

Fletcher's November Council Corner Notes

By Don Fletcher

The November 1 meeting began with an in camera session. However, with no items covered, it became our shortest in camera session. After a couple of questions we adjourned. I thanked council for their support as deputy warden, for the past year. It was a good thing I did as I was defeated by our new deputy warden, councilor Joe Van Vulpen in public session. Congratulations Joe!

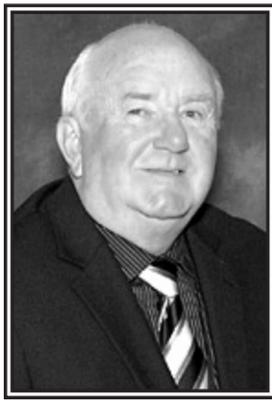
We began public council at 5:30 with a years of service presentation to Kelly Seaman. This was followed by a great presentation from Jonathan McLelland, CEO, Cumberland Business Connector. He covered guiding principles, strengths, and weaknesses and highlights of strategic pri-

orities. He also covered areas the connector will not be the lead. A very positive outlook!

Next, we had an overview of the recent climate change retreat in Pugwash. A working document will soon be produced that individuals as well as all levels of government can follow to make a difference. Four dangerous and unsightly premises were next approved for demolition.

Deputy Warden election followed and as previously written Councilor Van Vulpen was the successful candidate. Motion of approval for 2 stream recycling received approval. Information will follow in the near future.

The Parrsboro interim financial statement as well as a summary of the Municipality's financial state-



Donald Fletcher

ment was discussed and approved. Next a motion to amend our solid waste bylaw to include 2 stream recycling was approved. The RV park development in Springhill will have another meeting to

ensure all are on the same page.

A recommendation to declare a number of properties surplus and be offered for sale was approved. Three grants were approved next as well as support for the United Way. A portion of Main Street in Parrsboro was approved for full paving as a result of recent water and sewer improvements. Information items included council meeting info on in-camera items; tax collection report; Jr C Colts contract, and municipal affairs session on cannabis. Two thank you's were also in our package. Question: Do you wish to find out your risk of type 2 diabetes. If so visit diabetestest.ca and take a simple test?

Council meeting of November 15th began at at

6pm with public council and no in camera. First up was a presentation from the Pugwash Farmers Market looking for funding for permanent kiosks for vendors. Very informative and we will make a decision in the near future.

Next were four dangerous and unsightly properties and all approved for demolition. A temporary borrowing resolution for Pugwash Water and Parrsboro Waste Water was approved next, followed by a financial update on capital expenditures.

The tender for Springhill downtown infrastructure renewal project was approved pending the end date for completion. Next we approved first reading of the revised local improvement bylaw. Meeting dates were approved for December the 13th and January 17th due to

holidays.

Information items included a labor management report; municipal affairs one year notice letter regarding changes to the workers compensation act; joint letter regarding Chignecto Isthmus infrastructure risk regarding high risk to national infrastructure; dangerous and unsightly update, the two staff are doing exceptional work on a large problem throughout the municipality; public libraries report and Cape Sharp Tidal update. Councilors were also asked to submit their thoughts on conference attendance going forward.

Question: are you prepared for a 72 hour storm if necessary? Call your councilor.

Don Fletcher is councillor for Cumberland, District 10, Municipality County of Cumberland.

DFO and Nova Scotia Power in Cahoots

Continued from page 1

ize specific facilities but does review projects or activities that have the potential to impact fish or fish habitat.

In cases where projects or activities are likely to result in serious harm to fish, The Department may issue an authorization if the project or activity will not impact the ongoing productivity or sustainability of fish populations.

The Department does not have any official reports of fish mortalities associated with the Annapolis Royal Generating Station. If anyone observes fish mortalities anywhere in Nova Scotia they can report it to the Environmental Emergency phone number at 1-800-565-1633.", was the end of message.

However to prove Dadswell's comment to be totally true, things started to evolve when I received an email from Tiffany Chase, Senior Communications Advisor, Nova Scotia Power at 3:14 pm on November 9th about two hours after Bornais' response. Here is a copy of her message: "Hi Maurice, I'm reaching out as I understand you are working on an article about the Annapolis Tidal plant. We had an inquiry today from the Herald, and I wanted to make sure that you had the same background and context on this facility from Nova Scotia Power for your purposes.

The Annapolis Tidal plant was constructed by the former Crown Corporation and began generating electricity in 1984. It is one of only a few tidal plants in the world, and the only one of its kind operating in North America.

The Annapolis Tidal plant produces clean, renewable energy for Nova Scotians - at peak, it can generate up to 20 megawatts of electricity which is enough to power 4,500 homes. It does so in compliance with the law, and without any significant

impact on fish populations.

The Annapolis Tidal plant does not require provincial operating approval as per S. 5D(c) of the Activities Designation Regulations made under S. 66 of the provincial Environment Act, as the tidal plant uses "brackish water from an intertidal zone of a river estuary". However, Nova Scotia Power works closely and collaboratively with our federal and provincial regulators to operate all of our facilities within their requirements.

Nova Scotia Power takes environmental stewardship very seriously. We have searched our incident reporting records - which extend back to 2002 - and there is no record of fish mortality at this facility.

We continually seek ways to protect the local fish habitat near our hydro generating stations and make investments to maintain and nurture fish populations. We're committed to continuing that work with our communities, regulators, and doing what we can to protect the local environment, while balancing the need to provide our customers with clean, renewable electricity for years to come.

Please let me know if you have any questions, Tiffany, which was the conclusion of her message.

Immediately, I commenced to believe Dadswell's claim DFO and NS Power in cahoots, as I had not mentioned the original email to anyone.

I stewed about the situation for a couple of days, then late in the afternoon of November 15th, I emailed a letter to Hon Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Fisheries, with the following message in the body of the email: "Dear Mr. LeBlanc: Please refer to the attached document express-

ing my concerns about leakage within 24 hours, regarding an inquiry requesting information, which was forwarded from one of your staff in Maritimes Region to Nova Scotia Power. I look forward to your personal reply".

I knew a letter to the Minister would get the ball rolling. Within a day or so, I received a call from Mike MacLean, who heads up the Maritimes Communications section for DFO. He informed me he was asked by the Minister's office to call me and part of his message was to admit Bornais had communicated with NS Power. My response was all communications people need to reach out to others to get the complete answer, but they do not need to pass along information on who is inquiring.

MacLean also stated that as a result of media reports concerning fish mortality at the Annapolis Royal site, Fisheries Protection staff are investigating.

I don't mean to editorialize, but the interactions between DFO staff and NS Power seems to prove what people have been saying for years, "whatever Nova Scotia Power wants, DFO will accommodate".

Question: Do these revelations confirm they are in the same bed and using the same pillow?"

Letters to the editor

This is an open forum for your opinions and comments.
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Dear Editor:

If you've had a test or procedure in any one of the hospitals or health centres operated by Nova Scotia Health Authority, chances are that some of the equipment used in your care was purchased by a healthcare foundation.

In the past five years alone, these 41 hospital foundations, have contributed more than \$250-million to support patient care, education and research.

On November 27, provincial health care foundations and the Nova Scotia Health Authority came together as a collective to raise awareness about the essential work they do to support and enhance the delivery of health

care and to thank the generous volunteers and donors who make that possible.

Thousands of volunteers help support the work of hospital foundations, including about 500 volunteer board members. More 500,000 Nova Scotians have made a donation to a foundation; it's amazing to think of the power philanthropy has in our local health centres.

The generosity of our communities shines through our Foundations, which make a significant contribution to the province's health system. We would like to take this opportunity to applaud the community's spirit of giving.

Joe MacDonald, Chair, Health Care Foundations of Nova Scotia

News from the Parrsboro Band Hall

By Patricia Burke

Being close to Christmas, we have two important events at the hall, as we finish off the year. However, I wanted to mention, the Hall is getting a new roof and roof-top mounted solar panels.

Joan Kennedy will be returning to Parrsboro on Saturday, December 2, 2017 at 8 p.m. She will be performing a Christmas Concert. Tickets are \$25 advance, \$30 at the door. Tickets will go fast so get yours soon at Amethyst Boutique, Ken's Grocery, Guys and Gals Hair Design and Harrison's Home Hardware. Tickets can be purchased on

line at www.thehall.ca, go to the on line payments section. Major credit cards are accepted there. You must be 19 years of age to attend. Bar facilities available.

The Board of Directors Annual Christmas Concert will take place at the Hall on Monday, December 18, 2017 at 7 pm. There will be lots of musical entertainment by the groups who perform at The Hall on an on-going basis. There will be some festive treats at intermission. Tickets are \$10 each. Come and celebrate the Christmas season at "The Hall". Everyone at "The Hall" would like to thank

everyone for their wonderful support given 2017 wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The board of directors for the hall in Parrsboro are pleased to announce the replacement of the roofing on their building is nearing completion as of press time. This project was made possible through support from The Municipality of Cumberland and the wonderful supporters of all our events in the building. This is the largest renovation that has taken on by the present board.



Visit the Museum & see the NEW exhibits.

Present this ad for 10% off purchases in the Museum Shop.

<http://fundygeological.novascotia.ca>

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