

Maritime Provinces Water & Wastewater REPORT

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NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

Todd Richard
Chairperson of the MPWWA

The MPWWA conference team has been busy finalizing plans for the 32nd Annual Training Seminar in Charlottetown, PEI. You should be receiving an information package in the mail soon. We have rolled up our sleeves to provide a top-notch informative session that you won't want to miss. The Training Seminar is always a great time to network with your peers while enjoying some Charlottetown hospitality and making important contacts in your field.

One of the highlights for this year's seminar will be a presentation on "Biosolids" by Marc Hebert, Agr., M.Sc from Quebec. Marc is a leading expert in his field who conducts research, supervises projects, publishes articles and speaks on issues related to the impact of biosolid land application. Given Marc's vast knowledge and the prevalent topic of biosolids along with a great cross section of informative presenters we expect to have a full audience in attendance at our educational workshops. Please register early so you don't miss out on this year's seminar.

I am very pleased to announce the creation of the first MPWWA operator forum. Visit our website www.mpwwa.ca to register and gain access to operators throughout the Maritimes and across Canada using the forum. It is our hope that this forum gets widely used to help answer questions or solve problems that operators may have or solutions they are willing to share.

During our last board meeting The MPWWA passed a motion to create an "Alumni Membership." We wanted to create an opportunity for current and past members to stay informed about the association's activities and, if so inclined, to stay involved. MPWWA Alumnus membership is free, go to our website for more information and to find the application form.

In closing I remind you to take advantage of our upcoming training workshops to earn your CEU's before your certification renewal comes due.

Todd Richard
Chairperson for the MPWWA



The Town of Dalhousie Water Treatment Plant is being named after Eddie Guitard. The New Brunswick town's appreciation for its Director of Public Works was announced in December as he retired. (See the story on page 3) (Photo: Town of Dalhousie)

Greater Moncton Sewerage Commission moving forward

■ BY KATHY JOHNSON

The Greater Moncton Sewerage Commission and its three municipal stakeholders are moving forward now that the dust has settled from a scathing report released by New Brunswick's Auditor General Kim MacPherson last fall.

The report, tabled in the New Brunswick legislature on Oct. 19, was initiated following concerns by members of the public as well as a former environment minister.

MacPherson looked at governance, accountability and financial practices of the three largest wastewater commissions in the province: the Greater Moncton Sewerage Commission, the Greater Shediac Sewerage Commission and the Fredericton Area Pollution Control Commission. Comparing the three, the AG noted significant

differences in expenditure patterns and reserves for the Greater Moncton Sewerage Commission. She expressed concern with its board governance practices, accountability and questionable financial practices.

MacPherson made a number of recommendations that would strengthen governance and accountability to the Department of Environment, including changes to the Clean Environment Act, the legislation under which the commissions are created. The AG also recommended the environment department consult with the three local governments—the cities of Moncton and Dieppe and the Town of Riverview—to evaluate the composition of the Greater Moncton Sewerage Commission board in light of the findings.

The department has accepted the recommendations in the report.

Environment Minister Margaret-Ann Blaney met with the mayors of the three municipal units and their senior staff on Dec. 2 in Fredericton.

"The meeting with the environment minister went well," said City of Moncton communications director Paul Thompson.

"All parties acknowledged the lines of communications need to be better and there needs to be more open dialogue. Improved communications between the commission, the municipal units and the province is a good thing," he added.

There was also a general consensus to revamp the governance model, in accordance with the AG's recommendations. It is expected provincial legislation will be introduced this spring to strengthen the regulations.

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ADDRESS LABEL HERE



Repairs were to get underway in January on one of the two 7.5 million litre anaerobic digesters at the Riverhead Wastewater Treatment Facility that serves St. John's, Mount Pearl and Paradise, Newfoundland. (Photo: Keltic Steelworks)

Construction flaw could cost millions

The City of St. John's plans to go to court to recover some of the multi-millions of dollars needed to repair its Riverhead Wastewater Treatment Facility.

In December staff discovered the concrete covering the inner surface of one of the plant's two 7.5 million litre anaerobic digesters had not been properly prepared during construction. Deputy Mayor Shannie Duff told reporters Dec. 19 that the multi-layer, latex-like lining that protects the concrete from acid had not adhered to the inner swalls of the digester and had peeled away.

The Riverhead Wastewater Treatment Facility, that serves St. John's, Mount Pearl and Paradise, came on line in September 2009 at a cost of between \$137-\$150 million and a cost overrun of \$60 million.

The plant removes 65 tonnes of solid waste every week in the region.

Repairs were to begin in January and be completed this fall, Duff told the media. In the interim waste will be handled by the second digester tank.

The Deputy Mayor believed it too will have to be repaired.

Duff said the courts would decide who was responsible for the construction flaw.

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MPWWA PROFILE: *Eddie Guitard*

Every issue, the MPWWR shines a spotlight on a MPWWA member making a difference in the industry. Eddie Guitard is the focus of our January Issue.

“Water quality, is paramount”

■ BY HEATHER JONES

Eddie Guitard's name will be incorporated into the Town of Dalhousie Water Treatment Plant's title.

This is “very humbling and a rewarding acknowledgment of my career,” Guitard said.

The New Brunswick town's appreciation for its Director of Public Works was announced in December as he retired.

While he'd held the position since 2000, Guitard actually went to work for the town in 1969 right out of high school as a labourer who, among other things, installed hydrants; fixed water breaks and hooked up new installations.

At that time Dalhousie's water system consisted of one tank and one pump. Water treatment involved a set of screens and disinfectant.

Guitard took a Diesel Mechanics course, discovered he had a mechanical aptitude and applied it and the pump information he'd learned to his job.

When a wastewater treatment plant was constructed in the mid-1970's, Guitard applied for and became the plant operator. He said the facility was a costly undertaking with a price tag of over \$5.7 million—“that was extreme in those times.”

There are 12 lift stations in the town's wastewater system responsible for Dalhousie, Eel River Bar First Nations and the Village of Eel River Crossing. “That keeps us busy.”

Guitard completed courses at Dalhousie University, the University of New Brunswick and other learning centers and in 1982 became the town's Utility Supervisor.

Over the years he has absorbed a wealth of knowledge about the intricate workings of water and wastewater systems and instinctively understands when something is wrong and how to fix it. He put in extra hours, working nights and weekends when it was necessary, but always made time to solve problems for and assist numerous plant operators in the region.

Guitard credits the Maritime Provinces Water and Wastewater Association for augmenting and enhancing his skills.

He was part of the ad hoc committee that created the organization. Thirty-two years ago there were a number of water and wastewater plants but operators had very little training, he explained. “James Schaffner thought it would be a good idea for all of us to get together and discuss common problems. It seemed that we all had the same problems mainly with equipment and treatment.

“During that exchange we helped each other a lot. Then we decided to form the association. It was just Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick then. Then Nova Scotia got involved and today there's around 800 members.”

Guitard was the MPWWA's inaugural Vice Chairman. With three children and minor hockey commitments, “I never did become chair. I had other obligations.”

But he's missed very few of the annual MPWWA Seminars. “I feel



The Town of Dalhousie Water Treatment Plant will be named after Eddie Guitard. (Photo: Town of Dalhousie)

good about the association and its training programs. I like to hear from other sources about new products before I make changes. That's why the MPWWA Seminars are so important. We exchange ideas and solve problems.”

Guitard said access to expertise is essential for the industry because all the water and wastewater systems are different in each municipality. While larger centers have dedicated staff positions, when a municipality only has a small crew, people end up doing wastewater and water and snow removal. “They are a jack of all trades.”

Guitard said that water regulations have become more stringent since Walkerton. “You need a dedicated and trained person to look after the system and be accountable. The quality of water is paramount!”

“Dalhousie, considering its size, always had an independent water crew. It's a very complex 105-year-old water system. A lot of the problems in it have been rectified.”

In March 2009 the town got an \$8 million multi-stage type water treatment plant with a dissolved air floatation (DAF) system that is similar to the one in Windsor, Nova Scotia.

“Before 2009, we had water quality problems. During spring run off and after heavy rainstorms we had turbidity. We had 5-6 boil orders per year. Since 2009 we've had no boil orders. The quality of the water is fantastic.”

Today Dalhousie has five reservoirs and because of its topography its water system has been divided into pressure zones.

Overall Guitard thinks provincially and federally the water and wastewater regulations are good.

But not every community can afford a new water treatment facility. “Everybody wants a Cadillac. Sometimes we have to make do with what we have. It's important to look after what we have and not let it get run down.

“I've been very fortunate to have a proactive administration and

council dealing with upgrades to problems. Over the past years we've replaced 3 water reservoirs with a combined capacity of 2.2 million gallons. We've relined 4.5 km of 10" force sewer line. We've expanded water and sewer lines into the former village of Darlington and built a new water treatment plant. We've also rerouted the raw water line away from the (former Abitibi-Bowater paper) mill to our water treatment plant.”

Guitard said, “The total investment over the last 18 years has been about \$14 million—all with the help of the provincial and federal governments. In December we were upgrading the aeration system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant at a cost of about \$800,000.

“It would seem that there are always challenges in dealing with water and wastewater systems.”

He has a strong feeling of responsibility for the town and “will be there in the future if they need me.” And he is confident about leaving the Dalhousie's Water Treatment Plant in good hands—the hands of two Level III operators.

Guitard admitted that his plate was so full over the last few years that he had to give up a little bit of the hands-on work he enjoyed. “It's been almost 42 years, that's a long career.”

While he is officially retired, Guitard has an agreement with the town over the next four years. He will be looking after the raw water control structure and the water shed and be available to assist his replacement whenever necessary.

For the first two or three months of retirement he planned to do nothing at all except walk for an hour-and-a-half every day with “Coo” his Bernese mountain dog.

After that Guitard and his “wonderful” wife Dawne will spend more time with their six grandchildren. They will enjoy riding their ATVs and spend time at a camp in the woods. He planned to play a bit of golf (“even though I'm not good at it”), put his feet up, relax and “like Don Cherry” occasionally have a couple of drinks of Coke.



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Wadman receives prestigious award

Ralph Wadman received the prestigious Blair Ramsay-Excellence in Customer Service Award during the Kensington & Area Chamber of Commerce's Business Awards of Excellence Gala held Nov. 9.

"To say that Ralph Wadman exceeds the expectations of the residents of the Town of Kensington and his employer would be an understatement," Town CEO Geoff Baker said in his nomination.

As the Prince Edward Island's town Public Works Supervisor, "Ralph has provided outstanding maintenance and water and sewer related services to the Town for over two decades. However, his service to the residents/business owners of Kensington has far exceeded the requirements of the job."

Baker said, "Ralph consistently goes above and beyond what is typically required to ensure the needs of Kensington residents are met. Whether it's clearing a sewer line, troubleshooting a water complaint or simply assisting a senior or other resident with a maintenance issue, Ralph is always there to help."

An independent contractor once operated Kensington's water and sewer system but the cost was unsustainable. In 2005, Wadman and his employer discussed the situation and a decision was made that staff undertake responsibility for the operation. That required considerable commitment and extreme dedication from Wadman.

In 2005 he earned his high school equivalency and has since obtained Level I Certification in water distribution, wastewater collection and wastewater treatment and has become a leader in his industry.

"He constantly fields questions and inquiries from other operators on the Island to help resolve

technical issues and to trouble shoot problems," Baker said.

"I will quote a letter received from a resident in regards to Ralph's dedication and commitment to his job. 'I am writing this letter to show my appreciation for the complete dedication of job, and genuine concern exhibited by your employee Mr. Ralph Wadman. Over the past three years, Mr. Wadman has been called by me, on seven occasions, to clear a repetitive problem with my sewer line. He, on every occasion, came quickly and without complaint on evenings, weekends and during normal workdays. Yesterday, Saturday June 7th was no exception... The Council would be hard pressed to find an equal replacement should he (Ralph Wadman) decide to move on.'

"This example exemplifies what Ralph Wadman confronts on a daily basis in carrying out his service to the residents of Kensington and the positive attitude in which he approaches every issue. I could easily put forward a 100 more examples just like the preceding in my short 5 years of working with Ralph," Baker said.

"Ralph Wadman consistently redefines excellence in customer service. Ralph is a great team player and shows an outstanding dedication to excellence in his daily work life and his profession in general. His work ethic and productivity have made him a first rate example for all to follow. Ralph never hesitates to assist someone needing help. His "can do" attitude and willingness to help coupled with his friendly personality make him an invaluable asset to the Town of Kensington. On behalf of everyone who has benefitted from his phenomenal work ethic and service, I nominate Ralph Wadman for the Blair Ramsay-Excellence in Customer Service Award."



In November Ralph Wadman received an Excellence in Customer Service Award from Jerry Bidgood of the Kensington Area Chamber of Commerce in Kensington, Prince Edward Island. (Photo: Kensington Area Chamber of Commerce)



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Charlottetown mayor confident pollution problem will be fixed in 2012

BY ANDY WALKER

The mayor of Prince Edward Island's capital is confident a problem created by an engineering error that took place over 50 years ago will finally be put to rest in 2012.

"Back in the 1960's the engineers told us to put one large pipe into the ground instead of two smaller ones," said Mayor Clifford Lee. "It was seen as a way to save money—you have to remember there wasn't the same emphasis on the environment back then that there is today. I would venture to say we are not the only city in the country in this situation."

That large pipe means the storm sewers and the sanitary sewer systems are linked. That results in untreated sewage often flowing directly into Charlottetown Harbour after a heavy rain.

In the past three years, that has forced the closure of the oyster fishery in the harbor on 17 occasions.

For several years, the city has taken advantage of infrastructure programs to separate the two lines. Currently, there are approximately 13 kilometers left to do at a price tag of approximately \$18 million. Late last year, Environment Canada ordered the capital city to come up with a plan to fix the problem.

Lee said both the city and the provincial government have committed their share of the funds for the project. He said officials from the city had what he called a "very productive" meeting with Natural Revenue Minister Gail Shea (who is PEI's representative in the federal cabinet) and other federal agents.

"I am confident Ottawa will announce its share of the funding soon," the mayor said. "I am hoping we will be able to put the project to tender in



When storm water combined with sewage runs into Charlottetown Harbour, it causes the shellfishery to be closed down. (Photo: The Guardian)

time for the spring construction season."

Lee said the separation will solve the problem once and for all, adding he understands the frustration of both fishermen and residents and businesses in the waterfront area of the city that face flooding problems.

The Environment Canada inspector listed six incidents of sewage entering the harbour in a six-month span. The inspector also collected a sam-

ple from the lift station outfall on Aug. 28 and it tested for higher than acceptable levels of fecal coliform.

Charlottetown is required under the order to report to Environment Canada every 60 days on what they are doing to solve the problem. Lee said, "Right now it is all in the hands of Ottawa—as soon as they commit the dollars we are ready to go."

However, Councillor Mitch Tweel said the city has to accept some responsibility for the problem. He maintains the municipality has spent millions on infilling the ditches of capital residents—money he argues should have been spent on fixing the sewer problem. During a recent council meeting he called the problem "an environmental disaster."

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Test wells find alternate water source for Steady Brook

■ BY DIANE CROCKER
THE WESTERN STAR

[Steady Brook, NL] — The Town of Steady Brook (Newfoundland & Labrador) has struck it rich — rich in water that is.

News that test wells drilled earlier this fall on top of Marble Mountain had successfully resulted in the discovery of an alternate water source for the town taps the fact the town's residents won't be facing a tax increase in 2012.

The success of the test wells was announced at last Wednesday's (Dec. 7) public town council meeting, during which council also brought down its 2012 budget.

In a press release, Mayor Donna Thistle said council was pleased to announce there will be no tax increase and no reduction of services in the coming year.

The town's residential mil rate will stay at 6 mils and commercial at 10 mils.

When contacted on Saturday, Thistle said coming up with a budget that didn't have a tax increase wasn't that much of a chore for her council.

"Because I think we've done a good job this past year of doing what needed to be done and not wasting any money."

Thistle said the water find is perhaps the most exciting news for the town.

She said the last council was quite interested in finding another water source for the town and this year the town was able to acquire funding to help with that.

The provincial government gave the town \$65,000 to conduct the test which saw three test wells drilled at the top of Marble Mountain near the town's chlorination plant.

With a successful drill, Thistle said the town has already made an application to the province's capital works program to help fund the next stage of the project — tying the wells into existing infrastructure.

"And hopefully we're going to get it," said Thistle.

Thistle said the town has already budgeted for its share of the work.

She wasn't certain how much the project would cost, but didn't anticipate it to be anymore expensive than what the town could afford or had budgeted for.

And she said it won't take a lot of work to get the water flowing.

"The joy of it is we found the water so close to our existing infrastructure," said Thistle.

"It's almost a gift," she said adding "it's certainly very, very good fortune."

She noted the town's water woes won't be solved overnight and estimated that the town wouldn't be online until at least the summer or fall of 2013.

That's because the provincial budget for 2012 won't come down until sometime in March or April. Then it will take a couple of months for the province to decide where its allocation of capital works money will go.

She said it could be July before the town finds out if its application is successful and that means a tender for the work probably wouldn't go out until the fall with a start date for the work in the spring of 2013.

Meanwhile, Thistle's release also said that careful attention to town finances left the council with a small surplus for 2011...

The release also highlighted some of the work completed in the town this past construction sea-



Donna Thistle (File photo: The Western Star)

son, including a drainage ditch behind Mountainvale Park to resolve a long-standing problem with ground water in that area.

...The town also ran a new water line into the community from its water supply on top of Marble Mountain. This work was done to replace aging infrastructure and is an important part of the continuing upgrade of the water system.

...Other than the water project, the town is also looking for capital works money to help with the construction of a new fire hall and maintenance building.

The town's 2012 budget includes confirmed allocations for important upgrades to lift stations which are a component of its sewage removal system...

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Saint John Harbour Cleanup Program nearing completion

■ BY KATHY JOHNSON

With the Eastern Wastewater Treatment Facility now in operation, the City of Saint John, New Brunswick is poised this year to meet its target of eliminating untreated wastewater from being discharged into its harbour.

The state of the art facility, built on the site of the old Hazen Creek plant, was officially opened on Nov. 10, 2011.

“With the completion of the Eastern Waste Water Treatment Facility, Saint John is positioned as a leader in Atlantic Canada, with three wastewater treatment facilities meeting its environmental protection obligations,” said Saint John Mayor Ivan Court. “With the support of both the federal and provincial governments, the Saint John Harbour Clean-Up Program shows the environmental leadership required to protect our harbour, the gateway to the Bay of Fundy.”

The Eastern Wastewater Treatment Facility is a conventional activated sludge secondary treatment facility with a capacity of 35,000 m³/day.

The facility utilizes primary clarifiers, aeration basins and secondary clarifiers to treat the waste. The treated effluent is exposed to UV disinfection before going to the outfall. The outfall for the plant extends 1.2 km into the Bay of Fundy and is submerged a minimum of 1 metre at low tide.

Initiated in 2008, the Saint John Harbour Clean Up Program is a series of projects to redirect sanitary flow that previously emptied into the harbour, to one of three wastewater treatment facilities. The objective of the project is to treat 100 per cent of collected municipal wastewater, and eliminate any raw sewage going directly into the harbour.

The wastewater collection system, which includes 21 sewage lift stations as well as forcemain and collector sewer pipes, is the other primary component of the project.

The collection system is still under construction, said communications officer Leah Fitzgerald. Ten sewage lift station projects are scheduled to be constructed and/or tendered on by the end of April this year.

Some of the forcemain and collector sewer projects are still under construction as well, she added.

The Eastern Wastewater Treatment Facility is one of three that service the City of Saint John. The other facilities are located in Lancaster and Millidville.

The federal, provincial and municipal governments have each contributed \$26.6 million to the Saint John Harbour Clean-Up initiative with the City contributing the balance (\$45.8m). The entire project is expected to cost just over \$99 million.



The primary clarifiers at the Eastern Wastewater Treatment Facility. (Photo: contributed)



The outfall pipe for the Eastern Wastewater Treatment Facility is towed into place by a barge. The outfall extends 1.2 km into the Bay of Fundy and is submerged a minimum of 1 metre at low tide. (Photo: contributed)

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Digby sewer upgrade behind schedule and over budget

■ BY JONATHAN RILEY

DIGBY COURIER

Upgrades to Digby's sewer system are falling behind schedule and are headed over budget.

Tom Ossinger, the (Nova Scotia) town's CAO, says they had hoped to release tenders this fall for construction of a new lagoon at the Smith's Cove site.

He says the new target date for going to tender is "the first of the new year" and construction will proceed as soon as "Mother Nature allows". The town had hoped to have the project done by April 2012 but are probably now looking at the fall. The funding is good through 2013.

Financial projections show the project is currently about \$130,000 over budget.

"That's not real bad when you're talking a \$3.5 million project," says Ossinger. "We always strive to come in under budget and we are still trying to get this back on track."

The big problem with running over is the federal and provincial contributions are capped and any cost overruns go on the town's account.

Ossinger says staff are taking another look at the project to see where they can save some money.

"We're looking to see what needs to be done, what is required, if there are any bells and whistles that it would be nice to have but not necessary. Maybe we can do those at a later date."

Ossinger's CAO reports this year have indicated "a breakdown in communication" developed between project manager CBDL and the design engineers Hiltz and Seamone "before Christmas" in 2010.

Mayor Ben Cleveland has spoken of "engineering hurdles".

The project manager and engineers agreed in June "to move forward" after town council discussed the project several times in-camera and after meetings between the town solicitor and the project manager.

The wastewater upgrades began after extraordinary rainfalls in 2008 overwhelmed the town's treatment facility in the south end of town. The whole Annapolis Basin was closed to clam diggers for weeks under shellfish harvesting regulations. The town spent an extra \$300,000 in 2008/2009 to address problems with their 35 year old treat-

ment facility.

The current project is thanks to an agreement with the District of the Municipality of Digby County to expand the district's facility in Smith's Cove to accept the town's sewage.

The town purchased land beside the district's site and the two municipalities have just recently agreed to make each other joint-owners of each other's property. They plan to run the site under an "inter-municipal services agreement". This was necessary because the provincial Environment department was not able to issue a permit in two names.

The upgrade project however is solely the

towns. It includes approximately \$1 million to convert the existing treatment plant into a pumping station, \$1.2 million for the pipeline to Smith's Cove under the rails to trails, and \$1.2 million for the new lagoon.

Ossinger says the project has given him a lot of grey hairs. He says it is the first time the town hasn't been its own project manager that he can remember.

"Always before it's been me or before me it was Linda. But it was a requirement under the Build Canada fund. They thought this project was more than we could handle."

Upper Onslow sewage system a capital works priority for Colchester County

■ BY STAFF

TRURO DAILY NEWS

[Truro, NS] - A budget of \$1.8 million has been set by the Colchester County for sewer upgrades in the Granville Drive subdivision in Upper Onslow (Nova Scotia).

The funding allocation was made Thursday night (Nov. 24) as part of a number of revisions to the municipality's five-year capital plan.

Council also authorized spending \$120,000 over the next year as the municipality's share of improvements to Bible Hill's storm water sys-

tem.

Granville Drive residents there are currently served by an aging holding tank type of system, which ultimately leaches into the local ground water.

Councillors discussed the merits of just servicing that general area, or extending the sewer system to include other parts of Onslow but ultimately decided to act on that portion for now.

"This testing (for a new system) has to start now," Councillor Bob White said, during recent discussion on the issue. "This pipe has to be in the ground for next year."

Councillors also discussed the merits of new development that could be realized with a proper sewage system for the area.

Other projects that have been added to the capital plan include setting aside a total of \$3 million for the eventual replacement or renovations to the municipal building.

Another \$2.25 million is also being set aside as the municipality's share of a new regional library, along with various amounts for a number of other projects.

Total projected costs for capital projects in the 2011/12 fiscal year amount to \$23,942,185.

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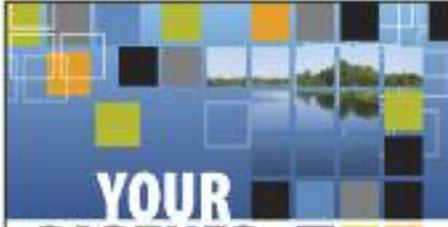
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NB wastewater infrastructure financed by gas tax fund

Phase II of water treatment projects in Robertville, Pont Landing and Allardville, New Brunswick have received financial support from the federal Gas Tax Fund and the communities.

Funding was announced in October for Phase II of the wastewater collection system extension in Robertville, the expansion of the wastewater treatment plant in Beresford and for Phase II of projects in Pont Landry and Allardville. The total estimated costs of these three projects is almost \$14.8 million

Phase II of the Robertville project involves the construction of a 10.7-kilometre extension to its collection system to connect upwards of 385 users. The wastewater collected from the new users will be taken to the treatment facility in Beresford. Beresford's wastewater treatment plant will have to increase its capacity to handle the additional input.

The federal government is investing \$8 million in the project and the town is contributing \$500,000.

Phase II of the Pont Landry project involves the construction of a 2.7-kilometre collection system to connect residences along Route 160. The system will take wastewater to the treatment facility in Tracadie-Sheila. This will provide a viable regional wastewater treatment solution for the residents of both the Local Service District and the Village of Saint-Isidore and will eliminate poorly operating septic systems.

The federal government is investing \$2.8 million and the village is contributing about \$69,000.

Phase II of the Allardville project consists of the completion of the upgrade and extension of its wastewater system. The old lagoon has been converted into an engineered wetland and a new lagoon is built beside it. The collection system will be extended 800 metres along Route 134, to the south of the community, to accommodate 25 additional connections.

The federal government is investing \$3,335,347 in the project and the Commission des égouts d'Allardville \$79,000.

Moncton votes for five-year moratorium on fluoride

The 7-4 vote was close but on Dec. 19 Moncton City Council approved a five-year moratorium on the use of fluoride in its drinking water.

The vote came after a great deal of public input including a meeting where 30 residents and health care professionals spoke about fluoridation. The city's legal and administrative committee and sustainable environment committee also debated the question before recommending the moratorium.

The decision will affect Dieppe and Riverview. Riverview council has endorsed water fluoridation but Dieppe changed its mind in December and now

opposes it.

The meeting was told that Riverview might have to design, construct and maintain two treatment stations in order to maintain a fluoridation system.

Moncton has used fluoride since the 1960s. Its annual fluoridation payments are around \$100,000.

The *Times & Transcript* said councillor Daniel Bourgeois told the meeting if the city wanted to continue to care for the dental health of its school children, it would cost less to provide each one with a toothbrush and a tube of toothpaste than to pay for fluoridation.

New wastewater treatment system for HV-GB

A new \$22.4 million sewage treatment facility will be built in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador.

While funding for the project was announced Nov. 21, initial work began in September.

The 7.5-hectare facility, located on a parcel of land north of Mud Lake Road, will consist of: two lift stations and a force main, a building contain-

ing a screening and grit removal system, aerated lagoons for secondary treatment of wastewater and an ultraviolet disinfection system.

All three levels of government are investing in the sewage treatment project. The federal contribution will be up to \$7.75 million; the province will provide \$7.7 million and the town \$7.49 million.

Saint John hikes water rates

Water rates in Saint John will increase by \$36 this year.

On Dec. 19 city council approved the hike that brings its flat rate for water and sewage up to \$972—the highest rate in New Brunswick.

Some councillors expressed concerns about the impact on the average family and that the rates would continue to increase in the future.

Water and sewage went up by \$72 in 2011. Saint John is wrestling with financial problems trying to pay for its new \$170 million water treatment plant and clean up the harbour while dealing with a \$163 million pension deficit.

The city is looking for solutions. It has budgeted \$50,000 for a study on the benefits of operating its water system in partnership with a private company.



Residents of the local service districts of Robertville, Pont Landry and Allardville, New Brunswick will benefit from improved water treatment systems because of investments from the federal Gas Tax Fund. In the photo are from left: Local Government Minister Bruce Fitch; Moncton-Riverview-Dieppe MP Robert Goguen; and Nepisiguit MLA Ryan Riordon. (Photo: Communications New Brunswick)

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5382970

Plan, capacity, and tender initiatives approved for water plant

■ BY CORY HURLEY

THE WESTERN STAR

[CORNER BROOK, NL]— City council has approved three significant steps in the lengthy process to build a new water treatment plant in Corner Brook (Newfoundland & Labrador).

The initiative was halted last year when the more than \$43-million project ballooned to more than \$60 million when tenders were received. The city has been working with CBCL Limited, the owners engineer, to develop a new path for the design and construction of the proposed plant.

Monday, (Nov. 7) at its public council meeting, the city approved the development of a water system master plan to CBCL Ltd. for \$85,055 plus HST.

Coun. Gary Kelly said there are potential upgrades required to the distribution system, including adding one or more water reservoirs. The changes will have an impact on the capacity of the clearwell at the site of the new plant, he said.

Staff has identified the need to maximize the benefit from the location of potential new storage tanks, from a development perspective, and look at opportunities to streamline the distribution system and reduce water line breaks.

The master plan should look at the entire system and identify areas for improvement and development.

Council also approved the reduced design capacity of the new plant at 30 megalitres per day and work with residents and businesses to reduce water consumption by an average of four megalitres per day.

“As the plant has a direct effect on the capital cost of the new plant, selecting the appropriate design capacity is a key decision in controlling the cost to construct the plant,” Kelly said. “In selecting this capacity, reduction in water consumption in certain areas should be considered to ensure the long-term operating cost of the plant is reasonable.”

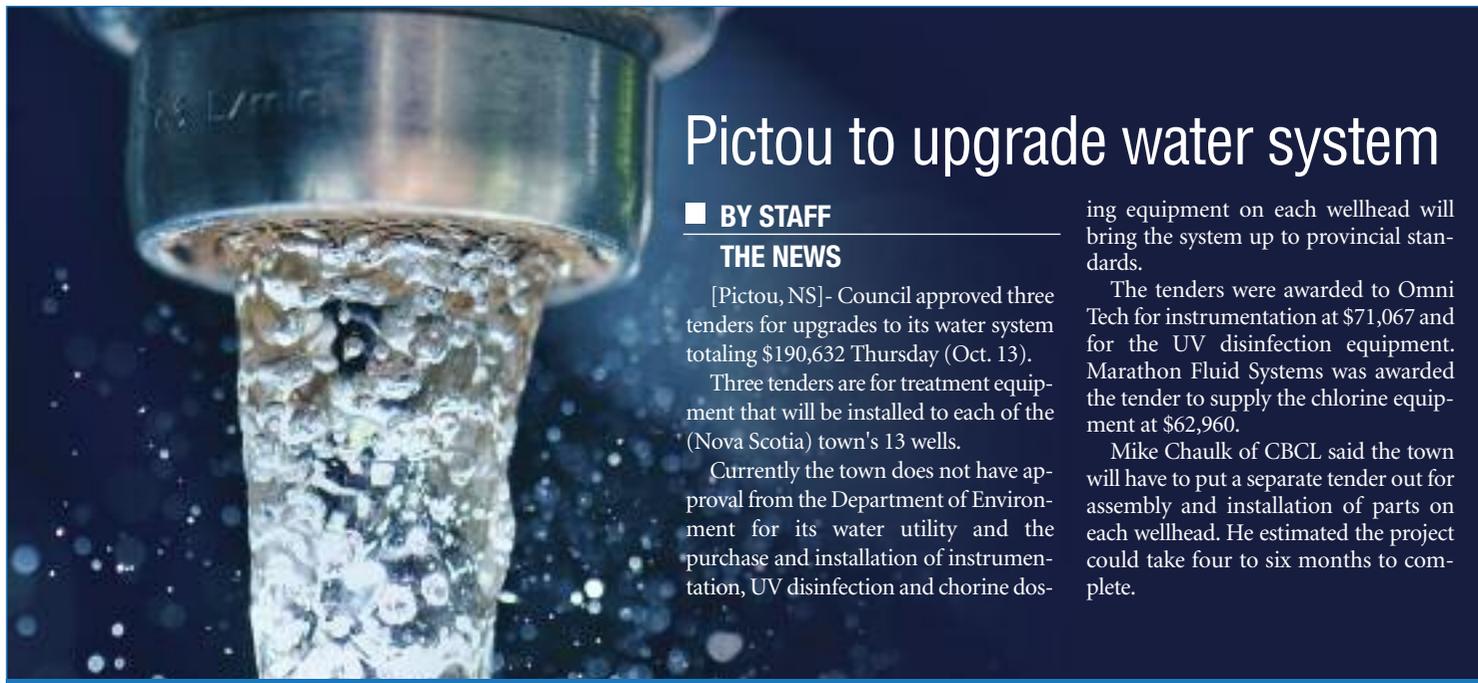
Meanwhile, council also approved providing up to three of the unsuccessful proponents for the

plant a proposal preparation fee of \$75,000 each — given each proposal is deemed a bona fide submission that meets compliance requirements.

“The preparation of proposals for projects of this size involves a significant commitment by the design-build teams,” Kelly said. “As such, companies are usually reluctant to commit to preparing a proposal unless they know a portion of their cost for preparing it will not be lost in the event they are not awarded the project.”

Corner Brook Mayor Neville Greeley said the city is still on target to meet the timelines set, with the funding deadline being September 2014. The hope is to see construction of the facility begin in late spring or early summer 2012.

Although it has yet to be determined whether the change in the design-build method will lead to a cost savings on the project, the mayor said the new process has already resulted in benefits to the proposed plant.



Pictou to upgrade water system

■ BY STAFF

THE NEWS

[Pictou, NS]— Council approved three tenders for upgrades to its water system totaling \$190,632 Thursday (Oct. 13).

Three tenders are for treatment equipment that will be installed to each of the (Nova Scotia) town's 13 wells.

Currently the town does not have approval from the Department of Environment for its water utility and the purchase and installation of instrumentation, UV disinfection and chlorine dos-

ing equipment on each wellhead will bring the system up to provincial standards.

The tenders were awarded to Omni Tech for instrumentation at \$71,067 and for the UV disinfection equipment. Marathon Fluid Systems was awarded the tender to supply the chlorine equipment at \$62,960.

Mike Chauk of CBCL said the town will have to put a separate tender out for assembly and installation of parts on each wellhead. He estimated the project could take four to six months to complete.


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5383058

Water, sewer work almost complete

■ BY PAUL HUTCHINGS
THE WESTERN STAR

[Deer Lake, NL]— Despite the inconvenience, area residents are pleased with the progress of construction on Colbourne and Birch streets in Deer Lake (Newfoundland & Labrador).

(In late October) Workers have been replacing water and sewage components under the streets for over a month. The project was announced back in July. It was such a big project that it had to be budgeted over two years, with water, sewer and storm sewer upgrades to be completed by this fall and curb, gutter, sidewalk and asphalt improvements to be completed next year.

The total cost of the project is approximately \$1.5 million.

Owners of the Birchview Bed and Breakfast said although there was some inconvenience,

workers have been very courteous. Co-owner Art Antle, after showing the amount of dirt on the front of his car from the muddy street, said the workers have been very helpful.

“The work had to be done,” he said. “And they’re doing a good job at it, the parts had to be replaced and that’s a tough job to do.”

Antle said when they are expecting guests the workers would clean up the street to help make it easier to get to the bed and breakfast.

Colbourne Street resident Neville Brake said he is pleased to see upgraded infrastructure in one of the oldest areas in town.

“We’ve had it so bad on this street for so long now that anything is an improvement,” he said. “I’m happy it’s being done, but now I wonder if those connections may leak, I hope they’re testing them so they don’t have to go back in.”

Mayor Dean Ball said funding for the project is provided by municipal and provincial sources.



Workers laboured to finish the water and sewage upgrades in the area of Colbourne and Birch streets in Deer Lake, Newfoundland & Labrador. Brendan Bonia, left, and Shawn Durdle worked in the hole while John Maxwell operated the excavator. (Photo: Paul Hutchings/Western Star)

Odour neutralizing system; Resident wonders if sewage smell will just be masked

■ BY FRANK GALE
THE WESTERN STAR

[Stephenville, NL] — While Stephenville (Newfoundland & Labrador) town council has approved an odour neutralizing system for the town sewer treatment facility, at least one person in the affected area has concerns about whether it will work.

Council approved a \$50,000 proposal last week (Nov. 14) for Plian Systems to install the system recommended by Abydoz, the company that installed the wetlands sewer treatment facility.

Mayor Tom O’Brien said there would be additional costs of up to \$15,000 a year to run and maintain the system.

Fred Beaton, a resident who lives in the lower end of Queen Street, and gets the odour at times, said to him it sounds like what they are installing will not improve the air quality but rather just mask the problem.

“To me, this will only change the smell and make it a little more acceptable. In my opinion this was a bad location to put the treatment facility anyway — just a stone’s throw from where people live,” he said.

Anita Doucette is closer within that “stone’s throw” than Beaton and she said they get a lot of smell at cer-

tain times, when the wind is in the right direction and even on frosty nights in the winter.

“It’s sickening and would turn your stomach. When I’m walking home I can smell it right up from when I get to the funeral home (Russell’s Funeral Home at the corner of Prince Rupert Drive and Queen Street). I can’t even put clothes out on the line. It’s a big issue for us and we hope this will work,” she said.

As for the system itself, the town first has to get approval from the minister of Municipal Affairs to purchase it. That’s because it has to be done without going through public tendering as the American company is a one-of-a-kind supplier.

O’Brien said since the sewer treatment system was completed and went into use in 2009 the town has had it tweaked it as much as possible and council sees this odour neutralizing system as the best solution to the problem.

It comes with sensors that pick up the direction of the wind and detects times when there is low atmospheric pressure, which is when most of the odour occurs.

“There has been a lot of research that has gone into possible solutions and this is the one we (town council) settled on. It’s really time to make a move on it,” he said.

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Amendments enhance environmental protection

Nova Scotia has legislated amendments to its Environment Act to better protect the environment and public health.

Environment Minister Sterling Belliveau introduced the changes Nov. 30 after a legislated review that included consultation.

"Nova Scotians have told us that the Environment Act is working well, but we know there is always opportunity to improve," Belliveau said. "These changes will help focus our people and

our resources where they're needed most."

Amendments include:

- changes to allow rules and enforce standards, which allow flexibility to protect the environment
- clarifying the definition of "adverse effect" to ensure department staff do not respond to issues without impact on the environment or human health, or where they do not have authority

- moving the mandatory review of the act to every 10 years from five, to save resources and provide a more reasonable time frame

- enhancing the duty to report spills or releases to include professionals who become aware of spills during their work. Currently only people responsible for the spill or property owners must report

"During consultations, we heard that more discussion and more information about admin-

istrative penalties are needed before they are considered, so we won't be moving forward with them at this time," the minister said. "Nova Scotians spoke and we listened."

More than 60 groups and people provided feedback on the proposed changes. The responses are summarized in What We Heard, which is available at www.gov.ns.ca/nse/en-vact.review.



NOVA SCOTIA WATER AND WASTEWATER OPERATOR CERTIFICATION EXAM SCHEDULE - 2012

Exam Date	Location	Application Deadline
March 14, 2012	Truro	February 10, 2012
April 11, 2012	Sydney	March 9, 2012
May 16, 2012	Halifax Regional Municipality	April 13, 2012
June 13, 2012	Kentville	May 11, 2012
July 11, 2012	Port Hawkesbury	June 8, 2012
September 12, 2012	Truro	August 10, 2012
October 10, 2012	Sydney	September 7, 2012
November 14, 2012	Halifax Regional Municipality	October 12, 2012
December 5, 2012	Bridgewater	November 2, 2012

- Operators will be notified of the exact location closer to the exam session date
- Operators are asked to arrive at the exam session between 12:30 pm and 12:45 pm to register so that the exam writing can begin at 1:00 pm
- Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted

New Brunswick water update

The New Brunswick Department of Environment is in discussions with Environment Canada regarding the implementation of the proposed Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulation under the federal Fisheries Act. The department would like to ensure wastewater system owners have a harmonized one-window regulatory framework as was envisioned in the Canada-wide Strategy for the Management of Municipal Wastewater Effluent.

In efforts to compliment the one-window reporting framework, the department has combined the drinking water and wastewater reporting to the designated engineer for each region. The purpose is to simplify municipal reporting to the department through a single contact and to streamline auditing functions by Approval engineers.

Please contact the department if you have questions regarding the engineer in charge for your area at 453-7945.

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Water issues continue at new Kentville school

BY JENNIFER HOEGG
KINGS COUNTY NEWS

(Nova Scotia) Provincial departments continue to search for the cause of trace amounts of lead in the water at Kentville's new \$19-million school.

Three months after Kings County Academy opened, its 580 students are still drinking bottled water.

In September, the Department of Education confirmed water tests at the school showed more lead than allowed under Canadian guidelines. After the system was flushed several times, the problem persisted.

"There are still tests being done at the school by Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal and their consultants," education spokesman Glenn Friel said last week (Dec. 6). "Water quality tests for the new school have indicated low trace amounts of lead that are above the levels set by the Canadian Drinking Water Quality standards."

The source of lead is unclear. Counter to speculation, it isn't coming from solder.

The "building's plumbing was installed in compliance with current building codes, including prohibiting the use of lead solder," Friel said.

The town's water supply is also in the clear, according to the Department of Environment.

"They are meeting all Canadian water guidelines," spokeswoman Lori Errington confirmed Dec. 1.

To get approval to distribute water, the town must test regularly and submit results to the Department of Environment.

Kentville's director of engineering and public works Hal Henderson said the town water distribution system is tested daily at a variety of taps in different parts of town, including at the public works building on West Main Street near the school and the town's wells are tested annually. As for water mains, Henderson confirmed the town's pipes are cast iron and plastic with rubber joins.

"Our water does not have high lead levels - they are well below acceptable levels," he said.

Mayor Dave Corkum is clear it isn't a town water problem.

"No one should be concerned about the water they are getting in their homes and businesses," the mayor, who is also chairman of Kentville's Water Commission, said Dec. 2.

"Whatever happens to it once it gets in the school, I don't know. My understanding is eventually through flushing it may take care of itself."

The province has hired a consultant to design a water treatment system for the school, Friel said. "This new system is being designed now, with installation expected during this December's school break."

In the meantime, the school board is still paying for bottled water for drinking and cooking. For the first two-and-a-half months of the school year, the board spent about \$1,800 on bottled water for the school, Annapolis Valley Regional



KCA Photo: Kings County Advertiser/Record

School Board spokeswoman Kristen Lloyst said. The board "does not expect this to be a board cost, as we will request reimbursement for this from the province."

School Advisory Council chairman Fred

Cumby said all of the concerns, as well as the expense and mess of bottled water, could have been prevented.

"It should have been detected last June," he said.

Westville expects water rate hike will solve deficit in operating fund

BY STAFF
THE NEWS

[Westville] - The Town of Westville (Nova Scotia) ended the 2010-2011 fiscal year with a general operating deficit of \$20,400 and a water operating fund deficit of \$179,000, accountant Kevin MacDonald reported to council Monday night (Oct. 24).

The town's accumulated general operating deficit is now \$267,300 and their water operating fund accumulated deficit is \$135,100

The town's reserve funds also dropped over the year by \$10,000 from \$205,500.

The water capital fund did increase though from

\$176,300 to \$199,500 over the year.

While the general operating deficit is not terribly significant, the \$179,000 is quite a bit, said MacDonald, but pointed out that the town has already addressed the issue by raising their water rates.

CAO Scott Fraser said they were expecting the deficit and knew they had to raise the water rates, it just couldn't be done in time to affect last year's deficit.

"We knew, but it takes time to go through the process," Fraser said.

The increase should take care of the deficit in the future, he said.

Greater Moncton Sewerage Commission

Continued from page 1

"How it plays out remains to be seen," Thompson said.

In the short term, the municipal units are working at filling the vacancies on the Greater Moncton Sewerage Commission. Three members, including long time chair Ron LeBlanc, resigned from the commission in the wake of the report. A

fourth member had resigned last August.

As of late December, Moncton had filled one vacancy by appointing councillor Brian Hicks, Thompson said.

The Greater Moncton Sewerage Commission has achieved international recognition since its establishment in 1983 as a world leader in solid waste management.

Sewer systems a priority in county

[River John, NS] - Providing residents with central sewer systems will be a priority for County Council in 2012, says Warden Ronnie Baillie.

Baillie said if they receive government funding, providing a central sewer system for the Plymouth/McLellans Brook (Nova Scotia) area is at the top of the list.

"If that happens this year or not will depend on the other two levels of government if they come up with infrastructure money," he said.

In 2011, Baillie was pleased with the completion of the Coalburn central sewer with more than 100 residents still needing to be hooked up.

"In total it will help out the environment and help

with expansion and growth in that area."

Baillie said one thing that surprised him this past year was the outcome of the governance study.

"There was a lot of work put in by a lot of people including staff of the county," he said. "It was unfortunate that it didn't go further, not that the county was 100 per cent in favour of it, but they (employees) were there to ensure the interest of the county residents were looked after."

He said in 2012 the study would not be a top priority for county council until all parties involved can share the costs equally...

-The News

No change in Paradise property tax rates

Residents and business owners in Paradise (Newfoundland) will not experience an increase in their property tax rates for 2012.

Paradise council voted on its 2012 budget at Tuesday's (Dec. 13) council meeting. The town will have an operating budget of \$24.5 million in 2012 — 13 per cent above a 2011 budget of \$21.6 million.

Mill rates will not change for property owners, but water and sewer fees will rise by \$50 to \$500 for residential properties. The fee will remain at \$600 for

commercial properties.

In a news release issued Wednesday, (Dec. 14) the town said the water and sewer fee increase will help offset the projected operational cost of Paradise's share for the new Riverhead Regional Waste Water Treatment Plant and other costs associated with regional water services...

Water and sewer installations will cost \$3.7 million under the budget.

-The Telegram



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Water tax rates raised in Mount Pearl

■ BY DAVE BARTLETT
THE TELEGRAM

People who live in Mount Pearl (Newfoundland) will pay \$50 more a year for drinking water.

But like the city of St. John's and the town of Conception Bay South — which also raised water taxes — property and business taxes will remain steady in 2012.

Deputy Mayor Jim Locke, the chairman of Mount Pearl's corporate services committee, delivered the city's budget Tuesday (Dec. 20).

He said the new water tax will be \$600 per residential unit.

"The commercial and metered rates will be adjusted accordingly," Locke said.

The budget "reflects continued fiscal responsibility, environmental progress, innovation and improved services in all departments," said the deputy mayor.

"By trimming expenditures and planning important — but expensive — capital projects on a phased-in basis, we were able to settle on a final (budget) of \$38.9 million, the highest in the history of our city," Locke continued, but he added the rate of growth in spending over last year is "just four per cent."

Locke told his colleagues on council there are expenditures the city has little control over and said half the budget goes towards regional services and staff wages.

The city will pay \$7.6 million, or about 20 per cent of its 2012 budget, for fire protection, water and wastewater, public transit and garbage disposal.

Another 30 per cent, or \$12 million, goes to paying both unionized and non-unionized staff and related payroll costs.

"We are proud to pay our employees fairly for the great work that they do on behalf of our city all year long," Locke said.

The third major component of the budget relates to building and replacing city infrastructure, but Locke pointed out council has a little more control over how much it spends on capital works.

"The demands placed upon the city to address the infamous infrastructure deficit facing all municipalities across the country are high," he said.

Locke said council had to choose from a list of equipment and capital works projects which totalled \$29 million.

"To avoid increasing the city's debt load, \$8.7 million in capital spending ... was approved," he said.

That money will come from both general revenue and gas tax revenue and will be combined with money received from other levels of government to complete projects totalling \$18 million in 2012.

Locke said that will include upgrades to streets and recreational facilities.

Mount Pearl will also begin construction on a new recreation multi-plex next year at an additional cost of \$7 million.

The city will maintain a debt ratio of six per cent, which Locke called "a sound fiscal position to be in."



Mount Pearl Deputy Mayor Jim Locke, who is also chairman of the city's corporate services committee, delivered the city's 2012 budget Dec. 20. (Photo: The Telegram)

Non-profit claims town won't admit mistake, wants help with sewer repair

■ BY STAFF
THE NEWS

[Stellarton, NS]— A non-profit operation that had to do more than \$8,000 in sewer repairs wants the Town of Stellarton (Nova Scotia) to cover 75 per cent of the costs.

Jana Cleary, a member of the board of directors for Family Home Child Care, told Stellarton's committee of the whole Monday (Dec. 5) that the organization had tried to get the town to allow them to tear up the road and replace some of the pipes on Foord Street in front of their building when they were constructing it in 2009, but were told by town engineer Tony Addis that it was not necessary.

Ever since they've been in the building they've had problems, however. The pressure was always low and water would sit in the sinks.

"There were days the toilets wouldn't even flush," says executive director Thelma Edwards.

Their sewer has also backed up several times. They were told repeatedly by a certified plumber that he believed the problem was not with their system, but with the line under the street. They even had a camera put through the lines and got the same response. Addis, however, continued to deny that there was a problem with the line, Cleary asserted.

"Everybody else was telling us that it was the sewer lines," said Edwards. "After a while it was just like he was in total denial. It's like he can't admit he was

wrong."

After continued problems, the group brought the issue to the town. Council agreed to allow them to dig up the road and make repairs. The society also put in a holding tank to prevent water from sitting in the pipes and causing the issues.

Monday night they presented their request for the town to cover \$6,080.63 of the costs. They say they would have only had to pay 25 per cent of the cost of the project had they done it when they initially built because they had a grant then which covered 75 per cent of the costs.

Addis still maintains there was no problem with the actual sewage pipes, but rather with the pressure of the lines on the road, which has presented problems for other buildings in the past.

When asked by Cleary why they hadn't been informed of those problems when they were constructing, Addis said he didn't believe it was going to be a problem because he didn't know they were going to have plumbing in the basement.

Mayor Joe Gennoe said they would not make an immediate decision and deferred discussion to an in camera session which will be held Monday night.

"I do believe we have a case," Edwards said.

Proving it and getting the town to admit it is the problem, she said.

"I'm hoping they'll come back with something because we're a non-profit," she said. "At least we tried."



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Wellington upgrades sewer system

BY ANDY WALKER

An expansion to its sewer infrastructure should enable the Prince Edward Island community of Wellington to plan for what Frank Arsenault calls "steady growth."

"One of the reasons we started to think about the upgrade in the first place was the fact a new subdivision was being built," said Arsenault, who is a councillor in the community of approximately 400 people located in the heart of PEI's Evangeline region.

"Right now, we have plenty of capacity to serve everybody in the community and then some—we didn't want development stalling because we didn't have the infrastructure."

The \$996,000 project included the addition of a second treatment cell, along with a wetland and disinfection pond. Each level of government con-

tributed \$332,000, with the community able to access the Gas Tax Fund to help finance its share.

"This is a really big project for a small community like ours and we could only afford it with help from the other levels of government," he said.

The councillor said construction started in the spring of 2011 and continued through the summer months. He said there is still some landscaping that will need to be done when the snow disappears this spring including planting grass and finishing a fence around the lagoon.

"We are really pleased with the way it has turned out," Arsenault said.

He said all residential and commercial premises within the community have access to the sewer system. The community does not have a water system; its residents rely on private wells.

Taxes steady; water rates rising

BY DAVE BARTLETT

THE TELEGRAM

The city of St. John's (Newfoundland & Labrador) won't raise property or business taxes in 2012, but water bills will go up about six per cent.

That means home owners will have to pay \$35 more in the coming year per residential unit, while businesses with water meters will see the six per cent added to the cost based on how much water they use.

On Monday (Dec. 12), city council unanimously approved the budget for the coming year, something that hasn't happened since before the last municipal election.

The chairman of the city's finance committee, Coun. Danny Breen, delivered the budget and announced a \$3.4-million surplus, and a savings on ex-

penditures allocated for 2011 of about \$300,000.

The rate of growth on city expenditures has been more than halved from last year's 8.9 per cent to 4.3 per cent.

Unprecedented growth in the city over the last five years is credited with the good news on taxes.

"Revenues from all sources have increased by 36.8 per cent or \$63.3 million over (that) period," Breen said. "But the cost of running the city has also increased."

During the past year the city asked each of its departments to try to find ways to cut costs within their budgets and Breen credited that for keeping the rate of growth under control...

The business community applauded the budget...

County looking at potable water system for Pugwash

BY STAFF

THE CITIZEN-RECORD

[Upper Nappan, NS] - Cumberland County council has agreed to begin the process for a feasibility study on installing a potable water system for Pugwash (Nova Scotia).

Upon a request from the infrastructure action team of the Pugwash and Area Master Plan, council discussed the matter at its Oct. 26 session.

After learning that the cost of such a feasibility study could cost as much as a half million dollars, council defeated the original motion by Coun. Al Gillis to go ahead and complete the study, then a sec-

ond motion from Gillis to "begin the process" was passed unanimously.

"This is not a small item that can be plucked out of the air," said Coun. John Reid. "It's not budgeted for in this year's budget, and if it costs a half million dollars, it would have to have third party financing."

Several of the councilors, including Warden Keith Hunter, admitted they did not know the study could carry such a high price tag.

"I probably gave some bad direction to the action team," said Gillis. "I'm learning here too, and I didn't realize what the process was. As long as we get the process moving, that's the key thing."



Minister for the Atlantic Gateway Keith Ashfield; New Maryland-Sunbury-West MLA Jack Carr; New Maryland Mayor Frank Dunn and community members including local firemen and RCMP officers raise their water glasses in a toast to celebrate the opening of new water tower in New Maryland, New Brunswick. In the photo are, from left: (back row) Councillor Tim Scammel; Fire Chief Harry Farrell; Minister Keith Ashfield; Mayor Frank Dunn and RCMP Constable Gerry Lawless; (middle row) MLA Jack Carr; Deputy Mayor Judy Wilson-Shee and Councillor Gisèle McCaie-Burke; (front row) Firemen: Dennis Walsh; Rob Schnarr and Kevin Harris. (Photo: ACOA)

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