Heritage/Archives Newsletter June, 2008

Well another month has nearly come to an end and this one has been exceptionally busy with various activities.

Throughout the month there were over twenty visitors who dropped by the Archives with requests for information in connection to research, etc.

On June 6th, I attended the first board meeting of the Iona Connection since the annual meeting in April. This meeting was held in Cheticamp and was hosted by board member, Ida LeLievre of Les Trois Pignons, La Societe St. Pierre. Prior to the meeting the board was taken on a tour of the museum and the art gallery which displays the hooked rugs and wall hangings created by the late Elizabeth LeFort. Everyone was duly impressed and I would recommend that it should be a definite stop for people when in Cheticamp.

On Thursday, 5th June, I conducted a historical built heritage walking tour for the Grade Eleven tourism class at Baddeck Academy. This was followed up a visit to the Archives by the class on Monday, 9th June where they were given materials and information for their projects. Each of the fourteen students picked a specific building or site to write about. I am glad to see that the Academy is encouraging the students to further their knowledge concerning the local history.

I completed the compilation of the historical information regarding the heritage properties for the walking tours which will take place the first week of July as part of the one hundredth anniversary celebrations to commemorate the incorporation of the Village of Baddeck in 1908. A group of local people have volunteered to assist in the tours and will be dressed in period costumes to conduct these tours.

The featured article in the "Victoria Standard" newspaper which appeared in the June 2nd to 15th issue was written about the former MacLeod House located in North River on the Oregon Road. Initially it was actually two separate houses and located in different communities. The part built on the present location was constructed in 1902 and the part which was attached was built in 1885 and was located in West Tarbot. The older building was moved and added to the 1902 dwelling to form one house. The house has been restored and renovated and is a viable entity in the community.

With my responsibilities in regard to the upcoming Municipal election to be held on 18th October, I am anticipating an extra busy summer as July and August are always with visitors and inquiries.

The Archives will be closed on Monday, 30th June as I will be having an extra long weekend as Tuesday is a holiday. Well, that's the news for June – I will be reporting once again at the end of July.

"Happy Canada Day" to everyone.