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South Cumberland NEWS

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Cliffs of Fundy Geopark committee is partnering with the Ottawa House Museum on October 7, 2021 for a special guided tour of the museum, local history, and geology of the area. This tour is part of the "10 Days in October" where a variety of events will be happening around the Parrsboro Area. For more information, please visit

<https://www.novascotia.com/events/festivals-and-events/parrsboro-10-days-in-october/-5553>. Anyone interested in attending this special tour should email admin@fundygeopark.ca (Cliffs of Fundy Photo)



The cliffs at West Advocate hold the secrets from Millions of years ago and area a popular place to go exploring. (Cliffs of Fundy Photo)



New signs can be seen along the highway in Spencer's Island, and an interpretive panel has been installed at the water! This was a partnered project, and Cliffs of Fundy GeoPark is a proud community member. (Cliffs of Fundy Photo)



New photographs can be seen at the kiosk on First Beach in Parrsboro, showcasing local unique experiences in Cumberland County (Cliffs of Fundy Photo)

Shortened Hours May Be Permanent

In the Joggins Fossil Centre Autumn 2021 E-Newsletter, Jordan LeBlanc, Director of Operations wrote once again, the COVID-19 lockdown delayed our season. We welcomed guests back to the Centre on June 16. Additional complications to opening included a running series of

beach access delays that were finally sorted out on opening day.

At the beginning of the season the only visitors on site were those contained in the Atlantic Bubble. As the Summer progressed, and boarder measures relaxed, we could welcome back guests from

various Canadian provinces. In the fall, our visitor origin statistics will be compiled, at this time, however, we can say anecdotally that the parking lot featured plenty of Ontario, Quebec, and the occasional Alberta license plate (these being our typical high traffic provinces outside the Mar-

itimes).

We are still adapting to changes imposed by COVID-19 regulations and procedures. Some positive and, possibly, long overdue changes have resulted from these actions. We finally committed to an online tour booking system, primarily to afford guests as much certainty to their visit as possible. It also allows our staff to better plan the daily and weekly schedules.

Our opening hours for the public changed from 9:30 am-5:30 pm to 10:00 am-5:00 pm. Note that no staff hours were cut in this process. It simply meant that, instead of starting their day at either 9:00 or 10:00 am, all staff began at 9:30 am. (we schedule 30 minutes on either end of the day to open/close.) Two positive changes, during a difficult time, that will likely be permanent improvements.

The 2021 season was, again, accomplished with a skeleton crew of staff, a result of uncertain visitor traffic combined with stringent funding conditions. And, again, JFI can point to the front end staff (guides, admission personnel, custodial, grounds keeping) as the key to this success. If a positive review is posted online, or more importantly, a guest leaves with a wonderful memory of their visit, it is entirely thanks to interactions with our staff!



On August 31, Tory Rushton, MLA Cumberland South, was sworn in as Minister of Natural Resources and Renewables. The revised department combines the former Departments of Lands and Forestry and Energy and Mines. Rushton was first elected to the Nova Scotia House of Assembly as MLA for Cumberland South in the 2018 by-election and easily recaptured the seat in the August election which saw Tim Houston's Progressive Conservatives capture 31 seats. The first session of the 64th General Assembly will resume at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, October 12. (Submitted)

Cumberland Restructures Protective Services

The Municipality of the County of Cumberland has undergone a restructuring in the provision of Protective Services. This has resulted in the elimination of two positions, the creation of two new positions, and the creation of a new department.

"The organizational changes being made effective September 20th will facilitate improved customer service and the reallocation of resources to an important and growing area of our municipal services," said CAO Greg Herrett.

The position of Bylaw Enforcement and Solid Waste Supervisor has been eliminated effective immediately. A Lead Bylaw Enforcement Officer position has been created to allocate more resources to the field.

The position of Fire Services Coordinator will be eliminated effective December 31, 2021.

The Department of Protective Services has been created. The new department will include building and fire inspection, bylaw enforcement including dangerous or unsightly premises, animal control, fire services and emergency management (REMO). A competition for the newly created position of Director of Protective Services will

be initiated immediately and the municipality plans to have the new director in place late this fall.

Municipal council has directed the CAO to undertake a complete review of the fire service. As a result, the Municipality of Cumberland will be issuing a request for proposals to interested consultants to provide a complete analysis of the current fire service and provide recommendations on what is required to most effectively organize the provision of fire services, including but not limited to, recommended revisions to:

- Municipal and Fire Department bylaws, policies, standard operating procedures;
- Service boundaries;
- Standards for operations, facilities, apparatus, equipment and training;
- Funding arrangements;
- Firefighter honoraria.

The terms of reference for this review will include a requirement that the consultants engage and meet with Fire Chiefs and firefighters in all county departments to ensure that their voices are heard in this review.

"Council is confident that these changes,

along with the results of the Fire Service Review, will put the municipality on a path to improved customer service and a well-coordinated approach to the provision and funding of fire services across the county," said Mayor Murray Scott.



This Joggins Gift Basket has a draw date of October 24. Totalling over \$150 in value, items include 2 hoodies, 2 t-shirts, 4 travel mugs, and 4 note pads. Tickets are 1 for \$2 or 3 for \$5. All proceeds in support of the Joggins Fossil Institute. Tickets available at the centre, or by calling 1-888-932-9766. (Submitted)

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