

Heritage/Archives Newsletter
October, 2004

With just two days remaining in October, the time has arrived, once again, to report on the events and activities which have taken place in the Heritage and Archives department.

And what a month it was! The Municipal elections are finally over, however, there still remains a bit of paper work in order to put the whole business to bed for another four years.

Things will be getting back to normal around the Heritage and Archives department, and hopefully, the next few months will be productive ones especially for the built heritage project which will realize the completion of buildings in district 5, and with any luck, a start on district 6.

Despite being so busy with elections, there was time devoted to the Archives. Several people, twelve who signed the book, visited the Archives during October seeking help with research and genealogy. We had visitors from as far away as California and other locations in between.

Bonnie Thornhill, along with three people assisting her in doing research for her new book which will be about the people who settled on the north side of St. Ann's from the Gaelic College property to North River Bridge and including the community of Murray, spent an entire day in the Archives accessing the information already available on most of those properties. They plan to return to conduct more research throughout the duration of their project. They were most impressed with the Archives and the information it contains, and also that it is so readily available to them.

Along with the visitors came the usual e-mails, telephone calls, and correspondence from individuals seeking out information on various heritage related topics. The Heritage Inventory clerk was able, for the most part, to assist these people.

Our clerk traveled to Iona on Saturday, 23rd October to attend the fall meeting of the Iona Connection. The Iona Connection, which is an umbrella association for all the museums, heritage sites, and archives for Cape Breton, is making plans for a series of workshops to be held in our own local areas in the late winter and early spring of 2005. These workshops will teach such topics as : care and maintenance of artifacts and archival materials, preparation of publications for individual museums, etc. At the present time, these educational workshops, for the most part, take place off Island, and can be quite costly for participants to attend. It was the feeling of the members of the Iona Connection that having these sessions in Cape Breton would be financially advantageous.

Well that is the news for October. Happy Hallowe'en everyone.

