

REES' Pieces

Why Pour Brine into the rivers?

Maybe, just maybe, the Ivany Report is starting to sink in. Business owners know what's necessary, but it takes time to develop sound business plans. The second slowest group to incorporate changes are government and the public service and that's okay, to a point.

However, the entire movement is slowed down by the general public, because they resist change; don't trust governments to make changes, because the track record on initiatives led by government is not good and furthermore they feel businesses are too greedy and will only think of their bottom line.

Turning this province around is going to be a mammoth task and requires the wisdom of Solomon. A way must be found to bring all three entities together for a frank discussion.

I worked the weekend and didn't get a chance to digest the story on "The Alton Challenge" in Saturday's Chronicle Herald until Monday at lunch time. The salt cavern project, to store natural gas, in Alton is dear to my heart, because the waters from the Shubenacadie River lap at the dyke on the back of my property. In fact my property line is right up the middle of the dyke in downtown Maitland.

I wasn't upset at what is going on, or the fact the Stewiacke and Shubenacadie River waters will be used to flush out the salt to make the three caverns, and that the brine will be pumped back into the rivers at an acceptable rate and with low salinity.

What was disturbing is there are people opposed to the project, who will not meet with company or government officials and have not studied the environmental report. I don't have a problem with people being opposed, but I do have a problem when people are so tunnel focused they will not even sit down to discuss. It's similar to the old adage many of us have said for decades, "if you don't vote you don't have a right to complain".

It is instances like this that has held us back, and hampers acceptance and implementation of the Ivany Report, which has called for drastic action, and warns us if we don't engage in a change of attitude, we will never solve the provinces problems.

It has taken a while for the general public to comprehend the depth of the Ivany Report. I'm not so sure we have softened up much to accept change. We must urge government and business an environment which will curtail the movement west of our finest.

When it comes to changes Governments always tread lightly until they are able to ascertain public opinion. As Graham Steele says in his new book, the politician's eyes are always on being re-elected no necessarily what is bold and right.

I hope the current government pays attention to the science and regulations they put in place in approving the Alton gas storage facility. It's a \$130-million project and will create thousands of hours of employment for 100 construction workers for the next two or three years.

What occurred to me, while having lunch on Monday and reading the story, is there is a very simple solution. Sure there is opposition to releasing a brine back into the rivers. Yes, there might be some danger if there is a malfunction of equipment or human error.

Worst of all is thousands of tons of salt are being extracted. Unless we use it, it's a waste of a valuable resource.

Why not treat the brine as it is being pumped from underground and put it to good use? Maybe another business could be created in the southern tip of Colchester County. Why not build a tank farm and store the brine, so it can be used as a salt brine on icy roads? Why not remove the water and truck the salt to the Highway garages to be applied to the highways in winter?

To me it makes sense, creates jobs, utilizes a resource we all want on the highway when the ice cometh. At the same time it removes the objection of those who are against the project. That's what I would call a win-win-win for everyone and nobody loses.

Maurice



A very emotional service was held at St. James United Church, Great Village on Sept. 28th, celebrating the life of the Church for over 160 years but at the same time marking the final service in this historical focal point of the community. Some of those taking part in the service included (left to right): Sybil Flemming (Clerk of Session), Eileen Eaton (read the Scripture), Meredith Layton (with cup & saucer representing Fellowship), Vernon McCully (with hammer & nails, a Trustee), Rev. Valerie Kingsbury, Carrie McCully (organist) and Evelyn Patriquin (Choir Director). A Community Preservation Society is attempting to take over ownership of the building. To raise funds they have been hosting a Café in the Village all summer and into the fall, with brunch on Saturday morning. (Harrington Photo)

Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade held their annual Fire Prevention Open House on Oct. 11 (Harrington Photos)



Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade is all ready for the open house.



Zander McKeigan aims the house to put out the pretend fire in the windows.



Four year old Brielle Tremere tries on fire fighter boots as she and her 18 month old brother Tait enjoy their candy treat.



Walter McElhinney gives the kids a ride in the miniature fire truck.



Vanessa Piercy helps three year old Mary Welton aim the fire hose.



Scott Faber explains the use of the breathing apparatus to Carter McCallum.

The Shoreline Journal

Here's where to find us:

BASS RIVER:
Bayside Pharmacy
Dominion Chair Factory Store

BELMONT:
A & N General Store.

BIBLE HILL:
C.W. Fraser Pharmacy
MacQuarries Pharmacy

DEBERT:
Barnhill's Superette
Debert Mini-Mart

FIVE ISLANDS:
Masstown Market Five Islands

GLENHOLME:
Double "C" Truckstop
Glenholme General Store

GREAT VILLAGE:
Wilson's Gas

MAITLAND:
Frieze & Roy General Store

MASSTOWN:
Masstown Market

NORTH RIVER:
Grant's Grocery

ONSLow:
Onslow Market

PARRSBORO:
CrossRoads Co-op
Ken's Grocery
Wright's Pharmasave

TRURO:
Atlantic Superstore
MacQuarrie's Pharmasave (Esplanade)
tshirtsrus.ca

We are interested in placing the Shoreline Journal in additional locations.

If you have a suggestion, or wish to have the Shoreline available from your store, please contact:

Maurice Rees, Publisher
902-647-2968,
or E-MAIL:

maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

The Shoreline Journal (circ. 1300) is a monthly community newspaper serving communities along the Glooscap Trail from Truro to Parrsboro, Nova Scotia serving the communities of Belmont/Debert, Wentworth/Londonderry, Onslow/Masstown along the shore to Great Village, Bass River, Economy, Five Islands and Lower Five Islands. It is published on the last Wednesday of each month (earlier in December) with a deadline of the 20th of the month.

MAILING ADDRESS: The Shoreline Journal, P.O. Box 41, Bass River, Nova Scotia, B0M 1B0.

PHONE: 902-647-2968; Fax: 902-647-2194 Toll Free 1-800-406-1426; Cell: 902-890-9850 • E-MAIL: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

EDITOR PUBLISHER: Maurice Rees • ADVERTISING: Maurice Rees • CIRCULATION: Dorothy Rees

Canadian Publications Mail Products Agreement #40048924, ISSN #1209-9198



SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

LOCAL SUBSCRIPTIONS: B0M / B2N - \$23.00, PLUS HST = \$26.45 • ALL PARTS OF NS: \$26.00 plus HST = \$29.90

ALL OTHER AREAS OF CANADA: \$28.00, plus HST = \$32.20 • USA SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$40.00

HST: #890564404RT001. Printed by Advocate Printing & Publishing Ltd, Pictou, Nova Scotia

All rights reserved. Material published in The Shoreline Journal may not be reproduced in a form without prior approval of the publisher. Material to be returned to sender must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope.

1996 Heritage Award recipient. Listed with Canadian Advertising Rates & Data (CARD) and Bowden's Media Monitoring Service.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) for our publishing activities. Canada The publisher is not responsible for minor errors in ads, which do not lessen the value of the item(s). The publisher is not responsible for space beyond that portion of the advertisement containing the item(s) in error. Letters to the editor are subject to editing or rejection, must be signed by the author and contain a phone number.



NEWSPAPERS ATLANTIC
TRUSTED | CONNECTED | TARGETED