

Seeking Fundraising Board Member

The Joggins Fossil Institute is currently seeking applications for a board member who has interest and experience in fundraising. The Institute is led by a 12-member board comprised of federal, provincial, and municipal government representatives, residents of Cumberland County, members of the scientific community, and members at large. Members of the Board are appointed for a two-year term.

The Joggins Fossil Institute

(JFI) Association is a not-for-profit, charitable organization that works in partnership with three levels of government, the private sector and the community to protect, present and promote the natural heritage values of the Joggins Fossil Cliffs UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the award winning Joggins Fossil Centre.

Applications for membership should be submitted to the Joggins Fossil Institute in hard or digital copy by 4:00

pm on Friday, January 5th, 2018 to: Mr. Don Trenholm, (Chairman, Joggins Fossil Institute) Joggins Fossil Centre, 100 Main Street, Joggins, Nova Scotia, B0L 1A0 or info@jogginsfossilcliffs.net.

For further information on application requirements go to the homepage at www.jogginsfossilcliffs.net and click on News or contact Dr. Melissa Grey, Curator at the Joggins Fossil Institute, 902-251-2727 Ext. 227.

A Tsunami of Tidal Energy Activity

By Heather Desveaux

Nova Scotia has witnessed a tsunami of activity in the tidal energy industry in the year since Cape Sharp set down its giant rotary-blade turbine on the sea floor of the Minas Passage last November. Before the year was out, on Oct 26, 2017, Stephen McNeil's government passed Bill 29, amending the marine renewable energy act to open the Bay of Fundy to tidal developers through a permit-process administered by the Department of Energy rather than the Department of Environment.

The change in the regulatory environment will allow companies to create projects up to five megawatts in size for a total of 10 megawatts in places identified as marine renewable energy areas (MREA). The intent is to foster innovation by allowing new technology to enter the market at a lower price than the current development feed-in tariff of 53 cents per kWh.

"Our knowledge and experience with tidal energy is something that is in demand," said Minister MacLellan as he introduced Bill 29 for second reading. "Mr. Speaker, we have built up a tremendous body of knowledge."

MacLellan listed off study statistics, but absent was a reporting on the study that counted the most: Cape Sharp's 2MW in-stream tidal device, promoted as the demonstration project upon the future of tidal energy development would depend. Its installation and operation were required to be documented via monitoring protocols prescribed in June 2016 by then-NS Environment (NSE) Minister Margaret Miller, under advice from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

"Robust research and monitoring programs will be critical to retiring risk and uncertainty," stated FORCE's annual report published a month later.

Tory energy critic Allan MacMaster doesn't recall the environmental monitoring of Cape Sharp's device being brought up in any discussion around Bill 29. Caucus communications advisor, Leah Batstone, also didn't recall any discussion around it at the bill briefing she attended.

"The minister assured us the same environmental standards would be in place," said MacMaster, meaning that projects generating over two megawatts would still require an environmental assessment and that the province's one-window committee would assess new projects.

With millions of dollars invested in monitoring technology and contracts, as much as seventy-percent claimed to have been spent within the province, quarterly reports document the Cape Sharp turbine experience in the Minas Passage and its marine life over the course of what ended up being a six month installation that produced

approximately \$1800 of electricity in the month of December. The third environmental report was posted online the same day Bill 29 passed third reading.

The Minas Passage's high currents and tidal range are well-documented dating back as far as the device NSPI deployed in 2009. No adverse impacts were documented this time either, given equipment shortcomings and failures that resulted in a need to disconnect the subsea cables by mid-April until the device, with its blades still turning, was eventually lifted out in June.

"There's definitely lots of work to do to improve environmental monitoring in high flows," said FORCE's spokesman Matt Lumley in an emailed statement. But Cape Sharp failed to use equipment known to withstand Fundy's challenging environments, say critics.

"If that was to be a demonstration project, it demonstrated nothing other than the government's ability to collude with industry and side-step important environmental oversight," said Minas Basin fisher Darren Porter, representing the Fundy United Federation. DFO's Fisheries Protection division was contacted for comment but spokeswoman Debbie Buott-Matheson said the deadline could not be met.

The question was never if industry would be allowed to continue to develop, but how it would continue, said Colin Sproul of the Bay of Fundy Inshore Fisherman's Association (BoFIFA). "This is what adaptive management is," he said. "It's a bending of government officials and manipulating public processes with public money until industry gets what it wants," he said.

Bill 29 came as news to him and other fishing associations as they prepared for another lobster season, said Sproul, who ran for the NDP in Annapolis against Stephen McNeil and whose home port is Delap's Cove, on the right of Digby Gut looking at the provincial map.

"It was all rushed through. We weren't consulted about it," said Sproul. "Their public face is to always say they'd like to proceed with the fisherman's co-operation and consult, but that's not reality."

So their concerns might be heard, the association's request for a judicial review of the NSE Minister's decision took one day last February. Chief Justice Heather Robertson didn't rule in their favour and levied multiplied fines - which amounted to \$4,000 to the Minister, \$4,000 for FORCE and \$1,000 for photocopying - and said BoFIFA was not a public interest litigant even though it raised nearly \$100,000 for its legal challenge from communities and fishing-dependent businesses dotted all around the Bay.

Parrsboro Band Assoc. Lights Up The Future

By Robert More

There are exciting times ahead for the community of Parrsboro, Nova Scotia, as the Parrsboro Band Association has been chosen to be part of the province's Solar Electricity for the Community Buildings Pilot Program.

Health and Wellness Minister Randy Delorey, speaking on behalf of Energy Minister Geoff MacLellan emphasized "Nova Scotia is a national leader in reducing emissions and addressing climate change," and that this program "is about building on that success and helping more groups in communities across the province participate in a cleaner energy future."

Lori Lynch, President of the Parrsboro Band Association, was very encouraged by being included in this program. "There were only 18 successful appli-

cations chosen across the province," says organizer Lynch. "To be included in this program is an honour, and we are delighted to do our part to improve the quality of life in Parrsboro while also taking care of the environment."

Johannes Hiesberger, the Treasurer of the Parrsboro Band Association, further comments, "This project, as well as being healthy for the environment, is also economically sound. No funds will be relocated from the Parrsboro Band Hall to this project which financially structured to be self-sustaining. The power we will produce will feed in to the NS Power grid and is enough to power up to 10 households. The mounting of the panel will start in late spring 2018, and production should start by the end of June.

Parrsboro just recently won the 2017 Arts and Culture

Award for the community that best integrates arts and culture into everyday life, and The Parrsboro Band Association, known as The Hall is major part of this success. It's the cultural/entertainment of Parrsboro and busy all year round with a professional concert series, art exhibitions, master class workshops, a network of local musician, a feature film series, the Citizens Choir, theatrical presentations and more.

The Mission Statement of the Parrsboro Band Association is - "to create for the people of South Cumberland County an accessible cultural and community centre". However, it is apparent that this organization is not just a community leader in things creative, but also an innovator when it comes to energy management as well.

Robert More is Executive Director, Parrsboro Creative.

OUT AND ABOUT WITH KEN

By Ken Kennedy

It's been a while, folks, but we have sort of felt out of the loop since moving from Debert to Truro. Hope you haven't forgotten us!

In fact, it wasn't until Nov. 5th when I motored down the shore to join the Great Village Legion's Economy UCC church parade and Remembrance Day ceremony that I had been no farther than Glenholme all summer. I underestimated the time it took to drive from Truro to Economy in that I was late for the service. I was a little embarrassed but, what the heck, I got a hug from the minister anyway. What a lady! You should all be proud of her - and don't let her out of your sight.

The drive down the shore brought back a lot of memories of the times I drove that route to sell ads or deliver the Shoreline Journal to you dear souls. Of course Donna Fulton Benoit did it as well and now it's Maurice's turn, and a great job he's doing, don't you think. Speaking of Donna, I haven't heard a word from her since the family moved out West. Hope she's not mad at me. As I write this I can't help think of the times Linda

Harrington and I, and anyone else we could round up, laid out the paper by cutting and waxing strips of paper upstairs in her mother's bedroom. Then later on when they built their new house we were a little less cramped laying out on her basement floor. UGG!

The trip down the shore brought back memories of Des Cavin, Anita Murphy MacLellan and Economy Point, the WWII tower relocation, and a host of other reminiscence. I saw the bass fishers out off Highland Village and the Old Dutchman still going strong! One of the things I have always wondered about is still there. It's that aircraft sitting out on someone's lawn. How long has it been there and why, I ask myself.

I promised our Chaplains in Parrsboro that Velma and I would get down to see them before the snow flies, but since it's forecast for tomorrow (Nov. 15) I don't think we're going to make it. Dora Fuller and Catherine Meredith are still hanging in there witnessing for the Lord at nursing homes and churches in the area. Both of them have had various bouts of cancer

and whatnot but they sing and praise God anyway. Dora is pretty well confined to the Baptist church these days but Catherine is all over the place! As the old people used to say back home, "No flies on....(Catherine)."

Velma and I did get out of town for a few days over Thanksgiving weekend (and our 52nd anniversary) when we took a Collin's bus tour to New York City. Wow! What a melting pot of humanity is that place! I don't know which is the most crowded, the sidewalks or the taxis. Part of the tour was to see the Broadway play "Come From Away." It is the celebrated play about the hospitality shown to the plane passengers when they were ordered to land after the 9/11 crisis and the NYC twin towers crash. As a Newfoundlander and familiar with the Gander area and the people, it was a spellbinding and proud experience for me in the theatre that evening.

Not sure if I will have a chance to write again before Christmas. If not, all I ask is to please keep Jesus in Christmas.

Ken Kennedy, founding publisher of the Shoreline Journal, is retired living in Truro with his wife, Velma.

Cape Sharp Tidal Update November 1

In a press release on November 1st, Cape Sharp Tidal stated it is continuing to upgrade the next turbine to be deployed. Part of the work is focused on improving efficiency and reliability and is taking a few weeks longer than anticipated in the original timeline. The release continued with the ongoing winter they have decided the next marine operations will take place when the weather

is calmer and more predictable.

The next deployment, sometime before summer 2018, will be deployed is the second or 'dry' turbine, which hasn't yet been in the water. Company officials are applying what was learned from the previous deployment, which was pulled out of the water and taken to Saint John. The turbine and monitoring equipment are being updated,

and problems corrected as a result of it stopped working.

The company said it's common for there to be short delays on demonstration projects of this nature and they will continue to focus on research and development and are applying what was learned from the first deployment as they refine aspects of the turbine technology.

South Cumberland Community Care Centre Foundation

November 27th was designated as a day to celebrate the contribution made by health care foundations to the health of Nova Scotians.

At the local level, the South Cumberland Community Care Centre Foundation was initially established as the South Cumberland Memorial Hospital Foundation in 1994. Since then, and through three transitions in the Nova Scotia health system structure, dedicated volunteers have ensured funds donated for use in the community are well-managed and used to support health care in the area.

SCCC Foundation chair Nancy Quinn said

donor funds in recent years have supported the purchase of two hospital beds, physiotherapy beds for both Parrsboro and Advocate facilities, a therapeutic music program, a set of scales and landscaping to improve the courtyard, to name a few.

An open letter to media outlets, from the Chair of the provincial group of health care foundations, of which Parrsboro's South Cumberland Community Care Centre Foundation is a member is printed as a Letter to the Editor on page 5.

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