

Baddeck Academy School Accreditation



On May 31st, formal recognition of Baddeck Academy was acknowledged when the accreditation plaque was presented by Susan Kelly, Coordinator of Student Services, Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board to Principal Jerry McNeil, at Baddeck Academy's annual awards banquet.

Baddeck

The intent of school accreditation is to increase student success through school improvement, addressing the quality of a school and the programs that are offered through the creation and implementation of a school improvement plan. It is an ongoing program that continues over a regular cycle of five years during which improvement is tracked by the gathering and analyzing of data, the results of which determine whether or not accreditation will be achieved.

During the process of developing a school improvement plan, Baddeck Academy has had the opportunity to tell its own unique story. The accreditation process began in June of 2006 when surveys were given out to all staff, support staff, Primary to Grade 12 students, and parents.

These surveys formed the basis of one aspect of school accreditation called "School Performance". They were analyzed by the Department of Education and the results delivered back to the school in September 2006. The other aspect of school accreditation, "Student Achievement," involved analyzing subject and grade level data during a three year interval for all students. This was done at the school level.

All of this data was reviewed and analyzed and culminated in determining the spe-

cific needs of the school which were then prioritized. Three goals were set, appropriate and specific actions were outlined, and a school improvement plan to monitor and report on growth was developed. The plan was approved by the Department of Education and for the next three years annual reports were submitted, indicating progress made during the implementation stage.

Baddeck Academy is a unique school that has a complement of students ranging from Grades Primary to Twelve. Having three schools in one posed a challenge in trying to find common ground in the data, especially when programs and reporting criteria differed immensely.

Although differing schedules were problematic at times, all staff signed up to work on one of the three goals. Each team was diverse in its makeup, consisting of members from each of the academic areas. A positive outcome of this process was the professional development that resulted from networking and shared communication.

An accreditation team visited the school in April 2011, during the final year of implementation to view a presentation during which improvement in all three goals was demonstrated. Subsequent to this, the school received word that accreditation was achieved.

County looking at a surplus

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the Municipality include general government expenses of \$1,782,000 and \$2,227,052 for protective services (law enforcement and fire protection). Solid waste will soak up \$2 million while recreation will cost \$248,800.

The Municipality will pay \$1,725,000 to the Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board as an appropriation.

The total expenditures for the period are expected to be \$10,712,204.

Based on these determinations there will be a surplus of some \$108,796.

Chief Administrative Officer Sandy Hudson explained that some of

the figures could change. Using the revenue from solid waste as an example he said the value of the recycled materials varies from year to year as does the amount of material the transfer station is allowed to accept.

"There has also been a 5% increase in protective services without any increase in the complement of officers," he said.

Councillors also struggled with the amounts allocated to community organizations applying for assistance.

They whittled down the \$79,433.50 which was the total applied for by organizations to \$48,700.

The budget will now go to a regular Council meeting for approval, the next of which is July 4th at 5 p.m.

RCMP asked to participate in community consultations

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solve," Sgt. Beaton said. He also admitted that the RCMP "have not been very successful with arson cases North of Smokey." As for the ongoing arson files, Sgt. Beaton had no comment as they were still under investigation.

Some gallery members suggested that the fear of crime could be diminished in the area with the RCMP holding community consultations. By getting in touch with the community officers would get to know the community.

Sgt. Beaton explained that with the new reporting systems officers are finding themselves in the office doing

paper work. "Officers are under a lot of pressure to keep the data center up to speed. Each officer has to look after his/her own files. We have excellent records but it is very time consuming," he said.

Other community members in the gallery wondered how the community could help the RCMP in these consultations.

Warden Bruce Morrison suggested the municipal Police Advisory Committee may be a place to start.

"With the municipality spending over \$1.2 million for police protection I find it discouraging that we are always chasing personnel."

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Sunday Family Dinner at Flora's

Summer Sundays are usually hectic enough trying to prepare meals for visiting family and friends. With this in mind, the Inverary culinary team is pleased to introduce a family favourite each Sunday evening in Flora's Dining Room throughout the season, in addition to our regular service at Lakeside Restaurant. Plan to join us for a great evening out. **Starting July 3, 5:30-8:00pm**

LAKESIDE RESTAURANT
Lunchtime BBQ's
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FLORAS DINING ROOM
Breakfast service daily, 7:00-10:00 am, 10:30 am on weekends.
Traditional Sunday evening dinner (Hip of Beef), starting July 3rd.

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