of the County of Colchester

1 Church Street
Truro, Nova Scotia
B2N 3Z5

www.colchester.ca

Toll Free Number
1-866-728-5144

Reception - 897-3160, 897-3150,
897-3175

Administration
Tax Office
Public Works

Community Development - 897-3170
Building Inspection
Development Officer
Animal Control
Planning

Property Information - 897-3178

Colchester Recreation - 897-3185
recreation@colchester.ca

Materials Recovery Facility and
Regional Bafill Facility - 897-0450

Waste & Recycling Helpline - 895-4777
helpline@colchester.ca

Fax Numbers

Courthouse Building

Administration - 843-4066
Community Development - 843-4061
Finance / Tax Office - 843-4067
Human Resources - 843-4063
Information Services - 843-4068
Property Information - 843-4062
Engineering / Public Works - 843-4064
Recreation Services - 843-4065

External Locations

Regional Sewage
Treatment Plant - 897-0335
Public Works Building - 895-5251
Water Utilities - 641-3102
Materials Recovery Facility/
Waste Reduction - 897-0453
Regional Bafill Facility - 895-2307

Municipality of the County of Colchester



Valentine's for Seniors

On Valentines Day, four Bible Hill RCMP members - S/Sgt. Allan Carroll, Cpl. Stephen Smith, Cst Lorilee Morash and Cst. Terry Brown - donned their red serge and visited three nursing homes, delivering heart shaped chocolates. Michael Foote of Appleton Chocolates in Tatamagouche provided the chocolates for Willow Lodge. Also visited were Debert Court in Debert and Vimy Court in Bible Hill. In all, some 150 were visited and many stories were told. Many seniors asked for photographs marking this visit.

Mayor's Challenge Curling Funspiel

Colchester Recreation hosted its annual Mayor's Challenge Curling Funspiel on February 2nd. Nine teams, comprised of all ages, competed in the event.

Congratulations to the undefeated winning team! Left to right: Elmer Archibald, Mary Johnson, Barb Cox and Doug Cox.



Employee Recognition

The Municipality's Service Recognition Policy acknowledges employees reaching service milestones. Employees recognized for years of service to the end of 2018 were:

5 years: Jennifer Boiduk, Shannon Furlotte, Glenn Ross, Amanda Stratton

10 years: Craig Burgess, Crystal Deuille, Rob Jones, Fida Mohammad, Michelle Newell, Jennifer Randall, Jason Selkirk

15 years: Deborah Searle

20 years: Nancy MacDougall

40 years: Tim Sharpe

