



## New Street Sign Design for Town

The Town will be sporting a new style of street signs starting this summer.

As old signs need replacement, or new streets are identified, the new signs will be installed. In addition, streets which bridge between major roads will have an additional sign to identify which road motorists have come out on.

For example, taking Bennett's Road from Thorburn Road will take you to Old Broad Cove Road, however there is usually no signage to indicate that. This proves to be problematic to visitors and people not familiar with the town.

The new signs were designed by town resident Robert Baker, with input from the Town's Public Relations, Economic Development, and Tourism committee.

The signs feature the Town Crest in its original colours, with a more attractive font for street sign lettering. The dark area and letters will be navy blue.

A second series of signs to be deployed later on will detail a notable piece of history of the road or area. These signs will be attached to the same post as the street signs, with their content researched and compiled by an independent project committee.

If you are interested in participating in such a project, please see page 2 for contact information.

## Go For a Walk and Discover Aliens

This summer you could join an army of volunteers on a mission to find and report aliens...alien invasive species, that is. In April, the Mun Botanical Garden Society held a workshop to discuss invasive alien plants and animals in this province. An invasive alien species will establish itself in an ecosystem and will compete with native organisms and eventually destroy native habitats. Right now there are twelve alien plants in this province which have the potential to be invasive.

We can do something to help prevent this from happening. Visit the Mun Botanical Garden website at [www.mun.ca/botgarden](http://www.mun.ca/botgarden) and look for the Eyes Across the Province link. Here, you can learn to identify the aliens and there is also an online form to report sightings of them. So, if you are an outdoors person with an interest in plants, take a notepad and record any alien plant sightings. You will be contributing to research that just may control or eradicate invasive alien plants.

## Mercury Running Club hosts first Road Race/Marathon in the Town

On Sunday June 11th, at 7:15am, about 100 runners started off at the Sunshine Camp on a 15 K and Marathon Road Race around the streets of Portugal Cove - St. Philip's.

Runners from across Canada and the local area participated in the event organized by town resident Ray Will.

Thanks are extended to the volunteers who made the race possible, including the friendly people who manned the race course and water stations, the PCSP Volunteer Fire Department and Recreation Director Dawn Chaulk.

Great race, Ray!



Chris Saunders, visiting from Toronto, runs along Tolt Road

## Town of Portugal Cove - St. Philip's wins Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Award

The Town of Portugal Cove St. Philip's won the Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Award this year for community waste management.

The awards were presented by the Provincial Department of Environment, the Multi Materials Stewardship Board, and the Newfoundland and Labrador's Women's Institutes on June 6 at the Humber Valley Resort. These awards recognize outstanding environmental and conservation achievements throughout the province.

"This is a wonderful endorsement of the environmental attitude of the residents of our town" said Councillor Jon Seary when he accepted the award. "The award recognizes not just the environmental initiatives and projects of our town, but the many efforts of various individuals and groups within the Town, such as OceanNet and the Scouts."



Councillor Jon Seary accepts the award from Environment Minister Clyde Jackman



Mayor Norm Collins took time from his leave of absence to pitch in with Councillor Adrienne King at a recent beach cleanup.

### Some of our Town's initiatives

- ☞ A full waste water treatment plant in St. Philip's, which uses only molasses and baking soda in its process.
- ☞ A second wastewater treatment plant in Portugal Cove due to be in operation in November.
- ☞ Curbside recycling of paper and cardboard to start in July.
- ☞ Several beach cleanups organized by OceanNet each year.
- ☞ Compost bins provided at reduced cost to residents; over 500 in use to date.
- ☞ Collection of recyclable beverage containers by several community groups, including the PCSP Scouts.
- ☞ Bulk garbage collection twice per year.
- ☞ Regular participation in the Household Hazardous Waste event, with one of the highest return rates per capita in the province.

### Individuals are dedicated too

To appreciate how environmentally minded our town is, residents Wayne Ledwell and Jon Lein also received awards. For his work in the Whale Release program, Wayne Ledwell won an award in the Individual category. Jon Lien received a Lifetime Achievement award for founding the Whale Release Program and his life long commitment to conservation and preservation

In the same week, OceanNet founder and resident, Robert O'Brien won the Earth Day Canada National Hometown Hero Award.

Congratulations everyone on a job well done!



David Suzuki congratulates Robert O'Brien on his award.



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

### Learn about Portugal Cove-St. Philip's Volunteer Fire Department

Portugal Cove-St. Philip's Volunteer Fire Department was established in 1996 and is now in its eleventh year of service to the community. The department consists of thirty members who provide a professional level of emergency response to calls from the people of our community, during their worst moments.

#### Firefighting is an honoured and dangerous occupation, even for volunteers.

The firefighters have significant personal commitment to the Town, with:

- ✦ A high sense of personal dedication (we train every Monday night;
- ✦ A genuine desire to help people (we are first responders), and;
- ✦ A high level of skill and training.

#### Many of our firefighters during the past ten years have received national certification.

Apart from the excitement, the challenge and the satisfaction of a job well done, our firefighters learn to be more self-reliant and confident. Our firefighters get a chance to meet many of our local residents; people whose respect and confidence are earned while providing emergency services to our community.

Volunteer firefighters are trained in the use of specialized firefighting equipment and other general skills such as: First Aid, CPR, Oxygen Administration, AED (automated external defibrillation) and other courses provided by the Fire Commissioners Office (such as firefighter I and II certification).

To find out more information and to see our volunteers in action with their training, you are welcome to drop by the regular training sessions Monday evenings, 7:00pm-10:00pm, at either the Portugal Cove or St. Philip's fire halls.

Les Spurrell  
Fire Chief

### Town offers no-fee car wreck removal

As part of the effort to keep our neighbourhoods clean, the Town is offering a one-time car wreck removal service from private property. Certain conditions apply, so for further information and to request removal of a wreck, property owners are asked to contact Roy Burry, Superintendent of Public Works, at 895-8000.

### Join the Killick Coast Chamber of Commerce

The Killick Coast Chamber of Commerce represents member businesses throughout the communities of Bauline, Bell Island, Flatrock, Logy Bay – Middle Cove – Outer Cove, Portugal Cove – St. Philips, Pouch Cove and Torbay.

For more information, or to join please contact Tonia at 437-5861 or e-mail membership@killickchamber.ca.

*The Killick Coast Chamber of Commerce...A Chamber In Motion!*

### Show us (and everyone else) how well you know your town.

The Town is looking for individuals interested in coming up with the content of historical signage throughout our town. The signs would have a few lines each that would reveal the origins of the road they are posted on, or some other interesting fact about that particular location. The signs would be affixed to the same post as the regular street signs, similar to the design shown below.

If you are interested in contributing your knowledge, writing skills, and interest, please contact Sheree Kent at 895-8000 or at sheree.kent@pcsp.ca



*A sample of the historic informational sign proposed for our town.*



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

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

### Rules and Regulations Why do we need them?

From time to time residents question why we have all the rules and regulations that we do. The simple answer is that standards have been set for various types of development and over time planners, engineers, governments and communities have accepted these rules and regulations as being appropriate. You may say appropriate for what! Some examples would include being appropriate for providing fire protection, for snow clearing, for mail delivery, for garbage collection, for protecting the rights of neighbors to have some degree of privacy, for ensuring that residents know what type of construction or business can occur in the neighborhood, for maintenance of the health of individuals and the community and to make the best use of scarce land types whether that be for housing, farming or recreation.

Consider for example if you plan to build a house between two other homes in the town. Currently, we have rules about the size of the lot related to whether it is serviced or un-serviced by water and sewer, about the position of the house on the lot, about the size of the house and, if un-serviced, about where the well and septic tank are placed. If there were no rules in place there would be nothing to stop you from placing the house too close to the road thus interfering with snow-clearing or the future provision of water and sewer. If there were no rules, you might place your well too close to your or your neighbor's septic field and eventually end up with a polluted water supply. If you have no rules you may place your house so far back from the road and with such a narrow drive that fire protection equipment could not reach it in a timely manner. Besides the risk to your home, your cost of insurance could be much greater particularly in un-serviced areas.

Environmental concerns are foremost in the minds of many communities and ours is no exception. Our recent award for environmental initiatives by the Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Award Program is a testament to that. As we move forward to begin our recycling program residents will most certainly be faced with a few more rules and regulations in order that we have a consistent and effective approach. Hopefully most

residents will see these as a positive move to help cut down the amount of material that currently end up in the Robin Hood Bay landfill.

There are of course other aspects to protecting the environment. Our community and the provincial and federal governments have regulations with respect to construction around the shores of ponds, lakes and streams. Such regulations are designed to protect the access to these water bodies, the creatures that live in the water and to minimize the disruption to the natural shorelines. Anyone who has been following the council meetings over the last year may be aware that the consequences for not heeding these regulations can be quite costly and frustrating. In one instance a resident disrupted a small river without seeking the necessary permits and is now faced with the cost of a significant restoration process. Another case involving a 'minor recreation facility' on the edge of a pond had the work stopped because there was no application submitted or permit issued. In this instance an appeal was made that has resulted in the council adopting a clearer definition of what is meant by a 'minor recreation facility'. The current town plan had left this matter open to interpretation.

One of the dangers that governments at all levels face is falling into the trap of setting too many and sometimes conflicting rules and regulations. At the provincial level the current Red Tape Reduction plan is an effort to clean up and streamline and overburdened system. Municipalities, at least in this province, are perhaps more fortunate in that they are required to review their rules and regulations that make up a part of their Municipal Plan every ten years with a minor level review five years into the plan. Since the review process that is followed involves public consultation, this provides the opportunity for residents and business owners to voice their concerns and/or objections with respect to the number and level of detail involved in the communities existing rules and regulations. Using this type of feedback, along with the advice of experienced consultants and the direction off the Department of Municipal Affairs, the councils have the opportunity to regularly enhance and streamline the rules and regulations that are in place. This year is your opportunity to affect the process as our town goes through a major Municipal Plan Review.

*Steve Andrews*