

**Heritage/Archives  
Newsletter  
January, 2007**

Well the first month of the new year has gone by and on reflection, rather quickly despite it being winter.

The number of visitors to the archives numbered twenty – as news gets about of our existence it seems that many more people are anxious to seek out information on historical, cultural, and genealogical matters.

We are going to be visited on February 7<sup>th</sup> by a team from the Council of Nova Scotia Archives who will be conducting a needs assessment. The second week of February has been set aside to visit the Cape Breton archives. This should be beneficial for our archives and hopefully, there will be good advice on archival policies and procedures.

The newspaper article which appeared in the “Victoria Standard” in January dealt with the Municipal Council’s week long session which was took place in the Court House in Baddeck fifty-three years ago. Information for this article was obtained from an old newspaper clipping written by Alex D. MacLean on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 1954 and of course, from the Minutes and Proceedings of Municipal Council of the same year. It included information on two old customs which occurred annually at Council. One custom was the ringing of the ship’s bell from the corvette – “Baddeck” to open the daily council sessions, and the second being the singing of Gaelic songs at the end of the Council session. I hope everyone had a chance to read the article.

The third Monday in February is National Heritage Day. As in the past, the archives will be hosting an open house in celebration of Heritage Day. This will take place on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> February in the Court House, Baddeck during the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. The theme for Heritage 2007 is “**Places for People – Our Heritage of the Everyday**”. The focus will be on heritage places of the ordinary vernacular architecture. I am looking forward to a good turn-out and of course, there will be tea, coffee and goodies throughout the afternoon. So, mark the 19<sup>th</sup> on your calendars.

That is the news from the Municipal Heritage and Archives for January. Happy Ground Hog Day!! From all accounts, the rodent did not see his shadow so I guess spring is just around the corner.