

Parallel Strategic Priority Pillars

Livability & Community Connectivity 

Areas of Focus

INTERNET & CELL SERVICE
Enhancing connectivity across Colchester County, ensuring residents have equitable access to essential telecommunications.

TRANSPORTATION
Developing reliable, inclusive transportation options to link communities, making it easier for residents to access services, jobs, and recreational spaces.

COMMUNITY HEALTH
Promoting a healthy lifestyle and fostering a sense of community through recreational spaces, natural landmarks, and community initiatives that attract newcomers and enhance residents' quality of life.

Community Resilience 

Areas of Focus

COMMUNITY SAFETY
Ensuring emergency preparedness and supporting local initiatives to address issues like homelessness and food security, building a secure and supportive environment for all residents.

CLIMATE ADAPTATION
Proactively managing climate risks by educating the community, upgrading municipal infrastructure, and promoting renewable energy to create a sustainable and resilient future.

AFFORDABILITY
Supporting local job training, fostering food security initiatives, and enhancing transportation options to promote accessible living standards and economic opportunities.

HOUSING
Advance initiatives across the housing continuum, including affordable, supportive, and attainable housing.

Service Delivery & Organizational Excellence 

Areas of Focus

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION
Attracting and retaining talent through flexible work options, mentoring, and a supportive workplace, establishing Colchester as a top employer in Nova Scotia.

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING
Strengthening partnerships with neighbouring municipalities, community organizations and equity deserving groups, through meaningful collaboration, fostering a spirit of mutual respect and cooperation.

STRONG INTERNAL PROCESS
Continually improving internal workflows to ensure efficient service delivery, meeting community expectations through streamlined and accountable municipal processes.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Implement meaningful, engaging communication practices to inform and involve the community in Colchester's activities.

Economic Development & Growth 

Areas of Focus

DEBERT BUSINESS PARK
Creating opportunities for industrial and commercial growth by improving infrastructure and promoting available lands, positioning Debert as a hub for economic development.

BUSINESS ATTRACTION & RETENTION
Fostering a dynamic economy by attracting new businesses, supporting existing ones, and collaborating with key sectors to ensure a diverse range of services that meet community needs.

TOURISM
Supporting sustainable tourism initiatives to enhance Colchester's appeal, attract visitors, and promote cultural and natural landmarks as vital economic assets.

IDENTIFY COMMERCIALIZED REVENUE OPPORTUNITIES
Explore innovative ways to generate municipal revenue through managed land use in Kempton and waste management solutions.

Sustainable Community Infrastructure Planning 

Areas of Focus

MANAGEMENT AND LONGEVITY
Implementing sound asset management practices, maintenance programs and renewal plans to ensure long-term infrastructure health.

ROOM FOR GROWTH
Planning for short and long term infrastructure expansion to accommodate new residential, commercial and industrial growth in the region.

FISCAL PLAN
Supporting infrastructure sustainability via short and long term funding commitments.

Areas for Advocacy

Strengthen communications with provincial and federal government to provide policy recommendations that will help to address issues impacting Colchester County.

<p>Health Care: Physician recruitment and emergency service wait times</p> <p>Policing: Increase policing presence and work to rebuild trust within communities</p>	<p>Provincial Road Maintenance: Improve quality of service for ditch maintenance, vegetation management and snow removal</p> <p>Bus Driver Shortage</p>	<p>Barrachois Wharf</p> <p>Homelessness</p> <p>Marshland Protection</p>
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Overarching & Guiding Values

- **Vibrancy & Prosperity**
- **Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, & Accessibility (EDI & A)**
- **Accountability & Transparency**
- **Responsible & Innovative Growth**
- **Engaged**



Livability & Community Connectivity

Making Colchester a Healthy, Supportive and Connected Community

	Current Activities	Future Considerations
Internet & Cell Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural Broadband Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with Build NS to enhance cell service in rural areas, specifically within the communities of Nutby Mountain, Kemptown, Upper North River and Earltown
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Transit Feasibility Study Refresh County-wide Active Transportation Plan Joint Regional Transportation Agency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce public transit Implement Active Transportation Plan Develop a strategy for bike lanes
Community Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued funding to RECC Further development of the Fundy Discovery Site and Active Transportation Bridge Continued Investment in the GeoPark Equity Diversity and Inclusion Committee and Strategy Dismantling hate and racism strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy targeting the health and activity of our youth Update and expand 2011 parkland strategy Expand recreation offerings and community amenities such as outdoor rinks, courts, and increase public space programming



Sustainable Infrastructure Planning

Strategic Investments to Support Responsible Asset Management and Future Growth

	Current Activities	Future Considerations
Management and Longevity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updating condition rating and assessment tools Regular inspections and planned maintenance Asset management planning Reducing inflow and infiltration Landfill capping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen development corridors to guide serviced growth Enhance Sewer By-law compliance Revise the Service Delivery Strategy, Infrastructure Program Policy, and Transportation Infrastructure Maintenance Policy Introduce computerized maintenance system
Room for Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop models to assess remaining development capacity for review and capital budgeting Capacity building; Tatamagouche, Debert and North River 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt growth management strategies that prevent costly sprawl and maximize existing infrastructure
Fiscal Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement Infrastructure Charges By-law Source federal and provincial funding Define sources of funding for J Class Road paving Complete water utility rate review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a community infrastructure plan that addresses growth demands while ensuring cost-effective and sustainable investments Explore future options for internal waste collection services



Service Delivery and Organizational Excellence

Building Teams, Processes and Relationships for Continued Success

	Current Activities	Future Considerations
Recruitment and Retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal Mentoring Program Flexible work options Renovations to municipal buildings to comfortably accommodate staff (1 Church and rec space) Succession planning Performance management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment and Retention strategy Courthouse redevelopment and accessibility enhancement New Municipal Building located on County owned land
Relationship Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop sound service agreements with neighbouring municipalities Reestablish positive working relationship with neighbouring municipalities Intentionally work on reconciliation with equity deserving communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement & Communications Strategy that aims to develop strategic, strong, meaningful relationships with external stakeholders and agencies
Strong Internal Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County-Wide Plan; Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) & Land Use By-law (LUB) Update engineering standards Online permit system updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamline municipal planning and development application processes
Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public communication materials for "Where do my tax dollars go?" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Engagement Strategy Public Engagement Strategy



Community Resilience

Building Adaptive, Affordable and Safe Communities

	Current Activities	Future Considerations
Community Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure reserves for Emergency Preparedness • Continued Support for Fire Service & Ground Search & Rescue • Regular Emergency Management Coordinator activities • Managed Urban Deer Hunt • Implementation of Forest Management Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Fire Planning Standards • Awaiting outcome of Provincial Policing Review • ATV Control
Climate Adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cozy & Solar Colchester Programs • Programs to transition to renewable energy sources for municipal buildings and fleets • Update planning documents for climate change considerations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Adaptation Strategy • Grant programs to assist citizens with mitigations • Develop Stormwater Management Standards • Explore opportunities for solar farms • Integrate sustainability into infrastructure expansion practices
Affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional public transportation planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local job training and workforce development programs • Community gardens and other food security initiatives • Define Council's role in addressing homelessness
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salmon River School property development • Debert Housing Project • Partnerships with private sector to deploy affordable and attainable housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Champion initiatives for supportive, attainable, and affordable housing, including tiny homes, social enterprises, and CMHC-supported projects • Define the Municipality's role and responsibilities to facilitate efficient and cost-effective housing solutions



Economic Development and Growth

Welcome to Colchester – We Are Open for Business

	Current Activities	Future Considerations
Debert Business Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gateway Project; roundabout construction to open up 104 hwy lands • Finalize a go-forward strategy for Debert Airport • Activities to attract new investment resulting in municipal land sales • Debert Aviation Centre improvements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Combination Vehicle access improvement through ramp redesign • Determine phased development approach and investment plan
Business Attraction and Retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual funding of Truro-Colchester Partnership for Economic Prosperity • Sector specific foreign domestic investment strategy (Canada Export Program) • Ongoing evaluation of business trends and needs & economic conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration opportunities with the agricultural sector • Leverage post secondary/higher learning institutions to develop sector based education locally • Support regional economic opportunities in natural gas and wind energy
Tourism Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued funding for the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark • Sustainable Tourism Expansion Plan • Collection of the Regional Marketing Levy • Continued investment toward major event attraction • Continued development of Fundy Discovery Site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt recommendations of Sustainable Tourism Expansion Plan • Governance model for levy funds
Identify Commercialized Revenue Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended Producer Responsibility Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Septage disposal facility in Kemptown • Kemptown Waste Management Park growth strategy