

**Heritage/Archives  
Newsletter  
April and May, 2008**

As I didn't get around to writing a newsletter for April, I decided to write a combination one for both April and May.

April was quite a busy month – not only with the archives, but, also other events. On the 1<sup>st</sup>, I hosted a board meeting of the Iona Connection here at the Court House. The annual spring meeting of the Iona Connection was held on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> April at the Fossil Centre in Sydney Mines. There was a good turn out from the membership and as always, we were treated to a delicious lunch. For those people who have not had the opportunity to experience the Centre, I would recommend taking the tour of both the Fossil Centre and the Sydney Mines Heritage Centre housed in the old train station and located on the same property.

This year, the Village of Baddeck is commemorating its one hundred anniversary of the incorporation of the Village. Settlement in Baddeck, however, goes back much farther than 1908 having the first European settlement occur in 1819 with the arrival of James Duffus from Halifax. He established a dwelling and store on the island opposite the village. I was asked by the Village Commissioners to be the guest speaker on the occasion of a dinner held at the Masonic Hall on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> June. My topic for the presentation was the early beginnings of Baddeck up until the time of the arrival of Alexander Graham Bell and his family. This event was well attended by the residents of the village with every seat being occupied.

I have started to put together historical information on the old buildings in the Village for further celebrations taking place in June and July. Local residents will be dressed in period costumes and will conduct walking tours of the Village.

Visitors to the Archives have been steady for both months with each week having several people drop by – both the regulars and also some new visitors. First time visitors are always amazed that we actually exist and are impressed by the quantity of materials housed here.

In May, I attended the annual conference of the Council of Nova Scotia Archives which was held at the NSARM in Halifax on Wednesday and Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> May. The topics covered were most informative and the presenters were very good. It is great to get together each year and meet up with old friends from around the Province and to meet new people as well.

As this is an election year for the Municipality, I will, once again, be assisting the Returning Officer with running the election which will take place in October. This will mean that I will need to spend considerable time in preparation for the election. However, it will be business as usual here at the Archives!

Well that is the news from the Municipal Heritage and Archives for the past two months. By the time the next newsletter is due, it will be summer, and hopefully some nice weather to accompany the season.