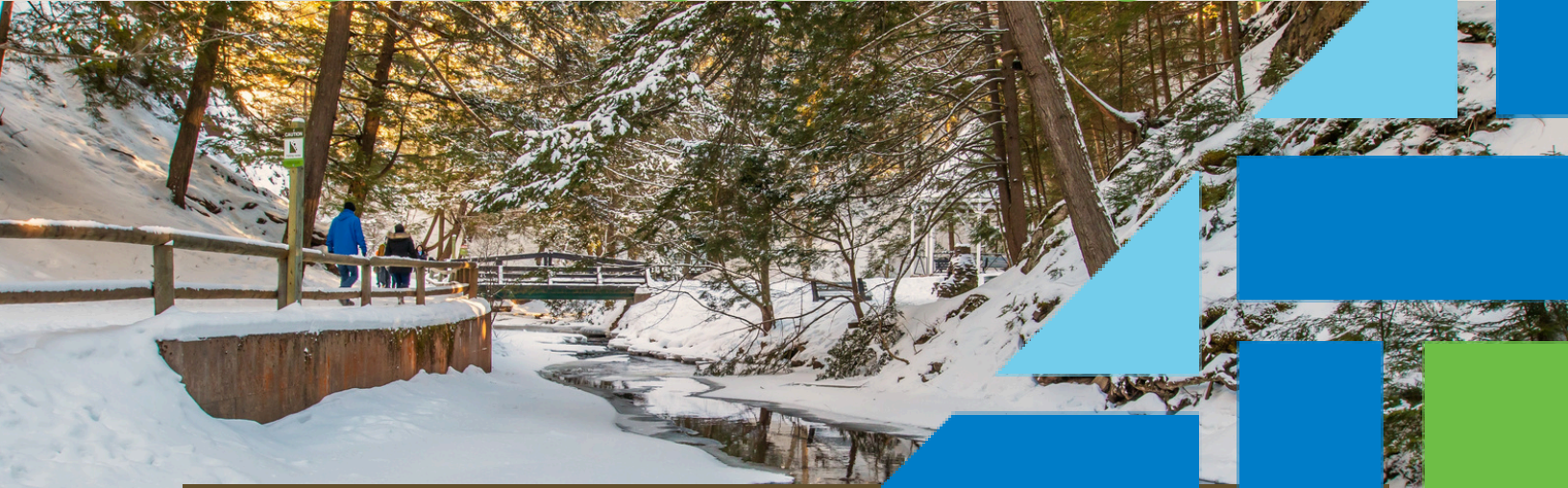


make the connection



TRURO  
2024  
Year in Review

Photo Credits: Linda Chisholm & Tourism Nova Scotia



## Mayor's Message

AS WE BRING 2024 TO A CLOSE, I AM HONOURED TO ADDRESS YOU FOR THE FIRST TIME AS YOUR MAYOR.

Having been sworn in this November, it is a privilege to step into this role and serve our vibrant community, working alongside Council to build innovation, inclusion, and resilience.

Reflecting on this past year, Truro continues to shine as a model of growth, sustainability, and community spirit. From significant infrastructure advancements to cultural celebrations that brought us closer together, 2024 has been a year of both progress and connection, reminding us of the uniqueness of our town and why we choose to call it home.

Among the most visible accomplishments of 2024 are the completion of the Willow Street/McClures Mills Road Roundabout, the long-awaited reopening of the Colchester Legion Stadium, and the ongoing progress with the TAAC Ground Revitalization project and Argus Drive Baseball Field. These projects not only improve traffic flow and safety but also demonstrate our commitment to modernizing Truro's infrastructure while maintaining accessibility for all.

Our Council had the privilege of recognizing Bill Mills for his years of service as Mayor. His dedication and leadership have left an indelible mark on Truro, and we wish him every happiness in his retirement. Additionally, Lloyd Coady celebrated his milestone 100th birthday in November. It was a wonderful day for Lloyd and his family. These were two very special events that brought joy to many and created beautiful, lasting memories.

While 2024 brought us many achievements to celebrate, including the honour of being the first female Mayor in the history of our town, I am equally excited about what lies ahead.





Our Council has advocated to the province for housing on the former hospital site on Willow Street, emphasizing the need for options that reflect individual incomes. We are also pleased with the plans for CN to rebuild the Cross Street Bridge, which was closed due to structural issues.

My monthly Mayor's Video Message Update on the Town of Truro homepage and Facebook reflects my philosophy of forward, open communication and accountability to the residents of Truro.

In 2025, we mark a major milestone: the 150th anniversary of Truro's incorporation as a town. Plans are underway for a year-long celebration highlighting our history and honouring the contributions of the African Nova Scotian, Mi'kmaw, and Acadian communities that have shaped our town's identity.

I invite you to participate in the events and share in the pride of this significant occasion. Exciting times are ahead!

We are also focused on addressing challenges and opportunities for growth. Housing affordability, economic development, and environmental stewardship remain priorities for Council. Together, we will continue to advocate for solutions that benefit everyone in our community.

As I embark on this journey as your Mayor, my heart is filled with gratitude for the support of my loving family, friends, and colleagues.

To the many kind hearts in our community who show resilience and determination to help others, especially those who are struggling: thank you for making a difference.



# Mayor Hinton



To my fellow Councillors, municipal staff, and community partners: thank you for your unwavering dedication to making Truro a better place to live, work, and thrive.

Finally, to the residents of Truro: thank you for your engagement, ideas, and trust. Whether you've shared feedback at a Council meeting, participated in a town event, or simply taken the time to support a neighbour, you have contributed to the unique and welcoming character of our town. Everyone can make a difference in our community, and putting your name forward to serve on a town committee is just one way to do so.

As we enter 2025, let us carry forward the momentum of the past year, united in our shared commitment to a prosperous and inclusive future. Together, we can continue to make Truro a community we are all proud to call home. Let us continue to be kind to one another and to our town.

With warm regards,

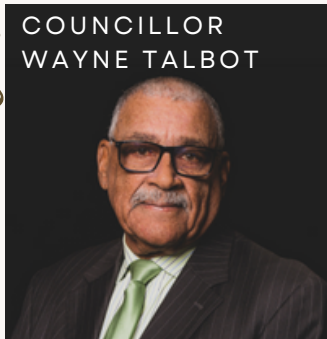
**Cathy Hinton**  
MAYOR OF TRURO

# Town Council

Ward 1

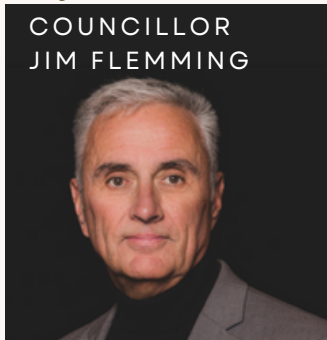


COUNCILLOR  
ALISON GRAHAM

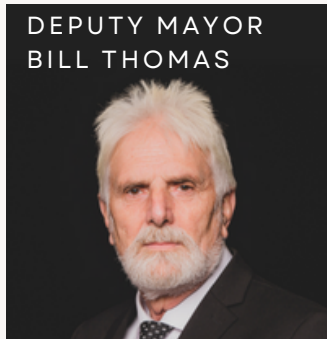


COUNCILLOR  
WAYNE TALBOT

Ward 2



COUNCILLOR  
JIM FLEMMING



DEPUTY MAYOR  
BILL THOMAS

Ward 3



COUNCILLOR  
IAN MCGRATH



COUNCILLOR  
DEB PRYOR

# Mayor Mills



## Mayor Mills Retires After 37 Years of Service

IN OCTOBER, WE CELEBRATED THE REMARKABLE CAREER OF MAYOR BILL MILLS AS HE RETIRED AFTER AN INCREDIBLE 37 YEARS OF SERVICE—27 OF THEM AS MAYOR.

His dedication and visionary leadership have left a lasting impact on Truro, helping to shape the town into the vibrant community it is today. Throughout his tenure, Mayor Mills exemplified a commitment to progress, collaboration, and community spirit that will be remembered for years to come.

Thank you, Mayor Mills, for your countless contributions and years of service. We wish you a retirement filled with joy, relaxation, and exciting new adventures!

## October Sees a Newly Elected Council in Truro

In October, Truro held its municipal election, resulting in few changes to the Town Council. Six members were re-elected, including five Councillors and Mayor Cathy Hinton, who has stepped into this role after serving two previous terms on Council. This marks an exciting moment for Truro, as Mayor Hinton is the first female to hold the position.

In Ward 1, Wayne Talbot and Alison Graham were both re-elected. In Ward 2, Bill Thomas and Jim Flemming were also re-elected. In Ward 3, Ian McGrath was re-elected, and Debra Pryor was elected for her first term. In December, Bill Thomas was nominated as Deputy Mayor.

The new Town Council will serve for the next four years, providing leadership and direction for the community.





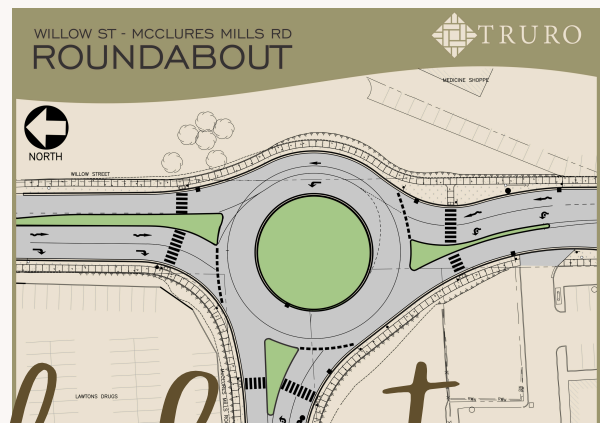
As part of the project, the Town also updated old water infrastructure in the area.

This project was made possible thanks to the support of several government partners. In November 2023, the Government of Canada, the Province of Nova Scotia, and the Town of Truro announced a combined investment of \$2.8 million.

## Truro Constructs Roundabout at Major Intersection

The Town of Truro completed the construction of a new roundabout at the intersection of McClures Mills Road and Willow Street in November. This project was carried out by S.W. Weeks Construction Ltd., a local company known for its expertise in building municipal and highway infrastructure.

The new roundabout is designed to ease traffic congestion at this busy intersection, which sees around 38,000 vehicles every day. It will help improve traffic flow, reduce accidents, and make travel times quicker for commuters.



# New Roundabout



## TAAC Ground Revitalization Project and Future Recognition

The TAAC Ground Revitalization Project, which began in 2023, is nearing completion after continuing through 2024. This exciting project includes the redevelopment of the Grounds on Golf Street and the creation of a new senior baseball field on Argus Drive. The upgrades on Golf Street include an all-weather field, a synthetic 8-lane track, and regulation throwing areas. Meanwhile, the new baseball facility on Argus Drive will feature a senior-sized ball field.



This project has been generously supported by our federal and provincial government partners. In 2022, the Town received \$5.87 million from the Investing in Infrastructure Canada Fund to help fund the project. Additional support came from the Town of Truro, the Municipality of the County of Colchester, and a strong community fundraising effort. Sponsors will be recognized throughout the new facilities.

Once complete, the Grounds will be renamed to honour the No. 2 Construction Battalion, a significant part of Canadian history. Formed on July 5, 1916, the No. 2 Construction Battalion was Canada's first and only all-Black battalion in military history. While they served in non-combat roles, their hard work and sacrifice were vital to Canada's war effort. Unfortunately, their contributions went unrecognized for many years, and the unit was disbanded after World War I without official recognition.

# Revitalization



On July 9, 2022, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Minister of National Defence Anita Anand offered a long-awaited apology to the descendants of the No. 2 Construction Battalion. As part of this recognition, the Town of Truro promised to rename the Grounds to honour their legacy.

The Grounds were the training and drilling grounds for the No. 2 Construction Battalion. The new development will also include a memorial to commemorate their important role and include educational panels that highlight the history of the site, including the battalion and Truro Amateur Athlete Club. The renaming ceremony will take place during the grand reopening of the facilities, expected in the summer of 2025.

*No. 2  
Construction Battalion*

## Colchester Legion Stadium Reopens After Two Years

On December 1, 2024, the Colchester Legion Stadium officially reopened after more than two years of repairs and restorations following the extensive damage caused by Hurricane Fiona in 2022.

This moment marked a significant milestone for the Town of Truro, as the community had been without the stadium for a prolonged period. Extensive work was done to restore and upgrade the facility, including essential systems like HVAC, electrical, and life safety, ensuring the stadium meets modern standards.

The installation of a new ice plant and other upgrades were key components of the renovation, with the project requiring the collaboration of multiple parties and overcoming numerous challenges along the way.

The reopening of the Colchester Legion Stadium brings much-needed access to a community hub that will once again serve as a gathering place for events and activities. We thank the public for their patience and continued support throughout this process.

# Growth



## **536 YOUNG STREET**

Two new residential buildings, each containing 71 units, and a total of 8 townhouse units. These new units are in addition to the current construction taking place on site.

## Growth and Development

As we look back on 2024, one of the standout achievements has been the significant progress in the growth and revitalization of Truro. A number of exciting residential developments have been approved and are currently underway.

Here are some of the key residential projects that have been approved this year:

### **STANFIELDS DEVELOPMENT**

Multiple mixed-use buildings, containing 602 residential units and over 5,000 Sq. Ft. of commercial space.

### **125-135 WILLOW STREET**

One four storey residential building, containing 50 units.



## **74 LORNE STREET**

One six storey building containing 62 dwelling units. This development is currently under construction.

## **306 JAMES STREET**

One six storey residential building, containing 79 units.

These mixed-use projects will add even more residential and commercial spaces, further boosting the vibrancy of our town.

As 2024 comes to a close, we're proud to see these projects moving forward, and we're excited about the positive impact they will have on the future of Truro.



## Staff Retirements

The Town of Truro celebrated the retirements of several dedicated staff members, honouring their remarkable careers and years of service. We extend our thanks and best wishes to the following employees who retired in 2024:

VALERIE MUNROE (47 YEARS) | TRURO POLICE SERVICE

LARRY ANTHONY (33 YEARS) | PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE

ROBERT POWER (35 YEARS) | TRURO FIRE SERVICE



## Restoring Victoria Park's Forests

Thanks to funding from Forests Ontario and Forest Recovery Canada, significant replanting efforts took place in 2024 that helped regenerate Victoria Park following Hurricane Fiona's devastation in 2022.



Our key areas were reforested with 50,971 trees planted, including eastern white pine, red spruce, and white spruce. This milestone project is a vital step in restoring the park's natural beauty and ensuring its ecosystem thrives for generations to come.

# Restoration

## \$50,000 Grant Awarded for Tree Planting

In the Fall of 2024, Truro received a \$50,000 grant from CN and Tree Canada's EcoConnexions – From the Ground Up program to support tree planting and greening projects. Aligned with the Town's Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP), the funding will help expand urban forests, transform community spaces, reduce urban heat islands, and restore natural areas.

This initiative enhances green spaces while advancing Truro's net-zero and sustainability goals.



## A New Symbol of Remembrance in Civic Square

Civic Square welcomed a meaningful addition to its landscape—a Vimy Oak. This remarkable tree stands as a living tribute to the Canadian soldiers who fought at the Battle of Vimy Ridge, a defining moment in our nation's history.



The story of the Vimy Oaks is extraordinary. These trees trace their origins to acorns collected after the battle by Lieutenant Leslie Miller, a Canadian soldier. Miller planted the acorns on his Ontario property, and from these original trees, seedlings have been nurtured. Today, thanks to the Vimy Oaks Legacy Corporation, these living memorials are planted across Canada as symbols of sacrifice and resilience.

Truro is proud to host its own Vimy Oak, now planted near the cenotaph in Civic Square. It serves as a reminder of the past and a beacon of remembrance for future generations.

# Remembrance

# Consultation



## African Nova Scotia Community Strategy Committee Builds On Strategic Plan

The Town of Truro's African Nova Scotian Community Strategy Committee works to enhance equity and inclusion for the African Nova Scotian community. This Committee provides strategic advice, leadership, and actionable recommendations to address systemic and racial barriers while celebrating the history and contributions of this vibrant community.

In February 2024, the Committee presented Town Council with their Strategic Plan, which is set to guide them for a three-year period. To develop this plan, an African Nova Scotian consultant was engaged to guide the development of actionable recommendations.

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS PLAN INCLUDE:

- Influence municipal policies and practices to enhance inclusion and equity for the African Nova Scotian community in Truro.
- Communicate with and engage the African Nova Scotian community on local issues that impact their lives.
- Increase public awareness and recognition of the African Nova Scotian community in Truro.
- Develop partnerships that promote community-based solutions benefitting the African Nova Scotian community in Truro.
- Develop committee governance and internal processes that strengthen the African Nova Scotian community and ensure fluid, bidirectional communication between the community, municipal staff, and Council.



During the month of February, the Committee also hosted an African Heritage Month kick-off event, Elders Luncheon, and trail renaming project with the Truro Middle School in Victoria Park.

This Committee represents a meaningful step toward a more inclusive future, ensuring that the needs of the African Nova Scotian community remain at the forefront of municipal planning and action.

## Council Chambers Enhances Accessibility

In 2024, the Town introduced a new accessible platform in our Council Chambers, ensuring that more members of our community can be included in the public gallery. This improvement addresses a long-standing issue and aligns with our Accessibility Plan, reflecting our ongoing commitment to fostering an inclusive environment for all.

# Truro's Annual Budget Highlights *2024/25*

### **RESIDENTIAL TAX RATE**

\$1.85/\$100 Assessment

### **COMMERCIAL TAX RATE**

\$4.50/\$100 Assessment

### **RESIDENTIAL ROAD PRESERVATION TAX RATE**

\$0.0525/\$100 Assessment

### **COMMERCIAL ROAD PRESERVATION TAX RATE**

\$0.0475/\$100 Assessment

### **OPERATING BUDGET**

\$37.75 Million

### **CAPITAL BUDGET**

\$24.9 Million

### **TRANSFER TO PROVINCE**

Education - \$2.9 Million

### **ROUNDAABOUT**

\$2.93 Million

### **RECC**

\$750,000

### **TAAC**

\$9.66 Million

### **TCPEP**

\$65,450



## Streets and Sidewalks

The Town of Truro focused on improving streets, sidewalks, and essential services in 2024. The Town's capital projects were divided into four main areas:

**Street Revitalization:** Major upgrades for roads in poor condition.

**Street Preservation:** Repairs to extend the life of streets without full reconstruction.

**Water and Sewer Upgrades:** Replacing aging pipes for reliable services.

**Sidewalks and Curbs:** Expanding and improving pedestrian pathways.

### STREET REVITALIZATION

To limit traffic issues during the construction of the new Willow Street/McClures Mills Road roundabout, major road upgrades under the Street Revitalization Program were postponed in 2024.

### STREET PRESERVATION

During the year the Town focused on preserving local streets, spending about \$1.92 million on pavement overlays, milling, and repaving. Completed projects included:

**Melrose Terrace** (Young Street to South Street) – \$44,000

**Royalty Street** – \$48,000

**Edgewood Drive** (Pleasant Street to West End) – \$67,000

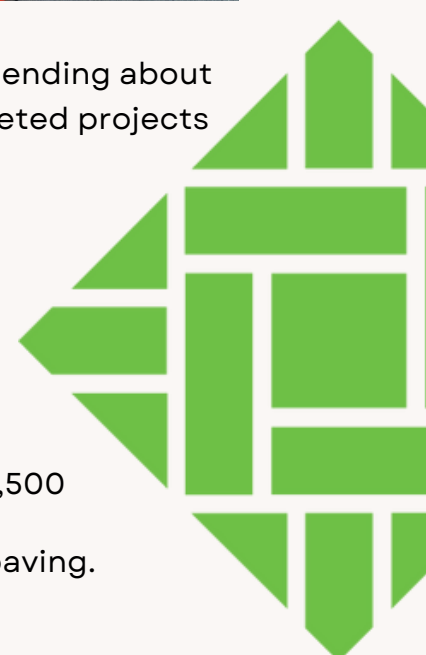
**McCormack Road** – \$30,000

**Lyman Street** (Centennial Drive to South End) – \$92,400

**Parkland Drive** (Martha Avenue to MacLean Street) – \$31,700

**Glassey Avenue** (Blakeney Drive to William Barnhill Drive) – \$282,500

An additional \$27,000 was allocated for crack sealing and spot paving.



## WATER AND SEWER UPGRADES

Phillip Street saw significant upgrades, including replacing the water and sewer mains from Churchill Street to the north end. This work was completed alongside road paving to reduce disruption and costs.



## SIDEWALKS AND CURBS

Late into 2024, new sidewalks and curbs were installed on Willow Street:

- **East Side:** Concrete curbs were completed from Glenwood Drive to Abbey Avenue.
- **West Side:** Sidewalks were added from Glenwood Drive to the Colchester Community Funeral Home.

Additional sidewalk and curb work will continue in this area into 2025. In 2024, the total budget allocated to this project was approximately \$1.1 million.

## Province Supports Truro with Funding for Reservoir Improvements

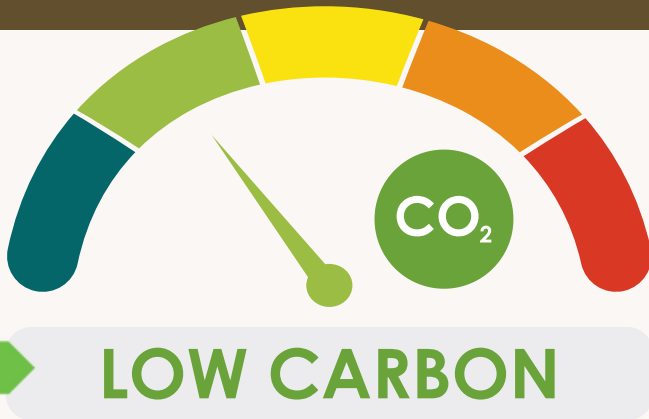
In July, the Province of Nova Scotia announced funding for a high-priority repair to the Lepper Brook dam and reservoir, including the spillway chute structure. This project helps prevent dam failure, maintains water service without interruption to 4,500 households, and allows for future growth.

The total cost of the project was \$1.39 million and was shared between the Town of Truro and the Province. Funding was provided through the Municipal Capital Growth Program.



# Improvements

# Climate Protection



## Truro Completes Energy and Emissions Plan

In October, Truro Town Council proudly approved and adopted the new Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP), marking a significant milestone in the Town's climate action journey.

In 2021, Truro joined the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program, committing to address climate change through measurable and sustainable actions. The CEEP represents the completion of the first three of five milestones of this program:

- Establishing a baseline greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory.
- Setting ambitious emissions reduction targets; and
- Developing a comprehensive local climate action plan.

The development of the plan involved collaboration from a diverse group of community members, including government officials, business leaders, and representatives from various local organizations. Public engagement was a key component of the process, encouraging open dialogue where participants could voice their insights, concerns, and visions for a sustainable future.

A Steering Committee, consisting of Town staff, Councillors, and community members, played an instrumental role in guiding the development of the plan. Their expertise helped shape strategies, identify key stakeholders, and ensure clear communication throughout the process.

With the adoption of the CEEP, Truro is now well-positioned to take decisive action in addressing climate change and building a more sustainable future for all residents.



# Marketing Levy



## Truro Works Collaboratively to Establish a Regional Marketing Levy

In 2024, the Town of Truro worked with the Municipality of Colchester, Millbrook First Nation, and the Town of Stewiacke to establish a regional Marketing Levy. Established through the Tourism Marketing Levy Bylaw, this initiative applies a small fee to overnight stays in local accommodations, generating dedicated funding for tourism-related activities. The regional Marketing Levy will help to support tourism efforts to enhance the appeal of the region as a must-visit destination.

As part of this initiative, regional partners also established a regional working group, composed of industry stakeholders and municipal representatives, to oversee a regional strategic tourism planning exercise for the region.



Expected to be completed in January 2025, the Regional Tourism Strategic Plan will outline a sustainable financial framework and actionable recommendations for promoting Truro and the region's cultural and recreational attractions, with the goal of increasing visitor numbers and boosting the local economy.

Funding for the Strategic Plan was provided to the Town of Truro and the Municipality of Colchester, in partnership with Millbrook First Nation and the Town of Stewiacke, through ACOA's Strategic Tourism Expansion Program!

Once the Strategic Plan is completed, funds will be reinvested in strategic marketing campaigns, events and festivals, destination development, and collaborative initiatives that benefit the region's businesses and tourism operators.

This partnership marks an important step toward responsible and sustainable tourism growth for the area.

# Truro and Colchester to Explore the Feasibility of Public Transportation for the Region

In 2024, the Town of Truro and County of Colchester were jointly awarded funding through the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund to create a Regional Public Transit Feasibility Study.

With oversight and guidance from industry stakeholders and regional community partners, this study got underway in late 2024 and will be conducted through the first half of 2025.

The study will investigate the feasibility of a regional public transit service to areas within Truro and Colchester County. The goal of the study is to identify recommendations for public and shared transportation options based on a comprehensive analysis of technical, social, environmental, and financial feasibility. The project will include:

- Market research and analysis,
- Community and stakeholder engagement and consultation,
- A proposal for transit solutions,
- An assessment of financial feasibility and proposed business model,
- An analysis of the potential impact of transit solutions with a lens on economic, social, and sustainable parameters.



# Public Transportation





## Truro Partners with Middlesex County to Support Work in Cambodia

The Town of Truro and Middlesex County, ON, are partnering as part of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) on the Partnerships for Municipal Innovation – Women in Local Leadership (PMI-WILL) Program.

This six-year project (2021-2027) is part of FCM's portfolio of gender equality and women in local government initiatives. It is implemented in five countries: Benin, Cambodia, Ghana, Sri Lanka, and Zambia. Truro and Middlesex are partnered with local governments in Cambodia for this project.

The project is funded by Global Affairs Canada. It helps to achieve the goals of Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy (FIAP) and is also aligned with Canada's Official Development Assistance Accountability Act (ODAAA).

The team is focusing on training in project management, including project implementation, monitoring, and evaluating.

## Truro Supports the 1st Nova Scotia Stampede

The first Nova Scotia Stampede ran from September 26-29 at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Complex. This event welcomed thousands of visitors to the region and sold over 19,000 tickets. The event featured three nights of professional rodeo as well as live musical performances.

For this event, the Town of Truro contributed \$75,000 to be used towards community initiatives such as volunteer appreciation, tickets to local not-for-profit organizations, community shuttle buses, pancake breakfasts, opening receptions, local emergency planning, economic impact, and more. As part of the contribution, the Town of Truro partnered with the Truro Legion to host a free Mayor and Council Pancake Breakfast.

An economic impact report, which was released in November, stated that the event generated \$3.7 million in impact in the local Truro-Colchester region. Thanks to 175 amazing local volunteers, numerous staff, and thousands of attendees for making this year's Stampede a success!

# make the connection

## contact us

695 Prince Street  
Truro, NS B2N 1G5  
902.895.4484

Mayor Cathy Hinton (902) 956-1406  
Wayne Talbot, Ward 1 (902) 956-1407  
Alison Graham, Ward 1 (902) 324-8924  
Jim Flemming, Ward 2 (902) 324-8921  
Bill Thomas, Ward 2 (902) 324-8926  
Deb Pryor, Ward 3 (902) 324-2251  
Ian McGrath, Ward 3 (902) 324-8927

CAO Office (902) 893-6076  
Planning & Development (902) 895-1148  
Engineering & Public Works (902) 895-4243  
Finance (902) 895-8011  
Parks, Recreation & Culture (902) 893-6078  
Fire Service (902) 895-4437  
Police Service (902) 895-5351



# TRURO