

Heritage/Archives Newsletter
May, 2004

The month of May seems to have flown by very quickly. Each week was busy with visitors to the archives, a conference, and field work for the built heritage inventory.

On May 6th, the guides in training at the Alexander Graham Bell Museum spent the afternoon at the archives. For the past nine years, the new guides have been given a tour of the village of Baddeck by the inventory clerk where they were informed about the old buildings in the village and the historical significance each one has to the community. This year, as well as last year, instead of walking around the village, the guides have been given the tour via the heritage binders which contain the photographs and historical information. Also, they were made aware of the contents of the archives, and encouraged to inform the traveling public about its existence.

Along with the above group, the archives was also busy with visitors both local and from outside the community seeking out information about the local communities. Now that the archives has been established, many local people are becoming regular visitors, and they have expressed a genuine interest in the archives. With the "season" just upon us, it is expected that the next few months will be busy with visitors from other parts of the country and beyond.

The Federation of Nova Scotia Heritage held its annual spring conference at Inverary Resort from May 13th to 15th. The theme of this year's conference was entitled, "Our Storied Past". Our Heritage and Archives clerk attended the sessions which were held on Friday, May 14th. There were several presenters who are noted story tellers in their particular fields. These sessions were most informative and interesting. The participants attending were instructed – through example – the importance of relating a compelling story to the visitors who come to their heritage sites.

May's weather left a lot to be desired, however, our inventory clerk was able to take advantage of a few nice days and made a start on this year's built heritage inventory. One more trip or so over Kelly's Mountain to Boularderie Island should finish the remaining buildings in that district. Then it will be over Cape Smokey to make a start on the buildings in the northern districts in our county.

Just a reminder that the "new" locator map produced by the Iona Connection is now available for sale for the cost of \$2.00. Anyone interested, please inquire at the Tax Office. This is an updated map showing the location of all the heritage sites on Cape Breton.

That's the news for May. Hope everyone is ready for the summer season. Please drop by the Municipal Archives during your visit to Baddeck.