



The Bridge

Chair
Beth McGee
jemcgee@eastlink.ca



Message from the Chair

October 2008

Trust memberships make a great gift for those interested in conserving public land in its natural state for public use. Membership for that special person can be obtained by contacting Cilla Dawson 902-404-0690

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Friends:

With summer now officially over and the many activities of fall upon us, I would like to update you on the work of the Trust over the summer months.

Thanks are due to a number of volunteers for their work on projects. Jim Law and Ken Nickerson and friends of the Woodens River Monitoring Committee completed their water readings on the Woodens River. Monitoring work on the Prospect River system for 2008 was completed by Wayne Rogers and friends. Trust members attended the Recreational Fishery Advisory Council meeting on Thursday, October 2 at the Park Place Hotel Dartmouth. We have just learned from Don MacLean that Inland Fisheries will purchase a YSI unit for the Trust to use in our water quality projects. Thanks to Don and staff of Inland Fisheries for their ongoing support of our work.

At the June 20 invitation of Minister Parent we have been engaging in ongoing discussions with staff from NS Environment around the setting up of a Round Table to discuss how we as community members can get our concerns addressed in a more timely matter. We have just learned from NS Environment staff that a late November meeting is planned as further delays arose with the call for a Federal Election.

The work of the Chebucto Wilderness Coalition steering committee continues to gain support. You can assist us by copying off the petition found on the Trust website: www.fivebridgestrust.ca and carrying a copy with you to gather signatures. Information about where to send completed petitions is contained elsewhere in this edition.

Environmental Design and Management (EDM) in association with Dillon Consulting, Cultural Resources Management Group, and Gordon Ratcliffe Landscape Architects have been selected by HRM to develop a Master Plan for the Western Common Wilderness Area. The Trust has been asked to participate in a consultation process recently established by EDM to gather input for the Management Plan for the Wilderness area of the Western Commons.

Members of the Trust took part in the recent Job Fair and Volunteer Expo held at St. Margaret's Centre on September 27. Thanks to Cilla Dawson for her help.

Formatting and editing work on "The Walking Guide to the Old St. Margaret's Bay Road" continues. We hope to be able to publish the Guide in early 2009.

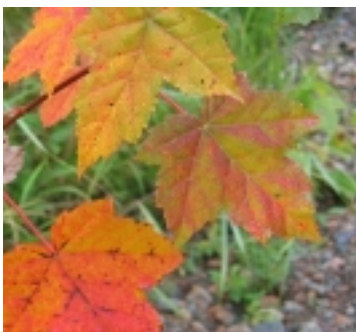
The September COCO Meeting was held on September 23 at the White's Lake Le
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Web Address

www.fivebridgestrust.ca

Woodens River Monitoring Project

Jim Law and Ken Nickerson and friends of the Woodens River Monitoring Committee completed their water readings on the Woodens River. Beth McGee and Ken Nickerson attended the Fall Recreational Fishery Advisory Council meeting on October 2 at the Park Place Hotel, Dartmouth. At that meeting we learned that Inland Fisheries will ask the Trust to assist in planning a public meeting later this Fall to share the results of the fish sampling undertaken by Jacques Whitford in June 2008 on the Woodens River system. The sampling was undertaken to determine the level of PCBs in fish from the lower lakes. The results will help Inland Fisheries in their on going health assessment of the river, with an objective of identifying water quality problems in the Woodens River Watershed that are affecting aquatic life, including, but not limited to, trout.

Prospect River Monitoring

Monitoring work on the Prospect River system in 2008 was completed by Wayne Rogers and friends. Concerns continue to be raised about water quality in the Goodwood area as a result of activities ongoing in the Industrial 3 area of Goodwood. Councillor Reg Rankin is suggesting that discussion about rezoning for that I3 area could be undertaken.

Because of grave concerns over the response time from both Environment Canada and NS Environment to citizen's calls concerning fungal matter found in a Goodwood stream in April 2008, discussions have been ongoing with NS Environment about setting up a Round Table discussion to determine how community members can have their concerns addressed in a more timely matter. The Round Table discussion will include other government departments, Fisheries & Oceans Canada, Environment Canada, and HRM. Members of community groups will be invited to attend the planned late fall session when a date is confirmed.



Job Fair and Volunteer Expo

Members of The Trust set up and manned a table at the Job Expo on September 27. Mike Marriott managed to capture us at work on that day.

Chair continued...

gion and was hosted by the Resources Opportunity Centre at Terence Bay. Thanks to the Chair Shelley Thomas. As always it was a lively meeting with much good information sharing about the work ongoing in our communities.

In September the St. Margaret's Bay Lions Club presented me with the Citizen of the Year award. While this is a lovely honour, this award could only occur because of the excellent work of the Board of Trustees, Trust Advisors and Trust Members.

Thanks to all for your good efforts and continuing support of our goal to protect the Public Lands bound by Highways 103 and 333.

Beth

Protecting Our Natural Heritage

The work of the Chebucto Wilderness Coalition steering committee continues. It has shortened its name from the Chebucto Peninsula Wilderness Coalition to the Chebucto Wilderness Coalition (CWC). The shorter name is simpler and its acronym easier to pronounce. Protecting public lands within the boundaries of Highways 103 and 333 under the Wilderness Protection Act remains its sole objective.

Since the CWC's meeting with Minister Parent on June 2, the Minister has indicated that the goal of protecting 12% of Nova Scotia's Crown Land remains important to his administration and his staff is now doing its initial assessment of the Crown Lands we have identified. The Minister further indicated that the province must serve diverse interests and encouraged the Coalition to reach out to increase the diversity of its membership. He also suggested that the CWC should "articulate a vision" for the lands proposed for protection.

The CWC objective has secured the support of the HRM Regional Council. Special thanks are due to Reg Rankin for providing leadership on this endorsement.

Judy Streach, MLA for Chester St. Margaret's, has promised a letter confirming her support for protecting the area under the Wilderness Areas Protection Act.

A meeting with David Morse, Minister of Natural Resources is slated for October 21. Minister Morse has attached importance to the support of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) and the Ecology Action Centre (ECA). In turn, these two organizations have offered to reaffirm their support by having members attend that meeting.

You can support CWC's work by gathering signatures of support on the petition found on the Trust website (www.fivebridgestrust.ca), carrying it with you, and returning them to the FBWHT Chair, Beth McGee, 2 Woodens River Road, Seabright, NS B3Z 3E2.

COCO Meeting - September 23, 2008

The September COCO Meeting was held at the White's Lake Legion on September 23. Shelley Thomas, Chair of the Resources Opportunity Centre in Terence Bay, chaired the Meeting. Shelley welcomed the participation of Municipal Council Candidates Reg Rankin - District 22, Gina Byrne - District 23, and Halifax West NDP Candidate Tamara Lorincz. Bill Estabrooks, MLA-Timberlea-Prospect, a regular attendee at COCO meetings was unable to attend due to other commitments.

Tamara Lorincz reported on the film and discussion about "The Story of Stuff", which outlines how to get folks to think critically about sustainable consumption and production, and reported on other events sponsored by the NS Environmental Network (www.nsen.ca).

WRWEO reported on the guided hike that took place on Sunday, September 21. The Shel-drake Lake Hypolimnetic project has resumed after some difficulties were resolved.

The Western Common Citizens Advisory Committee reported that EDM and Gordon Radcliff have been hired to develop a Management Plan for the Wilderness acres of the Western Common from Highways 103 to Brookside. A consultation process is being devised to gather information from the community on such issues as defining boundaries, environmental impacts by the Bayer's Lake and Ragged Lake developments, the ever expanding HRM landfill site, and wildlife connectivity corridors.

Councillor Reg Rankin reported that HRM has lost the court case concerning Drysdale Bog. He recommends a rezoning exercise to address the Industrial 3 zoning in Goodwood.

St. Margaret's Bay Stewardship Association, in concert with several community groups, sponsored two All Candidates meetings October 7 at the White's Lake Legion for District 22 and October 8 at the St. Margaret's Centre for District 23.

The ROC has been awarded a contract for managing the soon to be built Prospect Road Community Centre. The project, begun in 2003, has had a long history of community cooperation

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Wetland Hot Line

If you become aware of an action that has or is likely to have a negative impact on a wetland or watercourse, call the Bedford Office of NSDEL, **424-7773**, during regular business hours.

Emergency after hour situations can be reported to **1-800-565-1633**. The Coast Guard will dispatch the on call inspector.

COCO

The **Council of Community Organizations** is an important forum to share community intelligence. Meetings begin at **7 PM** and are scheduled for:

**November 13
Tantallon Public Library**

**January 15
Safety Minded ATV Club**

Everyone Welcome!

**Western Region
Community Council
Meetings**

October 27th

November 24th

December - No Meeting

Please call 490-4000 for time and location of the meeting.

IN MEMORIAM

Wilfrid Creighton (1904-2008)

Our oldest Trust member, Wilfrid Creighton, died on Sunday August 17, 2008 at his home in Halifax. Born in Halifax in May 1904, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Dalhousie in 1926 and then went on to study forestry at UNB in Fredericton, graduating in 1929 with a B.Sc. in Forestry. He worked with the International Paper Co, The Dominion Forest Service and the Canada Power and Paper Corporation. Between 1931 and 1934 he pursued post-graduate studies in forestry at the University of Munich and at the Schools of Forestry at Eberswalde and Tharandt in Germany. In 1934 he became the Nova Scotia Provincial Forester and in 1949 the Deputy Minister for the Nova Scotia Department Lands and Forests. During his watch he purchased over 500,000 acres of land for the Crown.

Wilf had a knack for solving problems by walking to the source and dealing with the issues using wit and common sense. He was very active in numerous professional organizations over his life, including: Forest Products Association of NS, Lunenburg Christmas Tree Producers Association, and the Canadian Institute of Forestry for which he served as national president.

Wilf received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from UNB in 1952 and an honorary Doctorate from Dalhousie University in 2004. After his retirement in 1969, he spent a great deal of time at his woodland and blueberry fields near Middle Musquodoboit. His lands have been Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified.

Throughout his life, Wilf was always very interested in and concerned about the environment and was always a staunch supporter of public lands. When the Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust was formed in 2001, he was one of the first to recognize the value of supporting an organization that is dedicated to conserving public land in its natural state for public use.

Wilf strongly cared about the need to protect public lands and attended the June 2 meeting with Minister Mark Parent at the NS Department of Environment when the Chebucto Wilderness Coalition presented its vision for protecting the public lands within Highways 103 and 333 under the Wilderness Areas Protection Act. His knowledge of forestry, world history, and his wisdom will be sorely missed.

He is survived by children Beth McGee and Hugh Creighton, three granddaughters, and a great grandson.



Wilfrid Creighton in his element, on his land, following Hurricane Juan.

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Layout - Jeff Parks

Charitable Donations

Charitable donations to support the work of the Trust may be made by contacting **Catherine King** at, **902- 823-3433**
An income tax receipt will be issued for your donation.
Thank you for your support!

Moose Watch

Anyone having knowledge of moose sightings, spoor or antlers on the Chebucto Peninsula is encouraged to contact **Jenny Costello** of the Department of Natural Resources .
902- 861-2560

The Bridge

If you would like to receive an electronic copy of **The Bridge**, please send an email to
Cilla Dawson
petencil@eastlink.ca
and type "subscribe" in the subject line.

COCO Continued...

with HRM in the development of community projects. The ROC model would serve other communities as well.

The Terence Bay Lighthouse Committee remains active in its goal to keep the Lighthouse repaired and the property accessible to the public. The Coast Guard is currently making repairs to the Lighthouse.

FBWHT reported on water quality monitoring activities on the Woodens and Prospect Rivers systems (see reports on page 2). The Trust remains very active in the work of CWC and Work continues on "The Walking Guide to the Old St. Margaret's Bay Road" for publication.

The Trust will host the next COCO Meeting on Thursday, Nov. 13 at the Tantallon Library.