



Maritime Provinces Water & Wastewater REPORT

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NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

Andrew Garnett
MPWWA Chairperson

Due to circumstances beyond his control, Chair Andrew Garnett was unable to provide a column for this issue of the Maritime Provinces Water & Wastewater Report.



On Aug. 25 Fundy Royal MP Rob Moore and Minister of Justice and Consumer Affairs (Communications New Brunswick photo) Mike Murphy announced that both the federal and provincial governments had committed \$1,285,633 towards upgrading the drinking water and wastewater infrastructure in Hillsborough, New Brunswick. The project, valued at just under \$4 million, will address Hillsborough's longstanding need for reliable wastewater and potable water infrastructure through the construction of a new lagoon and two new production wells. In addition, a UV disinfection system will be added to the new wells to meet provincial guidelines. In the photo are from left: Hillsborough Village Administrator Shari Collins, Deputy Mayor Patrick Armstrong, Moore, and Murphy.

Work to restore Halifax Wastewater Treatment Facility on target

BY STAFF

Work to restore the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) was well underway and on target Sept. 21.

"It's been a long process for residents and staff," Halifax Water Communications James Campbell said.

He added by the end of September when the screened dry-weather flows are diverted through the WWTF, the plant would be able to capture and remove floatables and eliminate odours—two major points of concern. The diluted (50:1) waste-

water will then be discharged through the plant's outfall pipe a kilometre into the harbour.

But when there is extreme rainfall run-off, to protect the plant wastewater flows will be directed through the combined sewer overflows into the harbour.

A number of mandatory projects needed to implement the flow diversion plan have been completed. Campbell said the five raw motor pumps damaged in the flood had been refurbished and will be used until their replacements arrive. All the

equipment for the plant's wet well had been delivered, and the sluice gate actuator had been assembled and installed.

He noted that the long cables had been attached and the electrical junction boxes had been moved up to the street level out of the flood zone.

Campbell also pointed out that although the ventilation and odour control systems had not been impacted by the flood, they were being tested Sept. 21-25 before being introduced.

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(Photo: Submitted/The Guardian)
 Prince Edward Island Provincial Communities Minister Carolyn Bertram (left), Kensington Deputy Mayor Rodney Mann and federal Fisheries Minister Gail Shea, MP for Egmont, cut the ribbon to officially commission the Kensington wastewater treatment facilities wind turbine on Sept. 21.

Wind turbine at Kensington wastewater treatment plant commissioned

■ BY EDITORIAL STAFF

THE GUARDIAN

[Kensington, PEI]—The official commissioning of Kensington’s new energy-efficient wind turbine for the local wastewater treatment plant took place Monday (Sept. 21).

(Prince Edward Island) Federal Fisheries Minister Gail Shea, the MP for Egmont, and PEI Communities, Cultural Affairs and Labour Minister Carolyn Bertram joined Kensington Deputy Mayor Rodney Mann for the official commissioning.

Shea said the gas tax announcement shows how the federal government is working together with its partners to get shovels in the ground, to plan for future infrastructure needs and to deliver real results to the people of Prince Edward Island.

Bertram said the new turbine at the Kensington waste treatment plant will help reduce the town’s environmental impact and its energy bills.

“The province is proud to support environmentally responsible power such as this.”

The turbine, funded in part by the Canada-PEI Gas Tax Agreement, will generate environmentally sustainable electricity for the Kensington wastewater treatment plant. The turbine, constructed in late spring 2009, was the first municipally owned turbine to be erected in the province and, according to Kensington officials, it is the first community in Canada with a wind-powered wastewater utility.

Funding of \$265,000 was provided by the gas tax agreement for the purchase of the wind turbine.

Total project costs amounted to \$531,000, with the balance funded by the Town of Kensington.

Mann said the wind turbine will provide the community as a whole with a unique educational opportunity to learn about the importance of alternative energy sources and energy conservation.

“It is our hope and anticipation that this project will position Kensington as a leader in wider community efforts to promote and support clean energy and energy independence,” he said.

BRIEFS

Harbour cleanup overrun

The city of Saint John, New Brunswick is looking for \$20 million—the cost overrun on its harbour cleanup project. The total price has climbed to \$99 million.

One of the city’s options is to change the facility’s design; that could include decreasing the size of the pumping stations

Water dispute hearing

New Brunswick’s Energy and Utilities Board will hold a hearing on the water dispute in Penobscquis.

A group of homeowners, who have been battling for a water supply for years, requested the board’s assistance.

The outcome of the hearing could affect all municipal water services in New Brunswick.

Cube automation 1/8th page

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Leading-edge operator training program filling the gaps

■ BY STEPHEN PATRICK CLARE

Some relationships are bound by blood while others are held together by love. Still others, like the one recently developed by the Maritime Provinces Water and Wastewater Association (MPWWA) and World Water and Wastewater Solutions Ltd (WWWS), are bonded in water. Water and wastewater, that is.

"We are very excited to be working with our peers here in Atlantic Canada," said Doug Cooper, founding partner and current president of the Ontario-based WWWS.

Cooper's company has designed and developed leading-edge operator training programs for hundreds of municipalities across the country. This past June he met with representatives from the MPWWA in Moncton, New Brunswick hoping to set up shop in the Maritimes.

While the two parties haven't signed any sort of formalized partnership agreement just yet, Cooper is confident it is only a matter of time. "It seems to be a good fit for both of us."



Todd Richard

The first in a series of tutorial sessions that started in September in Halifax and Windsor, Nova Scotia, included classes on lift stations, ponds and lagoons and water infiltration systems.

Though excited by the opportunity, Cooper insists his firm is not interested in taking work away from smaller regional trainers. "I think that what we are really doing is filling in the gaps," he explained. "The available technologies are advancing so rapidly that it is sometimes difficult for everyone to keep up with all of the changes taking place in the industry."

Todd Richard agrees. The Chief Operator of the Water Facility in the Town of Windsor—and training coordinator for the MPWWA—sees the partnership primarily as an added value to the organization's existing training programs.

"We are very pleased with the instruction that we have been getting from our current providers across the region," he points out, "and we are looking forward to growing those relationships."

If the new affiliation goes smoothly through the fall sessions, then similar partnerships are likely to



A hands-on class conducted by World Water and Wastewater Solutions Ltd in Ontario. The company has designed and developed leading-edge operator training programs for hundreds of municipalities across the country.

develop in both New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

"We might be up and running in those places as soon as this winter," Cooper noted. "Eventually I would like to set up a regional base in a hub city like Truro or Moncton that could serve as a classroom for all of the Maritime provinces."

With roots in Nova Scotia on his mother's side of the family, Cooper would also like to see himself set up full-time in the province at some point. "I bought a little piece of land here a couple of years ago where I would like to retire someday. The scenery is spectacular, and the people are the friendliest in the world."



Doug Cooper

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MPWWA PROFILE: *Gary Richards*

Every issue, the MPWWR shines a spotlight on an MPWWA member making a difference in the industry. Gary Richards is the focus of our October issue.

■ BY STEPHEN PATRICK CLARE

Gary Richards loves being hands-on at his job. "There is something special about getting in there and getting my fingernails dirty every day that makes me feel like I'm really working."

The life-long resident of Atholville, New Brunswick—and now the Superintendent of the town's Public Works Department—says that working for the municipality wasn't his first choice of career. "I studied to be an electrician actually, but that didn't pan out so well."

Not long after, the town offered him a maintenance position. "I loved anything that had to do with mechanics, and I still do," notes the 46 year-old. "And so they got me doing welding and equipment repair for the first couple of years."

Part of his early tenure also involved working alongside Atholville's water and wastewater treatment and wells operator. "He left in 1990, and I have held that position ever since."

Today Richards has his hands into a little bit of everything. "There is always something to do. The biggest challenge we face is trying to find the time to get it all done."

To that end, he and his five fellow employees are constantly looking at new ways to improve efficiencies. "What we have seen the most in recent years is the im-

provement that technology has had upon our processes," he explains. "It's vital that we keep on top of all those changes, especially in the field of water and wastewater management."

As such, Richards and his peers take regular training courses across the Atlantic region. "The MPWWA has been great for that. They are fully up to speed with all of the latest trends and technologies and walk us through everything."

Recently, Richards was appointed as one of the organization's zone representatives. "One of my goals with the position is to bring these training sessions closer to our immediate area."

The other type of training takes place on the job. "For me, theory is great, but I always want to get out into the field and try it myself. As I am always telling the younger guys here—there is no substitute for hands-on experience."

He is hands-on away from the job as well. "In the summertime, my wife and I travel on our motorcycles. This past summer we did one trip to PEI, down through Picton, over to the Cape Breton Highlands and then back to Halifax. Then we took another ride through Maine, over to Yarmouth by ferry and into Halifax again."

The couple hit the road as often as they can. "There is something special about getting out there on the bike everyday that makes me feel like I'm really living."

More clean water for greater Moncton

Construction is expected to begin later this year on the Tower Road 2nd Dam and Reservoir in Moncton, New Brunswick. The \$31.2 million project received federal and provincial funding Oct. 5.

Veterans Affairs Minister Greg Thompson said the federal government has set aside a maximum contribution of \$9.79 million for the project. Justice and Consumer Affairs Minister Mike Murphy said the province would match that contribution. Moncton will cover all remaining costs.

The project will significantly increase the region's capacity to safely supply water to Moncton, Dieppe and Riverview as well as meet current and future demand.

"This is great news," said Moncton Mayor George LeBlanc. "We want to thank the provincial and federal governments for their support. This project is very important. A clean, safe and reliable water supply is absolutely essential to the prosperity and quality of our great communities."

Construction of the dam and reservoir should be completed in late 2012.

Water level concerns brought to council

■ BY CARLA ALLEN

THE VANGUARD

Water levels in lakes have been brought to the attention of Municipality of Yarmouth (Nova Scotia) Councillor Trevor Cunningham who added the issue to a recent meeting of council.

Cunningham said he'd received a number of calls and complaints over the last month (August) concerning the low water level in Lake Milo and Doctors Lake. He ac-

knowledged there had been problems with the dam and its age of the dam as well as talk of replacement but suggested sending a letter to the Town of Yarmouth stating concerns about the low level, especially in terms of recreation, with docks grounding out, and rocks presenting a hazard.

"Maybe they could look at their protocols at keeping the lake at a certain level got next year," said Cunningham.

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Gov. backing Saint John projects

The federal and New Brunswick governments are jointly investing almost \$16 million in six water improvement projects in Saint John. The funding, announced Aug. 17, will support the construction, upgrade and improvement of water treatment and distribution infrastructure in the city.

Six projects will receive federal funding from this investment, including:

- \$731,667 for the Beaverbrook Avenue water main installation;
- \$2.3 million for the East Phinney Hill transmission main installation; and
- \$1.3 million for the Dever Road Water transmission installation—a project that involves the replacement of a 110-year-old water main.

"This investment to improve Saint John's water

infrastructure was one of my Four in Four priorities for the next four years," said Saint John MP Rodney Weston. "It has been the city's Number One priority, and it has been my priority since I was elected last October."

"This is a vital first step," said Saint John Mayor Ivan Court. "It will allow common council to move forward in partnership with the other levels of government on council's Number One priority of clean safe drinking water."

Federal funding will come from the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund. Both levels of government will jointly fund up to two-thirds of the estimated eligible project costs, or a maximum of almost \$8 million each. The city will cover the remaining costs, also estimated at \$8 million.

Fundy recycling program improvements

Improvements are being made to the recycling program in the Fundy region of New Brunswick.

On Sept. 2, Saint John MP Rodney Weston and provincial Energy Minister Jack Keir announced that both the federal and provincial governments would invest \$220,447 towards the total eligible costs of the project. The Fundy Region Solid Waste Commission is contributing the \$661,431 balance.

"Our federal investment of over \$220,000 will facilitate the recycling process in the Fundy region, helping to ensure that fewer recyclable materials end up in the landfill," said Weston. "Our government recognizes that modern, reliable infrastructure can improve quality of life, protect the environment, and help maintain jobs in this region for today and for years to come."

The financial support will make it possible for

the Fundy Region Solid Waste Commission to build a sorting conveyor to simplify the process of separating recyclables. In addition, baling equipment will be installed so materials can be packaged on-site for shipment. The project will significantly reduce the Commission's operational costs and allow it to manage its recyclables more efficiently.

"This support from the Building Canada Fund enables the Commission to ensure a sustainable recycling program," said Commission General Manager Marc MacLeod. "The recycling market demand is in a state of constant flux; having our own material recovery facility allows us to change with the market and expand the program to include new products, such as the recent addition of milk cartons."

Nova Scotia infrastructure funded

Eight water and wastewater infrastructure projects in Nova Scotia have received joint federal and provincial funding.

On Sept. 23, both Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations Minister Ramona Jennex and National Defence Minister Peter MacKay announced up to \$4 million for the projects that are scattered across the province.

Projects include water main replacements in the Municipality of Annapolis County, improvements to Phase 2 of the New Germany sewer system in Lunenburg County, the Coal-

burn wastewater extension in Pictou County and water and wastewater upgrades on Main Street in Louisbourg, Cape Breton Regional Municipality.

"These water and wastewater projects will not only help build stronger communities, they will help create jobs and keep trades people at home," Jennex said.

Both governments have agreed to work together to ensure that the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund money is delivered quickly and efficiently to municipalities in Nova Scotia.



Ramona Jennex



Peter MacKay

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(ACOA Photo)

Miramichi, New Brunswick MP Tilly O'Neill-Gordon and Miramichi Centre MLA John Foran teamed up Sept. 8 with Miramichi Mayor Gerry Cormier (far right) to announce more than \$1.3 million in funding from the federal and provincial governments to help rebuild 1,500 metres of wastewater infrastructure along Newcastle Boulevard. The city will provide the remainder of the estimated \$4.2 million project costs.

Infrastructure funding for Miramichi region

Joint federal and provincial funding will improve local wastewater infrastructure in Miramichi, New Brunswick. City MP Tilly O'Neill-Gordon and Minister of Public Safety and Miramichi Centre MLA John Foran announced Sept. 8 that both levels of government would invest over \$1.3 million each towards the costs of the \$4.2 million project. The city will cover the balance.

Foran said, "These infrastructure projects contribute to the sustainability of our communities, and ensure that communities such as Miramichi continue to be places where people can live in a healthy, clean and safe environment."

The project involves replacing approximately 1,500 metres of water, sanitary and storm sewer infrastructure along Newcastle Boulevard. These upgrades will improve the reliability of the wastewater collection system, significantly reducing the number of incidents of discharge of untreated wastewater into a nearby stream.

The project will also significantly reduce the operational, maintenance and property damage costs that the city currently incurs due to the ageing and inadequate infrastructure.

"We are very pleased to partner with the provincial and federal governments to improve the city's infrastructure," said Miramichi Mayor Gerry Cormier. "We are very appreciative of government's commitment to improving our roads and in helping generate employment in this region."

Water upgrades in northeastern New Brunswick

Residents of Bathurst, Tracadie-Sheila, and Lamèque, New Brunswick will benefit from joint federal and provincial funding to upgrade water and wastewater systems.

On Aug. 6 Senator Percy Mockler and Brian Kenny, the Minister responsible for Community Non-profit Organizations, announced that the federal, provincial and respective municipal

governments would each invest one third of the total eligible costs of three projects.

These costs include: Bathurst (\$3,993,702), Tracadie-Sheila (\$274,592), and Lamèque (\$1,442,520).

The Bathurst project involves the installation of a new low lift pump, replacement of a clarifier and the construction of a new set of filters. The

water treatment plant expansion will result in improved plant efficiency and reliability, and provide access to a higher level of water quality for a number of households.

The Tracadie-Sheila project aims to upgrade the town's wastewater lift station. The improvements will include greater wastewater system reliability, reduced discharge of untreated effluent

and an increased number of households and businesses that will be connected to the sanitary sewer system.

The Lamèque project will focus on much-needed improvements to the town's water system infrastructure. The benefits for the community include improved drinking water quality and increased water system reliability.

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Rothesay's main trunk line extended

Residents of Rothesay, New Brunswick are benefiting from joint federal and provincial funding to extend and upgrade the town's water infrastructure. Saint John MP Rodney Weston and the Minister of Tourism and Parks Stuart Jamieson said Aug. 14 that both levels of government would each invest \$1.5 million to complete the project. The municipality will contribute an equal amount. The province will match an additional \$1.27 million from the federal Infrastructure Stimulus Fund for a second component of the project.

Among the project improvements are an extension of a main trunk water line and highway crossing to a new water storage facility, and approximately 2.8 kilometres of new water main pipe to connect two parts of the existing system. The project will improve system reliability for water distribution and treatment, improve the quality of drinking water and increase the number of house-

holds with access to quality drinking water.

The second component will consist of a 2.4 km water main expansion the installation of 24 fire hydrants and other equipment to join two parts of the town water system and the construction of a new water storage tank. This will enable the direct connection of 64 customers currently on individual wells and will upgrade the water supply to another 335 customers, to meet Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines.

"The project announced today will improve our water system incrementally ensuring all current and future Rothesay water consumers enjoy a reliable supply of drinking water meeting national standards," said Mayor Bill Bishop. "Rothesay Council is very appreciative of this support from the federal and provincial governments and look forward to an early start on the project."

Financial support for Minto infrastructure

Minto, New Brunswick's sanitary sewer collection system is being extended.

On Aug. 12, Minister of State (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency) Keith Ashfield and Grand Lake-Gagetown MLA Eugene McGinley announced that both the federal and provincial governments would each invest over \$580,000 towards the total eligible cost of the \$1.75 million project. The village will contribute the balance.

"This sanitary sewer collection system expansion project will go a long way in ensuring that public health and the environment in New Brunswick are protected and preserved," said McGinley, on behalf of Environment Minister Rick Miles. "This infrastructure project will help contribute to the sustainability of our community infrastructure."

"Today's announcement will have a great impact on the Village of Minto," said Mayor Eric Barnett.

"The infrastructure investment announced today will enable Minto to expand the sewer service to Diamond Drive and Pleasant Drive by adding more homes. It will help our environment and will put Minto a step closer to having all of Minto on our sewer system."

The project involves an extension of 3,100 metres to the community's sanitary sewer collection system. These improvements will enable residential lots that currently have aging private septic systems to join the community's waste water system. The upgrades will also service undeveloped land, preparing the village for future growth.

Both levels of government have taken steps to advance projects and flow money faster for targeted infrastructure projects in New Brunswick communities in the 2009 and 2010 construction seasons.

Belledune wastewater project

Belledune, New Brunswick expects a response from the Environment Department by the end of the year. Then Mayor Nick Duivenvoorden and his council will decide whether to proceed with a \$7.1 million wastewater treatment and collection system.

A survey conducted over the summer showed 51% of the community favoured the proposed system.

The project would see between 325-350 West Belledune homes now using separate wells and septic systems hooked into the municipal wastewater treatment facility.

There are concerns about the age of the septic

systems.

"I think people need to remember also is the number one reason we're doing this is, yes, maybe the ground water is all fine today but in 50 years from now the issue of the supply of oil is going to be such a small issue as opposed to the supply of good water, especially good drinking water. At some point, municipalities need to take corrective measures and here in Belledune we're one of the last ones jumping on that bandwagon," Duivenvoorden said in the Northern Light.

"We're years behind schedule but at some point we need to start and the time is now and everything is in place for it to be now."

There is opposition to the proposed wastewater treatment and collection system. Location, higher user fees and other complaints have been raised.

Councilman Jerry Guitard is not convinced the

new system is necessary. He pointed out that only one per cent of the sewer systems went into a stream or a brook and that the focus should be on fixing them.

Too high a price

Tenders for phase two of the sewage treatment plant in Falmouth, Nova Scotia arrived in September \$1 million over budget.

On Sept. 8 West Hants Council tabled the motion to approve a \$3,835,528 tender.

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(ACOA Photo)

Fundy Royal, New Brunswick MP Rob Moore, Health Minister Mary Schryer and Quispamsis Mayor Murray Driscoll announced joint funding under the Building Canada Fund for upgrades to wastewater infrastructure for the community of Quispamsis. ACOA provided over \$1.7 million towards the project.

Wastewater infrastructure expansion for Quispamsis

The waste water infrastructure in Quispamsis, New Brunswick will be expanded.

Funding for the project, announced Sept. 10 by Fundy Royal MP Rob Moore and Minister of Health Mary Schryer, will see the federal and provincial governments each invest \$1,733,333 while the town will cover the remaining costs.

"With this much needed expansion, we will be eliminating a potential 300 private septic tanks in Quispamsis, and allowing us to continue with sustainable development," Quispamsis Mayor Murray Driscoll said.

The project will connect homes in Sun Valley Park and Forrester's Cove subdivisions to the municipal sanitary sewer collection

and treatment system. With the installation of approximately 3,800 metres of gravity sewer line and one wastewater pumping station, the completion of the project will mean an end to avoidable environmental concerns and contaminations.

"This infrastructure project will go a long way in ensuring that public health and the environment in Quispamsis and New Brunswick are protected and preserved," said Schryer. "This project will help contribute to the sustainability of our community infrastructure."

The project is one of 32 across the province that got underway quickly.

Governments invest in Harvey and McAdam

Residents of Harvey and McAdam, New Brunswick are benefiting from joint federal and provincial funding to upgrade water and wastewater systems and restore village property.

On Aug. 18 Minister of Veterans Affairs Greg Thompson and Minister of Finance Greg Byrne promised that both levels of government would invest a total of \$294,083 in three community projects—two in Harvey and one in McAdam. The respective municipalities are contributing

the balance.

The \$460,432 funding for the two projects in Harvey will improve the community's wastewater collection and treatment services and restore a large municipal property for potential commercial development.

Specifically, improvements will increase the aerated lagoon's capacity by 30 per cent and will ensure the treatment facility is in line with new standards of the Canada-wide Strategy for

Municipal Wastewater Effluent.

The second Harvey project involves a four-hectare property located in the centre of the community that was inherited by the village. The abandoned property was once the location of a sawmill and contains dangerous wood waste. Funding for the remediation project, that will include the removal of the decomposing waste, will reduce environmental, fire and safety risks while restoring the land for future

development.

McAdam will receive \$127,734 for a project that will extend the accessibility of the community water and wastewater systems to additional homes in the village. The funding will support costs associated with the survey, design, tender and construction of the additional piping. The project is expected to alleviate the use of problematic wells for several property owners.

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Drummond water distribution improved

The water distribution system in Drummond, New Brunswick is being improved. Tobique-Mactaquac MP Mike Allen and NB Minister of Agriculture and Aquaculture Ronald Ouellette announced Aug. 25 that the federal and provincial governments would each invest \$357,348 toward the project. The village is contributing the balance.

“Our federal investment of over \$350,000 will help ensure that the village of Drummond has access to reliable, quality drinking water,” Allen said. “Our government recognizes that modern, reliable infrastructure can improve quality of life, attract business and create jobs for today and for years to come.”

“This investment is important to ensure that

the community of Drummond continues to be a place where people can live in a healthy, clean and safe environment,” said Ouellette.

Drummond Mayor Cyril Rioux said the village had “developed an infrastructure plan for improving our drinking water system at our pumping station.”

Funding will enable Drummond to connect its water system to the neighbouring town of Grand Falls. The village’s current system cannot meet growing demand and faces issues related to potential contaminants from agricultural sources. The project will help to ensure that residents have access to a safe and reliable water supply year round.



(Communications New Brunswick photo)

Residents of Drummond, New Brunswick will benefit from joint federal and provincial funding to improve the village’s water distribution system. Tobique-Mactaquac MP Mike Allen and NB Minister of Agriculture and Aquaculture Ronald Ouellette made the announcement Aug. 25. In the photo are from left: Allen, Drummond Mayor Cyril Rioux, and Ouellette.

Governments invest in Bath water system

Upgrades to the water treatment and distribution system in Bath, New Brunswick are underway. On Aug. 25, Tobique-Mactaquac MP Mike Allen and NB Minister of Agriculture and Aquaculture Ronald Ouellette announced that both the federal and provincial governments would invest \$20,000 towards the total eligible costs of the project. The village is contributing the remaining \$20,000.

“These are not large dollar projects as compared to other recent announcements around the province; however, they are just as important,” said Bath Mayor Troy Stone. “These projects, when completed, will provide for the uninterrupted supply of safe water at all times. Power interruptions do not happen often, but when they do, it can cre-

ate problems with our water supply. The safety and security of the village’s water supply will be advanced to the highest level possible with these upgrades.”

Funding for this project will enable Bath to set up an automatic starter for the generator at the main well house and purchase generators for two booster stations. The upgrades will provide continuous power to pump water and maintain pressure in the lines during power outages, helping to prevent boil water orders.

A new automated chlorination system will also be installed to help ensure that the water supply is accurately metered and chlorinated, improving the system’s overall efficiency.

Work to restore Halifax wastewater

Continued from page 1

According to the WWTF website, in July, two ozone generators were installed adjacent to a catchbasin on the west side of Upper Water Street just north of Cogswell Street. The ozone generators had a positive effect overall, but their effectiveness was dependant on the quantity of effluent in the tunnel, wind direction, tides and temperature. Activated carbon air filters had been installed in two other catchbasins in the same

area and were changed every week to increase their effectiveness in reducing odour.

Campbell expected the five new pumps for the WWTF, ordered from Germany in August, would be in Halifax by February. The new motor control centre, also ordered in August, would be delivered in December or January.

He said plans were on target for the plant to be fully operational next spring.

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Data collection money for Nackawic

The town of Nackawic has received joint federal and provincial funding to collect important data it can use to build more efficient and effective water and wastewater systems.

On Aug. 19 Tobique-Mactaquac MP Mike Allen and NB Minister of Finance Greg Byrne announced that both levels of government would each invest \$13,845 towards the total eligible costs of the project. The town will cover the balance.

"This project will help Nackawic determine exactly what its needs are in building the infrastructure they need to sustain their community," said Byrne. "Our government is committed to support projects like these that will benefit the health and safety of our residents, and put us all closer to achieving self-sufficiency."

The project will support the costs associated with creating computer software that will be used to accurately model Nackawic's water distribution system. Valves, hydrants, main sizes, elevations, and pump characteristics will be confirmed and input into the model. The model will allow for an accurate

representation of the town's water distribution system to develop the necessary flushing program as well as to evaluate existing and potential options for the future chlorination of its water supply.

This software will ultimately allow the municipality to examine various options to determine the most effective and cost efficient alternatives in maintaining water quality guidelines. In addition, Nackawic will be able to use the model in the future to evaluate other improvement options as needed, and integrate it as an infrastructure management tool.

"On behalf of council and the town of Nackawic, I am very pleased that Nackawic was chosen to receive funding under the Building Canada Fund. The Town's Approval to Operate the Water Drinking System outlines specific requirements by the Department of Environment such as a flushing program," said Nackawic Mayor Rowena Simpson. "Without this financial assistance, the town would not be able to complete the project and meet these requirements."

PEI private wastewater systems registered

Prince Edward Island officials have registered all of the known private wastewater facilities in the province, Environment, Energy and Forestry Minister Richard Brown said.

By Sept 4, the department's Water Management division had confirmed that the last of the 28 private wastewater facilities had met the provincial

requirement for registration.

"Having these systems properly registered has been a priority. Now that they are all documented, it will be easier for our departmental officials to work with wastewater system operators and make sure that our regulations and standards are being enforced," the minister said.

Madawaska projects get financial backing

Three Madawaska, New Brunswick communities will benefit from more than \$2.5 million in joint federal and provincial funding to upgrade drinking water and wastewater systems. Saint-Léonard Senator Percy Mockler and Restigouche-La-Valée MLA Burt Paulin announced Aug. 6 that the two levels of government would each invest nearly \$1.3 million while the municipalities will contribute the balance of the \$3.9 million project.

Saint-Léonard will use over \$1 million to install a new filtration plant to remove iron, manganese and minerals from local drinking water. In addition, the town will undertake necessary repairs to its wastewater system.

In Rivière-Verte, over \$1 million will go towards adding a complete water treatment system to the current facilities. Reducing the need for boil orders, the new technology called membrane filtration, will also eliminate the need for chemical products that can harm the environment.

Sainte-Anne-de-Madawaska will employ nearly \$450,000 in funding to install a water filtration system that will reduce concentrations of iron, manganese and arsenic to acceptable levels and allow residents to enjoy a higher quality of drinking water. In addition, the community will install a remote control system to monitor equipment.

Water upgrades in Edmundston and Clair

The wastewater systems in Edmundston and Clair, New Brunswick are being upgraded.

On Aug. 6, Senator Percy Mockler and Donald Arseneault, the Minister for the Northern New Brunswick Initiative announced that the federal and provincial governments would each invest over \$1.6 million in the Edmundston infrastructure project and more than \$640,000 in the Clair venture. The respective municipalities will each contribute the balance. The total cost of the projects is over \$6.9 million.

"These infrastructure investments are more than "make work" projects," said Arseneault. "These investments will ensure that communities like Edmundston and Clair

continue to be places where people can live in a healthy, clean and safe environment."

The Edmundston project will improve the collection of heavy rainfall to reduce and eliminate problems with sewer backup and overflow into rivers as well as flooding at key intersections. Improvements include work on the northern side of the Trans-Canada Highway to channel surface run-off to the ditches rather than the combined sewer.

In Clair, work will involve an upgrade to the sewer and wastewater treatment system that sustained damage during the April 2008 flood. In addition to replacing an obsolete aeration system, the work will allow more households and businesses to be connected to the municipal system.

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(Communications New Brunswick photo)

The wastewater system in Riverview, New Brunswick will be upgraded. On Aug. 25 Fundy Royal MP Rob Moore and Minister of Justice and Consumer Affairs Mike Murphy announced the federal and provincial governments will each invest \$1.4 million toward the cost of the project and the town will cover the balance. In the photo are from left: Riverview Town Administrator David Muir, Riverview Mayor Clarence Sweetland, Murphy and Moore.

Riverview's wastewater system upgraded

The wastewater system in Riverview, New Brunswick will be upgraded. The federal and provincial governments will each invest \$1.4 million toward the cost of the project and the town will cover the balance.

Funding announced Aug. 25 by Fundy Royal MP Rob Moore and Minister of Justice and Consumer Affairs Mike Murphy will improve the reliability and performance of the wastewater system in Riverview. It includes the design, tender and construction of a new sanitary pumping station, gravity trunk mains and force mains. It will allow development along the newly built Gunningsville

Boulevard, and reduce the current demands on an existing station located on Pine Glen Road.

Riverview Mayor Clarence Sweetland was pleased with the funding. "Significant investments have been made in the construction of Gunningsville Boulevard with the intention of opening up new land mass for commercial and residential development. The completion of this wastewater project is necessary to realize that goal, and for that reason we appreciate federal and provincial participation, which will enable us to do this work. We need to be able to continue growth in Riverview, and this will ensure that we will be in a position to do so."

Good reliable drinking water

Saint-Antoine and Bouctouche, New Brunswick will receive almost \$4 million in funding to upgrade drinking water and wastewater infrastructure.

NB Premier Shawn Graham and Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency Minister Keith Ashfield announced Sept. 11, that the federal government had promised more than \$1 million for the Saint-Antoine infrastructure project, and nearly \$900,000 for the Bouctouche project through Canada's Building Canada Fund—Communities Component.

Graham said, "This is yet another example of what can be achieved through partnership and co-operation among the three levels of government."

Ashfield said, "Our investment today of nearly \$2 million will support the necessary drinking

water and waste water upgrades required by smaller communities in New Brunswick."

The province will match these investments and the municipalities will contribute the balance of nearly \$2 million.

The Bouctouche project will replace the existing water disinfection system with a new UV system to better meet safety standards.

The Saint-Antoine waste water project will add two new aerated cells, a new lift station and collection system to eliminate the need for underground septic tanks. These vital upgrades allow for greater municipal growth.

"These upgrades will ensure that the people of Saint-Antoine and Bouctouche have good, reliable drinking water," Graham said.

Rexton sewer collection system extended

New Brunswick Premier Shawn Graham and Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency Minister Keith Ashfield were in Rexton, NB Sept. 11 to announce joint federal and provincial funding to upgrade the community's water and wastewater infrastructure.

The two levels of government will each invest over \$342,000 towards the cost of the project and the village of Rexton will contribute the balance of the \$1,047,126 million.

The project will extend Rexton's sewer collection system to include areas presently underserved. The extension involves the replacement of the existing

sewer main on the bridge across the Richibucto River and the upgrade of the lift station controllers. The village will also conduct a study on options for a new water supply, and a new well field or connection to existing supplies for neighbouring communities.

"After many years of planning it is gratifying that funding, through the Canada – New Brunswick Build Canada Fund, is being made available. This financial assistance will allow for our community to complete much needed utility system upgrades," said Rexton Mayor David Hanson.

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Leading-edge operator training program filling the gaps

BY STEPHEN PATRICK CLARE

Municipal Water and Wastewater operators in two Maritime provinces will soon have the opportunity to upgrade their skills from home, thanks to a recent partnership between the Nova Scotia Community College and the New Brunswick Community College.

Starting Nov. 1, the NSCC will offer online courses via their website for both current and future operators. The NBCC has proffered a similar program for a number of years.

The NSCC began scouting around for partners to develop the program earlier this year after a spring survey conducted by the Nova Scotia Association of Municipal Administrators suggested that 60% - 70% of the province's water and wastewater operators will retire over the next decade.

"We found the NBCC to be an ideal partner for what we were looking to do," says Janet Specht, project manager for the NSCC's School of Trades and Technology. "They had the same kind of values and commitment to excellence that we pride ourselves on."

Specht explains that the course curriculum is targeted at three distinct markets. "The idea is to bring operators who already have their Nova Scotia Department of the Environment (NSDE) license the opportunity to obtain the mandatory CEUs (Continuing Education Unit) required to maintain that license, to provide unlicensed operators with help in writing their NSDE exams, and to give those who are new to the field a chance to explore their career options."

As a bonus, pupils will enjoy the flexibility to study wherever and whenever they can. "The courses are entirely 100 per cent online," notes

Specht. "Only the initial orientation session is being done in person."

In all, eight to 11 courses will be available to end-users via the internet. Students are required to put in the equivalent of 13 days of classroom time over a six-month period to complete one entire stream. Homework and assignments will be doled out on a steady basis, and "quizzies" will keep pupils on their toes.

will keep pupils on their toes.

Enrollees are also encouraged to take part in the many interactive web-based elements. "These courses will have all of the trimmings that you would likely find on any dynamic website these days," she points out. "There will be a mix of text, audio, video, blogs, chats, forums, links, etc..."

Municipalities across the province will also

benefit from the tutorials. "This is a very affordable alternative to traditional training as it almost entirely eliminates travel related expenses," says Specht. "As well, it also means that fewer work days will be lost due to time spent coming and going to training sessions across the Atlantic region."

For more information please visit www.nsc.ca

St. Andrews project funded

The wastewater treatment plant in St. Andrews, New Brunswick will be upgraded.

Minister of Veterans Affairs Greg Thompson and Minister of Fisheries Rick Doucet announced Aug. 18 that the federal and provincial governments would each invest \$976,324 towards the project. The town is contributing the balance.

"This is another terrific opportunity for Saint Andrews as we recognize the importance of maintaining proper treatment facilities for wastewater for our growing community," said St. Andrews Mayor John Craig.

The existing wastewater treatment plant, located on Prince of Wales Street, is over 25 years old with outdated equipment and reaching capacity.

Improvements will create a modern facility capable of meeting the town's current and future treatment needs.

The upgrades will reduce power consumption, provide cost savings, and lessen the impact on the environment.

The St. Andrews project is among 32 across New Brunswick slated to get underway quickly. The two levels of government have taken steps to advance projects and flow money faster for targeted infrastructure projects in the 2009 and 2010 construction seasons.

"These projects will contribute to the sustainability of our community infrastructure in the long-term," said Doucet. "These infrastructure investments are important in ensuring that communities like St. Andrews continue to be places where people can live in a healthy, clean and safe environment."

Industrial Best Practices for Water Management Guide

A new guide to sustainable water management in industrial parks is available at no cost from Dalhousie University's Eco-Efficiency Centre.

In partnership with the Salamander Foundation, the Centre has developed "Industrial Best Practices for Water Management: A guide for industry to help reduce your water footprint." The report covers the current state of water management in industrial parks and discusses the implications that inefficient water use can have on operating costs and public perceptions of environmental responsibility.

It also details tips, solutions, and technologies to reduce water consumption, such as faucet aerators, proper metering, and updated plumbing. Encouraging managers to think of industrial parks as ecosystems, where the outputs of one organization are the inputs of another, the report includes a number of practical suggestions to make better use of water locally, such as through green roofs, stormwater management, and storage.

The guide is available at: www.dal.ca/eco-efficiency.

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