



Students from Dalhousie School of Architecture gather for a group photo on the reverse suspension bridge they designed and constructed on the Ward Falls Trail. (Lawrence R. Nicoll photo)

Ward's Falls Hiking Trail, an Educational Experience

By Taylor Redmond

Everything has simplicity to it when designed on paper or on ones computer screen, NOT!

This was the experience of the Dalhousie School of Architecture team of students that were on site at the Wards Falls Hiking Trail. Professor Roger Mullin brought his summer lab program, #freelab, to the area to build bridge #16 on the community walking trail located off the 209 Hwy in the Wards Brook area of Cumberland County.

Professor Mullin was invited by the working team of volunteers, lead by Mel Musgrave, community board member of the Cumberland Trail Association, to come to Ward's Falls with this program. Eleven students in tow; from across Canada, the program is designed in such a way that the projects are community based.

Site visits, design models built and presented, a design chosen and then down to the nitty gritty. The project took the students 3km down the Wards Falls Trail. A very gentle walk but the hauling of equipment, supplies and building materials proved to be one of the greater challenges. Thanks to community input of time and ATV hauling capacity, things moved along at very fast pace.

Students were not inhibited by the fact that they had limited building experience. Building of the 'reverse suspension bridge' design was eye opening and invigorating. The students worked extremely hard and were challenged at every turn. The commu-



Side view of the new suspension bridge on the Ward Falls Trail. (Lawrence R. Nicoll photo)

nity welcomed the students and several volunteers were instrumental in making the project a success.

Many people came forward to help the project and supported the students with their needs. Volunteer time and lending of equipment made everything possible. Students and community worked together moving materials down the trail, cutting necessary trees, supplying materials on short notice, and fabricating the unique brackets, (Dwayne MacGillvary) required in the bridge design.

The bridge itself is 30ft in length, roughly 6ft above the flow of water and is a 'reverse suspension' design. The bridge was designed by the students, on site, during their working lab.

Many thanks to Roger Mullin for bringing the program, #free-

lab, to the Cumberland County area and a special thank you goes out to the students enrolled in the Dalhousie's School of Architecture program.

Students in the program, on site in Cumberland County included: Brooks Roche, Montague, PE; Andrew John Gilmour, Montreal, QC; Caleb McGinn, Winnipeg, MB; John Follett, St. John's, NL; Liam Logan, Tantallon, NS; Alexander Crosby, Calgary, AB; Maddi Fraser, Vancouver, BC; Françoise Grandmaison, Shediac, NB; Fiona Hamilton, Calgary, AB; Gillian Wilson, Kingston, ON; Shane Karkheck, Thornhill, ON and Professor Roger Mullin, Halifax, NS.

The experience was well rounded and positive for everyone. Students camped at the Old Ship Yard Campground at Spencer's Island, engaged with the community on the beach, at the grocery store, the Farmer's market and a hosted dinner. The students were grateful and sent a 'high five' thank you to the volunteers who worked alongside them; Laurie Currie, Sam Fields,

Turbine's Future Uncertain

By Maurice Rees

Even though the Cape Sharpe Tidal Turbine is ownerless and in the hands of court appointed trustees Grant Thornton, Ireland, and is in violation of DFO and Province of Nova Scotia mandated rules for environmental monitoring, it's future is uncertain.

According to media reports, the province is watching the situation, but hoping new owners will be found through the Insolvency process. Emera was owner of 20% of the turbine with OpenHydro owning the remaining 80%.

Emera, the parent company of Nova Scotia Power told OpenHydro and its provisional liquidator that it is withdrawing from its involvement in Cape Sharp Tidal just as the defunct company falls in violation of the Fisheries Act.

Fishermen in the area are questioning who is responsible for the 16-metre diameter tidal turbine spinning in the Minas Passage. Without OpenHydro, developer of the technology, Emera has indicated they don't see any value in the turbine and they are walking away from the project.

With the turbine spinning freely and not monitored, fishers in the Bay are fearful large whales and other mammals could fall victim to the 16-metre turbine. Darren Porter, the vocal weir fisherman from Bramber, Hants County has several monitoring sites located through the bay, is fearful of increased fish mortality.

On August 23rd, Porter revealed his monitors has picked up several sightings of

Pumpkin, the great white shark, swimming in the Bay of Fundy near the turbine.

Cape Sharp Tidal has left a long list of unpaid vendors, who worked on the turbine. One vendor from Eastern Passage, who is owed over \$750,000 got the sheriff's office to arrest the barge. It now sits at dockside in Saint John. The special built barge was used to transport the turbine to the site and to deploy it, or retrieve it from the Minas Channel.

Fishermen claim It took three months last year to remove a different version of the turbine for testing.

It's not clear whether there are funds available to pay for its removal again, although provincial officials a performance bond is in place and the money is there to pay for removal.

Meanwhile, the turbine is

spinning but not generating electricity and the monitoring equipment placed aboard to determine its effect on the marine life that migrates through the Minas Passage is not operating.

As part of a special dispensation granted to Cape Sharp Tidal by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, a contingency plan has to be implemented to monitor its effect on marine life within two weeks of the turbine's installation. The deadline passed nearly a month ago.

The turbine occupies one of four berths at the Fundy Research Centre for Energy where instream tidal technology is tested as a method for generating electricity. Mark Taylor a lobster fisherman, who claims he has suffered at least \$75,000 in damages, and loss of lobster gear is worried for the future with no companies claiming responsibility for the nearby turbine.

Who's on Cape Sharp's Board?

By Maurice Rees

The Shoreline Journal / South Cumberland News set out to find out who was on Cape Sharp Developments Ltd, board of directors. An online search of Nova Scotia's Registry of Joint Stock on August 1, 2018 listed Cape Sharp Tidal Development Ltd's Board of Directors included the following from the Maritimes:

Ken Meade, 1223 Lower Water Street, Halifax; Jeremy Poste, Director and President, Suite 1100, 99 Wyse Road, Dartmouth; Christian Richard, Director and Secretary, 229

Eriskay Drive, Rothesay, NB; and David A. Reid, Recognized Agent, Suite 1100, 1959 Upper Water Street, Halifax, NS.

The company's registration was revoked for non-payment on July 6, 2018, but was reinstated on July 7, 2018.

Cape Sharp has three additional entities registered with Nova Scotia Registered with Joint Stocks which included: Cape Sharp Tidal Phase 2 Ltd; Cape Sharp Tidal Phase 3 Ltd and Cape Sharp Tidal Phase 4 Ltd. All three had filed annual statements on July 7, 2018. The same directors and executive positions from the Maritimes were listed. The only change in the listings showed Ken Meade - c/o Emera Ltd at 1223 Lower Water street, Halifax, NS.

Press reports from Emera have indicated it had a 20% ownership of Cape Sharp. In 2008 Emera paid \$15-Million for its 2.2% ownership stake in Open Hydro and a seat on the board. After bankruptcy filings in Dublin, Emera indicated it had vacated/resigned its seat on OpenHydro's board in March 2018.

Joggins Fossil Centre Events

The following events are schedule for September and October. All events at the Joggins Fossil Centre, 100 Main Street, Joggins NS

Thursday Sept 20: Fibre Arts Friends, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Friday Sept 21: Science Literacy Week Presentation. Dr. Hillary Maddin, Carleton University will present "Vertebrates in Joggins." Open to the public and school groups. Time to be announced. There is no cost.

Thursday Oct 18: Fibre Arts Friends, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Cheryl Leask, as well as those who contributed time, equipment and Brian Fields for fast delivery of materials. Thank you to property owners, the Harrisons, who have in the past and continue to make this trail available to the public. Special thanks to Bill McLellan, whose ATV made mov-

ing the timbers to the site much easier.

The project was funded by the Cumberland County Hiking Association and time and labor was donated by the students and community members.

It was dark when the students finally emerged off the trail on

Aug 4, 2018; a completed 'Reverse Suspension Bridge' and many good stories behind them.

Contributions are welcomed for the ongoing maintenance and repairs of the Ward's Falls Trail and can be sent to Cumberland Trail Association, Pugwash, NS.



Students from Dalhousie School of Architecture check their drawings for the new reverse suspension bridge on the Ward Falls Trail. (Lawrence R. Nicoll photo)

CLASS 'A' Trucking & Septic Pumping
 Call Us Now: **902-254-3492**



Portable Toilet Rentals
 and
Septic Pumping Services
 Enough Said!
 You know what we do!
 And, we do it well!

The Season of Giving is here

A Wonderful Gift for the whole year...

12 Months of the South Cumberland News

Please send this Personal Gift Subscription to:

Name: _____

Street: _____

Town: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

If RENEWAL: Sub # _____ New: _____ Gift: _____

Country/Special Mail Instructions: _____

This Personal Gift Subscription comes from:

Name: _____

Street: _____

Town: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

HST: 890564404RT0001

Enclose Cheque or Money Order payable to **South Cumberland News**

LOCAL SUBSCRIPTIONS: B0M / B2N / B6L - \$23.00, PLUS HST = \$26.45 • **OTHER PARTS OF NS:** \$28.00 plus HST = \$32.20

ALL OTHER AREAS OF CANADA: \$30.00, plus HST = \$34.50

MAIL TO: South Cumberland News, P.O. Box 41, Bass River, NS, B0M 1B0