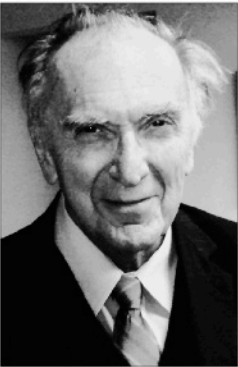


In Those Days in Victoria County

Get it Done! A Review:

Getting it Done, Conversations with Cape Breton Leaders
with forward by Linden MacIntyre. Cape Breton University Press, September 2010



by Jim St. Clair
What do Rita MacNeil, Steve Drake, Murdena Marshall and Allan J. MacEachen have in common? To be sure, they are all Cape Bretoners, but even more they are viewed as leaders.

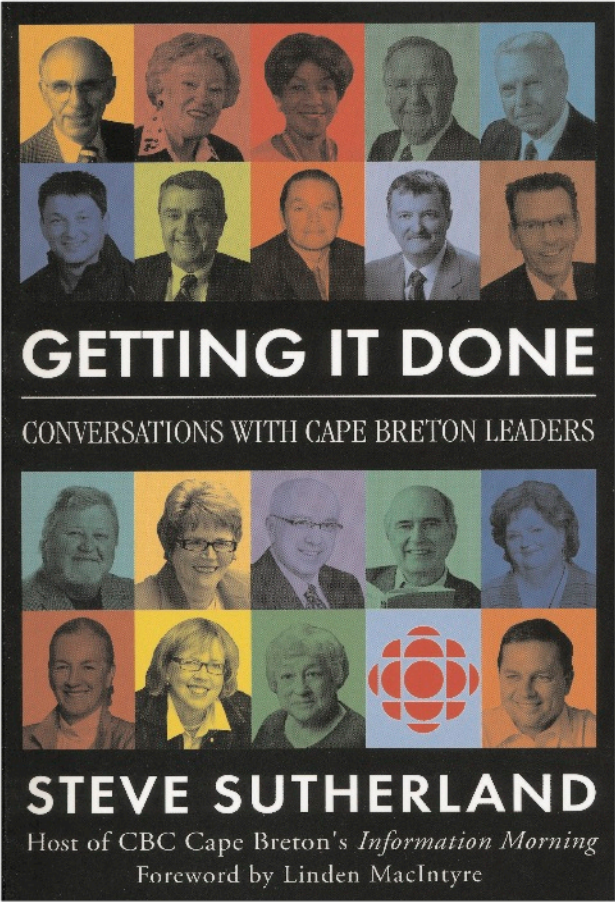
A year ago, Steve Sutherland, host of CBC Sydney's Information Morning, initiated a series of interviews with twenty-two people (including those listed above) whose accomplishments have gained them praise and, in some cases, wealth.

Broadcast over several months, the taped interviews provided insights into the motivations, the attitudes and the advice of people as varied as those above and others such as Rodney MacDonald, Elizabeth May, Irving Schwartz and Billy Joe MacLean.

In response to the request of the public that the interviews be transcribed and put in print, Steve Sutherland set himself to the task. In cooperation with the staff at CBC and Mike Hunter along with his people at Cape Breton University Press, Steve did the work of tran-

scribing and writing both an introduction and a brief analysis of the insights gained from the interviews.

In many different ways, the participants stated strongly and frequently that leaders have to set about to get their chosen tasks under way and to complete them when possible. Hence the title "Getting It Done." As well, the respondents stressed that



Getting it Done, Conversations with Cape Breton Leaders
by Steve Sutherland, host of CBC Cape Breton's Information Morning radio show.

to be a leader requires the willingness to listen to the people with whom one is working and to be able to make decisions when required.

With a cover that is very colourful and inviting as designed by Cathy MacLean of Pleasant Bay and a layout and format as prepared by the staff at Cape Breton University Press, the book is a welcome addition to books about Cape Breton and

Cape Bretoners. As well, it is a useful educational publication for teachers and for community developers for it opens a number of useful doors to the practice of leadership.

A capable and energetic interviewer, Steve Sutherland provides clear insights into how to conduct interviews and how to pick up clues for further discussion as the informants speak. His questions encouraged the interviewees to respond with clarity and details.

This is a book about and for Cape Bretoners. It is available at the usual outlets. This fall, Sutherland has initiated a new series of interviews with a sampling of people who have been identified as leaders of the future. These are being broadcast on CBC Information Morning radio program.

Hurrah for CBC for its leadership in this project and to CBU Press for its fine response. The partnership is a good one and follows a previous one in the preparation and publication of "Nancy's Wedding Feast and Other Tasty Tales."

There are leaders in Cape Breton, both in the past and the present. The book encourages us to ask "how do we encourage future leaders?"

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FIDDLER'S CORNER by Paul S. Cranford.

If you have a tune you would like to share with other Cape Breton fiddlers or a musical event that could be promoted in this column contact The Victoria Standard or Cranford Publications (www.cranfordpub.com). Email psc@cranfordpub.com

The Whalephant Sarah Beck

reel


A while back, my wife, fiddler-potter Sarah Beck, was at the Red Shoe Pub in Mabou chatting with an old theatre friend. Years before they had done some improv together in Vancouver. I imagine the repartée was quick and hilarious, but in a momentary lapse, he looked over at the piano and said - "do they ever make the keys out of whale tusks?" Perhaps he meant to say narwhal, but regardless, a few days later Sarah composed the above tune and immortalized the moment.

In North River last week, Sarah was multi-tasking at the 2nd annual Cabot Trail Writers Festival where she was both selling books and playing with our group, Rocky Shore.

In upcoming weeks Sarah will once again be performing with Rocky Shore, this time for the Celtic Colours Festival:

- October 14, 7:30 PM, St. Peter's Church, Ingonish, - There's Music in the Hills - Celtic Colours Concert with De Temps Antan, The Once, Laoise Kelly and Rocky Shore.

Victoria County's Residential Curbside Organics Collection



Residents can now put organic material such as vegetable peelings, table scraps, meat, fish, poultry, dairy, bones and soiled paper in transparent green bags to be collected weekly along with recyclables and garbage. Special transparent green bags for compost are now available in grocery & hardware stores in Victoria County.

For more information on Recycling or Composting Programs, call Cape Breton's **Recycling Hotline at 1-877-567-1337** or see "Recycling" in the Aliant Yellow Pages

