



# The Coastline

December 2013

*Preserving Our  
Past  
Developing Our  
Future*

## Season's Greetings from Warden Linda Gregory



As another Christmas season is upon us I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire community for making 2013 another successful year for the Municipality of the District of Digby.

Together we have made great progress in a number of areas important to building a stronger sustainable community, and developing a sense of cooperative neighborhood spirit.

At this time of year we always seem to think in terms of a seasonal "white" holiday. But during the past year we were actively thinking "green" as well. The year 2013 witnessed a continuing commitment by the Municipality of Digby to establish itself as one of Canada's leading sustainable communities. We are being recognized around the globe as a leader in the pursuit of renewable energy initiatives, particularly in the field of tidal energy.

We're focused on building a future that sustains our community's values while at the same time introduces new economic development opportunities to our business community and provides exciting new challenges to local innovators, especially our young people.

In terms of economic development we were pleased to note that, after extended efforts and diligent presentations by so many of our citizens, and through cooperative consultations at all levels of government, the announcement was made that the Government of Canada would be seeking to secure a new ferry for the Digby to Saint John service. Congratulations to all who worked so hard to make this possible, especially the team at the Bay of Fundy Transportation Association for their years of hard work. And we're continuing to build stronger trade and communications ties with the City of Saint John to build and sustain this service for decades to come.

The Municipality also worked closely with the Digby and Area Board of Trade and the newly created Digby Development Agency, another of the increasing shared service initiatives between the Municipality and the Town of Digby, to explore and secure new growth opportunities for our community.

It's been a busy and productive year on many fronts; recruiting more doctors and medical professionals to address our public health needs; applying pressure for the completion of Highway 101; and developing an innovative "Welcoming Community" agenda. All the while working with staff to create a more consistent and focused communications strategy to keep citizens up to date and to better facilitate the exchange of their ideas with Councillors and staff.

With the help and support of the entire community we were able to accomplish much in 2013. And, thanks to an excellent staff and so many of our engaged citizens, we were able to do it while maintaining the existing tax rate. At this time of year it's natural to reflect on the many gifts we receive individually and collectively, and here in our community there is an abundance of life's blessings. But let's also remember that these endowments are not always shared equally, and take the time to share and assist those who may need our care.

We share a most wondrous community, in a setting of unmatched beauty. On behalf of Staff and my colleagues on Council, we wish you all a safe and enjoyable Merry Christmas, and a most productive and Happy New Year



# South West Regional Enterprise Network (REN) *Recruitment of Board of Directors to Begin*

The Towns of Digby and Yarmouth, along with the Districts of Argyle, Clare, Digby, and Yarmouth have all signed a Declaration of Cooperation indicating that the municipal units recognize and value the role of the REN in delivering support to economic development in the region. The document established the membership of the Liaison and Oversight Committee; the level of funding each municipal unit commits to the REN and supports the absence of political

representation on the REN Board of Directors.

The Liaison and Oversight Committee is composed of municipal and provincial representatives. The Committee will be responsible for approving the regional economic development strategy, evaluating the REN's overall performance, appointments and succession planning for the Board of Directors, as well as financial oversight and appointing an Audit Committee.

The Board of Directors will be a competency-based board with extensive business experience but may also include other community or academic leaders. The Board will be assembled in such a way that it is representative of the competencies of a senior business executive team. Liaison and Oversight Committees strengthen the Board of Directors' accountability to funders and ensure that Boards deliver on their

strategy.

A nominating and recruitment committee will oversee the selection process which is expected to begin late this year or early 2014.



## Ottawa Mission a Success

A delegation from Digby travelled to the national Marine Renewable Resources Conference in Ottawa recently to showcase the renewable tidal energy developments and opportunities available in our area.

The Municipality's Deputy Warden Jimmy MacAlpine, Digby Mayor Ben Cleveland; Renewable Energy and Climate Change Program Coordinator Terry Thibodeau and Port Manager Jeff Sunderland met with delegates and hosted a small reception in the nation's capital on November 19 and 20.

The delegation also found time to meet with West Nova MP Greg

Kerr and Stephen Outhouse (a native of Freeport), the Chief of Staff to federal Fisheries Minister Gail Shea; Nova Scotia Energy Minister Andrew Younger; and other Members of Parliament to brief them on the remarkable progress being made in the Digby area.

Over a busy 48 hour period they additionally met with a Scottish delegation and the Scottish High Commission; representatives from the Research Council of Canada and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency.

"It was an incredibly busy schedule, but we accomplished a great deal and made a valuable number of key industry contacts," said Deputy Warden MacAlpine,

adding, "And there's absolutely no doubt that Digby has a high profile on the world stage when it comes to renewable energy initiatives, especially tidal potential."

Mayor Cleveland spoke to delegates at the close of the conference, underlining the fact that the Digby area is determined to be a leader in Canadian tidal development project development.



Municipality of Digby Deputy Warden Jimmy MacAlpine briefs MRRC delegates on current tidal energy progress and future plans for Digby.

# Farewell to Colleagues

Charles Ross has retired after 19 years of service with the municipality. Charles started in 1994 as one of the first dispatchers at the Digby Annapolis Regional Airport. "I will miss the job," said Charles. "I enjoyed working with local fire departments and RCMP from a dispatch perspective. It has been a pleasure to work with Dispatch staff and I plan on continuing to torment them with the occasional visit. I feel it is time to move on and slow down a little and focus on things I want to do. I may even pick up a guitar. I love music. Its always been something I wanted to learn. My wife, Rosie,

and I may do a bit of travelling and stay active."

Gordon Wilson, former Deputy CAO for the municipality, is now the new Clare -Digby MLA. Gordon started with the municipality in 2005 and over the past 8 years has worked with many sectors in the community. "The municipality is a good place to get stuff done," said Gordon. "It is a very constructive environment; people work together effectively. The renovation of the municipal office in 2010 is my most positive example of this. It is one of the most rewarding jobs I have had. I look forward to continuing to work with all three municipal units in my riding of Clare- Digby." Both Charles & Gordon wish everyone the Merriest of Christmases.



Gordon Wilson



Charles Ross

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## The Feather in Our Cap

The Municipality of the District of Digby is a rural and coastal administrative region in Southwest Nova Scotia, with an economy that is heavily based on resource extraction. Like other municipalities throughout Canada, it is vulnerable to the effects of climate change, which is a global phenomenon that is expected to increase average air temperatures and precipitation levels, cause sea level rise, and increase the frequency of extreme weather events.

As part of the Canada-Nova Scotia Agreement on the

Transfer of Federal Gas Tax Revenues, municipalities in Nova Scotia must prepare a **Municipal Climate Change Action Plan (MCCAP)** by December 2013. This gas tax funding will allow municipalities to invest in environmentally sustainable infrastructure projects that contribute to reduced greenhouse gas emissions, cleaner water or cleaner air (Canada-Nova Scotia Infrastructure Secretariat, 2011). The MCCAP will help municipalities become more socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable by preparing for climate change adaption and mitigation (Canada-Nova Scotia

Infrastructure Secretariat, 2011). MCCAP include the following:

- a) A description of actions, measures, practices and initiatives undertaken by the municipality in order to reduce community and corporate green house gas emissions;
- b) A description of actions, measures, practices and initiatives undertaken by the municipality in order to adapt and respond to impacts resulting from climate change; and
- c) A resolution of municipal council amending an ICSP and a record of public participation.

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## NEW YEARS DAY LEVEE



### AT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE

12548 HWY 217 SEABROOK

2 - 4 PM

COME RING IN THE FIRST DAY  
OF THE NEW YEAR



# Council Activities

## District #1 Jimmy MacAlpine

\*I attended the Library Board Association of Nova Scotia Conference held in Truro from October 25-27. I am the Chair of the Western Regional Library Board.

\*Attended the UNSM Conference in Halifax and finished up my duties as the Past President, having served on the Board for the past 6 years.

\*Attended Remembrance Day services in Bear River and Smith Cove

\*Traveled to Ottawa with "Team Digby", through the Digby Development Agency to promote Digby as the service centre for Tidal Development in the Bay of Fundy. During the trip we met with MP Greg Kerr, Minister Gail Shea's Chief of Staff and also with MP Gerald Keddy .

## District #2 Maritza Adams

\*Attended the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities Annual Fall Conference in Halifax.

\*Laid a wreath on behalf of the Municipality on Remembrance Day at the Barton Baptist Church.

## District #3 Linda Gregory

\*It has been a wonderfully busy time for activities and functions.

\*I have had the privilege of attending various community breakfasts.

\*Have met with various physicians looking at our area.

\*Was present at the Digby & Area Sports Hall of Fame Induction ceremony.

\*Spoke at the Acacia Trail reopening.

\*I was present at the Bay of Fundy SEA Update Community Forum.

\*I was in attendance at the UNSM regional meeting.

\*I participated and spoke at the WRR volunteer appreciation bash.

\*I attended a recreation conference as well as the UNSM conference.

\*I was present at the public meeting on our installation of a 600 kw generator as part of the Climate Change Action Plan.

\*I participated in the Municipality Christmas light exchange.

## District #4 David Tudor

## District #5 George Manzer

Attended UNSM annual meetings in Halifax on Nov.6-7-8  
Nova Scotia Power has finished upgrades to the Sissiboo power facilities.

Christmas parade in Weymouth, Dec 21st at 6:00 p.m.

Thanks to Foodland(Weymouth) for the tree lighting ceremony and festivities on Nov. 23rd

Our website has had a makeover!! Take a look at [www.dala.digby.ns.ca](http://www.dala.digby.ns.ca).

We offer free tutoring to help you prepare to write the GED tests (evening hours).

GED info at <http://gonssal.ca>

Phone: 245-7530



## Milestone Certificates

Ruth & John Roop Celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary October 18

## Municipal Council Meetings 6 pm

Committee of the Whole	January 13
Council	January 27
Committee of the Whole	February __
Council	February __

## Directory of Municipal Services Councillors

### Warden Linda Gregory

245-2616 [lgregory@municipality.digby.ns.ca](mailto:lgregory@municipality.digby.ns.ca)

### Deputy Warden Jimmy MacAlpine

245-4651 [jmacalpine@municipality.digby.ns.ca](mailto:jmacalpine@municipality.digby.ns.ca)

### Maritza Adams

245-6671 [madams@municipality.digby.ns.ca](mailto:madams@municipality.digby.ns.ca)

### George Manzer

837-4353 [gmanzer@municipality.digby.ns.ca](mailto:gmanzer@municipality.digby.ns.ca)

### David Tudor

839-2630 [dtudor@municipality.digby.ns.ca](mailto:dtudor@municipality.digby.ns.ca)

### Municipal Offices

General Inquiries	245-4777
Building & Fire Inspector	245-6776
Airport	245-5885
Dog Control Officer	245-5885
REMO	245-6252
Heritage	245-4757
Renewable Energy/Climate Change	245-4767

## Milestone Certificates

Council provides a certificate of recognition to groups and individuals for significant milestones or achievements. To find out more go to:

[www.digbydistrict.ca](http://www.digbydistrict.ca) for details.

The **Coastline** is published by the Municipality of the District of Digby. Any comments can be sent to: P.O. Box 429, Digby, N.S. B0V 1A0 or dropped off at 12548

Highway 217 weekdays from 8:30 - 4:30. Or call 245-4777 or e-mail [heritage@municipality.digby.ns.ca](mailto:heritage@municipality.digby.ns.ca)

