

**Heritage/Archives  
Newsletter, August, 2007**

With one more day left before the end of August, and as I plan to take a vacation day on the last day, I realized that the monthly newsletter is now due.

Once again, August has gone by just as quickly as July, in fact, even more rapidly. As is usual for the summer months, we were busy with visitors “from away”. The main reason for their visit was to seek out information of a genealogical nature. These people who are two and three generations removed from the area are now desirous to trace their family background. For the most part, I was able to provide assistance and if the information was not available here then I directed them to the people in the area who are involved developing genealogical data on the early settlers.

The newspaper article for August featured the Convent de Notre Dame located on Chebucto Street in the Village of Baddeck. Although it is not a really old building, actually just forty-eight years old, it was constructed in 1959, for nearly five decades the convent has been a very important and vital part of life in the village, however, it closed toward the end of this month and the three remaining sisters have gone away to other locales. The reason for the closure of the convent is the lack of younger nuns to take over – apparently fewer young women are entering into orders and there is no one to replace the three who have retired. The contractor hired to build the convent was “Red” Archie MacDonald from Sydney. A local parishioner, Paul MacLean, carried out all the painting on the building. So it is good-bye to another era in Baddeck.

I managed to take one trip north of Cape Smokey in August for the built heritage inventory project. I was able to photograph a couple of old homes in the Ingonish Ferry district. Now that the by-election is over, I am aiming to really get going in that district in September. By the way, as promised in last’s month’s newsletter, the outcome of the by-election in District 1 on August 18<sup>th</sup> resulted in Paul MacNeil of Jamesville being elected having 44 votes over his closest contestant, Ann Marie MacNeil of St. Columba Road, and 80 votes over the third place contestant, Pat Rose of Washabuck.

Well that is all the news for this month – by the time I write the next newsletter it will be autumn – the summer certainly went quickly. Have a great Labour Day weekend.