

REES' Pieces

Lack of Quick Directive Doesn't Build Confidence

A couple weeks ago, Rob Bennett, NS Power's million dollar president suggested to the Utility and Review Board the demand for electricity is down and full production of the \$204-million bio-mass generator is not required, but the facility must produce steam for the former NewPage mill in Point Tupper, when it opens. The steam not used by NewPage, would have been used to generate electricity. Demand on the grid is down significantly primarily due to closure of Bowater Mersey mill in Brooklyn.

As a result the plant would suffer operational loss, and his customers would pick up the tab. He indicated green power generated by windfarms and existing capacity can handle demand.

Here's my problem. When Bowater's shut down, truckers whose job it was to deliver product to the mill or employees of failed or closed businesses do not have recourse similar to NS Power to generate income to cover expenses. Why should NS Power be treated differently than the rest of us?

I'll ask the question, even though I know the answer. Are Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board members volunteers or paid professionals? If they are volunteers, maybe they can be forgiven. If they are paid professionals, receiving more than expenses for travel and meals, they should resign or be fired.

When Bennett brought this information to Review Board members, they should have interrupted him and said, "Truck contractors to Bowater, and employees of failed businesses do not have access to funds to cover expenses. Nova Scotia Power can not expect us to grant an increase. If you have a contract to supply steam, you either get out of the contract, or you supply steam and cover all operational costs." Board members should have also directed Bennett to stimulate the Nova Scotia economy by using all the steam capacity at the bio-mass generator, because it is a renewal source, and money flows as income to wood lot owners, chippers, truckers, and a host of other occupations.

I can't fault Bennett for asking or suggesting what will happen. Probably most business leaders would take the opportunity to ask for assistance or a ruling.

However, I can blame Utility Board Members for not sending a clear message, within minutes, to Nova Scotians the Utility & Review Board does protect Nova Scotia businesses and citizens. Board members missed a golden opportunity to demonstrate and regain public confidence, they are not under the spell or in the pockets of Nova Scotia Power.

As soon as Bennett uttered those words, any board member should have rebutted his statement by setting the stage and providing direction by saying, "Mr Bennett, it is and will be the direction of this board, the bio-mass generation plant must operate at full capacity, when steam is needed by the NewPage mill. The excess steam must be converted into electricity. Further to that, Nova Scotia Power must honour all contracts for electricity generated from wind or other private producers.

"Mr. Bennett we are instructing you to eliminate generation capacity from within your existing infrastructure which will result in: (1) Close or mothball plants which use foreign coal. (2) Reduce emissions making it easier for the province to reach legislated levels. (3) Nova Scotia's economy will be better served if you purchase fuel supplies from within Nova Scotia. (4) That money will circulate many times and create more jobs. (5). Therefore, we suggest your company spend as little as possible purchasing generating fuel from other countries and focus on purchasing within the province."

Will the review board deliver a message similar to the above? No, they won't. Will Nova Scotia be best served by their reply? Probably not. Will confidence in Nova Scotia Utility & Review Board increase? Definitely not. Will taxpayers think URB and NS Power drink through the same straw? Yes, most definitely. Will Dexter's government do anything about it? Not, on Your Life. Probably no party can control this monopoly. What a shame on Nova Scotians for permitting this to happen.

Maurice

Letters to the editor

This is an open forum for your opinions and comments.

MAIL TO: The Shoreline Journal, P.O. Box 41, Bass River, NS, B0M 1B0
(902) 647-2968; Fax: 902-647-2194 Email: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

Dear Darryl & Electoral Boundaries Commission Members:

As the MLA for Colchester North and on behalf of all of my constituents (Along the Shore), I want to thank you and the Commission Members for giving serious consideration to the concerns that I expressed on their behalf regarding the changes in electoral boundaries in Colchester North. The recommendations that I put forward allowed you to work within your mandate to respect a balance in constituency population, communities of interest and migration patterns. It also allowed the concerns of my constituents to be heard and respected. I understand the magnitude of the task you had before you and I appreciate your understanding and respect for our position. Thank you again.

I have shared the response of the revised interim report with my constituents Along the Shore and they are delighted to know that the recommendations included in the revised interim report keep the electoral boundaries for Colchester North as they were prior to the work of the Commission. I shared with my constituents the fact that our approach should be constructive and I commend them for their patience and understanding as you reviewed my recommendations. Congratulations and have a great summer.

Karen Casey, MLA Colchester North

Local Bagpiper to PLAY WORLDS IN SCOTLAND

GLENHOLME: Thomas Harrington had a dream, since he first started playing the bagpipes at nine years of age, to some day play his pipes in Scotland. This dream will come true on August 11th when he competes with the 78th Highlanders (Halifax Citadel) Pipes and Drums at the World Pipe Band Championship in Glasgow, Scotland.

He leaves on August 2nd for the ten day trip, which will include a visit to Leslie, Scotland, where his grandmother Robina Harrington was born.

The pipe band will kick off the week at a Highland

Games in North Berwick, Scotland on August 4th, followed by daily practices and concerts in preparation for the World's. Thomas will also compete in a Piping Live Quartet Competition at Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, along with three other band members, on August 7th.

The World Pipe Band Championship will be streaming live on the web, August 11th, beginning at 5:00AM local time at www.bbc.co.uk/music/world s/. Many of Thomas's family and former band mates of Old Scotia Pipes and Drums, Great Village will be watching!

Debert Legion Notes

By Danny Martell

Happy Anniversary wishes for July are passed along to Laura and Fred MacKinnon, Jane and Glen MacDorman, Marcia and Norm Eastcott, Betty and Robert Hill, Shelly and Mark McCully, Carolyn and Mike Totten, Connie and Sam Worthington and Betty and Clare Reid.

Happy Birthday wishes for July are passed along to Harvey Adams, Bruce Higgins, Earl Harvey, Ron Totten, Debbie Buchanan, Eric McCully, Doris McCully, Helen Eastcott, Bill Wood, Valerie Yantha and Jim Adshade.

Please don't forget to thank a Veteran, it is because

of their sacrifices that we are able to enjoy our freedom and country. Please say a prayer for our troops in Afghanistan and other foreign countries and their families.

MacCaull Villa Notes

By Hazel Hill

Kathie & Don Arsenault, Saint John, NB visited with Florence Adams on July 5th. Celebrating his birthday on July 26th, Kevin Fields was honoured with cake and ice cream in the lounge which was enjoyed by all.

Shannon MacAloney went to Halifax on June 29th for a check up following leg surgery. On July 1st I had a visit from Joan Mitchell, Dartmouth and also this month a visit from Ellen Layton and daughter, Susan.

On June 28th Colleen Donovan, Winnipeg and her mother, Faye Donovan, Saskatchewan spent the afternoon visiting me. They had been touring Nova Scotia and New Brunswick for a couple of weeks and were leaving

Colchester North PCs WELCOME REVISED BOUNDARIES REPORT

The Colchester North PC Association welcomed the revised report from the Nova Scotia Electoral Boundaries Commission. The new report, released today, reversed an earlier decision to split the current constituency, leaving residents living west of the Five Houses Road as part of the Cumberland South constituency.

"From the outset, our Association has strongly advocated for all residents of the current boundaries of Colchester North to remain united and be represented with a common voice", said Association President Glen Rankin. "I am pleased the Commission has taken the concerns of residents to heart in making its decision".

"In particular I would like to single out the efforts of our Association Vice President and local Councillor Tom Taggart", said Rankin. "He is a strong voice for the people of the West Shore".

As the process moves for-

ward, public consultations will take place across the province. The Colchester North PC Association encourages all residents to participate in the upcoming local sessions and voice their support for the current boundaries.

The Shoreline Journal

Here's where to find us:

BASS RIVER:
Bayside Pharmacy
Dominion Chair Factory Store

BIBLE HILL:
C.W. Fraser Pharmacy
MacQuarries Pharmacy

DEBERT:
Barnhill's Superette
Debert Mini-Mart

FIVE ISLANDS:
Masstown Market Five Islands

GLENHOLME:
Double "C" Truckstop
Glenholme General Store

GREAT VILLAGE:
C. D. Smith's Rite-Stop
Wilson's Gas

MAITLAND:
Frieze & Roy General Store

MASSTOWN:
Masstown Market

NORTH RIVER:
Grant's Grocery

ONSLow:
Onslow Market

PARRSBORO:
CrossRoads Co-op
Ken's Grocery
Wright's Pharmasave

TRURO:
Atlantic Superstore
MacQuarrie's Pharmasave
(Esplanade)

We are interested in placing the Shoreline Journal in additional locations.

If you have a suggestion, or wish to have the Shoreline available from your store, please contact:

Maurice Rees, Publisher
902-647-2968,
or E-MAIL:
maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

Spread the news
of your Community

School
is out...
PLEASE
DRIVE
CAREFULLY

The Shoreline Journal (circ. 1650) is a monthly community newspaper serving communities along the Glooscap Trail from Truro to Parrsboro, Nova Scotia serving the communities of Belmont/Debert, Wentworth/Londonderry, Onslow/Masstown along the shore to Great Village, Bass River, Economy, Five Islands and Lower Five Islands. It is published on the last Wednesday of each month (earlier in December) with a deadline of the 20th of the month.

MAILING ADDRESS: The Shoreline Journal, P.O. Box 41, Bass River, Nova Scotia, B0M 1B0.

PHONE: 902-647-2968; Fax: 902-647-2194 Toll Free 1-800-406-1426; Cell: 902-890-9850 • E-MAIL: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

EDITOR PUBLISHER: Maurice Rees • ADVERTISING: Maurice Rees • CIRCULATION: Dorothy Rees

Canadian Publications Mail Products Agreement #40048924, ISSN #1209-9198

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

LOCAL SUBSCRIPTIONS: B0M / B2N / B6L - \$23.00, PLUS HST = \$26.45 • OTHER PARTS OF NS: \$28.00 plus HST = \$32.20
ALL OTHER AREAS OF CANADA: \$30.00, plus HST = \$34.50 • USA SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$45.00
HST: #890564404RT001. Printed by Advocate Printing & Publishing Ltd, Pictou, Nova Scotia

All rights reserved. Material published in The Shoreline Journal may not be reproduced in an form without prior approval of the publisher. Material to be returned to sender must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope.

1996 Heritage Award recipient. Listed with Canadian Advertising Rates & Data (CARD) and Bowden's Media Monitoring Service.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) for our publishing activities. The publisher is not responsible for minor errors in ads, which do not lessen the value of the item(s). The publisher is not responsible for space beyond that portion of the advertisement containing the item(s) in error. Letters to the editor are subject to editing or rejection, must be signed by the author and contain a phone number.



NEWSPAPERS ATLANTIC
TRUSTED | CONNECTED | TARGETED