

Baddeck Academy

Efforts result in changes

by Jocelyn Bethune

After months of meetings, including one community rally in the driving rain, the Baddeck Academy School Advisory Council received good news last week. New plans presented to the school administration show the addition of three classrooms to the proposed renovation.

Lynn Myers, the Baddeck Academy School Advisory chairperson said the changes mean the school will retain the teaching spaces it needs.

"Every teacher will have a classroom," Myers said recently. "Our senior high students will have their own area in the new one storey wing, the junior high will be housed in the upstairs elementary, and the primary to grade sixes will all be in the lower elementary along with Nursery School. This will allow the school enough spaces so that Baddeck Academy will be able to provide the public school program for our students well into the future."

The newest plan now reflects plans originally okayed by the Department of Education and presented to the community in November 2009.

Plans include renovations to washrooms, so that there will be a girls and boys washroom on each level; upgrades and full renovations to the present elementary wing, and renovations to the sports field. Construction is expected to begin in September 2011.

Myers said. "The Baddeck Academy SAC would like to thank the community for all their support."

Physical Activity Co-ordinator



Vincent Forrestall (L) is the recently hired Physical Activity Coordinator for the Municipality of the County of Victoria. Here Mr. Forrestall is introducing himself to County Council at St. Andrews Hall in Neil's Harbour on June 13th. From the left of Mr Forrestall are Councillors Merrill MacInnis, Paul MacNeil, Larry Dauphinee, recording secretary, Zina MacNeil; Warden, Bruce Morrison; CAO, Sandy Hudson; and Councillor David Donovan. Mr. Forrestall has been hired to develop and implement a comprehensive physical activity strategy for Victoria County. The program is intended to encourage and facilitate more healthy and active lifestyles for both youth and adult members of our community.

6 Ports Harbour Authority

Spending on improvements

by Jim Morrow

Providing safe and accessible harbours and waterways for six commercial fishing harbours in Northern Victoria County, the North Victoria Six Ports Harbour Authority, has been actively pursuing various funding avenues and partners in order to implement the ongoing maintenance and upgrades that are required on an annual basis.

"From Ingonish to Dingwall the Authority's staff work closely with Fisheries and Oceans - Small Crafts and Harbours division on a daily and weekly basis to coordinate and implement harbour related projects," Kim Stockley told Victoria County municipal Council

on June 13th.

Victoria County has invested in the Six Ports Harbour Authority recognizing the immense economic impact the fishery has in Northern Victoria County.

Ms. Stockley said, "With the assistance of our funding partners which include Victoria County, we have been able to carry out a significant amount of maintenance and upgrades to our harbours over the past year."

Some of the work included the construction of a new service area and expanding the harbour site at Ingonish Ferry; overseeing the construction of a new wharf and service area at Neil's

Harbour; constructing a new winch house in Neil's Harbour; installing a new floating docks in Dingwall and MacLeod's Point, Ingonish; replacing sheathing at Ingonish Ferry; clearing a sand blockage out of North Harbour Channel; constructing stairs to access the beach at MacLeod's Point; general repairs and electrical maintenance at all harbour sites.

Ms. Stockley pointed out that the cost of operations and the work completed during the 2010/2011 fiscal year is approximately \$1,615,000 of which 98% was spent in Cape Breton.

One of the priorities in the next
see Six, page five

RCMP at Municipal Council

Arsons north still being investigated

by Jim Morrow

When Victoria County Municipal Council met in Neil's Harbour on June 13th, Sgt. Rick Beaton of the RCMP who will be the staff sergeant for the two detachments in Victoria County as of the July 1st, made a report on the statistics filed by the Ingonish detachment.

Sgt. Beaton explained that the Ingonish detachment was not the lead agency on the 250 child pornography charges laid against David Carter Roger Archibald who turned himself into the Ingonish RCMP on May 19th.

Council expressed its concern regards the number of officers avail-

able for duty in Victoria County.

Sgt. Beaton confirmed that the Ingonish detachment was down to three members from its full compliment of five officers and that this reduction would probably continue into July.

Both District #8 Councillor Johnny Buchanan and members of the gallery felt the reduction in officers meant that the ongoing investigations into the considerable number of unsolved arsons in the region would be jeopardized.

Sgt. Beaton would not comment on the arson cases as he said they were still under investigation.

"Arson is a very difficult crime to
see RCMP, page three

Tax rate unchanged

Council takes a long look at the budget

by Jim Morrow

A Committee of the Whole meeting on June 20th was devoted to the 2011-2012 municipal budget.

Councillors had previously determined that the tax rate would stay the same as last year (\$1.22 per \$100 of assesment for residential property and \$2.19 per \$100 of assesment for commercial property) and as such would generate some \$7,627,000 in taxes.

Other revenues include grants in lieu of taxes which accounts for some \$660,500 while revenue from the municipalities own sources for such items as fines, interest and recycling should realize another \$643,700.

Unconditional transfers include \$980,000 from Nova Scotia Power Inc for the assessment on Wreck Cove Hydro-electric station. This amount is expected to rise to \$1.3 million in the next two years.

Conditional transfers which include the Gas Tax and the HST offset payment accounts for \$489,000 while the Victoria County Water Utility is expected to realize some \$257,800.

Along with some other incidentals the total revenue for the County is expected to be \$10,821,000.

Some of the major expenditures for
see County, page three