

By Election Nov. 20th

## District # 8 declared vacant

by Jim Morrow

Victoria County Council started its session on September 13th with a moment of silent remembrance for Robert MacLellan.

The late Mr. MacLellan had represented District #8 for 19 years and was a sitting member of council until his passing on August 30th.

Under the Municipal Government Act, a municipality must have a by-election in a district eleven weeks after it is declared vacant.

As Council declared District #8 vacant on September 13th and looked at the calendar as to when the most advantageous time to hold a by-election might be, it concluded that Saturday, November 20th would be the best date.

District 8 is comprised of the area north of Effie's Brook and includes the communities of South Harbour, Dingwall, Cape North, Sunrise, Big Intervale, Aspy Bay, Sugar Loaf, Bay Road Valley, St. Margaret's Village, Bay St. Lawrence, Capstick and Black Point to the Victoria/Inverness border.

Nominations must be filed at the office of the Returning Officer at the County Court House in Baddeck on nomination day by Tuesday, 26th October, 2010, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., or by appointment only during normal office hours (8:30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.) in the two week period pre-

see Nominations, page three

## Power outages frustrate residents



Restoring power after Hurricane Earl was a time consuming activity. This crew from Neguac, New Brunswick worked to restore power in Middle River. Other areas in the County have suffered further outages from wind damage to power lines and surrounding dead trees falling on the lines. Calls are being made for more line maintenance by NSP.

Nona MacDermid

## County hires Sustainable Development Officer

by Jim Morrow

Victoria County has hired an economic development officer.

Nona MacDermid will have assumed her responsibilities for the Municipality as of Monday, September 20th.

Ms. MacDermid, a native of Wreck Cove and who presently owns a consulting business based in Sydney Mines spoke to Council on September 13th.

She told them there was no definable problem so there was no knowledge to find a solution.

She did not know how large Victoria County's problems were nor did she want to imply that they were large, but she used the analogy of cooking an ele-

phant.

"How do you cook an elephant?" she asked. "One piece at a time," she answered suggesting that any problem can be solved if it is dealt with one manageable piece at a time.

She let Council know that prioritizing had to be something that they all agreed on and that she looked forward to her work with the County as an adventure and an amazing opportunity.

She plans on touring each district with each councillor in the near future and said that she will have an office in Baddeck

Her first responsibility on her first day will be attending the County's Economic Development "Strategy Forum

#2 - Getting to Action" on the 20th of September.

This forum is a follow-up to a session put on by Gordon McIntosh of the Local Government Leadership Institute last December which recommended the County consider a leadership role in enhancing the region's sustainable economic development. Mr. McIntosh suggested Council hire a sustainable development officer, set up a sustainable development committee and organize this second forum to focus on development of the 2010 work program, roles of the sustainability committee, sustainability officer and Council, as well as outline the expectations

see Nona, page two

## Bras d'Or Lakes Biosphere Reserve

# Nomination document endorsed by Canada

South Side Boularderie

The Bras d'Or Lake and its watershed are one step closer to official designation as a UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Reserve. The Bras d'Or Lakes Biosphere Reserve Association submitted their 321 page nomination document to the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Committee of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO in Ottawa in June. It included the signatures of the provincial Ministers of the Environment, Natural Resources, and Economic and Rural Development.

The MAB committee met in Ottawa on August 26th and the application was approved with the endorsement of the-

head reviewer, Dr. Fred Roots.

By the end of September, the submission will be forwarded by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO with their blessing to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and then on to Paris to the UNESCO Mab International Advisory Committee on Biosphere Reserves. They have four options: 1. to approve; 2. approve pending submission of some additional specific information; 3. defer until evidence is provided or clarified about how some specific criterion for a Biosphere Reserve is fulfilled; or 4. not approve.

see Optimistic, page two

## Ignatieff appoints

# Mark Eyking as Grits Rural Critic

Special

Sydney-Victoria MP Mark Eyking has been named Liberal Critic for Rural Affairs by Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff.

"By creating this new critic area Mr. Ignatieff is signaling that rural Canada will be a priority for the next Liberal government," said Eyking. "It's certainly an honour to be named to the position."

Eyking traveled across Canada with Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff this past winter where they released the Liberal Party's Rural Canada Matters Plan. Eyking has also introduced legis-

lation to protect rural mail service.

"Rural Canada is part of our Canadian identity," said Eyking. "During my travel across Canada as rural caucus chair with the leader we identified the many opportunities and challenges facing rural Canada. We announced major initiatives that can help rural Canada grow and prosper. Considering rural Canada represents 30% of the population representing 50% of national GDP, government must pay greater attention to its needs. Unlike the Conservatives, Liberals have signaled we are ready to do that."

see Eyking, page two