

Wentworth 2ND Annual Family Fun Day



Amanda Morrissey, Truro and Dawn Levy, Wentworth working at the Wentworth Family Fun Day at the Wentworth Recreation Centre to raise funds and help keep Wentworth Elementary School remaining in Wentworth. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)

By Hope Bridgewater

Members of the Wentworth School Sustainability Association (WSSA) and the Wentworth Community School Council (WCSC) are working hard trying to keep the Wentworth School open as it is now threatened with closure, after a flawed Impact Assessment Report based on negativity, enrolment, bias, and only money considerations was viewed as gospel by the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board (CCRSB).

The Board stated that Wentworth Elementary will close by June 30, 2015, unless the Wentworth community can raise the funds annually to keep it open. However, in April, 2014, we heard that the CCRSB will decide on March 15, 2015, whether or not to defer closure until June 30, 2016. The CCRSB is still playing unfair political games with members of the Wentworth community, keeping us under stress until next March.

It is inspiring to hear from Linda Patriquin, Chair of the WSSA, talking of how the Wentworth community makes a Family Fun Day a success as a way of raising funds for the Wentworth School. She sent me here report, which contained:

On Saturday, September 27, 2014, a very successful 2nd Annual Family Fun Day was held at the Wentworth Recreation Centre. The Wentworth School Sustainability Association and the Wentworth Community School Council partnered to organize this event. All pro-

ceeds will be used to sustain Wentworth Elementary in its community. A sincere thank you goes out to the Wentworth Recreation Centre for providing us with a facility for this event.

Even the weatherman cooperated as we enjoyed lots of sunshine and summer like temperatures. The morning kicked off with a Co-ed Softball Tournament consisting of four teams.

Unfortunately the Bike Rodeo to be hosted by the RCMP had to be cancelled because of a prior commitment. Sparky the Fire dog joined the Wentworth Volunteer Fire Department to share in the excitement. Volunteer firefighters were on hand to provide an opportunity to view the fire trucks and protective gear.

Cheers, laughter, and lots of giggles filled the air as the children enjoyed a variety of game stations, winning tickets to later cash in for prizes. The game cards purchased not only provided an afternoon of fun and a chance to test your skills, but also entered your name into the draw for a Super Value Card donated by Ski Wentworth won by Robert Palmer.

Hats off to all our conscientious workers who created or staffed the games and distributed prizes, you are an invaluable resource! The Wentworth Home and School Association put bounce in our step by providing a Ball Tent and Bouncy House. Another splash of funds came about as courageous volunteers climbed into the Dunk Tank donated by another faithful

community supporter. Thrills were created as patrons dunked their friends, parents, and spouses. The chi-ching of more cash could be heard as community members took part in the Washer Toss Tournament or later made donations and played for fun. Tournament winners Rick Parker/Bill Baker and Bob/Jan Smith were awarded a Washer Toss Set, having been made and donated by another avid Community supporter. A canteen was available throughout the day. Tickets on our 50/50 draw were sold prior to and during our Family Fun Day. Winner of the 50/50 was Jack Patriquin who donated the winnings back to the cause. A huge thank you is extended for this donation and to all those who supported us by selling or buying tickets.

All I all the 2nd Annual Family Fun Day was a great success. This success and the funds raised show the commitment of residents, businesses, and community groups of Wentworth and neighbouring communities to maintain Wentworth Elementary School in its community. The Wentworth School Sustainability Association and the Wentworth Community School Council extend a huge gratitude to everyone who donated funds, facilities, expertise, equipment, food, and time or supported this cause in any way to make Family Day a success.

Education Minister Karen Casey, a part of the new



Fred Richard (left) is shown receiving a Meritorious Service Medal from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of all Masons in Nova Scotia, Paul Frank (right). The award was presented to Mr. Richard during a Social Event staged by members and wives of the North Star Masonic Lodge #74 in Londonderry October 4, 2014. (Submitted)

Parrsboro First Stop on Province Wide Tour

Coastal Lighthouse Rug Hooking, an exhibit developed by the Nova Scotia Art Guild will be on display at Fundy Geological Museum in Parrsboro until November 28th. The displays rugs all have coastal themes, most featuring lighthouses. The museum is also organizing several rug-hooking demonstrations and presentations in November.

"The exhibit will be showing around the province throughout the next year and I am pleased that the Fundy Geological Museum is providing the space to show it," said Dwight Gallagher, vice-president of the Nova Scotia Art Guild. "I hope the residents of Cumberland and Colchester take the opportunity to visit the museum to see the rugs."

Liberal government, added \$65 million to the education budget in 2014 and gave CCRSB added funding of \$5.7 million for 2014-2015. Some of this \$5.7 million should have been directed by CCRSB towards rescinding the orders to close River John Consolidated, Maitland District Elementary and Wentworth Consolidated Elementary. Also, CCRSB needs to examine the human rights issue of sending young students of ages 4 years to 10 years on long bus rides of up to nearly two hours daily to a distant school as it harms their emotional, mental and physical health.

"Lighthouses are icons of the coastal Nova Scotia shoreline and rug hooking is a popular activity in our communities," said Tim Fedak, museum director and curator. "The event gives us an opportunity to engage with rug-hooking enthusiasts in the region."

The exhibit's official opening was held Saturday, Oct. 25. The Fundy Geological Museum, 162 Two Islands Rd., Parrsboro, displays Nova Scotia's rich geological past and some of the oldest dinosaur bones in Canada. Museum hours are Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Great Village Legion



Royal Canadian Legion Cobequid Branch 72 now has four generations as members. Legion President Pat Murphy welcomes new members Ashely and Susan Sharpe (back left to right), along with transferring members Diane Barkhouse and Ken Smith. Diane has been a member for over 20 years and Ken a member for over 46 years. (Harrington Photo)



Royal Canadian Legion Cobequid Branch 72 President Pat Murphy (back left) welcomes three new members Jim Harrison (back right) and Diane Barkhouse and Ken Smith (front left to right). (Harrington Photo)

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