

REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

■ **BY JERRY VILLARD**

By the time you get to read this our 38th Annual Training Seminar, “YOU ARE NOT ALONE – Taking Advantage of Networking”, will be behind us. My hope is that everyone whom attended enjoyed themselves and has gotten value for their money. There was a large variety of workshops full of great information on a wide variety of subjects.

I would like to thank all those who attended for your continuing support. I would also like to extend an enormous thank you to Clara Shea for keeping things rolling and making sure everything gets done. Thanks to Delbert Reeves, who continues to tell us he’s retiring, for his help in the organizing of the trade show, tours, and other events.

Our chosen charity of proceeds from our Silent Auction was the Brain Injury Association of P.E.I. Again, numerous items donated helped us have something for everyone. This year’s auction coordinator, Andre van der Velden, along with Bill Cannon, were responsible for putting this together in Charlottetown. Thank you both for handling this part of the seminar. And thanks, as well to all the rest of the board for all your help before and during the seminar. Well done, again.

Hopefully everyone found something they’ll be able to use now or in the future. Use the contacts you’ve made during this seminar throughout the year. If you run into something you need information or guidance on, feel free to contact one of the board members and they’ll share it with the rest of us, if it isn’t something they have dealt with before. Usually someone knows someone who has run into something similar and will get their contact information to you.

I’ll sign off for now as I’m in full on conference mode as it approaches, and I am wearing the Conference Chair hat as well. We’ll have more on the seminar, charity auction and trade show in the July issue. Take care and remember: “You are not alone.”



Georgetown CAO Dorothy MacDonald and Mayor Lewis Lavandier stand in front of the new lagoon that now services the town of 550 people. The lagoon was built using joint funding from the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund.

Contributed photo

New lagoon operational in Georgetown

■ **BY ANDY WALKER**

Overlooking the bustling harbour in the eastern P.E.I. town of Georgetown is a new wastewater lagoon Mayor Lewis Lavandier is hoping will help bring new industry.

The town was able to install the new lagoon the thanks to funding received last year through the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund (CWWF). The federal government contributed \$240,900 to the project while the provincial government and the town each contributed \$120,450.

Mayor Lavandier says most of the town is serviced by the municipal wa-

ter system. It’s now operating at 75 per cent capacity, so he says there’s plenty of room for growth. In fact, he’s hoping the new lagoon will help bring new industry to a timber yard that was once a major employer for this town of 500, but now sits abandoned.

“They’re going to tie into this new well,” the mayor says. “That creates industrial development, and certainly it goes a long way to help us in the area, so we’re pretty excited about that.”

Georgetown is one of 26 Island projects receiving combined federal and provincial funding through the CWWF.

“We’re really excited about this,” says Dorothy MacDonald, Georgetown’s chief administrative officer, pointing to the lagoon’s high-tech and environmentally-sound filtration system. “Not only does it help us reduce our footprint, but it gives us room to grow.”

Lavandier says the investments of the federal and provincial governments helped Georgetown stretch its municipal tax funds to put in drinking water upgrades. The work involved adding a new well to the town’s drinking water distribution system to increase capacity and offer more reliable services to residents year-round.

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Publication No. 40064799

Environmental review under way on new effluent plant for Northern Pulp

■ BY ANDY WALKER

Plans by Northern Pulp to build a new effluent treatment plant for its pulp mill in Pictou County are proceeding full steam ahead despite strong opposition on several fronts.

Under the Boat Harbour Act, which was passed by the Nova Scotia legislature in 2015, the mill in Abercrombie Point is required to have a new effluent treatment plant in place by January 2020.

Terri Fraser, technical manager for Northern Pulp, recently told a P.E.I. legislature committee the design is now undergoing an environmental assessment.

“We hope to file the registration with the province in the summer of 2018, and we’re fully committed to working towards the date of 2020,” Fraser says. “Although it’s a tight deadline, we’re working very hard and cooperatively with the government to meet that.”

Plant General Manager Bruce Chapman told the same committee Northern Pulp is the third owner of the plant, which has been in existence since 1967. The plant produces northern bleached softwood kraft, which is used in the manufacture of house-

hold products, such as tissue, toilet paper, paper towel, and writing paper.

The new plant is slated to replace a facility built in 1972, and originally served not only the pulp mill (then owned by Scott Paper), but Canso Chemicals.

“The unfortunate part of the chlor-alkali process used by that plant is that mercury ends up in the effluent and created a lot of the contamination that’s in the Boat Harbour Basin today, as well as some of the dioxins and effluents that are presently there,” Fraser told the committee.

Northern Pulp has been the only user of the effluent plant since 1995. Fraser says the facility averages 1,500 to 2,000 kilograms a day in biological oxygen demand, well under the federal pulp and paper regulations of 7,500 kilograms. Fraser says the current volume of effluent is 62,500 cubic litres.

Guy Martin, a consultant with KSH Consulting in Montreal and lead engineer on the construction of the waste water treatment plant, told the committee the current system is located approximately six kilometres away, but the new plant will be adjacent to the mill.

“Our design includes two spill basins

that will contain the equivalent of about 13 hours of mill effluent flow, to prevent any upsets to the treatment facility,” Martin says. “We have one large spill basin that will intercept the effluent before it’s treated, and another one within the mill that will intercept the effluent once the solids are removed. Automatic and manual systems will be put in place to protect the effluent.”

Martin says the new outfall reaches out about 10.5 kilometres from the facility through the harbor and into the Northumberland Strait. Martin says the pipe itself has a 36-inch diameter and is 2.5 inches thick. It’s made of high-density polyethylene.

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Northern Pulp says it’s redesigning its wastewater treatment system to produce a cleaner effluent that’s safe for the environment.



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The new water treatment facility will include pressure zones to produce good water pressure throughout the town's higher and lower elevations.



Pictou's new water treatment facility is expected to be finished by Sept. 1.

Goodwin photos

Treatment plant helps Pictou improve water

■ BY STEVE GOODWIN

PICTOU – Kyle Slaunwhite says construction of Pictou's new water treatment facility has fuelled his passion for the work he does for the town.

Slaunwhite is the town's project manager and has been overseeing the project, which is expected to be completed and on-line by Sept. 1.

He went back to school to get an MBA and from that achieved a project management professional designation. He says he appreciates the colleagues he works with for the town.

"I realized that is where my passion lies," he says. "We have a great team, so that makes it that much more enjoyable."

The project costs \$5 million and includes pressure zones to produce good water pressure throughout the town's higher and lower elevations. Two-thirds of the cost was from federal and provincial sources and the town has financed the rest.

The project is on schedule and on budget, Slaunwhite says. Most recently, the cement floors were poured, and interior walls are going up. The building's area is nearly 3,200 square feet.

The task of building the new treatment plant off Wellington Street is to achieve better quality water. The plant isn't far from the series of 13 wells located on the edge of town off Division Road.

Nine wells are operating now to meet the town's current needs, Slaunwhite says. About half of the town's water comes from two of the largest volume wells.

"We're keeping the others off-line until the treatment plant is operating," Slaunwhite says.

Pictou's residents have endured occasional off-colour water for years, but the new plant's more sophisticated filter system is designed to solve the problem. Slaunwhite does caution that the impact will not be obvious right away.

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The water treatment facility currently under construction in Pictou.



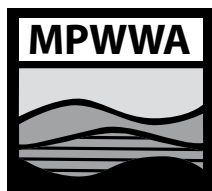
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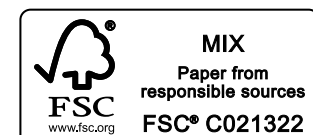
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Wastewater system upgrades ongoing in Fredericton

■ BY JOAN LEBLANC

The City of Fredericton is keeping ahead of the game, upgrading its wastewater systems before any major problems arise.

Back in 2008 municipal council launched the first of four phases of major improvements to its wastewater system, which was originally commissioned in 1970. The system underwent upgrades both in 1976 and the late 1980s. While the city was meeting its regulatory requirements at that time, with new regulations coming in the years ahead, it opted to make necessary changes sooner rather than later.

“(With this overhaul) we’ve gone through two major upgrades so far. Phase one, which started in 2009 and has since been completed, involved the addition of a new aeration basin and secondary clarifier upgrades. The cost of phase one was \$5.1 million. Right now, we have phases two and three ongoing and phase four is at the final planning and funding stage,” Dan Harvey C.E.T., Fredericton’s manager of the Pollution Control Division and one-time chair of the Maritimes Provinces Water and Wastewater Association, says.

Fredericton processes 100 per cent of its wastewater. The city’s secondary treatment/activated sludge plant, located on Barker Street on the North side, treats 95 per cent of its accumulated wastewater. The remaining five per cent is treated at the Garden Creek lagoon located on the cities’ south side.

Phase two, which comes with a price tag of \$4.8 million, was funded through Infrastructure Canada’s Small Communities Fund, Harvey says.

“And because there’s a 10-year window on that funding program, Phase two was split into two parts, 2A and 2B. The first part, construction of a new UV disinfection facility, was completed last fall and will now allow us to meet current disinfection regulations and the average daily flow (ADF) of 25,000 cubic metres (CM). We’re below that now.

“In the event we were to be impacted by a major storm, we would be able to treat 75,000 cubic metres,” he says, adding that Fredericton’s wastewater system is fully split (between sewer and storm), but in the spring the city is often impacted by spring freshet, affecting inflow and infiltration (I & I).

Harvey says part of Phase 2A overlapped into Phase three (the clarifier job), but contractors we were able to move some jobs around within the scope of the projects to ultimately get everything done.

“There was asphalt work to be done associated with the UV project, but the clarifier work was going on right beside it, so that surfacing wasn’t done at that time, but will be completed during the Phase three work,” he says.

Tenders will soon be issued for Phase 2B, which will see upgrades for the headworks to improve sludge management.

“One of the reasons we’re upgrading the headworks is so we can capture more pa-



This outside view of the UV disinfection building shows the control structures and flow meter in the foreground.

Construction of the secondary clarifier was suspended for the winter period. Shown here, the floor is almost complete and covered for the winter. Wall construction has begun.



Looking back the other way at the discharge end of the UV building, you can see the sampling and control equipment in the background.

Inside the UV building, looking at the inlet end of the building, you can see the UV bulbs below the aluminum floor, and sampling and operating equipment at the back of picture.

per products and solids. We don’t promote flushing of these products, but they still make their way into the system and we have to deal with them. We have a headworks now, but we’re going to improve its design, and this will allow more flow to get through it. It will improve the efficiency of the system,” he says.

Harvey says solids are removed from the wastewater by a rotary press, with the solids collected and used in a composting process.

Work is currently ongoing on Phase three, which will see the addition of a secondary clarifier.

Fredericton is also currently planning for a Phase four of the overall project, the key component of which will be sludge and solids management, at an estimated cost of \$4 million.



Inside the electrical control room of the UV building.

Help wanted

Brain Injury Association of Prince Edward Island always accepting helping hands

■ BY JOAN LEBLANC

The Brain Injury Association of Prince Edward Island is a non-profit organization promoting awareness, support, and outreach to brain injury survivors across P.E.I.

Brain injuries affect people of all ages, from all walks of life, and they all have one important and serious factor in common: after suffering a brain injury, an individual's life will never be the same.

The Brain Injury Association of P.E.I. was formed about 10 years ago to provide education to the public about the realities of brain injuries and support to those living with them. Annual fund-raisers, including the donation and raffle of a mini-barn, generously donated by Heritage Lane Mini Barns Inc. in Mill River, P.E.I., helps the organization in carrying on the work it does.

Vicki Homes is a volunteer member of the organization and she knows first-hand how profoundly a brain injury can affect a life. Now a retired clergyman, Homes suffered a brain injury six years ago when she

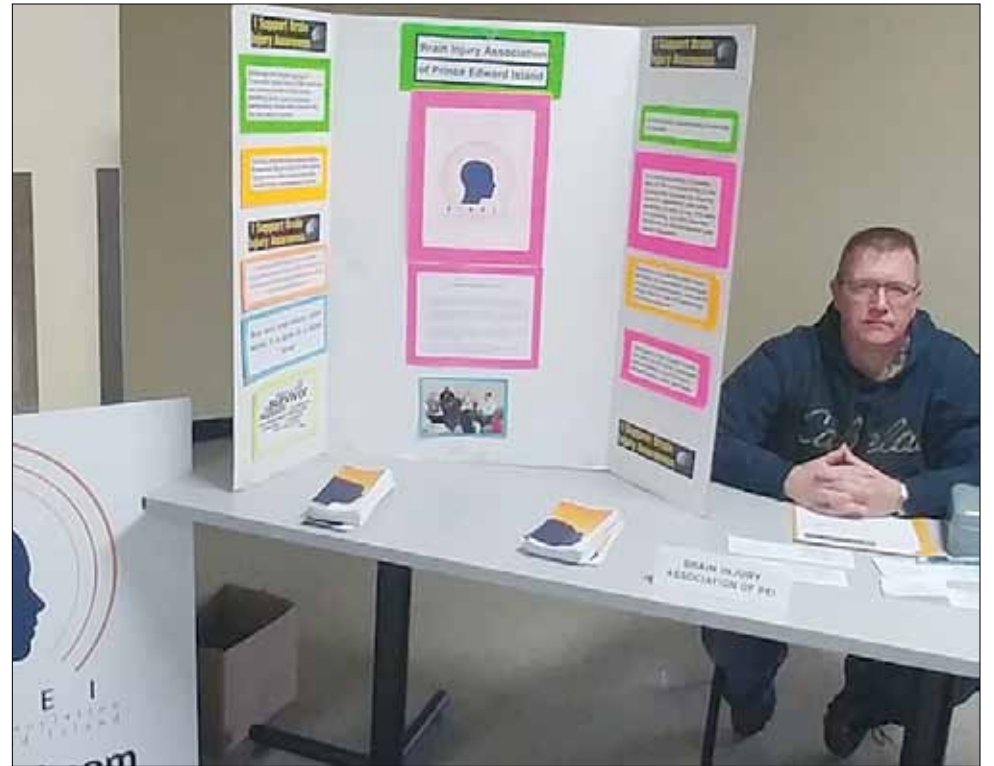
slipped and fell in a parking lot. It not only caused extensive damage to her shoulder, but she hit her head against the side of her car as she fell.

"There's a general belief that brain injuries are incurred only through major accidents, serious concussions, or hitting one's head on a hard surface. But brain injuries can and do happen after more minor incidents and can cause serious, life-altering injury. Any time a brain is shaken, damage occurs," Homes says.

She says people don't understand that sometimes the effects of brain injuries don't become obvious until long after the initial accident. In Home's case, it was two weeks after the fall before she started to exhibit signs of brain injury, damage that soon resulted in an early retirement and upheaval in her life.

Sports concussions, slips and falls, and motor vehicle accidents are just some of the causes of head injuries, she notes.

"Brain injuries are not gender or age specific and often lead to financial hardship, isolation, and the loss of work," Homes adds.



Simon Micklethwaite is an Afghanistan vet who sustained injuries while serving there. He is president of the Brain Injury Association of P.E.I. board and volunteers at many Association events.

Contributed Photo

And that's why the Brain Injury Association of P.E.I. and the work it does, is so important. The organization is working hard to provide a wide range of help and support to brain injury survivors and their families.

To that end, it offers a venue and help for regular support meetings in both Summerside and Charlottetown, as well as important information on dealing with everyday issues.

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Investments in New Maryland, Oromocto First Nation infrastructure projects

New Maryland, NB – Combined investments of more than \$1.1 million are being made by the provincial and federal governments in infrastructure projects in New Maryland and the Oromocto First Nation.

“The provincial government knows that targeting smart infrastructure investments will help produce long-term prosperity and strengthen communities, which will have a lasting positive impact on the quality of life of all residents,” says deputy premier Stephen Horsman. “These investments will allow the residents to have a better quality of life and enable staff to be more effective in the delivery of services.”

Part of the funding will be used to extend the water main and storm sewer on Daniel Drive in New Maryland. There will also be upgrades to the existing storm sewer, and the roadway will be resurfaced with new curbs and sidewalks. This project is meant to ensure continued access to high-quality drinking water and an efficient, reliable sewer system.

The other project involves installing solar thermal heating units on band-owned buildings throughout the Oromocto First Nation. The new equipment is intended to increase energy efficiency and reduce the community’s operating costs.



Combined investments of more than \$1.1 million are being made by the provincial and federal governments in infrastructure projects in New Maryland and the Oromocto First Nation. From left: New Maryland Deputy Mayor Alex Scholten; New Maryland Mayor Judy Wilson-Shee; Oromocto First Nation Chief Shelley Sabattis; Fredericton MP Matt DeCoursey; Coun. Gisèle McCaie-Burke, Village of New Maryland; and deputy premier Stephen Horsman.

“The Government of Canada is working in close partnership with the Province of New Brunswick to ensure we make smart infrastructure investments that

help grow the middle class, promote sustainable development, and increase public health,” says Fredericton MP Matt DeCoursey. “By supporting the development

of important public infrastructure, like these projects, we help create increased opportunities for Oromocto First Nation and New Maryland residents.”



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No more water, water everywhere in Summerside

The yearly mix of heavy rain and melting snow can mean flooding in some Prince Edward Island jurisdictions, but in Summerside, governments have worked together to address a water challenge before it becomes a crisis.

Last year the City of Summerside used the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund (CWWF) to cost-share projects to extend storm sewers along MacKenzie Drive. They also installed new box culverts on South Drive and Water Street, which would cause flooding and major traffic tie-ups on those busy thoroughfares if they failed.

The CWWF allows communities to tackle important water and sewer projects with the help of 50 per cent assistance from Ottawa and 25 per cent assistance from the province. In June 2017, the two levels of government committed to provide more than \$29.8 million for 26 water infrastructure projects proposed by communities across the Island.

“The box culvert project was worth about \$1.3 million and our whole capital project budget is around \$2 million most years. That makes it very hard for us to schedule if the city were paying the whole thing. You couldn’t really do much else that same summer,” says Aaron MacDonald, Summerside’s director of technical services.



Aaron MacDonald, Summerside’s director of technical services, looks through a box culvert on South Drive.

“With the cost sharing, we were able to take on the project at 25 per cent of the cost,” MacDonald says. “That made the work more manageable and let us do this in a planned way that probably saved money, especially compared to if we had to do this work after a washout or flood situation.”

The CWWF has allowed Summerside, along with other Island municipalities such as Tignish, Slemon Park, North Rustico, and Souris, to make important investments at the time when they can be done efficiently and effectively.

“The CWWF program allows us to pool our resources,” Transportation, Infrastructure, and Energy Minister Paula Biggar says. “It allows communities to make investments that will provide reliable water, protect the environment, and install the infrastructure that’s needed by our vibrant and growing economy now and for future generations of Islanders.”

A benefit has been improved water flow near South Street at a pond that used to be called “the ice pond,” where people went to harvest ice to preserve food back before the days of refrigeration.

“This work will allow us to improve the water flow to the pond and restore access so that fish will be able to get to it,” MacDonald says, adding the Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association plans to restore the dam for the pond and to install a fish ladder.

“For the city, this was an important investment for stormwater control and protecting important roads from flood damage,” MacDonald says. “And by making these improvements, we’re also able to clear the way for others to do some great environmental restoration work.”

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Nova Scotia to hire environment prosecutor

The Nova Scotia government will soon hire a prosecutor to focus on the environment.

“We want to ensure that companies and individuals are following the legislation in place to protect the environment and our health,” says Environment Minister Iain Rankin. “Having a dedicated prosecutor in place will help us to better hold people and companies accountable when they break the law.”

“This prosecutor will focus on the kinds of breaches that put our rivers and streams, our fishery, our water supplies, our parks and protected areas, and human health at risk.”

The Public Prosecution Service and the Department of Environment worked together to create this new position. The prosecutor will take cases to court related to the Environment Act, food safety, public health, meat inspection, fisheries and aquaculture, animal welfare, natural resources, and the fur industry.

The recruitment process is already underway.

Penalties for offences prosecuted under the Environment Act can lead to fines up to \$1 million.



Nova Scotia Environment Minister Iain Rankin

In the coming months, the province will move to regularly share an online list of environmental offences that have been prosecuted.

In the 2016 to 2017 fiscal year, Department of Environment staff performed more than 22,400 inspections and audits and issued more than 5,500 enforcement actions. These include directives, warnings, compliance orders, summary offence tickets, and court cases.

Treatment plant helps Pictou improve water

Continued from page 3

“Water discolouration will not be immediately fixed as the distribution will still have sediment. We’ll be doing extensive flushing to remove it as efficiently as possible.”

What will improve water quality is the two series of four tanks containing sand and special chemicals. Their principal purpose is to remove the iron that causes the water’s reddish-brown colour, and manganese that causes the darker colour.

“The current system is overworked,” Slaunwhite says. “Everything will be more efficient, and the water will have a much better quality leaving the plant.”

The treatment may also mean less chlorine is required to make the water safe to drink. Slaunwhite says better treated water will represent one reason for people to choose to live in Pictou, whose population has dropped to less than 3,200 people in recent years.

“We’re going to have a state-of-the-art plant that can treat water for years to come, and if Pictou doubles in population we’ll be ready for that. We don’t want people to have any reason not to come to Pictou.”

Besides water quality, water pressure and water supply have been emphasized. A water tower was installed to better meet those two goals.

“The water tower holds a lot of water, 800,000 gallons if filled to the top,” Slaunwhite says. “With the water treatment plant, it will be filled all the time.”

Slaunwhite says the town is wary of having backup generation to meet the town’s needs when the power is out. He refers to a water break on Dec. 24 and a power outage on Dec. 26 as an example of challenges the town can face. He says Nova Scotia Power recognized the need to restore power.

“We had power on within 12 hours,” he says. “We did get (power) more quickly than other places.”

Two auxiliary generators are part of the town’s equipment, and they undergo monthly tests to ensure they’re in working order.

The two pressure zones that are part of the project are being located near the Pictou Fire Department and at the corner of High and Wellington Streets. Slaunwhite says the pressure zones will increase pressure in areas with lower than preferred water pressure.



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Wastewater system failure was challenging fix

■ BY KATHY JOHNSON

A mid-February failure at a sewer lift station in the Town of Bridgewater turned out to be a challenging fix where safety had to be first and foremost.

The failure occurred at pump station 4 when the main discharge pipe, retrofitted in 1990 along with the pump station, let go. What made it complicated, says Bridgewater Town CAO Richard MacLellan, was the 1990 retrofit to the pumping station, which included a new wet well and the installation of an above ground pumping system to replace the original wet well and below ground pumps.

To utilize the building's original piping system "required the piping system for the new pumps to be fabricated and placed to fit the existing conditions of the original four main discharge pipes, located in the abandoned dry well... the failure occurred in the fabricated pipe sections in the abandoned dry well that had been sealed off from the existing station.

"So, the repair wasn't overly technical, but due to the fact the pipe sections

were field-fitted in non-standard dimensions and the location of the break made it all about safety," MacLellan says. "Time was required to safely access the space, to determine the nature of the repair, move the damaged pipe sections without causing further damage, determine the required pipe dimensions, source and fabricate the pipe section, and safely restart the station to ensure no further damage to the infrastructure or unnecessary risk to personnel."

In total it took six days to complete the repair. The system failure did result in untreated waste being discharged into the LaHave River.

"It was all about safety and being able to plan and execute the repair safely, which took time," MacLellan says.

The Town of Bridgewater's wastewater system was built in 1972. It's a gravity-fed collection system with 14 sewage pump stations. The wastewater treatment plant has a 2,000,000 gallon (9,100 cubic metres) per day capacity and employs several innovative technologies, including an anaerobic digester (which produces and burns meth-

ane to produce heat), an energy efficient aerobic treatment system, and a new UV disinfection system. Treated bio-solids are pressed to remove water content and transported to the Lunenburg Regional Community Recycling Centre to be turned into compost.

The Town has received \$1.5 million in funding from the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund (CWWF) to support upgrades to the town's wastewater treatment plant. The federal government is providing funding of up to \$750,000 through the CWWF. The remainder of project funding will be shared equally between provincial and municipal governments.

"Investing in efficient wastewater treatment infrastructure is essential to maintaining healthy communities," said South Shore St. Margaret's MP Bernadette Jordan at the time of the announcement. "The Government of Canada is proud to work with Nova Scotia and the Town of Bridgewater to support improvements to wastewater treatment so Canadian communities can maintain a clean, sustainable environ-

ment for people to live, work, and raise their families."

The support will be used to replace the floating anaerobic digester gas storage cover and replace the belt filter press. These improvements will improve the quality of wastewater effluent, helping to reduce odours, increase efficiency, and safeguard the health and well-being of residents.

MacLellan says according to a report on municipal infrastructure released by the Canadian Federation of Municipalities (FCM) several years ago, "32 per cent of municipal wastewater infrastructure in Canada is in the very poor to fair range, so that means we have a third of municipal wastewater infrastructure at risk of failure in Canada."

MacLellan says the \$1.5 million in funding for the wastewater treatment plant is "just a dent" in helping to lessen the Town's infrastructure deficit.

"We need more funding programs and support in order to bring municipal wastewater infrastructure into a fair state of good repair."



Pump station 4 in Bridgewater. A failure in the main discharge pipe this past February proved to be a challenge to repair.

Contributed Photo




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Environmental review under way on new effluent plant for Northern Pulp

Continued from page 2

The project is receiving a Class 1 environmental review. Several environmental and fisheries groups, as well as P.E.I. Premier Wade MacLauchlan, have asked the project be subjected to the more detailed Class 2 assessment. Martin says the decision on the level of environmental assessment was made by the Nova Scotia government and the company was willing to work within whatever environmental review process was put in place.

“Currently, with respect to settling solids, the untreated effluent goes into the holding ponds and it settles for a certain amount of time and once the basin is full you switch to another one and then you start collecting all of these,” Martin says. “What we’re doing in the new system is we’re providing a continuous system. The effluent is sent to what we call a primary clarifier, and the solids will settle at the bottom and are removed continuously.”

The plant had been consulting with three fishermen’s groups, but on Feb. 20 the Gulf Nova Scotia Fleet Planning Board, P.E.I. Fishermen’s Association, and the Maritime Fishermen’s Union issued a joint statement saying they would not attend any further meetings until there was additional options on the table to deal with the effluent in a

way that would not threaten the fishery.

“We feel we have reached an impasse, as Northern Pulp continues to defend their pipe proposal, claiming it’s their only option. We feel our time and energy would be better spent on collecting proper information and building a case rather than on meetings that continue to conclude with the same outcome; no forward progress.”

However, the groups say they’re open to resuming discussions with Northern Pulp if an alternative solution to the pipe is presented. During their appearance at the committee, former P.E.I. agriculture and fisheries minister Alan McIsaac said the plant should realize the fishermen have legitimate concerns and aren’t out to shut down the facility. He says the plant should work side by side with the industry to make sure they both prosper.

Chapman says that’s exactly what they are trying to do.

“We have designed a plant that will produce an improved effluent into the Strait. So, currently we have a treatment plant that treats our effluent and discharges into the Northumberland Strait, has for 50 years. It is better now than it was 50 years ago, and it will be better in the future.”

Fraser says the plant has hired Dillon Consulting to do a study on possible impacts on the fishery.

MacLauchlan ‘concerned’ about proposed Northern Pulp effluent treatment facility

Prince Edward Island Premier Wade MacLauchlan recently wrote to the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna and Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil expressing concerns regarding Northern Pulp’s plans for a new effluent treatment facility for its Pictou County mill.

“I share the concerns of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island fishers that an outflow pipe placed into the Northumberland Strait could have unintended consequences for our commercial fishery and aquaculture industries,” the premier wrote. “An effluent pipe that would allow as much as 75,000 cubic metres of fresh warm water to be directed daily into the Northumberland Strait is not a project our government will support as proposed.”

MacLauchlan says the Northumberland Strait is one of the more sensitive areas within the Gulf of St Lawrence, with unique tidal and water circulation patterns. The federal government has committed to increasing and enhancing protection for all marine species, habi-



P.E.I. Premier Wade MacLauchlan

tat, and sensitive ecosystems in the gulf through the development of Marine Protected Area Networks.

“I am confident that we all agree that any development that risks the habitat and reproductive cycle of species such as lobster, or that threatens the livelihood of thousands of families dependent on the fisheries in the Northumberland Strait, cannot proceed,” the premier wrote.

To see the full text of the letter, visit princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/statement-premier-maclauchlan-proposed-northern-pulp-effluent-treatment-facility.

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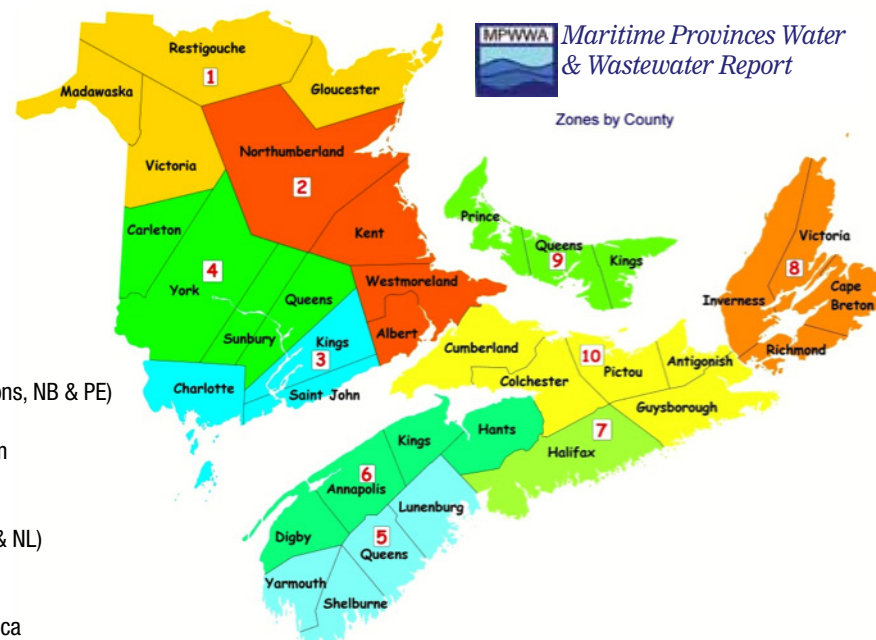
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Prince Edward Island is always a popular destination for the MPWWA annual seminar, and this year was no different. For more on this year's seminar, check the next issue of the Maritime Provinces Water and Wastewater Report for coverage of the entire event.

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Richmond applies for funding to examine aging infrastructure

■ BY JAKE BOUDROT

ARICHAT: Richmond County will apply for funding to study its aging infrastructure.

During the regular monthly meeting of Richmond Municipal Council in Arichat, director of public works, Chris Boudreau, asked council's permission to apply to the Provincial Capital Assistance Program (PCAP) to study sewer plants in Arichat and Petit de Grat, which he estimates are

more than 50-years-old.

Boudreau says the PCAP funding will allow them to conduct pre-engineering that will determine what work will be done and how much it will cost before applying for other infrastructure funding.

Richmond Warden Brian Marchand agrees with the request.

"Our director of public works is looking ahead, as our plants are aging, just to get some studies done so we have some numbers in place if a big infrastructure

program comes out, we can apply," the warden says.

District 2 councillor Alvin Martell wants all aging infrastructure in the municipality be studied.

Boudreau says the PCAP funding will review all inter-connecting infrastructure, such as lines and manholes, as well as any other infrastructure in the municipality that requires attention.

"It's a concern all across Canada, it's all you hear, infrastructure is aging," the warden says. "Pipes were put in the ground back in the '70s and there's been some repair over the years on it, but it's a concern. I believe the lift stations for Isle Madame were upgraded back between 2011 and 2012, but the infrastructure attached to those pumping stations is a concern."



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Help wanted

Continued from page 5

The Brain Injury Association of Prince Edward Island is a non-profit organization promoting awareness, support, and outreach to brain injury survivors across P.E.I.

Brain injuries affect people of all ages, from all walks of life, and they all have one important and serious factor in common: after suffering a brain injury, an individual's life will never be the same.

The Brain Injury Association of P.E.I. was formed about 10 years ago to provide education to the public about the realities of brain injuries and support to those living with them. Annual fund-raisers, in-

cluding the donation and raffle of a mini-barn, generously donated by Heritage Lane Mini Barns Inc. in Mill River, P.E.I., helps the organization in carrying on the work it does.

Vicki Homes is a volunteer member of the organization and she knows first-hand how profoundly a brain injury can affect a life. Now a retired clergyman, Homes suffered a brain injury six years ago when she slipped and fell in a parking lot. It not only caused extensive damage to her shoulder, but she hit her head against the side of her car as she fell.

"There's a general belief that brain injuries are incurred only through major accidents, serious concussions, or hitting one's



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