

## Fletcher's February 1<sup>ST</sup> Council Corner

By Don Fletcher

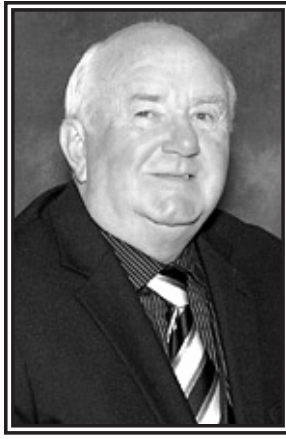
We began council Wednesday, February 1st at 5 pm in camera with 5 items covered and 2 of those moved to public council. This was followed by a short nomination committee meeting where a couple of councilors changed committee's due to conflict and we nominated two citizen's appointments for public council.

We began public council at 6:30 pm with a minute of silence for the tragedy in Quebec. The first item was an update from our EMO coordinator, Mike Johnson, on the ice storm in New Brunswick and the support from Cumberland county. We provided 16 genera-

tors for their use.

Next was a presentation from Denise Corey, head librarian for Cumberland County. She told it like it is and they are in financial trouble. From her presentation it appears the province is not providing the necessary funds to help the operation. They either need to cut more programs, staff hours or close a branch of which there are 7 within the county.

We have increased funding year after year in support as we see the need and the positive use in our communities. We need the province to step up so please, when you see our MLA'S out and about, tell them we need provincial support for our libraries.



Donald Fletcher

This was followed by a short presentation on the Cumberland Joint Service Municipal Agreement (CJSMA)

budget. Later we passed the budget by motion. There was 1 public hearing for dangerous and unsightly, with a property in Parrsboro. Motion approved for removal.

Pugwash water proposed expansion was next with approval given pending provincial and federal, agreement. Motion passed. A policing review was approved for the municipality to ensure we are receiving the correct services for our citizens. A motion to approve first reading of a bylaw to repeal the former Town of Parrsboro's tax exemption bylaw was approved. A new policy to coincide with the rest of the municipality will replace it in the near future.

If you are confused now, I did my job! A motion to support

the naming of a bridge in Tignish the "Gillian Lawrence Memorial Bridge" was approved. A motion to approve the mandate for the Divestiture of surplus property committee was passed by motion. This was a follow up to a November meeting.

A motion was approved to have transportation study speed limits in and around Parrsboro now that it is a part of the municipality and the town limits are no longer there.

We approved the following topics be sent to UNSM for consideration at the upcoming

spring workshop per their request: toll highways; regional solid waste/extended producer responsibility(EPR) and off road vehicle use of highway should-ers. Motion passed.

Information items were an upcoming joint council meeting on February 22nd in Amherst; canine control/bylaw enforcement officer report, as well as, a memo outlining the 6 strategic priorities as set by the previous council. Next council February 15th.

**Don Fletcher is councillor for District 10 and also serves as Deputy Warden.**

## Fletcher's February 15<sup>TH</sup> Council Corner

By Don Fletcher

We began council February 15th at 5 p.m. in camera with 3 items covered. We followed this with a short nomination meeting where three citizens were approved for committee's and the citizen for the provincial volunteer awards was selected. There were 4 nominations and Mr. Doug Perry from Wallace was selected by council to represent us. Congratulations Doug and congratulations to all our volunteers! Public council began with a presentation from

reach a service provided by the YMCA to help immigrants settle into our communities. An invaluable service.

Next was a presentation from Mayor and deputy mayor of Oxford regarding their rink. They are looking for funding support and pointed out that many participants are from the county. This will be part of our budget deliberation.

Two dangerous and unsightly properties were approved for demolition next. A motion to award the Pugwash waterfront

detailed design and costing proposal was approved followed by a motion to approve a 3d groundwater model and well-head protection area for Pugwash water supply. Motions passed.

A new wellness policy was established by staff and notice was given to consider adoption at next council. Motion passed.

Three grants were approved followed by notice of the upcoming municipal volunteer recognition night to be held Wed April 26th. This is a very

important night as volunteers are the backbone of the municipality. Information items were Cumberland public library report, provincial 2017/2018 capitol plan, sunset board of directors, agenda and minutes and the nomination committee report. The last item was a discussion for next council on policy 14.02 council proceedings.

Question: What are your thoughts on the school/teachers/province dispute? Call your councilors.

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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/to-dayspower>. (Practically speaking, in-stream 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 represents 6,000 tonnes in GHG CO2 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 testing 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".

## Cultural Campus 2017

Continued from page 1

tion from Tom Forrestall, one of Canada's most celebrated painters, an artist with both a national and international reputation who is widely considered to be a pioneer that has transcended the boundaries of Atlantic Magic Realism to create a style of painting that is uniquely his own. Forrestall is joined by his son, William, an accomplished artist in his own right. This course called "The Magic of Egg Tempera" is a five day session that promises to be one of the great creative adventures of the summer.

This year's Cultural Campus kicks off with Heather Lawson's Stone

Carving workshop, Saturday and Sunday May 27/28. A gifted artist who creates work of amazing power and beauty, Heather is also an inspiring teacher who knows how to share the techniques of carving images from stone. Her brilliant sense of design and dedication to her craft sets the tone for the season.

**Course Details & Registration:**  
[www.parrsborocreative.com/creative-campus-landing/course-listings/](http://www.parrsborocreative.com/creative-campus-landing/course-listings/)

**For more information and to arrange an interview, please contact: Robert More, Executive Director, Parrsboro Creative, [ed@parrsborocreative.com](mailto:ed@parrsborocreative.com) 902-728-2007**



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