

Heritage/Archives Newsletter November, 2005

With November just about at an end, it is time to report once again via the monthly newsletter about the events and activities occurring within the Heritage and Archives Department in Victoria County.

Visitors continued on a regular basis throughout the month with a total of fifteen people paying a visit to the archives seeking information for research projects.

On Friday afternoon on the 18th of November, I visited Mrs. Ruth MacDonald's Grade 2 class at Baddeck Academy. I made a presentation about heritage buildings in the Village of Baddeck which was enthusiastically accepted by the class of eighteen students. As a follow up, we proceeded to spend the rest of the afternoon out and about the village on a walking tour. It is so very important that these young students are made aware of their rich heritage in Victoria County. It is encouraging to realize that the teaching staff at our local schools are incorporating heritage and cultural aspects into the curriculum.

On Tuesday evening, 15th November, I attended the Heritage Strategy Task Force public meeting which was held at Alexander Graham Bell Museum. This was one of many open house meetings being conducted right across the province during the month of November, in order to get input from the heritage and cultural groups as to what direction heritage in this province should be striving to attain. The meeting was attended by approximately 30 people. Individuals were permitted to express their ideas with regard to the importance heritage plays in our communities. On behalf of the Municipal Heritage and Archives, I spoke on the importance of heritage being a sustainable entity. Also, in my brief remarks, I listed the notable historical people who were once part of Victoria County starting from John Cabot through to Alexander Graham Bell. I will be submitting a written brief to the task force before 15th December. Hopefully, these series of public meetings will bring about a positive heritage strategy for the whole province.

The Nova Scotia Historic Places Initiative will be conducting a two day workshop in Sydney in early December. The theme of this workshop will be on making aware the processes of registering heritage homes/buildings. I plan on attending this workshop on the 7th and 8th of December. Next month, I will report on the workshop and its value.

As usual, work progressed on the built heritage. Having had photographs developed, I was able to complete several site forms for the inventory.

The newspaper article for the November issue of the "Victoria Standard" featured St. John's Untied Church in Big Bras d'Or. Now all of the places of worship on Boularderie Island within the boundaries of Victoria County have been inventoried and also written about in the newspaper.

That's the news for November. It is hard to believe that there is only one month remaining in 2005. The days, weeks, and months just seem to go by so quickly. I will be reporting in December. I would like to wish everyone all the best for the holiday season.