

## Palliser Development Meeting - The Peg, May 11<sup>th</sup>

By Maurice Rees

It's taken just over a year to get the logistics and a consultant in place to develop a plan for the Palliser Property to make it a world class destination. Local municipalities are moving forward to plan for a world-class attraction in this region. Developing the plan is the responsibility of a steering committee which has representation from the Town of Truro, County of Colchester, Tourism Nova Scotia, citizens and business stakeholders.

Now that a consulting firm has been retained, the first event comprising a four hour public consultation Open House was held at the Millbrook Multi-purpose Room on April 25th. The next public meeting will be hosted by Councillor's Tom Taggart and Doug MacInnes at the Peg, Masstown Market from 7-9 pm on May 11th.

Driving the process will be UPLAND, a Halifax-based consulting firm, who have been selected by the Bay of Fundy Gateway Steering Committee to provide a detailed multi-phased master plan for the former Palliser Motel site.

Geoff Stewart, municipal councilor and project steering committee chair says "this is an exciting time for our Region and has been a while in the making but we are pleased to finally have the UPLAND consulting team on the ground. They will bring a lot of depth and imagination to the master plan process."

The company's successful proposal was one of about a dozen submitted by firms from across Canada.

UPLAND provides award-winning strategic planning and urban design services to public and private sector clients throughout Atlantic Canada. Bruce Mans and Steffen Kaubler, experienced urban planning professionals, manage the company and are

passionate about their work while understanding that building vibrant communities and regions is a complex process that often required input from many professions.

The UPLAND team has experts with extensive experience and knowledge in landscape architecture, building design, parks planning, place-making, interpretive planning, public consultation and graphic design, as well as tourism and business planning.

Both Tourism Nova Scotia and ACOA are providing up to \$50,000 each toward the masterplan process, while the remaining amount is equally shared by the Town of Truro and County of Colchester with each contributing \$25,000.

The 10-acre property, located close to Highway 102 and easily accessible from Exit 14, was purchased by the Municipality of Colchester in April of 2015



with a long-term goal of developing the site as a tourism destination and gateway to the Bay of Fundy region.

The area is a popular stopping spot for both tourists and locals and attracts several thousand people each year and is an ideal viewing platform for the world-famous Fundy tidal bore.

**For additional information, please contact:** Paul Smith, Project Manager, Municipality of Colchester, Ph: 902-897-3170; Cell: 902-890-9456, or Email: psmith@colchester.ca



Pictured above are the Provincial Volunteer award winners from the Fundy Region: (L to R) Ken MacKenzie, Amherst, Ron Logan, Bible Hill, Frank Arseneau, Municipality of Colchester, Donald Hartlen, East Hants, Madison Tennant, Parrsboro, Colleen Dowe, Cumberland County, Mary Berrigan, Stewiacke and Jude Clyke, Truro. (Communications Nova Scotia Photo)

## N.S. Volunteers Recognized

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**Madison Tennant**, Town of Parrsboro began volunteering in 2008 with Relay for Life in Parrsboro. Since then she has helped with the fundraising and sat on the entertainment committee. She was the public relations chair of her Student Council, and a mem-

ber of the yearbook committee, and winter carnival committee. In addition she has volunteered at the seniors care centre, and was president of the Leo Club.

**Mary Berrigan**, Town of Stewiacke, started volunteering in her community about 30 years ago. Throughout that

time she has been an active volunteer at the preschools and schools her children attended. She was a Beaver leader for 10 years, and volunteered at the Stewiacke Legion, helping with dinners and events.



As part of Provincial Volunteer Week, the Village of Bible Hill held its own recognition ceremony on April 13th. Shown above are the volunteers, in attendance at the recognition banquet and awards ceremony. Volunteers come in all ages and many have volunteered for the same group for several years. (Rees Photo)



Many of the province's dedicated volunteers started when they were in their youth. Three exceptionally young people were recognized at the Bible Hill event on April 13th. Shown above proudly displaying their "Young Achievers Service Award" are Vanessa Sleiman, Shannon O'Connor and Nash Reid. (Rees Photo)

## DNR Closes Lower Onslow Park Centre

West Colchester has lost seven good paying jobs as a result of the provincial budget, with the closure of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Parks and Recreation centre in Lower Onslow. Prior to the budget 16 people had worked at the Lower Onslow centre. Seven positions have been eliminated and the other 11 positions will be relocated to DNR offices in Truro.

Natural Resources Minister

Lloyd Hines said the positions were eliminated following a review of the parks and recreation services, which realigned some services in order to remove redundancy and overlap.

At presstime it was not known what impact the closure will have on provincial parks around the province. The parks and recreation facility is to close permanently by June 1.

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