



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

On-line www.pcsp.ca

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 6

SEPTEMBER 2007

Town of Portugal Cove - St. Philip's begins work on recommendations from Kelly Report

Dear Residents of Portugal Cove - St. Philip's,

As some of you are aware the report on the investigation into the affairs of the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's has been completed. The Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs ordered the investigation at the request of the Town Council.

The investigation and subsequent report written by Mr. Ken Kelly examined a number of key areas in the Town's operation, ranging from the working relationships to the current committee structure for Council. A forensic audit was not included in the terms of reference for this investigation as there was no evidence to suggest this was necessary.

The report outlined a number of recommendations to improve the Town and Council operations. As the report says, most of these issues are typical of a growing community such as ours. There are three areas:

- › Updating and improving policies and procedures for Town operations
- › Review and update council committee structure and their mandates
- › Consider and improve the working relationship between Councillors.

The Town Council has already met and began work with the help of the Department of Municipal Affairs to implement the first two sections of the Kelly report. Many of these recommendations are already implemented, such as the Expenditure Authority and the process for planning applications. Others are in their final draft, such as our new dispute resolution policy - the first of its kind of any municipality in the Province.

While parts one and two of the recommendations can and are being dealt with by Council, part three will be up to each Councillor to consider and act on. I firmly believe all our Councillors have what it takes to resolve these issues, and I look forward to a more cooperative and productive relationship.

The Town Council has completed a "priority" list based on the Kelly report and other issues related to it. We will continue to work towards implementing these items in consultation with the Department of Municipal Affairs, and will keep you informed as to our progress in the coming months.

I invite you to read the entire report, which can be found at www.releases.gov.nl.ca. Follow the links for Releases by Department, Municipal Affairs 2007, August 30th. Alternatively, a copy is available at the Town Office.

I look forward to getting this work accomplished, and working with everyone to grow and move our town ahead in the weeks and months to come.



Norm Collins
Mayor

Mayor Norm Collins

Town Manager of Portugal Cove - St. Philip's

Time has passed so quickly and once again summer is gone and the kids are back in school. Over the summer Council and staff of the Town has been very busy attending to the needs of the residents of our Town. There are many projects moving forward in Portugal Cove-St. Philip's.



Rodney Cumby is the Town Manager of Portugal Cove - St. Philip's

Garbage Collection

In April the Town started to use its own forces to collect household garbage. Although there was some start up problems, they have since been resolved and we are moving forward providing an excellent service to the residents of the Town.

Roads

The Town is also engaged in a 2007 Road Improvements and Paving Program. We are reconstructing Farm Road and Emberley's Road. This consists of ditching, road widening and paving. We are also upgrading ditching and storm drainage throughout the Town on an ongoing basis.

On August 1, 2007 the Avalon Region received between 90-100mm of rain, however the Town sustained very little water damage, unlike many of the other communities on the Northeast Avalon. This is a direct result of our proactive measures to combat potential flooding in the town.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

Work continues on the Town's second Waste Water Treatment Plant. The estimated completion date of this project is November 2007. These two plants, one located on Lambswood Lane in St. Philip's, and the other at West Point Road in Portugal Cove, employ the latest in Waste Water Treatment technology available today. These projects make Portugal Cove-St. Philip's a leader in wastewater treatment in Newfoundland and Labrador. Initiatives such as this helped our Town win the prestigious Newfoundland & Labrador Environmental Award for 2007. The effluent produced at these plants has no coli forms, and is well within all other national guidelines. These plants were especially visionary projects and show the Town's commitment to the environment and to preserving our community for our children. Anyone wishing to tour either of these facilities can contact Roy Burry at 895-8000.

Ken Kelly Report

Mr. Ken Kelly has completed an investigation into the affairs of Portugal Cove—St. Phillips. His report can be viewed online at <http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2007/ma/0831n05.htm>. The terms of reference for the investigation did not include a financial audit of the Town because a full audit had already been conducted in the spring of 2007 in accordance with Provincial legislation. Copies of the audit and budget are available at the Town Office.

The Kelly investigation did not uncover any evidence that would support conducting a second audit as stated on page 15 of the report: "there is no evidence of misappropriation of funds that would warrant further investigation."

The Kelly Report clearly vindicates Town employees of any financial wrongdoing and confirms that a forensic audit is completely unnecessary.

Rodney Cumby

Public Notices

Town Hall / Council Meeting Hours

The Town Hall is now back to regular office hours from 8:30am 4:30pm.

Regular Public Council Meeting hours are also back to their regular time of 7:30pm every second Tuesday. The next meeting is October 9th.

Update on the paper recycling

The Town is presently in the process of seeking the best option for the recycling of paper products. We anticipate being able to start taking recyclable paper products in the late fall.

To my humans,

Although you enjoy the convenience of just letting me do my business outdoors, you can't imagine how embarrassing it is for me to leave my mess behind. Even though I try to be discreet, all the cats tease me when I don't bury it like they do.

Can you give me a hand and clean up after me when we're in public? I heard someone say that this stuff takes a lot of oxygen to breakdown in water, and sometimes kills marine life. And it's awkward when your other human friends step in the stuff, 'cause they get so mad.

Thank you - The Dog



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

Portugal Cove - St. Philip's enjoys a second End of Season Regatta

Portugal Cove-St. Philip's enjoyed an exciting End of Season Regatta at the Portugal Cove marina August 11th. The second year this event was held, the day featured races of teams that participate in other regattas held around the province, concession booths, hot food, and great weather.



Organizer Cyril Greeley is the President of The Portugal Cove St. Philips Rowing Club. A rowing club has been a dream of the Greeley family for many years. Last year with the help of many volunteers, local businesses, and most importantly all the crews who participated in the event, their dream became a reality. On August 26, 2006 The Portugal Cove - St. Philips Rowing Club held its 1st Annual End of the Season Regatta. It was a great success

"We had three generations of Greeley's participating in this years Regatta" said Cyril's sister Tina "This year's Regatta was dedicated to the memory of Elizabeth Greeley who passed away on August 3, 2007. She enjoyed the regattas just as much as all of us."

The day was well attended. Deputy Mayor Keith Mercer fired the starting gun on the first race at 8:00am.



*Sandy and Cyril Greeley. This was Sandy's
52nd year participating in regattas.*



Not as pictured. (The one is older)

For Sale By Public Tender

One 1994 GMC 4/4 pick up
In 'As is - Where Is' condition
Vehicle mileage 309,000 kms

Viewing can take place Monday to Friday 8:30 and 4:30 at 1119 Thorburn Road.

Bidders are required to place their bid in a sealed envelope clearly marked 'Tender For 1994 4/4 Pick Up'.

Tenders will be accepted until 10:00 am on Wednesday, October 17th, 2007 at which time the tenders will be opened.

Removal of the vehicle shall be carried out directly after closing of the tender.

The successful bidder will be responsible for removal of the vehicle.

There are no warranties intended or implied.

For further information please contact Mr. Roy Burry, Superintendent of Public Works at 895-8000 ext 228.

Highest or any tender bid not necessarily accepted.

Tendered price: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

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

Our Town Hosts the Killick Coast Games

The Town of Portugal Cove St. Philip's hosted the 2007 Killick Coast Summer Games from August 13th - 17th. This was the first year that our town had the opportunity to host the games and we hope that it will not be the last. There were approximately 270 youth between the ages of 11 and 16 years participating in a week long schedule of sporting events. These events included soccer, softball, basketball, ball hockey, and cross country running. The athletes came from communities Killick Coast region including Portugal Cove St. Philip's, Torbay, Flatrock, Pouch Cove, Logy Bay, Middle Cove, Outer Cove, and Bell Island.

Communities showed the true spirit of the games by making sure athletes from all communities could participate. Some of the towns combined players to make up a full team. These games helped all the youth build friendships, leadership skills, teamwork abilities, spirit, and many enjoyable memories. That is certainly what these games are all about.

The games would not have been successful without all the hard work of the volunteers, sponsors, coaches, staff, and most of all the athletes. The Town of Portugal Cove - St. Philip's would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the planning committee; Adele Carruthers (LB/MC/OC), Marion McCarthy (Flatrock), Eugene Connors (Bauline), Joe Somerton (Bell Island), Johnny Hanlon & Brian Rice (Soccer Convenors), Brenda Johnson & Linda Miller (Softball Convenors), Adrienne King (Cross-Country Convenor) and Dawn Chaulk & Brenda Poole (PCSP). We would also like to offer a big thank you to Ms. Felicity O'Brian for being our patron.

A special thanks to all members of the summer staff and all of those individuals who took the time to coach, referee, umpire, score-keep and/or work in the canteen. All of these people helped to make the events run smoothly! The businesses that gave a donation of funds and/or materials/supplies also made this event as gratifying to the participants as it was. All the members of the planning committee would like to send out our deepest gratitude to the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation for their funding support for these games. Without this assistance, rural communities such as these would not have the opportunity to participate in events as wonderful as this. We hope that you will continue with this funding for many years to come.

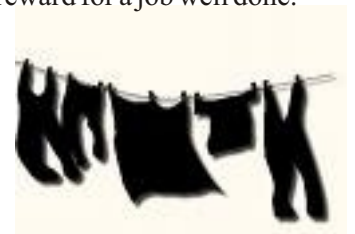
P.S. The Council would like to recognize the tremendous amount of time and hard work our Recreation Director, Dawn Chaulk and her staff put into making these games the great success they were. It was great to see so many talented athletes come out for these games and it was wonderful that our town could host such an event. Thanks Dawn for making this happen!



*Dawn Chaulk is the Town's
Recreation Director*

Good Cleanup Fun

The day was sunny and the shoreline was clean for the Ocean Net Day celebration on the St. Philip's beach on Sept. 21. This marked Ocean Net's 10th anniversary as an environmental leader. Mayor Norm Collins and Councillor Adrienne King dropped by to lend a hand and thank founder and town resident, Bob O'Brien for his continued commitment to keeping our shorelines clean. This is the third consecutive year Ocean Net has held the cleanup BBQ on the St. Philip's beach. Hotdogs and boiled mussels were a great reward for a job well done.



Ocean Net has issued a 10 Point Lifestyle Challenge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and waste, and to save money. You can learn more about 10 easy changes you can make to meet this challenge on their website www.oceannet.ca

One of the easiest ways to reduce electricity use is to use a clothesline instead of a dryer. Indoors or outdoors, a clothesline is a great way to save electricity and money while reducing greenhouse gases. Check out next month's newsletter for another tip to meet Ocean Net's 10 Point Lifestyle Challenge.

Planning and Development in Portugal Cove - St. Philip's

This is the fourth in a series of articles from the Chair of Planning & Development, Steve Andrews.

Building for the future The East Coast Trail

No doubt many of you have read or heard about the East Coast Trail and the significant efforts that a group of volunteers has put in to expand the trail. As one of its initiatives council has indicated that it would like this community to fit into the long range plan for this trail and thus provide an attractive tourism and recreation component to the community.



In order to do this cooperation has to be obtained from many different land owners. One of the steps that the Planning & Development staff or committee takes when they consider an application involving coastal land is to discuss with the land owner the possibility of having a reservation for the East Coast Trail close to the ocean. To date we have been quite successful although some owners are skeptical. In those cases we endeavor to have them meet with representatives from the East Coast Trail Association to review any concerns and attempt to change their minds.



One of major concerns is just where the reservation should begin. As you can see from the picture on the left, the current walking trail can get very close to the edge of the cliff. For safety's sake it is important that the reservation be reasonably wide and not too steep. For this reason in the upcoming town plan it is anticipated that a new proposal will be made with respect to the size and location of a coastal reservation. While no private land owner will be under any obligation to permit access to the reservation, council in concert with the East Coast Trail Association will do its best to negotiate access agreements over time. In the meantime if you have ideas or suggestions with respect to the development of the trail within our community, feel free to write to council at your convenience. To illustrate the magnificent beauty of the scenery along the current trail, take a look at the picture to the right. This was taken, along with the one above, during a fall 2006 hike organized by the East Coast Trail Association for councilors and some other interested residents. It was an impressive walk!

Steve Andrews



Looking back - Portugal Cove, as taken from the crown of the derrick of the Henry Goodrich drill rig, recently moored in Conception Bay.

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

Working towards energy savings and lower costs

In July, Councillor Adrienne King and I traveled to Edmonton and Calgary to attend a week-long mission on sustainable development and alternative energy practices.

The mission, organized and sponsored by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, included 46 other municipal representatives from across the country. Usually taking place in Europe, this was the first time it was offered in Canada.

Many of the examples we saw would apply to regions with a far greater population than we have in our town or the province. That being said, some projects, such as a proper computer and electronics waste (e-waste) recycling facility we toured certainly appear viable for our province or the Atlantic region.

What is useful to our town and residents are the initiatives we saw that apply to smaller communities and individual homeowners. A series of standards and practices called the LEED certification are being used in new construction at a number of sites we visited. These points cover many aspects of the construction, from disposal and recycling of construction waste, to reclaiming rainwater runoff for toilets, to ensuring natural light is used throughout the building to negate turning on the lights during the summer days. These buildings had a projected construction cost of only 2% - 5% over the original budget, with savings on energy use of almost 2/3 over previous locations.



Jon Seary speaks with a Project Engineer about street sand recycling.

On the residential side, we were impressed to see houses built with R-56 walls and over R-100 in the ceiling for only a nominal increase in cost. Relatively simple but innovative improvements resulted in significant energy savings. Taking the intake for the home's air exchanger and setting it up to run through a black panel on the south side of the home allowed this air to be warmed by the sun first. A

commercially available roof mounted solar water heater will do 60% of the work your regular hot water heater does. As the cost of electricity and oil goes up, these steps make more and more economic sense.

The Town of Okotoks, recently featured on CBC's The National, was the Mission's final stop. With a population about double of Portugal Cove St. Philip's, Okotoks made the

decision in 1998 to limit their town to what the Sheep River could sustain. This initial decision has grown to a full community effort to be energy efficient and reduce their environmental impact across the board.

Some of their policies include ensuring all developments allow a minimum of 20% of land space for municipal use, such as trails, parks and recreation areas. There's mandatory recycling of all materials, which the residents bring to one of two recycling depots. Municipal water service is billed primarily on amount used, rather than a flat rate.



Adrienne King touring a LEED certified building

Drake Landing was one of the most interesting parts of Okotoks. They take the energy from the hot days of summer and store it for the inevitable cold days of winter, and they are doing with homes that are not very different than many in our town.

We were impressed with the variety of initiatives we saw during our time with the Mission, and we are excited to be able to bring these ideas back to our town and the province. A full compilation of the schedule and the presentations will be available online from the FCM in October.



Beyond the core information in the Mission's agenda, we were pleased and delighted with the friendliness and respect we found from everyone across the country who we met, as well as the people behind these projects and ideas. Many people took time from their vacations to be there to tell us about how they came up with new ways to do things, how they benefit the environment, the health of the people, and the bottom line. It is these efforts which are needed to reduce our impact on the environment, allow for more sustainable development, and better communities for all of us.

Jon Seary

A more detailed version of the presentation given to Council will be held in the coming weeks for the public to attend.

Jon Seary and Adrienne King at the base of a 0.8 MW wind turbine