

The Coastline



April 2016 Preserving Our Past ~ Developing Our Future

Digby Area Represented at the International Conference on Ocean Energy in Edinburgh Scotland

This past February Renewable Energy & Climate Change Program Coordinator, Terry Thibodeau attended the 2016 International Conference on Ocean Energy. This was the first year the conference was held in a European country. The conference is the largest of its kind in the world and attracts world leaders in ocean energy development. Terry was part of the Canadian delegation that included ACOA; Federal Department of Foreign Affairs representative; Provincial Minister of Energy, Michel Samson; the Port of Saint John; the Digby Development Agency and 15 regional private sector companies with interests in ocean energy. The conference explored opportunities from around the world that are being used to harness ocean energy. Terry represented the interest in our area to be the port of choice as the viable tidal service centre to conduct repair and maintenance for tidal turbines. The

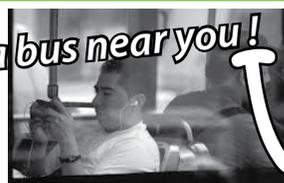


Renewable Energy & Climate Change Program Coordinator, Terry Thibodeau and Minister of Energy Michel Samson

four-day conference was also an opportunity to meet with industry suppliers and government counterparts to identify potential emerging funding sources. The conference also covered the financial and technology risks associated with ocean energy. Terry met with several companies whose main business activities support the ocean energy sector on a global scale.

One of the potential outcomes from the conference is a Tidal Summit event to be held in Digby and will involve key players in the industry to discuss the environmental challenges and potentials of tidal energy in the region.

Ocean energy research and development is a growing industry that will be a part of global energy needs in our near future. Tidal energy is not a new concept and has been studied for decades in various countries around the world. Harnessing this tidal energy will be a momentous achievement.



WiFi

Highway 101 Update



Members of the Highway 101 Task Force Committee met with engineers from the NS Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal in March to discuss Phase 1 of the new highway from Digby to Weymouth. Phase 1 will include the section of the highway from Digby to Marshalltown. The final design for Phase 1 is expected to be complete by April 2016 with land acquisition completed by the end of the year. Current timelines include the following:

Construction design completed December 2016

Clearing – December 2016 to March 2017

Construction to begin – Spring 2017

Final paving – 2018

Highway open- Fall of 2018

Phase 1 will include a recreational trail bridge just north of the Flat Iron Road. This will provide connectivity to the trail corridor for ATV's, bicycles and walkers. A

bridge structure is also needed at Seeley Brook, which is close to the Middle Cross Road. A temporary "at grade" crossing near the Middle Cross Road will be designed to merge the existing Highway 1 with the new 101. Phase 2 has not yet been determined but it is expected that the new interchange will be included in Phase 2 near the Middle Cross Road.

There will be a property access road on the north edge of the right of way boundary of the highway. Also planned is a roundabout for the south side of exit 26 which will be a single lane. The next meeting of the committee is expected to take place around the end of September.

Municipality of the District of Digby Low Income Property Tax Exemption

Municipal Council has approved a low income tax reduction in property taxes in an amount not exceeding **\$ 250** for property owners who reside on the property and whose total income from all sources for all individuals residing in the home for 2015 does not exceed **\$ 24,000**.

This reduction can only be granted with respect to taxable property owned and occupied by the applicant for at least 183 days of the year as his/her principle residence. The property must have no outstanding tax arrears from previous years.

You must claim all income for the previous year **except** War Veterans Allowance or death and disability pension for veterans and their dependents.

Applications with Proof of Income, including the Notice of Assessment from the Canadian Revenue Agency are requested to be returned by **JUNE 30, 2016** to the Municipal Office in Seabrook. Applications are available at the Municipal Office or on our webpage at www.digbydistrict.ca

The province also has a Property Tax Rebate for seniors. Information is available at www.novascotia.ca/sns/access/individuals/citizen-rebates.asp

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF DIGBY

APPLICATION RESPECTING 2016/17 TAX EXEMPTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the District of Digby, that an exemption from taxes for 2016/17 be granted pursuant to Section 69 of the Municipal Government Act in an amount not exceeding \$250.00 and; THAT the exemption be granted to every person with respect to taxable property in the Municipality of the District of Digby whose income from all sources in 2015 does not exceed \$24,000.00 (including income of all individuals residing in the home), and THAT the exemption be granted only in respect of property owned and occupied as his/her home, and THAT the property have no outstanding tax arrears from previous years.

APPLICATION FORMS are available at the Municipal Office, Seabrook, and must be returned no later than **JUNE 30, 2016**.

New Home for Digby Ground Search & Rescue



Digby Ground Search and Rescue has found themselves a new home! DGSAR moved into a hangar at the Digby Annapolis Regional Airport last fall. The Municipality had been discussing various options with DGSAR for a number of years. When the hangar owned by the Municipality became vacant over the summer of 2015, it seemed like a great fit for both organizations.

The 2,400 square foot hangar allows search and rescue to keep all of the vehicles, trailers and equipment indoors. There are also a couple of small offices in the building and DGSAR president Larry Brooks says his wife is very pleased to be getting two rooms in her house back once all the files and computers have been moved to the new location.

Larry says the hangar is good for the group for a number of reasons; it allows them to store everything in one place; it will extend the life of a number of their vehicles; it will let them move forward with painting and improvements to a number of their vehicles as well.

The hangar is heated with a hot air furnace that burns used oil and

the group is getting used to operating that. The Municipality has provided the group with a small grant to help cover the power used at the new facility. Warden Linda Gregory says she is thrilled to be able help this dedicated group of volunteers.

Bear River Fire Department New Pumper Truck



This fire truck is the new addition to the Bear River Fire Department. The truck is 31 feet long and can carry 1000 gallons of water. The new truck is equipped with the latest firefighting equipment which is a requirement for fire protection standards in the province.

Grass Burning



If you plan to burn grass or brush this spring please remember burning is conducted from 2 pm to 8 am.

Industrial burning will require a permit from the Department of Natural Resources at 173 Haida Street Cornwallis or call: 902-245-2164

For information on area fire bans please go to: novascotia.ca/burnsafe or call 1 855-564-2876

Council Meetings

Council April 25 6 pm

COTW May 9 4:30 pm

Council May 24 6 pm

COTW June 6 4:30 pm



Municipal Dog Control Officer
Scott Cromwell

Municipal Dog Control



Digby's Dog Control Officer, Scott Cromwell, responds to complaints regarding the dog by-law such as dogs barking between the hours of 9pm to 9am and dogs running at large.

Misuse of this by-law can lead to fines. Any complaints regarding abused or neglected dogs please call the office at 245-5885..

Unclaimed dogs can be adopted for a small fee.

For more info on Digby's Dog Control Bylaw, please refer to the Digby Municipality website at www.digbydistrict.ca

Council Activities

Jimmy MacAlpine District #1

- * I attended the Black African Heritage Gala Dinner .
- * I attended a meeting with Warden Gregory to discuss tidal turnbines.
- * Attended a Rural Caucus meeting where there was a good discussion about the lack of Internet service in Nova Scotia.; also discussed tree trimming by Nova Scotia Power and the funding announcement with regards to municipalities in the Federal Budget.
- * On March 23 I attended a public meeting held at the Digby Legion hosted by concerned members of the community with regards to the lack of doctors and health care. A committee has been established by community members to look at the health care issues for the Digby area and if you would like to help please contact Tony Kelly.
- * On March 25th I met with Warden Ritchie , MLA Gordon Wilson, MP Colin Fraser's EA and members of the Bear River Board of Trade to discuss the lack of water serving the downtown businesses. Hopefully a solution to this issue will come forward in the very near future.

Maritza Adams District #2

- * Attended the Federation of Canadian Municipalities-Sustainability Conference in Ottawa.

Warden Linda Gregory District #3

Well, Spring is finally here. It has been a busy last 2 months attending various meetings and functions. We are working hard on our budget for the Municipality. One thing I attend is the Senior's Day at the Curling Centre on the third Thursday of the month. It is a wonderful event where you get to play BINGO, have a delicious lunch and you can play cards into the afternoon, all for

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 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

the low cost of \$2.00. Just call Cindy at 902 245 5006 to register to attend. I hope to see you there.

I attended a workshop on Being a Champion Engaging Women and Girls in Physical Activity. We all need to be physically active. I also attended the Rural Caucus meeting on Concerns in the Rural Areas of the Province. I further attended the Health Coalition on March 23rd 2016. Our Weymouth Doctor Recruiting Committee is working diligently on recruiting 1 or 2 doctors for the Weymouth area.

I volunteered during the 2016 Everest Canadian Senior Curling Championships held from March 28th to April 2nd 2016.

On a personal note my mother, Edith Trimper, hits a milestone and turns 95 years old on April 1st 2016. I hope I am in as great a shape as she is as I get older.

Linda Gregory Warden District of Digby

902 245 4253 (o) 902 245 2616 (h) 902 247 0356 (c)

David Tudor District #4

- * I have failed so far in bringing Internet to Digby Neck but I have not given up trying
- * Assisting various groups in accessing funds
- * Working to increase public trails
- * Looking out for those who need assistance the most

George Manzer District #5

- * Attended the Africian Heritage Gala in Digby
- * Attended the Trans Canada Pipeline presentation in Digby and the Digby Health Coalition meeting.

Directory of Municipal Services

Councillors

Warden Linda Gregory

245-2616 lgregory@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Deputy Warden Jimmy MacAlpine

245-4651 jmacalpine@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Maritza Adams

245-6671 madams@municipality.digby.ns.ca

George Manzer

837-4353 gmanzer@municipality.digby.ns.ca

David Tudor

839-2630 dtudor@municipality.digby.ns.ca

Municipal Offices

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|---------------------------------|--------------|
| General Inquiries | 902-245-4777 |
| Building & Fire Inspector | 902-245-6776 |
| Airport | 902-245-5885 |
| Dog Control Officer | 902-245-5885 |
| REMO | 902-245-6252 |
| Heritage | 902-245-4757 |
| Renewable Energy/Climate Change | 902-245-4767 |