

NEWS RELEASE

Town of Truro and Municipality of the County of Colchester, Nova Scotia
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County and Town Councils Face RECC Humidity Decision

Truro and Colchester Councils will decide in January whether to invest in a dehumidification upgrade for the Rath Eastlink Community Centre as recommended by its Board of Directors.

Outdoor weather conditions, especially during fall and spring use of the facility, create fog over the ice and condensation on safety panes. This led to cancellation of a Moosehead preseason game last year, costing both revenue and reputation.

MCW Maricor, the engineering firm tasked to find solutions to the humidity issues, has determined that to host ice-based events at times other than mid-winter the RECC needs to have ten times its current capability to deal with moisture conditions. The projected cost to boost dehumidification is \$532,000.

“While it is very frustrating to face another considerable investment in the RECC, not doing this upgrade would cost us much more in the long run in terms of humidity damage and lost event revenues” said Colchester Mayor Christine Blair.

Truro Mayor Bill Mills is also disappointed by the situation, but finds some consolation in the growing success of the Centre. “We have a great facility that more and more community members are enjoying. It’s a hard pill to swallow right now, but this is spending that will help us attract major international events and more visitors.”

A joint meeting of the Town and County Councils Thursday considered options for funding the work. They will make their decisions in January’s public Council meetings.

FOR BROADCAST:

Truro and Colchester Councils will decide in January whether to invest in a dehumidification upgrade for the Rath Eastlink Community Centre as recommended by its Board of Directors.

Fog and condensation have plagued the arena in fall and spring weather conditions. Last year a Mooseheads preseason game was cancelled at the RECC resulting in lost revenue and reputation.

An engineering firm tasked with assessing the humidity problem has priced the upgrades at \$532,000. “While it is very frustrating to face another big investment in the RECC, not doing this upgrade would cost us much more in the long run in terms of humidity damage and lost event revenues” said Colchester Mayor Christine Blair.

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The Rath Eastlink Community Centre opened its doors to the community in March 2013. It has become an important regional venue for concerts, trade shows, and sporting events, as well as being home to the Truro Junior ‘A’ Bearcats hockey club. More than 2,400 members utilize its fitness facilities, and many more its indoor ¼ km. walking track.

The Rath Eastlink Community Centre is governed by a 12-person board made up of 8 citizen representatives, 2 from the Colchester County Council, and 2 from Truro Council. Its operating revenues come from sponsorships, ticket, facility rentals, membership fees, and core grants from Colchester and Truro.

Recent events:

Sammy Kershaw, Grand Slam of Curling, Canada Day Beach Boys concert, Kenny Rogers, Jann Arden, Globe Trotters, Nova Scotia Music Week

Upcoming Events:

2018 Down Syndrome World Swimming Championships, New Year's Eve with Gerry Dee, Travis Tritt concert.