

## Message in a Corn Maze



Captain Cob's Corn Maze staff display important messages in the cornfield directed at helping to end world hunger. The corn maze helps raise money for Harvest for Hunger NS through \$1 donation from each admission ticket, the annual picnic on August 28th and the sale of harvested corn. (Submitted)

**By Brenda Leenders**

Staff for the 2016 Captain Cob's Corn Maze season are ready to go! Pictured elsewhere in this issue they are standing in their field, holding up the messages that will be in the corn maze. 800 Million people worldwide are hungry. Seventy percent of them are small scale farmers, many are women.

The maze opened July 22nd.

"They didn't realize when they applied to work at the corn maze that they would also be ambassadors for hungry farmers around the world" says Laurie Jennings.

This marks the fifth year the corn has been planted by area farmers as a donation for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, a partnership of 15 national church agencies with a vision of a world without hunger. "The farmers know their part is growing, harvesting, trucking, or buying the corn which goes to help feed hungry people around the world." Says Ian MacHattie, who coordinates the planting. "They just get it done. The corn maze wouldn't be here if it wasn't for them".

This is a "win/win" for all say MacHattie. The corn is planted by farmers who know what they are doing, we get to play in the corn maze, with \$1.00 from every admission going to the Foodgrains Bank, and then in the fall it is harvested and sold as cow feed to area farmers.

But you don't have to be a farmer to help. You can 'Grow Hope' by sponsoring an acre for \$300. This covers the cost of the seed, fertilizer and other inputs to grow

the corn. This way, 100% of the sale of the corn is a donation.

And it does not stop there. You can join us on August 28th for our Harvest 4 Hunger Picnic, 11 AM to 3PM, preceded by a worship service at 10:30 AM, with the regular admission fee of \$35 per family being a straight donation to end hunger. Income tax receipts for monetary donations are available though Trinity United Church. The picnic is sponsored by Masstown Market, Select NS, and The Wild Blueberry Festival so we will have lots of fresh corn on the cob, sausage on a bun, blueberry shortcake and ice cream to purchase. The band "Heartbeat" made up of Russell and Sandra McCallum, Jim Yorke, Murray Dawson and Brenda Esau will be playing Old Tyme Country Music.

We need lots of volunteers for the picnic, so connect with us if you can help.

And the message in the corn maze? Support for small scale farmers around the world can reduce poverty and hunger, improve health and nutrition, empower women and help them adapt to climate change. Our Good Soil campaign invites you to sign a post card addressed to our federal government, urging for increased support for agriculture in developing countries through our international aid budget. Global Affairs Canada is currently seeking our input, so we have postcards at the corn maze ready for you to sign.

**For more information, to donate or volunteer contact Ian MacHattie, 902 893 4197, or [bleenders@foodgrainsbank.ca](mailto:bleenders@foodgrainsbank.ca)**

## Colchester North NDP Elects New Executive

At its annual meeting on June 14 the Colchester North NDP electoral district association named its officers for the coming year and discussed with provincial leader Gary Burrill the probability of an election this fall.

The new executive includes Jim Wyatt of Portapique as president, Janet Maybee (Masstown) as Vice President, Kate Graves of Debert, secretary, and Karen Olsson of North River who takes on the treasurer's responsibilities. This team was empowered to add others as the need arises, presuming a candidate search committee may be required soon.

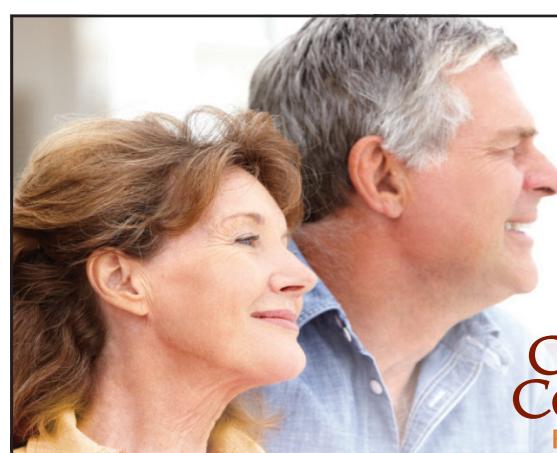
Gary Burrill outlined

some of the key issues New Democrats have been raising in the legislature and will certainly be continuing to highlight, such as the economic struggles of so many Nova Scotian families; he pointed out that seven thousand children in this province are dependent on food banks. Decimation of the once-thriving film industry, environmental threats, funding cuts for longterm care and the desperate shortage of family doctors are also major concerns.

Three delegates were appointed to represent the local association at the provincial policy convention which took place in Truro on June 25.



Summer time is the time for Yard Sales. The Peniel United Church held its Annual Yard Sale on Saturday, June 25th, with lots of items inside and out. All proceeds going to support the church. (Rees Photo)



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