

Kempton Solid Waste Management Facility Report

By Wayne Wamboldt

At Council Committee meeting on January 10th, the following Solid Waste Management Report was distributed to council and the media.

BALEFILL FACILITY:

• Since January of 2007, the Colchester Solid Waste Department has been exercising "life cycle costing" in purchasing and maintenance of mobile equipment. Typically, any given piece of equipment would be retained for a period of five (5) years or 10,000 hours of operation. Over the past few years it has been more advantageous to keep some of the equipment beyond that time period for two reasons. Firstly; replacement costs of equipment have grown substantially due to currency exchange and Trump imposed tariffs. Secondly; In comparing identical pieces of equipment that the department has acquired, it has become evident that the older equipment with "tier 3" power trains is much more reliable with less down-time and considerably fewer performance issues. The Balefill will be replacing a wheeled loader before the end of this fiscal year and staff is exploring the best option. Those options include finding a suitable "new" but older model year loader with a tier 3 engine, a complete rebuild of the current loader with

new loader warranty or (least attractive) purchasing a new 2019 loader with the troublesome tier 4 engine.

- In August of 2018 Council approved awarding of the Balefill office roof replacement to Fosco Roofing at a cost of \$26,266.00. This realized a saving of \$8,734.00 under the approved budget of \$35,000. The metal roof was leaking frequently due to the low slope and was replaced with an EPDM membrane which should provide much better service. This work was completed in December of 2018.
- Due to the continually declining quality of service provided by PCO/Orkin relating to pest control for municipal facilities, a review was undertaken with quotations for this service being received from the current contractor, PCO/Orkin, Abell Pest Control and Truly Nolen. Abell Pest Control provided the best option with service, reporting and overall value. The facilities being serviced include the Material Recovery Facility, the Balefill/Compost Facilities and the Courthouse. Abell would also provide an annual cost saving of \$7,000.00 over the current contract price.

RESIDENTIAL WASTE COLLECTION TENDER:

- Royal Environmental Group was the successful bidder on the 2018 - 2023 curbside collec-



This photo captures many of the Colchester Employees in the gallery of Council Chambers during the evening when they received 2018 service recognition certificates from Mayor Christine Blair and Rob Simonds, CAO for years of Service. Not identified here in any order, but those honoured included: 5 Years: Jennifer Boiduk - Administrative Support Clerk and Amanda Stratton - Administrative Support Clerk. 10 Years: Craig Burgess - Manager of Recreation Services; Crystal Deuille - Administrative Support Clerk/Project Coordinator; Robert Jones - Wastewater Collection Worker; Fida Mohammad - Project Engineer; Michelle Newell - Director of Public Works and Jason Selkirk - Wastewater Collection Worker. 15 Years: Deborah Searle - Environment and Education Officer. 20 Years: Nancy MacDougall - Process Technician. 40 Years: Tim Sharpe - Water Utility Manager. Not In Attendance: Shannon Furlotte, 5 Years - Payables and Payroll Clerk; Glenn Ross, 5 Years - Project Engineer and Jennifer Randall, 10 Years - Cleaner. (Rees Photo) See the awards photos on page 14.

tion of residential waste contract within the Municipality of Colchester. The Town of Stewiacke and the Town of Truro awarded their respective waste collection contracts to Miller Waste. The "call for tender" was issued jointly by the Municipality of Colchester, the Town of Truro and the Town of Stewiacke with the expectation of receiving favourable bids. This strategy proved successful in realizing annual collection costs being

considerably lower than the previous 2010 - 2018 curbside waste collection contract. The new residential curbside collection contract came into effect on the 1st day of November 2018. Royal Environmental Group had hired all new drivers for this contract, none of whom had any previous waste collection experience and predictably, the first several weeks of collection presented some interesting challenges. Most of the "start-up" issues have been resolved and Royal Environmental continues to refine their operational procedures. Solid waste staff will be meeting with the management team of Royal Environmental in late January to review issues and procedures. It is our intention to hold these meetings quarterly with the purpose of maintaining optimum curbside collection service to the residents of Colchester County.

BATTERIES:

- Household battery recycling is still going strong and in the period of January 2018 to November 2018, over 9,000 kg of household batteries were recycled. Although this is one

of the most successful years to date, there is still much public education that is required. There is an ever increasing number of novelty items and toys that are powered by small lithium batteries. The propensity of lithium batteries to spontaneously ignite makes them a serious potential for landfill fires.

RECYCLING:

- As part of the funding agreement with the Nova Scotia Department of Environment, two hooklift containers were purchased for the recycling of clean drywall as an amendment to the compost feedstock as well as used shingles as potential alternate fuel for the Canada Cement Lafarge project.

WIND ENERGY:

- The two wind turbines at the Kempton Waste Management Facility continue to perform well with one exception. The turbine monitoring program warned of an air leak in the braking system of both turbines. Molen Renewable energy specialists, the company contracted to perform annual maintenance on the turbines attended at the site and discovered that

nuts securing the airlines to the braking system had worked loose. It was determined that during assembly of the units the manufacturer neglected to use a thread locking compound on the nuts which would prevent such an incident. Thread locking compound was applied and the airlines secured. The cost of this repair was just under \$3,000 including HST.

- Power production for 2018 is expected to be marginally higher than the previous year. In the first 11 months of 2018, Turbine # 1 generated 136,775 Kwh, for \$69,248.72 revenue. Turbine #2 producing 127,200Kwh ang generating \$63,472.80.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Council's decision to install two wind turbines has been a successful venture with production higher than originally planned. In the January to November period of 2018, total revenue prior to HST was \$132,721.52. The turbine's have a life span of 25 years and will be paid off in 8 years or less).

By Wayne Wamboldt is Director Solid Waste Management, Municipality of County of Colchester.



Three friends who have been friends for over forty years recently dropped into the newly expanded Great British Grub Café, Prince Street, Truro. Sandy Balcolm, on the right said, "the service was great, we had delicious food and the atmosphere was awesome". The three ladies Glenna Lowe, left; Debbie DeYarmond, middle and Sandy, right; are from Waverly, Enfield and Fall River. (Submitted)



Over the years roaming deer have been a problem in Truro, especially in Truro Heights. These four were trying to find their way across the parking lot to keep their medical appointments at the Colchester-East Hants Healthcare facility. (Rees Photo)



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