

Relocation Guide

Truro has been called one of the BEST PLACES TO LIVE IN ALL OF CANADA

> Expedia ranked TRURO the fourth friendliest town IN ALL OF CANADA!

CBC's Hockey Night in Canada host Ron MacLean meeting with hockey fans of all ages during the Rogers Hometown Hockey Tour in October of 2017.

Scotiabank HOCKEY CL

Welcome home to Truro Colchester



Truro Colchester has become a really cool place to live. With every new restaurant, shop, school, community summer event and outdoor concert, it is easier than ever to show the rest of the world

why we love living here.

Here, at the Truro and Colchester Partnership for Economic Prosperity, we work with great people and great businesses to tell the stories of our region - why it's an awesome place to live, work, and do business.

In Truro Colchester, we have access to world-class facilities you would expect in a big city - a \$7.8M library, a \$50M recreational centre, and a \$185M hospital – but you won't find smog, traffic and high real estate prices. We live in friendly communities with neighbours we can depend on, but plenty of wide-open space to explore and enjoy.

If you are looking to hire or be hired, we have a well-connected, supportive business community -and the largest Chamber of Commerce in Atlantic Canada, outside of Halifax.

Truro is in a period of great revitalization. We are trying new things and it feels like anything is possible – a sure sign of a vibrant, flourishing community. Come and see for yourself!

Brennan Gillis, CEO

Truro & Colchester Partnership for Economic Prosperity TruroColchester.ca

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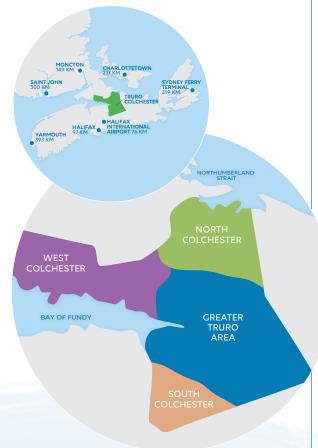












Truro Colchester

There's a reason Truro Colchester's affectionately known as the hub of Nova Scotia. We have easy access to the rest of the province not to mention the rest of the Maritimes! — from our central spot right in the heart of the province.

Get ready to walk through the diverse communities that make up the Truro Colchester area, from the ocean cliffs of Five Islands down to the lush greens of the golf courses in Brookfield and Stewiacke and straight up through the warm-water beaches and charming shops up in Tatamagouche.

It's so affordable to live in Truro Colchester that many two-parent families choose to have one parent stay at home, or just work parttime. The majority of households in Truro Colchester bring in between \$60,000 and \$79,000 annually — but nearly as many earn between \$80,000 and \$124,000. We'll introduce you to the wonders of Truro's Victoria Park, which boasts more than 2,000 acres of woodland right in the downtown core. We'll take you antiquing through the quaint shops in Great Village, and exploring in Debert's Diefenbunker — a Cold War-era bunker that's full of surprises.

You certainly won't go hungry on your travels, either. Colchester's motto is "We prosper from our resources," which is why we enjoy locallybrewed craft beers, smoked local pork, freshlytapped maple syrup from Sugar Moon Farms, and home-cooked soup at the Truro Farmers' Market. Let's get started ...

Anita Kajtazi and her family moved 6,414 km from their home in Kosovo to start a new life in Truro.

They'd always wanted to come to Canada, and it became a reality two years ago after her husband connected with an employer in Brookfield. Anita wanted to start a career here, too, and her dedication shone through during her job interviews.

Tracey Beamish, the McDonald's Canada supervisor who wound up hiring Anita, remembers she made a point of expressing that she not only wanted a job — she wanted to develop a career.

"There's a lot of community spirit. We always feel welcome here in Truro."

Now, less than two years later, Anita has worked her way up to Department Manager.

"Anita has been an outstanding addition to our team. She's excelled with going out of her way for guest service, and is just very eager to please our guests in our organization," says Tracey. "She loves getting out and interacting with the guests and providing great service each and every day."

Tracey was so impressed with Anita's work ethic that she nominated her for the Truro

& Colchester Partnership's Newcomer Appreciation Award — and she was awarded it on March 27, 2019.

Anita's boss, Stephanie Jones, agrees that hiring newcomers "adds so much" to a business.

"Anybody I've ever hired that's new to Canada has been an amazing employee," says Stephanie, who owns and operates all three McDonald's restaurants in Truro — as well as six others. "They just enhance the experience for everyone on your staff — Canadians and newcomers."

Anita says she loves her job and is proud of her accomplishments, but she's also grateful to have settled in a town that's "very family-oriented."

She and her husband and their two children enjoy hiking through Victoria Park, spending the day at a nearby beach, or heading over to the RECC to go swimming or rock-climbing.

"Living here in Truro is fantastic. It's so safe and everybody knows everybody."

92%

of people in Truro Colchester report being "SATISFIED" OR "VERY SATISFIED" WITH LIFE Welcome to Canada the second-largest country on earth with a diverse population of more than 37 million people.

We have more than 200,000 km of coastline along the Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, and Arctic Ocean. Our country has beautiful mountains, forests, prairie grasslands, rivers, lakes, and beaches.

Canadians are known for being polite, progressive, diverse, and multicultural. We're strong supporters of immigration. We have publicly-funded healthcare. We've legalized same-sex marriage and cannabis. We've outlawed capital punishment, we have strict gun control laws, and we work hard to eliminate poverty. Canada enjoys a positive global reputation as one of the world's SAFEST, MOST COMFORTABLE COUNTRIES

Welcome to Canada

Moving to Canada

Here in Canada, we're always happy to welcome new residents. We believe in good hospitality, and we're always ready to greet newcomers with a warm handshake and a hot coffee.

You don't need a job offer in order to immigrate here — of course, it does speed up the process if you do. Learn more about applying to a Nova Scotia Nominee Program (NSNP) stream by visiting novascotiaimmigration.com and reviewing the best nomination option for yourself.

Within six (6) months of receiving your nominee certificate, apply to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada for your permanent resident visa.

If you can, it's best to bring all your official documents with you, like birth certificates, passports, marriage or divorce certificates, death certificates for a deceased spouse, adoption records for any adopted children, educational diplomas and certificates, school transcripts, vaccination records, medical and dental records, and driving permits.

Once you're in Canada ...

When you arrive in Canada as a permanent resident, you'll receive a Permanent Resident (PR) card. This wallet-sized plastic card is the official proof of your status as a permanent resident in Canada, and it replaces the paper Record of Landing (IMM1000) document you may have used to get here. You'll use your PR card as an identification document (ID) in various circumstances, like when you apply for government services or open a bank account.

Apply for a Social Insurance Number (SIN)

You can't work in Canada without a SIN, so apply for one as soon as possible. This magic number is something you'll keep private and usually memorize. Everyone who works in Canada has one — even Canadian citizens who were born here. You can pick up an application at your local Service Canada office or download one from Service Canada's website. When you apply, you can ask for a receipt or temporary card and use that to apply for jobs in the 4-6 weeks it takes to get your permanent card.

Apply for government health insurance

Yes, it's true — Canada has publicly-funded healthcare, and we want to get you set up with it as soon as possible.

Here in Nova Scotia, Medical Services Insurance (MSI) programs are administered by Medavie Blue Cross on behalf of the Nova Scotia government. Call (902) 496-7008 or 1-800-563-8880 to register.

This health insurance program is designed to provide eligible residents with coverage for medically required hospital, medical, dental and optometric services with some restrictions. You won't pay any premiums. Just remember to carry your signed health card with you at all times, in case you need medical attention in which case you'll present it to the physician or hospital.

Build your business in Canada

Canada is an amazing place to build your business. Here are just a few of the reasons to set up shop here in the true north, strong and free ...

- We have strong economic growth, and Forbes magazine rated Canada as the best G-20 country with which to do business
- Canada has the strongest fiscal position in the G-7 and among the best fiscal prospects in the G-20
- We have low-cost and low-tax environments to help business thrive
- Canada's tax rate for new business investment is one of the lowest in the world, which is why KPMG ranked Canada "the most tax-competitive country in the G-7
- We have world-class research and development (R&D) infrastructure, scientific talent, and innovation incentives
- We offer federal and provincial credits that can return to foreign investors, on average, up to 30 percent of their R & D investment in Canada
- Canada is home to a highly educated, flexible and multicultural workforce

Canadian Money

We may be biased, but we think our money is really pretty and colourful!

Our official currency is the Canadian dollar, and there are 100 cents

in a dollar. We no longer use pennies, so our pockets jingle with nickels (five cents), dimes (10 cents), quarters (25 cents), loonies (one dollar), and toonies (two dollars). In our wallets, most of us usually have fives (blue bill), tens (purple bill), twenties (green bill), and maybe fifties (red bill), but we also have the elusive hundred (brown bill).

Our coins are made by the Royal Canadian Mint, one of the most extravagant coinproducing entities in the world.



Once you've been a permanent resident in Canada for three years — and you're at least 18 — you're eligible for Canadian citizenship. You'll need to be able to speak English or French, know enough about Canada to pass a written citizenship test, and take an oath of citizenship. You can also apply for citizenship on behalf of any children (anyone under 18). If you're 55 or older, you don't need to meet the language and knowledge requirements. For more info on citizenship, please visit discovercanada.gc.ca.



Generosity lives here. Truro Colchester residents each donate an average of \$290 annually to their favourite charitable organizations.



Growing up in Guatemala, **Sergio Garrido** never thought he'd be building a life — and a business — in Truro, Nova Scotia.

This business major started roasting coffee beans and selling them out of his dorm room at Acadia University in Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia. The student-run enterprise has grown into Aroma Maya Coffee Roastery, a production facility that makes coffee for households, restaurants, and stores across Canada.

"Our home base is in North River and our closest store is a convenience store, but nearby there are so many suppliers, banks, shipping terminals — everything we need," says Sergio. Sergio imports the beans from Guatemala and uses a slow-roasting process that allows the sugars to caramelize — eliminating the bitter aftertaste some coffee brands leave. He even uses special software to track his temperatures and keep them consistent for each batch.

"We are here in a small community, but we can send our products out to the rest of the world." With the success of Aroma Maya, Sergio decided to launch a second business: Kare Kombucha.

"Even though it was a new product, people were willing to try it because they wanted to support us," says Sergio. "They are very receptive to new products, especially local ones, because they want to show their support."

Sergio runs a booth at the Truro Farmers' Market every Saturday to sell Kare Kombucha and Aroma Maya, and says sometimes there's a line of customers forming before he can even open for business.

This past Christmas, his family traveled from Guatemala to spend a few weeks with him here in Truro Colchester. Sergio says they were amazed by how many activities there are in the area.

"I took them to Civic Square to go skating, and my sister was just ecstatic," says Sergio. "It's so beautiful there, to be skating with the snow falling. She said she felt like she was in a movie." "Truro Colchester is a wonderful place to start a business because there are so many resources, tools, and people to help you."



Here in Nova Scotia, you're never more than 60 km from the ocean. In fact, our province is almost completely surrounded by water — which is probably why so many of us are comforted by the brisk salty air and soothing sound of the waves lapping at the shore.

Most popular languages spoken in Nova Scotia after English

> French 51%
> Arabic 12%
> Aboriginal Languages 8%
> Mandarin 8%
> German 6%
> Dutch 3%
> Spanish 3%
> Korean 2%
> Cantonese 2%
> Persian (Farsi) 2%

Nova Scotia is home to more than 100 cultures, and we love celebrating everyone's music, art, food, and traditions. English may be the most common language spoken at home (with French in second place), but there are more than 200 languages spoken here.

DID YOU KNOW?

About 66% of Nova Scotia's population is between 15 and 64 years old

Welcome to Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia is divided into seven regions, each with its own beauty and charm

Bay of Fundy & Annapolis Valley

The Bay of Fundy's unique landscape is shaped by the highest recorded tides in the world and its waters are home to 15 species of whales. It's like nowhere else on earth.

The Annapolis Valley, with its fertile soil that grows lush produce and award-winning vineyards, is where markets and wineries have taken root alongside Mi'kmaq legends and heritage sites commemorating and celebrating the earliest European settlements in North America.

Cape Breton Island

Ceilidh is the Gaelic word for 'gathering,' and the #1 must-see island in North America welcomes visitors from around the world. Highland hiking trails, the Bras d'Or Lake inland sea, dramatic coastal look-offs and the world-renowned Cabot Trail in the Cape Breton Highlands Park makes Cape Breton a sight for all eyes.

For the golfers, Cape Breton is home to the world-renowned Highlands Links and Canada's only authentic links course, Cabot Links. These provide golfers with a golf experience unlike any other.

Eastern Shore

Home to Nova Scotia's longest sand beach, the Eastern Shore is a year-round surfing destination for surfers from around the world. Discover 100 Wild Islands when you tour by boat or sea kayak with a local tour operator through the island-dotted coastline. This region is an outdoor enthusiast's sandbox!

Starting at the edge of the Halifax Metro Region, the Eastern Shore is rich in history with living history museums and heritage sites devoted to fishing, farming and gold mining.

Halifax Metro

Halifax Metro combines the history of a strategic port city with the youthful spirit of a modern university town.

By day, check out eclectic shops, artisan studios, museums and galleries. By night, take in a show, experience the vibrant music scene, savour awardwinning cuisine, and hoist a pint in a place with more pubs and clubs per capita than almost anywhere else in Canada. For those not spooked by the shadows, ghost walks explore graveyards and haunted houses.







Northumberland Shore

Birthplace of New Scotland, Gaelic culture lives on in the Northumberland Shore region. The skirl of bagpipes mingle with the cries of eagles, osprey, and cormorants hunting for food in tidal salt marshes.

On the Northumberland Shore, sit back and relax, as this region is known for its long sandy beaches with some of the warmest beaches in Atlantic Canada. Stop at a wharf and buy some of the tastiest lobster in the world or discover one of the many skilled artisans along the way.

South Shore

Navigate the sea-sculpted coast of the South Shore past weathered fishing villages, the UNESCO World Heritage site of Old Town Lunenburg, beaches & bays, and 40+ lighthouses - including the famous beacon at Peggy's Cove.

Discover privateering legends, tales of pirate treasure, and artisans who craft treasures of their own. Visit Kejimkujik National Park and come face to face to history with Mi'kmaq petroglyphs and see the stars like you didn't think was possible, in the Dark Sky Preserve.

Scotia is more than 60 KM FROM THE SEA

Yarmouth & Acadian Shores

Squint through the fog and you might see a ghost ship on the horizon. Or maybe it's just a lobster boat, because in the Yarmouth & Acadian Shore region, both the English and French have long earned a living from fishing the unforgiving ocean.

Walk a day in their rubber boots at one of many 'living wharves' where real-life fishermen show you how they make their haul. Afterwards, reward your hard work with fresh seafood and traditional Acadian dishes.

For more information on Nova Scotia, please visit **www.novascotia.com**.

SOURCE: Tourism Nova Scotia



"We love living in Truro. The lifestyle and the community is perfect for families like us, with young children. It's safe, and there are so many activities and opportunities for children — all for a price that's really affordable."



"Everyone is so nice and welcoming"

– Cecilia Jamasmie

Cecilia Jamasmie and Angus Murray knew they loved living in Truro, but they got to experience it through another person's eyes when Cecilia's sister came from Chile to spend Christmas with them.

"She was walking everywhere and exploring during the day when we were working. She kept discovering new places and coming home saying 'Did you know there's this place and that place?" says Cecilia. "She kept saying how beautiful it was here, and how friendly the people were to her."

Cecilia had never imagined herself living in Nova Scotia. She left Chile and moved to Canada in 2002 to earn her master's degree in journalism at University of British Columbia Graduate School. She wound up meeting her husband, Dr. Angus S. Murray, and they moved to Nova Scotia so he could complete his residency.

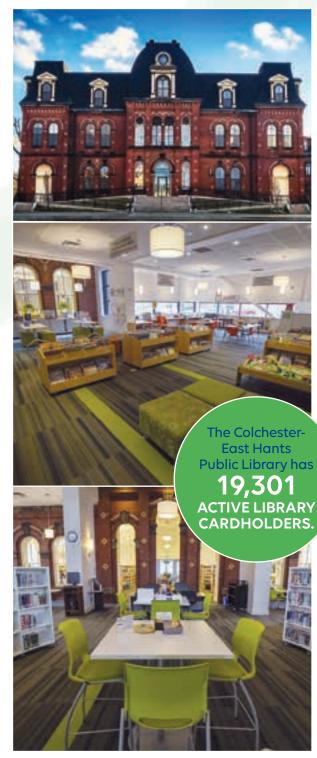
Even though she'd lived in Canada for 15 years by this point, she feared Truro might not be accepting of an immigrant from South America who spoke with a strong Spanish accent. Luckily, she didn't have anything to worry about.

"Everyone is so nice and welcoming. We had three different neighbours come by with homemade cookies. That's something that had NEVER happened anywhere else we've lived in Canada." They're happily settled in the west end of town, just off Smith Avenue, where the Truro Golf & Country Club is practically in their backyard — a huge perk for Angus, who loves to golf — and Angus's obstetrics and gynecology practice is a 14-minute walk away.

Cecilia and Angus' son, who is eight years old, takes a 10-minute bus ride to l'École Acadienne de Truro — his French-language P-12 school. Cecilia works from home, so she walks him to the bus every morning before she starts her work.

"I find it wonderful working at home," says Cecilia. "If our son has an activity after school, I can use my little breaks to prep dinner, so it's very convenient."

They still drive to Halifax occasionally to see a play or go shopping, and they travelled to Moncton last summer to spend the day at the Magic Mountain water park. But Cecilia says she and her family are happy having everything they need at their fingertips living in downtown Truro.



Make yourself at home

Cozy up to a new life in Truro Colchester

Libraries

Truro is home to the beautifully renovated **Colchester-East Hants Public Library (CEHPL)** in the heart of downtown on Prince St. It's stunning inside and out, with a grassy green lawn (known as Civic Square) that's turned into an outdoor skating rink in the winter. They offer free public programming for kids, teens, adults, and seniors, from computer programming and 3D printing to board game nights and crafty rug-hooking classes. There's also an indoor play area for little ones, complete with a slide.

The CEHPL includes additional branches across the area, as well as satellite sites in rural locations. The **Stewiacke Branch** is located on George St. in the Town Hall building, and library patrons have internet access as well as access to subscription databases. The **Tatamagouche Branch** is located on Main St. and has a beautiful new building with geothermal heating and a charging station for electric cars and scooters.

Stay on top of what's happening by following @TruroBuzz (trurobuzz.com) and joining a Facebook group for your area.

Newspapers & Magazines

The Truro News publishes every Thursday, and includes local news, sports, obituaries, lifestyle stories and more. You can also buy copies of The Chronicle Herald, Nova Scotia's provincial daily newspaper. The Colchester Weekly News will likely show up at your door in a flyer package on Wednesdays.

Hub Now is a monthly publication focusing on the events that matter most to residents in Colchester County, and **At Home on the North Shore** (sometimes just called AH!) is a locallypublished glossy mag that covers design, food, wine, health, fitness, art, and culture. **The Shoreline Journal** is a monthly community newspaper based in Bass River, Nova Scotia, serving the Fundy Shore/Glooscap Trail from Truro to Parrsboro.

Radio stations

For alternative and rock, tune into Big Dog (100.9 FM). Country music fans prefer the tunes over on Pure Country (99.5 FM). If you like hearing soothing conversation, try CBC Radio One (89.1 FM). For pop-style Christian music and affirmations, flip over to Hope FM Ministries (106.3 FM).

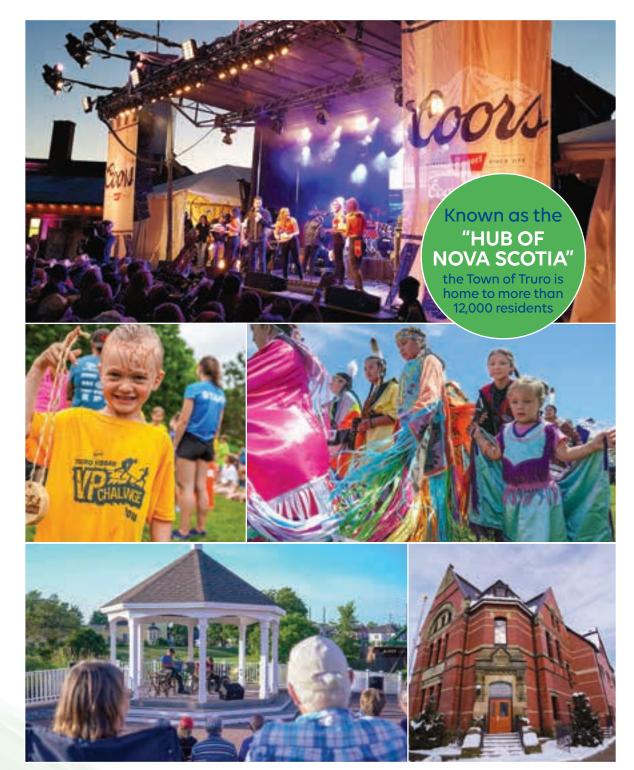
Greater Truro Area

The Greater Truro Area (GTA) is located in the heart of Central Colchester. It's where you'll find the urban area of Truro and suburban communities such as Bible Hill, Valley, Salmon River, Hilden, and Lower Truro/Truro Heights.

Calling all history buffs! The Town of Truro has a significant and distinctive collection of 19th and early 20th century buildings depicting Victorian and vernacular architecture.

The Colchester Historeum might be small, but it's packed with artifacts and documents relating to the social, cultural, and natural history of Colchester County — and its team is always happy to take you on a tour. The Millbrook Cultural and Heritage Centre uses interactive exhibits to share the history and culture of the Mi'kmaw people, and regularly offers demonstrations and special workshops. The Fundy Discovery Site is a popular spot for locals and visitors alike to enjoy a peaceful view, walk along the dykes, see the tidal bore phenomenon that occurs on the river at predicted times twice daily, and to watch the sun go down.

Downtown Truro is where you get a true sense of Truro's history, culture and community pride. It's where you'll find unique shopping and dining experiences that are enhanced by warm east coast hospitality and top-notch service.



You can't miss the 40-ft. statue of Kluskap when you're driving by Millbrook First Nation. According to Mi'kmaq legend, Kluskap was created out of three bolts of lightning. The first bolt gave him form, the second gave him life, and the third bolt set him free to walk about and teach.









Greater Truro Area

Downtown Truro offers the best of both worlds — small-town ambience combined with a full range of shops, services and recreational opportunities.

There's a mix of more than 150 retailers including unique boutiques, specialty stores, health and beauty spas, restaurants, pubs, and cafés — plus another 150 professional and business offices.

Truro is also home to the Marigold Cultural Centre which offers year-round live performances and arts education programs. It includes a 206-seat theatre, a small art gallery, a workshop space for arts-in-education programming, and a sports heritage hall.

Each Saturday morning, Truro has an active Farmers' Market with more than 50 vendors selling a wide range of foods, drinks, crafts, gifts, fruits, vegetables, plants, and much more. There's always live music and a kid's corner with fun and educational activities.

Family life is important in Truro, with numerous schools ranging from Pre-Primary through Grade 12, plenty of parks and playgrounds — including the 2,000+ acre Victoria Park in the heart of downtown — and dozens of different sports and extracurricular activities. Truro isn't just a great place to live or visit — it's also a great place to invest and build a business thanks to its great central location on the Halifax-to-Moncton growth corridor, access to additional markets, proven industry sustainability, and the best competitive cost advantage location in Atlantic Canada. Truro's central location is a huge advantage, whether you're running your own business, working here in town, or commuting. It's just a 40-minute drive from the Halifax Stanfield International Airport, one hour from Halifax, and less than two hours from Moncton.

Truro Colchester has numerous business parks and development properties that are all centrally located in Nova Scotia with direct access to the 100 Series Highways.

Truro is constantly investing in itself in an effort to grow the local economy. With the recent completion of the new \$185M Colchester East Hants Health Centre, the opening of the impressive \$48M Rath Eastlink Community Centre, and the new \$7M Colchester-East Hants Public Library, it's an exciting time to be a part of the thriving Town of Truro!

"Truro Colchester is a great place to invest in commercial real estate, either through purchase or lease."

 Alison Grant, Manager of Economic Development, Town of Truro







Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce connects local business profiles, helps them 'thrive'

Chamber members benefit from networking, professional development, referrals, promotion

Sherry Martell, Executive Director of the **Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce**, says the 129-year-old Chamber includes about 430 members from all sectors — retail, professional services, manufacturing, banks, government, agriculture, natural resources and more.

"We represent a wide variety of businesses, and there is great opportunity here for expansion of services," says Martell. "We work with all levels of government to advocate for members of the local business community, weighing in on issues of economic importance, as well as those of social and political importance — anything that's going to have an impact on our businesses."

"The Chamber's role is to advocate for businesses and create conditions for them to grow and expand." Because the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce is an accredited business organization, Martell says being a member can also lead to plenty of new business opportunities.

"People are 63% more likely to purchase goods and services from a company that's aligned with a Chamber because it gives them credibility," explains Martell. "We often have people call us and say 'I'm looking for a PR professional,' or 'I'm looking for someone reputable to fix my car,' and they trust us to give them recommendations from our list of members."

Martell says being a Chamber member also increases your company's visibility. Members of the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce are listed in the online directory, highlighted in features in a local newspaper, and promoted on social media. When a business has news to share, they can contribute a write-up to the Chamber's weekly electronic newsletter. "By being a part of what we're doing, it helps spread the word and show people what's going on in our communities," says Martell.

She says the networking opportunities can be immensely helpful, especially for a business owner who is hoping to land new clients.

"When you come to a networking event, we'll help to introduce you to the people you'd like to connect with," says Martell. "We see ourselves as 'matchmakers' — connecting people and putting them in positions to grow."

The Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce organizes more than 50 networking opportunities each year. There are Lunch-and-Learns and free breakfasts where the Chamber arranges for guest speakers to talk about business-relevant topics, like legal issues, HR, bookkeeping, financial management, and succession planning.

Some of the Chamber's events are open to the community at large so anyone can attend and learn more about a topic, or network with the local business community.

"We have so much going on in our area, and it's putting us in an excellent position for growth."

The Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce also has a member-to-member discount program that makes it easier than ever to support other local businesses. These include discounts, freebies, and special group rates.

"It's not just the owner of each business that's a member of our Chamber — it's also their employees," says Martell. "So their employees can take advantage of these discounts, too."

Martell says the area is known for being "an extremely welcoming business community" and a welcoming community in general — pointing to the 2018 Expedia survey that used hotel data to identify Truro as one of the most "helpful, dutiful, and welcoming" towns in Canada.

To learn more about the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce, visit TruroColchesterChamber.com or call (902) 895-6328.



North Colchester

There's nothing quite like the sunny skies, warm beaches, and delicious food of the Northumberland coast ...

The village of Tatamagouche is perfectly situated on the Northumberland Strait along the south side of Tatamagouche Bay at the mouths of the French and Waugh Rivers, north of Truro and west of Pictou.

One of Tatamagouche's most famous landmarks is the Tatamagouche Creamery, which dates back to 1925. More than 1,000 local farms supplied milk to the Creamery in order to produce the famous Tatamagouche butter of which it turned out nearly 2,000 lbs. daily!

The Creamery operated until 1992 when the land was donated to the Village with the stipulation that no structural changes were to be made to the building's exterior, including the name and colour. The deed is actually held by the Creamery Society, a community-based organization responsible for the building.

The Creamery building is now home to the North Shore Archives and the Giantess Anna Swan Museum, and there's a lovely new farmers' market building on the property now, too.

The Tatamagouche Farmers' Market is open to the public on Saturday mornings from February until Christmas. Here, you'll find in-season vegetables and fruit, baked goods, meats, prepared foods, breakfast dishes, plants, arts and crafts, and much more.

Tatamagouche has plenty of other delights, like the Fraser Octagon House on Church Street – which is designated as a Provincial Heritage Site – and the Balmoral Grist Mill and Sutherland Steam Mill, which are both working museums.

Hitch a ride on the Tatamagouche Road Train and tour around the area. The train takes thousands of tourists on rides each summer.

Stop by Patterson Wharf to view the Bay at high tide. Take photos, have a picnic or a barbeque, or just relax.

You can also cruise through the streets of Tatamagouche on a four-wheeled "butter trail buggy" — a quadricycle with bench seating and a canopy on top for shade and weather protection.

The family-owned Tatamagouche Brewery runs out of a converted butcher shop on Main Street. They make small batches of tasty handcrafted beer like their Hippie Dippie Pale Ale, Butcher Block Red Ale, and North Shore Lagered Ale.

Finally, pop into the Train Station Inn a carefully restored dining car! — to enjoy homemade seafood chowder, fish cakes, steak, and lobster.

Tatamagouche is a thriving seaside village that embraces quality of life along the Northumberland Shore.



The word "Tatamagouche" actually comes from the Mi'kmaq term "takŭmegoochk," which translates as "extending across" or "meeting of the waters."

Tatamagouche is surrounded by some of the province's nicest beaches. Just 15 minutes east of the village, Rushton's Beach is a peaceful spot with warm water and large sand flats. If you drive about 20 minutes west of the village, you'll hit the Blue Sea Beach on the beautiful Malagash Peninsula.

The Trans Canada Trail runs through Tatamagouche on the old rail bed, so it's a great way to explore the area while getting your exercise at the same time. The hard-working Tatamagouche Area Trails Association (T.A.T.A.) makes sure it's nicely surfaced with crushed gravel, so it's ideal for walking, running, or biking. You can make it all the way out to Sutherland Steam Mill if you're feeling ambitious!

The Trans Canada Trail also continues directly through Nelson Park, which has spectacular views of Tatamagouche Bay. Nelson Park has a newly-constructed bandstand, a playground, and a landscaped garden overlooking the water. There's a car show there every summer, and it's a popular venue for concerts, weddings, and family reunions, too.





North Colchester

Moving inland, just 28 km from Tatamagouche, you can swooshing down the powdery white snow of Ski Wentworth, which has a vertical drop of 815 feet. With 20 alpine trails, a 1/2 pipe, terrain park, and freestyle ski facilities, Ski Wentworth has something for skiers and snowboarders of all abilities — from beginner to expert. Ski rentals are available, of course, and there's also a full-service cafeteria and a bar.

Located just off the beautiful Northumberland Shore in Pictou County, Lismore Sheep Farm is a working sheep farm with about 300 sheep mostly Dorset/Finn crosses which produce very soft fleece. The wool is used to make blankets, comforters, mattress pads, yarn, socks, hats, and mittens. The farm is also the home of the River John Needle Company, which makes wooden knitting needles. Fox Harb'r Golf Resort and Spa has been consistently ranked amongst the top destination resorts in Canada, and Fox Harb'r is one of only five 5-star resorts in the country. Their 18-hole championship course and par-3 course were both designed by Golf Hall of Fame architect Graham Cooke.

Sugar Moon Farm is an award-winning maple syrup farm that's received national recognition for its delectable brunch and 60-seat log restaurant. Hike, snowshoe or cross-country ski around the farm to work up an appetite before digging into their fluffy pancakes, mmmm! Covering more than 100 acres by the North Shore's Sunrise Trail, Jost Vineyards is the largest and longest-operating winery in Atlantic Canada. Pick up a bottle of red or white and take part in a wine-making tradition that goes back 400 years to Germany. Cheers to the North Shore!



Miriah Kearney thought she'd wanted a big-city life. But once she was expecting her first baby, she felt a pull to move back home to Truro ...

After growing up in Great Village and traveling to Truro as a teen to attend Cobequid Educational Centre, she'd felt the need to move to a bigger city. She spent 12 years travelling, going to university, and starting a career.

But when she was pregnant with her first child, eight years ago, Miriah says she felt "a very strong pull" to move back to the area. Her children are now eight and six, and she describes the town as "warm and welcoming."

"Being back has made me feel very differently about Truro. It's an amazing place for young children," says Miriah. "The community has been revitalized, and now there's this great energy here."

"We hit the trails in Victoria Park or go to the playground, and we have the most amazing library that my kids adore," says Miriah. "We don't have tablets or video games in our house, so it's a great reward for the kids to be able to play on the iPads and the Wii at the library, then check out a few books and head home."

Miriah and her family are members of the sparkling new Rath Eastlink Community Centre (RECC) so they often head over for a swim, skate, or session on the rock-climbing wall.

But Miriah didn't just move back to Truro for her children. She's also one of the town's best-known entrepreneurs, running two business empires. My HOME Apparel is a clothing company that celebrates where Canadians call home. Each piece is produced at Stanfield's here in Truro and hand-printed at My HOME Apparel. The clothing and accessories are shipped daily across the country. Five per cent of the profits of every product sold is donated back to initiatives to help end homelessness in Canada.

Her shop, My Home Mercantile — which has locations in Truro, Moncton, and Lunenburg, with a pop-up shop in Halifax — sells more than 100 lines of gifts, cards, books, and local goodies along with the My HOME Apparel clothing, of course.

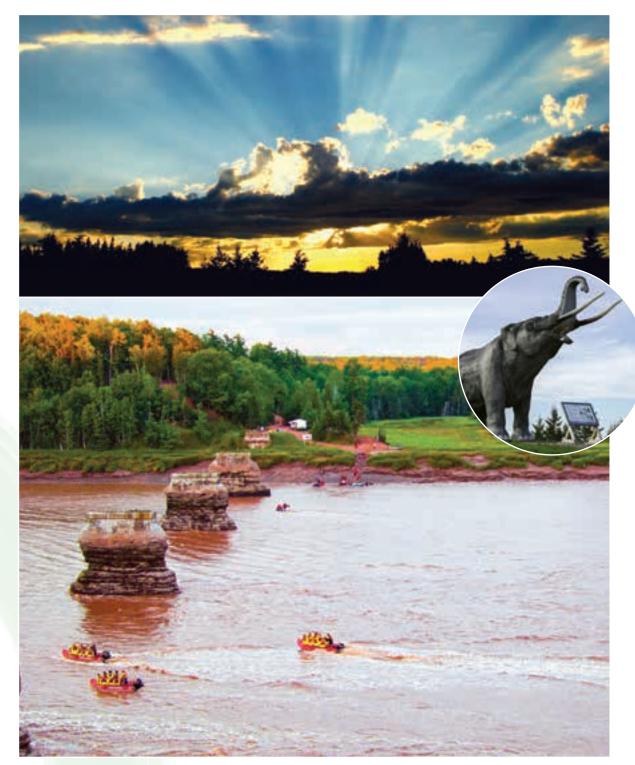
"I strongly believe that small businesses are the heart of any community, and that community needs to be at the heart of a small business," says Miriah. "Since Day 1, the local community has been unbelievably supportive of my businesses and rallied around me."

Miriah says Truro is run by entrepreneurs primarily female entrepreneurs — so she believes, from a women in business perspective, there is no better place to be.

"Everyone is supportive and open to collaborations, and we really believe the grass is greener where you water it," says Miriah. "This is an amazing place to live and work, and we're always working to make it even better."



"Truro is perfect for young families because there are so many fun activities going on all the time — and many of them are free."



South Colchester

Travelling south on Highway 102 from Truro towards Halifax, you'll pass through South Colchester.

With its own claim to fame. Stewiacke is recognized as being exactly halfway between the North Pole and the equator.

South Colchester is comprised of Brookfield and the greater Stewiacke River Valley area. Stewiacke is bordered by two rivers fed by the Bay of Fundy: Stewiacke River and the Shubenacadie River – which makes sense, since the Mi'kmaq word "Stewiacke" loosely translates to "flowing out in small streams" or "winding river." Stewiacke's motto is "Rivers of Opportunity," supported by strong lumber and farming industries.

As for the folks that call Stewiacke and Brookfield home, many of them can often be found appreciating nature. Two large trails wind through the communities: the John Crawford Trail and the Stewiacke River Trail.

Stewiacke River Park is a peaceful spot to enjoy a picnic on the banks of the Stewiacke River, shaded by the majestic pine, hemlock, and spruce trees.

Back when the Intercolonial Railway began operation in 1858, the town of Hilden was called

"HALIFAX ROAD"



Of course, there's nothing like gazing over the Bay of Fundy — the highest tides in the entire world. It takes six hours and 13 minutes for the tides to go from high to low.

If you're into a more exhilarating water-way, you might want to try rafting on Shubenacadie River's tidal rapids which can stir up 16-foot waves! There are several white-water rafting businesses in the area and rafters can expect to see the river level rise 20-30 feet during their travels. Mastodon bones were discovered in 1991 at a gypsum quarry near Milford, so a tourist attraction called Mastodon Ridge opened in the late '90s to celebrate the discovery. Kids love waving to the life-size Mastodon replica that stands 14 feet tall and 22 feet long, making it one of the biggest statues in Nova Scotia.

The huge complex now includes a craft store, a toy store, a mini-golf course, an interpretive centre which displays several of the mastodon's bones, and a farmers' market which takes place on site every Sunday. The Bay of Fundy is populated with up to 12 species of whales, plus an abundance of dolphins, porpoises, fish, seals, and seabirds.

West Colchester

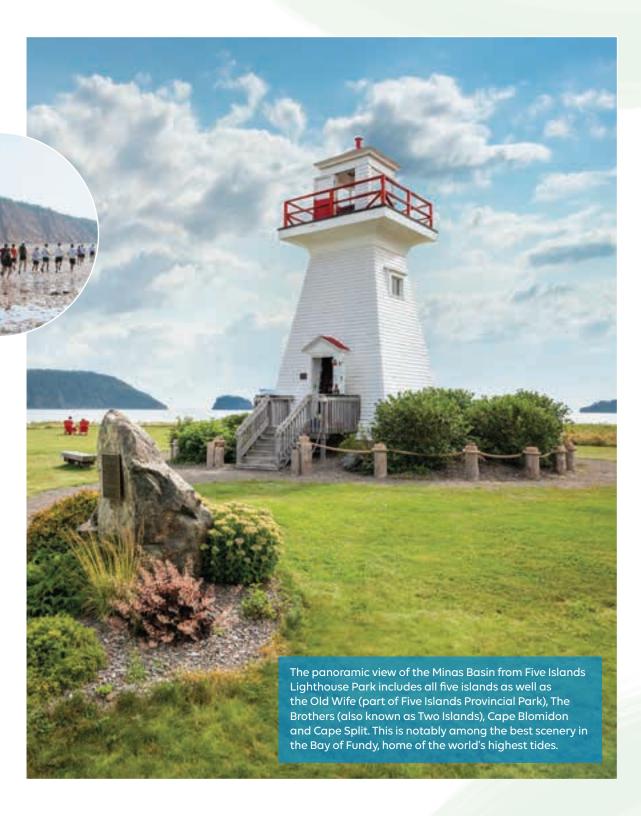
West Colchester is the region on the northern coast of the Cobequid Bay, extending from Debert to Five Islands. It's dotted with communities like Masstown, Glenholme, Bass River, Economy, Great Village, Little Dyke, Londonderry, and Portapique.

During the Cold War, Debert's Canadian Forces Station was selected to be one of six communications and training facilities across Canada. It operated under the nickname of "Diefenbunker." The facility was decommissioned in the '70s but you can visit it to tour the bunker, play laser tag, or try your hand at a war-themed escape room.

Five Islands' population is only 300 people, but it is home to something huge! It's named after the five islands of Moose, Diamond, Long, Egg, and Pinnacle, which are located just off the coast.

With towering sea cliffs, hiking trails, and beaches, Five Islands Provincial Park is recognized as one of Nova Scotia's premiere outdoor destinations. Before you go for a stroll on the mud flats, be sure to keep an eye on the time — the tide rises very quickly!

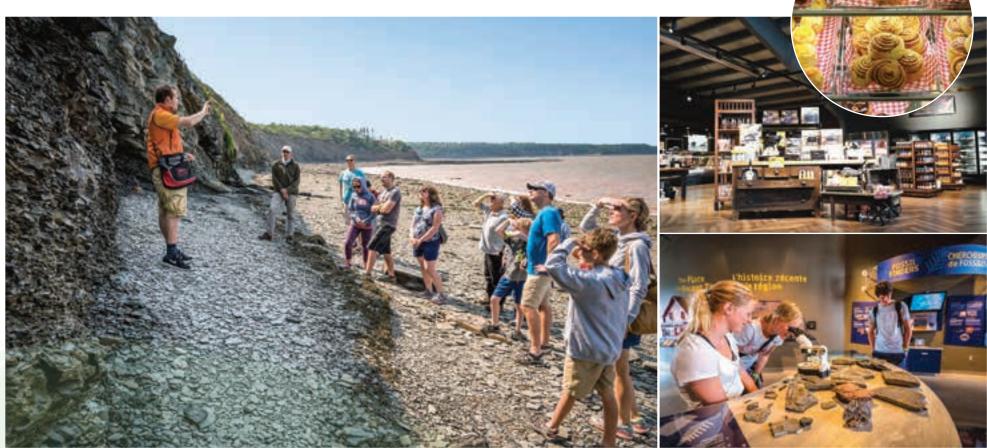
The Cliffs of Fundy Geopark is the home of the legendary Kluscap and steeped in his legends. The origin of the Five Islands, the Three Sisters, and the special significance of Partridge Island are but a few of these stories and places. The Cliffs of Fundy honours the ethical space of the Mi'kmaq people and their oral traditions of cultural geoheritage.



There's so much to do in the area, like visiting the Joggins Fossil Cliffs, Cape d'Or Lookoff, Fundy Geological Museum, Ottawa House, and Cobequid Interpretive Centre.

The farming community of Masstown dates back to 1705 when the Acadians settled near the Cobequid Bay. Masstown was the site of the first Acadian church in Nova Scotia, and the subsequent Catholic Church inspired the name "Masstown." These days, Masstown is known for Masstown Market — an enormous family-owned market that's made a name for itself across Canada for its great service and fresh, local foods.

Masstown Market began as a farm-gate operation in the spring of 1969, but has grown to become a local landmark with fruits and vegetables, home-style baked goods, a delicatessen, gourmet products, a café and dairy bar, unique giftware, a **fully-stocked** garden centre, a creamery, and a butchers shop. " Masstown Market's cinnamon rolls are to die for! As is their brown, raisin and white bread. Their donuts, date squares, pies and cookies — my mouth is watering too much to continue!" – Karen Dickinson



According to the Canadian Real Estate Association (CREA), the average selling price of houses in Nova Scotia in 2017 was \$229,123. It's higher in Halifax (\$316,000) and much lower in Truro Colchester (\$190,000).

Average Home Prices Across Canada

- Vancouver, B.C. \$1,092,000
- Toronto, Ont. \$766,000
- Montreal, Que. \$341,000
- Halifax, N.S. \$316,000
- Truro Colchester, N.S. \$190,000

Colchester cost more than \$300K BELOW THE NATIONAL AVERAGE!

A place to call home

At an average price of \$190,000, homes in Truro Colchester are substantially more affordable than homes in larger metropolitan areas.

Whether you're looking for a rambling farmhouse that comes with 20 wild acres to roam in your ATV, a two-storey family home that's close to schools and playgrounds, or a cozy bungalow on a quiet street with mature trees, there's a home waiting for you here in Truro Colchester.

Only an hour's drive down the road in Halifax, a two-storey, three-bedroom house will cost around \$400,000. The identical home is likely about half the price in Truro Colchester.

Building a home

Ready to build your dream home? Our homebuilders will work with you to design and create exactly what you've been dreaming of — craftsman trim, walk-in pantry, soaker tubs, carriage-style garage doors, the works! Home prices in Truro Colchester are very affordable — whether you're looking for a smaller, in-town, serviced lot, or 20 acres in the country. This makes new construction an affordable option within the region.

Buying a home

If you're looking to buy a home, visit realtor.ca to search for a certified REALTOR® working here in Truro Colchester. They'll talk to you about what you're looking for and streamline the viewing process — which is especially important if you're still living elsewhere. Then, once you've found your perfect home, they'll navigate those final details that lead straight to your new front door! ViewPoint.ca (a unique provincial platform) provides detailed, up-to-date information on more than 11,000 listings and 650,000 properties across the province.

Renting a home

Maybe you're dreaming of a modern apartment with high-end finishes like hard-surface counters and glossy wood floors? Done. A historic home rental with four bedrooms, charming mouldings, and working fireplaces on every level? Done.

Rents vary, but typically range from \$500 to \$1,500 monthly depending on the size, style, and location of the unit. Be sure to ask potential landlords about what's included in the rent before you sign on the dotted line.



Looking for the team that will turn your vision into a comfortable home? Identify a local builder by contacting the Chamber of Commerce or the Construction Association of Nova Scotia.

After growing up here in Truro Colchester, **Todlynn MacPherson** moved to Halifax for university and then across the country to Calgary to work. But by the age of 25, she realized she was ready to come home.

"I love the quality of life here. People here still have time to appreciate the small things."

After living in big cities for almost eight years, Todlynn says she'd almost forgotten what it was like to walk around Truro and have strangers smile and say hello.

"I wasn't used to it anymore! The first time it happened, I was almost startled," laughs Todlynn. "That doesn't happen in Halifax or Calgary."

Today, Todlynn's the Managing Associate Broker with Royal LePage Truro Real Estate. She loves building long-term relationships with her clients and knowing everyone in the local industry, as well as working with people who are interested in moving to the area.

"Our home prices are certainly much more affordable than in Halifax. We have a mix of beautiful historic homes and ultra-modern executive homes," says Todlynn. "It's come such a long way from when I was growing up here, and it's been fantastic to see the growth in the community." Over the last year, Todlynn says she's had a lot of buyers "fleeing" bigger cities — in Ontario, in particular — to move to Truro Colchester, and she has more moving to the area this year. She enjoys getting to show off her hometown and share what she loves about living here to prospective buyers.

"It's a safe place to live with a real sense of community, and there's enough of everything here — shops, parks, restaurants — but it's not overwhelming," says Todlynn.

She says Victoria Park is "a huge draw" for people interested in moving to Truro Colchester. She and her dogs regularly hit the trails there for long walks amidst the towering trees.

"Prospective buyers are always pleasantly surprised by how much we have here," says Todlynn. "Our downtown is fantastic, with our farmer's market, our shops, and our outdoor skating rink in front of the new library. They also love that we're 30 minutes from a ski hill, and 45 minutes from Halifax in the other direction." When Todlynn takes her clients out for lunch in between viewing houses, she says they're often surprised by how many people say hello or stop by their table to chat for a minute.

"They're like 'Wow, everybody seems to know each other here," says Todlynn. "I love that they get to experience how friendly and open people are. It's a very welcoming, accepting community."

" You get almost all of the benefits of living in a city with none of the drawbacks."



Moving checklist

You're all set to move to Truro Colchester, and now it's time to ... well, to move! From what you'll need to buy to whom you'll need to call, we've got the process all figured out for you ...

Find movers

□ Hire movers (or reserve the truck)

 If you're moving yourself, start recruiting friends, family, neighbours, and coworkers well in advance.
 Free pizza and beer is customary around here, but give them whatever they'd like!

Stock up on moving supplies

- □ Moving boxes (or reusable plastic totes)
- □ Markers for labeling boxes
- Newspapers/fliers, bubble wrap, or packing peanuts for cushioning breakable items
- □ Packing tape lots of it!
- □ Scissors or a utility knife
- □ Garbage bags

Start packing

- □ Start with the easy stuff, like books, extra linens, holiday decor, and out-of-season clothes
- Label each box with a description of what's inside, and keep like items together
- Donate items you no longer want (or just don't want to bring to the new home)
- Pack each family member a suitcase with their essentials (medications, a few changes of clothes, etc.) so no one's digging through boxes during that first hectic day or two
- Wrap breakable items well because the move could be a bumpy ride, even if it's just a short drive
- Drain fuel from your lawnmower and other machinery before packing them up

Do your paperwork

□ File for a change of address

- Organize school records
- □ Forward your medical records
- Notify your current and future utility providers of your move date: cable/satellite, cell phone service, local phone service, internet, electricity gas, propane, recycling pick-up, trash pick-up sewer, security system, water.
- If you have school-aged children, contact the Chignecto Central Regional Centre for Education to find out about placing them in a school close to your new home

Final preparations

- □ Clean the house you're leaving and the house you'll be moving into (or hire someone to do it for you)
- □ Take all garbage out of the house
- □ Make sure movers have your cell phone number and you have theirs, along with their names, in
- case you need to reach each other along the way Do a final walk-through to make sure you haven't
- forgotten anything
- Are the keys and garage door openers for current home turned in or left on the kitchen counter?
- Is anything left in the refrigerator, freezer, stove, or that weird drawer under the stove? Is there anything forgotten in a closet, garage, attic, crawlway, or under the deck/porch?
- Take a few "empty-house" pictures to remember your place in your final moments there
 Hit the road for your new adventure!

You have the power

Once you're set to move into a house, condo, or apartment, you'll need to reach out to Nova Scotia power about having your power connected.

At least 10 days before the power needs to be connected, you should complete a request form online (nspower.ca) and email photos of two pieces of government-issued ID to home@nspower.ca.

When your request has been completed, you will receive an email confirmation with your service request number.

In order to open a new account, Nova Scotia Power requires an acceptable payment history or credit history, or a security deposit.

If you are connecting service with Nor Scotia Power, there is a \$28 connection charge which will be applied to your first bill for the new location. There is no charge for service disconnection.

Childcare

Choosing the right daycare, preschool, or after-school care for your child can be a difficult decision.

You want to make sure you're selecting a place your child feels comfortable and has fun, while being nurtured in a safe environment, but there's also the importance of picking a location that makes sense for your family, especially if you'll be rushing to drop them off or pick them up while juggling your work schedule.

Here in Truro Colchester, we're fortunate to have many options for childcare. Parents who work full-time can choose from a variety of options which allow for early-morning drop-offs and late-afternoon/early-evening pick-ups. Parents who work part-time or stay at home also have a variety of options to enroll their child in shorter or part-time sessions.

Our area has childcare centres with many children and teams of qualified Early Childhood Educators (ECEs), as well as small in-home childcare centres (usually called "dayhomes") that are often run by one or two adults. Depending on the care provider, you may be able to register a child as young as 12 months.

Preschools throughout Truro Colchester are colourful, welcoming spots with craft centres, sand tables, little libraries, and toys galore. Preschool may offer half-day or full-day sessions that include simple instruction, free play, healthy snacks, and reading aloud.

Even if your family doesn't have a need for regular childcare, it's often a good idea for children to socialize with little people their own age before it's time to start school. Preschool or childcare — even just a few hours a week allows children to get used to spending time away from their parents and is considered healthy preparation for Primary.

If you have a child in elementary school or middle school who requires after-school care, you also have several options. There are afterschool programs in several communities where children are picked up at school and bussed to a childcare centre nearby. Other children walk, bus, or ride to a dayhome to be cared for until they're picked up by a parent.

For many families, the easiest option is to register for an in-school program, which are typically run by ECEs as a business. Parents can pay a monthly fee for their child to simply stay after school to play in the gym or on the playground, enjoy a snack, and maybe do a craft or special activity.

Did you know?

Maggie's Place is a local resource centre for families. The organization offers programs and support systems including free parent-and-tot playgroups every weekday at different locations throughout the Truro & Colchester area. Babies, toddlers, and preschoolers get to play with toys, listen to stories, make crafts, and enjoy a healthy snack all while their caregivers enjoy a little socialization!

To learn more about Maggie's Place (1027 Prince St., Truro) visit maggiesplace.ca.



Schools

The area is home to elementary schools, middle schools, junior high schools, P-9 schools, P-12 schools, and high schools. Our students range from Pre-Primary tots all the way up to graduating Grade 12 students. Our schools can be found in small communities, larger urban centres and everywhere in between!

Here in Truro Colchester, most of the public schools are managed by the Chignecto-Central Regional Centre for Education. In several of our schools, students can also learn to speak Mi'kmaq. This is especially important at schools like **Truro Elementary** and **Truro Junior High**, which include students from Millbrook First Nation.

Some of our elementary schools are now offering the Pre-Primary program. This program allows families to access free, universal preprimary education for four-year-olds — one year before they enroll in Primary.

If you want your child to attend a **Montessori school, Sunstone Academy** follows provincial ELA and math curriculum infused with Montessori curriculum and methods.

Colchester Christian Academy offers education for children from age four through Grade 12 and takes a Christ-centered approach to learning. Cobequid Educational Centre and Northumberland Regional High School both offer the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program — a rigorous pre-university course of studies that culminates in a series of international examinations.

Truro Colchester is home to the LARGEST HIGH SCHOOL IN THE PROVINCE

We're lucky to have provincially-certified, talented teachers, educational assistants, and administrators who work hard and love what they do. Many of our schools are equipped with Learning Centres to provide unique resources for students with special needs.

Students living in Truro Colchester can take part in French Immersion programs at many of our schools, and sometimes have the option to enroll in Early Immersion in Grade Primary. Truro Colchester is also home to a French-language Acadian school, **École acadienne de Truro**, where students learn French as a first language and begin learning English in Grade 4.



Higher education

Dalhousie University's Faculty of Agriculture

The region is home to Dalhousie University's Faculty of Agriculture — a lush, sprawling campus in Bible Hill, just minutes from downtown Truro. The Faculty of Agriculture is uniquely home to a working farm, with nearly 1,000 acres of research fields, gardens, and greenhouses. It's built on a proud history of industry-leading education and research since 1905. The faculty's unique programs combine the core disciplines of agricultural sciences with business management and innovative technology. Students can study engineering, landscape architecture, international food business, aquaculture, and more.

Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC)

The NSCC is a network of 13 community campuses located throughout the province. The Truro campus offers a full range of programs, including Criminal Justice, Business Administration, Digital Animation, Practical Nursing, and International Business. The campus also includes computer labs, a library, a dining hall, an art gallery, a bookstore, daycare centre, a student residence, and the fullyequipped NSCC Sport and Wellness Centre. It's located in the heart of downtown Truro, with easy walkability to just about everything.

Jane Norman College

Located on Lorne St. in Truro, the Jane Norman College offers a two-year program (or four-year part-time program) where students can earn an Early Childhood Education (ECE) diploma. This qualifies graduates to work in preschools, playschools, and daycares. Graduates can also elect to work towards an Inclusion & Intervention diploma. Jane Norman College also offers a two-year Youth Worker diploma program, which prepares graduates to work with youth in juvenile justice, recreation, rehabilitation and residential youth care.

Commercial Safety College

Dating back to 1959, CSC is Canada's choice for professional training in truck driving, bus driving, and operating heavy equipment. It's located in Masstown, just 10 minutes from Truro, and programs include training in heavy equipment, tractor trailers, excavators, bulldozers, school buses, backhoes, loaders and more.



Students from around the world come to Truro Colchester to pursue higher education, and we feel fortunate that our own children have the option to continue their education close to home.

Photos: Nick Pearce, Dalhousie University

Senior living

If you'll be moving to Truro Colchester as a senior, or with senior family members, we know you'll be comfortable in your new home.

We have dozens of pharmacies for picking up prescriptions, and many offer home delivery or have a drive-thru window! There's always a grocery store nearby to pick up something for dinner. We have farmers' markets for strolling around and choosing fresh produce, baked goods, scrumptious jellies, and nutritious readymade meals. The region has home-care providers who'll pop by your home and help with bathing, medication, cleaning, and meal prep. Truro Colchester is also home to independent living complexes, seniors' apartment complexes, residential care facilities, and nursing homes for those who need more day-to-day support.

When it's time for medical check-ups and tests, our sparkling new hospital — the Colchester East-Hants Health Centre — is ready to welcome your family warmly.

Keep busy with adult programming in your community, like walking clubs, Pickleball games, recreational badminton, or yoga classes.

The Seniors' College Association of Nova Scotia

is a volunteer-based registered non-profit organization dedicated to providing affordable non-credit academic courses to seniors in Nova Scotia. The Truro branch holds classes at the Douglas Street Recreation Centre.

PARKLAND TRURO

has studio, onebedroom, and twobedroom suites



Continuing care communities

Cedarstone Enhanced Care (902) 895-2891 www.shannex.com/locations/colchester county/cedarstone-enhanced-care/

The Mira Nursing Home (902) 895-8715 www.gemhealth.com/the-mira-truro.html

Parkland Truro

(902) 843-7275 www.parklandretirementliving.com/ locations/nova-scotia/parkland-truro

Munroe Court (902) 895-0913 www.wallaceliving.cc

Vimy Court

(902) 843-7501 www.shannex.com/locations/colchester county/vimy-court

The best way to settle in happily and meet people in your new community is by getting involved in something you enjoy. Join a gym, running club, walking group or Zumba class to connect with like-minded folks while you exercise together. Take advantage of the free programming at the local library. Volunteer at your child's school. Join a club. Take part in a neighbourhood yard sale. By putting yourself out there and being open to new friendships, you'll feel right at home in no time.

Civic Square is home to concerts and special events, and Victoria Park hosts outdoor movie nights with free popcorn during warm summer evenings.

The life you've always wanted



We asked a number of people why they moved to Truro Colchester, and many said it was because they were tired of the rat-race they experienced living in larger cities. They said no to long workweeks and yes to the flexibility of leaving a little early to attend their child's school science fair. They said no to frustrating weekends spent driving hours on errands, and yes to relaxing Saturdays at the farmers' market and evening bonfires with friends, listening to the spring peeper frogs. Here in Truro Colchester, we know life's too short to spend it any other way.



It's fall, y'all Autumn in Truro Colchester

The weather stays warm well into September, but the nights start to get deliciously crisp — we call that "perfect sleeping weather." By October, we're wearing mid-weight jackets and trading bare legs for pants and thick leggings or tights. Then November arrives. Ooh, is there anything better than digging out your favourite woolen hat or scarf and going on a brisk walk with a warm cup of coffee or tea?

Since we're in agriculture heaven here in Truro Colchester, you're never far from a pumpkin patch, corn maze, or hay ride. We have plenty of family-run farms that spend their weekends organizing fun outdoor activities for families. One also runs a truly scary haunted house and haunted corn maze in the evenings for the older crowd.

Let it snow Winter in Truro Colchester

Because Truro Colchester is nestled in the hub of Nova Scotia, our weather isn't as affected by the ocean as it is in areas like Halifax. This means our snow stays white and fluffy - not drizzly and slushy!

We usually get a few flurries in November and one big snowfall before Christmas, but the bulk of our snow comes in January and February. The temperature can get as low as -20°C (-4°F) on a really cold day, but usually hovers around the freezing mark (0°C or 32°F) during the winter.

Our outdoor-lovin' residents make the most of it by hitting up the nearby ski hill, skating on our beautiful outdoor rinks, snowmobiling along twisty paths, and snowshoeing or cross-country skiing through the forests – while indoor-dwellers prefer to enjoy the snow by snuggling up in front of a fireplace with a good book!



A warm hat

Comfy boots for tromping around



Your favourite pair of jeans

Autumn and winter activities

From the middle of September through Halloween, **RiverBreeze Farm** in Upper Onslow opens its gates each weekend for farm-fresh fun. There's a 12-acre corn maze and pumpkin patch, a giant jumping pillow, laser tag, cow train rides, and a petting zoo that includes a literal wall of goats and two pet kangaroos.

Spend a cozy Saturday or Sunday chowing down on hot pancakes and fresh maple syrup at **Sugar Moon Farm's** all-day brunch in Earltown. The family-owned 200-acre farm has a 2,500-tap maple syrup operation and a 60seat log restaurant draws people from all over the world.

The folks at the **Tatamagouche Brewing Company** converted an old butcher shop into a community brewery and you're invited to taste their organic beer — made in small, handcrafted batches.

Trek your way through the beauty of **Victoria Park** in downtown Truro. There are more than 2,000 acres of natural woodland to explore. Whether you're in your sneakers, your hiking boots, or a pair of snowshoes — which are available to rent, free, at Douglas Street Recreation Centre (40 Douglas St., Truro) or Colchester Recreation (1 Church St., Truro) there are trails for everyone.

Lace up your skates and step onto the perfectly-Zambonied ice of the outdoor skating rink at the **Colchester-East Hants Public Library** in downtown Truro. It's fun to whirl around the ice on a sunny afternoon, and positively dreamy in the evenings under the glow of the streetlamps. Stop in at **Jimolly's Bakery Café** or **NovelTea Bookstore Café** afterwards and enjoy one of their creative signature warm-ups with a nice paperback.

Grab a sled and head for the hills — well, for one hill, anyway. The **Bible Hill Rec Park** has a perfect sledding hill that's regularly enjoyed when there's enough snow for gliding and tobogganing. The hill next to the Truro Legion (42 Brunswick St., Truro) is also a popular sledding spot.

You can rent free snowshoes, skates, or cross-country skis at a number of municipal offices. Truro is 30 minutes from THE BIGGEST SKI HILL IN NOVA SCOTIA



Hello, sunshine! Spring in Truro Colchester

Spring usually "springs" in Truro Colchester at some point in April. We get April showers but we get the occasional April snowstorm, too — this is Canada, after all! April and May are beautiful around here, as the snow melts away and we see the flowers start to bloom again.

There's just something about spring that makes you appreciate being outdoors, isn't there? The air feels fresh and alive, nature is awakening, and everyone feels invigorated by getting outside to rake their lawns, prepare their gardens, and usher in the season.

Summer magic Summer in Truro Colchester

Summer in Truro Colchester is (almost always) warm and sunny! From sunrise to sunset, the air is comfortably warm and there's usually a clear blue sky above us.

We get our hottest days in July and August, but the heat often continues well into September. The temperature drops a bit once the sun goes down, but the evenings are still warm enough for strolling on the beach, sitting around a bonfire, or even taking a dip.

Living in Truro Colchester means you don't have to go far for that swim, either! We have easy access to the ocean, lakes, and numerous public and private swimming pools. There are also outdoor "splash pads" for kids to run through to cool off.

> Victoria Park's pool offers family memberships for up to seven people

boots or

An umbrella A waterproof coat A sweater underneath in case the temperature dips Waterproof hiking shoes Comfy, lightweight clothes

Summer

Take a two-hour segway tour of Victoria Park, the Trans Canada Trail, or the Cobequid Bay area.

Spring

Sandals

A hat to

protect

your face

Sunglasses

Sunscreen

(30 SPF is

recommended)

Spring and summer activities

Victoria Park in downtown Truro is gorgeous year-round, but especially lovely during our warmer months. Take a slow stroll to admire the flowers and listen to the birds, or lace up your hiking boots and hit the trails to get your sweat on. There are more than 2,000 acres of natural woodland to explore, and a pool for cooling off after your hike.

Take a walk on the soft red mud flats of the Bay of Fundy or just stand on the cliffs and experience the world's highest tides at **Five Islands Provincial Park**. It's a spectacular setting for camping, hiking, beachcombing, rockcollecting, and clam digging. Jost Vineyards in Malagash sits on more than 100 acres by the lovely North Shore's Sunrise Trail. It's the longest-operating winery in Atlantic Canada thanks to its mezzo climate — it has more sunny days than anywhere else in the region! It's a gorgeous spot for hiking, biking, and picnicking.

Take a relaxing walk through the **Stewiacke River Park** on their flat, well-groomed trails, or take a canoe or kayak down the river.

All aboard for the **Tatamagouche Railway Dining Car at the Train Station Inn**. Open mid-May through mid-October, it's a beautifullyrestored dining car serving up homemade seafood chowder, fish cakes, and fresh lobster. Feel like a round of golf? Fore! Choose between Brule Point Golf near Tatamagouche, Brookfield Golf & Country Club in Brookfield, Debert Golf Course in Debert, Fox Hollow Golf Club in Stewiacke, Mountain Golf Club in East Mountain, Ridgewood Golf Club in East Mountain, or Truro Golf & Country Club in Truro.

The Truro Raceway is one of the oldest racetracks in Canada. Today, the half-mile track features live Harness racing from April through December.









Art & Culture



Whether you're in the mood to take in a lively play, concert, fine art exhibit, or dance performance, there's a local venue ready to welcome you as their guest. Truro Colchester has a thriving arts community brimming with talented actors, musicians, artists, and dancers, and we also host performers from all over the world.

Music & theatre

The Marigold (605 Prince St., Truro): Located in the heart of downtown Truro, this 208-seat theatre is an intimate setting for concerts, plays, and standup comedy. The space includes an art gallery, a workshop space for arts education programming, a concession area, and a sports heritage hall.

Hubtown Theatre (Truro): This non-profit community theatre group has been putting on productions for more than 30 years. **Dalhousie AC Theatre Society** (Dalhousie University's Agricultural Campus, Bible Hill): Students and staff put together colourful productions each school year and perform them in Alumni Theatre.

Truro Pantomime Theatre: A pantomime is musical theatre with a bit of audience participation and lots of comedy. This Truro-based amateur theatre group writes, directs, and stars in British-style pantomimes.

Truro Music Festival: Dating back to 1922, this is the third-oldest competitive music festival in Canada. It takes place each spring in several venues throughout Truro.

Rath Eastlink Community Centre / RECC (625 Abenaki Rd., Truro): With the ability to seat more than 3,000 fans, the RECC is one of the province's premiere event venues for concerts

Grace Jollymore Joyce Arts Centre (Creamery Square, Tatamagouche): Home of live entertainment, visual art, and community events, the Grace features a 170-seat auditorium and Ice House Gallery.

Dance

Cobequid Dance Academy (15 Arlington Pl., Truro): Running since 2014, Cobequid Dance Academy provides high-quality dance training for students of all ages, with classes in ballet, modern, jazz, lyrical, hip-hop, tap, barre fitness, and more!

Arie Dance Company (1027 Prince St., Truro): Running since 2016, Arie Dance Company provides recreational and competitive programs for toddlers to adults, offering creative, ballet, jazz, lyrical, tap, hip-hop, and contemporary styles.

Cobequid Dance Academy has classes for toddlers, adults, and everyone in between — ballet, contemporary modern, jazz, hip hop, tap, acro, lyrical and more!



Fine art

Visual Voice Fine Art (128 King St., Truro): This gallery selects and juries each piece of art from both seasoned artists and newly-discovered artists. They also offer art workshops and custom framing.

McCarthy Gallery (36 Arthur St., Truro): Located in on the NSCC Truro campus, this gallery showcases local and regional talent.

Winding River Art Gallery & Cifts (Exit 11 on Hwy. 102, top floor of the Mastodon Ridge complex): This gallery features work by local artists and photographers.

Joy Laking Gallery (6730 Nova Scotia Truck 2, Bass River): Inspired by the beauty of Nova Scotia, Joy captures her view of the world on watercolour paper and in oil and acrylics.

Thrown Together Pottery (37 King St., Truro): Local potter Danielle Sawada creates one-ofa-kind functional pottery wares which are a treasure to use and a pleasure to view. She also teaches beginner, intermediate, and advanced pottery classes.

Millbrook Cultural & Heritage Centre (65 Treaty Trail, Millbrook): Explore extraordinary works of art by well-known Mi'kmaq artists like Alan Syliboy.

The Fraser (362 Main St., Tatamagouche): The Fraser celebrates and promotes visual arts and craft on the Northumberland Shore through events, exhibits, and workshops.

Sara Bonnyman Pottery (326 Maple Ave., Tatamagouche): Sara throws pots using windgenerated electricity and ships her creations all over the world.

Also nearby ...

Down in Halifax, less than an hour from Colchester County, you can take in a show at **Neptune Theatre** (1593 Argyle St., Halifax) which dates back to 1915 and remains Atlantic Canada's largest

professional regional theatre. Their season runs from mid-September through late May, and previous productions have included CATS, Beauty and the Beast, and A Christmas Carol.



The Rebecca Cohn

Auditorium (6101 University Ave., Halifax) regularly features performances by local talent as well as world-famous national and international entertainers.

There's also the **Scotiabank Centre** (1800 Argyle St., Halifax) which seats more than 10,500 and is Atlantic Canada's largest multipurpose venue for entertainment like the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo.

Ship's Company Theatre in Parrsboro has been putting on professional productions since 1984. Over the past 35 years the deCoste Performing Arts Centre in Pictou has presented more than 2,000 performances.



Let's get physical

From jogging the Cobequid Trail on a crisp morning to tackling a cardio workout at the gym, we have plenty of opportunities to stay active here in Truro Colchester ...

Rath Eastlink Community Centre / RECC

(625 Abenaki Rd., Truro): The RECC includes an aquatic centre with two pools and a 2.5-storey waterslide, a fitness centre with daily classes, an athletic development centre, an indoor 35' high rock-climbing wall, an NHL-sized ice pad and a walking/jogging track that's free for public use.

Cougar Dome (72 North St., Truro): This indoor multisport facility includes six full-sized tennis courts, a 15,000 sq. ft. portable synthetic turf surface, a two-lane 260m synthetic track, long and triple jump pits, and a 10-bay golf range. It provides free access to all Chignecto Central Regional Centre for Education students between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

NSCC's Sport & Wellness Centre

(36 Arthur St., Truro): This 30,000 sq. ft. facility includes pulse weight-training machines, free weights, treadmills and stair-climbers, stationary bicycles and computerized cycles, rowing machines, cross-trainers, a spacious stretching area, and a gymnasium with a full basketball court, two volleyball courts, and six badminton courts.

Scotia Pool (80 Research Dr., Bible Hill): This fivelane 25m pool has the warmest water in the area, making it a favourite spot for water-fitness classes, lane swims, swimming lessons, and recreational swims.

AT 35 FEET TALL, the Kohler climbing wall is the tallest artificial climbing structure in the Maritimes.

"To enjoy the glow of good health, you must exercise."

- Gene Tunney

Don Henderson Memorial Sportsplex

(55 Carter Rd., Brookfield): This communityowned sportsplex includes a full-sized hockey arena with seating for 1,200, and four sheets for curling.

West Colchester United Arena (1089 Masstown Rd., Debert): During the winter, this full-sized ice surface is a hotspot for hockey players and skaters. During the off-season, the rink is used for ball hockey, dances, and special events.

GoodLife Fitness (13 Queen St., Truro): With more than 1,500,000 members, GoodLife is the largest fitness company in Canada. Members and guests can access cardio classes, strength training classes, mind and body classes, and virtual fitness classes along with personalized workouts.

Bluenose Fitness (241 Pictou Rd., Bible Hill): Bluenose Fitness Crossfit and gym is a modern, well-equipped facility serving a community passionate about staying healthy.

New Beginnings Health & Fitness (312 Pictou Rd., Bible Hill): New Beginnings offers world-class fitness equipment, inspiring fitness classes, and expert fitness trainers who can develop personalized fitness programs. **Truro Amateur Athletic Club Grounds** (57 Golf St., Truro): The TAAC Grounds include a quarter-mile five-lane running and walking track, field event facilities, a football field, a senior baseball field, and a playground.

Colchester Legion Stadium (14 Lorne St., Truro): This large arena is used by the Truro and Area Minor Hockey Association as well as competitive skating clubs. There's a canteen and a heated upstairs lounge area that holds up to 245 people.

Marmac Athletics (36 Inglis Pl., Truro): This club offers recreational kickboxing, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, and qualified professional coaching.

Joyful Yoga Studio (64 Inglis Pl., Truro): Classes include Beginner Yoga, Flow Yoga, Prenatal Yoga, Yoga for Mental Health, Weekend Warrior, Gentle, Yin Yoga, Mom-and-Baby Yoga, Rest & Restore, Move & Meditate, Slow Flow for all abilities, and Yoga Nidra.

Body Solace Studio (14 Court St., Truro): Owned by mother-daughter duo Danielle Crowell and Lorraine Crowe, Body Solace offers yoga, pilates, group fitness, personal training, holistic nutrition, health coaching, and aromatherapy.



Did you know?

The RECC is home to the Truro Bearcats — our Junior A team that fills the arena with screaming, cheering fans most Friday and Saturday nights during the season.



CrossFit Hubtown (23 Lower Truro Rd., Truro): CrossFit Hubtown is a facility for all levels of fitness and physical capabilities. They offer group CrossFit classes, Olympic weightlifting coaching, mobility sessions, private training, and programming for kids and teens.

North Shore Rec Centre (30 Blair Ave., Tatamagouche): This arena backs onto the John K. MacDonald Memorial Sports Park which includes a regulation-sized soccer pitch, a baseball diamond, and a 400m walking/ running track.

Truro Tennis Club (12 Palmer St., Truro): Operating on the six hard courts located at the entrance to Victoria Park, this non-profit community organization offers lessons for all ages and accepts new members April through October.

Truro Curling Club (56 Young St., Truro): Dating back to 1875, this club offers special instructional leagues for beginning and inexperienced curlers, and an annual membership works out to only a few dollars a week.

Colchester Highland Games

Taking place each fall, this volunteer-run festival

includes heavyweight competitions, wrestling, archery, tug-of-war, sprints, sack races, danceoffs, highland dancing, live music, historic reenactors and more.



Sports for kids

There are so many opportunities for kids in Truro Colchester to stay healthy and active! Soccer, rock-climbing, baseball, T-ball, hockey, figure skating, gymnastics, ringette, cheerleading, lacrosse, tennis, track and field, football, swimming, and more.

Not sure which sport your child would enjoy? Colchester Multisport is a fantastic program where children in Primary or Grade 1 can spend 10 months trying different sports, including hockey, rock-climbing, and ringette.

Many programs are available for children as young as three, and there are even special classes for babies and toddlers to do alongside their parents, like swimming and KinderGym.



Outdoor adventures

City-dwellers may spend most their days cooped up in offices — hoping for a glimpse of sunlight when they take a pedway from one building to another — but that isn't how we do things here in Truro Colchester. From hunting and fishing to ATVing and rafting, here are just a few of the ways we love to play out in the fresh air ...

Tidal bore rafting

The Bay of Fundy has the highest tides in the world, with 100 billion tonnes of water rushing in or out every six hours. The tides create epic currents and waves on the Shubenacadie River, which makes it a once-in-a-lifetime experience to go rafting along the incredible roller coaster rapids.

Mud sliding

Who says kids get to have all the fun? Grown-ups also love slipping and sliding on the smooth, muddy banks of the Shubenacadie River after a rowdy rafting tour. It's exhilarating and you'll have earned that hot shower afterwards! ;)



ATVing

Tow your rig up to the perfect starting point, hop on, and soon you'll be feeling the rush of wind in your hair — with nothing but trail and trees ahead of you. Truro Colchester has plenty of great ATV trails and routes. Remember, most Nova Scotia riders do need an ATV safety course, but there are limited exemptions for riders who owned and operated an ATV prior to 2006. Visit the Nova Scotia Lands and Forest website for full details.

Hunting

Here in Colchester County, you can purchase licenses for deer hunting (General or Archery & Muzzleloader), bear hunting, and small game hunting. Recreational hunting licences are available for purchase through the Department of Lands and Forestry to those meeting all regulations and requirements. We also have shooting ranges if you want to practice during the off-season.

Fishing

Truro Colchester is full of rivers and lakes that are ideal freshwater fishing spots, and we're close enough to the ocean for saltwater fishing, too.

Anyone 16 and older requires a licence for freshwater fishing in provincial waters. The Nova Scotia Angler's Handbook has information on fees, bag limits, season dates, and size limits — including winter angling opportunities.

You don't need a licence to fish in tidal or salt water in Nova Scotia, but you must respect Canadian federal and provincial fishing seasons, bag limits and gear restrictions (if applicable). You can purchase your fishing licence from most sporting goods stores as well as Access Nova Scotia.

ATVing is a popular way to enjoy the outdoors and spend time with family and friends



The Cobequid Trail

The Cobequid Trail is an 18-km walking and cycling trail network through central Colchester County. The trail takes you along a former railway, through Acadian dykelands and farmland, through forests and along brooks, and beside the tidal Salmon River.

Photo: Colchester County

3,287,603:

The number of active adult anglers in Canada





Victoria Park

Victoria Park is a 2,000-acre woodland paradise in the heart of Truro. People come from all over the world to explore it, and we're proud to have it in our backyards ...

It's where residents of Truro Colchester gather together for the annual Easter egg hunt, the Victoria Park Challenge — an intense race with obstacles — and outdoor movie nights under the stars.

It's where we go to cheer on minor league baseball teams and cool down in the pool on a hot evening. It's where we meet a friend to play tennis and then head over to the BBQ area for a picnic.

Slip into your hiking shoes and come along as we walk you through a few of the highlights of Victoria Park ...

The waterfalls

Victoria Park's Lepper Brook actually has two waterfalls, and they're what most of the tourists are eager to see on their visits. There's the Joseph Howe Falls — named after Nova Scotia premier Joseph Howe — and the Waddell Falls — named after the park's founder, Susan Waddell Stevens, who donated 25 acres back in 1887 to establish a public park.



Jacob's Ladder

Jacob's Ladder is a VERY tall wooden staircase. It really looks like it goes on forever, but it's actually just 175 steps up the side of a steep gorge. It's a good workout to climb up and down, and one of the most unique parts of the park.

The hiking trails

The most popular activity in Victoria Park is walking and hiking — wait, is hiking just walking that happens in the woods? Anyway, the Dr. Jim Vibert Memorial Trail is a hiking trail which covers the upland area beyond the gorge, extending to the edge of the Town of Truro's reservoir. The views are beautiful up there.

The bandshell

The J. Arch Fraser Bandshell hosts the Sunday in the Park concert series every Sunday during the summer. It's also the spot to find Shakespeare in the Park productions, movie nights, and other special events.

The bike park

Victoria Park includes the Railyard Mountain Bike Park, which has more than 40km of some of the best mountain bike trails in the province. Look for the signs to find each trail within the trees. There are trails for all skill levels, from beginner to expert.

Holy Well gazebo

Within a small ravine called Cathedral Dell, you'll find the Holy Well — a replica of a well in Bible Hill where Acadian settlers baptized their infants. There's also a beautiful gazebo that can be reserved for special events like weddings. You might be strolling through the park one day and see a ceremony taking place!

Snowshoeing & cross-country skiing trails

The forests and picturesque surroundings of Victoria Park are a natural draw for crosscountry skiers, snowshoers, and hikers during the winter months. Truro Parks, Recreation and Culture staff groom approximately 20 km of trails just for winter sports, and you can sign out equipment for free at the Douglas Street Recreation Centre on a first-come, firstserved basis.

Wood Street lookoff

Climb high enough in Victoria Park and you'll reach the Wood Street look-off, where you can see the valleys of Salmon River and North River — around which Truro and its surrounding villages were built. On a clear day, you can even see down the Bay of Fundy to Five Islands, about 60 km away!

Victoria Park pool

Victoria Park Pool is the place to be in June, July, and August. The huge outdoor pool has a double waterslide and a diving board, plus a children's water spray park and a separate shallow toddler pool. Lifeguards are on duty whenever the pool is open, and it can be rented for private events. Families can purchase memberships and there are often "toonie swims" where admission is just \$2 for a swim. There are change rooms, washrooms, and showers, and plenty of spots to spread out a towel or blanket and dry off.

Victoria Park playground

Just off the main parking lot of Victoria Park, you'll find the Kinsmen playground and its large selection of swings, slides, teeter-totters, monkey bars, and climbing structures. There's also a natural playground made from materials found in nature. On a hot day, little ones love to rush through the splash park to cool off.





"Bible Hill is an amazing community for young families. Our kids can run around the neighbourhood playing with the other kids. We live on a quiet street, so our seven-year-old can just bike around and we're totally comfortable with that."

- Brad Touesnarc

Brad Touesnard wasn't familiar with Truro before moving here, other than that it "seemed very commercial and industrial" when he'd drive by. Things changed, however, once he settled into his new home and started exploring what the area had to offer.

"Truro is SO much more than it seems from the highway when you're passing by."

Brad grew up in a small village on Cape Breton Island, and he and his wife lived all over the world — including Vancouver and Australia before settling in Bible Hill six years ago.

They'd moved to the area so his wife would be closer to her job at Dalhousie University's Agricultural Campus. It didn't matter where Brad lived, professionally speaking — as the owner of software firm, Delicious Brains, he could work from anywhere — but he enjoys working out of a comfortable home.

"I have friends still living in Vancouver and the cost of housing is insane," says Brad. "They're not even close to the centre of the city and they're still only able to afford a tiny apartment." He says the cost of living in Truro Colchester is "a lot less expensive" than major centres like Halifax, Toronto, Ottawa, or Vancouver.

"That's very helpful if you want to start a business here, because your runway is a lot longer," says Brad. "You can afford to live while you're making things work."

Their eldest child was only a toddler when they first settled into Bible Hill, and Brad says it didn't take long to realize they'd moved into an ideal area.

Brad's flexible schedule means he can remotely manage his nine employees and leave his home office in time to pick up his kids and easily get them to a 5 p.m. hockey practice.

He and his wife feel fortunate that their children can both attend École Acadienne de Truro, where they're immersed in French for all of their classes and activities. Their kids also play minor hockey and take swimming lessons. They play tennis and soccer in the summer, and attend "snow school" (ski lessons at the nearby ski hill) in the winter.

Brad says he and his family enjoy walking on the Cobequid Trails wind their way through town. They enjoy hot pancakes and fresh maple syrup at Sugar Moon Farm in Tatamagouche, ride bikes through their neighbourhood, and hit up local beaches. Occasionally, they'll hop in the car and drive an hour to Halifax for an afternoon to see the dinosaur exhibit at the Museum of Natural History, explore what's new at the Discovery Centre, climb and run at one of the indoor playgrounds, or bounce around at the indoor trampoline park.

Brad says they feel they arrived in Truro at the perfect time," shortly after the brand-new hospital, Rath Eastlink Community Centre (RECC), and Cougar Dome Multi-Sport Facility all opened.

"Truro has a lot of things you won't find in many 10,000-people towns."



Ready, set, shop!

Downtown Truro is a quaint shopping destination with dozens of locally-owned shops and boutiques. Best of all, you can walk to all of them easily!

Browse the home goods at **Above & Beyond Home Decor** (49 Inglis Pl.), or pop into **Calling Corners New Age Boutique** (147 Esplanade St.) to shop for something special to improve the good vibes in your home. At **Clay Cafe** (600 Prince St.), you can paint your own pottery or make someone a memorable gift.

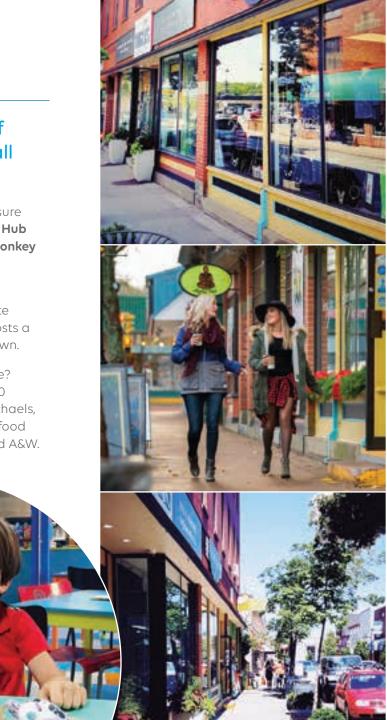
My HOME Mercantile (10 Inglis Pl.) carries locallymade gifts and clothing — like their famous "HOME" gear — and **Elegant Steps** (58 Inglis Pl.) keeps everyone outfitted in fabulous clothing and footwear.

Craving a bit of sparkle? **Inglis Jewellers** (66 Inglis Pl.) has a dazzling selection of jewellery and timepieces. Around the corner, **Beck & Boosh** (43 Forrester St.) designs and produces unique jewellery and always has the latest accessories.

Downtown Dollars are a special currency accepted at most businesses in Downtown Truro. They make a great gift! If you're looking for something sporty, be sure to check out **HAF Skate Shop** (72 Inglis Pl.), **Hub Cycle** (33 Inglis Pl.), and **Bike Monkey/Ice Monkey** (130 Esplanade St.)

The Downtown Truro Partnership (downtowntruro.ca) works hard to promote our downtown shops and services, and hosts a number of events throughout the downtown.

Looking to hit a bunch of shops all at once? **Truro Mall** (245 Robie St.) has more than 50 shops and services including Winners, Michaels, Children's Place, and Coles. There's also a food court with Tim Hortons, Wung Express, and A&W.



Making a day trip to Dartmouth

Less than an hour from Truro.

Dartmouth Crossing in Dartmouth is home to Bed Bath & Beyond, David's Bridal, Mastermind Toys, Costco, Home Depot, and Party City. **Mic Mac Mall** (21 Micmac Blvd., Dartmouth) has H&M, Aldo, Forever 21, Lush, MAC, Sephora, and Justice.

Making a day trip to Halifax

About an hour from Truro.

Bayers Lake Business Park in Halifax has stores like Old Navy, Costco, HomeSense, Roots, Chapters, and Best Buy. Halifax Shopping Centre (7001 Mumford Rd., Halifax) has Banana Republic, Club Monaco, Hollister, Michael Kors, Soft Moc, Victoria's Secret, and ZARA. In downtown Halifax, shops include Urban Outfitters, Frida Fine Jewellery, Amos Pewter, Urban Cottage Antiques, and Island Beach Company.

Making a day trip to Moncton

About 1 hour and 45 minutes from Truro.

Champlain Mall (477 Paul St., Dieppe) is the largest single-building shopping centre in Atlantic Canada, with more than 140 stores — including Globo, Stokes, Envy, Jack & Jones, Lululemon Athletica, and Zumiez.

Halifax Shopping Centre is home to 160+ stores spread over two levels, and Mic Mac Mall has 120+ stores over three levels.



Who's hungry?

From freshly-caught seafood and warm-from-the-oven bread to crisp local produce and chilly craft beers, we've rounded up some important foodie spots in Truro Colchester ...

Truro Farmers' Market (15 Young St., Truro)

Home to more than 50 vendors, the Truro Farmers' Market Market is open year-round on Saturday mornings. Shop for fresh local produce, cheese, eggs, baked goods, meats, honey, coffee, craft beer, prepared meals, and specialty foods.

> THE TRURO FARMERS' MARKET

is open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Masstown Market

(10622 Nova Scotia Trunk 2, Masstown): From the fresh fish market to the butchers preparing fresh cuts of local beef to the warm fresh-from-theoven baked goods and the creamery stocked with cheeses, there's something for every taste at Masstown Market. There's also a restaurant, gift shop, and dairy bar. Masstown Market is famous for its "seafood full" chowder, loaded with scallops, lobster, haddock, and shrimp — best served with a fresh roll from the bakery.

Red Knot Bakery (569 Prince St., Truro): You'll die for their croissants (made with real butter and organic cane sugar). All of their goodies are baked with stone-ground, organic, unbleached flour and their bread is naturally leavened.

Brookfield Bakery (652 Nova Scotia Trunk 2, Brookfield): They're famous for their raisin bread, but you can't go wrong with any of their delicious goodies, like bread, cakes, muffins, cookies, doughnuts, cinnamon buns, pies, tarts, or squares — all baked on-site daily.

Earltown General Store (5556 Hwy. 311, Tatamagouche): This old-fashioned country store serves up homemade treats like Bacon Fat Archies, pretzel loaves, and gourmet popsicles.

Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation / NSLC (985 Prince St. in Truro, 6 Court St. in Truro, 241 Pictou Rd. in Bible Hill, 16 Gibson Blvd. in Stewiacke, 122 Main St. in Tatamagouche): Raise your glass to NSLC's selection of more than 5,000 products from around the globe, including those from local producers. Recreational cannabis is now sold at the Truro location. **Raging Crow Distillery** (592 Hwy. 311, North River): Small-batch, hand-crafted, artisanal distillery that focuses on creating products sourcing local products, wherever possible.

Coldstream Clear Distillery (87 Main St. W, Stewiacke): This family-run business uses a precious one-in-a-million spring to hand-craft premium vodka, vanilla bean vodka, single barrel rum, liqueurs (like salted caramel and homemade apple pie), and canned refreshments like hard iced tea and cranberry vodka soda.

Salty Dog Brewing Company (615 Prince St., Truro): Brewed in the heart of Nova Scotia, with the Bay of Fundy and Cobequid Mountains in their backyard, this handcrafted beer embraces the spirit of adventure and living in the moment — and "chasing a few squirrels along the way."

Tatamagouche Brewing Co. (235 Main St., Tatamagouche): Stop by this fun brewery to sample everyday beers, seasonal beers, or something from the "weird beers" category like the Kiskadee Sour Porter made from organic strawberries. Be sure to tag any social media photos with their hashtag, #tatabrew.



"We have everything we need here"-Jane Elgee



"We thought we'd probably work in Halifax, and shop there, and go there to have dinner out — everything. But we've barely spent any time at all in Halifax because we have everything we need right here in Truro." When Jane and Chris Elgee were living in North West England, it was an hour's drive to bigger cities like Liverpool or Manchester and a fourhour drive to London.

So when they moved to Truro, they expected they'd drive into Halifax daily ... but Chris says that wasn't the case at all.

It was nine years ago that Jane and Chris decided to leave Lancashire, England and move to Canada. They thought they'd move to Alberta, since Chris worked in construction and the province was experiencing a boom at the time. But then a recession struck and a future out west didn't feel as secure.

"We'd been to Nova Scotia before and liked it, and we wanted to live close to a major Canadian city, so we started looking at different towns," says Jane. "Truro was just far enough away from Halifax to be desirable, it had good housing prices, and lots of things to do, so we filled out the paperwork and went for it."

Their children were just three and seven when they immigrated to Canada and bought a home in Salmon River. Jane is a trained chef and the couple ran a catering business back in England, so they started selling "a taste of home" at the Truro Farmers' Market in a booth they called Great British Grub. Customers went crazy for their homemade Cornish pasties and sticky toffee puddings. "It was a great starting point, and it took us a few years to properly decide what we wanted to do," says Chris. "Our type of product was appealing to Canadians — and to people from the U.K. who've moved to the area, as it's a little bit of home for them."

Their booth at the Farmers' Market was so successful that they later opened the Great British Grub Café at 535 Prince St. Diners can come in bright and early for a full English breakfast, or chow down on home-cooked shepherd's pie, bangers and mash, roast beef dinner, steak and kidney pies, or corned beef and cabbage later in the day.

"We want to show other immigrants that our business has been well-supported here in Truro. People shouldn't be afraid to do something different."

The Elgee family has called Salmon River home for nine years now, and Jane says everyone is thriving and happy. Their children take French Immersion in school, and being just 35 minutes from the Halifax Stanfield International Airport is convenient when their family and friends come to visit from England.

In fact, Jane says they have even more company now than ever before, since there's a great link-up between the Glasgow and Halifax airports. Their guests love exploring Truro and comparing it to towns back in England. There's even a town named Truro in England, which is good for a chuckle.



Money matters

When you're settling into Truro Colchester, you'll want to make sure your money has a home of its own.

We have dozens of ATMs for quick cash withdrawals and deposits, but we also have full branches of the five chartered Canadian banks for those times when you need to go see a teller or get your accounts in order.

Banks

RBC Royal Bank 940 Prince St. in Truro (902) 893-4343

TD Canada Trust 22 Inglis Pl. in Truro (902) 893-9423

Scotiabank 7 Inglis Pl. in Truro (902) 895-0591

CIBC 813 Prince St. in Truro (902) 895-5341

BMO Bank of Montreal 37 Commercial St. in Truro (902) 895-5375

Community Credit Union of Cumberland Colchester Ltd. 347 Willow St. in Truro (902) 893-7134

Make your voice heard!

Once you're a Canadian citizen who's at least 18 years old and you've lived in Nova Scotia for a minimum of six months, you're encouraged to vote in our municipal elections, provincial elections and federal elections.

Nova Scotia is divided into 51 electoral districts that elect one Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) each.

Here in Truro Colchester, you'll either be living and voting in **Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley**, **Colchester North**, or **Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook-Salmon River**.

To register to vote, visit the Elections Canada Online Voter Registration Service online or register in person when you go to vote.

During **federal elections**, we vote in the **Cumberland – Colchester electoral district**. The district includes all of Colchester County.

The Municipality of Colchester has 11 electoral districts, each represented by a Councillor, so you'll vote in one of those districts during a **municipal election**.

Depending on the community you live in, you may be asked to vote in additional elections specific to your town or village.

The Truro Town Council has provided responsible administration for more than 100 years. It consists of the Mayor and six Councillors (two for each Ward).

Millbrook First Nation, the Mi'kmaq community located within the town of Truro, has an elected Chief and 12 Councillors.

The Town of Stewiacke's Council consists of a Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and five Councillors.

The Village of Tatamagouche elects Village Commissioners, and the **Village of Bible Hill** holds annual selections to elect Commissioners to serve staggered three-year terms.



Cruisin' your community

From securing a Nova Scotia driver's licence and vehicle permit to purchasing car insurance, here's what you need to know about driving in Truro Colchester ...

Your driver's licence

If you want to operate a motor vehicle on a public road or highway in Nova Scotia, you need a valid Nova Scotia driver's licence.

If you're new to Nova Scotia, you should get a driver's licence within 90 days of becoming a resident. Until then, you're OK to drive using your existing driver's licence — just like you would if you were on vacation here.

> Other than the hospital, there isn't a single spot in Truro Colchester where you need to pay for parking.

If you've moved here from elsewhere in Canada or from the United States, **you can usually exchange your licence for a Nova Scotia driver's licence** without having to take a road test — as long as you're at least 16 years old, you disclose all medical or physical conditions that may affect your ability to safely drive a motor vehicle, you surrender your old driver's license at the time of exchange, and you pay normal fees for the issuance of a licence.

In Nova Scotia, a driver's licence needs to be renewed every five years. You'll get a renewal notice before yours expires, and they're easy to renew.

Applying for your driver's licence

When you're ready to apply for your Nova Scotia driver's licence, visit an **Access Nova Scotia** or Registry of Motor Vehicle Office. You'll need to bring your existing licence (if you have one) as well as two forms of identification.

Once you have successfully applied and had your photo taken, your driver's licence will be mailed to you when it's ready. You will leave with a temporary document that's valid for 30 days, which is plenty of time for your new licence to arrive.

Types of driver's licenses

Drivers here are licenced according to the type(s) of vehicle(s) they're qualified to drive, so we have different classes of licences.

The most common driver's licence in Nova Scotia is the Class 5. It's for driving cars, pick-up trucks, SUVs (sport utility vehicles), and vans that seat less than 24 people. (If you drive a semi-trailer, tractor-trailer, large van, bus, taxi, ambulance, farm tractor, or motorcycle, talk to Access Nova Scotia about applying for a different class of licence.)

Here in Nova Scotia, we have what's called a Graduated Driver Licensing System with three levels:

Learner's Licence a.k.a. Beginner's
 Newly Licensed Driver's Licence
 The Portricted Individual stage

All new drivers have to graduate from all three levels before they can get a regular driver's licence here in Nova Scotia. This system applies to people who have never held a driver's licence.

Your vehicle registration & permit

When you purchase a vehicle in Nova Scotia, you're given a Certificate of Registration that recognizes you as the vehicle's legal owner. But your vehicle also needs a permit.

Anyone who owns a motor vehicle — and wants to drive it on public roads in Nova Scotia needs a permit for their vehicle, whether it's a car, SUV, truck, trailer, or camper. You also need a permit for any off-road vehicle, like an ATV or snowmobile.

When you move to Nova Scotia, you have 90 days to get a Vehicle Permit and Nova Scotia licence plates by visiting a Motor Vehicle or Access Nova Scotia office. Getting a licence plate is part of the permit process.

Once your vehicle has been registered in Nova Scotia, it's easy to keep it up to date. You can renew your registration by mail or online (and a sticker will be mailed to you) or in person at any Motor Vehicle or Access Nova Scotia office.

Your vehicle's licence plates

Every vehicle on the road in Nova Scotia needs to have a licence plate attached to it. Sometimes it's secured in the front, other times it's in the back, and some vehicles require plates in the front and the back.

Luckily, you don't need to do anything extra to get a licence plate for your vehicle. You'll be given one when you get your vehicle permit, and you'll update it with new stickers each time you renew your permit. If you buy a new vehicle from a car lot, the seller will provide a temporary "licence plate" made of paper that you'll affix to the interior of your vehicle's window. This is only legal for a limited amount of time, so you'll need to apply for a vehicle permit and your proper licence plate.

Your licence plate is assigned to you — not your vehicle — so you'll move it onto your next vehicle if you buy a new car and get rid of your old one.

Your car insurance

It's illegal to drive without car insurance, whether or not you own a vehicle. If you own a car, you need your own personal car insurance — but if you regularly drive someone else's car, you should make sure you're listed on their insurance plan.

Some car insurance plans cover only the costs associated with damages and injury to others. Other car insurance plans provide more comprehensive coverage for both yourself and your vehicle.

The cost of car insurance depends on the insurance plan you choose, as well as factors like your age, your driving experience, your driving record, and where you live.

That's why it's a good idea to call several different insurance companies for quotes before choosing an insurance provider.





Emergency contacts

For an emergency anywhere in Nova Scotia, dial 9-1-1. The operator will arrange for any emergency service, like police, fire, and/or an ambulance.

In non-emergency circumstances, you can reach out to the Truro Police Service or your closest RCMP detachment.

Truro Police Service — 776 Prince St. (902) 895-5351 RCMP in Bible Hill — 283 Pictou Rd. (902) 893-6820 RCMP in Stewiacke — 93 Riverside Ave. (902) 639-2366 RCMP in Tatamagouche — 155 Main St. (902) 657-2040 RCMP in Millbrook — 845 Willow St. (902)893-6819

Your dog needs a licence, too

Here in Truro Colchester, every dog should be wearing a dog tag with a licence number. This makes it easier for them to be returned safely to you if they run away or get lost. A licence is good for one year.

In Truro Colchester, you can purchase a licence for your dog at most veterinary offices, municipal offices in your community, the SPCA in Truro, and a few training/ boarding facilities.

Healthy living

Hospitals

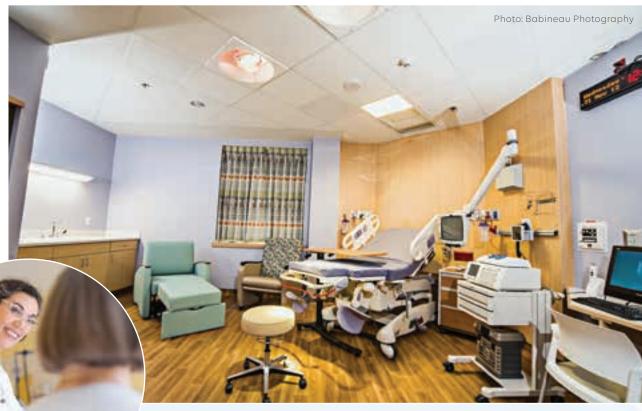
Lillian Fraser Memorial Hospital 110 Blair Ave. in Tatamagouche (902) 657-2382

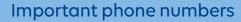
Lillian Fraser Memorial Hospital is a community hospital located in the Village of Tatamagouche. It includes a Collaborative Emergency Centre (CEC) which means there is an emergency room doctor on site Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. and on weekends from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m.

Just a short drive away in Halifax, our residents have access to even larger facilities like the **Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre** a large teaching hospital and Level 1 Trauma Centre. It has a large 24-hour emergency department and also houses a number of inpatient units, general surgery, vascular surgery, cardiovascular surgery, orthopedic surgery, and outpatient clinics.

Local families with babies, children, and teens benefit from being about an hour's drive from the **IWK Health Centre** — a women's and children's hospital also located in downtown Halifax. It has a 24-hour pediatric emergency room and full surgical facilities as well as clinics specializing in allergies, bowel management, brain tumours, cardiology, and cerebral palsy. **Colchester East Hants Health Centre** 600 Abenaki Rd. in Truro (902) 893-4321

The Colchester East Hants Health Centre is a modern facility with a 24-hour emergency room, a blood collection clinic with online appointment booking, private and semi-private patient rooms, and a wide range of medical services and surgical procedures. The \$185M Colchester-East Hants Health Centre opened in 2012 and became the first regional health care facility in Nova Scotia to achieve LEED certification for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.





Call 9-1-1 for medical emergencies, fire, or urgent police matters

Call 8-1-1 to speak with a registered nurse and receive free healthcare advice.

Call 1-888-429-8167 to reach Nova Scotia's mental health crisis line

Call 1-800-668-6868 to reach the Kids Help Phone

Call 1-844-855-6688 to reach Mental Health and Addictions Services for Colchester County

Call 1-800-563-8880 to speak to someone about obtaining a Nova Scotia Health Card (MSI)

Call 2-1-1 to learn about services and programs offered by local community groups, non-profits, and government departments.

Need a family doctor?

The Nova Scotia Health Authority maintains a provincial list for people without a family doctor or nurse practitioner. Once you're added to the registry, you will be contacted when a primary care provider in your area is accepting new patients. Visit needafamilypractice.nshealth.ca or call 8-1-1 to be added to the registry.

Walk-in clinics

If you don't have a family doctor (or you have one, but can't wait for an appointment), a walk-in clinic is your best bet for quick, nonemergency care. Many clinics offer the ability to call ahead or book an appointment online so you're not waiting long.

Truro Walk-in Clinic 68 Robie St. in Truro (902) 893-3635

Care Now Walk-in Clinic 241 Pictou Rd. in Bible Hill (902) 899-2273

> You can schedule blood collection appointments to cut down on your wait at the Colchester-East Hants Health Centre.

Photos: Babineau Photogra

A.M. A.M.

Poland-born Lech Krzywonos spent most of his life in Sydney, Australia and had no plans to come to Canada ...

When he did move here with his wife — who is from Bathurst, New Brunswick — Lech expected they'd stay in Halifax.

Even when he accepted a job at NSCC in Truro, they built a house in Enfield so they could remain close to the city. He didn't mind all the driving to get to work. After all, an hour-long commute is pretty typical in a big city like Sydney.

Things changed when Lech's wife, Tari, accepted a physiotherapy position with the Truro hospital. By this point, they had two young daughters — and their eldest was about to start school. Sending their children to school in Enfield and then both driving an hour away for work felt unnecessarily complicated.

They bought a house in Valley just in time for their eldest, Olivia, to be enrolled at Valley Elementary School. Although Lech had worked in Truro for seven years, living in the community — and having a child in a local school — made it easy to make friends and get a different impression of the area.

"We're only an hour from Halifax if you want to have a Costco membership and get your

"There's everything you could want here. Why would you even look anywhere else?" toilet paper in bulk, but for the everyday stuff, everything — literally everything — is no more than 10 minutes away," says Lech.

Lech's daughters are now in Grade 10 and Grade 8. His youngest, Danielle, still has one year left at Bible Hill Junior High, and Olivia now attends CEC High School — the largest high school in the province, known for its International Baccalaureate (IB) program.

"Anything your kids dream of doing is right here — dancing, gymnastics, sports, whatever you can imagine," says Lech.

He says his daughters have participated in just about everything at one point or another, including musical theatre and singing lessons. His 16-year-old now plays soccer at the provincial level, while his 14-year-old has honed in on volleyball. They love to ski as a family, taking advantage of the fact that Ski Wentworth is "just half an hour up the road."

"We've traveled a lot as a family, since my family's still in Australia. My girls have seen the world, but they're rooted here," says Lech. "This is home."

Lech is now Principal of NSCC's Truro campus and serves on one of the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce's committees, the Rotary Club of Truro, and various boards of directors around town. "I love that I've gotten involved in the community, and it's allowed me to see the town from a different lens," says Lech. "I get so jazzed about this town."

"Truro is just phenomenal. It's the best-kept secret."

"The economic imperative to be here is staggering when you consider the low price of homes, all of the facilities for kids and families, and that there's no need to travel a great distance for anything plus you still have Halifax an hour down the road. Truro is just phenomenal. It's the best-kept secret."

He credits the town, county, and local business community for their "impressive collaborative work" over the last seven or eight years.

"Recent improvements have included the new hospital, the new rec centre, the downtown revitalization," says Lech. "We're also getting to host outdoor concerts, festivals, and other worldclass events. It really gives people the sense that this place is special."



Our investors

Local businesses and individuals support the Truro and Colchester Partnership for Economic Prosperity. Their financial support is coordinated through the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce. These organizations are committed to investing in Colchester's future economic growth.

Ambassadors

Benchmark Developments Limited Community Credit Union CIBC **Dalhousie University F.** Thomas Stanfield Home Hardware Building Centre - Pictou Road Masstown Market **NSCC Truro Campus Patterson Law** The Pye Group of Companies Will-Kare Paving

Partners

BDC **Blaikies Dodge Bold & Italic** Caldwell Roach Insurance Casey Concrete Ltd. **Brentwood Developments** Exit 14A Fulton Insurance Agencies Ltd. **Grant Thornton** Greco Kerr Smart Energy **McLeod Safety MacQuarries Pharmasave** Masstown Petro Canada Old Fletcher Farm Property Ltd. (Masstown Market) PWC RBC **Rath Real Estate** Stanfield's Truro Nissan Taco Bell / KFC Wilsons Home Heating

Members 100.9 Big Dog / 99.5 Cat Country **ASE Print** Burchell MacDougall Lawyers **Elegant Steps Ocean Sonics Royal LePage Truro Real Estate**

Friends

G&G Computers Hub Tune-Up Portable Welders Ltd. **Pulse Property Services** SRC Salmon River Collision



Truro & Colchester Partnership

for Economic Prosperity trurocolchester.ca

Town of Truro truro.ca

Millbrook First Nation millbrookband.com

Useful links

Town of Stewiacke Stewiacke.net

Village of Bible Hill biblehill.ca

Village of Tatamagouche Villageoftatamagouche.com

Municipality of the County of Colchester colchester.ca

Northumberland Shore Region novascotia.com/about-nova-scotia/ regions/northumberland-shore

Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce trurocolchesterchamber.com

Downtown Truro Partnership downtowntruro.ca

Futureworx futureworx.ca

Truro Farmers' Market Trurofarmersmarket.org

Colchester-East Hants Public Library Lovemylibrary.ca

Chignecto Central Regional Centre for Education ccrce.ca

Tourism Nova Scotia Novascotia.com

Government of Canada canada.ca

Bay of Fundy novascotia.com/about-nova-scotia/ regions/bay-fundy-annapolis

Colchester Partnership for Economic Prosperity



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