

PHOTO FEATURE

Five Islands Volunteer Fire Department held its annual tree lighting, arrival of Santa and social evening at the Fire hall on December 8th.



Harold Nesbitt, who with his wife Wendy, publishes a leading North American Motorcycle Guide moved to Five Islands a couple years ago. The Nesbitt's dropped by the Five Islands Fire Hall on December 8th for the Christmas Tree lighting and Santa's arrival. Wendy Nesbitt is shown seated in the foreground. (Rees Photo)



Trays of home-made sweets, coffee, tea and hot cider were available at the Five Islands Fire Hall on December 8. (Rees Photo)



Many Five Islands area children enjoyed sitting on Santa's knee. (Rees Photo)



Santa always wants to see a nice smile. (Rees Photo)



Darrel Spence, Five Islands Fire Chief, accepts a queen size blanket from Maurice Rees, Shoreline publisher. The blanket was donated at the department's Christmas tree lighting and arrival of Santa on December 8th. The blanket will be used as a fund-raiser for the department. (Rees Photo)



Five Islands Volunteer Firefighters Paula Rochon, Chief Darrel Spence and Deputy-Chief Aubrey Eagles are all smiles showing off the newest member of the fleet. (Rees Photo)



When Chief Darrel Spence looked in some of the compartments, he found several carbon tanks which came with the truck, along with some hose and nozzles. (Rees Photo)



Shoreline co-publisher, Dorothy Rees, couldn't wait to sit on Santa's knee. (Rees Photo)



Wendy Nesbitt took time away from working on the 2019 Motorcycle Guide to go up to Five Islands Fire Hall to sit on Santa's knee. (Rees Photo)

Five Islands Fire Department Upgrades Fleet

By Maurice Rees

The fleet of fire trucks at Five Islands volunteer Fire Department was recently upgraded with the addition of a more modern truck. Chief Darrel Spence worked many hours to locate a replacement for the 1985 truck which had served the community well.

After many hours of diligent work, he found a used truck was available from the Indian Brook Volunteer Department. Chief Spence said, "We got a good deal, plus they included several pieces of additional equipment, including nozzles, lengths of hose, several air tanks and other things which we didn't have but could use".

Even though Five Islands is the smallest department in Colchester, Chief Spence said he's amazed at how other departments are willing to help. He added, "Since we joined and started going to Colchester County Fire Services, we have received a lot of assistance. Rod Nielson, chief in Brookfield and a driving force with the

county association has been very helpful", Chief Spence added.

"I am amazed at how Rod Nielsen has helped us. He went to an auction of fire equipment in Halifax, and although he didn't pay that much, he showed up here with probably \$10,000 worth of equipment if we bought it new. It's unbelievable how the county departments help each other, Chief Spence concluded.

When we got our replacement truck, we looked around and found out, the department in remote Flat Bay, Newfoundland were looking for a truck. They don't have much gear, nor the population base to purchase much.

Because of the generosity of local departments, we got in contact and offered them our old truck for FREE. Other groups have welcomed us with open arms. "It felt good to be in a position to help another department, even if it was in another province. Karma is a great thing. It feels good to give", Chief Spence added.

Additional 43 Organizations Get Assistance

By Maurice Rees

Of the fifty-five "not-for-profit" organizations applying for funding under Colchester's Insurance for Not-for-Profit - Grant Applications 43 of them were from the remainder of the county, excluding West Colchester. Insurance policy premiums included in the fifty-five applications totaled \$85,960.23, of which organizations were responsible for \$52,808.71. The approved county grants totaled \$25,126.36.

Craig Burgess explained to council that some of the listed premiums included property insurance, and other matters, which were not part of the county's program. He also responded to some councillors queries on specific applications that even though they appeared to be from outside the county, only portions applicable to Colchester were considered. For example, Cumberland Snowmobile Club, which is from outside the county has a portion of their coverage listed for trails inside Colchester. It's a similar situation for Nova Scotia Christmas Tree Council of Nova Scotia, he explained.

The following list includes 43 applications which are outside of West Colchester. Those approved for \$20,453.36 assistance from the municipality

are listed below: Alton Recreation Centre; Archway Counselling Association; Balfron Community Association; Barrachois Community Hall; Bayhead Community Hall; Brookfield Athletic Association; Brookfield Men's Club; Brule Community Centre; Burnside Pembroke Community and Park Association.

Central Nova Horse & Pony Association; Central Nova Women's Resource Centre; Christmas Tree Council of Nova Scotia; Cobequid Spartens Gymnastics Centre; Cobequid Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre; Colchester Community Support Society; Colchester Highland Games & Gathering Society; Colchester Stroke Club; Creamery Square Heritage Society; Crossroads Cemetery; Cumberland Snowmobile Club; Earlton Community Centre; First Baptist Girls Choir; Fundy Trail Snowmobile Club and Hilden Recreation Association.

Hills of Annan Seniors and North Shore Seniors; Lockerby Memorial Cemetery Association; Middleton Community Hall Association; Neighbours Helping Neighbours; Northumberland Arts Council; Nova Scotia Young Farmers; S.J.C.G.V Preservation Society; Scotia Pool; Sunny Brae Cemetery and Tatamagouche Area Trails Association.

Tatamagouche Road Train; The Bible Hill Village Preschool; The Mercury Club; Truro Curling Club; Truro Rugby Club; Truro Run Tribe; Upper Stewiacke Community Association; Wild Blueberry Harvest Limited and Winding River Art Gallery and Gifts.

Total policy premiums, \$85,960.23; premium amounts under consideration \$52,808.71, with approved grants to 55 organizations totaling \$25,126.36.



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