



What we've been doing in Portugal Cove - St. Philip's

Town of Portugal Cove - St. Philip's Wastewater Treatment Facilities



St. Philip's Wastewater Treatment Facility

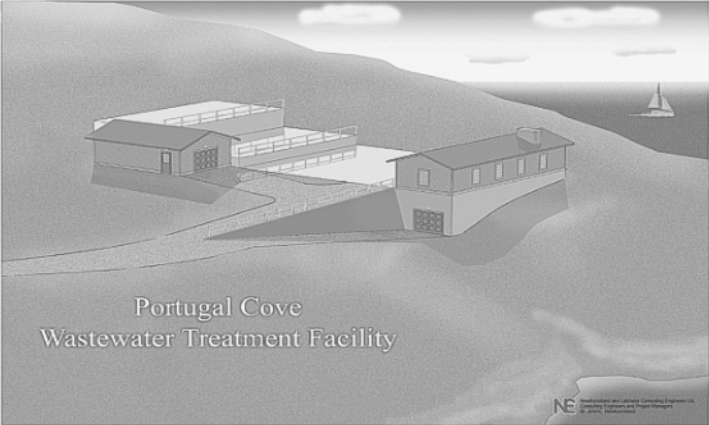
The Wastewater Treatment Centre in St Philip's was commissioned in May 2002, and since then it has been producing a clear effluent that is well within the standards set down by the Department of Environment. The Portugal Cove Plant is scheduled to be in operation early May of 2008, and we expect to achieve the same quality of treated effluent. The wastewater treatment plants at St Philip's and Portugal Cove are called Biological Sequencing Batch Reactors (SBR) and are designed to treat domestic wastewater using natural biology, air and mixing. Disinfection of the treated wastewater is provided by an Ultraviolet light reactor.

Type of Process: Biological Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR)

The treatment process is provided in four stages; Trash Tank, SAM Tank, SBR Tank and the UV Reactor. The first three stages, uses natural occurring micro-organisms in the wastewater which are manipulated by changing their living environment by adding air (aerobic conditions), and mixing with no air (anaerobic conditions). These organisms are harvested as an "Activated Sludge" to reduce the organics in the wastewater. The Ultraviolet Reactor (similar to UV lights in a tanning salon) provides disinfection.

Stage #1: The process begins with an anaerobic tank (Trash Tank). The Trash Tank reacts very similar to a septic tank. The tank also captures untreatable substances (ie. plastics, rags, hair etc) which is removed as required with a Vacuum Truck. The accumulated sludge is slowly digested by anaerobic biological organisms.

Stage #2: Liquid flows from the Trash Tank by gravity into the Surge Aerobic Mixing Tank (SAM Tank). This tank provides mixing of the incoming raw wastewater and the cultured activated sludge (mixed liquors) which is returned from the SBR Tank. During these processes Anoxic and Aerobic conditions exist. The Anoxic cycle occurs when raw wastewater is mixed with the activated sludge reducing phosphorous and nitrogen while the Aerobic cycle occurs when adding air which creates the activated sludge and reducing carbon based organics.

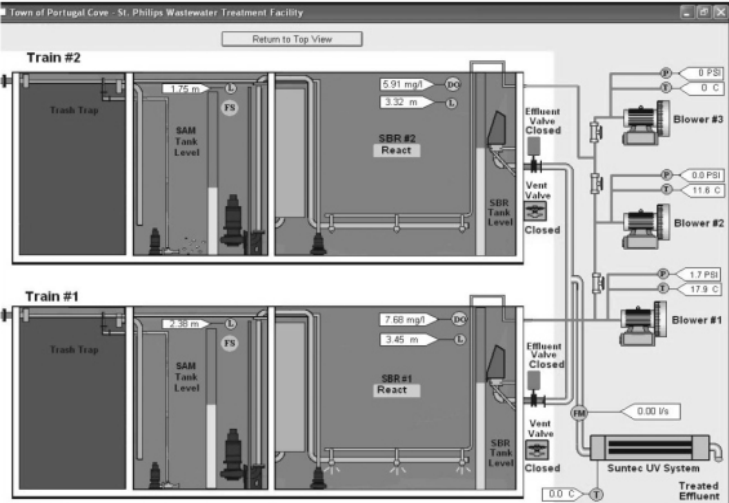


Artists concept of the Portugal Cove Wastewater Treatment Facility

Stage #3: The mixed liquors in the SAM tank are now pumped to the SBR Tank. This stage produces the activated sludge organisms that thrives on oxygen and lives on the organics that naturally exist in the wastewater. This is accomplished by introducing air and mixing using jet aeration in the tank. The organisms feast on the organics in the SBR until they use up all the oxygen. Once the oxygen is depleted it is again introduced into the system. This cycle continues until the tanks fill up and the treated liquors in the SBR are required to be discharged, but first the sludge must be settled in the SBR tank. "Settle Mode" in the SBR is when the air and mixing is off providing a quiescent condition and allowing the activated sludge to settle leaving a clear upper layer, called treated liquor.

Stage #4: After the settling period, the SBR Tank goes into a "decant mode" leaving the activated sludge in the SBR tank, and sending the clear treated liquor by gravity to the Ultraviolet Reactor after which it is safely discharged by gravity into the ocean.

The SBR treatment plant is fully automated and controlled and monitored by a Program Logic Controller (PLC) and a common desk top computer. The plant requires very little operator intervention, and the equipment is easy to access and maintain.



SCADA Display

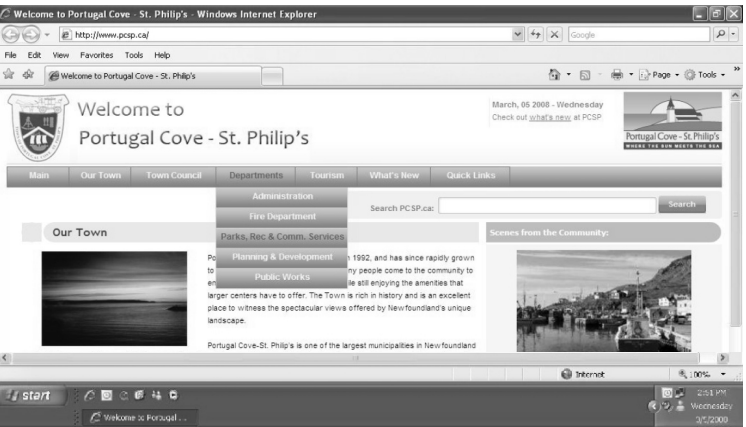


What's Going On in Portugal Cove - St. Philip's

On-line www.pcsp.ca

Spring 2008

PCSP.CA Gets a Facelift



www.pcsp.ca homepage

If you had been having trouble with the Town's website of late, there's a good reason for that! The Town has just recently launched its new website which features a fresh clean look, easier navigability as well as better user features such as searchable minutes, tons more information, and countless beautiful pictures of the Town.

About a year ago the Public Relations, Economic Development & Tourism Committee of Council discussed employing a fresh new look and approach to our website, as well as other promotional/marketing tools such as our Town slogan (over which we have been currently brainstorming to come up with just the perfect one), and further to that, a new Town logo to match (keep your eyes peeled). But back to the Town slogan. We have yet to decide on the perfect one. If you have more ideas and didn't submit them before, we are still welcoming suggestions. But remember...it must be descriptive, reflective of and unique to Portugal Cove - St. Philip's and it must be simple yet very catchy.

We plan on adding more interactive features so keep checking back for additions to the website. If you have other suggestions for website improvements and additions we certainly welcome them.

M-RON IT Services (Mariner Resource Opportunities Network Information Technology Services) designed the site. To see more of M-RON IT's work, go to www.mronitservices.ca

Council Congratulates Cub Pack

Council welcomed the members of the Cub Pack, and the Scout Group at a recent Public Council meeting on March 11th, 2008. Mayor Collins reported on the very impressive Cub Car Rally which was held at the Avalon Mall on February 24, 2007.

Prior to the race, in December 2007, six cubs were presented with a Kub Kar Kit. Each Cub had to create a design for his car, cut it out of the piece of wood, and paint it. The axels and wheels were prepared and assembled to create as much friction as possible. In addition the finished cars could not exceed 142 grams. This work was done by the cubs, under the watchful eye of their leaders Gordon Thomas, Charlie Parsons, Louis Marion and the cubs' parents. The results of the final four rounds of Cub Car Rally racing was as listed below:

Tyler Scott's car placed second in his first round race; Jared Tucker advanced to the quarter final round where his car placed second; And Evan Mercer advanced to the semi-final round where his car placed second in a close race to the eventual overall winner.

On behalf of Council, Mayor Collins, congratulated the leaders and their cub pack and all those who participated and performed in the Cub Kar Rally. Collins presented the Cub Leader Mr. Gordon Thomas with a \$50.00 donation toward restoring the cars for the next rally. In addition advised Scout Leader, Ian Mercer that there were several large garbage bags of recyclables that had been collected by Town staff for donation to the cubs.



Mayor Norm Collins presents a donation cheque to leader Gordon Thomas and Cub Evan Mercer to help restore cars for the next rally



Get Involved - Activities in Portugal Cove - St. Philip's

Atlantica at the Beachhouse Best New Restaurant in Canada 2007 Tourism Business of the Year 2007

Our very own Atlantica Restaurant at the Beach House is the best new restaurant in Canada, according to EnRoute Travel magazine. The Atlantica Restaurant, which is situated in the Beach House Rooms and Suites on Beachy Cove Road, was awarded the prestigious honor of “Best Restaurant in Canada” for 2007. This is the first time a Newfoundland & Labrador restaurant has even made the top 10 list, let alone being awarded the coveted title. Their menu mainly focuses on fresh seafood, prime cuts of meat and ingredients from local venders, which reflect Newfoundland & Labrador and its locale.

At the recent Hospitality Newfoundland & Labrador Annual Awards Gala, they again were honored with the Tourism Business of the Year (2007) Award for all of Newfoundland & Labrador. The establishment, owned and managed by residents of Portugal Cove - St. Philip's, is a cutting edge tourism destination with all of the traditional feel of Newfoundland. Their staff is extraordinarily professional while maintaining the Newfoundland welcome that everyone so loves. Nestled right here in Portugal Cove; it sits right on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean, giving visitors an authentic yet brand new kind of Newfoundland experience.

With the professional management skills of local resident Jeremy Bonia, coupled with the talented and ware savvy Chef Jeremy Charles, the Atlantica Restaurant and Beach House Rooms and Suites is the Newfoundland & Labrador destination that should not be overlooked by anyone seeking Newfoundland charm, sophistication and elegance, coupled with the experience of the rugged Newfoundland & Labrador coastline.

The Atlantica Restaurant & Beach House is located at 38 Beachy Cove Road, just past the Portugal Cove Ferry Terminal.



The Atlantica dining room overlooking the Atlantic Ocean

Civic numbers - can anyone see yours?

A service driver asked me recently if displaying your street number on your residence was required by law. Their comments reminded me of a significant problem in our town which is relatively easy to fix.



Every house and business in our town should have its street number displayed as prominently as possible. While displaying it on the front of your house is good, consider that at many times it is dark when someone is trying to find you. Ideally, putting it in a second location such as the front of your garbage box will ensure you can be found when needed.

You may be surprised how difficult it is to find your home, especially if your number has faded, fallen off, or is covered by a tree. Our fire department has indicated this has been a problem in the past.

For the courier, cable service, or car pool, it may just be an inconvenience not to be able to find you easily. However, in times of emergency I'm sure everyone would want their number to be displayed in the most prominent way possible.

Jon Seary is the Chair of Public Works.

Local Resident Gets NLOWE Nomination for Entrepreneur of the Year

Congratulations to Wendy Squires Ennis on being nominated for a Newfoundland and Labrador Organization of Women Entrepreneurs (NLOWE) Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Wendy operates two businesses from Portugal Cove-St. Philip's: Neverland Massage Therapy Clinic and Wendy's Wedding Works. By being nominated for her wedding business, Wendy has been singled out as an exceptional businesswoman. As a Marriage Commissioner she officiates over 75 weddings per year, and she has expanded to offer non-denominational baby-naming ceremonies and funerals. Wendy has developed the newly popular sand ceremony kit, which is a keepsake that can be used for any occasion. Since being featured on Made Right Here, on NTV in February, her sand kits are being sold across the province and out of province. Due to her unique business, Wendy has been featured on CBC's Canada Now and Living NL, Out of the Fog, The Telegram, The Express, The Downhome Magazine and most recently on the NTV Evening News. Wendy can be contacted at wendysweddingworks.com or by calling 895.VOWS.



News & Things to do in Portugal Cove - St. Philip's

Appealing Decisions of Council

If you have dealt with council regarding any aspect of development and your application required a decision of council, then in the letter you received from council you have probably seen a statement somewhat like the following:

“ Should you feel that the decision of council is incorrect, you have 14 days from receipt of this notice to file an appeal with the Eastern Regional Appeals Board (ERAB). The application form and associated fees are available”

If not, then you may not be aware that any decision (with a few exceptions) of a council may be appealed by anyone inside or outside the community.

Why Appeal?

The reasons that one might appeal are varied but here are some typical ones:

- 1) I think the council interpreted the specific regulation incorrectly or unfairly
- 2) I believe council broke its rules and regulations in granting this conditional approval
- 3) I believe that I am entitled to an exemption with respect to this application
- 4) I think this decision will have a negative impact on my property.

Deciding to Appeal

Before deciding to appeal, there are a number of things to think about. First and foremost you need to clarify if the decision can be appealed. There are a number of decisions which the Appeals Board will not consider. In particular if the council uses Regulation 10 Power of the Authority to refuse an application then the Board will not normally override the Council. Similarly, if the council refuses to authorize an application for crown land, the Board will not hear the appeal. If you are in doubt with respect to an appeal, feel free to contact staff at the Town Office or you may contact the Dept of Municipal Affairs.

Next examine your reasons for considering an appeal. Have you discussed alternative approaches with town staff? You should do so before spending your money and the town's (which is indirectly yours) before launching an appeal. If the decision was for someone else's property, is it really that important to you? Is there a principle involved or do you have property nearby that you feel will be directly affected? Remember that council members and their technical advisors (the council staff) have usually had a thorough discussion on the request and have looked at a variety of ways for the application to fit within the policies and regulations set out in the town's Municipal Plan which is the law that governs a council.

While there are likely other questions that could be asked, the key point here is to be sure you have considered the alternatives before filling in the application to appeal.



Aerial view of Portugal Cove

What's Involved – Application and Fees and Time (Yours and Councils)?

On the surface you might think an appeal is relatively inexpensive with an application fee of \$ 100 (plus applicable taxes). However, consider that you and perhaps a legal advisor must prepare material to present to the Board. The Council staff must put together material to defend the Town's position, that the project in question must be put on hold until a decision is rendered. Also that all parties may have to wait from a few weeks to several months for a hearing, Finally it can take from a few minutes to several hours for the hearing itself and it may take another several weeks before the board renders a decision. When you add up all this time you realize that an appeal is not a cheap process for you or the taxpayers.

Recent History & Results

To give you some idea as to how recent appeals against the Town have gone. I have gathered some statistics. Over the last year we have had 11 appeals filed related to various decisions of council. The results to date break down as follows:

Total Council decisions appealed	11
Number upheld	6
Number to be scheduled	2
Number ERAB refused to hear	2
Number withdrawn by appellant	1

Given the volume of decisions your council has had to make over the past year, the number of appeals is not out of line with other towns.

In summary, when considering whether to appeal a Council decision, the reality is that during the past year no decision of council has been overturned with this process.

*Steve Andrews
Chair, Planning & Development Committee*