



# HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES ON CAPE BRETON ISLAND  
LIEUX HISTORIQUES NATIONAUX DU CAP-BRETON

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## *Preserving a Shared Past*

The North Shore contains the remnants of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century French habitant pecheur occupation. The area was later colonized in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and became known as “Old Town” which has its own history and value within the local community.

The presence and growth of white spruce and alder along the North Shore of the Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site (FOLNHSC) threatens the integrity of the in situ cultural resources. Expanding root structures displace the resources while the threat of blow down of the mature conifers has potential to negatively impact the archaeological resources that lie just beneath the ground surface. The growth of alder and white spruce also contribute to the loss of cultural landscapes and view of the Fortress.

The Unama’ki Institute of Natural Resources Forestry Division has been contracted to remove the white spruce and alder from the North Shore. The UINR represents the five Mi’kmaq communities of Unama’ki and was formed to address First Nation's concerns regarding natural resources and their sustainability. It represents Cape Breton's First Nation's voice on natural resources and environmental concerns.



The purpose of this contract is to remove the trees that currently threaten the integrity of the in situ cultural resources in a manner that does not adversely impact on the resources.

It is essential to ensure that the project does not disturb or threaten the in situ resources, located just below the ground surface. An environmental assessment has been completed for this project and forms part of this contract.

Due to the fragility of the in situ resources, the forestry operation must be extremely low impact. Standard commercial forestry equipment is not appropriate for this project as the weight of machinery will cause damage to in situ cultural resources. Therefore power saws are being used for felling and a small forwarded known as the Forcat 2000 will be used to extract the merchantable timber.

Perry Lahey and Chad Magee of the Fire and Security staff have been assigned to



monitor the timber cutting, forwarding, chipping and burning activities to ensure that threats to in situ cultural resources are mitigated and safety procedures are followed.



### ***The Return of the Mortar***

On March 24, Fortress staff moved a large cast iron mortar into its display position in the lower level of the Visitor Reception Centre. This marked the return of a significant artefact some 250 years after it was removed and makes a fitting end to our 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration of the second siege held last year.

Following the second siege in 1758, the British took two large French cast iron mortars from Louisbourg to Halifax where, for many years, they graced either side of the entrance to the Citadel. One mortar was eventually transferred to the Canadian War Museum where it is now on display in their new building as a testament to the importance Louisbourg's second siege played in the formation of Canada. The other mortar was moved to Artillery Park below Citadel Hill.

More recently, the second mortar was displayed at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic as part of their exhibit commemorating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Louisbourg's second siege. After the exhibit's end, the Marcom Museum, which is responsible for the mortar, agreed to its loan to Louisbourg.

This mortar is large – it is a cast-iron trunnioned French mortar with separate cast iron bed. Together mortar and bed weigh 10,500 lbs.



Parks Canada wishes to acknowledge the role of the Canadian Armed Forces, through its Maritime Command Museum, in making this mortar available to the Fortress of Louisbourg on a long-term loan. The move of the mortar would not have been possible without the cooperation and assistance of the staff of the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, the riggers of the Fleet Maintenance Facility Cape Scott, the transport unit of the Sydney Garrison.

Fortress staff involved in the move were Jimmy MacIsaac, who spearheaded the move into the VRC, Harry Kennedy, Stan Pink, Brian Harpell, John Ward, Aubrey Harris, Peter Marenick and Mike Bagnell. Thanks to all for a job well done.

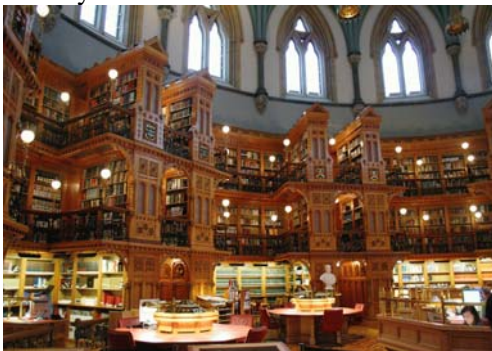
### ***INFORMATION MANAGEMENT - Launch of the Directive on Recordkeeping***

Judith Poulain Romard, Information Management Officer, Fortress of Louisbourg, just returned from Ottawa where she attended the 2009 Symposium on Recordkeeping in the Government of Canada held at Library Archives Canada. The event was a joint effort of Library Archives Canada (LAC) and Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS). The event was filled to capacity with close to 400 attending and with a waiting list.

The plenary included Recordkeeping in a Digital World, Information Management Policy Renewal and Outreach, Resource

Discovery, Publications Management and Government Recordkeeping as well as Recordkeeping in the context of litigation.

While attending the symposium Library Archives Canada was making a film and Judith was asked to participate. Judith in the film will be the one holding the sign "Education est ma vie". Judith and her husband Thomas also took time to tour the Legislative Library - Library of Parliament at the House of Commons. The photo shown here, courtesy of Thomas, is the interior of the Library of Parliament .



*Article and photo submitted by J.Romard*

### ***Boston Marathon***

On a warm fall day in October 2008, Doug Carter ran the Fiddler's Run in Sydney and qualified for the Boston Marathon. Doug achieved, in an astonishing short period, what many runners dream of their entire running life.

With many months of training behind him, Doug and his ever-patient wife, Kelly, recently packed the car and made the trip to Boston. With his new shirt, thanks to Kelly and old socks, Doug completed the Boston Marathon in 3:41:56. His time placed him 6th in a field of 11 Cape Breton Runners – Well Done!! (or 60th in a field of 96 Nova Scotian runners or 10810 in a field of 22849 runners).

### ***A Rare Visitor!!***

There was a rare visitor to the Fortress this month. A male Summer Tanager was spotted in the Administration and Compound areas and attracted lots of attention. Summer

Tanagers winter in Central and South America and breed in the southern US. A few showed up around the province several weeks ago, after some strong SW winds. Some were found dead after the cold, wet weather on Easter week-end. As the weather warms, this little fellow's chances for survival increase.

Thanks to Philip Burke, Cheryl Hutt and Alex Campbell for the terrific photographs and Susann Myers for confirming the species. *Good spotting All!*



### ***Energy Audit Report 2009***

Heather Davis has contracted CBCL Ltd., an engineering company, to conduct an energy audit of various building throughout the field unit. This audit took place over the past few months and their comprehensive final report is finished and submitted to us.

This report has been posted to the "G" drive under the folder "Common" for anyone to view.

### ***Adult Learning Program***

We would like to welcome Ginette Therrien to the Fortress of Louisbourg and wish her the best of luck in her assignment here with us.

She will be working with both Cultural Resources and the Asset Management sections for a period of 6 weeks each.

This program is designed to help individuals upgrade their education level and provide work experience. Welcome Ginette!

## ***News from AGB***

### ***The Sky's the Limit***

The Silver Dart centennial youth music project, *The Sky's the Limit*, got off to a great start on 'creation day' Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Heritage Presenter, Donna Johnson, provided the 22 students and their teachers with an inspiring immersion in the Bell story followed by a visit to Beinn Bhreagh led by AG Bell's great grandson, Hugh Muller.

After lunch the creative work began and musician/composer Scott Macmillan was very pleased with the results. He will continue to work with the students and their teachers via school visits and email as he arranges and orchestrates their creations for performance by the students during Celtic Colours 2009.

Students participating in this project represent 5 Cape Breton Island schools: Baddeck Academy, Glace Bay High, Waycobah First Nation School, NDA School-Cheticamp and Cape Breton Highlands Education Centre.



*Pictured with the youth participants on The Sky's the Limit 'creation day' are musician/composer Scott Macmillan (L) and Alexander G. and Mabel Bell's great grandson Hugh Muller (R).*

### ***International Marconi Day***

Parks Canada/Marconi National Historic Site of Canada in collaboration with the Sydney Amateur Radio Club offered a unique experience from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Marconi National Historic Site of Canada on

International Marconi Day, Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

International Marconi Day is a 24-hour amateur radio event held annually to celebrate Guglielmo Marconi's birth on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 1874. It is an opportunity for amateur radio operators around the world to make contact with historic Marconi sites using High Frequency communications similar to those used by Marconi and to gain an award for achieving the requisite number of Marconi stations worked.

The Sydney Amateur Radio Club operators were on site for the event as they have been for over two decades on this special day communicating by Morse Code and voice with other radio operators and Marconi stations around the world.

Visitors enjoyed the opportunity to experience the radio operators in action and were interested in the Morse Code equipment. A few of the younger visitors were comparing the use of Morse Code with text messaging.



*Sydney Amateur Radio Club operators Geoff Wilson and Jim Charlong are pictured with Glace Bay Tourism Coordinator Andrew Sark and family and a friend on International Marconi Day. The youth were interested in the workings of Morse Code and comparing it to text messaging.*

### ***Condolences***

Our sincere condolences are extended to Gary Pierrard on the loss of his mother Hilda (Mae) Pierrard, 77, who died in Victoria County Memorial Hospital, Baddeck, on Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

*Anyone wishing to contribute to the Hear Ye! Hear Ye!, please contact Donna MacNeil at [donna.macneil@pc.gc.ca](mailto:donna.macneil@pc.gc.ca) or telephone 733-3551.*