

Prime Minister's Visit to Colchester County

By Linda Harrington

In a campaign style breeze through Truro, Prime Minister Stephen Harper showed his support for local Progressive Conservative MP's Scott Armstrong, Peter MacKay and Jamie Baillie, leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia at a rally on Thursday, May 14th at the Cobequid Educational Centre.

Armstrong and Baillie were both former students at the high school, and as the evening progressed, there was some joking back and forth between the two over who had been the better basketball player.

Outside the Cobequid Educational Centre (CEC) over 200 protesters lined Lorne St., carrying placards with chants of "Hey, hey, ho, ho, Stephen Harper's got to go!" under the watchful eye of police officers.

Inside the CEC gymnasium, which had been transformed into a "theatre in the round", Conservative party supporters were listening to toe tapping entertainment by Gordie Tucker and Friends as they awaited the arrival of the Prime Minister. The building had been secured for the Prime Minister's visit, guests had to pre-register, and a contingent of Prime Minister's Protection Detail, including a sniffer dog, had a visible presence.

Central Nova MP Peter MacKay acted as the emcee for the event, taking a few lighthearted jabs at the opposition before introducing local MP Scott Armstrong.

Armstrong told the crowd there is strong support in the Cumberland-Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley riding where Conservatives have secured a victory in 19 of the last 20 elections. "And I can tell you with the support of everybody in this room we are going to make it 20 of 21, I can guarantee you that," he said.

As Armstrong introduced Prime Minister Harper, the crowd cheered his arrival, waving welcome signs and giving the PM a standing ovation.

The Prime Minister commended Scott Armstrong for his hard work and dedication as a Member of Parliament, representing such a large constituency. "Scott has been very busy on your behalf. He has delivered federal funding to a whole variety of projects that have created jobs and economic growth in this riding." He went on to mention some of the projects and received a round of applause when he mentioned Armstrong's stand against any attempt at creating a long gun registry.

Harper spoke about upcoming fall federal election and the position of the Conservative party. "Economic and financial security, creating and protecting jobs, lowering taxes for families and keeping Canada and Canadians safe in a world that is increasingly uncertain and dangerous," said Harper. "That's what Canadians care about."

He said his government has made careful principal choices that reflect the values of hard working Canadian families. "As I have said before, the measure of good government, the tests of leadership, lies not in achieving success in times of peace and sta-

bility, but doing so during times of risk and danger."

"Friends make no mistake notwithstanding all the uncertainty and instability in the world, this country Canada is heading in the right direction."

Harper then reflected on Canada's economic growth under the Conservative government including rising employment levels, training for young people, free trade agreements with Europe and South Korea, and the success of the federal infrastructure program in bringing the country positively through the recent world-wide recession.

Reflecting on the highlights of the 2015 federal budget, and some of the tax cuts for Canadians, Harper said, "We believe when Canadians work hard, they must be able to keep more of the money that they are earning in their own pockets." He later noted the federal tax burden is now the lowest it has been in over half a century.

As he wrapped his talk, Harper talked about the safety of Canadian citizens from criminals at home and from global attacks and his government's commitment to support strategies and the military to keep our country safe. "Freedom and security go hand in hand." He went on to praise the Canadian military and Canada's global commitment in the past and present.

The following day, Harper was joined by Peter MacKay, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada and Member of Parliament for Central Nova, Rob Moore, Minister of State (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency), and Scott Armstrong, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Employment and Social Development and Minister of Labour and Member of Parliament for Cumberland-Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley at the Rath Eastlink Community Centre to announce the new Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program.

1,800 projects are to be supported by this program, including renovation, expansion and rehabilitation of existing infrastructure that provides community and cultural benefits for the public. Projects under the following categories may be eligible for funding: community centres (including Royal Canadian Legions), cultural centres and museums, parks, recreational trails, libraries, recreational facilities, tourism facilities, docks, cenotaphs and other existing community infrastructure.

Eligible project categories include cultural centres and museums, parks, libraries, recreation facilities and trails, docks, cenotaphs, and community centres, including Royal Canadian Legions.

Selected projects are expected to be completed by the end of 2017 to coincide with Canada's 150th birthday.

Following the announcement at the Rath Eastlink Community Centre, Harper, along with MP Scott Armstrong and MP Peter MacKay, stopped for a quick tour of Stanfields. The PM prepared a screen print, on a t-shirt, of the logo for the new Community Infrastructure Program.

It is expect the Cumberland-Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley riding will be a tight race in the next federal election, as incumbent Conservative Scott Armstrong takes on Bill Casey, a former Tory and a Cumberland-Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley MP for 17 years, who is now running for the Liberal party.



Gordie Tucker and Friends entertained at the rally prior to the arrival of the Prime Minister. (Harrington Photo)



Members of Parliament, Peter MacKay and Scott Armstrong and leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia, Jamie Baillie arrive at the Conservative rally. (Harrington Photo)



Local girls' choir sang our National anthem. (Harrington Photo)



Protestors from Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) arrived on mass to present their concerns. (Harrington Photo)



Prime Minister Stephen Harper is welcomed to the rally in Truro. (Harrington Photo)

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Camp Pagweak is Ready for Kids

By Ruth Rushton

Camp Pagweak is 70 years 'young' this year and we're excited to once again to welcome children back to this beautiful property located just outside the village of Pugwash. We boast a beautiful storefront property where the sunsets are just amazing! Children's laughter, singing and shouts of joy are all heard across the Pugwash Harbour. Camp Pagweak is located on the Sunrise Trail - (Hwy 6) just outside the village of Pugwash

Angela Trenholm has taken on the challenge of Camp Director and she has a passion for camp and our youth. Angela is from the local area and is presently serving as Vice Principal of the Wallace Elementary & Cyrus Eaton Elementary Schools. Angela has a vast amount of experience leading youth. She has built some wonderful relationships. She has been a teacher, youth leader, Family

Camp Director, Adventure Kids Leader and music leader. She is also a musician, athlete and Certified Coach.

Eight weeks of camp are planned with the first camp starting on July 1st. We offer camps for ages 5 - 16. Each week there is something for everyone - sports, music, beach games, kayaking, zip line, hay rides, climbing wall and new this year are trail bikes. Although we are known as a Baptist Youth Camp, children come from ALL denominations come to camp and we welcome every one! We feel blessed to have them!

We also welcome any rental inquiries. It's a great place for children (and adults!) to come and just have fun - picnics, school day trips, staff events and retreats are all great possibilities. Memories, great friendships, and lots and lots of fun are guaranteed at Camp Pagweak. For more information call 597-8583 or visit: www.pagweak.org or come see us on Facebook.

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As regulations change we will be introducing new services as rolled out by regulatory authorities across the province. This includes Minor Ailment Assessments, a pilot project for minor skin irritations, cold sore and Allergic Rhinitis.

The store is closed on Saturday and Sunday, but is open: Monday: 9:30 to 7pm; Tuesday, 9:30 - 5pm; Wednesday, 9:30 to 5pm, Thursday 9:30 - 6pm and Friday, 9:30 - 6 pm.

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