

## New Canadians

# Citizens sworn in at AGB

by Jim Morrow

Thirty-five new Canadians received citizenship on Friday, June 10th, 2011 at Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site, a site which commemorates the life and work of a great inventor who shares a unique connection with these new Canadians – his birthplace was outside of Canada.

Bell is most recognized for his work with the telephone and the *Silver Dart* aircraft which led to the first flight in Canada. Bell's decision to live and work in Baddeck speaks to Canada's reputation for attracting inspiring minds and welcoming innovative talent.

The new Canadians are from 16 countries around the world, including Bangladesh, China, England, Egypt, Estonia, Germany, Ghana, Iran, Ireland, Lebanon, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestinian Authority, Peru, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Switzerland, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United States of America and the Republic of Benin.

Bell's story is just one of many that Parks Canada preserves and presents on behalf of the people of Canada. While marking its 100th birthday this year, Parks Canada continues to present its treasured natural and cultural heritage to Canadians, especially new Canadians like the group being sworn in on Friday.

One of the new Canadian couples sworn in was Hugh Bell Muller and Jeanne Muller. Mr. Muller is the great-  
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## Tim's Camp Day



Cst. Nathan Black of the Victoria County RCMP poses with staff and volunteers at the Baddeck Tim Horton's. They had a very successful fundraising Tim's Day Camp event, raising almost \$4600.00 between coffee sales, hot dogs, draws and donations, with many local residents pitching in to volunteer. The bicycle in the background was drawn for by Cst. Black and the lucky winner was Rebecca Daisley of Margaree Valley. Store owner, Holly MacInnis, states that due to the excellent fund raising effort, they will be able to send two new children to camp this year, plus they can send the two participants from last year as leaders for the new children. Well done!

## Highway improvements

# Minister explains planning

by Jim Morrow

"When the local MLA and the local Area Managers agree on the road situation in identifying priorities, it is a pretty good indicator of the situation," N.S. Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, Bill Estabrooks, said on Tuesday June 7th.

The Minister was in Cape Breton distributing the 21011 - 2012 edition of the five year Highway Improvement Plan.

As the plan is only in its second year, Mr. Estabrooks was not inclined to speculate on what the road conditions will be like at the end of the plan.

The plan outlines major construction projects, repaving, major bridge replacements and maintenance, and infrastructure work the province plans to pursue. It is believed that this advance planning allows the department to fix more roads, reach more communities, and work more effectively with partners while being transparent and accountable. The plan also enables Nova Scotians to track provincial road improvements on a yearly basis.

The plan also explains the government's new approach, making the most of every available dollar to address highway construction and maintenance.

In the past, the majority of funding has gone to the most damaged roads, so the overall condition of roads deteriorated faster than they could be fixed. The province is now taking a more balanced approach that uses a variety of improvement options, with a greater focus on improving paved roads before they become severely damaged and require more costly repairs. Some road improvement work is also being done in-house to ensure that prices are competitive in all parts of the province.

However, repaving local roads, pavement preservation and low volume  
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## Rainfall observers network

# Citizen science network to record local weather

Cape North

The North Highlands Community Museum has just inaugurated The Cape Breton Rainfall Observers Network for the summer and autumn months. All Cape Breton residents are invited to participate in this "citizen science" activity, in which dozens of volunteer observers across the island will measure rainfall each day and submit their observations to the Museum for processing and display on the Museum's website.

The Rainfall Network is one component of a special Cape Breton weather exhibit that will run this summer at the Museum. The exhibit highlights the

important role that weather events such as severe rainstorms have played in the lives of Cape Bretoners over the years.

The Rainfall Network project is a response to recent severe weather events such as the violent downpours last August that caused havoc in Meat Cove, and the damaging rains in autumn and early winter throughout many parts of Cape Breton. Several federal and provincial agencies have maintained long-period precipitation records at a few sites across the Island; however, important rainstorms often miss these official sites. With dozens of individuals measuring  
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## Municipal physical activity co-ordinator

# Initial goal of 10% increase in activity

by Jim Morrow

Vincent Forestall has been hired to develop and implement a comprehensive physical activity strategy for Victoria County residents.

Victoria County has partnered with Nova Scotia Health and Wellness to create the position of Physical Activity Coordinator to develop and implement a continuing sustainable program of physical activity for all residents. The program is intended to encourage and facilitate a more healthy and active lifestyle for both youth and adult members of our community.

Sandy Hudson Chief Administrative Officer for the Municipality of the Coun-

ty of Victoria welcomed Vincent Forestall, as the Physical Activity strategy Coordinator for Victoria County. Mr Hudson said, "Vince has a proven track record as a member of the Kings County Physical activity Strategy Committee and numerous years as recreation coordinator in the Village of New Minas.

"In his new position with Victoria County, Vince will be the leading advocate in developing a Physical Activity Strategy for all sectors of Victoria County from young school students to senior citizens. His role will be to encourage, promote and assist in developing programs that help our residents become  
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