



# The Shoreline Journal

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## FRONT PAGE BRIEFS February 2020

The Truro Sports Heritage Society will hold its 36th annual banquet and awards ceremony at the Glengarry on Sunday, March 1st.

A complaint against Councillor Bob Pash has been filed with Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission for what is alleged to be improper remarks made at the municipalities staff Christmas Party at the Debert Hospitality Centre.

Doug Ledwidge, president and CEO of Ledwidge Lumber, Enfield, has joined the Forestry Transition Team as a new member. He has expertise in sawmill operations and can provide this perspective as the team moves forward. He participated in the team meeting earlier the week of January 10th. He replaces Robin Wilber, Elmsdale Lumber, who was removed from the board after he made public comments he felt the mill should be placed on "hot idle".

Before the end of January, Develop Nova Scotia is expected to announce its decision on Xplornet's application to provide broadband services to Cumberland-Colchester after the two counties choose the New Brunswick firm as its preferred ISP provider. Colchester has budgeted up to \$4-Million in its capital budget for upgrade of services, although the municipal contribution is expected to be much less.

Credit Unions in Nova Scotia will offer short-term repayable financing for forestry contractors affected by the pending closure of the Northern Pulp mill. The program will be available to eligible forestry contractors with the intention of helping them with payments on their equipment loans on a short-term basis. The transition team endorsed the approach at its latest meeting on Jan. 21. Qualifying contractors can access a line of credit, up to \$180,000, guaranteed by the province. Further details on eligibility are being finalized and will be made available soon. It is estimated \$5 million will be allocated for this initiative from the \$50-Million transition fund.

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The 2020 Dairy Farmers of Nova Scotia Board of Directors - Front (l to r): Hans Vermeulen, Gerrit Damsteegt, Byron Lamb, Andrew McCurdy, Elizabeth Crouse; Back (l to r): David Bekkers, Dustin Swinkels, Tony Versteeg, Greg Archibald, Brian Cameron. The DFNS held their AGM in Truro on January 15 and 16. See the stories from our dairy industry on pages 16, 17 and 24.

# Broadband by January 31?

By Maurice Rees

The long awaited multi-Million dollar announcement for Cumberland-Colchester is expected by end of January. (That is one of the problems with being a monthly newspaper. Important announcements can come a day or so after publication and it is almost a month before you have opportunity to put anything in print).

Sources indicate to the Shoreline Journal for over two weeks, Develop Nova Scotia (DNS), has been indicating an announcement is "moments away". Projects such as this one have to get in line in the political priority list and for sure the premier and other elected officials have had their hands full with issues surrounding the January 31st deadline on Boat Harbour.

It is slightly over two years since Bill Casey and Shoreline Journal publisher, Maurice Rees hosted a joint meeting between Colchester and Cumberland, which evolved into "kick-starting" the joint application for broadband for the two counties.

If the announcement evolves as expected, Casey & Rees will be able to claim total success, because their selec-

tion of Xplornet as the presenter to the joint meeting held at The Peg, Masstown, of the required Broadband, ISP provider will have evolved into Xplornet successfully meeting Develop Nova Scotia's stringent requirements.

During the joint meeting, Xplornet provided a rough approximate guesstimate of \$40+/- Million. It is not known, at this time, the financial arrangements with DNS. Those details will form part of the announcement expected to be by the end of January. It is known that last fall, when it reviewed its 5-year capital projections, Colchester budgeted an amount up to 4-Million. That was an outside figure with actual cost to the municipality expected to be much less.

According to the initial presentation the Xplornet construction process would ensure it was 5G ready, which the Federal Government has mandated it all ISP providers, must supply early in the 20's. The project, to all reports, is very unique for the following reasons:

- It is the first time two Nova Scotia counties have jointly volunteered to work to

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Kim Hillier reached out to a complete stranger, Arie Hoogerbrugge and offered him a warm place to stay for the night after she heard about his cycling journey which would take him through Great Village. (submitted photo)

## Cyclist Travels Shore on 55,000 km Journey

By Linda Harrington

Some of us have problems navigating our Canadian winter on four snow tires, imagine doing it on two narrow bicycle wheels?

Arie Hoogerbrugge has been gaining a bit of local attention throughout our Nova Scotia communities as he continues cycling not only across Canada but eventually, he plans to travel 55,000 kilometers to the tip of Argentina, with a few side excursions including Tuktoyaktuk, NWT.

His journey began back in November in St. Johns. On his website Arie says, "Part of the motivation behind my November 11th start date is to pedal a bike across Canada in the

middle of a Canadian winter. In my world this is perhaps the greatest challenge that I can come up with that would possibly push me to the point of failure." Over two months later, Arie is succeeding in pedalling forward and in making friends along the way!

Kim Hillier of Great Village heard about Arie's adventure and when she saw he was going through Great Village on Friday, January 17th she offered him her spare room. "He did take me up on the offer. Got here around 6 p.m. and we sat up till almost 1 a.m. talking," says Kim, who posted pics on her Facebook page, wishing him well on his journey. "He is an incredible person to be

doing what he's doing, and I would love to be at the end of his journey to hear the rest of the story in person," says Kim. She says he has some inspiring poetry on his webpage, and he spent some time explaining the meaning behind some of the writings. "There is a meaning behind them all and once you heard the meaning it made a lot more sense," she said, adding she encourages people to go to his website and read the posts.

Nancy Jennings encountered Arie as he made his way through Glenholme and they exchanged a wave and a smile. She had also heard of his adventure and knew immediately

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## Code of Conduct to be Adopted

By Maurice Rees

Colchester Council will adopt a Code of Conduct at its January meeting on the 30th. Various discussions have been held since 2017 and the Minister of Municipal Affairs requested all municipalities were required to adopt a code of conduct.

At council's committee meeting on adopting a code of conduct, municipal solicitor, Dennis James, pointed out to council the provincial act requiring a code of conduct has not been given royal assent and adopted.

When discussions on a code first surface, council requested staff formulate and submit a draft. Staff did as requested and presented to council. Several councillors, including Councillor Cooper, felt the submission was not appropriate and he would oppose.

On at the other end of the spectrum, Councillor Wade

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# THE ARMY THANKS YOU!



## The 2019 Kettle Campaign

HELP US HELP OUR COMMUNITY!

By Roger Green

As a volunteer for the Salvation Army, I have participated in activities on a weekly basis. However, during the last month of the year, leading up to Christmas, my focus was on the Christmas Kettle Campaign.

Anyone who frequents the stores or malls at this time of the year is likely to see a person, like me, standing adjacent to a Red Salvation Army stand with a clear plastic bubble or a red bucket hanging from it. Of course is made me curious to learn about the "Red Kettle". So, here are some interesting bits I have discovered.

The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign started in 1891 in San Francisco. There an enterprising member hung a crab kettle to collect donations for the less fortunate. Now, one hundred and

twenty eight years later his legacy has passed around the planet from North and South America, to all of Europe, including the UK where the Salvation Army was founded. One hundred and twenty seven nations take part in this campaign at Christmas. Call it a simple deed with vast repercussions - much like Christian kindness.

For anyone who doesn't think they know or have heard of the SallyAnn: Think again. The Salvation Army orphanage in Woolton, England was called Strawberry Field. A boy named John Lennon, who lived nearby, played with his friends in the woods there. Hence, today we have the song, Strawberry Fields Forever, and the name of the section of Central Park in New York city in his honour.

Truro, Nova Scotia is far from all these global inklings

and yet Truro is known as 'Hubtown'. Our significant relation to the age of steam, and the arrival of the Dominion railway linked the Maritimes to the mainland and fanned out from there. All of this information is at best incidental - but part of the explanation too.

The Red Kettle Campaign in Truro had 9 locations, which were stewarded by 149 volunteers from all parts of Colchester County, who covered a praiseworthy 1013 - 2-hour shifts. But, it was YOU! All of you who responded to the ring of the bell and made a donation to the kettle produced an astounding result!

The optimistic target was \$70,000 and in these times where optimism is somewhat deflated, you saw the need, and with great rejoicing we were able to reach over \$81,000.

Wow. WOW!  
So, that's maybe enough to tell - but wait, there is more to celebrate.

The Salvation Army was able to help 135 families with Christmas Food Hampers! Plus, because of you, nearly \$30,000 of games, books, bikes and toys were able to come through our doors and go directly to children, who otherwise may not have had a Merry Christmas morning.

So, we did well, and you did well by us. This assures that next year will roll out even better for all of us. Caring and kindness are often lost in this day and age but you came through with full steam ahead and made those Kettles boil right over!

The cool part for me? A legacy that started in 1891, on the other side of the continent, and here in 2019, I can say I got to be a part of that.

## Cyclist Travels Shore on 55,000 km Journey

Continued from page 1

who he was. "To encounter the cyclist, you've only just read about on social media that very morning is rather intriguing when you reflect on all of the positive Maritime interactions with strangers & friends this winter cyclist has experienced along his personal trek to date." Nancy says she will be following Arie's blog daily to keep up with his experiences throughout this three-year journey.

As of his January 18th online blog, Arie says he had spent 56 days on the road, cycled 2,355 kilometers and slept 29 nights in a tent. He has greatly appreciated the invitations to sleep in a nice warm bed after some gruelling days in sub zero temperatures.

Arie feels the weather has been better than expected. "I was expecting the worst but at the same time I didn't really "think" about the weather at all. I felt if I thought about the weather, I may never attempt this ride during the winter at all," he says adding, "But I am aware I have been very very lucky with the weather so far."

People Arie has met along the route have been very generous, in true spirit of the Maritimes! He didn't set a budget for the journey, noting back in 2011 when he did his first bike tour, he spent a fair amount on camp sites, so he had access to a shower. "Obviously I have spent no money on camp sites at this time of year," he laughs. "But I have found I eat out more than ever expected, which adds up financially. Some restaurants have given me my meal on the house, such as the Rite Stop in Advocate and people have given me meals in their homes, which has been greatly appreciated but I never expected." He has also been very appreciative of people handing him a few dollars along the way, which again he says he never expected.

Arie has been planning this journey extensively since 2011, mostly planning the route. The opportunity to start this ride came up very suddenly. "I only started purchasing my bike and gear and working on my website since the beginning of June 2019, in

addition to working an 80-hour week as a long haul truck driver." He considers what was accomplished in the short 5.5 months leading up to the ride is in his opinion "nothing short of a miracle".

As for sticking to the planned route, the journey through Atlantic Canada has evolved quickly into something much bigger than Arie had ever expected. "I have probably added at least 1000 extra kilometers to Atlantic Canada just to see who I can meet along the way. Atlantic Canada has been awesome!" he says. "So, at this point I simply go with the flow." Arie has been taking advice from the local people and enjoying whatever is offered or suggested.

Arie has known from the start the 55,000 km journey cannot be completed without challenges and his career for 6.5 years as a long haul truck driver for Voortman Cookies, driving 1.2 million km across North America he certainly got to know the lay of the land. "Physically, the toughest day was my first day in Newfoundland, pedalling to Cape Spear and back to St John's. Newfoundland was tough getting into physical shape for the ride." But biking from Joggins to Advocate to Great Village were also tough. "From Joggins to Advocate my gear shifter froze so I did not have my bottom 6 gears. I had to push my bike over every hill. From Advocate towards Parrsboro I had some pretty hilly areas. Once again I

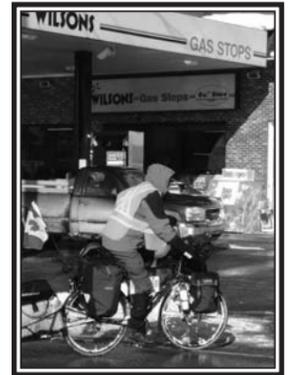
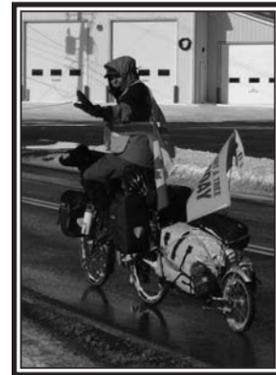
had to push my bike over virtually every hill due to snow and slippery roads." This is not an ordinary bike to "push" up hills. The bike and gear weigh about 185lbs. He says Parrsboro to Great Village was probably the worst weather he had to travel through so far, but he enjoyed every day of it.

Looking to the future, Arie has a passion for reforestation of rainforest and jungle he will be dreaming and planning for during three years on a bicycle. "I have some land in Belize and I would like to convert some of the land into a nursery that raises millions of seedling trees for replanting purposes."

After leaving Great Village, Arie headed to Truro where a snowstorm gave him a welcome rest stop for a day before he pedalled off to Windsor, then Halifax and onward to Digby, taking the ferry to Saint John, New Brunswick.

We wish him well on his journey and hope to follow him along the way!

Visit Arie's website at <https://safariarie.ca>



Arie Hoogerbrugge is planning on cycling 55,000 km over the next three years on his journey to Argentina. He began his adventure in Newfoundland on November 11th, has been to PEI and is now making his way throughout Nova Scotia enduring whatever weather comes his way. His bike and gear weight 185lbs. (submitted photo)

## Bass River Wellness Fair – April 18

By Mandy Moore

The 2nd Annual Wellness Fair will be held Saturday, April 18th from 10am-2pm at the West Colchester Consolidated School. This event is free to attend, for both vendors and community members. We are also hoping to schedule a few workshops and/or demonstrations to take place during the Wellness Fair.

The purpose of this event is to help make individuals and families along the shore more aware of the programs and services available to them to support a healthier, more vibrant lifestyle. The Along the Shore committee is also seeking volunteers who might wish to contribute to their community or be-

come a member of the board.

The committee sees the wellness fair as an opportunity for local businesses, community groups and non-profit organizations to network and make valuable connections. Last year's event was very successful, but to ensure everyone's needs are met the organizing committee is seeking feedback from potential vendors, to assess their interest in participating in this event.

If you are interested in a booth at this event, facilitating a workshop/demo, or supporting the planning of this event in any way please respond contact Mandy Moore.

Mandy Moore is Community Health Board Coor-

dinator for the Along the Shore CHB, Truro & Area CHB.

Her office is located at: 600 Abenaki Road, Truro, NS, B2N 5A1, PH: 902.890.4383; [www.nshealth.ca](http://www.nshealth.ca)

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