

## \$800,000 Capacity Trust

# Resident co-chairs Board

by Jim Morrow

West Tarbot's Ruth Schneider has been appointed as co-chair of a board of trustees who are responsible for managing the province's \$800,000 Voluntary Sector Professional Capacity Trust.

The Trust can assist non-profit organizations get help attracting and developing a strong workforce, improving their ability to deliver programs and services across the province.

The Voluntary Sector Professional Capacity Trust is now accepting applications for funding to support developing human resource policies, business planning and assessing the needs of an organization.

"Over 24,000 Nova Scotians are employed by the voluntary and non-profit sector," said Marilyn More, Minister of the Voluntary Sector and Labour and Advanced Education.

"These organizations deal with many of the same issues facing other industries in finding and keeping skilled professionals. This funding will help support these organizations as they plan and build for the future while continuing to provide essential programs and services to Nova Scotians."

Dr. Schneider, who sat on the Canadian University Service Overseas (CUSO) international board of directors for six years and is on the board of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation, is co-chairing the board of trustees who are responsible for managing the trust, reviewing applications and

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## Numbers do matter



Parents, students and community members turned out in the cold driving rain and wind on May 11th to show their dismay at the altered plans for the addition to Baddeck Academy. They feel the change in plans does not allow enough space for a full curriculum of courses. A four hour meeting later in the day with the School Board, Department of Education, architect for the renovations and Baddeck Academy administration did not resolve the issues, but the School Board's Director Operational Services, Paul Oldford, did say that all of the issues were put on the table. He hopes to see a resolution to the situation by mid-June when the same group meets again.

## Wind power from the highlands

# County to prepare itself for energy production

by Jim Morrow

Victoria County Council has long been aware of the renewable energy potential within the municipality, but a letter from Highland Power Company which is proposing a 100Mw to 300Mw wind farm on the Highland Road in the Cape Breton Highlands prompted them into action.

The multi-billion dollar project as proposed by Highland Power Company gave Council pause to reflect on the lack of municipal policy on renewable power production.

Chief Administrative Officer, Sandy Hudson, suggested to Council that some professional help is required to assist them through any policy development

around energy creation, whether it is the municipality which leads the development or private individuals or consortiums as in the case of Highland Power.

Jeff MacKinnon, Director for Highland Power Company Inc. said, "Our consortium is not only focused on creating substantial economic development in Nova Scotia through the export of clean energy to the United States, but we are also interested in the upcoming 120Mw RFP (request for proposals) that will soon be issued by Nova Scotia Department of Energy."

Mr. MacKinnon also pointed out that in addition to creating many construction jobs, the wind farm would create continued employment to monitor

and service the turbines, control vegetation on site and along transmission lines and for administration and management positions. The wind farm would also generate significant royalty payments to the Province of Nova Scotia and would place Victoria County in the running with other wind power generating jurisdictions such as New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario.

County Council recognized that a policy review is required to stay on top of the potential of sustainable energy in the Municipality.

Council made and passed a motion to bring in experts to help Council review the Municipality's role in power generation.

## Aros Bhadaig

# "Assisted living" comes to Baddeck

by Jim Morrow

Thirty-five assisted living units will be a great addition to the seniors' housing situation in Baddeck.

Brian MacLeod, president of MacLeod Group Ltd., Antigonish, was at the "old" Alderwood Rest Home on May 5th overseeing the distribution of surplus inventory in his company's latest acquisition.

"The building is basically in great shape and folks will see new siding going up in the next couple of weeks.

"We are renovating the building on the inside making what are now single rooms into double rooms creating 35

apartments.

"We will provide light housekeeping and two meals a day. There will be full service kitchenettes in each apartment as well, but everyone will buy into two meals a day. There will be different options for housekeeping and laundry as well, probably on a per hour basis.

"The idea is to have a communal situation but residents will have their own fully self contained apartment.

There will be a living room in each area for group participation, as well as space for more private family gatherings.

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## County Recreation & Tourism Department

# Funding assistance for two programs

by Jim Morrow

Victoria County's Recreation and Tourism Department is offering assistance to County festivals and to County youth.

Festivals and Entertainment Assistance is being offered to help community (non-profit) organizations providing musical entertainment at festivals in 2011-2012. Community groups will only be allowed to apply once per year.

To be eligible for festival and entertainment assistance, organizations must be incorporated under the Registry of Joint Stock Companies of Nova Scotia as a non-profit organization (society);

and the festival must have a minimum of five events or activities in one or more days.

The maximum amount of funding assistance is up to \$500.00 per festival which must be matched by the applying organization.

Tom C. Wilson, Director of Recreation and Tourism for Municipality of Victoria County suggests that organizations should apply early as funding is limited. For more information visit <http://www.victoriacounty.com>

The second funding program is a Youth Programs Assistance fund.

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