

We Don't Think So...

"The lifeblood of our coastal communities is significantly dependent on the sustainability of our fisheries." So said Willie Courtney, of the Shubenacadie River Commercial Fishermen's Association in his opening remarks at a meeting with Environment Minister Margaret Miller and her staff on August 23. We were six people from diverse backgrounds invited to attend the meeting arranged by Willie to speak about the tidal power project being developed in the Bay of Fundy.

We (fishers, university professors & concerned citizens) all volunteered our time and expertise to express our concerns for this body of water that we all care about. We wanted to emphasize that there is not enough baseline information about the area to deploy turbines, nor be able to judge the effects on the environment. This was determined not only by our group but by the federal Department of Fisheries & Oceans who have said there are insufficient measures in place to be able to detect or mitigate harm to the fish, mammals & other marine creatures that transit through this biologically sensitive area,

the passage that leads them to their spawning & feeding grounds in the Minas Basin. There may be an Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan developed by the proponents but there is no requirement nor any way for them to implement it. In the absence of science the precautionary principle is supposed to take precedence.

Although the government has assigned regulation of the project to NS Environment, they do not have the necessary data, funding, nor ability to do anything but approve the projects that the Department of Energy has been pushing for the past decade (through three successive governments). Surely rubber-stamping projects is not what their responsibility is. Who is responsible for protecting the actual environment in all of this? Why do the fishers and academics even have to become advocates for the Bay of Fundy's health, for the food security that comes from this resource? Isn't it the job of our government to protect the interests and resources of our province?

Darren Porter, a weir fisherman from Bramber, noted to the Minister that when the fishery resource gets damaged by

these turbines the small-scale fishermen will also disappear and the knowledge can't be replaced nor can the fishery simply restart once it's shut down. Minister Miller replied, "Resources evolve," citing the example, "there was once 3000 farms in Nova Scotia and now there are only 300."

We would submit that any 'evolution' of this sort to the fishing industry would be detrimental for all Nova Scotians. The scientific evidence we presented clearly demonstrates that the fish and marine mammal mortality, would be directly proportional to the number of turbines deployed. This would result in the eventual elimination of the fishing economy in the Bay of Fundy and beyond.

When asked why a second turbine will be allowed onto the Cape Sharp Tidal demonstration berth, where there was originally only one unit planned for in the Environmental Assessment, the Minister said it was because the proponents requested this and they "don't believe there will be any harm." One can suppose that it is good that they have such faith in the proponents but the marine biologist in the room, Dr. Michael Dadswell, who studied the impact of tidal turbines on marine animals for years, stated just the

opposite. Common sense suggests that you only deploy one turbine to determine the environmental effects prior to adding more.

Is scientific evidence supposed to simply be ignored within government chambers, or do they only listen to scientists who toe the corporate line? Do the demands of industry lobbyists trump the basic needs of the environment, of sustainable fisheries that have fed Nova Scotians and their Mi'kmaw predecessors for millennia? We don't think so.

The following people attended the meeting with Hon Margaret Miller, Minister Department of Environment and approved the above press release: Willie Courtney, Shubenacadie River Commercial Fishermen's Association; Chris Gertridge, Gaspereau Fisherman's Association; Darren Porter, Bramber Weir Fisherman; Dr. Paul Stephenson, Acadia University Mathematics and Statistics department; Dr. Michael Dadswell, Biologist, Acadia University and Marke Slipp, advocate for Heavy Current Fishers Association.

Work Smart Program Coming to West Colchester

Saint Mary's University has launched the Work Smarts program with the intention of bringing qualified young graduates to West Colchester to take part in meaningful employment opportunities.

Work Smarts is an employment wage subsidy funded by Service Canada and facilitated by The Sobey School Business Development Centre (SSBDC) with the intention of retaining youth in Atlantic Canada post-graduation and growing local businesses. The program has been operational for 12 years focusing on all four Atlantic Provinces. This year it has been approved to provide an additional 45 federal wage subsidies to employers in rural Nova Scotia. During the program all participants will be provided with professional development training during their work placements.

The SSBDC is searching for West Colchester area employers to take part in the program. Placements are required to begin by Oct. 1st

in order to be eligible for the full funding amount.

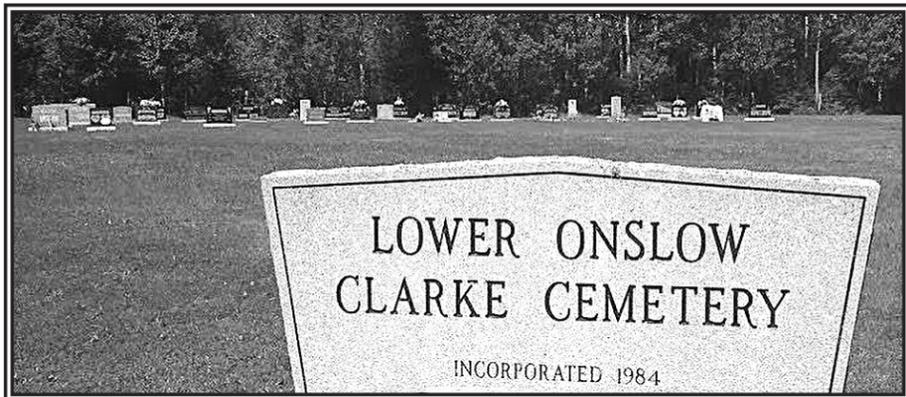
For more information, or to apply for the Work Smarts program, please visit <http://ssbdc.ca?ref=mail>



School is in... PLEASE

DRIVE CAREFULLY

Musical Afternoon for Lr. Onslow Cemetery



By Linda Harrington

Lower Onslow Clarke Cemetery is owned and operated by shareholders on a non-profit basis. Each person who purchases a cemetery plot is considered a shareholder. Each cemetery plot allows for one traditional burial or two cremations. Purchase is open to all, regardless of religion or residency. Cost is \$300 per lot.

Management is by a nine-member volunteer Board, chosen from shareholders. The Cemetery property covers 5 acres; this hallowed ground has served loved ones and honoured the memories of individuals for generations past. This cemetery was incorporated in 1984. The land was generously donated by

Kenneth Clarke, a lifetime resident of Lower Onslow.

Surrounded by the lush growth of Lower Onslow woods and offering never ending landscapes of green grass and shrubs. The grounds of Clarke Cemetery are well kept and provide comfort, seclusion, and a peaceful environment in which grieving loved ones and family members may remember and reflect on the dearly departed. Grass cutting and annual maintenance is done by volunteers including directors.

Cemetery plots can be purchased either now or at time of need. We strongly suggest that you consider the purchase of a plot in advance of the need as doing so relieves the grieving family of this task

and also secures the availability of a cemetery plot when needed. Let us help you settle one of those difficult decisions by showing you the Lower Onslow Clarke Cemetery.

To meet financial obligations, approximately \$1,000 - \$2,000 in support is needed annually. To assist with current financial obligations, the Lower Onslow Clarke Cemetery Committee will sponsor a musical afternoon on Sunday, October 16th, 2016 at 2:00PM at the Lower Onslow Community Center (formerly Lower Onslow United Church).

The musical afternoon will feature Wayne Elliot & Friends. The fundraiser will support the cemetery with a free will offering. Anyone who donates \$20.00 or more will

receive an Income Tax receipt. After the musical afternoon, a light lunch and refreshments will be served and Cemetery Board members will be available to conduct tours of the Lower Onslow Clarke Cemetery for those interested.

For anyone wishing to purchase a lot and/or to donate, please contact a Board Member. CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS are as follows: President - Chester Sabean, 897-2474; Vice President - Bob Fiddes, 662-2821; Secretary/Treasurer - Grace Fiddes, 662-2822; and Gail DeBay - 662-4149; Fran Fiddes - 843-6384, Gary MacDougall - 895-5040, Barb Simms - 662-2320. There are two vacancies on the Board.

Remembering Our Veterans

If a family member or friend served during the wars and lost their life in battle, the Shoreline Journal and South Cumberland News will be publishing a special "Remembering Our Veterans". We will be working with Royal Canadian Legions in the area to prepare a multi-page special feature later this fall in the December issue. (We want to include photos of wreath laying from Remembrance Day Services).

There are two ways to participate:

1. If you wish to publish a photo and short biography (approximately 100 - 150 words) in this special feature, we will assist you. Cost is \$25.00, plus HST.
2. Or if you will be laying a wreath in remembrance, we will publish your photo with family names. Cost is \$25.00.

Advance bookings required by October 30th.

You may also contact your local legion. They will have details concerning this feature by October 15th.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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(No Phone calls please)

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