## VCMH Charitable **Foundation** very active

Baddeck

The Victoria County Memorial Hospital Charitable Foundation meets in the Board Room of the hospital every two months. Over the past few months the foundation has been fortunate enough to find four new board members. These new members are: Lynn Caldwell, Whycocomagh; Barbara Kerr, Ann's/North Shore; Simone Carmichael, Baddeck; and Donnie MacAulay, Baddeck Bay.

The annual general meeting is coming up on May 19th, 2011 at which the by-laws for quorum are going to be changed. At present 25 are required for a quorum and the change will be to 15. A good attendance from the community is required for this change in the by-laws to

Since the last quarter funding for several pieces of equipment for the hospital has been approved and consists of mats for the front entrance, grids for the X-Ray Department, a Blood Gas Analyzer and a collection chair for the Lab.

None of these purchases would be possible without the ongoing support of the community. The Foundation is grateful for the support and encourages all possible to attend the annual general meeting on Thursday, May 19th, 2011.



## Anti-smoking campaign



The Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness has launched an anti-smoking campaign targeted to youth ages 15 -18. To reinforce the idea that hardly anyone smokes anymore (only 15 % of NS youth between the ages of 15 -18 smoke) a creative outdoor anti-smoking dinosaur has been installed at Rankin School of the Narrows. It stands 9 ft high and is 6 ft long.



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## Next step is to review and compile data

from page one

However, "These folks took the time to email their information in a summarized format, and that was also valuable input for the goals we had," she said.

The next steps regarding the survey will be to review and compile data: extract findings into draft report with specific identified needs and barriers;

review partnership programs that may already exist that could be launched locally; develop an Action Plan for the near-term (1-6 months), the mid-term (6-12 months) and the following years.

Anyone who still wants to respond to the survey can send in their thoughts on the form or via email in free form to nona.macdermid@countyvictoria.ns.ca.



## Specialized foster care homes needed

The Department of Community Services is in need of specialized foster homes in the counties of Cape Breton, Victoria, Richmond and Inverness that can care for children under the age of 19.

Specialized foster families work as part of a professional team with family and community supports, and community and health professionals to ensure a child's needs are met. All foster families attend comprehensive training and receive daily youth-in-care compensation.

Specialized foster families provide care for children with behaviourial challenges such as attachment disorder, ADHD and aggression. To be a specialized foster family you must:

- have training/experience in dealing with youth who have suffered abuse
- have one stay-at-home parent
- provide a routine, supportive and structured environment
- attend training
- Provide a high degree of guidance and supervision

Additional compensation for specialized foster families is determined by qualifications, experience and ability to provide 24 hour care.

