

## Ntl Liberal Caucus Ignatieff tour to end in Baddeck

by Jim Morrow

Sydney-Victoria MP Mark Eyking had a hard time keeping the excitement out of his voice as host of the National Caucus retreat for the Liberal Party of Canada August 29th to September 1st.

"Party leader Michael Ignatieff will be finishing his cross country tour in Baddeck," Mr. Eyking told *The Victoria Standard*. "With close to 150 MPs Senators and their families all staying in the Baddeck area their presence should be quite beneficial to the local economy."

This does not include the media who have been following Mr. Ignatieff across the country all summer.

Mr. Eyking said there will be an open house for everyone to attend on August 30th at 5:30 p.m. at Inverary Resort. "It should be a good time to meet our caucus members and Mr. Ignatieff."

On Monday Liberal cabinet critics will tour various locations to assess local issues.

"I am eager to show off Victoria County and point out our challenges and our successes," Mr. Eyking said.

Tuesday, all day, and Wednesday morning there will be caucus meetings and on Wednesday afternoon the meetings will adjourn and members are most likely to hit County golf courses.

As host Mr. Eyking is inviting everyone to the open house on the Monday night. "I am confident Mr. Ignatieff will have learned a great deal on his summer tour and it should be quite interesting to hear what he has to say."

## Multiple sources

# County has great potential for renewable energy



Luciano Lisi (L) President and Chief Financial Officer of Cape Breton Explorations Ltd. explains his company's approach to renewable energy projects to Victoria County Council on August 9th. Councillors Larry Dauphinee (C) and David Donovan (R) are also pictured.

by Jim Morrow

Is renewable energy one of those mythic goals humankind has always striven for (the fountain of youth, the goose that lays the golden egg or perpetual motion all come to mind) but so far has found elusive?

Cape Breton Explorations Ltd. a renewable energy development company whose President and Chief Financial Officer, Luciano Lisi, came to Victoria County Municipal Council on August 9th to open the door for discussions on developing Victoria County's renewable energy sources.

Mr. Lisi explained to Council that Cape Breton Explorations Ltd. (CBEx) is a private company conceiving and developing renewable energy products in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Ontario.

Mr Lisi said, "Nova Scotia is rich in natural resources which are ideal for wind, wave, hydro, and biomass development. It is also in close proximity to the New England market in the United States which is home to 14 million people who import 90% of their energy requirements from their neighbors, including Canada."

In April 2010, Nova Scotia introduced a provincial Renewable Electricity Plan that makes the commitment to 25% renewable electric power by 2015 law. It also adds an objective of 40% renewable electricity by 2020, which is the most aggressive plan in North America.

Part of the renewable electricity plan is to implement a series of feed-in tariffs for locally-owned projects. Called the COMFIT program, the Community-

Based Feed-in Tariffs program is to encourage the development of local renewable energy projects by municipalities, First Nations, co-operatives, and non-profit groups.

The government's Renewable Electricity Plan proposes building 300 MW of new renewable capacity by 2015 in three equal branches: one for the provincial utility, one for independent power producers, and one for community-owned projects. Significantly, the plan proposes reducing coal-fired generation from 75% of supply to 40% of supply by 2020.

Mr. Lisi recognizes that most locally owned projects do not have the experience, expertise or financial backing develop their resources. By partnering with the Municipality or community

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## Deputy Minister of Health at Highland Manor

# All questions not answered by visit

by Jim Morrow

The Deputy Minister of Health, Kevin McNamara, paid a visit to Highland Manor in Neil's Harbour on August 13th.

The purpose of his visit was to tell the Highland Manor Board and Administration that the 19 bed seniors residence would not be closed and that all of the short term deficiencies identified by the Fire Marshall would be addressed.

This was welcome news to all concerned.

Mr. McNamara told Highland Manor Administrator, Esther Blakeney,

to get a contractor in to look at the work that needs to be done to fulfill the Fire Marshall's requirements.

Ms. Blakeney although pleased with the initial response from the Deputy Minister, still has serious concerns for the facility. In the short term Ms. Blakeney has concerns with the sitting room being limited to ten people. Not all residents can enjoy the sitting room at one time nor can it accommodate family, friends and loved ones who come to visit.

"It is not fair to staff or administration to make the decision as to who can

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## Human-coyote conflicts

# Coyote behaviour and human response

by Jim Morrow

In the early morning of August 9th, 2010 in the Broad Cove campground of Cape Breton Highlands National Park, a 16 year old female, who was sleeping outside a tent, received two bite wounds to the back of her head from a coyote. She received treatment at Buchanan Memorial Hospital in Neil's Harbour and was released.

Considering this a serious incident, immediate measures were taken to respond to the situation in accordance with Parks Canada guidelines. Parks Canada is conducting patrols, and has set traps in an effort to capture this animal

and is searching for additional clues.

Elaine Wallace, Manager, Visitor Experience, Cape Breton Highlands National Park said, "It is difficult to predict why a coyote would behave in this way. Coyotes are wild animals, have a natural fear of humans and tend to avoid contact with them, but like all wildlife, they can be unpredictable. This coyote has likely been habituated which happens over time as the animal gets used to and no longer fears humans."

Parks Canada is working with experts in coyote behaviour and ecology, wildlife management, and human

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