

Child pornography Ingonish resident charged

Ingonish

The Nova Scotia RCMP Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Unit laid more than 250 charges as a result of a 20 month investigation into the possession, distribution and making of child pornography.

David Carter Roger Archibald, 62, of Ingonish Beach, Cape Breton is facing 176 counts of Distribution of Child Pornography, and 76 counts of Making Child Pornography.

The RCMP ICE Unit previously charged Archibald with one count of possession of child pornography in February 2011 as part of this investigation. The total number of charges is now 253.

Through the RCMP's national and international partnerships, the investigation started after RCMP received information from the National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) in the United States and the National Child Exploitation Coordination Centre (NCECC) in Ottawa.

In January 2011, the RCMP searched and seized a number of computers and related equipment. Following a comprehensive and thorough review of these materials, police retrieved several thousand images of child abuse and examples of pornographic text. None of the material seized portrayed local children.

"Each time a photo is viewed or distributed the child in that image is victimized," says Cst. Paul Smith, Nova

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Norman MacLeod Exhibit officially opens at Gaelic College



Reverend Norman MacLeod, the charismatic and authoritarian spiritual leader of tens of hundreds of Scottish Gaels, led his band of followers to St. Ann's in 1820, and remained there until 1851, when he again led his followers, first to Australia and finally to New Zealand. An impressive exhibit of Reverend MacLeod's life and times was officially opened on May 26th at the Gaelic College in St. Ann's. It is well worth the half hour to listen to the audio programming and marvel at the artifacts in the well presented display.

Minsiter of Education not in the loop

School Board Chair blames Department of Education

by Jim Morrow

"Where they are now is a mystery," said Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board Chair, Lorne Green, referring to the N.S. Department of Education.

Mr. Green was speaking to Victoria County Municipal Council on May 24th regarding the changes in the plans to the renovations at Baddeck Academy.

He was asked by Warden Bruce Morrison if the School Board communicated with the Minister of Education Ramona Jennex about the reduction of classrooms and teaching spaces at Baddeck Academy.

"The Deputy Minister gets in the way," he responded.

On May 19th, Victoria-The Lakes MLA Keith Bain had asked the Minister of Education, Ramona Jennex, to immediately intervene in the talks between her department, the school board and the school administration over the Baddeck Academy renovation project.

"These conversations have been going in circles for two months now and nothing has been resolved," said Bain. "Getting the renovation project right with the adequate number of program spaces is extremely important for the administration's ability to deliver the quality education students deserve."

Parents, teachers and concerned community members attended the Council meeting to hear what Mr.

Green had to say about the issue.

When questions were taken from the gallery, parent Jennifer Morrison asked Mr. Green what it would take to get a meeting with Minister Jennex.

He replied that the Minister has not met with any school board in the province since she took over the education portfolio. He also said the Nova Scotia School Board Association is meeting next week and he is hopeful the Minister will be in attendance.

With the reduction of space and the loss of 1.4 teaching positions at Baddeck Academy the school will not have the resources to provide all of the programs for students intending to do post

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Destination Cape Breton

Product development and marketing

by Jim Morrow

Now that the County of Victoria is participating in the collection of the Room Levy, 2% on the value of each room night sold, which is being used by Destination Cape Breton for generic advertising of Cape Breton Island, Municipal Councillors had the opportunity to get an update from Destination Cape Breton (DCB) on May 24th.

Mary Tulle, Chief Executive Officer for Destination Cape Breton, made the presentation.

She explained the guiding principals on which the generic marketing is based.

"Research drives product which dri-

ves marketing which drives demand," she said. "Leadership and pro-activeness are critical, as is the need for in-demand products and everything we do must benefit industry. Effective communication is critical and we must keep it simple."

Destination Cape Breton is concentrating on product development, visitor services and marketing. Plans and decisions will be developed based on the continuum of research, product development and marketing.

Presently there are two main reasons why people come to Cape Breton: the Cabot Trail and Louisbourg.

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Highland Links

Many hands make for light work

by Jim Morrow

Getting the Highlands Links golf course ready for opening day brought local human resources together in a partnership that benefited everyone.

Parks Canada, which owns and operates the Stanley Thompson designed course in Ingonish, was being hard-pressed to bring Number 6, *Muckle Mouth Meg*, up to a playable standard with available staff. The late fall and December rain events, as well as the high water this year had caused extensive damage and left a great deal of debris on the fairway of No. 6.

Course Manager, Graham Hudson, said, "With a lot of extra help we were able to get the debris off the fairway. It put us over the top."

Members of Highland Links Golf Club Society joined the effort on May 7th along with Parks Canada staff and volunteers to get the job done.

Lloyd Donovan, President of the 65 member Highland Links Golf Club Society, said, "We understand what it means having the course open. If it is not open everyone suffers - the local businesses, accommodations operators and restaurants especially on a long weekend."