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South Cumberland NEWS

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Tantramar FM 107.9 Partners with Island Production Company

Tantramar FM 107.9 is excited to announce a new partnership with Prince Edward Island based production company Island Jubilee Inc. to present the "Tantramar FM - Island Jubilee Bus Tour" providing radio listeners with an opportunity to travel with CFTA radio personalities to the Island Jubilee Old Time Radio Music Show live at the Florence Simmons Performance Hall in Charlottetown, PEI. The first tour was October 22, 2023 which is the show's season debut and will continue on a monthly basis to each scheduled show.

The tour, by motor coach, is sponsored and provided by Maritime Bus with stops in Moncton, Sackville, Amherst, and Port Elgin. Mike Cassidy of Maritime Bus is very pleased with this new tourism offering - "Visiting PEI is a special occasion that still holds a special place in the hearts of mainlanders in our region. This innovative package allows radio listeners a great opportunity to get to know their CFTA radio personalities by traveling with them on the coach to PEI and enjoy some of our Island's finest music and hospitality." Music fans will be treated to a unique opportunity to travel to PEI with CFTA radio personality Randy Geddes as their tour guide, enjoy a Sunday brunch at Red Shores Top of the Park restaurant - also home of the world famous Charlottetown Driving Park, and then take their VIP seats at the Hall for a live performance of the Island Jubilee where Geddes will take to the podium to wel-

come his guests and take over MC duties for the show. After the show, the tour will assemble in the lobby for a meet and greet and group photo with the house band and the fun will continue on the bus ride home with Randy hosting country music trivia with prizes from the show.

Listeners can then tune in to CFTA to listen to the show and relive those special moments and share with their friends and loyal listeners. A legacy of the 2023 Canada Games, the Island Jubilee Old Time Radio Music Show can truly lay claim to its title as an old-time radio music show as each show will also now be recorded live for broadcast on Tantramar FM 107.9 CFTA based in Amherst, NS. Ron Bickle, operations manager at CFTA is very excited to bring this show to his listening audience as part of this partnership. Says Ron, "Our listeners cover South-eastern New Brunswick, Northeastern Nova Scotia, Western PEI, as well as on-line listeners from all over, and the concept, presentation, and caliber of talent on this show is a perfect fit for our programming. We're delighted to carry this show on our airwaves."

Headlining the show's season opener on Sunday October 22nd, 2023, was Canadian fiddle legends Ivan & Vivian Hicks. Ivan & Vivian's joyful performance will include Maritime fiddle favourites as well as a special duet performance with the Jubilee star fiddler Courtney Hogan-Chandler. The two will also join forces

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Research Project to Study Northumberland Strait

By Darrell Cole

For many years, residents along the Northumberland Shore in Cumberland County have been at the mercy of rising tides and the ever-present risk of damage from storm surges along areas of vulnerable coastline.

Unfortunately, until now there has been little way to measure the impact of rising seas and storm surges locally because the closest monitoring stations are near Shediac in New Brunswick and in Pictou County.

That is changing through a research project the Municipality of Cumberland is a partner on with the Nova Scotia Community College's Applied Geomatics Research Group that will measure tides and storm surges to help predict coastal vulnerability in the area.

Tim Webster and his team from NSCC were in Northport recently to place a gauge in the harbour to help develop a picture that should help with planning existing and future development along the coast-

line.

"We've installed a water level sensor that will be considered a tide gauge. Every 15 minutes it will record the amount of water above it with the intention that if we get any more big storms we'll be able to get an accurate measurement of the storm surge," Webster said. "This type of data is critical to build up good return period statistics like that was a one in a hundred-year storm or that was a one in a 200-year storm."

The project is being funded

by Research Nova Scotia and the Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute Atlantic through the Atlantic Climate Research Collaboration that funds research that will tackle complex data-focused programs related to climate change and its impact on coastal communities.

Webster and Dalhousie University's Orla Murphy are receiving \$165,222 for their research project exploring coastal vulnerability along the Northumberland Strait in Cumberland County. They will produce coastal flood vulnerability maps for present day and the future that will help inform planning and development decisions related to the coastline.

The study, which will also use provincial LIDAR to generate new coastal flood maps for the coastline, will run for approximately 30 months and will be turned over to the municipality when completed.

While there's been much focus on rising sea levels and coastal vulnerability along the Bay of Fundy and Isthmus of Chignecto that separates Cumberland County and Nova Scotia from the rest of the continent, the shoreline along the Northumberland Strait in the three Maritime provinces is also vulnerable - as evidenced by a 2010 storm that sent a surge of water into Port Elgin, N.B. and along the Tidenish River in Nova Scotia.

"The Northumberland Strait is one of the areas that is most vulnerable to storm

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Tim Webster from NSCC, Steve Ferguson and Maggie Pitts from the Municipality of Cumberland look over a gauge that was placed in Northport Harbour as part of a research project that will measure tides and storm surges to help predict coastal vulnerability along the Northumberland Strait in Cumberland County. (Darrell Cole - Municipality of Cumberland photo)

RFP's Issued for New Fire Stations

By Darrell Cole

The Municipality of Cumberland has issued a Request for Proposals to design and build new fire stations in Parrsboro and Springhill.

The municipality issued the RFP on Sept. 21 with a closing date of Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2023.

"Improving the fire service has been a priority of council since we were elected in 2020," Mayor Murray Scott said. "We conducted a major review of our fire service in 2022 and Goudreau and Associates provided us with a framework to address the needs they identified."

On Sept. 13, municipal

council met to approve budget amendments to increase the cost of the two projects from the budgeted \$2.4 million to approximately \$6.35 million with the additional money being provided by borrowing over a 20-year period.

The municipality is transitioning the fire service into a hub model whereby stations in Springhill, Parrsboro, Truemanville and Pugwash will be designated as support hubs, supporting training, logistics and other services to other local stations around them.

The municipality took another step forward during its September council meeting

on Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2023, when council approved the purchase of a piece of property on the corner of the Farrell Road and Templar Street in Parrsboro for \$100,000 plus HST to be the site of the new fire station in that community.

Land has been acquired in the Springhill industrial park for the Springhill fire station.

The goal is to have the Springhill fire station occupied by Oct. 31, 2024, and the Parrsboro fire station on Jan. 31, 2025.

The municipality made significant investments in the fire service as part of the 2023-24 budget, investing

\$400,000 to provide bunker gear, breathing apparatus and radios for county fire departments. As well, \$1.5 million has been set aside to purchase fire apparatus such as vehicles.

"I'm pleased that we have made a significant financial investment in our fire service through the purchase of bunker gear, breathing apparatus and radios while also setting aside another \$1.5 million to purchase vehicles and other necessary equipment," the mayor said.

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