

# REES' Pieces

## Dog Days of August

Weather-wise, it wasn't an enjoyable spring and early summer, but once summer heat decided to come our way, it came with a vengeance. When I was younger and we lived on a farm in Northwestern New Brunswick, it was this type of weather I dreaded the most, because high humidity and it was haying time.

I don't know why, but I remember a couple of days when it was 104F, and we called them the "dog days of August", when everyone was in poor humour.

It was just as hot and uncomfortable last Sunday at the 34th Annual Sussex Flea Market. I didn't check the temperature, but some people said it was 38 with the humidex - try that on for a Sunday afternoon, without any shade and dismantling a couple of large tents and packing up the van, with about 15 large boxes. It was unbearable.

What's unusual about this summer is we have a Federal Election. Called about 40 days longer than the minimum of 37 days. All parties are holding back, fine tuning their team of volunteers, so we are not bombarded with a flurry of election advertising and teams of loyal party workers. Thankfully, the campaign won't really heat up until after Labour Day.

South of the border, the election will not be held until fall of 2016, but with 17 candidates vying to be the GOP's choice to lead the Republican Party it's the hottest news in town. Donald Trump, whom many thought of as a passing-fancy has turned the party upside down as he constantly increases his lead over the rest of the field.

What makes watching the USA political system squirm is Trump has brought to the campaign a daily dose of frankness which is appealing to a very mad and upset electorate. Whether or not he can win the Republican nomination, he has shown all candidates just how angry voters are.

What he has brought to the fore-front also applies to all levels of the Canadian political system. Yes, Canadians are in an election campaign, so far all of the candidates are sticking to their party's talking points.

Maybe Nova Scotians hide their anger better than others. However, I assure you if someone spoke about Nova Scotia issues with Trump's frankness, they too would gather a large following very quickly. Within 12 months of disposing of the federal election, we'll be into the "grassroots" of Canadian politics - municipal elections.

With a worsening economy which many suggest will still be upon us this time next year, it's my belief local voters will wait until next year to express their true frustration. That could lead to a flurry of new candidates who gather strength because they speak with some of "Trump's Frankness". Regardless of which municipality, if someone comes out with the intention to build a broad, demographically and ideologically diverse coalition, constructed around personality, not substance, that bridges demographic and political divides, they will garner a lot of support.

In the lead-up to the 2016 municipal election, the Palliser Property might be a central focal point of voter anger. Let me explain why.

Earlier this spring, Colchester Municipal council purchased the Palliser Property, without a defined plan, which is acceptable, but promised to consult with the public to define its use and start developing a plan. Since the initial flurry of activity, little appears to be done, except extensive property clean up, some paint on the visitor centre, and moving the lawns.

Where the Mayor, Councillors and staff may be vulnerable is not because they will have invested nearly \$1-million before any construction activity takes place, but because they have been slack to consult with the public and business community.

There's no honour in going to the public "with a plan" of what should be done with the property. The public deserves the respect of being consulted before there are any plans. Not all the public's suggestions would be workable, but at least they would have the satisfaction of "being heard" and contributing to the development of a plan.

When will the public consultations take place? There should be one in each councillor's district.

**Maurice**

# 35<sup>TH</sup> Terry Fox Run – September 20<sup>TH</sup>



By Debbie Smith

This September marks the 35th anniversary of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope. To commemorate this anniversary a Terry Fox Run is being held on the 20th of September from 1 - 3 p.m. at the Smith Residence, 9629 Highway 2 beside the Millen Farm's strawberry.

Participants will be able to run, walk or ride a bicycle on a route that will follow the Little Dyke Road to the beach and back.

Pledge sheets will be available at the Great Village Post Office or can be downloaded at <http://www.terryfox.org/>

Anyone interested may purchase a Terry Fox (35th year) t-shirt: size 6x and youth size M are \$15; adult sizes are \$20. A good percentage of the cost actually goes back to the Terry Fox Foundation. Cancer Survivors are entitled to a complimentary red Terry's Team T-shirt. These can be obtained

by going to the Terry Fox website (as above) and choosing the Cancer Survivor link. For those who do not have access to a computer you may contact Debbie Smith 902-662-3742. The t-shirts will be available on the day of the run or may be purchased prior to, by calling the number above. Please note the complimentary t-shirts need to be ordered.

The Terry Fox Foundation donates 84-cents-per-dollar raised directly to cancer research in Terry's name. Taking part in this event, as a participant or making a donation is a great way to support Terry's dream of a world without cancer. There is no entry fee and no minimum donation.



## Media Release

### CCRSB invites Long Range Outlook Feedback

In mid-July, the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board (CCRSB) released its Long Range Outlook. At this time, CCRSB is seeking feedback from members of the public regarding the future direction of the school board. The Long Range Outlook, a 10-year look ahead at the school board, has been posted to the CCRSB website at [www.ccrsb.ca/content/special-projects](http://www.ccrsb.ca/content/special-projects).

CCRSB's Long Range Outlook offers a snap shot of all 69 schools and school feeder systems in the school board's jurisdiction. Its purpose is to provide parents, guardians and communities an opportunity to view CCRSB in its totality and to provide feedback about future planning.

"We invite all members of the CCRSB community to read the Long Range Outlook and to offer their thoughts and ideas about the future of CCRSB and the schools in their area," said Trudy Thompson, CCRSB Chair.

Questions to consider when reading the Long Range Outlook: What thoughts do you have about the information presented in the Long Range Outlook? What

do you believe is most important to guide the Board's future planning decisions? What are some of the possible ways that we can work together to better understand the implications of this information?

Feedback can be provided via email at [LRO@ccrsb.ca](mailto:LRO@ccrsb.ca), fax at 902-897-8989 or regular mail to the attention of Debbie Buott-Matheson, CCRSB Communications Manager, 60 Lorne Street, Truro, NS B2N 3K3.

"We consider this only the beginning of an ongoing conversation with parents, guardians and communities about the Long Range Outlook and other important issues in CCRSB," said Thompson.

The Chignecto-Central Regional School Board is comprised of 17 board members and 2,700 staff all striving to develop independent, lifelong learners in a student-centered environment, with high expectations for all. CCRSB serves over 20,000 students from Primary to Grade 12, throughout the counties of East Hants, Colchester, Cumberland and Pictou.

*The Shoreline Journal* (circ. 1300) is a monthly community newspaper serving communities along the Glooscap Trail from Truro to Parrsboro, Nova Scotia serving the communities of Belmont/Debert, Wentworth/Londonderry, Onslow/Masstown along the shore to Great Village, Bass River, Economy, Five Islands and Lower Five Islands. It is published on the last Wednesday of each month (earlier in December) with a deadline of the 20th of the month.

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