

Kennel By-Law Dies

By Maurice Rees

Colchester's Kennel Development By-Law, which passed First Reading at a special meeting of Council on August 9th died a quick death during Second reading at council's monthly meeting on August 30th.

Even though various groups mobilized hundreds of Kennel Owners, canine related business owners and dog lovers, with approximately 100 outside and a full gallery in council chambers, councillors had made up their individual minds long before the meeting. They had felt the public backlash during the previous two weeks in private conversations and telephone calls.

Many councillors stated they had not read the proposed by-law before First Reading, because it was put on the table and added to the agenda that evening. In their sincerest wisdom, the motion to defeat "second reading" also included the matter be referred to the Public Advisory Committee (PAC) and they consult with Kennel Owners and dog lovers to find a solution and report back to council in 3-5 months.

Individually councillors will be looking for input over and above what transpires with the PAC process. It is suggested residents with suggestions on a county-wide solution should contact their councillor. (see 'Stewart Said it Best' on page 7)



A large crowd of dog lovers and kennel operators lined up for council's August 30th meeting which defeated the Kennel Development By-law on second reading. (Rees Photo)



Council defeated the proposed kennel development by-law on second reading sending it back to PAC for 3-5 months of consultation and analysis before council's reconsideration. (Rees Photo)



Todd-Lynn MacPherson, looking at the camera, was the lead organizer of a protest, which attracted approximately 100 dog owners to a protest prior to council's meeting on August 30th. (Rees Photo)

4-H Clubs Receive \$80,000 in Funding



Minister of Agriculture Keith Colwell, joined by Deputy Premier Karen Casey presents a cheque for \$50,000 to Angela Masters, co-chair of the 4-H barn committee, joined by Theresa McNutt and Ella Porter. (Harrington Photo)

By Linda Harrington

Deputy Premier Karen Casey was impressed by the recent upgrades to the 4-H Barn when she visited during the recent NS Provincial Exhibition, saying she was "proud to see the place was booming with 4-H members, parents, community folks and the livestock displays." She officially welcomed those attending the funding announcement on Tuesday, Sept. 4th, thanking those present for their 4-H support adding, "it is pretty hard to not support 4-H... because 4-H is so much a part of the leadership and growth of the youth in our area."

The Deputy Minister invited Ella Porter, the NS Provincial 4-H Hostess to the podium, congratulating her on her achievements in 4-H. Ella, a member of Onslow Belmont 4-H Club, recently graduated

University and will age-out of 4-H this year.

Minister of Agriculture Keith Colwell and Deputy Premier Karen Casey were in Truro to make two Provincial funding announcements, \$50,000 in funding for Scotia Pool and \$50,000 for the renovation project at the 4-H barn on the NS Provincial Exhibition grounds.

The funding will help pay for improvements, which were completed prior to NSPE. Construction included extending each side of the barn to create outdoor pens and areas for washing cattle and replacing the roof, siding and doors. System improvements, such as electrical upgrades, are also part of the renovations.

"Generations of young Nova Scotians have benefitted from many of the opportunities the 4-H program had to

offer," said Mr. Colwell. "Today's 4-H members will become the agricultural leaders, business, government and civil leaders of the future, which is why I am pleased to support the ongoing renewal of the facilities where they learn and teach each other."

The Minister stated the previous MRU for \$100,000 over 4 years, committed a few years ago, has now been increased to \$125,000. The \$25,000 increase is part of the total \$50,000 funding announcement.

The province has the largest 4-H membership in eastern Canada with about 2,400 members and about 850 community volunteers involved in 85 clubs.

"The 4-H barn, and investment in it, provides members with a venue to showcase their work to the public. This helps them gain confidence, pride in workmanship, and provides an opportunity to communicate about 4-H and agriculture," said Angela Masters, co-chair of the 4-H barn

committee. "In addition the barn will be utilized for clinics, achievement days and meetings to enhance their learning experiences."

Colchester County has been a big supporter of the 4-H program and has annually supported the 4-H council when it originally conceived building the barn. Colchester County Mayor Christine Blair presented Angela Masters with a cheque for \$30,000 on behalf of Municipal Council, to assist with upgrades to the 4-H barn, including the electrical system, and the additional spaces along each side.

The investment by Colchester is part of a multi-year \$100,000 program which was delayed at budget time, when council was uncomfortable with and requested clarity on conditions of the long term lease with the province. Colchester Council authorized \$30,000 at a meeting on August 9th, indicating the remaining \$70,000 will be topic of discussions later.

More information about the Nova Scotia 4-H program is available at www.gov.ns.ca/agri/4h (see also: 4-H stories on page 25)



Minister of Agriculture Keith Colwell announced \$50,000 for the 4-H Barn renovation project during the second of two stops in the Truro area on Sept. 4th. The Minister earlier in the day had announced \$50,000 for Scotia Pool, Bible Hill. (Harrington Photo)



Mayor Christine Blair presents a cheque for \$30,000 to Angela Masters, co-chair of the 4-H barn committee on behalf of Municipal Council. (Harrington Photo)



4-H supporters gathered under the recently completed wing of the 4-H Barn, to hear a funding announcement on Sept. 4th from Minister of Agriculture Keith Colwell, who was joined by Deputy Premier Karen Casey. (Harrington Photo)



Deputy Premier Karen Casey introduces Provincial 4-H Hostess, Ella Porter during the 4-H barn funding announcement. (Harrington Photo)

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