



HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

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

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Replacement of Canon Carriages

The project of replacing the 24 pound canon carriages is well under way at the artisan shop. Jimmy MacIsaac and John Ward with the help of Miles MacDonald are steadily working away this winter. The project should take roughly 8 weeks to complete 6 carriages. In this picture Jimmy and Miles are burning the holes through the axles for the pins to hold the wheels in place.



Greening the Workplace – March 2010 Low Flow Automatic Taps

You may have seen the appearance of low flow automatic taps in your workplace washrooms. This article will provide a little feedback on questions about these new devices.

Why are we replacing perfectly good taps? Why not wait until the old ones wear out?

These new style of taps are achieving two of our green goals. They are reducing our water use, and reducing our requirement for electricity to heat that water. Our current taps could last another 10 years and over that period of time we will have wasted thousands of litres of water and used hundreds of KWh of electricity for no reason. With the change we have an immediate 30% savings in water consumption and energy reduction from a single tap.

What good are we doing for the environment or for the park?

By conserving water we allow more water to remain in the natural environment. The more water that we use, the more that enters our septic systems and the more energy our systems must use to purify that water before it is released back to the environment. More water in the septic also means more trips for the septic pump truck in some locations resulting in more diesel emissions. The most significant change for the Ingonish and Fortress of Louisbourg areas will be



with the reduction of cost through the purchase of water.

When it comes to the saving of electricity, we all know that less electricity means less cost for us. The use of these taps reduces the amount of hot water that we use, thereby reducing our electrical cost.

Also, as you are aware much of NS electricity comes from the burning of coal at the coal fired plants. Every KWh that we reduce, we also reduce greenhouse gas emissions. With over 120 taps in the field unit, this can make a big difference.

OK, then we save some money and help the planet, but from a financial point of view, will we ever get our money back for this change?

Payback is a term used for understanding if the change will pay for itself. For these taps, the cost was \$250. Under the Nova Scotia Power Project ½ of the cost is paid for by NSPI. With a savings of \$41 per year for an individual tap, the payback is about 6 years, well within the guidelines of acceptable payback. With over 120 taps in the field unit, ultimately we will be saving \$5000 annually. The payback to the environment is immeasurable.

When I finish washing my hands the water continues to run. Isn't this a waste of water?

These taps can be set to run for 2, 12 or 42 seconds. We have chosen the 12 second setting. Signs are posted in the washrooms on best practices for washing hands and we have followed these guidelines. Two presses on the tap results in 24 seconds of run time allowing you to complete the hand

washing process as recommended by Health Canada. These taps are low flow taps as well, so even if the water runs for a few seconds, the loss is far less, than from previous taps.

Are they more hygienic than previous taps?

Taps can harbour bacteria since they are the first thing someone touches before you begin the hand washing process. With the old style taps you were required to touch the tap after you had finished washing your hands to shut it off. With these taps, after the final rinse, you can just walk away.

What's happening to the old taps that have been removed?

Some of the taps are being saved in case we have breakdowns throughout field unit, before the complete changeover is in place. Unwanted taps go to the metal recycler so the metal can be reused.

Submitted by Heather Davis

Day of Mourning

Please remember April 28th is the annual Day of Mourning for lives lost or injured in the workplace. For more information on this, check out the following website:

<http://www.ccohs.ca/>

News from AGB

On the morning of March 10th, 2010, the 134th anniversary of the day when Alexander Graham Bell spoke the first sentence over the telephone,

TransCanada highway 105 was designated Mabel and Alexander Graham Bell Way by the Province of Nova Scotia.

Following a Parks Canada welcome by Superintendent Aynsley MacFarlane, MLA Gordie Gosse, on behalf of Bill Estabrooks, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, announced the designation here at Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site. "Naming Highway 105 in honour of Mabel and Alexander Graham Bell serves as an ongoing tribute to their contributions to the community, the province and the world," said Mr. Gosse.

On behalf of the Bell family, Hugh Muller, great grandson, said this designation is a great honour to his great grandparents and one all of the Bell descendants will enjoy.

The signs will be located at each end of the TransCanada Hwy 105. The west end sign will be installed just east of the Port Hastings Rotary, the east end sign will be installed near the Park Street intersection and the Hwy 125/TCH 105 interchange. Installation is anticipated by the end of April.

Other highway designations include Peacekeepers Way, Miners Memorial, and Veterans Memorial Highway. In the interest of safety, the highway will continue to be referred to as Highway 105 by emergency personnel.



Crowd gathers around the unveiled sign design for the Mabel and Alexander Graham Bell Way

On-Site Signage

Most of the new on-site signage has arrived for the AGB, St. Peters Canal and Marconi sites and will be installed soon.



Robert Moore, General Works, is pictured with the on-site signage (it's reflective!) which will soon be installed at Marconi and Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Sites

Glace Bay – Podhu School Twinning

At the most recent Marconi Connection meeting in Glace Bay on March 16th, discussion continued regarding twinning a Glace Bay School with a school in Podhu, England. Bridgeport School has agreed to participate.

The next step is to find a school in the Poldhu that is keen to participate. The goal is to have the students communicate at the beginning of the school year perhaps initially by postcards depicting their locale and continue contact until June when the Glace Bay students will visit Marconi National Historic Site to communicate by wireless radio with the Poldhu area students. Sydney Amateur Radio Club will facilitate the wireless communication and is presently looking into finding an amateur radio club/operator in the Poldhu area that can facilitate for the students in England.

Congratulations, Greg

A gathering was held to say good bye to Greg Joyce who is leaving us to move out west to the Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site. Greg has accepted a job as Visitor Experience Manager for this site. We all wish him good luck and happiness in this new endeavour.

Becki Duggan is famous for her theme cakes and she certainly did a wonderful job on the cake for Greg. Pictured below is the “Garden” cake she made for Greg – good job Becki!



Greg seemed pleased too!



The VE staff offered a memento to Greg in the hope that he would never forget King Louis XV and his Fortress of Louisbourg roots!



Condolences

Our sincere condolences to Anne Marie Coutinho and her family on the death of their mother, Olive Chiasson, on March 21, 2010.

Safety Bit

SAFETY

is as simple as

A B C....

ALWAYS BE

CAREFUL !!



*Anyone wishing to contribute to the Hear Ye!
Hear Ye!, please contact Donna MacNeil at
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