

Train No. 4 Pulls Into Parrsboro



This photo shows the unloading crew. Kerwin Davison is second from right. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)

By Lawrence R. Nicoll

The replica of Engine #4, (Cumberland RR & Coal Company - 1877) which ran to Parrsboro is on the tracks again. Designed and built by Kerwin Davison (as is all the display) his gift to our town continues to bring joy and fun to citizens and Visitors alike.

Very few people driving the Amherst-Parrsboro-Truro run fail to stop and take pictures.

Kerwin's cars including the 1928 Nash (Rum Runner) car will soon join the display. Kerwin and his brother, Charles, brought the train to the park, immediately joined by several of us, who were just passing by but stopped to assist.

Everyone including residents and tourist appreciate and thank Kerwin for his generosity.



Set up on the tracks, ready to go, this display created by Kerwin Davison is ready for the 2016 influx of tourists, many of whom stop to take photos. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)



Kerwin Davison is at the controls of the 'Pusher', in the back is the train. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)



This image is a bit fuzzy, because Donna Hanna shot a video of Kerwin, Charles and volunteers unloading the train. (Donna Hanna Photo)

BoFIFA's 12 Questions to Government

The Bay of Fundy Inshore Fishermen's Association (BoFIFA) are seriously involved with getting answers to questions. This is an effort to protect their livelihoods, certainly, but they also know that by protecting the environment they will ensure a sustainable fishery in Nova Scotia for generations to come. When they see a threat to this, they get very concerned. People involved in BoFIFA have asked this page to post the questions they would like answered by our government:

What is the fish mortality rate & what would be enough to bring a halt to testing, and how will this be monitored?

Should adaptive management* be used in this context?

Why were the First Nation Bands with treaty rights in the Bay of Fundy not consulted individually, in contravention of the Supreme court's ruling about their Nations individual rights?

Why was the LFA35 Advisory Board never consulted?

Why were obvious signs pointing to a 'no go zone' at the site in the Minas Passage ignored at the outset of development of the FORCE test site?

Where is FORCE's undisclosed site, and why is it undisclosed?

Do we understand the effects of the science & technology testing on the ecosystem, much less the actual turbines' impact?

What is the true return to Nova Scotia from Energy minister Sampson's \$1.7 billion forecast for tidal energy, and what portion would be a true economic benefit that remains in the province?

How many permanent jobs would be involved in tidal energy, post-development and where would they be?

Should government be involved in this manner in industry given it's long record in the area?

Should private money pay for the scientific research which influences public policy?

Do we have a right to ask for accountability involving serious, obvious conflicts of interest within tidal energy regulation, industry and academia?

*AKA adaptive resource management; a structured, iterative process of robust decision making in the face of uncertainty, with an aim to reducing uncertainty over time via system monitoring.

BoFIFA is a member of The Canadian Council of Professional Fish Harvesters is the National Sector Council for the fish harvesting industry in Canada. www.fishharvesterspecheurs.ca/

BoFIFA Standing Up For The Environment & Truth

By Colin Sproul

Recently fishermen of Nova Scotia have had their views around government's perception of them confirmed by the grossly misinformed comments of MP Bill Casey.

His obvious attempt to pit the fishermen of the bay against turbine builders in Pictou is one of the most unCanadian displays by a politician, I have ever seen. As fisherman we are not anti-tidal construction or anti-tidal energy but only standing up for the environment and the truth.

His comments on the economic value of the fishery are ridiculous. The value of lobster caught in this area alone was an average 3/4 of a million dollars per vessel last year, making it the most lucrative lobster area on earth. It brings tremendous economic impact to this region.

Has Mr Casey not represented the people of his area for a very long time? Does he not bear some responsibility for the economic stagnation of his riding that he cites?

We, as fisherman, are the only ones standing up and speaking out about the mistruths surrounding this installation. Our industry is "bearing the burden" alone. If we don't speak out who will?

This site is not an experiment as Mr Casey suggests but has evolved into a commercial power facility, something that was not its intent and is in violation of the approval process.

Mr Casey's obvious lack of understanding on this issue is again evidenced by his belief that other progressive countries would buy a technology from Nova Scotia that shows zero care for the environment.

As any fisherman or biologist will tell you, places where fish live are not hostile to them. His views on this are laughable. At best, the Minas Passage teems with marine life in an incredible display. This is solely because of the massive flow of water there that Mr Casey has deemed hostile to them.

This MP needs to stop and contemplate the juxtaposition of his claim that this is an experimental site and the reality of it already having the largest transmission capacity of any tidal energy project on earth. Does anyone really believe this is only a test?

I eagerly anticipate hearing Mr Casey's views on these important questions when I get a chance to meet in Ottawa.

Colin Sproul, Spokesperson
Bay of Fundy Inshore Fishermen's Association, Delap's Cove

Fishermen To Seek Injunction On Test Turbines

By Maurice Rees

"Does the province intend to find itself in court on the side of business, while fishermen are on the side of ecology?", that's a question Colin Sproul, Delaps Cove, asked Premier Stephen MacNeil, and included in an Open Letter to the premier.

While Cape Sharp Tidal was readying the deployment, during the first week of June, the first turbine for Open Hydro and Emera from the shipyard in Pictou for the two week trip around the province to Parrsboro, Bay of Fundy fishermen were organizing to launch court action to delay installation of test turbines at the FORCE site near Parrsboro.

Following various media reports about fishermen meeting in Annapolis Royal and Digby, the Shoreline contacted members of the Bay of Fundy Inshore Fishermen's Association for an update on recent meetings in Annapolis Royal and Digby. On Saturday, May 28th we were successful in contacting Chris Hudson, Victoria Beach, association president, who stated the association had asked

Chris Sproul to be its spokesperson; Darren Porter, a member of the association and a weir fisherman from Bramber. We were able to reach Colin Sproul, Delaps Cove, while he was travelling. He is spokesman for the association.

We have not been able to contact Mark Taylor is according to statements in the Chronicle Herald is the only fisherman asked to sit on a FORCE Advisory Committee. Approximately 50 fishermen attended meetings in Annapolis Royal and Digby.

A source, who is a friend of the author of this article, although not a member of the association attended the meeting held in the Digby Fire Hall, two fishermen stood up saying they were donating \$1,000 each to cover legal fees to seek an injunction to delay installation of the test turbines.

According to sources from around the fishing communities, concerned fishermen have been calling and sending in money. Once source indicated they were amazed how much money was raised in just a few days. Chris Hudson, president of the association, refused to indicate how much had been collected, but it is understood to be substantial.

The Inshore fisherman's association, Ecology Action Centre and Striped Bass Association are all expressing concern the original template for test turbines is not being followed. Originally, the plan was three births, one turbine per berth, 4.4 megawatts, and maximum time for turbine in water was four years, then it would have to be removed.

Since the original plan was introduced, things have changed. There are now five berths, up from three, and power generation capacity has expanded from 4.4 Megawatts to 22.5 megawatts. The maximum time limit of 4 years has been removed, allowing a turbine to stay in the water forever.

During the telephone interview with Colin Sproul, he mentioned an open letter had been hand delivered to The Honourable Stephen McNeil with additional copies sent to : the Honourable Keith Colwell,

the Honourable Michael Samson. His opening statement in the letter was, "The Bay of Fundy is home to the largest annual migration on earth, it is truly our Serengeti. It represents the most diverse and sensitive ecosystem in Canada. It is the life blood of Southwest Nova Scotia and Southern New Brunswick and provides successful livings for the thousands of fisherman who call it home as well as thousands more on land".

Several other extracts from the letter can be found elsewhere in this issue.



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