

## PHOTO FEATURE

Lawrence Nicoll captured the spirit of the day during Parrsboro's Annual Band Day on July 24th which was more special with the ribbon cutting of the new Band Stand. The crowd enjoyed the wonderful bands from as far away as PEI, and the Parrsboro Citizens Choir. Hot dogs and sausage were a treat enjoyed by young and old.

Photos by Lawrence R. Nicoll, Parrsboro.



Mayor Lois Smith cuts the ribbon to dedicate the Band Stand and read from information that some form of stand has been in Parrsboro since at least 1890.



Band Day in Parrsboro would not be complete without the Parrsboro Citizens Choir giving a performance.



Motorists to Parrsboro are greeted by the new band stand, which replaces the one built in 1957. Both bandstands were designed by Keith Graham, Port Greville, who at 94 is Nova Scotia's oldest active working architect.



Every event needs a good BBQ. Here volunteers sweat it out under the hot sun and heat from the grills.

# Cape Sharp, FORCE, GFA Meet For First Time

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using the FAST platform. (According to industry reports, DFO has recently expressed discouragement testing has not been done). Porter says that Sonar is the only equipment capable of seeing any fish activity and it's a shame testing has not been done, nor does it appear it will be done.

On the matter of social license, Professor John Colton said Cape Sharp does not have the social license to proceed. "It's not there because Trust has been broken throughout the entire process", Colton added.

For the FORCE presentation Matt Lumley, outlined key items in a PowerPoint presentation, which included: Structure: FORCE is a private company that is a not for profit organization with a small staff; structured so there are no owners however; people are members including the Government of Nova Scotia. Those members then appoint a board, who are in charge; funding comes from primarily public funding. Province created FORCE. Project applied to the Clean Energy Fund, and received \$20 million, and that money really brought the project together. Members can buy in with \$1 million. Most of the funding for FORCE comes from provincial and federal government.

Each of the 4 developers will have their own technology at FORCE - Black Rock Tidal Power, Atlantis Resources, Minas Energy and Cape Sharp Tidal. Different companies have different solutions to how the energy is best delivered to the power grid in Parrsboro.

A person in the audience stated: "Stated there are similarities between the turbines in Annapolis Royal as the one put in at the FORCE site. This was supposed to be a test site, but is now a permanent fixture. There are similarities in design as the one that Cape Sharp Tidal wants to deploy. Cape Sharp Tidal replied: That is incorrect, they are completing different technologies.

Cape Sharp's opening presentation included PowerPoint, which explained Cape Sharp Tidal is a joint venture between Emera and

OpenHydro. OpenHydro is an Irish company, and owned by a French ship building company.

It will use an Open Centre Turbine from OpenHydro, which has been used in Scotland for 10 years, and has been extensively monitored. There are no oils or lubricants used, and the turbine is placed directly on the ocean floor. By resting on the floor it allows for quick deployment, and no drilling. The turbines are turned with the tides, and there is no sucking effect, such as there is in an engine. As the tide picks up in speed, fish which are shoaling near it tend to move away once the turbines move. There is a unit in Scotland that used mitigation efforts to make sure that protected colonies of seals in were not harmed until it was demonstrated seals practiced avoidance behaviours and not a single incident of collision of strike was ever recorded. Because of the type of turbine, maintenance is only needed to be done every 5 years.

Cape Sharp Tidal says they are going to use the most efficient technology possible, which is the newest technology. Mix of active and passive sonar. Passive sonar is hydrophones, and is situated on the units to monitor sound. Harbour porpoises are the most common marine mammal that the Minas Passage has, and there is sonar that is designed to pick up their noises specifically. Active sonars are always actively seeking "looking" out for mammals and recording them as they approach the turbine. It looks out 60m, spans 104m and covers the entire water column except for 10m closest to the water surface. The sonar can distinguish between marine organisms and debris in the water.

This technology was developed from Scotland seal study, and the different organisms that engaged with it.

They can tell whether or not the organisms that are engaging with it are in fish schools, or single and large organisms, including whales are sharks. The turbine has been tested in a fish farm setting, which would help with the algorithms in program-

ming the turbine.

The hydrophones have been developed and tested in the Minas Passage and the sonars have been tested in other high-flow environments around the world, as well as on fish farms in Nova Scotia, but not in the Minas Passage.

Representatives from Gaspereau Fishers Association asked, "Why is the GFA only being consulted now?". Cape Sharp Tidal representatives replied they were here to listen and learn, and regret not being here sooner. Cape Sharp indicated they will meet as many times as wanted and needed.

GFA representatives we particularly upset because the gaspereau was not studied despite the extensive studies and data that have already been collected and they were denied entry in 2012, and every year since.

Darren Porter said, "This is the one fishery that should have most certainly been consulted, because they do have the working relationship with Emera, and it is a mistake that needs to be rectified". Cape Sharp Tidal responded, "We feel that we are implementing more consultation, because we have heard some fisherman organizations felt they haven't been heard. Because of the voluntary pause with the date of deployment of the turbine, there is time for all the consultations that need to happen".

Maurice Rees (Shoreline Journal/South Cumberland News) spoke that several fishermen are concerned and have felt intimidated, because they were contacted and asked where they could meet for coffee. This approach caused them to feel intimidated and that trying to meet on-on-one instead of as a group intimidated them and they felt it was not an appropriate way for a consultation process. Cape Sharp's response, "That was not the intention. The process isn't perfect,

and isn't meant to be intimidating to the organizations".

John Lohr an MLA from the area said, "We all recognize that great need to make a significant change to how we are addressing climate change and pursuing renewable resources is important. Why can't there be a giant net put in front of the turbine, to monitor the impact? FORCE's response, "We looked at that, but the test site was too violent and not suitable for such a technology, but comes down to the technology creators".

Darren Porter said, "The Fundy FORCE site has been proven it is not a good site for such a technology because it is hard to monitor". Cape Sharp Tidal: In some tidal sites around the world, there are cameras in place, but the visibility is too poor at the FORCE site. Some times of the year the visibility is not good but sometimes it is up to 3-4m.

In concluding the meeting it was suggested: the meeting presentations should be sent out to those who want them; a commitment that all organizations will be completely transparent with each other. This is a good starting point for more meetings to occur. Good spring board for provincial and Cape Sharp Tidal, FORCE and fisherman to come together in a helpful dialogue together.

Darren Porter said, "Will you commit to acknowledge the unique fisheries model at GFA and commit to hiring students to completing its missing data for 7 years? Will this be done right away? General consensus is that there is a need to work with the GFA to better understand the fishery and their data.

At the end of the meeting, upon question from Darren Porter, Cape Sharp and FORCE agreed to another meeting.

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