

## Kidston Island Light divested to Village



Village of Baddeck's Chair of the Village Commission, Eddy Keeling, (R) accepts the locks and keys to the lighthouses on Kidston Island from Canadian Coast Guard's Joe Near (L). The Government of Canada divested the lighthouses to the Village when the lights became surplus property. Not wanting the iconic lights to fall into disrepair or be replaced, the Village agreed to take them over and the property they sit on, when neither the Province nor the Municipality was willing to do so. Mr. Keeling has plans to refurbish the lighthouse so it will continue to stand as the beacon and symbol of Baddeck and its harbour.

## Plunging into 2012



The Second Annual Polar Bear Swim took place during the Community New Year's Levee at Cabot Shores with more than the human species participating. Two brave souls and Cosmo the dog jumped into Church Pond while another canine looked on in a moment of indecision or perhaps disbelief!

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### Cape Breton Weather

## Victoria County weather: this time, in verse!



*The 2012 Weather Forecast for Victoria County: Perfect!*

by Bill Danielson

Some say that the weather last year was a bummer:  
The sun didn't shine till the end of the summer,  
and snow and then fog and then lingering drizzle  
wore many Cape Bretoners' nerves to a frizzle.

But this year we're due for a fair weather spate,  
from warm sunny Bucklaw to calm Cabot Strait;  
from fog-free Wreck Cove to the glassy Bras d'Or,  
we'll find this year's weather a thing to adore.

To fishermen, here is my weather advice:  
The winds will be calm and the temperatures nice,  
so your traps will fill up with fat lobsters galore,  
While the fuel prices plummet, and fish prices soar!

Great tempests will certainly miss our fair County,  
so Merrill, Paul, Keith, Larry, David and Johnny  
and Bruce, who's the Warden, and Deputy Fraser  
will guide old Victoria straight as a laser.

And County staff people, like Sandy and Heather,  
will find a companion this year in the weather!  
So Pauline and Cathi, collecting our taxes,  
and Joan, who keeps archives in mountainous stacks  
And Tourism Tom, who's an Internet wizard  
will work through the year without deluge or blizzard.

Let's hope that the guys plowing snow on Cape Smokey,  
assuring the Cabot Trail stays okie-dokie,  
and crews on North Mountain who've managed huge drifts  
will have piddling snowfalls this year on their shifts.

This summer the tourists from faraway places  
will frolic and romp in our air's soft embraces.  
They'll feel they have bathed in the fountain of youth –  
till they wilt in the heat of their cities down south.

Cape Breton and Richmond and Inverness Counties:  
We hope the new year brings you all nature's bounties.  
(Though given the fact that you're not in Victoria,  
Skies there are bound to be duller, and pourier.)

And that is my outlook for two-thousand, twelve.  
Some might think it's crazy, a forecast to shelve.  
"It surely won't be all that perfect," they say;  
"How can it be sunny and mild every day?"

Perhaps these folks just need an attitude shift  
so they look at the weather each day as a gift,  
an amazing free theater that spans the whole sky,  
with surprises and magic that never run dry.

I resolve to be thrilled by the weather this year,  
so even the grey days will bring me good cheer!

*Working Together for Cape Breton's future*

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