

# National Peacekeepers' Day Services held in Bass River

## Cobequid Veterans Memorial Park

### August 9, 2009



A large crowd turned out for a special Church Service held at the Cobequid Veterans Memorial Park in Bass River on August 9th in honour of Peacekeepers' Day.



Three former Peacekeepers who attended a Church Service at the Cobequid Veterans Memorial Park on August 9th are shown in front of the Peacekeeper's Memorial. (Left to right) Jim Stewart, who served in the Middle East, Jim Chipman, who served with NATO, in Germany, Korea, Europe and the Middle East and Ron MacBurnie, who served in Korea and the Suez.



MLA Karen Casey (centre) shared words of thanks on behalf of the Government of Nova Scotia to all Peacekeepers during a special Church Service held at Cobequid Veterans Memorial Park on August 9th. This day marked National Peacekeepers' Day, a day to honour and remember all Canadian Peacekeepers who have served or are currently serving our country. Rev. Florence Antle-Brisson (right) lead the morning service. Pastor Larry Tirrell (left) presented an insightful message on finding peace in our lives.



Sue Taylor (left) read the Peacekeepers' Address during a service held at the Debert Military Museum in honour of Peace Keepers' Day on August 9th.

*Story and Photos By Linda Harrington*  
National Peacekeepers' Day was celebrated on August 9th, with two special services in our area. One was held in Bass River and one in Debert.



Choir members lead the musical selections during the Peacekeepers' Day Church Service on August 9th. The lovely service was held under sunny skies at the Cobequid Veterans Memorial Park in Bass River.

August 9th was recognized as an official day in Canada, with the passing of Bill C-287 on June 18th, 2008. Past and present peacekeepers are honoured across Canada on this day. These honourable men and women include members of the Canada's Armed Forces, Canadian diplomats, the RCMP, provincial and municipal police forces and civilians. Tens of thousands of Canadians have served in more than 40 separate peacekeeping missions. This date was picked because on August 9th, 1974 the greatest loss of Canadian lives on a peacekeeping mission occurred. Nine Canadians were shot down while serving with the United Nations Emergency Force in Egypt and Israel. Locally the day was celebrated beginning with an open air Church Service at the Cobequid Veteran's Memorial Park in Bass River. Rev. Florence Antle-Brisson lead the morning service, with MLA Karen Casey, Dr. Karen Ewing, Pastor Larry Tirrell and members of the choir taking part. Ken Jamieson, who helped organ-

ize the service, added parting words of remembrance to the service. Later in the day a Peacekeepers' Day Service was held at the Debert Military Museum. A flag raising ceremony was held, including the United Nations Flag, with Robert Feeley, John Hines and Dan Martell taking part. Museum President Michael Taylor lead the service with Rev. Don MacQueen, MLA Karen Casey, County Councillor Bob White, Cumberland Colchester Musquodoboit Valley PC Candidate Scott Armstrong taking part. Sue Taylor read the Peacekeepers' Address. Refreshments were served inside the Military Museum following the service. Many enjoyed the opportunity to look around the Peacekeepers' Room, dedicated in honour of the late Richard Ross. Mr. Ross, a former Peacekeeper, showed great leadership and dedication in helping establish August 9th as Peacekeepers' Day. His wife, Margaret Ross, was in attendance at the Service.



Special guests gathered in the Peacekeeping Room at the Debert Military Museum following the Peacekeepers' Day Service on August 9th. Front (left to right): Gerald Jennex, MLA Karen Casey, Margaret Ross. Back (left to right): Scott Armstrong, Ken Welton, Tom McDonald, Dan Martell, John Hines, Bob White, Mike Taylor.

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