

Maritime Provinces Water & Wastewater





By the time this column goes to press and our members are reading it we will be well into our 33rd Annual Training Seminar in the City of Moncton. As final plans have been made and last minute changes completed the MPWWA Board of Directors is asking the question, "How can we continue to make our Annual Seminar a great success for members?"

First and foremost I attribute the success of the MPWWA to you—our members, and to those who volunteer and contribute to a cause they truly believe in.

The Annual Seminar is planned years in advance so locations can be booked. A theme is identified, workshops organized and speakers who can address the theme and provide valuable information to members are selected.

The Trade Show this year has again sold out! With a whopping 68 booths the 2013 show will have a record-breaking 10 more booths than in previous years. The Association sincerely appreciates the continued sup-port provided by industry suppliers. For those who will attend the trade show, sponsor events, host workshops and entertain our members, we extend a huge 'Thank-You' on behalf of MPWWA.

A great deal of effort goes into making the seminar a success by a group of people on the Board, specifically this year by Conference Chair Trevor Douthwright. Together, this team of volunteers continues to work so well together toward a common goal, with no compensation or expected recognition. The work of this team makes the effort of leading this organization a very pleasant and gratifying experience.

This year we will be having a very short survey polling our members as to what influenced their decision to attend the 2013 seminar. Please take a moment to complete the survey so we can gain important information and build on it in the future.

Happy Spring everyone, hope to see you all in Moncton on April 21st, 2013.

> Todd Richard Chairperson for the MPWWA



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No detection of benzene in frack wastewaters in Debert, engineer says

BY HARRY SULLIVAN TRURO DAILY NEWS

[Truro, NS]– Independent laboratory tests from fracking wastewater being held in storage lagoons in Debert (Nova Scotia) show no "detectable" levels of benzene, a Colchester County official says.

"They collected it and sent it to a third party independent lab and the results were undetectable," Public Works director Ramesh Ummat said,(in mid-March) of fracking wastewater samples taken from the holding ponds at Atlantic Industrial Services (AIS).

AIS has applied for permission to discharge 4.5 million litres of fracking wastewater into the municipal sewer system.

A decision has yet to be made on the application but in the interim, numerous members of the public have expressed concern about the naturally occurring radioactive materials (NORMS) contained in the wastewater as well as the possibility that it also contains benzene.

In simple terms, benzene is a natural constituent of crude oil and one of the most basic petrochemicals.

"Benzene as a matter of chemical is a constituent of diesel," Ummat said. "So in some fracking waters diesel used to be used as a lubricant to force sand into the cracks and fractures to be able to keep them open."

AIS also had the fracking waste tested for NORMs," Ummat said, and of the six elements that were detected, five of the samples fall within the acceptable guidelines put out by Health Canada before treatment.

The sixth NORM element also met Health Canada guidelines after treatment, he said.

Concern has also been expressed that the municipality stands to benefit financially if AIS is permitted to discharge fracking wastewater.

AIS does pay the municipality at a rate of \$2.57 for every 4,540 litres of treated wastewater it discharges into the sewer system (although no frack water is currently being discharged) on a cost-recovery model based "on volume not what" is being discharged, Ummat said.

In other words, regardless of whether frack wastewater is permitted for discharge, the municipality does not stand to gain further revenue, unless its daily allowable maximum levels were to be increased.

Even if permission is granted through the Public Works department for the frack water to be discharged, the last word will rest with council, which recently included wording in its revised sewer bylaw that gives it the right to override an engineer's decision.

MPWWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012-2013



Saint John supports P3 water agreement

On March 25, hours after a boil order had been lifted in parts of the city, Saint John council voted to search for a private partner to construct a new water treatment system.

CBC News reported that the New Brunswick city was aware federal funding for the project would only be available through P3 Canada.

With a price tag estimated at over \$200 million the model under consideration

would see a private company construct, fi-

nance and operate the facility for 30 years. The motion supporting the public-private partnership from councilor Shirley McAlary

was carried 7-1. Councilor Bill Farren voted against it. He

does not believe that three decades from now the cost of the P3 water treatment system will prove to be cheaper.

Major sewer rate increase

BY ANDY WALKER

The City of Charlottetown's Water and Sewer Utility Department rolled out new initiatives encouraging residents to find and repair leaks in their homes as a method of water conservation.

Fix-a-Leak Week took place March 18-24 as part of the Environmental Protective Agency (EPA) WaterSense[®]. The week was designed to educate the public about the large quantity of water lost each year to leaks in homes, businesses and city infrastructure.

"Our community has been excellent to step up and join in on the City's water conservation efforts," said Mayor Clifford Lee. "Citizens are becoming more aware of the importance of being water conscious and the Water and Utility Department has some great tips and products to help make simple changes. The City is also taking measures to detect and repair water leaks and we

Congratulations, Paul!

ber received a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

a former recipient of the Art Bell Award.

of municipal and industry wastewater systems.

encourage residents to do the same in their own homes."

The City's Utility Department focused on toilet leaks, which is the most common type of water leak in a home or business. According to EPA, toilet leaks can waste as much 750 litres of water per day.

The utility encouraged people to check their homes and businesses for toilet leaks and to repair them. It provided free dye tablets to detect toilet leaks and \$1 (taxes included) toilet flappers. "We're coming up to the summer season again, the time when our collective water use has the most impact on the Winter River watershed," said Water and Sewer Utility Committee Chair (Councillor) Edward Rice. "This is a great reminder for all of us to be finding places where we can reduce our water waste. Water conservation needs to become part of our way of life as this is one of our most precious resources." Phone: 506-726-27Ž7 Fax: 506-726-2687 nicolas.legere@caraquet.ca

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Paul was also one of the leaders in establishing a certification program in the Atlantic provinces to improve the technical knowledge and competency of operators in the region. For these contributions and numerous other accomplishments, he is a well-deserving recipient of such an award.

cation to protecting and improving Canada's environment in the field of wastewater engineering.

On Feb. 19, Paul Klaamas, Senior Program Engineer with Environment Canada and MPWWA board mem-

The medals are awarded to Canadians who have distinguished themselves in making significant contribu-

In addition to his long service with Environment Canada and the former Nova Scotia Water Resources

He has also been a technical educator and has always generously offered his time and expertise to operators

tions to society. For over 40 years in the public service, Paul has been an excellent example of long-term dedi-

Commission, Paul is well known in the MPWWA community as an executive member of the Association and

Congratulations, Paul!



Soil sampling part of storm sewer project

BY GARY KEAN

THE WESTERN STAR

[Corner Brook, NL] — Some residents may have been alarmed at the site of a drill rig on the White House lawn in downtown Corner Brook (Newfoundland & Labrador) first thing Monday morning (March 11).

Don't worry, no one is looking for oil or proposing to develop a quarry on the municipal green space.

The work is actually a part of the City of Corner Brook's major undertaking to replace the storm sewer that runs beneath the Majestic Lawn and the White House Lawn across West Street.

The next significant phase of the project, to be carried out this coming summer, will be the replacement of the storm-sewer culvert beneath the Majestic Lawn. That will essentially involve digging a trench, installing the new storm sewer pipe and covering the hole back in.

The approach on the White House Lawn section will be much different. The storm sewer is so deep beneath that lawn that the open trench concept will not be feasible.

Instead, tunnelling beneath the lawn will have to be used to replace the storm sewer when the time comes for that phase.

The tunnelling phase will not be done this year.

The drilling that commenced Monday involved using split-spoon soil sampling techniques to remove core samples that will help better determine what will be involved when the time comes to do that latter phase.

Gina MacArthur, the City of Corner Brook's communications officer, said the latter phase of the project is currently in the final stages of design, and core samples taken during the "technical investigation" happening this week will help determine what those last details will involve.

"They are looking to see what equipment they need and where the tunnel needs to go for it to work," said MacArthur.

The infrastructure beneath both lawns is

decades old and inadequate to handle the storm sewer flow rates the area is subject to these days. MacArthur said the new system should be good for another century or so.

While the lawns may be messy at times until this time-consuming project is finished, MacArthur said the temporary headaches will be worth the wait.

"The long-term view is a small bit of pain right now for some nice gain in the end because it is going to be restored to a beautiful green space when it's done," she said.

The drill rig is expected to be in the area for the next couple of days.

Bear River – Smith's Cove sewer pipe on hold 'til spring

BY JONATHAN RILEY DIGBY COURIER

The municipality (Digby) is waiting for better weather before completing the sewage force main from Bear River to Smith's Cove (Nova Scotia).

GK Morse Trucking Ltd started the project Oct. 1, 2013 but halted operations in December because of cold temperatures.

According to a report from Leslie Seamone in December, the contractor had welded 11,700 feet

of pipe and had put roughly 10,800 feet in the ground.

The pipe line is going in right beside the River Road and the contractor has managed to avoid disturbing any asphalt or guardrail so far.

Winter weather posed two problems for the pipe work.

The welders aren't able to weld the pipe below - 10°C.

And Linda Fraser, the municipality's CAO, told council in December that frost would make the asphalt brittle and continued work would lead to a significant loss of asphalt.

Fraser estimates the \$1.4 million project will involve 25,000 feet of piping from the Bear River Bridge on ramp in Smith's Cove to Bear River. A new lift station in Bear River has been installed.

The project could also potentially provide collection services to 30 new homes along the route.

The municipality decided in the fall to build the new sewer line to its Smith's Cove sewage treatment plant rather than pay for upgrades to the Annapolis-owned and operated sewage treatment plant on the east side of Bear River.

An engineer's report pegged the upgrade costs
at \$710,000 with \$80,000 in annual operating costs
going forward

The Municipality of the District of Digby had been taking advantage of extra capacity on the Annapolis system under an agreement that required them to pay a majority of the costs of any upgrades.

The District of Digby could have been asked to pay 72 per cent or some \$670,000 of the proposed upgrades.



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MPWWA PROFILE: *Mark Hebert*

Every issue, the MPWWR shines a spotlight on a MPWWA member making a difference in the industry. Mark Hebert is the focus of our April Issue.

BY ANDY WALKER

One of the things Marc Hebert likes about his job with the Greater Moncton Sewerage Commission is the opportunity to work close to his roots.

"I grew up in Irishtown (a New Brunswick community just north of Moncton) and I really love this area," says the mechanical engineering graduate from the Universite de Moncton.

While Hebert has been the Assistant Director of Operations for the GMSC for nine years, he knows, "... compared to a lot of people in the wastewater field in the area, I'm still a rookie." That's why he values the networking opportunities and educational programs offered by the Maritime Provinces Water & Wastewater Association.

"Usually when you have a problem, you find somebody else has dealt with the same thing and you can learn from them," he explains. "You don't have to reinvent the wheel and that can save you a lot of time and money."

Established in 1983, the commission is mandated to collect and treat effluent from the municipalities of Moncton, Dieppe and Riverview. It is governed by a six-member board with two members appointed from each community.

Hebert came to the commission after spending nine years with Consolidated Giroux Environment Inc., based in Charlo, where he operated a mobile mechanical dewatering plant. He spent most of his time on the road, serving clients throughout the Maritimes, Newfoundland, Quebec and Ontario.

"We were using the same centrifuges that are at the

plant here so I was quite familiar with their operation," he explains.

Hebert said his main task is to help oversee the operation of the plant, located at 355 Hillsborough Road in Riverview. On any given day, that can range from helping out on the engineering side to purchasing to long range planning.

Like all other municipal sewerage systems across the country, the GMSC is working to ensure it meets new federal regulations that require secondary level treatment by 2020. To accomplish that, Hebert says the commission has constructed a pilot project within its plant that uses a biological nutrient removal (BNR) system.

"So far it is working quite well and we are collecting valuable data that will help us when we take it to our full system," he says. "It is really allowing us to work the kinks out."

When he is not busy at the plant, Hebert likes to keep busy. An avid camper all his life, he and his wife and two daughters (aged 15 and 17) have progressed from a tent to a fifth wheeler. "Anytime during the summer when I'm not working, I'm usually camping." In the winter, the family exchanges the camper for

snowmobiles and heads out to explore. Hebert has also reignited a love of music. He was a

drummer in a band when he was in university, but took a break to have a family and establish his career. However, he recently joined a band again and "we play clubs and benefits, usually on the weekend."

As for what the future holds in terms of his career, Hebert says, "I am here at the commission to stay as long as they will have me."



Marc Hebert



\$4.88 million culvert restoration project

An 800-foot culvert that stretches from Jonathan Creek to the Petitcodiac River is not big enough.

A \$4.88 million restoration project to replace it will be cost shared by CN and the City of Moncton.

According to the Times & Transcript, City General Manager of Engineering & Environmental Services Jack MacDonald told council March 18 that the new 3.6-metre diameter replacement pipe will be around 550' long.

Then it will be properly sized I guess to handle what we refer to in engineering terms as a 1-in-100-year storm."

MacDonald explained the culvert problem was originally perceived in 1999 when flooding occurred after a two-day September storm

The following year, a \$150,000 study by ADI group was commissioned by the city and the provincial government.

In 2003 Moncton council attempted to get a commitment from CN and the province to implement the study's recommendations.

MacDonald said engineering and regulation work on the restoration project will be conducted this year. The objective is to have an agreement that construction will get underway in 2014.

New water tank for Badger

The Town of Badger has received funding from the Newfoundland & Labrador government to install a new modern water tank system

Last year the province provided the town with \$562,966 to repair the water tank. But an assessment from a consulting firm determined that because of corrosion and structural issues the tank should not be put back in service.

The report was reviewed and sanctioned by the Department of Municipal Affairs.

On Feb. 5, the province announced an additional \$591,920 that will enable Badger to decommission and remove the existing tank and replace it with new infrastructure.

The funding will also cover a temporary deep well system that will be utilized while work on the new tank is conducted

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NEWS

ing on Jan. 17. In the photo are from left: Campbellton-Restigouche Centre MLA Greg Davis, legislative secretary to the minister of Economic Development, responsible for northern development and rural affairs; Deputy Mayor Francois Levesque; and Bernard Valcourt, associate minister of national defence and minister of state for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and La Francophonie. (Photo: Communications New Brunswick)

Eel River Crossing extends water and wastewater services

A federally-provincially funded infrastructure project in Eel River Crossing, New Brunswick will enable the village to extend its water and wastewater services within the Restigouche Industrial Park and enhance the park's ability to attract businesses to the area.

main, a new fire hydrant, some land clearing and the installation of a septic tank.

"The Village of Eel River Crossing recently acquired the Restigouche Industrial Park," Mayor Denis Savoie said Jan. 17. "We definitely need the support and co-operation of the various levels of government; however, we also need to listen

to private sector contractors.

Funding involved \$113,626 through the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency's Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund; \$100,000 from the provincial Regional Development Corporation and \$13,626 from the village

Work will involve the addition of a water

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Charlottetown residents 'buying into' water conservation

BY JIM DAY

THE GUARDIAN

Charlottetown (Prince Edward Island) residents are slowly but surely flowing over to water conservation in their daily lives, says the municipality's Water and Sewer Utility project manager.

Mandatory water restrictions were imposed in September with the Winter River Watershed, the sole source of drinking water for city residents, hitting 98 per cent capacity in the summer.

Ramona Doyle was "really amazed" by the number of calls to the municipality by people voicing their support for the move.

Some boasted of their own conservation efforts, such as using humidifier water to water plants.

Others called, practically every day, to draw attention to residents that were ignoring the restrictions.

"We didn't see it as tattling," said Doyle.

"We saw it as our customers reaching out and being on the same side as us. They're buying into it and it's becoming a little bit a part of their culture now.'

Changing water use behavior dramatically will not happen over one summer or over the course of one year, she adds. Rather, a major shift towards concerted water conservation will happen over a longer period of time.

"We grew up believing that it's very plentiful and that it doesn't matter how much we use," she said

That simply is not the case, especially with climate change (Charlottetown and the rest of P.E.I. experienced a very hot, dry summer), and the increased growth in urban areas like the capital city.

To accommodate all Charlottetown residents, demand for water is typically 4.2 million gallons over a 24-hour period. The municipality, on average, has three million gallons in storage, with one third maintained at all times for fire safety.

Currently, each resident of Charlottetown on average uses 305 litres of water per day. That's almost double the amount of water used by each European per day.

That volume of water has to come down. Way down.

Doyle is doing her part to educate the public both on the need to conserve water as well as the many ways to achieve conservation.

She is speaking to students. She is speaking at town hall meetings. She will, in fact, speak on the city's water supply and conservation efforts, as she did Friday with Holland College students, to any sector willing to listen.

She was alarmed to hear some high school students talk of regularly taking 45-minute showers

"It's a lot of water," she said.

On the flip side, others are offering encouraging tales of water conservation.

"I love hearing stories like 'I changed the time on my hot water so it changes to cold water," she said.

"I like to see people taking it into their own hands and see that it is important.'

Eddie Rice, chair of the Water and Sewer Utility with Charlottetown, told Holland College students Friday that the city will take water con-

servation into its own hands.

He promised that a mandatory water meter system, which would require consumers to pay for what they use, would by implemented by the municipality no later than 2014.

Doyle told The Guardian that residents would be held accountable for their water use under such a system.

"Meters make you aware of what you use," she added.

Westville to replace water utility yearly

[Westville, NS] – Monday (Feb. 25) at Westville town council, CAO Scott Fraser brought forward a water utility recommendation to look at replacing portions of the system yearly as part of a proactive plan to replace the aging system, which council approved.

Fraser said in the report that utilities generally replace one per cent of their water lines per year and that Westville (Nova Scotia) has not done this in a few years. With 34 kilometres of mainlines in the water system it would mean 340 metres to be replaced yearly.

This year Fraser recommended replacing the lines on Grant and Foley streets from Diamond to Cowan streets, which the town will tender in coming weeks.

Fraser estimated the cost of the project would not exceed \$200,000.

The News

New installation regulations

In April Sussex Corner council plans to hold a final vote on a bylaw change concerning water and sewer installation regulations.

The Kings County Record said bylaws will be amended to guarantee that a licensed plumber inspects and approves all water and sewer installations in new homes before the infrastructure is buried. Backflow prevention devices and water meters will also be mandatory on new construction.

The New Brunswick village will sell the devices so "we know exactly what's going into the ground," Mayor Steven Gillies said.

Minor rate increase In Hartland

Property owners in Hartland, New Brunswick will pay an extra \$3 for water and sewer in 2013. According to *the Bugle-Observer*, despite having

its provincial transfer payment cut by over \$27,000, the town balanced its operating and utility budgets without increasing other tax rates.



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Weather, aging infrastructure factors in water main breaks

BY PAUL HUTCHINGS WESTERN STAR

[Deer Lake, NL] — Cold weather and old infrastructure are a bad combination.

So far this year (Feb. 27) in Deer Lake (Newfoundland & Labrador) there have been five water main breaks, which superintendent Dave Thomas said were mainly weather related.

"Frost gets into the ground and it pushes down onto the (infrastructure). Sometimes there could be rocks being pressed into it and they'll break," said Thomas. "A lot of that infrastructure is about 40 or 50 years old here."

Last week, town workers repaired a leak on a residential line on Trailer Court Road. Deer Lake had its last water main break about three weeks ago, Thomas said.

Building Canada plan in federal budget

BY DIANE CROCKER WESTERN STAR

[Corner Brook, NL]—(Corner Brook, Newfoundland & Labrador) Mayor Neville Greeley isn't concerned that the extended Building Canada plan will bring with it less money in the early years.

Federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty announced the new 10-year program in Thursday's (March 21) budget. In all, Flaherty announced \$53 billion in investments, including more than \$47 billion in new funding to support local and economic infrastructure projects. The money available in the first year of the new plan will be less than the current annual \$3.2 billion, but will increase up to \$5.75 billion in 2024.

"Well, you can always use more money now," said Greeley. "But I guess when you look at the fiscal times that we're in and you look at the fiscal times the province is in, any infrastructure spending is really tied to federal and provincial investment coming into the municipality. Municipalities can not do it alone with eight cents on the tax dollar."

"Therefore we need to partner with both the federal and provincial governments, and realizing that they're both in huge deficits, we're not in a situation to be able to spend the money. We're not going to get the money from the province and we're not going to get the money from the feds."

He said all three orders of government need to be tackling this head on and planning.

"The infrastructure deficit is not going away. It has to be addressed."

Once the city's current water treatment project is completed, the mayor said the next big thing will be proceeding with a wastewater treatment project.

"It looks like the federal dollars will be coming in right on time for us."

The mayor said the funding shows the lobbying efforts of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for a new plan worked.

The mayor was also pleased to see the budget include indexing of the gas tax.

"We saw that the purchasing power of that fund was just going to be lost without the indexing," said Greeley.

With the provincial budget coming early next week, Greeley said he'd like to see the province come on side with its portion of municipal infrastructure projects.

He said Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador has been lobbying to have the municipal operating grants looked at and hopes the budget will contain some news of that. On Tuesday, (Feb. 26) Corner Brook residents in the Clarence Street area were without water because of a valve leak that needed to be repaired under Second Avenue.

According to the city's water and sewer superintendent, Keith Costello, Corner Brook has experienced eight water main breaks so far in 2013. That's down, he said, from the same time period last year.

Costello said most of Corner Brook's infrastructure was probably installed in the 1950s and '60s when the subdivisions were being developed. He said it's a problem if there is cast iron piping under the ground because cast iron cannot withstand any movement.

"We gather our facts from areas we do repair and go from there," said Costello. "But the weather dictates main line breaks and for service breaks, a lot of that is corrosion." He said there can often be well over 100 service breaks, or damage to lines going directly into a home, per year.

The Gros Morne community of Trout River will most likely need some infrastructure repairs this year as well.

So far in 2013, Trout River has only experienced two water main breaks. But the infrastructure installed below the town's surface in the mid-1970s, according to town clerk Emily Butler, is showing major signs of wear.

"At the time we were told it would last 60 years, but that might not be the case here," said Butler. "There's been pressure in the lines, weather-related, and some corrosion and salt water could be causing damage too."

The town's problem, she said, is it would have to

look for provincial funding. Last fall the town applied for Municipal Works funding for other projects before becoming aware the waterlines might need replacement, and Butler said the town has been told it's too late to go back and change the funding applications to include the soon-to-be-needed infrastructure repairs.

"We just missed the deadline for that back in the fall," she said. "We'll just have to wait and see what happens."

She added Trout River has plans to hook up Riverside Drive, where residents are mainly using wells, to the town water supply.

Other communities such as Anchor Point on the Northern Peninsula have been reportedly dealing with similar problems, with old infrastructure beginning to break down across the west coast.

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Start/Stop is standard on all Chem-Pro models; 4-20mA output is available; upgradeable firmware; large single piece junction box – 40% larger than previous models, terminal block connectors are inside the junction box a and include additional junction box ports for external wiring; Profibus, Profinet, and Ethernet available.

Additionally, ProSeries[®] Chem-Pro[®] C2 Diaphragm type metering pumps include: Maximum

feed rate of 20.3 GPH / 76.8 LPH and maximum pressure is 175 PSI/12 bar, 166 RPM (Maximum strokes per minute).

The Chem-Pro C-2 has pump head has large double ball valves and a built-in Priming/Degassing Valve. The pump has a built-in Diaphragm Failure Detection (DFD) system for Leak Detection; the housing is rated Nema 4X wash down/IP 66. **Blue-White Industries' Sonic-Pro**[®] Hybrid Ultrasonic flowmeters are now available with the new T-Track Mounting system.

The new small pipe capability is down to 0.5 inches, while the new large pipe capacity is up to 100". Installation is fast and simple. The system features Nema 4X quick disconnects. (Patents are pending on this design.)

Sonic-Pro Hybrid Ultrasonic flowmeters measure flow using either Doppler or Transit Time methods, and work with both clean and dirty fluids. Additional features: Custom Quality metric algorithms and DSP technology; easy reading display with backlit LCD; data logged to standard SD card format supplied with unit; isolated 4-20 mA output - fully configurable; 0 – 1000Hz Pulse Output - fully configurable; computer connection permits remote access to, and control of, all functions. Housing is a NEMA 4X (IP 66) wash down enclosure.

Sonic-Pro[®] ships in a 19" (49 cm) wide, 8" (21 cm) high, and 14" (36 cm) deep, hard-sided case. Approximate total weight is 22 lb. (9.97 kg). Sonic-Pro pack-



age includes: case; flowmeter; CD with instructional manuals in English, Spanish, French and German; all necessary transducer and enclosure mounting hardware; two sets of transducer acoustic mounting gaskets, one for temporary and one for permanent installations.

For more information visit: www.blue-white.com (Blue-White Industries of Huntington Beach, California is a leading manufacturer of metering pumps (diaphragm, peristaltic), flowmeters (variable-area, paddlewheel, ultrasonic), and water treatment accessories.)

Biowater wastewater treatment package plants

In February, Biowater Technology announced the arrival of its prefabricated systems to be used for residential wastewater treatment.

Biowater's prefabricated package plant is compact, easily installed above or below ground, skid mounted or trailer configuration with easy delivery and installation and most importantly cost effective.

Some of the key benefits to having one of the Biowater packaged wastewater treatment systems are that they offer low maintenance and are preassembled and factory tested. They can be configured with any of the company's biofilm processes at flows of up to 100,000 gallons per day.

Biowater provides turnkey treatment plants utilizing its fixed film technology with state of the art separation technologies, including: Flotation, Sedimentation, Membranes, Filtration, Screens and disinfection equipment such as UV and Chemical Treatment. The company's processes include but are not limited to: Complete Fixed Film Activated Sludge CFAS® (aka IFAS), Complete Mix Fixed Film (CMFF®), and Continuous Flow Intermittent Cleaning CFIC® which provides reduction of energy consumption by least 20-30%. Its processes treat industrial and municipal wastewaters and are used for organic removal, nitrification and denitrification.

The CFIC[®] process is a packed bed system and provides the advantage of a much higher dissolved oxygen transport into the biofilm when compared to biofilm systems like trickling filters and moving bed biofilm reactors (MBBR). Biowater's CFIC[®] technology reduces energy consumption, especially when compared to MBBR and AS plants by 30% and greater. The CFIC[®] process acts as a filter and captures solids, making the secondary clarification footprint smaller and treatment more effective than does suspended growth and other biofilm processes. The CFIC[®] process also enhances filtration and separation technologies, creating higher quality effluent suitable for reuse.

For more information visit: www.biowatertechnology.com/

(Biowater Technology of Norway is an innovative company with over forty years of experience in the biological treatment field.)



NEW PRODUCTS

Water treatment by reverse osmosis: KSB has the right stuff

KSB, one of the world's leading providers of pumps and related equipment has introduced a full range of products and systems for purifying water by reverse osmosis (RO). Included in the KSB portfolio is a range of high-performance pumps, including multi-stage units that can produce the high pressures needed for RO, plus booster pumps used in energy-optimized systems. KSB also provides pressure exchangers that significantly reduce energy costs.

Like all KSB equipment, RO-designated products provide outstanding reliability, simplified maintenance and industry-leading energy efficiency. Special stainless steel alloy components resist corrosion from even the most aggressive brackish or saline input water. KSB equipment is suitable for a wide range of systems, from 200 to 25,000 cubic metres per day.

Reverse osmosis has emerged as a very effective technology for extracting high-purity water from salty, brackish or contaminated sources. "KSB equipment has been used in a large number of seawater desalination projects worldwide," says Dirk Ruppert, National Sales Manager for KSB Pumps in Canada. "We also see enormous potential in Canada for purification of brackish groundwater for chemical processes or to feed boilers and for recovery of high-quality water from industrial effluents."

Water transport is the business of getting water





to where it is needed, whether this is across a city, throughout an industrial complex or high up in a tall building. KSB offers a comprehensive range of highly efficient and reliable water transport pumps, ranging from the versatile and easy-to-install MOVITEC family to the high-capacity RDLO line (up to 10,000 cubic metres per hour).

These pumps are available in a wide range of sizes and ratings so that it is almost always possible to get a good match between the flow and head requirements of the application and the optimal duty point of the pump set.

"Getting a good fit between job requirements and pump capabilities is the key to delivering superior energy efficiency and reliable operation", Ruppert reports. Optional features such as highly corrosion-resistant alloys and special seals are available, so that these pumps can be configured to handle demanding water conditions.

KSB also provides support for selecting equipment for a particular application. The EasySelect[®] online software tool is available to help highlight pumps that meet a particular set of requirements while KSB's experienced application engineers are available to help achieve an optimal solution.

For more information visit: www.ksb.com/ (KSB Pumps Inc., based in Mississauga, Ontario is a member of the KSB Group, one of the world's largest manufacturers of pumps, valves and systems.)

Dif-Jet[™] Gas Infusion Device new technology to aerate wastewater

In February, Fortrans Inc. announced new technology for aeration of wastewater. The new Dif-Jet[™] gas infusion device is a less expensive alternative to ordinary diffusers, injectors and sparger designs for aeration of wastewater. The reason is simple: the Dif-Jet[™] infuser does not make bubbles; instead, it infuses oxygen from air or pure oxygen into the water. Typical infusion rates of 90% to 95% dissolved oxygen using air and well above saturation levels using pure oxygen. The patent-pending design allows treatment without fouling or due to high solids or dissolved minerals in the water. The Dif-Jet[™] gas Infusion device is very efficient at dissolving gases such as air, oxygen, carbon dioxide gas, ozone and nitrogen gas into water. The patent-pending design also allows for mixing multiple gases into water when desired or required.

 $Dif\text{-}Jet^{\rm TM}$ devices require less energy and can put more oxygen into water than blower systems or

compressed air systems utilizing diffusers. Typically, no filters are required prior to gas infusion due to device design.

Industries can use Dif-Jet[™] gas infusion devices to easily reduce Chemical Oxygen Demand and Biological Demand levels in wastewater and eliminate COD and BOD surcharges from municipal wastewater treatment plants.

The devices and system designs are highly scalable in terms of capacity to treat high volumes of

water. The Dif-Jet[™] gas infusion devices and systems are easily incorporated into existing treatment systems and are available in PVC and stainless steel designs.

For more information visit www.fortransinc.com (Fortrans Inc. of Wendell, North Carolina is a manufacturer of pH Control systems, aeration systems and environmentally safe and low toxicity specialty chemicals for the concrete industry.)



Like father, like son

BY KATHY JOHNSON

The Maritime Provinces Water and Wastewater Association (MPWWA) was just in its infancy in the mid 1980s when André Chenard began serving on the board of directors as a representative for the New Brunswick government.

Now, some 25 years later his son Denis has taken on the role. Needless to say, André is one proud papa.

papa. "It's nice to see my son following in my footsteps as the government representative on the board of directors," said André. "I really enjoyed the opportunity to work with the association. I feel that over the years the association has done a lot of great things for operators in Atlantic Canada and still has a lot to offer."

Denis, who holds a degree in civil engineering from the University of New Brunswick, began working for the New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government two years ago as an approvals coordinator in the water and wastewater management section.

André also works with the Department of Environment and Local Government as the Director of the Community Funding and Technical Services branch. "He (Denis) looks after the regulatory side of things in one Division where I look after financing under a different division," André explained.

"When Denis took engineering, he never thought he would end up being involved in water and wastewater operations but it was an opportunity that presented itself," said André. "It's definitely an interesting field of work that's always going to be around. We will always need safe reliable drinking water and we will always need to treat our wastewater."

"From where I sit, I'm more focused on what our municipalities actually have and ensuring that infrastructure is operating and performing as should be, while meeting provincial requirements," Denis said.

With a career than spans 32 years, André has served in various roles for the department and has been instrumental in initiating a number of programs.

"I feel we have a role to play as government employees to ensure that things are managed properly," he said. "When I first started on the board of directors in 1987 the association had been together a few years at that point, and it was 'a challenge' for the MPWWA to get municipalities to send their operators to the annual conference and training seminars.

"From what I've seen over the years, attitudes have changed." André noted that what happened in Walkerton, Ontario drove home the importance of having good operators and the importance of associations like the MPWWA.

As for Denis, he has been serving on the MPWWA board of directors for about a year now.

"I'm really enjoying it," he said. "It's a good experience, meeting people from other provinces and getting their perspective."

Both father and son will be attending the MPWWA 33rd annual training seminar in Moncton, being held April 21 to 24.

Theory on reason for Stellarton water problem

BY ADAM MACINNIS

THE NEWS

[Stellarton, NS] – Ron Marks believes he knows why the levels of trihalomethanes (THMs) have been high for more than a year in Stellarton (Nova Scotia).

The former mayor, who now serves on the water committee, said the levels of the THMs, which are a carcinogenic byproduct of the water purification process, started exceeding the limits around the same time as the Town of Stellarton stopped using aluminum sulfate, a coagulant used to remove discolouration and turbidity from the water. Turbidity is the cloudiness or haziness in water caused by suspended particles.

By stopping this process, more particles were making it into the chlorination process causing the levels of THMs to rise, he said.

"The part that I find troubling is we did not know, council did not know, the mayor did not know, that the aluminum sulfates had been stopped," Marks said.

He was told the reason it was stopped was because they were not able to produce an acceptable quantity of water when they were using the aluminum sulfates.

Bob Funke, former town engineer for New Glasgow and a member of the water committee as well, explained that the aluminum sulfates cause buildup to form on the membrane system meaning more time is needed to clean them out which means that less water is being produced.

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Dalhousie University is currently (early March) conducting a study on the town's water as well as at other municipalities throughout the province to learn how to deal with this situation. The study is expected to take about two years, although council has said they expect to get some answers sooner than that.

Marks, said he doesn't think the town should continue to operate as they are for that period of time.

Funke said he believes the town is taking the right steps, though, and he said the level of THMs, although high, is not something to be worried about for now.

"Their water is certainly safe to drink. It does have elevated THMs, but the study done by Dalhousie University will lead to the proper solution," he said.

He said it's too early to say for sure that Marks's theory on why the THMs are high is completely accurate.

"Everybody realizes why THMs are formed," he said. "The issue is simply how best to remove the colour in the water to lower the THMs, while at the same time making sure there's adequate water supply for the citizens of Stellarton."



Amherst water to be supplied to Maccan *Town accepts county proposal to extend water line to village*

BY DARRELL COLE AMHERST DAILY NEWS

mherst has agreed to a proposal from Cumberland County to provide town water to Maccan residents by 2015-16.

[Amherst, NS]– Amherst (Nova Scotia) has agreed to a proposal from the Municipality of Cumberland that will see town water supplied to Maccan residents in as early as two years.

"That's very good news," longtime county councillor John Kellegrew said Tuesday (Jan. 29). "I've been on council for 18 years and the water has been issue in Maccan for that long, if not longer."

It's estimated the system will cost \$2.6 million to install. The county will pay for the construction, while Amherst will manage the project. The system will be turned over to the town with residents being billed directly by Amherst's water utility.

Kellegrew, who represents the Maccan area, said the county is presently working on putting the funding together and will be talking to Maccan residents about their options.

"I know this is going to be very welcome in that area," Kellgrew said. "The water there now is barely palatable. It's not very good."

Amherst's water lines presently run as far as the experimental farm in Nappan.

Extending town water further into the county has been a touchy subject between the two municipalities for more than a decade. Kellegrew credited staff from both municipalities for working together to make the project a reality. "There's a good working relationship between the two CAOs and their respective staffs," Kellegrew said.

Extending the water system to Maccan will be included in a three-year water rate application to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board. W.H. Gates prepared the study based on the utility's estimated expenditures for the next three years, and to include a water system to Maccan in the third year. The Maccan system will include the potential addition of 114 customers and 14 new hydrants. The town is assuming 75 per cent of the available customers will hook up to the system.

Amherst's Operational Services director Ben Pitman said adding Maccan will have minimal impact on the town's water supply. He said the Maccan system will account for about three per cent of the Tyndal Wellfield's annual production.

"Accepting the water rate study and making the

application to the UARB will allow us to continue to pay down our accumulated deficit and maintain a capital program, all while continuing to have one of the lowest water rates in the province," Coun. Dave March told Amherst council at its regular meeting on Monday.

March said Amherst's current average water bill is \$56.15. It will go to \$62.90 by 2015-16. The average quarterly bill in Truro is \$109.89, it's \$91.46 in New Glasgow and \$126.21 in Bridgewater.

Port Elgin facing water system repairs in 2013

BY JOAN LEBLANC

SACKVILLE TRIBUNE POST

[Port Elgin, NB] – With 2013 now underway, the Village of Port Elgin (New Brunswick) is continuing to focus on repairs to its water and sewage system.

"Our system is 35 years old now so we've been facing some major repairs, particularly to the sewage system. And those repairs are costly," Port Elgin mayor Judy Scott said recently (January).

Two years ago the village began utility up-

grades, replacing a sewage lift station located on the Shemogue Road. In 2012 repairs and upgrades were carried out on the lift station on East Main Street and, Scott noted, they will be facing major repairs to the one on Station Street this year.

"We've had to borrow funds to undertake these repairs, which has resulted in an increase in the utility costs for residents and businesses in the village. But despite those increases Port Elgin still has one of the lowest water and sewage rates in the region, and even in the province," she noted.

She added that the village is also concerned

with the problems associated with climate change, namely the threat of flooding conditions such as what occurred in the village and the surrounding coastal areas in early January, 2009.

"But now we're much more prepared to deal with any emergencies that might occur in the area. We're fortunate to have a great EMO coordinator in (Port Elgin resident) Terry Murphy. He's been busy over the past year or so getting all sorts of training in emergency procedures, so we're in much better shape in that area," Scott said.



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Town dealing with water issues Brent's Cove problems have been ongoing for years, says mayor

BY RUDY NORMAN THE NORWESTER

t's a concern and an issue for many municipalities in Newfoundland and Labrador – access to reliable water sources is a vital and sometimes expensive endeavor that small towns deal with on a daily basis.

For one municipality on the Baie Verte Peninsula, however, their plight with the issue has been ongoing for quite some time, and some residents are getting frustrated with the difficulty in having suitable water access.

Thresea Sullivan, a resident of Brent's Cove, says she's one of what she considers to be about 40 per cent of their community that has trouble with their water access. The community of 181 people in the 2011 census has been dealing with water issues for years, says Sullivan, and with the recent cold weather, those issues have increased 10-fold.

For her, she says on Monday (Feb. 4) she woke up and discovered her water was frozen – limiting her completely to any water at all. However, she said, when the water isn't frozen, she's limited to nothing more than a 'dribble' and she says she's not alone.

"Almost half the town are in the same state," she explained. "We don't get much water at all – and it's really starting to get frustrating."

Sullivan says she brought her concerns to

council, but didn't get any results.

"I didn't get anything out of that," she said. "They're not going to do anything to help, anyways, so it's no use in trying."

However, Mayor Rick Andrews says it isn't a matter of council not wanting to help people with water trouble – it's a matter that they're limited in what they can do, because of lack of resources.

Mayor Andrews says he recognizes that his town has problems with their water system. The reason, he said, is because of lack of pressure – and residents that live on higher elevation in the town are suffering because of it.

"We've got a three-inch line going into an eight-inch line right now," he explained. "That isn't giving us enough pressure, so we need to upgrade to a six-inch line, and replace the threeinch one."

That's something, the Mayor says, they've been trying to do for quite some time. In fact, they even have the line currently in place, ready to be installed, thanks to volunteers who carried the line on ski-doos and ran it from their Dam to their Pump house.

However, the town can't afford to go any further on the project, because to do so, they need to reinforce their Dam, and buy a Water intake, at a cost of a little over \$5,000 dollars.

The lumber to reinforce the dam, says the

Mayor, is also in place thanks to volunteers. However, the town can't afford the labor to do the work, and to buy the intake. Altogether, Mayor Andrews estimates the work will come to roughly \$20,000 dollars.

That's out of the question for the Town of Brent's Cove to do on their own, says the mayor, since their municipal budget is less than \$80,000 dollars a year.

"We've only got a small tax base, and our Operating Grant from the Government has been going in recent years to help pay down our debt."

That debt was partially incurred eight years ago – the last time any major work was done on the town's water system.

"We're really limited in what we've got," explained the Mayor. "We're running on next to nothing, and when stuff like this comes up, we just don't have the resources to handle it like it need to be handled."

He says they've applied to the Provincial Government for emergency funding to help solve the problem with their water, but didn't receive it.

MHA Kevin Pollard says Emergency funding isn't the way to go in a situation like Brent's Cove, because that money is designed for situations that need immediate attention, and often times there are more pressing matters than low

water pressure.

The solution for this situation, he says, is an application for Municipal Capital Works – of which no such application has come across his desk from Brent's Cove.

"Brent's Cove has received funding in recent years from the Community Enhancement Program," explained Mr. Pollard, "and that money has gone to address other concerns in the town. From my knowledge, though, I can't recall an application for Capital Works, however, and if the town decides to submit one to address the water issue, I'll certainly do what I can on their behalf."

MHA Pollard says his office was working with the town this week and facilitated them getting some equipment from another community that would aid in finding a possible leak in their water lines.

Mayor Andrews says they hope that much will be done this summer, as well, when they receive their Gas tax money, to address infrastructure needs.

As for citizens who are concerned about the situation, he says, he reminds them that there's currently a vacant position on council if anyone is interested.

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Council weighs options for sewer lines in Plymouth **Fix that leak**

[Pictou, NS] - County council is going ahead with plans to install sewer lines in the Plymouth (Nova Scotia) area.

Municipality of Pictou County Warden CAO Brian Cullen said council recently (early February) met with provincial transportation staff who indicated that the East River East Side Road is scheduled to be paved this year.

He said transportation has been holding off on doing this road because it was waiting on the municipality to get the sewer project done first, but the time has come to address the issue.

One option for the county is to install 3.4 kilometres of sewer lines on East River East Side Road, near the old Westray Mine site heading towards Plymouth. Upgrades will also be done to the pumping station in Blue Acres and a new force main will be installed near the Esso service station and the other near Park Street, New Glasgow. He estimated it would cost about \$2.7 million to do this work while an additional \$700,000 would be needed to connect side roads.

Cullen suggested that council concentrate on the main road for now and phase in other areas later.

"The work in Blue Acres needs to be done," said Plymouth area Coun. Andy Thompson. "This is a good first step for us. All I can say to the residents not being hooked up is that hopefully there will a federal infrastructure program announced soon."

Councillors agreed to spend \$2.7 million of its gas tax money on the project. Council currently has \$2.5 million in gas tax money sitting in its reserves and will receive an additional \$1.5 million over the next few months. All of this money has to be spent or allocated by March 2014.

Gas tax money can only be used for certain projects and many of the guidelines focus on green energy.

In addition to the Plymouth paving project, county council will also spend \$1.3 million on the Riverton wind project.

"When we started looking at funding opportunities for these projects, the gas tax has shown potential," said Cullen. "It must all be used by March 31, 2014. You can apply for extensions but all of the extension money must be spend by 2016."

The News

Infrastructure funding

In February Newfoundland & Labrador committed over \$1.18 million to the Town of Harbour Grace for water and sewer upgrades on Harvey Street and College Lane.

The province also allocated over \$2 million to Carbonear for water and sewer work on London Road and to upgrade and pave Valley Road.

The City of Charlottetown's Water and Sewer Utility Department rolled out new initiatives encouraging residents to find and repair leaks in their homes as a method of water conservation.

Fix-a-Leak Week took place March 18-24 as part of the Environmental Protective Agency (EPA) WaterSense®. The week was designed to educate the public about the large quantity of water lost each year to leaks in homes, businesses and city infrastructure.

"Our community has been excellent to step up and join in on the City's water conservation efforts." said Mavor Clifford Lee. "Citizens are becoming more aware of the importance of being water conscious and the Water and Utility Department has some great tips and products to help make simple changes. The City is also taking measures to detect and repair water leaks and we en-

courage residents to do the same in their own homes.

The City's Utility Department focused on toilet leaks, which is the most common type of water leak in a home or business. According to EPA, toilet leaks can waste as much 750 litres of water per day.

The utility encouraged people to check their homes and businesses for toilet leaks and to repair them. It provided free dye tablets to detect toilet leaks and \$1 (taxes included) toilet flappers. "We're coming up to the summer season again, the time when our collective water use has the most impact on the Winter River watershed," said Water and Sewer Utility Committee Chair (Councillor) Edward Rice. "This is a great reminder for all of us to be finding places where we can reduce our water waste. Water conservation needs to become part of our way of life as this is one of our most precious resources."

Dieppe working on trunk sewer

Work is underway in Dieppe, New Brunswick to replace the Babineau Creek trunk sewer.

Wastewater from nearby sewers collects in the trunk before it is sent to the Greater Moncton Sewage Commission's treatment facility.

The Times & Transcript reported that the existing line that travels through the Chartersville marsh will be abandoned next year.

The project got underway in January (Acadie Avenue to Virginia Avenue) when the marsh was frozen.

The newspaper said in February Dieppe city council had okayed expropriation procedures for two parcels of land near Thomas Street

The second phase of the sewer project (Thomas Street to Acadie Avenue) will start this spring and end in July.

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MEDIA

Working within guidelines 'We're one of Canada's most advanced water treatment facilities'

[Truro, NS] - If fracking wastewater from Atlantic Industrial Services (AIS) is permitted for discharge into Colchester County's (Nova Scotia) sewage system, chemical levels will be within safe guidelines set out by the municipality, a company official says.

"We would treat the Kennetcook frack waters in the same manner that we treat all of our other industrial wastewaters with all the treatment infrastructure that we have at our Debert facility," general manager Andre Lachevrotiere told council Thursday night (Feb. 28).

"We have millions of dollars of infrastructure and, as I said, we're one of Canada's most advanced water treatment facilities. We treat these wastewaters in the same manner that we treat all other wastewaters to be sure that when we release them into a municipal sewer, that they are below all of the elements that we have listed in the policy that deems it acceptable for discharge."

Lachevrotiere appeared before council to express a willingness to work within municipal discharge regulations and to dispel misinformation that he said has been stated about his company.

The company has applied to the municipality to discharge 4.5 million litres of fracking wastewater from Kennetcook that is stored in the company's holding ponds.

Controversy has swirled about the application, however, because the wastewater contains naturally occurring radioactive materials (NORMs).

"NORMs are all around us," Lachevrotiere said. And while there has also been "misinformation"

exchanged about the company also planning to discharge nuclear waste (which is totally different than NORMs), Lachevrotiere said AIS never has and never will be involved with such practice.

"Nuclear wastes are not a waste we deal with as part of our business.

Regarding all industrial wastes that come to the facility, Lachevrotiere said all materials are tested by an independent third party and every truck that arrives there is parked and its contents are tested and analyzed before they are accepted. Further, he said, no materials are brought into AIS that it is not equipped to treat.

In addressing speculation within the Debert community that some of the materials held in the company's holding ponds are released into the environment, Lachevrotiere said that is also not true.

"The liquids observed to be going into the ditch (beside Plains Road) is only the storm water from our property," he said, and have nothing to do with industrial operations.

Storm water runoff at the facility is also held in a storage pond until it can be determined it does not contain anything harmful to the environment.

"I am proud of everything our company does," he said. Some councillors, including Bill Masters, ap-

peared to take some solace in Lachevrotiere's information.

"What you are telling me gives me a lot more confidence then I had before this presentation," he said.

Truro Daily News

Pictou water rates could rise

[Pictou, NS] - Town council discussed how it could best finance improvements to Pictou's water quality and clarity at the committee of council meeting Monday evening (Feb. 4).

Chief Administrative Officer Scott Conrod presented a draft of an application to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board that council could approve at a future council meeting if they agree with the contents of application.

The draft of the application discussed at Monday's meeting would see an increase from the current water rate of about \$80 to roughly \$112 on April 1, 2013 with the rate increasing to \$114 in 2014, \$115 in 2015 and \$116 in 2016.

The increase in the rates would help cover the costs of implementing phase one of a plan that Conrod said would improve the sanitation process of the town's drinking water and would help with the issue of discoloured water.

"We're proposing new upgrades in two phases. The first phase that we're in the midst of now is about \$3.2 million dollars. Phase one relates to proper disinfection and monitoring," Conrod said.

He added that phase one involves updating monitoring and disinfection equipment, implementing municipal grade ultra violet disinfection systems at the wells and the design and acquisition of a computer monitoring system that allows for more accurate and frequent well tests.

"The ultra violet disinfection will lower our requirement of the use of chlorine as we know chlorine is interacting with the manganese causing the discoloured water," Conrod said. "It will have a positive impact on the issue of discoloured water, but it will not fix it... because we do not have a central filtration, that is in phase two."

Conrod stressed that these proposed rate increases could change in the draft of the town's application depending on what council decides and other factors such as how the town plans to finance phase two of the project and government funding.

No decisions were made at the committee of council meeting and motions to approve the draft and final application must be passed by council before the application can be filed with the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board.

If council approves the application, the Review Board must also approve it before rates can increase.

Mayor Joe Hawes said this is part of council's efforts to address residents' concerns about the quality of the town's water.

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Annapolis Royal intervenes in county water rate hearing

BY STEPHEN HAWBOLDT THE SPECTATOR

The Town of Annapolis Royal (Nova Scotia) is seeking to intervene in the Utility Review Board (URB) hearing on the water rate increases being sought by Annapolis County. The town, which purchases water from the county, could face upwards of a 300 per cent jump in wholesale water rates if the county's proposed rate structure is granted.

The town is contending that the 1998 agreement with the county has never been terminated and that changes in the terms and conditions can be made only by "express agreement." The agreement provides for dispute resolution by arbitration, according to the submission made to the URB by the town.

The rate review study undertaken for the county reported that water is sold to the town at a fixed price regardless of consumption. It was estimated that the current rate of \$1.06 per 1,000 gallons only covers about one third of the actual cost to the county of providing this water.

If the rate increase is granted, the wholesale rate the town pays will rise to \$3.07 in the first year of three years. Subsequent increases will be only two or three per cent per year.

It is not known if this jump in the wholesale price of water will trigger a rate increase for customers of the town utility. Currently, residential customers of the town utility pay \$4.09 per 1,000 gallons. These customers include county residents in both Granville Ferry and Lequille. County residents directly served by the county utility will pay \$4.90 per 1,000 gallons in the first year, if the rate increase is granted.

A Utility Review Board hearing into proposed rate changes by the Annapolis County Water Utility will be held April 4 at 11 a.m. at the Annapolis Royal Fire Hall. The hearing is open to anyone.



Tobique-Mactaquac, MP Mike Allen announced an investment of \$201,000 for infrastructure in Nackawic, New Brunswick

under the federal Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund. Allen is shown with Mayor Nancy Cronkhite. (Photo: ACOA)

Nackawic to improve water supply

Nackawic, New Brunswick has received \$201,000 to improve its existing water supply and well house.

The federal investment announced Feb. 21 by Tobique-Mactaquac MP Mike Allen is from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency's Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund.

The municipality will also use the capital for engineering support, yard piping, to refurbishment an existing well and decommission two older wells.



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Water contamination continues at Maitland school

BY RAISSA TETANISH

TRURO DAILY NEWS

Parent worried issue could be used as a reason for closure

[Maitland, NS]– An order not to drink the water at a local (Maitland, Nova Scotia) elementary school remains in place 16 months after it was first issued.

The order at Maitland District Elementary School was put in place in November 2011 and notices near water stations remind visitors not to consume the water.

"It was for a high level of arsenic," said Debbie Buott-Matheson, spokeswoman for the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board. "Once something is found in our water systems, the water is then tested quarterly and results are analyzed with the Department of Environment and the medical officer of health."

She said the notice issued isn't uncommon in schools, however, the exact cause of the arsenic levels at Maitland District still hasn't been determined. As a result, Buott-Matheson said it's hard to rectify the situation.

"The fountains have been sealed and shut off, and the students are provided with safe drinking water, as well as water to wash fruits or vegetables when needed," she said. "We've been working really closely with the Department of Environment and testing the well water."

Cathrine Yuill, a mother with children at the school, is worried the situation could be used as a reason to shut down the school, which is one of five within the school board undergoing a review process.

"Of course I am concerned about the water quality at my child's school. But I am far more concerned about losing my community school altogether when simple solutions are available for the water issue," Yuill told the Truro Daily News in an email (in March).

"I would hate to see the school board or the public exploit this issue and use it as a reason to dismiss our innovative proposal to develop the school into a viable community hub and keep our young children in our community."

\$160,000 allocated for water and sewer projects

A dump station and a mechanical screen at the Sussex sewerage lagoon are part of the New Brunswick town's capital projects for 2013. *The Kings County Record* reported that coun-

cil okayed \$135,000 for the project at its Feb. 18 meeting.

It also allocated \$25,000 for exploration into an alternative water source.

Running water, flushing at stake for delinquent accounts

BY ERIC MCCARTHY

JOURNAL PIONEER

[Tignish, PEI]— Although there was a provision in the annual budget, the Community of Tignish (Prince Edward Island) is not ready to let a bad debt provision in its sewer utility just fade away.

When questioned about the \$2,184 figure by residents attending the community's annual ratepayers meeting Tuesday, (March 19) auditor Neil Handrahan explained the amount is not considered collectable.

But Finance Committee chair, Edward Gallant reported the municipality intends to go after that money as well as other monies in arrears in the sewer and utility departments.

There's about \$12,000 outstanding in bad debt, Gallant reported. "We've taken steps to collect that," he told residents, indicating customers in arrears received notification last week. "It is a very, very stern and strong letter and they have a deadline."

"We'll be trying our utmost to collect that money and we will also be shutting off water and sewage if they are not paid," he warned. "If they don't meet the requirements that we have we are going to have to do that; it's got to be collected."

Gallant said some customers have been in arrears for four to five years and their debts have grown quite large.

Storm drains not so great for trysts

Storm water drains in Sydney, Australia are really good for runoff but not so great for trysts.

A young man grasped that fact late last year while on a mattress inside a storm drain beneath the Warringah Freeway.

He wound up bitten by a police dog. On the buttock.

According to *The Daily Telegraph*, police were chasing a car thief who jumped out of

the stolen Toyota and ran into the bushes around a lake near the highway.

A police dog led officers into the storm drain. It latched onto the young man's right buttock and "savaged" it.

The newspaper said paramedics treated the young man—who obviously hadn't been stealing a car—before he and his girlfriend were dismissed.



Awareness campaign

A Well Awareness Campaign was implemented at the recent Atlantic Farm Mechanization Show in Moncton, New Brunswick

Representatives from the NB Department of Environment and Local Government provided information about water sources and about wells (types, problems, solutions and maintenance) to farmers and the general public attending the event.

Crystale Harty, Sara Smith and Roger Theriault presented data in both official languages that covered water quality issues and trouble-shooting.

Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) has been promoting connections between agriculture and water and various measures to protect and manage the resource. Those include: Farm surface and well water management, groundwater problems and the hydrologic cycle.

For more information on the campaign, conducted in co-operation with AAFC, contact: crystale.harty@ gnb.ca

Sewer and wastewater treatments system

The sewer and wastewater treatment systems in Lower West Pubnico, Nova Scotia will be upgraded.

A federal investment of \$550,000 through the Innovative Communities Fund will enable the Municipality of Argyle to undertake excavation, pipe installation, construct two sewage pump stations, and carry out electrical work, engineering and licensing.

The proposed upgrades support increased activities at nine private sector seafood processing operations located along Dennis Point Road in Lower West Pubnico that are contributing a combined \$350,000 to the project. The municipality is contributing \$200,000.

The funding was announced on World Water Day, March 22.

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Roger Theriault of was one of three officials from the New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government who conducted a Well Awareness Campaign at the recent Atlantic Farm Mechanization Show in Moncton. (Photo: Heather Jones)



NEWS



Inaugural Excellence in Water Stewardship Award recipients

n World Water Day, March 22, the Council of the Federation announced the recipients of its Excellence in Water Stewardship Award. The award recognizes outstanding achievement, innovative practice and leadership in the area of water stewardship. It will be presented to organizations, partnerships, businesses, institutions, and community groups in each province and territory the country.

Stemming from the Water Charter, adopted by Canada's Premiers in August 2010, the Premiers established the new award in recognition that water is critical to human and ecosystem health. A sustainable water supply ensures our communities are liveable and economically viable whether they are large urban centres or remote or rural communities.

"On behalf of all Premiers, I want to congratu-

late the first-ever recipients of the Council of the Federation Excellence in Water Stewardship Award," Council Chair (Nova Scotia Premier) Darrell Dexter said. "These awards are an important mechanism for change as they bring deserved recognition to the champions of water stewardship and inspire all Canadians to take action."

The recipients of the 2013 Council of the Federation Excellence in Water Stewardship Award receive a glass award, a monetary prize and a certificate signed by the Premier of their province or territory.

The Newfoundland and Labrador award went to the Atlantic Coastal Action Plan (ACAP) in Humber Arm.

Winter-River, Prince Edward Island. (Photo: The Guardian)

The Winter River-Tracadie Bay Watershed Association recognized

Prince Edward Island's Winter-River-Tracadie Bay Watershed Association has received the 2013 Council of the Federation Excellence in Water Stewardship Award.

The association was formed in 2008 to protect and enhance the Winter River and Tracadie Bay watersheds. Its initial work focused on stream and riparian zone enhancement, but the group recognized that the withdrawal of ground water from the Winter River watershed in order to supply the City of Charlottetown was having a negative impact on habitat. Along with restoration activities, the association has carried out educational initiatives in the schools, developed a video series "Save some water for me please," and participated in radio and television interviews to inform the public about the need to conserve water.

Group members have used newspaper articles to challenge Charlottetown residents to reduce water usage and to challenge the city to introduce regulations to reduce water usage at critical periods of the vear.

Nova Scotians urged to protect and conserve water

On World Water Day, March 22, Minister of Environment Sterling Belliveau reminded Nova Scotians that water is a precious resource in need of our protection and stewardship.

"Canadians have the second highest rate of water usage in the world," Belliveau said. "Nova Scotians need to work together to protect water sources and use water in a sustainable way."

As part of Canada Water Week, the first Council of the Federation Excellence in Water Stewardship award was presented in each province and territory. Nova Scotia's award went to the Clean Annapolis River Project, whose volunteers and staff have been educating communities along the Annapolis River on water protection and conservation for 23 years.

In addition, the Centre for Water Resources Studies at Dalhousie University received the Excellence in Water Stewardship award from Nunavut for work on wastewater research in the territory.

Nova Scotia also released its update for 2012 on its water strategy, released in 2010. The report is available at: http://dev.novascotia.ca/nse/water/default.asp.



Moncton receives water stewardship award

The City of Moncton was recognized with the Council of the Federation Excellence in Water Stewardship Award for its automated water meter reading project.

The award, which recognizes outstanding achievement, innovative practice and leadership in water stewardship, was presented March 22 as part of Canada Water Week and World Water Day.

Moncton is the first municipality in Canada to complete a full installation of the Radio Frequency Fixed

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Network System, which monitors the water usage and leakage of 20,000 residential and 1,400 commercial, industrial and institutional users. The system has had a significant impact in decreasing the amount of water consumed and lost through leaks and breaks, resulting in lower bills and more water conserved.

The award is part of a larger strategy to improve stewardship of water resources and foster best practices across Canada.



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NEWS PAGE 19 Summerside water supply clear, says director

BY MIKE CARSON

JOURNAL PIONEER

[Summerside, PEI] – Safe, clean drinking water is something everyone in Summerside (Prince Edward Island) takes for granted.

It doesn't happen just by chance. There is a strict, consistent monitoring procedure undertaken by the city to ensure residents have a safe drinking water supply.

Municipal Works director Greg Gaudet said the process is meticulous and all encompassing.

The city just published its 2012 water quality report and the Summerside drinking water supply was clear. That wasn't always the case.

"In 2001, the city started chlorinating its water," Gaudet said. "That was due to a few reasons. They had issues back in 2001 with some groundwater contamination. Ever since 2001 they've chlorinated their wells. It's not required but we do it just as a safety precaution to get rid of any bacteria that may be residual in the system.'

Gaudet said by monitoring chlorine residual in the system at eight different points, the city can tell how well the system is operating by that residual.

"You're always supposed to have a 0.1 parts per million residual of chlorine in the water," he said. "That tells you it hasn't been all used up. As long as you see a small residual you know you've a clean, good drinking water supply. That means you can't go above a certain threshold as well. You've got to stay within the parameters."

He said the city monitors this three or four times a week.

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"Then we go around and do all the samples for the chlorine and that's just to maintain that it's a good source of drinking water," Gaudet said. "Every two weeks we go through a sampling cycle of the eight areas. They're broken up pretty much by ward."

Gaudet said the city has spots inside the eight zones where water samples are taken at the tap and sent to the provincial laboratory in Charlottetown. The laboratory will report back on three basic bacteria - the background bacteria count, total coliform, E coli bacteria.

"Those are the three ones they test for on that bi-weekly rotation," he said. "Every two weeks we send away eight samples of our system. Also, once a month, we test all of our well supplies for the same three bacteria growth. So, by monitoring the chlorine levels three and four times a week and by doing bi-weekly samples of the eight areas and a monthly sample of all the water supply wells, we see if there's been any issue coming up from those test results."

Once every year the city conducts nitrate testing in the well supplies.

The nitrate testing is another guideline that has to make sure your well supplies in your water system are below 10 parts per million for nitrates for safe guidelines of drinking water," Gaudet said. "And every three years we do a full microchemistry of the water. We get into the heavy metals, barium and all the different minerals in the water to make sure that the sources of water don't have any high concentrations of hard minerals or metals that are outside the drinking guidelines."

The city will also do sampling at the request of customers. Gaudet said.

"If anybody has any issues they feel with their water, we'll do at a test as part of our regular sampling and use that as our sample.

The 2012 test results can be found on the City of Summerside's website.

Long-term infrastructure renewal

Fredericton is concerned with long-term infrastructure renewal.

In January the New Brunswick capital increased its water and sewer rates. The 82¢/m3 increase for use and quarterly \$66.09/m3 charge for service will average out to about \$51 more per family this year.

"The \$15.1-million water and sewer budget will allow the city in 2013 to renew 1.2 kilometres of water mains and 1.2 kilometres of sanitary sewers," the Daily Gleaner reported Jan. 9. It will also cover the installation of a sanitary sewer lift station, the construction of a reservoir, and an investigation into storm drains.

In Nov. 2012 Mayor Brad Woodside told the newspaper that Fredericton's storm drains can hold 80-85mm of precipitation but the drainpipe size will have to be increased because of more frequent "intense rainstorms."

Quispamsis to upgrade system

Quispamsis has received \$250,000 to upgrade its wastewater system.

The federal funding will assist the New Brunswick town with the replacement of a wastewater force main as well as the installation of new manholes, service laterals and asphalt and necessary improvements to culverts and driveways along the proposed alignment.

"This project will allow us to replace an aging piece of infrastructure," said Mayor Murray Driscoll. "The existing force main is 36-yearsold and is beyond the end of its design life."

The federal investment through the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency's Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund was announced March 11.





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