



Cllr. Steve Andrews holds up a McDonald's bag that he picked up in the gutter on Olivers Pond Road. Some 30+ bags of garbage were collected around the community.

CBC 20 Minute Make-over

In late May CBC Radio put out a call for a '20 Minute Makeover'. This involved asking people to go out to the front of their properties and spend 20 minutes cleaning up the accumulated winter litter. The council's Public Relations committee got council's approval to encourage community participation. A notice outlining the May 28th event was distributed to all residents of the community and they were asked to let the Town Office know about how they participated. Some 25 plus residents took time including councilor Steve Andrews shown with a familiar fast food bag picked up in front of his property. In the second photo, CBC's Suzanne Woolridge and Samantha Smith are seen filling a garbage bag with items already removed from the ditch in front of the Andrews property. The council would like to thank all those who participated and let them know that their ideas for different times and days of the week were passed on to CBC. Hopefully, we can look forward to even wider participation when this event comes around next year.



The CBC crew helps out with the 'Make-over' on Olivers Pond Road

Safety Week August 1st - 7th, 2009

Poster Contest

Hosted by the Jessica Campaign
www.thejessicacampaign.com

Prizes to be awarded during 'Safety Week' for the most interesting poster!

Theme: Sharing Our Roads!

8' x 10" - 16' x 20"

Be imaginative!

Think Safe!

Posters (including name, age, phone - on back) can be dropped at the following locations or delivered to our booth at the Royal St. John's Regatta during Safety Week!

Eastern School District
Suite 601, Atlantic Place
215 Water Street, NL A1C 6C9

The Jessica Campaign
P.O. Box 631
Portugal Cove - St. Philip's, NL A1M 3R6

A coloring sheet will be available online at www.thejessicacampaign.com from July 1st for our younger contestants.



Mayor Collins and Jeanette Holman Price look over the first Sideguard equipped vehicle in the Community.

What's going on

in Portugal Cove - St. Philip's

On-Line www.pcsp.ca

July 2009

Have a Safe and Enjoyable Summer

On behalf of myself and my colleagues on Council I wish to take this time to wish everyone a safe and happy summer. This is a time when friends and family come to visit and when we also venture off your own beaten path to vacation. Whichever the case this summer, we encourage you to use common sense and caution while traveling, whichever your mode of transportation.

Canada Day festivities were a huge success and I would like to thank everybody who participated. The Volunteer Fire Department, once again, did a commendable job with the bonfire and fire works, to ensure a safe and enjoyable event. I have received several comments from residents regarding the same.

The St. Philip's Regatta is this Saturday, July 11th, and the Recreation Department have worked hard to ensure that this is an enjoyable day of family fun, filled with music, races and community spirit. Again this year, we have the 4th annual Portugal Cove End of Season Regatta on August 15th. This event has enjoyed a great amount of success in its first three years and I am confident that it will get bigger and bigger every year.

Last summer the Town seen much improvement to certain roads and we have received positive feedback from residents. I am happy to say that already this summer, the province has begun work on various other roads, rebuilding, upgrading and repairing.

For a full list of events refer to the Town's website PCSP.CA and check out the events calendar.

Enjoy!

Mayor Norm

Town Receives Over Five Million Dollars in New Funding

The Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's has received an additional \$2,855,427.00 in new funding for local roads under the Building Canada Fund. This funding is in addition to \$1,875,000.00 previously announced under the 2008-2011 Multi-Year Capital Works program.

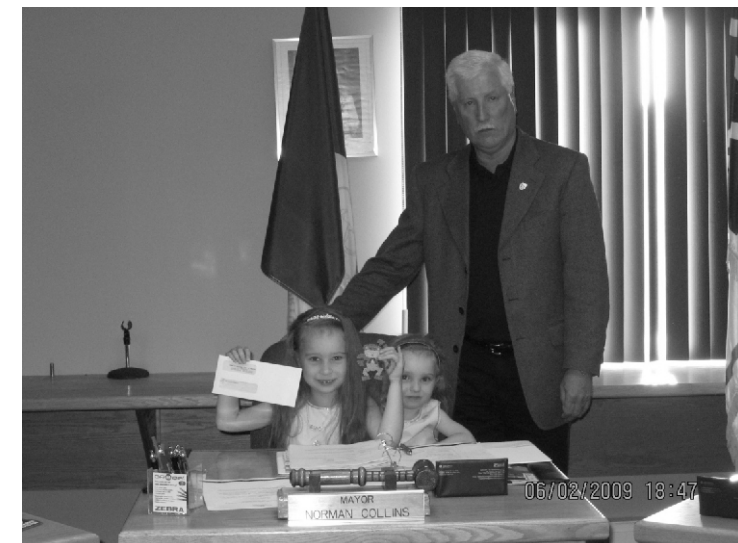
The Town's investment in both of these programs will be 20% of the total amount, or \$946,085. Mayor Norm Collins says, "This money will go a long way in paving and upgrading local roads in our Town". This money is part of the Town's continued commitment to keep up with our continuing infrastructure needs. The funding is a direct result of our

continued partnering with and lobbying of both the Provincial and Federal Governments.

The Town will also be using its gas tax funding of over \$700,000.00 to upgrade local roads. These combined efforts will make the infrastructure investment in Portugal Cove-St. Philip's second to none. These programs are being undertaken in a very responsible manner, the Town's investment in the program still keeps it well within our ability to pay, and keeps our debt at a very acceptable level. Keeping the debt level low is important in taking advantage of other future opportunities as well as not to overburden tax payers.

Priorities are being determined and the Town hopes that much of this work can be started this year.

The Town is continuing to seek funding for a new recreational facility. The Town has had a number of meetings with the Eastern School District in an effort to partner with them to construct a new Recreational Facility. A letter of support in moving forward with this plan has been received from the Eastern School District. In addition to this the Provincial Government has committed to undertake a study of the North East Avalon Region to determine where there are needs for extra recreation infrastructure. We are convinced that this report once completed will help us in our application for funding. The Town will continue to seek funding in an effort to bring this dream to reality.



Mayor Norm Collins presents Rachael Moss, accompanied by her sister, with a cheque in support of her goal to raise \$1,000 for the Janeway Children's Hospital, by selling her homemade magnets. To date Jessica has raised over \$8,000.

Consider Municipal Politics

Municipal government matters far more in our daily lives than most people imagine. While it is federal and provincial politics that receives the most ink in our printed media and the most air time in our radio and television communications, we are impacted by decisions made at the municipal level almost everywhere we turn.

The stores where we shop, the neighborhoods where we live, the streets we use to get from place to place, the parks we play in, and the many services we use without even thinking about them are often controlled, in some way, by municipal government.

It's a shame that more people don't seriously consider involvement in municipal politics, and that participation at this level of government is so often overlooked.

Easy to Get Involved

In many ways, it is easier to get in municipal politics than it is in other levels of government. Provincial and federal politics often requires years of participation in party politics in order to gain enough support to win a nomination. Beyond that you are competing against other political parties for the final goal of MP or MPP for your riding.

In Municipal government you compete only against other candidates for your ward or the municipality at large, and there are seldom party affiliations. Once elected, you are part of a governing body that has tremendous authority to make decisions within its area of jurisdiction. As a Councillor, you have an opportunity to develop and implement your Council's vision for the community. It can be very exciting, and your actions can have an impact on the community for many years to come.

People become candidates for a variety of reasons. Among the best of reasons is a deep desire to serve the community. Self interest or short term, single issue candidates not only do a disservice to themselves by running, but to their community as well. It is also important for candidates to understand that, while elected to represent the constituencies, they are making decisions on behalf of the entire community that they serve. An ability to balance the interests of their constituents against those of the broader community is vital.

While there are many reasons why you may decide to get involved in municipal politics, it is important to have a clear idea of what it involves before diving into the process. Although the position itself does not require any particular expertise or training, there are other characteristics that are requisite if you are to be successful.

A politician – whether federal, provincial or municipal – needs to be able to work with people both individually and as part of a team. As a councilor, you will need to work as part of a team to be able to accomplish your goals. Being a good listener, as well as a good problem solver, is necessary to be able to deal with the many issues that will come before the council. It will also help you to respond effectively to the many calls you will receive from the members of the public.



The Current Council, back row left to right: Cllr. Bill Fagan, Cllr. Darrell Butler, Cllr. Jon Seary, Cllr. Stephen Andrews. Front row left to right: Adrienne King (resigned), Mayor Norm Collins, Deputy Mayor Keith Mercer.

Politicians should have a clear vision of what it is they want to accomplish. Simply reacting to issues (or “management by crisis” as it is sometimes called) will result in merely a caretaker council. It is much more desirable to have politicians who have goals they want to see accomplished. If you have little you want to accomplish you will no doubt succeed in accomplishing just that.

Governance Process

Municipal politics is a rewarding endeavor. As a Councillor you will have wonderful opportunity to make your mark on the community. Becoming a municipal politician is, of course, a serious commitment that requires serious deliberation. But this should not dissuade good candidates from considering the position.

A decision to run for Council is in many cases a three year commitment. (*In Portugal Cove – St. Philip's, a Council term is four years*). For some, it may be a natural progression of their long term community involvement. For others, it may be a desire for change, or to have a say in what goes on. Whatever the reasons, once you decide to become a candidate, you step into a new world of existence.

You will soon discover that you are no longer a private figure, as public life begins to place new demands upon you. In a short time, the public and the media will begin to call on you for your opinions, and you will develop a broader interest and understanding of what it means to be a politician and represent your community.

When you first enter office, you will discover that there is a learning curve to round as you begin to work with the process of governance. Becoming familiar with the intricacies of conducting meetings and learning to be an effective representative will take time. Additionally,

commitment. There are meetings and committees galore. Above and beyond that, there are reports to read, functions to attend, and any other time consuming activities.

Municipal governance is a vital and valuable part of the political spectrum. Those interested in municipal politics realize that it plays an important role in every Canadian community, and it is a worthwhile vocation and contribution to society.

If you are serious about making the real difference in your community, consider getting involved in local government. The next time you step out, take a look around; you will see that municipal government plays a part in almost everything around you – where it matters most.

For information on local elections contact Judy Squires, Town Clerk/ Returning Officer 895-8000, ext: 223, or via email at judy.squires@pcsp.ca

This article was written by Brian H. Clarke, and was borrowed with permission from the Municipal World Magazine.

Are you a new Voter in our Town???

In order to vote in a municipal election, a person must be:

- a Canadian citizen
- at least 18 years of age on or before election day, and
- ordinarily reside in the town for 30 days immediately prior to the election

If you are a new resident in our Town since the last election in September 2005, or if anyone in your household has turned 18 years of age since the last election (or will be 18 years of age on or before election day, Sept. 29, 2009), please notify me of your full name and your civic address via email at: judy.squires@pcsp.ca or call 895-8000, ext. 223 at any time and leave your information on my voicemail along with your phone number. Thank you for your co-operation.

**Judy Squires, CMC
Town Clerk/Returning Officer
Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's**

Finally...Summer!

Summer has finally arrived and although the snow has been gone for a little while now, the time is here for people to look over their properties to see what needs to be tidied away after the winter.

A couple of other items.....

- Remind your children that streets are not play areas, and when using bikes, scooters, roller blades, or skateboards they should be extra cautious, and to find more suitable areas.

- Pet owners are reminded that when they walk their pets, they should ensure that they bring along a bag to clean up after their pets.
- On the subject of pets, our animal control is ongoing 121 months a year. To avoid having to pay a fine, please ensure that you keep your pets tethered on your property.
- Licenses and tags are free and available at the Town Office.

**Summer Office Hour/ Closures
8:30am. - 4:00pm.
July 13th
Regatta Day**

Looking to Operate a Business in the Town ?

In an effort to encourage new businesses, you should be reminded that Council has a policy in place that allows any new business a **one year exemption from business taxes** for the first year they are in operation. In the near future, Council will publish a **directory of businesses** that are registered at the Town Office. A business application information package is available at our offices on Thorburn Road.

Is Your Business not Registered ?

Businesses that are not registered and do not pay taxes to the Town will not be included in the directory.

As of the publication date of this newsletter, we are aware of some 27 businesses (profit and non-profit) that are operating illegally within the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's. These businesses have not made application to the Town, do not have a permit to operate and they are not paying taxes. Very shortly, the owners will be contacted by the Town Office and asked to comply with the Town's requirement to complete an application and go through the proper procedures in order to operate in the Town. We would appreciate your co-operation and compliance with the Town's regulations.

Rodney Cumby
Town Manager



Residents of PCSP enjoy the Canada Day Parade.