



Maritime Provinces Water & Wastewater REPORT

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Town's well woes double as crews test fixes

■ **BY ANDREW BATES**
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Water issues in the former village of Sussex Corner, N.B., have turned up an issue regarding another of the wells in Sussex's Ward 2 "like skeletons out of a closet," according to the town CAO.

The town is working to get Well No. 2 back online after concerns with turbidity, or haziness of a liquid, led to the closure of the well in July, and the closure of the well. But further analysis has turned up issues regarding manganese with Well No. 3, according to CAO Scott Hatcher, and a jump in cost from \$89,000 to \$130,000 for the work required to get both wells working correctly.

"We've engaged a consultant to review turbidity and what we can do to make that well (No. 2) usable," Hatcher told Brunswick News. "In the meantime, when we talked about that, we've identified a second issue that (we) need to address ... like skeletons out of a closet."

According to a consultant's report from Gemtec, manganese concentrations in the well first exceeded the "aesthetic guideline" of 20 micrograms per litre in 2020, and a reading of 146 micrograms per litre in July exceeded the maximum acceptable limit of 120 micrograms per litre. Manganese is a mineral which all humans need in small amounts, but which can have adverse health effects in larger concentrations, especially on infants, according to Health Canada.

At a recent council committee of the whole meeting, Hatcher said that it "should have been a known commodity for two years," and he told Brunswick News it could have been dealt with less expense earlier. "It's really unfortunate that the former village didn't take the necessary steps to intervene at the appropriate time," he said.

In July, a 10-day boil water advisory in Ward 2 was triggered by concerns around coliform or E. coli bacteria that Hatcher said in August may have been down to device failure. That turned up issues with turbidity in Well No. 2, leading to its closure. As a condition to lift the order, Sussex agreed to \$60,000 in work installing turbidity and chlorine sensors, which Hatcher said were now under the process of installation.

Council approved \$130,000 in work on the two wells, which includes \$50,000 on Well No. 2 for turbidity and \$80,000 on Well No. 3 for manganese. Hatcher said work on Well No. 3 needs to be done be-



The locations of Wells No. 2 and 3 in Sussex's Ward 2, the former village of Sussex Corner, are seen on a map in a report from Gemtec. (Submitted photo)

fore the ground freezes, and would be likely done by Thanksgiving.

Hatcher said consultants will now send cameras down Well No. 2 to determine if it can be saved or a new one needs to be drilled. The well is a pipe casing driven into bedrock over 30 years ago, according to the Gemtec report.

"We think that's come loose somehow, and it introduces a pathway for water from

the surface, that's problematic," he said. "If we can intervene properly, we can drive that well casing back into the rock and re-seal it, and that should end that issue."

In the meantime, Hatcher said staff is working to see how to keep providing water to Ward 2 during work on both wells. He said the remaining well at Main Street level isn't enough to serve the whole ward but that with support

from the Ward 1 system, they may be able to "finesse what we need to do, and users wouldn't see an issue."

Speaking during the council meeting, Coun. Doug Bobbitt, who represents Ward 2, said that he appreciated "council's support in moving that forward to get that rectified."

Telegraph-Journal

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Publication No. 40064799



Member Profile

Denis LeBlanc
Circuit Rider Trainer
North Shore Mi'kmaq Tribal Council,
Eel Ground, N.B.

Q. WHERE DO YOU WORK?
A. North Shore Mi'kmaq Tribal Council

Q. HOW LONG HAVE YOU WORKED IN THE INDUSTRY?
A. 38 Years in municipality and two and a half years with North Shore Mi'kmaq Tribal Council as a circuit rider trainer.

Q. WHEN DID YOU JOIN MPWWA AND WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING A MEMBER?
A. Been a member for 20 years. Education through conferences, newsletters and socializing at events put on by MPWWA.

Q. WHAT'S THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE IN YOUR JOB?
A. Not enough hours in the day to complete tasks.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF THE JOB?
A. Being out in the field and working and educating operators in the Indigenous Communities. Spending one-on-one time with the operators.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR LEAST FAVOURITE PART OF THE JOB?
A. No complaints, I have no negative comments about my job. It is very rewarding at the end of the day.

Q. HOW DID YOU FIRST BECOME INVOLVED IN THE INDUSTRY?
A. Working for public works in Sackville as a labourer. There was an opportunity in the water and wastewater department as a utility's foreman, so I took on the challenge and have enjoyed it ever since. Through the foreman job I received Certifications in Water and Wastewater.

Q. WHAT'S THE LEAST UNDERSTOOD PART OF YOUR JOB? WHAT ELSE SHOULD THE PUBLIC KNOW ABOUT WHAT YOU DO?
A. There is a lot more to the water industry than just turning on the tap. The amount of time and energy that goes into creating potable water is a lot more than the public eye sees.

Q. WHAT'S SOMETHING EVERYONE KNOWS ABOUT YOU?
A. I am soft spoken, knowledgeable, always willing to listen, and always on time for work.

Q. WHAT'S SOMETHING ALMOST NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT YOU?
A. I am an antique car collector and restore old cars in my spare time.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR PROUDEST PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT?
A. Being welcomed into my new role in First Nations communities as a Circuit Rider Trainer. Building relationships with operators in all communities.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR PROUDEST PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT?
A. Being able to build my own home and raise a family.

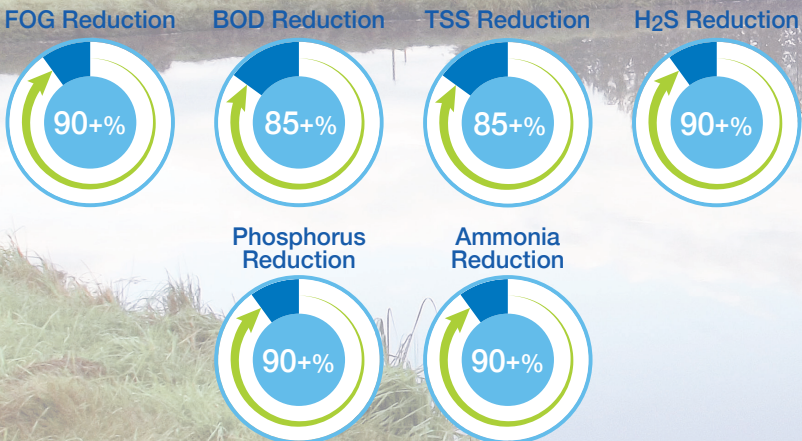
Q. WHAT'S YOUR BEST ADVICE TO A FELLOW INDUSTRY MEMBER, OR SOMEONE LOOKING TO JOIN THE INDUSTRY?
A. There will be daily challenges, don't give up because at the end of the day it is a very rewarding job.



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Bridgewater earmarks nearly \$1 million for emergency repairs due to July storm damage

■ BY KEITH CORCORAN

Civic politicians in Bridgewater approved \$919,000 in unbudgeted funds to make emergency repairs in three places where major rainstorm and flooding damaged town-owned assets.

The biggest chunk of the total, \$336,000, goes to the sewage treatment plant on LaHave Street, which struggled to function through a flood in early June and during the significant rainfall over July 21-22.

More than 8,300 cubic metres, the equivalent of nearly three Olympic size swimming pools, of wastewater discharged into the LaHave River over nine hours during the July storm, which saw 260 millimetres of rain pummel Lunenburg County in less than 24 hours.

“Since that time, the source of the wastewater treatment plant flooding has been located and repair work underway to ensure this is not an issue in the future,” said Patrick Hirtle, a spokesperson for the town.

In a written report to council authored by chief administrator Tammy Crowder, council was told a flood incident on June 5 filled the plant’s basement with two metres of sewage, which submerged pumps, blowers, and electrical capacity. Work was finished to deal with the issue, she said, but warned the plant “is no longer able to function in any type of storm event without forcing a sanitary sewer overflow to prevent this from recurring in the WWTP (wastewater treatment plant) basement.”

The “higher-than-normal wastewater flows” during the July 21 and 22 rainfall event, Hirtle told LighthouseNOW, “resulted in a sanitary sewer overflow for a short period of time during the storm.”

Council earmarked \$333,000 to re-route a temporary sewer line at the damaged Veinot bridge on north King Street. The span, located between the Victoria Road and Starr Street intersections, was damaged in the July storm. The pedestrian walkway was impacted as was town water and sewer lines.

Bridgewater’s water utility is dealing with the waterline expense. There’s no timeline to fix the pedestrian walkway.



A look out the car windshield at activity from the west side of Goat Lake bridge on Highway 103 on Aug. 12 before it re-opened to two lanes of traffic

(Keith Corcoran photo)

In addition, \$250,000 was authorized to remedy July storm impacts to a western section of Victoria Road, between St. Phillips Street and High Street. The travelling surface, curb, gutter and sidewalk were all damaged.

Bridgewater’s mayor, David Mitchell, credited town staff for doing “incredible work “under unbelievably difficult circumstances.”

Allen Webber, warden of the Municipality of Chester, estimated municipal infrastructure damage at more than \$1 million.

In East Chester, following repairs, the Goat Lake bridge on Highway 103, located between the Windsor Road and East Riv-

er exits, re-opened to all traffic on Aug. 12. The 60-metre long span, which crosses the Chester Connection Trail, had been open to one lane between Aug. 2 and 12. Flooding undermined the piers, forcing it to temporarily close and prompting traffic to detour onto Highway 3.

Three months worth of rainfall fell in the Bridgewater area between July 21 and 22 and more than 220 mm fell in Queens County during the same period.

The Nova Scotia government declared a provincewide state of emergency on July 22 and lifted it on July 26. A state of emergency is a measure used by governments to invoke special powers neces-

sary for protection of property, the environment, health and safety or welfare of the population.

MODL declared local states of emergency three times in as many days. Prior to this year, the last time MODL declared a local state of emergency was 2005 and it was directed at the Fancy Lake area, lasted four days and resulted in the temporary displacement of residents of about 40 homes. At that time, more than 235 mms of rain fell in Lunenburg County over one week.

In Queens County, public infrastructure didn’t sustain the same level of damage as experienced in Lunenburg County.



Maritime Provinces Water & Wastewater

REPORT

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Wastewater service nears capacity; possible development freeze

■ BY KEITH CORCORAN

BRIDGEWATER — Civic politicians hope to have more engineering and sewage treatment service data this winter to help them make future decisions in response to increasing pressures on the town's wastewater collection system.

The problem involves some wastewater capacity assessments that identified parts of the collection system in which the pipes are not sized to handle any increase in flow. The issue is severe enough that town staff raised the idea of freezing future development projects until the matter is rectified.

Also, development and planning staff find themselves in a position where required new service connections may not receive approval, a matter further complicated by a lack of analysis, reads a staff note to council, "to the extent to provide any certainty to developers."

Bridgewater's mayor, David Mitchell, said the town is rigorously working on the issue and it's evident the town should have spent more on such services over a period of decades.

"We've been steadily growing for so long without matching the pace of growth with our investments and expansions of our wastewater infrastructure," Mitchell said in a phone interview.

"In some sections of town we're almost at capacity and in some sections of town we're at capacity."

In a written report to council, Nick Brown, the town's planning and development manager, proposed a short-term option of looking into "a moratorium on development (no development permits issued) in the areas impacted by limited downstream capacity in the wastewater collection systems ..."

Mitchell said a freeze "is a last resort,"



Bridgewater's sewage treatment plant is located on south LaHave Street.

(File photo)

but admits existing users can't be burdened by problems created by new users.

Council opted to explore the possibility of creating a zone to regulate, maybe even slow, development in specific areas where there would be a strain on municipal wastewater facilities, stormwater or water systems. This choice is expected to be among recommendations presented to elected officials at a later date.

The concern came to light as engineering, development and environmental ser-

vices officials were discussing a current development proposal from Middle Sackville-based Marchand Developments, which wants to build a multi-unit residential project on north LaHave Street.

Mitchell said everything currently approved by development agreement "is good to go" ahead.

The mayor said another issue, an important one, is the availability of money from other sources of government to help pay for sewer/wastewater upgrades. The

population-based funding model is ineffective and inefficient, Mitchell said, and doesn't account for the usage.

"The level of support and funding is based on nighttime populations and not when the true infrastructure need is in the daytime when we're full of people."

He anticipates financial backing from other governments is forthcoming, which will help Bridgewater meet mandated environmental deadlines for improving wastewater infrastructure.

Provincial funding for infrastructure improvements

Sixteen projects under the Nova Scotia Provincial Capital Assistance Program will receive a total of \$703,762 to support infrastructure work.

Through the Provincial Capital Assistance Program, which funds up to 50 per cent of projected costs, Nova Scotia contributes funding that goes to priority infrastructure projects in communities. Among the projects receiving funding support for 2023-2024 are a water well study, design for sanitary and stormwater separation, test well-drilling and well-field development studies, and spillway repairs.

"This funding will support key projects that make a difference for communities and for residents," said John Lohr, Minister of

Municipal Affairs and Housing. "Access to safe drinking water, wastewater treatment and addressing flood risk are vital for building strong, vibrant communities and supporting continued economic growth."

PROVINCIAL CAPITAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS, 2023-24:

Village of New Minas – \$58,000 for the collection system line replacements pre-design and design project

Village of Lawrencetown – \$5,342 for a 10-year water utility engineering assessment

Village of Canning – \$7,500 for a water rate study

Town of Westville – \$15,500 for the water source assessment project

Municipality of the District of Chester – \$44,323 for a test well-drilling and well-field development study

Town of Pictou – \$51,371 for the East End Water Distribution Improvements project

Town of Stewiacke – \$85,000 for Phase 5 well water study

Municipality of the County of Colchester – \$85,000 water and sewer capacity studies

Municipality of the County of Annapolis – \$14,250 for Granville Ferry water storage – design and \$85,000 for Bear River water system project – design

Town of Lunenburg – \$85,000 for Dares Lake spillway repair

West Hants Regional Municipality – \$85,000 for the Windsor master sanitary/stormwater separation infrastructure project – design

Municipality of the County of Richmond: \$30,000 for Arichat/ Evanston water tower backup power and chemical injection upgrades

Town of Oxford: – \$27,526 for Foundry Street water main replacement project – design

Municipality of the District of East Hants – \$10,950 for a generator for the waste management centre

Town of Digby – \$14,000 for design of the infrastructure upgrades for Church Street

St. Mary's council approves funds for water main fix

■ BY ALEC BRUCE

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

It was trial by water, not fire, for the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's new chief administrative officer, Doug Patterson, who called his first emergency meeting of council after only one day on the job.

"The purpose was to allow council to approve funding for repair of a water main leak near the Sherbrooke water plant," he told the Journal in an email. "The item was introduced to council in committee of the whole on Sept. 6, and then voted on the emergency meeting [afterwards]."

In the committee of the whole meeting, Patterson — who officially assumed the CAO job on Sept. 5 — said that, while the repair cost was estimated to be between \$6,000 and \$11,000, "Every effort will be very carefully made to keep the costs down at the low end of that ... Still, we've only just discovered and figured out how to fix the problem. Between excavating and paving — those are the two major costs — we're pretty certain it's going to go over \$6,000."

He added: "Almost certainly we can assign this item to our capital reserve fund. And there is room in the approved budget there."

Council approved a motion to spend up to \$11,000 for the work.

Guysborough Journal

Sudden storm drenches parts of Nova Scotia

■ BY JODI DELONG

(JDELONG@SALTSCAPES.COM)

It might not have been the storm of the century, but the rainfall event that hit much of Nova Scotia on July 21-22 was a record setter. In less than 12 hours, as much as 300 mm of rain fell during a series of what meteorologists refer to as training thunderstorms, where the storms did not dissipate but rather would re-form along the same track they had been taking. While some parts of the province escaped relatively unscathed, the heaviest recorded rainfalls were in Halifax, Hants, Lunenburg and Queens Counties.

The province issued a state of emergency for areas affected by the heaviest rainfall, and there were localized evacuation orders issued when dams and lakes in Hants and Lunenburg Counties were at risk of breaching. Four people died in the raging floodwaters near Ellershouse when the vehicles they were in were swept away, and emergency personnel put themselves at great risk to rescue stranded homeowners and vehicle operators.

As of mid-October, most roads affected by the storm were reopened after extensive repairs were done to bridges, pavement shoulders, and severely damaged sections of highways and secondary roads. The one rail line connecting



Water reaches the top of this Queen Street bridge.

(Keith Corcoran photo)

Nova Scotia with the rest of the country sustained significant damage near Truro but was repaired quickly, allowing rail traffic to resume in less than a week.

While final totals are not confirmed, the Insurance Bureau of Canada estimated that the storm caused some \$170 million in insured damage to homes, ve-

hicles, infrastructure and other affected property. In comparison, damage done in the province in the wake of Hurricane Fiona in 2022 was expected to top \$800 million. Most of the claims from that event were due to wind damage, whereas there was minimal wind damage from the July storm.



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Wastewater funding announced for Chaleur Bay communities

■ BY ANDY WALKER

An investment of close to \$9 million will improve water and wastewater infrastructure in Belle-Baie and Bathurst, New Brunswick.

Residents of Bathurst will benefit from the renewal of all drinking water lines, sanitary sewer lines and storm sewers along Chaleur and Sainte-Anne streets. This investment will also enable drainage improvements and the installation of sidewalks. The installation of curbs and a storm system will reduce the storm water infiltration and reduce sanitary sewer overflows at Bathurst's wastewater treatment facility.

"We are pleased to partner with both the provincial and federal governments to deliver these necessary improvements to Bathurst's water and wastewater system," said mayor Kim Chamberlain. "Reliable and effective infrastructure is key to enabling communities like the City of Bathurst to grow and prosper."

Meanwhile, two lift stations in Belle-

Baie will be rebuilt and relocated and there will be improvements to sanitary sewer lines. These upgrades will decrease the risk of flooding for the two lift stations, which are currently located in an area that is vulnerable to rising sea levels.

"Communities across the country are experiencing the impacts of climate change. Facing this challenge, the Town of Belle-Baie would like to express its gratitude to the federal and provincial governments for this financial support that will improve the quality of life of its citizens and ensure a healthy environment," said Mayor Daniel Guitard. "This partnership plays an essential role for a strong and sustainable Belle-Baie."

The Government of Canada is investing \$4,276,400 in these projects. The Government of New Brunswick is investing \$2,964,370, the City of Bathurst is contributing \$1,413,510, and the Town of Belle-Baie is contributing \$239,720.

The federal funding comes from the Green Infrastructure Stream and the Rural and Northern Communities In-

frastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

"Investments like the one we are making today in partnership with the Government of New Brunswick, the Town of Belle-Baie and the City of Bathurst are essential to the health of our citizens and our ecosystems," said Public Safety, Democratic Institutions and Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Dominic LeBlanc. "As coastal communities along the Chaleur Bay are increasingly having to contend with extreme weather events, we are here to help them adapt and become more resilient."

Réjean Savoie, who is the provincial minister responsible for the Regional Development Corporation, added, "We are pleased to invest in infrastructure in Bathurst and Belle-Baie that will build resiliency and long-term sustainability in their water and wastewater infrastructure. This will help support the future growth and economic viability of these communities."

More funding for northern N.B. communities

Three levels of government recently announced a 13.2 million investment in clean water infrastructure for Tracadie and Rivière-du-Nord, in northern New Brunswick.

In Tracadie, the funding supports Phase 2 of a project to renew storm sewer, sanitary and water sewer mains on Rue Principale Street. Along with this work, about 110 metres of road will be restored along with the construction of a new bicycle path.

In Rivière-du-Nord, residents will see the funds go to construction of a drinking water system and a new sanitary sewer system on Des Acadiens Boulevard and Rue Du Pont Street.

The province is investing \$4,387,978 in these projects, while the federal government is contributing \$7,676,795. Tracadie is contributing \$296,513 and Rivière-du-Nord is contributing \$803,966.

"The Acadian Peninsula is currently undergoing a remarkable renewal thanks to the arrival of new businesses and residents," said federal Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities Minister Dominic LeBlanc. "Through investments like the ones we are announcing today, our government continues to be there to support its growth and ensure the region's residents can benefit from a great quality of life."

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Town of Three Rivers award contract for water and sewer extension

BY ANDY WALKER

The town of Three Rivers in Prince Edward Island has awarded a \$5.8 million contract for the expansion of water and sewer services to its Brudenell neighbourhood.

Chapman Brothers Construction Limited was the lowest of two bids when councillors in the largest town in eastern P.E.I. awarded the contract in late July. The work, which will carry a price tag of \$5,821,267.25, will see the service extended just past Nicholson Road.

The work is slated to begin next spring and be completed during the summer of 2024. Dorothy Macdonald, who is the interim chief administrative officer for the community, told council work on constructing the lift station that will service the new customers could begin this fall, depending on how soon materials are available.

The contract represents approximately 80 per cent of the service extension on the MacDonald Road called for in the town's water and sewer master plan. The commu-

nity recently applied to the Housing Accelerator Fund for funding for the second phase of the project.

The master plan predicts that would result in additional residential population growth of approximately 120 people and a total equivalent population growth of 882 people. If sanitary servicing were to be extended to the MacDonald Road and the existing developed areas immediately contribute flow to the system, the master plan indicates that would result in an estimated reduction of 38 years of growth capacity within the existing service boundary resulting in a remaining available infill growth capacity of 300 people.

"New flow rates were generated from the existing developed areas in Brudenell and were assigned to the closest downstream sewer in the existing sanitary system," the plan notes. "An average domestic wastewater generation flow rate of 340L/person/day was used for the increase in population, and an inflow and infiltration component was estimated using the area method with a flow rate of 0.14L/s/hectare."



Great tasting water

BY JODI DELONG

The town of Three Rivers was recently awarded second place in the 2023 Best of the Best Water Taste Test competition hosted by Atlantic Canada Water and Wastewater Association. The city of Charlottetown, P.E.I. took first place, while Natoaganeg (Eel River) First Na-

tion in Northern New Brunswick tied with Three Rivers in second place. Accepting their awards on behalf of their communities are, Matt Duffy, the utilities operator from Three Rivers, Heather Cail from Natoaganeg First Nation, and Richard MacEwan from Charlottetown Water & Sewer Utility. Photo supplied by Matt Duffy.

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Pictou, Westville receive provincial assistance for water projects

■ BY RAISSA TETANISH
RAISSATETANISH@ADVOCATEMEDIAINC.COM

Two towns in Pictou County are able to continue work on water-related projects thanks to provincial funds.
The town of Westville and Pictou are

two of the 16 project recipients of financial assistance under the Provincial Capital Assistance Program. In total, the province is doling out \$703,762 for projects such as well water studies, water main replacements, and designs for sanitary and storm-water separation.

Through the program, Westville is receiving \$15,500 for a water source assessment project, which chief administrative officer (CAO) Scot Weeres said is being done in case the town should ever need the information in the future.

The Town of Pictou is receiving \$51,371 for its East End Water Distribution Improvements Project.

CAO Kyle Slaunwhite said the project is in response to a development in the town's east end, on the northern end of Beeches Road.

"It's a turnkey development," said Slaunwhite, of Roseview Estates under developer Michael Rose.

Slaunwhite said the developer is installing a water line between Young Avenue and Sea Birch Drive, which will allow for more water availability not only for residents, but for firefighting purposes as well. Both streets are dead ends, so the installation creates a loop, says the CAO.

"This is essentially going to improve the water quality in that area," he said, noting silt often builds up at the end of water lines.

With the funding, the town will be

able to install low pressure chambers and valves, without sacrificing any of the current pipes.

"The water quality is going to greatly improve," he said.

While Roseview Estates isn't affordable housing, Slaunwhite says the project is still a good option for people wanting to move to the area.

"It's not affordable housing, but hopefully it will allow a shift in housing in the area," he said.

Over the total of the three phases, the project could see more than 200 houses developed in the area, according to Slaunwhite.

"It's exactly what we love to see. It definitely creates more attention to that end of the town."

He said those working for the town don't have concerns with the capacity of the services provided in the area and, other than the water line the developer is installing, services are already in place. If all development is sold, it could have a "substantial increase" on the town's revenue base, which then allows for better services, as well as expansion on the town's capital paving program.



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Investments made to water in Antigonish area

■ BY ANDY WALKER

Investments of close to \$6 million from the three levels of government will improve drinking water infrastructure in the town and county of Antigonish.

"The Government of Canada is committed to supporting infrastructure projects that ensure communities are able to grow and thrive," noted Housing, Infrastructure and Communities minister Sean Fraser, who is also member of Parliament for Central Nova. "This investments in drinking water and wastewater infrastructure in the town and county of Antigonish will help protect our water supply from environmental threats, ensuring that community growth is green and inclusive. These projects will also deliver clean drinking water to over 1,200 acres of property for development, helping the area to grow and flourish."

The St. Joseph's water system will be expanded, with the addition of a 51,000 gallon (US) storage tank and the construction of approximately 3.6 kilometres of distribution line. This expansion will provide access to drinking water for approximately 40 additional properties, which includes more than 650 acres for development.

An additional 2.2 kilometres of distribution line will be added to the Lanark water system. This expansion will provide access to drinking water to approximately 25 properties, including 10 existing residences, a business and over 600 acres for development.

"Modern and efficient water and wastewater infrastructure is key to building healthy communities," explained provincial Health and Wellness Minister Michelle Thompson, who is also the MLA for Antigonish. "By making this investment, we are focused on the future and laying the foundation for continued growth for years to come."

The funding will also allow for upgrades to the Bay/Main Street watermain and sewer infrastructure. Work includes increasing watermain pipe sizes, increasing sanitary sewer line sizes and building a stormwater sewer and curbs on both sides of Bay and Main Street. The project will increase the capacity of both the watermains and sanitary systems within the town of Antigonish to better serve the existing community and allow for future development.

"Investments like this are incredibly important to smaller municipalities. The funding support provides the resources needed to tackle major infrastructure projects, like our Bay Street upgrades, which are vital in creating sustainable, more efficient, and more accessible communities," noted Antigonish mayor Laurie Boucher. "The Bay Street work includes underground infrastructure upgrades that will provide an increase in the water and sewer capacities that serve the surrounding areas and allow for future developments. This project will also revitalize this gateway entrance into Antigonish and improve the transportation to and from our Regional Hospital."

The government of Canada is investing \$2,372,800 in these projects while the government of Nova Scotia is investing \$1,977,333. The town of Antigonish is contributing \$657,600 and the municipality of the County of Antigonish is contributing \$924,267.

"We are thrilled to extend our water services into the St. Joseph's and Lanark areas. This ensures more residents will have access to municipal water and allow us to keep growing our community," said Owen McCarron, Warden of the Municipality of the County of Antigonish. "I want to thank Deputy Warden Hughie Stewart and Councillor Donnie MacDonald who have been a strong advocates for service extensions in their communities."

From left, Coun. Andrew Murray, Town of Antigonish; Mayor Laurie Boucher, Town of Antigonish; Coun. Remi Deveau, Municipality of the County of Antigonish; Sean Fraser, Minister of Minister Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship and MP for Central Nova; Michelle Thompson, Minister of Health and Wellness and MLA for Antigonish; Deputy Warden Hughie Stewart, Antigonish County; Warden Owen McCarron, Antigonish County, Coun. Bill MacFarlane, Antigonish County; Coun. Donnie MacDonald, Antigonish County.

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Water infrastructure funding announced for Fredericton

■ BY ANDY WALKER

Funding announced recently by the three levels of government will improve water infrastructure in the New Brunswick capital.

The total investment of \$44.5 million will enable improvements to water, storm and sanitary sewers in Fredericton, while also upgrading streets and pipes to accommodate heavier future rain falls. Work will include the replacement and upgrade of infrastructure, including water pipes and multi-use trails.

The project on the south side of the city is divided into four sections and will support the modernization of infrastructure nearing the end of its useful life to support the city to adapt to climate change and reduce the impact of heavy rainfall and flooding; namely Regent St. component (King St. to Aberdeen St.); Northumberland St. (extends from the Saint John River outfall, under St Anne's Point Dr. to Argyle St.); Westmorland St. (extends from the Saint John River outfall, under St Anne's Point Dr. to Dundonald St.) and South Hill Trunk Storm Sewer, specifi-

cally upgrading a large storm sewer line that collects both major and minor storm-water flows.

There will also be upgrades to water, storm and sanitary sewers in the north side of Fredericton. Creating safe flow routes for water during heavy downpours will improve the city's resiliency to flooding events. That project will target three areas: from the Saint John River to 320 St. Mary's Street, to replace and upgrade core infrastructure through realignment and upsizing of infrastructure; from the Nashwaak River through the Canada Street intersection up to the future extension of Pickard Street: upgrade and replace core infrastructure, which will help adapt roads for high intensity rainfall events; and between Main Street and Hillcourt Drive, to replace sections of storm sewer and sanitary sewer, which will decrease flooding events and protect residential and commercial properties.

The work will also include the construction of new sidewalks and new multi-use trails, the installation of new pedestrian crossings, installation of bike racks on Fredericton's transit buses, as well as

upgrading more than five kilometres of multi-use trail.

"The federal and provincial government's investments in the City of Fredericton's water and wastewater and active transportation projects will help provide the tools we need to protect and replace our infrastructure after natural disasters occur, and keep Frederictonians moving," said mayor Kate Rogers.

She added, "A vibrant active transportation system is not only good for the environment, it also makes residents more resilient in light of the ever-growing effects of climate change.

"On behalf of my colleagues at City Council, I want to thank the governments of Canada and New Brunswick for their contributions. It's crucial that all levels of government keep working together to improve climate resilience for communities like Fredericton and for the people who live here."

The Government of Canada is investing \$9,116,198, the Government of New Brunswick is investing \$19,537,500 and the City of Fredericton is contributing \$10,421,302 to facilitate wa-

ter infrastructure improvements. Ottawa is also investing \$3,256,000 and the city \$2,170,800 to support active transportation infrastructure improvements.

"Investing in water, wastewater, stormwater, and active transportation infrastructure is critical for the health of our cities and to protect our environment," noted Fredericton MP Jenica Atwin. "Upgrading these assets in Fredericton will help our community to adapt and mitigate the impacts of the climate crisis and provide easier, safer, and more convenient active transportation infrastructure."

Jill Green added that the province is pleased to be making a significant investment in the city of Fredericton's core water and wastewater infrastructure. Green, who is the Minister of Social Development, Minister responsible for the Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation and for the New Brunswick Housing Corporation, said the project will "help mitigate the risk of flooding, increase the city's resiliency as we adapt to a changing climate, and ultimately keep residents safe during extreme weather events."

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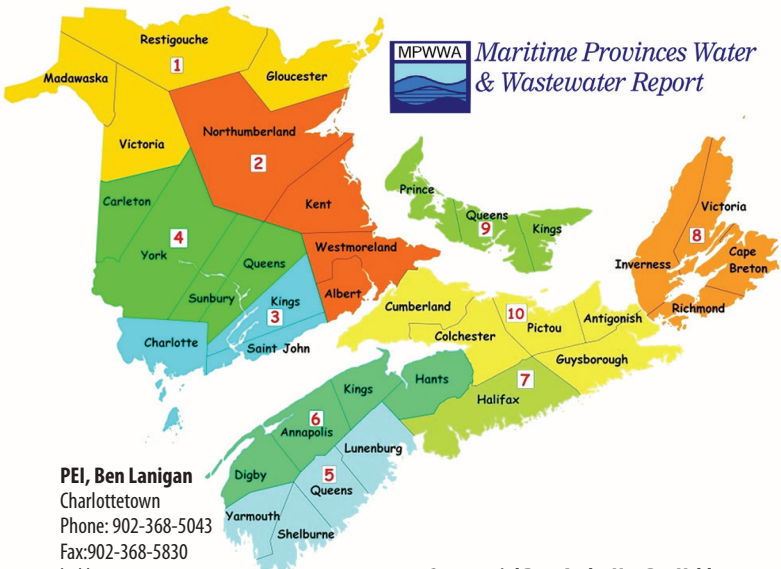
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Major upgrade announced for wastewater system in West Hants

■ BY ANDY WALKER

A joint investment of more than \$4.1 million will result in a major upgrade to water and wastewater services in the West Hants region of Nova Scotia.

The money will be used to enable the replacement of the underground sanitary and storm sewers, as well as upgrades to potable water services and roadway surface structures on College Road and Nesbitt Street in Windsor.

“We are thrilled to have our College Road and Nesbitt Street projects approved for the Federal Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program,” said mayor Abraham Zebian of the West Hants Regional Municipality. “These projects will allow West Hants to provide increased capacity in our treatment of wastewater and stormwater as well as increase access to potable water. It will also allow the Municipality to make College Road and Nesbitt Street safer by widening the streets and installing curbs.”

The federal government is investing \$1,647,600 in this project, and the Government of Nova Scotia is investing

\$1,373,000. The West Hants Regional Municipality is contributing \$1,098,400.

“The Government of Canada is committed to supporting infrastructure projects that ensure communities are able to grow and thrive,” said Kody Blois, Member of Parliament (MP) for Kings–Hants, on behalf of the Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities. “The investments in drinking water and wastewater infrastructure announced today in Windsor will help protect our water supply from environmental threats and ensure the community is able to manage their wastewater in an environmentally sustainable way.”

The federal funding comes from the Green Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. This stream helps build greener communities by contributing to climate change preparedness, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and supporting renewable technologies.

“This is a significant investment in the safety of our community to ensure we have the improved infrastructure in

place to protect our roads and properties during extreme weather events and storm surges,” added Melissa Sheehy-Richard, Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for Hants West. “This investment will also ensure we have up-

graded systems to treat storm water and will enhance our access to potable water. These are significant upgrades to our critical infrastructure that will serve our community now and into the future.”



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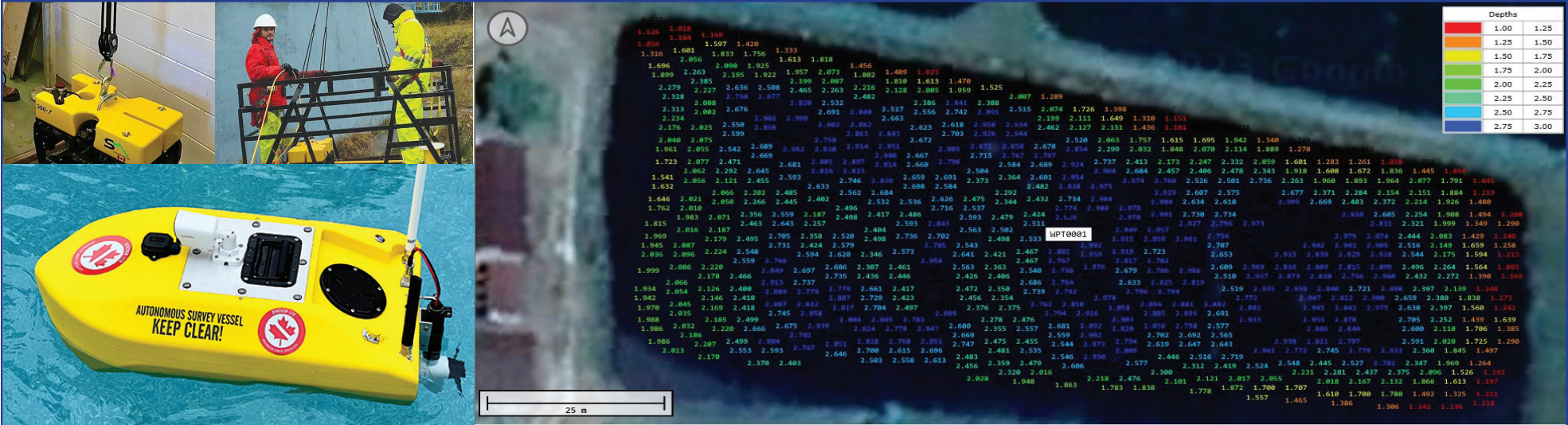
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