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September 2022

Volume 27 Issue 3

Survey on Large Scale Wind Turbines

Survey opens September 1 and closes October 15, 2022

In February 2022, Council voted to suspend all new applications for large-scale wind turbine developments for a period of six months while the Wind Turbine Development By-Law is under review. This review was later extended for an additional six months.

They identified four key issue areas:

1. Setback distances from existing residential uses
2. Turbine height limitations
3. Adequacy of decommissioning requirements
4. Noise generation

As part of this review process, we would like to hear from you on these issues. Take the survey to share your thoughts!

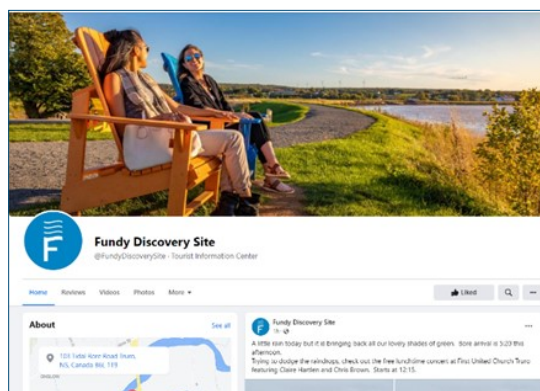
Visit www.colchester.ca/community-development or scan the QR code to take the survey online. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please call 902-897-3170 or email comdev@colchester.ca.

Check our website for other community engagement activities and information from September until December 2022.



The Fundy Discovery Site is now on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/FundyDiscoverySite



Like and follow the page for tidal bore times, regular updates, and event information or to message staff for ideas of things to see and do in the region.

The Visitor Centre will remain open until Mid-October at 103 Tidal Bore Rd., Lower Truro.

| 902-897-6255 | www.Fundydiscovery.ca |

Property Taxes

The Municipality of Colchester 2022/23 property tax bills were due on August 31, 2022; any outstanding balances are accruing interest at 1.00% monthly.

There are many options for you to pay your property taxes:

- Payments can be made by online banking or at most banks. Please make sure you use the [assessment account number](#) as your account number. Allow 2-3 business days for processing.
- Cheques can be mailed to 1 Church Street, Truro, NS, B2N 3Z5. Please note the [assessment account number](#) in the cheque memo.
- There is a secure drop box located at the back entrance of our office located at 1 Church Street, Truro.
- The Tax Office can accept cash, cheque, and debit only payments at 1 Church St, Truro between 8:30 am-4:30 pm, Monday to Friday.

Paymentus - Bill Payments by Credit Cards

The Municipality of Colchester is pleased to add an additional payment option for residents interested in using their credit card to pay their bill. The County has partnered with Paymentus Corporation to bring you the convenience of paying by credit card online. Paymentus Corporation is a third-party automated payment service that accepts Visa, MasterCard, and Amex.

- You can pay your bill right away, any time, any day 24/7 on our website at www.colchester.ca/paymentus-online-payments.
- Paymentus will charge a service fee of 2.50% for each transaction, Colchester does not collect this fee.
- We cannot accept credit cards in person or over the telephone.

If you did not receive your tax bill, please contact our office to verify your mailing address.

If you have any questions regarding your tax bill or need to set up a re-payment plan for your outstanding property taxes, please contact Chelsea Veling at 902-897-3162 or cveling@colchester.ca.

Did you know?

We have a variety of pre-authorization tax payment plans available!

1. Due Date – The full tax bill amount is withdrawn on the annual due date.
2. Pre-Payment – Pre-pay next year's bill with equal monthly installments.
3. Recurring Payment – You choose how much you want withdrawn monthly.

For more information, call 902-897-3162 or email taxoffice@colchester.ca.

Tax Sale

The tax sale list will be made available in October 2022 with the proposed tax sale date being in November 2022. Check local papers and our website at www.colchester.ca/tax-sales for the list and updated information as it becomes available.

Boundary Review Public Survey Deadline is September 30

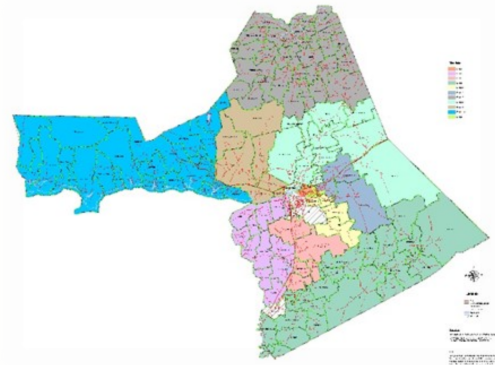
The 2022 Boundary Review Survey has been mailed to homes across the Municipality and is also available online at www.colchester.ca, by calling 902-897-3182, or by dropping by the Municipal Office at 1 Church Street, Truro.

By completing the survey, you will help inform Colchester County Council on whether the current number of electoral districts and councillors in the Municipality is effective or not.

The Municipality of Colchester currently has 11 councillors representing 11 districts and a mayor representing the Municipality at large. Is this enough? Too many? Or just right?

Let us know by completing the survey by September 30, 2022.

If you have questions, or would like more information, please contact Devin Trefry, Research, Policy and Community Engagement Officer, at 902-897-3182 or dtrefry@colchester.ca.



Fall Trail Adventures

Fall is a wonderful time of year to get outside and explore the trails in Colchester County. Enjoy the vibrant forest colors! Visit www.colchester.ca/trails and www.nstrails.com/trailguide to plan your next trail adventure in Colchester County. Please remember to practice physical distancing. On narrow paths, please yield to passing visitors.



Municipal Regional Parks



This Fall, why not plan to visit one of our municipal regional parks? They feature picnic facilities, walking paths, playgrounds, and river or ocean views. Relax and take in the spectacular view at Five Islands Lighthouse Park, bicycle on the Butter Trail through Nelson Memorial Park as you enjoy views of Tatamagouche Bay, enjoy the Fall colors while picnicking or walking the trails in Stewiacke River Park or why not check out the scenery at the Fundy Discovery Site.

The regional parks are serviced until October 10, 2022, although the public is welcome to use the parks for walking and snowshoeing during the late Fall and Winter. For more information, please visit www.colchester.ca/parks-and-trails or phone 902-897-3180.

From the Mayor's Desk

Dangerous and Unsightly Properties: Since the NS Municipal Government Act came into effect in 1998, our Council and staff have dealt with many properties that are deemed to be dangerous and unsightly. What this means is clearly defined as “partly demolished, decayed, deteriorated or in a state of disrepair so as to be dangerous, unsightly or unhealthy.” And a detailed list of conditions follows.

I have often been asked about unsightly properties and what can be done if such a property is located within your neighbourhood or community. Information on this process and complaint forms are available on the Municipality's website at www.colchester.ca/building-inspection or by calling our Department of Community Development at 902-897-3170.

One big challenge is repeat offenders. Our staff, with legal advice and on the direction of Council, is looking into stiffer penalties for repeat offenders.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: Each year, September 30th marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day. The day honours the children who never returned home from residential schools, those who survived, and their families and communities.

This day has been observed unofficially since 2013 as it relates to the story of a little girl (Phyllis Webstad, now 60 years old) who wore an orange shirt on her first day of residential school in 1973 and had it taken from her by school authorities. Many of the 150,000 children who were forced to attend these schools suffered physical and sexual abuse, malnutrition, and neglect. More than 4,000 are believed to have died.

This day is honoured by our Municipality. Our municipal office building on the corner of Church and Queen Streets will be illuminated in orange lights in recognition that “Every Child Matters.”

Solar Colchester and Cozy Colchester Programs: The Solar Colchester program, now in its fourth year, continues to be successful as residents who have been approved for financing to install photovoltaic solar panels on their homes are proceeding to have the work done. Cozy Colchester has also been very successful receiving applications for home energy efficiency retrofits. In fact, both programs have been so popular that applications had to be put on hold in June to do a catch up on the demand. Applicants who had taken initial steps to enroll in the programs prior to the hold will be contacted in the New Year. These are fantastic programs Colchester is proud to offer our residents to help meet our carbon free goals by 2050.

Not Since Moses Run: The Run, now operated through the Bluenose Marathon organization, was a huge success on August 14th with almost 700 runners aged 5 to 88 years running either 5 km or 10 km. Despite the clouds in the sky, the runners were laughing when the run began, and still smiling as they came over the finish line. It was my pleasure to present some of the medals to participants. One young man I spoke with was visiting from Spain. He was an international student a couple of years ago, and came back for a visit. Another visitor came here from Australia, driving to Nova Scotia from Ontario. Even though she was on crutches and couldn't participate, she wanted the experience. Other visitors were from across Canada, and the US. Our Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark was front and centre with booklets on geosites and with information about the trails, local parks and restaurants. Moses even put in an appearance! It was a great day for all. Looking forward to the Run in 2023.

Federation of Canadian Municipalities: For those of us in municipal government, and on behalf of our residents in each of the over 2,000 Canadian municipality members which represent 92 percent of all Canadians from coast to coast, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities is the national voice that represents us at the federal level. It is my privilege to be a member of the 75-person FCM Board of Directors for a second term and to be newly named as the Atlantic Caucus Chair for this region.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee: Belonging and being valued are fundamental human needs. Colchester County's EDI Committee, now almost one-year in place and actively working to achieve its goals, participated in the Pride Parade on June 25th, recognition of Emancipation Day, Acadian Days, and is looking

forward to a learning experience in early October with Indigenous educator, Gerald Gloade.

Trauma and Grief: Almost two and a half years after the worst intended mass shooting in Canadian history, talks with many elected officials and government staff, work continues towards long-term and ongoing support through a team of professionals to address the trauma and grief being experienced due to this tragedy. While we appreciated the provincial government's input shortly after the event, what is needed is long-term support. I especially want to thank Serena Lewis, Great Village (who is an expert in the field of trauma and grief), and Dr. Karen Ewing, River John, formerly of Bass River/Economy, for their perseverance, dedication, caring, professionalism, sincerity, and advice as they work to achieve this goal. It is my pleasure to work with them on behalf of Colchester's residents.

In conclusion: Congratulations to Brookfield Athletic Association for its vision in accommodating community youth, children ages 5 to 12 who are participating in the minor ball program, for building and opening a great new ball park, the Home of the Young Elks. The Brookfield community is well known for valuing sport, its sportsmanship, and sporting history. The park will be enjoyed for generations to come.

Congratulations to STEPS on Arthur and all involved in the Grand Opening of Delaney House held August 27th. This expanded facility will be of great benefit to many throughout the County.

I would like to commend those involved in fundraising efforts for the TAAC Ground Revitalization Project. It is exciting to see the project moving forward in light of recent funding announcements. Colchester Council has committed funds to this important initiative that will greatly benefit sport, recreation, and economic development in the region.

Congratulations to Air Show Atlantic, staff and over 200 volunteers, as well as Colchester's Economic Development Officer, Jenn Mantin and our staff, all of whom worked towards and achieved the goal of a most successful air show in Debert on August 27 and 28. Looking forward to more air shows in Debert.

Summer is certainly going by quickly. Children are back in school and autumn is soon upon us. It's a beautiful time of year which I hope each of you will enjoy. Kind regards to all.

Christine Blair, Mayor



Congratulations Scholarship Recipients



Through the Municipality's Scholarship Program, scholarships are awarded annually to high school students residing in Colchester who are planning to further their educations. Scholarships are awarded to students who are enrolled in Bachelor or Trade Programs.

For the 2021-2022 school year, the following students received scholarships: Braycen Cole and Isaac Leveille from Tatamagouche Regional Academy; Maddison Singer and Cameron Fisher from South Colchester Academy; Leah MacLean, Sage Yuill and Dawson Bird from Cobequid Educational Centre; and Liam Holeiter from École acadienne de Truro.



Wild Parsnip

Wild Parsnip is an invasive plant which can commonly be found along roads, sidewalks, pathways and trails in Nova Scotia. Sap from this plant can burn and blister skin when exposed to UV light. For more information on wild parsnip visit www.novascotia.ca/agri/documents/NoxiousWeeds-Wild_Parsnip.pdf.

Recreation

Like [Colchester County Recreation](#) on Facebook and follow [@MunColRec](#) on Twitter for more information about our upcoming programs!



Sport Hub is a one stop shop for registration for recreation programs and sports within Truro and Colchester County. This site is simple and user friendly for all parents wanting to maintain their busy schedule. Join Sport Hub today, build a quick profile of your family and be ready to sign everyone up, into what sport or program they want! Visit www.mysporthub.ca or contact truocolchesteradmin@mysporthub.ca for more information.

Women's Learn 2 Play Hockey

Hey ladies, have you ever wanted to learn to play hockey? Here's your chance! This "learn to" hockey program is designed to teach the basics of hockey to women with little or no experience. The program reviews skating skills, basic rules, shooting/passing, and game fundamentals.

2 Program Locations – TBA

Pre-registration is required. Space is limited!

For more details contact Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185 or recreation@colchester.ca.

Colchester 4 on 4 Hockey for Women

Colchester County hosts ladies 4 on 4 hockey games for more experienced players. Games take place every Sunday at Deuville's Rink in Salmon River. If you would like more information, please contact Ellie Shipley-Landry at ellieshipley74@gmail.com.

2022 Provincial Volunteer of the Year

Each year the Government of Nova Scotia and the many communities across the province honour a member of your community during National Volunteer Week (which took place April 24 - 30th) to recognize their contributions. This year we have the honour of introducing our 2022 Provincial Volunteer of the Year recipient Cara Carruthers-Fury of Tatamagouche. The Provincial Awards Ceremony will take place in Halifax on September 26, 2022, and will be streamed online.



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

Waste Resource Management

Waste Reduction Helpline: 902-895-4777

Website: www.colchester.ca

Twitter: @ColchesterWRM

Facebook: Colchester WRM

Reminder: All visitors must report to the Scalehouse prior to unloading materials. The Scalehouse operator can accept cash, personal cheque, or Interac as payment for disposal. The Scalehouse 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 Friday, September 30th for National Truth and Reconciliation Day, Monday, October 10th for Thanksgiving Day and Friday, November 11th for Remembrance Day.

Hazardous Waste Disposal – Dates to Remember

Location: Clean Harbors, 640 MacElmon Road, Debert, Exit 13, Highway 104

Remaining 2022 Dates of Operation: October 1st and November 5th

Hours of Operation: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

This FREE service is for residents of the Municipality of Colchester and the Towns of Truro and Stewiacke.

Download **Litteratti** and sign up for the Keep Colchester Clean Fall 2022 Anti-Litter Challenge

LITTERATI & Colchester
Waste Resource Management

Quick Start Guide

- 1** Download the app and claim your account
- 2** Check that your phone's GPS location settings are ON.
Sign up for the challenge with join code: **KCCF2022**
- 3** Clean up & take photos!
Be safe, wear a mask, be aware of your surroundings
Check that your GPS location settings are ON
Protip - Make sure to take clear, well-lit photos!
- 4** Upload your photos via wi-fi when you're done.
After doing a long clean up session, this would be a good time to charge your phone as well.
- 5** Tag your photos in the gallery after uploading.
Go into gallery and add object, material or brand tags to your photos. It's important to tag your photos to help add good data to your photos and our database.

Bonus! Share on social media!
Use: #Litteratti
#Colchesterclean

For more information, visit our FAQ page

Fall Compost Giveaway

When: October 17th-22nd
 Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm
 Saturday from 8:00 am to 11:30 am

Where: 188 Mingo Road, Kemptown

Each household is allowed 100kgs of compost for free. Compost is also available for purchase at a cost of \$35 per metric tonne. Residents are weighed in and out and charged appropriately (your free 100kgs will be deducted prior to the payment calculation).

Remember: Residents will be supplied three feed bags but must bring their own shovel, gloves, and appropriate footwear!



Colchester Compost is lab tested to meet Grade A requirements prior to any marketing or Give Away Events.

Benefits

Compost is the ultimate garden fertilizer. It contains virtually all the nutrients a living plant needs and delivers them in a slow-release manner over a period of years. Compost serves primarily as a soil conditioner, whether it's spread in a layer on the soil surface or is dug in.

Soil regularly amended with compost is better able to:

- Hold air
- Hold water
- Drain more efficiently
- Contain a nutrient reserve
- Produce plants that will have fewer insect and disease problems
- Encourage beneficial soil microorganisms, which control harmful microorganisms
- Foster healthy plant growth and healthy plants are better able to resist pests

(Source <https://compostguide.com/>)

Waste Reduction Week – October 17 to October 22, 2022

Climate change is a big topic and overwhelming for most of us. The path to making our planet healthier seems insurmountable. Desmond Tutu once wisely said that **“there is only one way to eat an elephant: a bite at a time.”** What he meant by this is that everything in life that seems daunting, overwhelming, and even impossible can be accomplished gradually by taking on just a little at a time.

Colchester residents have been taking one bite at a time by embracing waste reduction, recycling, and composting activities. These actions help reduce methane production and raw mineral extractions that are used for making new products which supports the circular economy. The act of recycling or diverting organics may seem too easy and insignificant to make any impact, but everyone's collective contribution does support global sustainability. Our community working together has made tremendous impacts, since 1996.

The third week of October is Waste Reduction Week in Canada. It has been celebrated in Canada around 20 years and even longer in Nova Scotia. Waste reduction, recycling and composting are key components to a circular

economy. This year, the Circular Innovation Council of Canada is extending Waste Reduction Week beyond just the third week of October into a Circular Economy Month. This is to educate and excite Canadians about the opportunities and benefits of the circular economy.

The third week of October will continue as Waste Reduction Week and will continue to focus on daily themes related to specific waste streams and the waste reduction component of a circular economy. You can find out more information by visiting www.wrwcana.com/en/theme-days.

We will be communicating educational messages and the “SWAP, SHARE, THRIFT, REPEAT” DivertNS Programs and Projects through our social media - on our website www.colchester.ca, on Twitter @ColchesterWRM and on Facebook @ColchesterWRM. It will be our opportunity to share insights and opportunities to further help you support the circular economy. This will help us all become more sustainable through our daily activities. Keep an eye out for further details and “Plan It” Colchester!

Upcoming Commemorations & Observances

Sharing in traditions and celebrating differences is an important part of building strong, welcoming, and inclusive communities. Here are a few special dates to take note of in the weeks ahead:

September 25-27	Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year)
September 30	National Day of Truth & Reconciliation
October	Mi'kmaq History Month
October 1	National Seniors Day
October 4-5	Yom Kippur (Jewish Holiday)
October 10	Thanksgiving Day
October 24	Diwali: Festival of Lights
October 31	Halloween
November 11	Remembrance Day
November 20	Transgender Day of Remembrance
December 3	National Day of Persons with Disabilities

Did You Know?

Diwali originated in India and is one of the major festivals celebrated by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, and some Buddhists.

New Award Program to Celebrate Colchester Courage

On May 26, 2022, Council approved details of a new *Colchester Courage Award*. The Award was established to acknowledge residents for outstanding acts of courage and bravery in the County.

To learn more about the award, eligibility criteria, or to nominate someone you feel would be deserving of a Colchester Courage Award, please contact the Municipality's Administration Office by calling 902-897-3184, email tveno@colchester.ca, or find the Policy and nomination form online at www.colchester.ca.



A Message From the RCMP

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS...

Criminal Record Check, Vulnerable Sector Check, and Child Abuse Registry Check

What is a Criminal Record Check?

This process verifies whether an individual has a criminal record. It does not include any non-convictions but may contain discharges if disclosure period is still open. If you require a list of convictions a declaration of criminal record may be requested.

What is a Vulnerable Sector Check?

This process verifies whether an individual has a criminal record, as well as any record suspensions (formerly pardons) for sexual offences and local police records for information (adverse) relevant to the VS check.

You will be required to provide a letter from the employer or organization to the RCMP-GRC with the following information:

- The name of the employer or organization staffing the position (on letterhead)
- The title of the position (must cause the person to have authority over, or trust of, children or vulnerable persons)
- Details about the children or vulnerable persons (e.g. age, or other factors that can show how the person is vulnerable)
- If the position is paid employment or volunteer

Once the RCMP-GRC has determined that the position meets the requirements for a vulnerable sector check, a name based search will be conducted. In some cases you will be required to submit fingerprints to confirm your identity. The use of fingerprints ensures the accuracy of the identification process. Once the vulnerable sector check is completed, the RCMP-GRC will mail the results to the applicant or the applicant can pick their results up in person.

What is a Child Abuse Registry Check?

The Child Abuse Register (Department of Community Services – Government of Nova Scotia) keeps a record of the names of people that the provincial court or family court has found (during a court process in Nova Scotia) to have caused harm to a child. The Department of Community Services uses the Child Abuse Register to screen prospective foster parents, adoptive parents, and employees or volunteers who work with children. Child protection workers also use the register to help determine if a child needs protective services. This is NOT completed through the RCMP-GRC. You may apply online at www.child-abuse-register-search.novascotia.ca/en/privacy.

Where do I attend for a Criminal Record Check / Vulnerable Sector Check?

All residents of Bible Hill, NS and Colchester County can attend Bible Hill Detachment to have criminal record check / vulnerable sector check completed.

What do I require to apply?

Two pieces of valid Government issued identification (one piece is required to be photo, second is other government issued). The letter from the employer or organization (if applicable).

How much does it cost for a Criminal Record Check / Vulnerable Record Check?

This is a service provided by the RCMP-GRC at no charge (there may be a nominal fee if subsequent fingerprints are required to confirm the identify of the applicant – also known as certified criminal record check).

Where can I obtain additional information related to criminal record and vulnerable record checks?

You may obtain additional information at www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/types-criminal-background-checks or by calling Bible Hill Detachment at 902-893-6820

Public Works

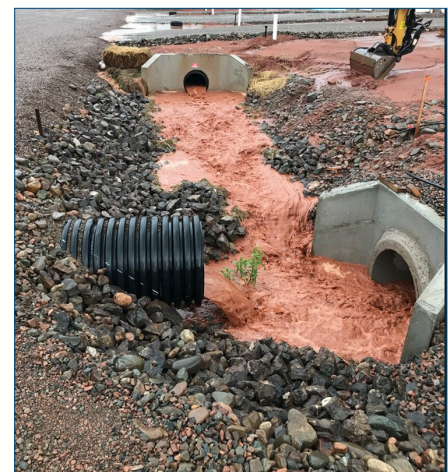
Flood Committee

Experiencing flood damage on your property? Contact the Public Works Office at 902-897-3175 (select option 2) to see if you qualify for support from the County Flood Advisory Committee. Applications for the program can also be found at www.colchester.ca/flooding.



Sedimentation

Did you know that bare soil can wash down into our ditches and waterways in heavy rain? This process is called sedimentation and erosion. Soil particles in our streams and rivers can harm fish and can also impact any downstream drinking water systems. Avoid exposing large areas of soil before heavy rains and help stop washouts by using straw or hay to cover any bare ground.





1 Church Street
Truro, Nova Scotia
B2N 3Z5

www.colchester.ca

Toll Free (in NS):
1-866-728-5144

Reception - 902-897-3160,
902-897-3150, 902-897-3175
Administration
Tax Office
Public Works

Community Development - 902-897-3170
Building Inspection
Development Officer
Planning

Property Information - 902-897-3178

Colchester Recreation - 902-897-3185
recreation@colchester.ca

Materials Recovery Facility and
Regional Balefill Facility - 902-897-0450

Waste & Recycling Helpline:
902-895-4777
helpline@colchester.ca

Fax Numbers

Courthouse Building

Administration - 902-843-4066
Community Development - 902-843-4061
Finance / Tax Office - 902-843-4067
Human Resources - 902-843-4063
Information Services - 902-843-4068
Property Information - 902-843-4062
Engineering/Public Works - 902-843-4064
Recreation Services - 902-843-4065

External Locations

Regional Sewage
Treatment Plant - 902-897-0335
Materials Recovery Facility/
Waste Reduction - 902-897-0453
Regional Balefill Facility - 895-2307

Calling All Artists!

Art Acquisition and Show in November



Congratulations to the winners of our 2020 and 2021 Summer Art Acquisition Show held at the NSCC McCarthy Hall on June 16, 2022. Featured with their winning pieces are:

Left: Rosalynd Coulter - "Boots on the Ground" (2020)

Right: Mary Ann Archibald - "Cobequid Trail at Low Tide #1 (2021)

We would like to welcome back local artists to participate in the Municipality's Annual Art Acquisition Program this Fall. Artists must apply to participate and can submit up to three pieces of work. The various works of art will be featured in an art show, proudly hosted each year by the Municipality of Colchester (Art Show time and location to be announced). During the show, a work of art is selected by a committee and added to the permanent public display on the main floor of the Municipality of Colchester Courthouse. The selection is based on quality of the art, the historic development and lifestyle of Colchester County, and the medium used. For more information about the Art Acquisition Program, visit www.colchester.ca/art-acquisition-program or contact Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185 or recreation@colchester.ca.

Municipal Funding Opportunities for Community Groups

Upcoming application deadlines:

Community Park Funding Program – September 15, 2022
Funding for Insurance for Non-Profit Groups – October 28, 2022
Community Trail Funding Program – January 27, 2023
Grants to Non-Profit Organizations – January 31, 2023

Please visit www.colchester.ca/grants-and-funding for program details and application forms.