



Colchester Town News

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Colchester – What do you want to do today?

For the Week Ending October 9, 2015

While by no means a total representation of all the work performed by the Town, the following highlights some Departments' activities:

Town Manager's Office Dawn Francis, Town Manager

The Fall seems to be full of professional development opportunities for our employees. I had the opportunity to attend the Vermont League of Cities and Town's Town Fair and the International City Manager's Association conference which attracted 3,000 managers from over 21 countries. Some of the workshops I attended included:

- more efficient ways of delivering services
- regionalization and sharing of municipal services
- how to bring about transformation in an organization
- new technologies for citizen engagement and transparency in the budgeting process
- managing millennials
- getting a return on recreation and community amenities.

Why is professional development so important? These conferences remind us that we work in the public sector to improve our residents' quality of life; it makes us aware of technology trends and the direction of our professions and society; they inspire us with fresh ideas and show us how to better recognize opportunities; and they teach us how to be more efficient and effective in our work. Finally, they put us in touch with other professionals who are all confronted with the same challenges: dwindling resources, changing laws, retaining a quality work force and increased demands on local government services. I appreciate the opportunity to gain and share this knowledge with our employees in the hopes of serving you better.

For more information about the Town Manager's Office, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/manager> or call (802) 264-5509.

For further information or comment, please call Linda Kingston at 802.264.5509