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Tidal Turbine Still Being Commissioned

By Maurice Rees

Last week with linemen working on power lines in the Parrsboro area, it was suggested the Tidal Energy turbine which had been deployed in Minas Channel in early November was not connected to Nova Scotia Power electricity grid. Immediately I contacted Sarah Dawson, Tidal Energy community liaison spokesperson, asking for an update: "how much power has been generated from the one deployed turbine, since Michel Samson threw the switch to upload power directly to the grid?"

Her response was: "You can see daily information about the entire energy mix in Nova Scotia at any given time on the Nova Scotia Power Website: http://www.nspower.ca/todays_power

(Practically speaking, instream tidal output is too small for its own dedicated line so it is combined with hydro and the Annapolis Tidal plant on the graph.)

Each CST turbine is capable of producing about 2MW of tidal power and when the entire demonstration project is commissioned (2x 2MW turbines) the array will produce enough tidal energy to power the equivalent of about 1,000 homes in Nova Scotia. That rep-

resents 6,000 tonnes in GHG C02 emission reductions—which is like taking 1,000 cars off the road annually or displacing the need to burn 2,000 tonnes of coal.

In my query to her, I asked: "Has the turbine been performing to expectation?" To which she responded: "Cape Sharp Tidal is still the commissioning phase and the turbine has been performing as expected. Operation teams are testing the turbine, making software adjustments, and production is being gradually increased over time while being tested during different tidal cycles."

While the technology is still in its early demonstration stage, the deployment indeed represents exciting progress in the development of innovative, new renewable energy and as Nova Scotia continues to lead the country in carbon reduction, the Bay of Fundy has potential to play an important role in clean energy generation".

When the turbine was deployed some media reports stated, the Minas Channel turbine was the first turbine in the world to be connected directly to an electrical grid. She provided clarification stating, "Ours isn't the world's first in-stream tidal turbine to be grid-connected, but it is the first in Canada".

Cumberland Staying Within Budget

By Maurice Rees

In a nine page financial report on statement of operations as of January 31st (10 months), municipal revenues are showing a shortfall of

\$373,719 when comparing YTD actual Vs YTD budget. On the other side expenditures are \$1.375-Million less than budgeted for the same period. The largest savings,

39.4% are in Environmental Development spending which spent \$393,982 compared to a YTD budget of \$937,384. General government spent \$308,336 less

than budgeted, while Protective and Environmental Health have under spent \$255,052 and \$238,055, respectively when comparing actual expenditures compared to YTD budget.

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The Circle
of Life
Presented by
Lawrence R. Nicoll - Photographer
April at the Marigold Cultural Centre

This four photo collage is part of Lawrence R. Nicoll's 22 picture exhibit which will be held at the Marigold Cultural Centre, Truro, during the month of April. The exhibit shows his photos from a trip to several national parks in the American South West. Although the exhibit will be held the entire month of April, the official opening is April 15th, the same night J. P. Cormier will be in concert at the Centre. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photos) See separate story on Page 2.

Shore Drive Assn gets \$9,000 for internet tower

By Maurice Rees

For the past year, the Shore Drive Community Development Association has been working with residents of the Port Greville and Diligent River areas to secure improved internet service. A group calling themselves "DownShore Internet" have formed a Facebook page with almost 150 local residents have held several public meetings, since February 2016, meeting with service providers to get better service. They have also been working with Michelle Byers, from the municipality to formulate applications.

Council approved allocating \$9,000 from the 2017-2018 to assist in funding a project to construct a high speed internet tower in the community.

Repealing a by-law providing tax exemption for fire companies, charitable and non-profit organizations for the former Town of Parrsboro is expected to be completed at council's meeting on March 1st. When repealed, these

groups will fall under existing by-laws for the Municipality of County of Cumberland.

With a constant effort to improve tourism assets in the county, staff are considering development of a master plan for Cape D'Or property which currently consists of a combined light tow and equipment building an: two commercial buildings, formerly the keepers dwelling - current cafe and in buildings; a helicopter pad and a replica lighthouse, previously an information / heritage centre and gift shop, but currently not in use.

It is expected staff will recommend council transfer \$25,000 from unspent funds in the Community Economic Development (CED) budget towards development of a Cape D'Or master plan. Area residents, tourism operators, and the municipality envision the property as an opportunity to enhance market readiness of the site and have a goal of providing a world class lighthouse experience which would be the only one of its

kind in Nova Scotia.

The upcoming Saltscapes Expo, April 21-23 will be the fourth year, the Parrsboro Shore area will be presented. The booth has been booked and those involved are collaborating with Fundy Geological Museum on booth development.

With approximately 70% of the Oxford rink users being from the county, Oxford Mayor, Trish Stewart and Deputy Mayor Tom Kay appeared before council at the February 15th meeting suggesting an annual contribution of \$25,000 from the county to help with operational costs of the rink.

Warden Gillis informed the presenters, their request will be considered during budget deliberations.

Following two public hearings during council's February 15th meeting, council ordered demolition of a building, removal of any derelict vehicles and clean up of properties at 12 Lorne Street, Springhill and 18435, Hwy 2, Fenwick.

90TH Birthday Party

The Shoreline Journal and South Cumberland News will be holding their annual 90 & 90+ Birthday Party on Saturday, May 6th at the Economy Recreation Centre.

We are taking nominations for residents from Advocate, Port Greville, Diligent River, Southampton and Parrsboro. Only requirement is they are from the aforementioned areas and will turn 90 in 2017.

If someone is older, but has not attended in the past, please nominate them.

Applications should be received by April 12th.

For more information contact: Maurice Rees, Publisher, Ph: 902-890-9850 or email: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com



District Governor of Nova Scotia Lions, Claire Brunelle visited Parrsboro Lions Club. During her visit she shared her theme which is centered around literacy and thanked the club for all the work they do in their communities and around the world. Parrsboro Lions made donations to Literacy Nova Scotia, Parrsboro Library and Advocate High School in her name.

(Lawrence R Nicoll Photo)

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