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The 2007 Gathering of the Clans Organizing Committee was formed in October and has already had three meetings. A good showing of volunteers means that the sub-committees will be headed by many experienced leaders. We welcomed several new members who show great enthusiasm and have lots to contribute.

As Canada Day falls on a Sunday, The Gathering of the Clans celebrations will stretch over two days. For Sunday, July 1st we are planning several family-styled activities and entertainment at Eaton Park in the afternoon. On Monday July 2nd, we will host the traditional slate of parades, the midway, piping and drumming, highland dancing and games, main stage entertainment, artisans, food vendors, lobster rolls and strawberry shortcake, culminating with our grand fireworks display.

As 2007 is the 200th anniversary of the founding of Pugwash, and the 50th anniversary of the first Pugwash Conference, we hope everyone will try to invite their family and friends to share in the joy and excitement of this weekend.

I wish all you a very happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Cliff Hutchinson
Chairman of The Gathering of the Clans, 2007

Pugwash HarbourFest

A meeting was held in the Village Hall at 7 pm on November 15/06. Bill Kempt, Chair of Pugwash HarbourFest 2006 convened the meeting. Present were Bill Kempt (Acting Chair), Ron Urquhart, Clarence Felderhof, Denise McGrath, Allison Gillis, Claude Hudson, Mary Baycroft, Cliff Hutchinson, Bill Church, Kevin Polley, Paulo Brenciaglia, Arnold MacEwan, John Caraberis, Stephen Leahey, and Alice Power. Regrets were received from Earl Chase, Walter McCormick, Harry Moore, Bill Spence, Andy Yarrow, Greg Nix, Kathy Langille, and John Mills.

The Past Chair expressed his thanks to all the people who had worked on HarbourFest 2006 and called for a financial report from Claude Hudson and Bill Church. Their report was as follows:

Total Revenue: \$20,724	Cash in Bank: \$7,500
Total Expenses: <u>\$10,993</u>	Fixed Assets: <u>\$2,231</u>
Net Income: \$9,731	Total Assets: \$9,731

Not included in fixed assets but available for future HarbourFests are the volleyball court, trophies, some prizes and the HarbourFest banners. No firm local business financial results were available but reports indicated most did well and would support another festival. Similarly, there were many positive anecdotal reports from various participating groups and individuals within and without our community at large.

The Village Commission, the business community and volunteering organizations and individuals must work together if we are to create Pugwash HarbourFest 2007. A letter of support from the Village Commission confirmed their supportive motion of October 17 that provided: administrative support; office space; insurance coverage for events; and a minimum of one Commissioner on the HarbourFest committee. Another letter from the Pugwash and Area Chamber of Commerce (still in initial stages of development) offered all possible organizational support. Most volunteer groups and individuals who participated last year are prepared to do so again.

Everything required to hold our second annual Pugwash HarbourFest is in place but some further leadership is required in order to go forward. Two committees were struck to begin the process. The Structure Committee met Thursday, Nov. 16th at 10a.m. They developed a Pugwash HarbourFest plan which clearly defines roles and responsibilities. The Nominating Committee is using this material and is now recruiting the necessary volunteers. If you have pride in your community and wish to sustain and improve it, your energy and participation is now being sought. Please come forward and help.



It Takes a Village

Newsletter is published quarterly — the first Tuesday of June, September, December and March. The deadline for our next issue is **February 15th, 2007**. Maximum word count of 250. We reserve the right to edit for length and readability. Photos or graphics will be used as space allows. Send articles by email to:

villagecommission@pugwashvillage.com

For more info call: 243-2946.



Great food begins here.
À la source des aliments.

In 1945, Ed Gordon bought the first share in the Pugwash Co-op. Howard Elliott was the manager and his sole employee was Lucy Johnson. Sixty-one years later, the Pugwash Co-op has 1,665 shareholders. Steve Arkens is the manager and the Co-op employs 9 full time and 13 part time people.

In today's world of big box stores and highly competitive prices, why do we work hard at keeping our Co-op?

One shopper said, "It's a place to meet and greet - a community centre." Sure, you pick up your groceries, but you also meet with friends, share a coffee, catch up on community news, or support a local charity. In winter, it's the place to chat with more than your immediate neighbours. In the spring, it's the place to welcome back folks from the cities or from the south - knowing that, with increased demand, both the variety and the bottom line will improve.

Community support is well documented. The snowball draw alone has contributed \$23,657 to local organizations since 2004. Check out the Co-op bulletin board. Everything you need is there: someone to do odd jobs, an evening's entertainment, a used snowmobile (just in case), or the latest in real estate.

Then there is the main purpose of the Co-op - groceries. Today, our food comes from all over the world but the Co-op supports local production as much as possible, especially with meats and summer produce. Organic products are available on request. Our Co-op also carries "Just Us" coffee, a co-op from a world away that supports small producers in their version of rural communities.

Do the bigger stores offer such diverse supports? Some items may cost a little more here, but our Co-op is so much more than a grocery store.

Friends Of the Pugwash Estuary

On October 3, the annual general meeting was treated to an interesting and informative guest speaker. Tara Marshall of Inland Fisheries of the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture did a power point presentation on the work she is helping the Friends do on the Pugwash River and its tributaries. Four Electra fishing testing sites yielded a total of 6 species, the more interesting to most people being trout and salmon. Tara also spoke of the work being done in improving sports fishing in Nova Scotia, and other programs promoted by her department.

Amy Weston, of the Adopt-a-Stream Program, came to offer suggestions on things that could be done to improve the habitat and spawning areas in the Pugwash River watershed. The Adopt-a-Stream Program is offered through the Salmon Association of Nova Scotia and is funded through a charge on all fishing licences. Next, the Friends will pick 2 streams for further exploration, with the aim of drawing up an improvement plan and applying to the Program for next summer. So, if you see some of us wandering up or down streams, come join us and offer your suggestions and help. The health of the watershed affects all of us.

The Friends of the Pugwash Estuary meet the first Tuesday of each month at the Village Commission at 7:00pm. This month (December), the showing of the film, *An Inconvenient Truth*, at the Catholic Hall, will replace the regular meeting.

Join the Reading Challenge!



Cumberland Regional Library

Who reads more? Canadian kids or Irish kids? Join the fun as we find out with the **Reading Challenge**. An initiative of the RCMP Adopt-a-Library campaign, the Challenge is a fun way to encourage kids to read in their spare time. Elementary School students in Cumberland County will be squaring off against children in Pictou County. The school that reads the most books per capita will win \$3,000 worth of books from Scholastic. Second place runners up in each County will win \$1,000 worth of books. To make the Reading Challenge even more exciting, the Canadian kids will compete against students in County Clare, Ireland. Winners will be announced in June 2007.

Kids who register for the Reading Challenge will receive a logbook to record the books that they read and a brand new keychain style public library card. The Reading Challenge is a joint project between the Cumberland Regional Library, Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library, and the Chignecto Central School Board.

PUGWASH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



The Pugwash Volunteer Fire Department has been busy over the past few months. A busy summer of community functions: Canada Day, Harbourfest, Mackerel Fishing Tournament and ham, baked bean and potato scallop supper have been some of the fundraising we have done, and, thanks to all the community support, were very successful. In October we participated in Fire Prevention week and visited the local elementary school. Other school visitations are being discussed as Fire safety is all year round. We hosted a Halloween Dance and the costumes were absolutely incredible.

The Remembrance Day service in our village was well attended as it should be in remembering our veterans. The Department is preparing for the its annual banquet, in recognition of all members who have contributed their time and skills to provide the community with well trained and professional services.

We participated in the annual Merry Madness event just held in our community on December 1st. We assisted Northumberland Community Curling Club members in erecting the Christmas tree, and again we offered our Fire Truck drives for the children.

North Cumberland Community Health Foundation

members are in the process of planning for the 2007 Golf for Health Tournament to be held next June. This tournament is a fundraiser for the hospital's share of a new x-ray machine. The raffle for 450 litres of furnace oil donated by Superline Fuels was won by Janis Burke. Memorial donations may be made at Mundle's Funeral Home or by mail to North Cumberland Community Health Foundation, PO Box 175, Pugwash, Nova Scotia, B0K 1L0.

Pugwash Planning Advisory Committee



On October 26, 2006 the Pugwash Planning Advisory Committee held a meeting at the Village Hall in Pugwash. Public notices were provided through the newspaper and a direct mailing to a list of interested citizens. All members were present, along with 5 citizens.

The Committee reviewed the result of its first public open house held in Pugwash on September 12, 2006 and updated its work plan.

The Committee decided that the next step in the planning process will be to conduct a public survey of development issues and priorities. The results will be used by the Committee in its preparation of a land use vision, goals, policies and regulations for the Village. The survey will be conducted through the County's web site early in the New Year.

For further information, please contact: **Jim Coughlin, Planner**

The Municipality of the County of Cumberland
(902) 667-2313

jcoughlin@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca

Your elected, volunteer
Pugwash Village Commissioners:

- Ray Jamison (Chair)**
- Paolo Brenciaglia**
- Bill Church**
- Kevin Polley**
- Mary Lou Trenholm**

The Pugwash Commission Fall/Winter (October - March) office hours are:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday – 8:30am to 4:30 pm (closed noon to 1pm)

Administrator: Lee Fleming

Phone: 243-2946

Email: villagecommission@pugwashvillage.com

124 Water Street

PO Box 220

Pugwash, NS

B0K 1L0

The North Cumberland Memorial Hospital Auxiliary



The North Cumberland Memorial Hospital Auxiliary held its last meeting of the year on December 5 at 7pm at the hospital. During the fall, delegates were sent to the regional meeting in Amherst, the provincial meeting in Halifax and the convention planning meetings in Springhill and Tatamagouche.

The Auxiliary spent \$3868 for physiotherapy equipment and approved purchase of an Actar 911 valued at \$600 to be used by the hospital CPR training personnel. A "comfort basket," donated by Mrs. Lorraine Moore and her mother, will be raffled – draw to be December 22nd.

The next Well Women's Clinic will be held Thursday, Dec. 14th.

Our shop will be closed for the Christmas season from 4pm Thursday, Dec. 21st till 1pm Wednesday, Jan 3, 2007. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 6, 2007 at 7pm. New members are always welcome.

Memorial donations may be made at Mundle's Funeral Home or by mail to NCMHA, PO Box 171, Pugwash Nova Scotia, B0K 1L0.

The Northumberland Community Curling Club



The announcement has been made! The Northumberland Community Curling Club (NCCC) is in go-ahead mode. At a public meeting held at Cyrus Eaton Elementary School on November 14, Chair John Van de Wiel stated that work on the infrastructure will begin this fall. The announcement was greeted with loud applause. The NCCC is committed to buying property adjacent to the Pugwash District High School soccer field. As soon as the purchase of land is complete the road will be built, the sewer hook-up installed and three-phase power put in place. Construction will start in the spring and the first curling rocks will be thrown on November 1, 2007.

The decision to move forward was made possible due to 90% of the funding for the original \$715,000 budget being in place. Monies have come from Nova Scotia Health Protection

and Promotion, \$235,000, the Municipality of the County of Cumberland, \$110,000, the Pugwash Village Commission, \$15,000 and from residents, retail businesses and corporations, \$276,000. Of pledges from individuals and businesses, 69% have been honoured and more cheques are arriving each day.

Modifications have been made to the original plans which, if carried out, will allow the curling facility to have multiple summer uses. The Steering Committee of NCCC is in the process of investigating the possibility of acquiring additional funds to make these modifications possible. An application will be made to ACOA.

The Village of Pugwash and surrounding areas can be proud of the efforts made to date. At the present rate of progress there will be curling this time next year. But remember, work and money are still needed to make this dream a reality.



Pugwash District High School (PDHS)

Well, it was nice to have a couple of months off, but eventually it had to happen: September 6th rolled around and students had to set their alarms and wake up for school. Not much happened in September as students started to get back in the high school groove; we caught up with old friends, became accustomed to sitting in chairs instead of lying on couches (awww!), and got back to hitting the books. Student's Council got into gear quickly and efficiently and on October 20th they traveled to the Municipality of Cumberland County council meeting in Amherst to show their support in favour of a curling rink in Pugwash.

In October, we had an interesting and thrilling assembly in which Cliff Hutchinson, Chairman of the Gathering of the Clans, presented the senior soccer teams with a cheque for an astounding \$1500 for their work at the admission booths. Also, the Communications Technology class provided us with an entertaining look at going back to school in an important 'News Flash' starring Duke Newcombe. I personally look forward to future presentations!

Senior boys and senior girls have acquired two banners, and junior boys have also got a banner of their own! The junior girls had an amazing 14-0 season, making this one of the most successful soccer seasons I can remember! Let's keep working for more achievements in the future!!

By Ruth Reid, PDHS student



The Cumberland Adult Network for Upgrading (CAN-U)

is a Cumberland County community based, non-profit adult literacy organization dedicated to helping adults throughout the county to improve their skill level. Students must be over 19 yrs of age. Registration & classes are FREE! Having an education is more important today than ever. Most jobs require a grade 12 High School Diploma or a GED certificate. CAN-U is a partner of the Nova Scotia School for Adult Learning (NSSAL) and offer Adult Learning Programs in Pugwash, Oxford and Amherst. Programs are offered during the day and evening to meet the identified needs of the adult learner as well as one to one tutoring. This year CAN-U has an additional program offer for all registered participating learners. Adult learners have the opportunity to obtain certificates in First Aid/CPR; WHMIS and Food Handling at no cost to the learner. CAN-U Instructors & volunteer tutors are trained and sensitive to the needs of adult students. For more information or to register for one of our programs, please contact: Cumberland Adult Network for Upgrading, 141 Victoria Street, Amherst, NS 902-661-0153.



Pugwash Farmers' Market

The Pugwash Farmers' Market is holding a pre-Christmas market at Sunset Community in the Industries building in South Pugwash on Saturday, December 9, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Besides the fine wool and wool products, baking, meats, soap, preserves, kindling, and other items that regular customers enjoyed during the summer months, the members are hoping to attract a number of craft vendors from the region. Seasonal treats and decorations will also be featured at the market.

If you have a product to sell and would like to rent a space at the market, please contact Brian or Peggy at 447-3339. Space is limited so you are encouraged to book early.

Take Action on Climate Change

Every time we use power, gas or oil, gases are released into the atmosphere that affect the climate of the earth. Scientists have stated that unless we cut back these "greenhouse" gases then the incidence of droughts, damage due to rising sea levels, killer heat waves and violent storms will increase. Some areas of the world are already suffering from climate change. We are all responsible. We can do a great deal by reducing our use of energy. Here are some things each of us can do to make a small difference: drive less ~ car pool ~ shop locally ~ walk or bike ~ buy a more energy efficient car or truck ~ stop engine idling ~ keep your engine tuned to keep it efficient ~ turn your thermostat down and wear a sweater – every 1°C saves 2% on your heating bill ~ turn the thermostat down at night and when you go out ~ insulate your house ~ draw drapes at night to stop heat going out the windows ~ heat just the parts of the house you use ~ clean your furnace filter frequently ~ have the temperature of your hot water turned down to 120°F (49°C) ~ use a water saving shower head ~ wash your hands under the cold tap, the water that comes out first is at room temperature ~ insulate hot water pipes ~ use energy efficient light bulbs ~ turn off lights that are not needed ~ only fill the kettle with the water you need to use ~ turn off remote-controlled appliances such as the TV at the wall (many TVs, VCRs, and DVDs use power on standby) ~ dry your clothes on the line – solar heat is free ~ buy local food, and local goods, they have to travel less distance to get here ~ buy energy efficient appliances ~ consider taking up hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, kayaking or canoeing as recreation and exercise ~ monitor your power bills, oil consumption and gas consumption and challenge yourself to use less. Add to this list. For the sake of humanity do your part. Submitted by Vivian Godfree.



Communities in Bloom

Pugwash Communities in Bloom extends Season's Greetings to "Metropolitan" Pugwash and all those who supported us: volunteers, businesses and the Village Commission.

During Merry Madness CIB volunteers scoured the area looking for the best decorated houses. Gifts for their first three choices received prizes from Langille's Esso, Inside Out, Pugwash Home Hardware, Monty's Used Clothing, Harrison's Building Centre, Horton Gallery, Shannon's Hair Design, Innerac-sage and the Hidden

This winter season in the great job volitify our village. The comed visitors as bridge. Hanging bas-Bordeaux and CIB

*At Christmas I no more desire a rose
Than wish a snow in May's new-fangled shows,
But like of each thing that in season grows.*
William Shakespeare

we will relax and revel unteers did to beau- Peace Garden wel- they crossed the kets of Supertunia banners introduced

them to our community. Everyone got into the spirit: landscaping their yards, planting gardens and some entering the Communities in Bloom Garden Contest. Litter collection on Earth Day started a trend. Residents and businesses kept the village tidier than ever.

Winter months give us time to plan for new gardens and projects. Finishing the Peace Garden is a priority. Before we know it, it will be spring – our gardens will sprout and a call for volunteers will go out.

The North Cumberland Historical Society

is located on the Second Floor of the Historic Pugwash Train Station. The objective of the North Cumberland Historical Society is to collect, archive, publish and make available to the public, historical and genealogical information of the North Cumberland area, as well to provide a research facility for genealogists, historians and other researchers.

The Society was incorporated in 1964, and since that time the North Cumberland Historical Society has been going strong. During the 1990's, the North Cumberland Historical Society moved to its permanent home in the train station. The North Cumberland Historical Society's district is equivalent to that served by the Pugwash District High School.

Every Friday, from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. researchers gather at the North Cumberland Historical Society to answer queries that come in. The Society has received queries from all around the world, from such places as Australia, the United States and Western Canada. Many fine books about local history have been produced by the North Cumberland Historical Society, and are available through the society's office.

Pugwash and Area Community Health Board

In the fall of each year, the Pugwash and Area Community Health Board looks to area residents to assess the kinds of programs that will best serve the community at large. Funds are always limited, but Board members try to ensure to at least allocate some funds to help set up new programs and continue others that have proven successful.

At present several new applications are under review for funding through the Wellness Funds distributed each year by the Province. Applicants will hear about the status of their applications in December or early in 2007.

Two programs serving Pugwash and area residents have already been awarded a second round of funding. These two hugely popular programs are being offered by Mary Purdy: *Creative Aging*, for seniors and; *Jump*, for students at Pugwash District High. Many seniors have expressed their gratitude for Mary's work with them.

In December, the Pugwash and Area CHB will carry out its third hand washing campaign in the schools in its region. Board members will be delivering over 900 bars of soap and hand washing instructions to students of six schools, just before flu season. They hope to impress upon students once again the value, in warding off flu and cold viruses, of simply washing the hands carefully. This year the Board will serve the students of Oxford Regional High School as well as Pugwash District High and four elementary schools: Cyrus Eaton, Northport, Wallace, and Wentworth. Members are also pleased to partner with Sunset Industries to individually package the soap and instructions in preparation for delivery to schools.

As a volunteer community board, your local CHB is constantly recruiting new members. Three new members have joined its ranks this fall. If you have an interest in serving a term on your local board, please contact Todd Benson at 661-1464.



The Pugwash Peace Exchange has been keeping busy since the last Village newsletter update! Our sales of holiday cards have been going extremely well – do you have yours yet? In September, we held a wine and cheese social at Acadia University. A presentation was given about the PPE, which was warmly received by the attendees, including famous Canadian artist, Alex Colville. The following month, we hosted defence expert Steve Staples, of the Polaris Institute, for a public lecture and Q&A session. Our work with youth has also been ongoing. In October, we were welcomed by students at the Park View Education Centre in Bridgewater. The students were delighted to hear about our initiatives, and about the opportunities for learning that the Peace Exchange will offer. As well, an important milestone has been reached, with the completion of our business plan. The executive summary is available on our website, under "Resources and Links." For more information, or to keep up-to-date on our progress, we invite you to visit our web site at www.pugwashpeaceexchange.org.

Are you looking for that perfect card to send to someone this holiday season? Remind your friends and family that "Peace on Earth" is not just a saying, with the new Pugwash Peace Exchange holiday cards. With your purchase, not only will you be sending a lovely message of peace to your friends, you'll also be supporting the Pugwash Peace Exchange, as we work towards building a world-class facility where people from all over the world can come to learn how to work towards a more peaceful world. (Plain note cards are also available.)

Cards are available at the Hidden Jewel, Basic Spirit, and at the Pugwash Peace Exchange office (above the library.) For more information, please call 243-2328.



THE PUGWASH OFFICE OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE



There is nothing like arriving home after a hectic day at work to hear the annoying ring of the phone. You saunter over and read the call-display. "Private" or some obscure "1-800" number is often glaring back at you. Right away you are on edge, what company or scam-artist is about to ask you for money. These annoying calls are becoming ever more pervasive today as company's use all efforts to thrust themselves into your home and pockets.

Tele-marketing can be annoying. Occasionally, however, the call can be criminal in nature as the person attempts to perpetrate a fraud. The RCMP fields many calls from the public for assistance in this matter. In order to assist here are some common sense recommendations:

- DO NOT** believe that everyone calling with an exciting promotion or investment opportunity is trustworthy, especially if you do not know the caller or their company.
- DO NOT** invest or purchase a product or service without carefully checking out the investment, product, service, and the company.
- DO NOT** be afraid to request further documentation from the caller so you can verify the validity of the company.
- DO NOT** be fooled by the promise of a valuable prize in return for a low cost purchase.
- DO NOT** be pressured to send money to take advantage of a "special offer or deal."
- DO NOT** be hurried into sending money to claim a prize that is available for only a "few hours"
- DO NOT** disclose information about your finances, bank accounts or credit cards (not even the credit card expiry date).
- DO NOT** be afraid to hang up the phone.
- DO** contact Project Phonebusters if you are contacted by someone who promises you great prizes, but requires you to send money in advance for shipping, handling, taxes, etc.
- DO** contact Project Phonebusters if you are contacted by someone who says that you have won a prize, but to qualify you must purchase a product.

And always remember: "If it sounds too good to be true, then it probably is!"

For more information on Phone Scams and Frauds visit: <http://www.phonebusters.com> or <http://cbc.ca/consumers/market/files/scams/>

This Information Update by **Constable Paul Boucheré, 243-2181.**

Pugwash C@Psite

The Nova Scotia CAP Association has written to the Hon. Maxime Bernier, Minister of Industry, asking for a meeting to discuss the future of CAP.

In a statement issued by the Minister on October 12, 2006 Industry Canada "directed transitional funding" to CAP networks to ensure they remain open until March 31st, 2007. The statement also explains that an examination of CAP is underway and that "Industry Canada will announce its decision regarding the long-term future" of the program.

Ottawa has sent \$92,650 in transitional funding to Nova Scotia, approximately \$332 per CAP community. Eric Stackhouse, Chair of the Nova Scotia CAP Association, explains "These funds are welcome but fall far short of what it takes to operate a CAP site and leverage partnership dollars. But combined with a financial commitment from the province, we should just make it to March 31st."

Stackhouse explains "What is of greater concern to our members is the long term future. We were used to an open dialogue between our provincial and federal partners; now it seems that we just have to wait for our future to be decided for us. So we have asked the Minister for the opportunity to meet and talk about where our communities want this program to go."

To date, the Nova Scotia government has assured the Association that it is a strong partner in CAP and will make funding available. Discussions have been ongoing and are positive.

Reaction from individuals, community groups, municipalities, and others has been overwhelming. As Trudy Amirault, Vice-Chair of the Association explains "People care about this program, and they want to have input about its future. After 11 years of working at the local grassroots level, is that too much to ask?"

The C@Psite is open Monday-Friday, 9:00am to 4:00pm and closed from 12:00pm to 1:00pm for lunch. For more information, call **Pugwash C@Psite at 243-2088**.



Pugwash Five Year Strategic Plan

The Pugwash Strategic Planning process is now well underway. Committee members have met twice since September. The purpose of this process is to create a realistic five year plan for our Village. Committee members are: Earl Chase and Bernadette Carini representing business interests; Sue McFarlane and John Caraberis representing village residents and; Bill Church and Kevin Polley representing the Pugwash Village Commission. Ron Robinson of the Cumberland Regional Economic Development Association (CREDA) guided committee members through a "visioning" exercise, and a SWOTs (Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Threats) exercise. In the coming months, at least two public meetings will be held to go through similar exercises. This ensures that the committee's ideas are in harmony with the greater community's vision. Those public meetings will be well-advertised in advance to ensure maximum participation from the community. Look for more in-depth information on the committee's progress in the next quarterly village newsletter in March, 2007.

Pugwash & Area Chamber of Commerce

Members of the area business community have been meeting and working together to form the Pugwash & Area Chamber of Commerce. There have been several organizational meetings held over the past few weeks to get the process rolling and the first official meeting of the Chamber will take place sometime in early December to elect officers, adopt by-laws and establish projects for the coming year.

The catchment area for eligible businesses and individuals or groups to join the Pugwash and Area Chamber of Commerce will stretch from Northport to Malagash as well as Wentworth. A membership drive will begin as soon as the Chamber of Commerce is officially registered and officers have been elected. A quick poll has shown there are over 75 businesses within this area.

The Pugwash & Area Chamber of Commerce

objectives are to:

- promote and support the community based on a foundation of leadership, integrity and co-operation in order to foster an enhanced and responsible business environment;
- identify, encourage and promote all activities in the community pertaining to trade, commerce and services;
- influence public policy through advocacy on behalf of the Chamber on issues affecting the community.

There are many benefits to joining an organization such as a Chamber of Commerce, including advocacy, networking, increasing your business contacts and profile, professional development opportunities, and access to the Chamber of Commerce Group Insurance Plan.

The Pugwash Train Station – A Heritage Building



The Pugwash train station was built in 1889 for the Intercolonial Railway, which ran from Oxford Junction to Pictou and was known as the "Short Line". The building was designed by Sir Sanford Fleming, and was based on a Scottish station design. Sir Sanford Fleming, a Scottish engineer, did extensive work building railways in Canada and he also became famous for his invention of standard time. There were originally five brick stations of similar design on the Short Line. Pugwash and Tatamagouche are the only two remaining.

For many years the train station was at the heart of Pugwash life, bringing people by train to and from the village. Cyrus Eaton traveled to Pugwash in his Chesapeake and Ohio railway cars. At the first Pugwash International conference, the Russian delegates slept in sleeper cars by the station and enjoyed sumptuous meals prepared in luxury dining cars.

After passenger service was discontinued in 1963 the station received goods and the salt mine transported salt by freight train. The station building was turned over to the village commission in 1985, and the line was finally closed in 1998.

The Pugwash library, the archives of the North Cumberland Historical Society and the offices of the Pugwash Peace Exchange are the current occupants.

The building is solidly built with a stack-wood wall construction with a brick facade. This summer the upper windows have been repaired and painted. This has greatly improved the look of the building as one enters Pugwash from both directions.

The train station is cited as an attraction by the Nova Scotia Railway Heritage Society. It also should be recognized as having played an important role in the history of the Pugwash International conferences.