

'Grand Opening' of the new Salmon River Fire Hall

The villages of Salmon River, Mavillette, Mayflower, Lake Doucette, Woodvale, Beaver River, part of Cedar Lake and Springdale now have a new Fire Hall. The 'Grand Opening' of the Salmon River Fire Hall took place on May 9th, 2009 and many came out to celebrate.

The Honourable Wayne Gaudet, Clare MLA, attended the grand opening, as well as Warden Jean Melanson, Councillor for District 8 and Warden of the Municipality of Clare. In the photo Warden Melanson (*at the left*) and MLA Gaudet (*at the far right*) are accompanied by Johnny Saulnier, Salmon River Fire Chief, and Claude Comeau, Salmon River Deputy Fire Chief.

As well as a new building, the Fire Department was proud to unveil a brand new fire truck (*photo below*) which replaced a 1974 pumper with a blown engine.



Warden Jean Melanson, Fire Chief Johnny Saulnier, Deputy Fire Chief Claude Comeau, and MLA for Clare Wayne Gaudet.

Concerns? Questions?

CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR:

Jean Melanson – Warden

(649-2661/home; 769-8732/cell)
Mavillette (west), Salmon River, Woodvale, Beaver River, Mayflower, Lake Doucette, Springdale, Cedar Lake, Hectanooga, Briar Lake, up to Yarmouth County line – District 8.

Ronnie LeBlanc – Deputy Warden

(645-2687)
Meteghan (south), Saint Alphonse, Mavillette (east) and Cape Saint-Mary – District 7.

Russell Comeau (645-3035)

Meteghan River (parts of), Meteghan Centre, Meteghan (north), St Benoni, Meteghan Station (parts of), St Martin and Maxwellton – District 6.

Brian Comeau (769-0715)

Saulnierville (south), Lwr Saulnierville, Meteghan River (parts of), Bangor, Meteghan Station (parts of), and Maxwellton (parts of) – District 5.

Arnold LeBlanc (769-3744)

Little Brook (south), Little Brook Station (south), Comeauville, Saulnierville (north), Concession (south), Lower Concession, Saulnierville Station and St Joseph (parts of) – District 4.

Simon LeBlanc (769-3459)

Grosses Coques, Church Point, Church Point Station, Little Brook (north) and Little Brook Station – District 3.

Danny Hill (837-5888)

Concession (north), Margo, Saint Joseph, Weaver Settlement, Hassett, Havelock, New Tusket, Corberrie, Southville (up to Digby municipal line), Hilltown, Easton, Moodys Corner and Richfield – District 2.

Nil Doucet (837-4324)

New Edinburgh, Saint Bernard, Belliveau Cove, Ohio and Weaver Settlement – District 1. ♦



Fire Chief Johnny Saulnier (*at the right in the photo*), and Deputy Fire Chief Claude Comeau, of the Salmon River Fire Department, proudly stand next to the new fire truck parked in front of the newly built fire hall that will serve residents of Salmon River, Mavillette, Mayflower, Lake Doucette, Woodvale, Beaver River, part of Cedar Lake and Springdale.

The Salmon River Fire Department serves the villages listed above, which reflects a population of approximately 650 residents. It also provides back-up fire fighting services to neighbouring communities of the Municipality of Clare, outside the Salmon River fire district.

In 2007 the Salmon River Fire Hall had to close due to severe mold problems. In addition to this mold, the fire hall had structural issues which caused a number of other problems and inconveniences.

With exorbitant estimated costs to clean up the mold, coupled with the existing structural problems,

it was determined that the best solution was to build a new fire hall for the Salmon River fire district.

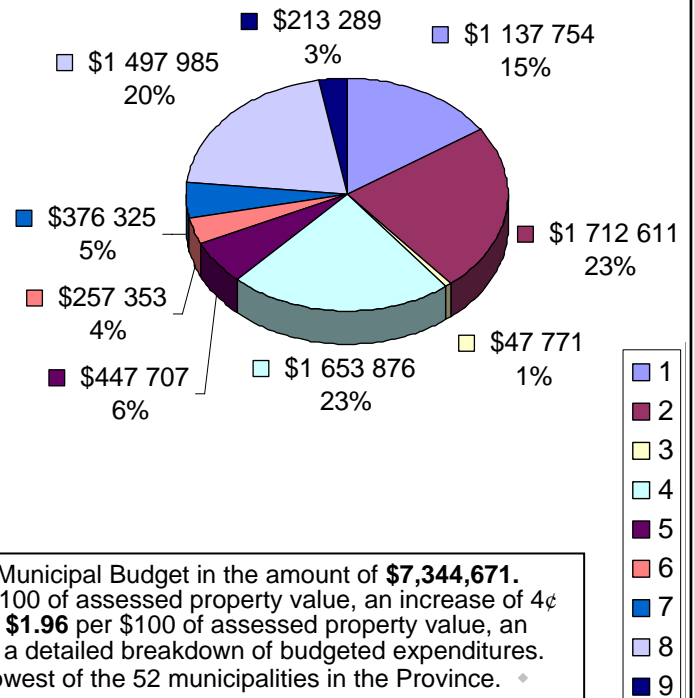
Council recognizes the valuable services that all Fire Departments provide to the residents of Clare, and supports projects such as this.

Funding for the new Fire Hall was received from the Province of Nova Scotia in the amount of \$250,000 and an amount of \$250,000 was also funded under the Municipal Budget through an Area Rate*.

* Read the article on page 2 for more information regarding the 'Fire Protection' area rate. ♦

2009-2010 BUDGET FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF CLARE

1	General Government Services	\$1,137,754
	(Low Income Exemptions, Tax Appeals & Write-Offs, Provincial Tax Assessment Services, Salaries, Office Administration, Grants to Organizations)	
2	Protective Services	\$1,712,611
	(RCMP, By-Law Enforcement, Fire Departments, EMO, Seniors Security, Animal Control)	
3	Transportation Services	\$ 47,771
	(Sidewalks, Street Lights, Public Transportation)	
4	Environmental Health Services	\$1,653,876
	(Sewer Collection, Treatment & Disposal, Garbage/Recycling, Debt Charges)	
5	Public Health and Welfare	\$ 447,707
	(Clare Health Centre, Low Income Seniors' Housing)	
6	Environmental Development Services	\$ 257,353
	(Planning, Community Development, Tourism)	
7	Recreation and Cultural Services, Buildings other than Municipal Office	\$ 376,325
8	Education (School Board)	\$1,497,985
9	General Capital Fund (Various Capital Projects)	\$ 213,289
TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES		\$7,344,671



Members of Council recently approved the 2009-2010 Clare Municipal Budget in the amount of **\$7,344,671**. The Tax Rate for Residential Property was set at **\$1.02** per \$100 of assessed property value, an increase of 4¢ compared to last year. The Commercial Tax Rate was set at **\$1.96** per \$100 of assessed property value, an increase of 6¢ from last year. The table and chart above give a detailed breakdown of budgeted expenditures. It is important to note that our residential tax rate is the 12th lowest of the 52 municipalities in the Province. ♦

Residents of Clare will soon benefit from a “Household Hazardous Waste Depot”

In May 2009, Council for the Municipality of Clare received the news that the Governments of Canada and Nova Scotia would each invest funds to help build a new Household Hazardous Waste Depot in the Municipality of Clare.

Residents of Clare will be able to safely dispose of their waste paint, batteries, and other hazardous household waste.

of Clare and help ensure that our environment is protected from the improper disposal of hazardous waste materials. Having a year round, easily accessible depot will provide an excellent service to our residents,” explains Warden Jean Melanson, on behalf of the Council for the Municipality of the District of Clare.

The depot will enable Clare to have a more responsible waste management strategy, with an end result of making Clare a more environmentally conscious community.

This project is made possible because of the funding from the Federal “Building Canada Fund” (\$50,134),

Wondering about the line reading ‘Fire Protection’ on your recent tax bill?

You may have noticed on your tax bills a line stating “Fire Protection”. This rate has been applied uniformly, for the second year in a row, to residents of Clare in all 8 Districts and replaces the former ‘Area Rates’ which varied from area to area in the Municipality.

Spring of 2008 Council had approved this uniform rate of 5¢ for every \$100 of assessment because all the communities of Clare benefit from fire protection and mutual aid. In the past, only certain Districts were paying ‘area rates’ for a service that all the residents were benefiting from: fire protection service.

The revenue collected from this ‘uniform rate’ is solely used for purchasing and upgrading machinery and equipment for all the fire departments of Clare. An analysis of the fire halls and equipment (done in 2007) showed that, in a number of fire departments, the fire trucks and equipment were very old, did not meet code, were unsafe and in need of replacement. ♦



“Council is pleased to have the support of both the Federal and Provincial Governments on this very worthwhile project, which will benefit residents



the Resource Recovery Fund Board (RRFB) Nova Scotia (\$75,500), and the Municipality of Clare (\$25,067). This joint federal-provincial-municipal investment totals \$150,701.

In the photo, the Honourable Greg Kerr, Member of Parliament for West Nova, meets Warden Jean Melanson in Clare to deliver the news of the Federal funding in person (May 3rd, 2009). ♦

“Rendez-vous de la Baie”, the Acadian Interpretive Centre that’s more than a Tourist Attraction

Construction of the “*Rendez-vous de la Baie*” is going full steam ahead. Although the interior won’t be fully completed this year, the Gallery and Café are scheduled to open in early fall, with full access of the cultural centre in May 2010.

The Acadian Interpretive Centre will be located on the Church Point campus of *Université Sainte-Anne*, on the main floor of the Louis-R.-Comeau Library Building.

The “*Rendez-vous de la Baie*” will be a multi-faceted cultural centre and destination attraction that will offer visitors a comprehensive cultural gateway to the region of Clare.

It will be more than a tourist attraction. The Centre will house an Acadian Interpretive Exhibition, an Art Gallery, a Visitor Information Centre and a quaint Café.

This municipal project is funded in part by ACOA, NS Acadian Affairs, NS Tourism & Culture, NS Economic Development, Canadian Heritage and the Municipality of Clare.

An exciting fund-raising campaign will soon be launched as well.

Construction of the centre began this spring, with the tender being awarded to Delmar Construction Limited. Numerous local sub-contractors are also diligently working on this project.

The recently taken photo (right) shows the soon to be completed exterior of the “*Rendez-vous de la Baie*”. Look for the bright red roof.

Stay tuned for more updates regarding the “*Rendez-Vous de la Baie*” in the next municipal newsletter. ♦



Helpful Phone Numbers

Assessment Office 1-800-532-8880
 Property Tax Rebate 1-877-296-9338
 Registry of Deeds 837-5111

Burning Permits:

- Freddy Muise 649-2739
- Cathy Jubin 837-4535

Clare Acadian Festival 769-0832

Clare Health Centre 645-2777
 Doctor on-call Info 645-2829

Court, provincial Digby 1-902-245-4567
 Court, provincial Comeauville 769-3928
 Fines – where to pay 1-902-245-4567

Dept of Transportation 769-2192

Dog Catcher 645-2105
 "La Baie SPCA" (information)
 President: Deborah Germain 769-2589

Home Support 837-4444
 Social Services 645-3804
 Tri-County Housing Authority
 (toll free) 1-800-306-3331

RCMP (general inquiries) 645-2326

School Boards:

- “Conseil scolaire acadien provincial” (CSAP) 769-5460
- Tri-County Regional School Board 1-902-742-9266

South West Shore Development Authority:
 ▪ Clare 769-2925
 ▪ Yarmouth (toll free) 1-800-915-0113

Visitors’ Info Centre 837-7100
 (June to late September)

✂ Cut and Save ✂

Clare Volunteer of the Year

Earlier this year, 47 organizations in Clare each nominated a volunteer, which they felt donated their time & energy for a worthwhile cause. Each of the 47 volunteers were honoured by the Municipality of Clare during a celebration banquet organized by the Recreation Department, held at the Saunierville Legion.

Jacqueline Mullen was chosen as Volunteer of the Year 2009 for Clare.



(photo Richard Landry)

Mrs. Mullen of Saint-Bernard is a dedicated volunteer who’s become a valuable asset to her community.

A very active member of the Saint Bernard Seniors’ Club, Mrs. Mullen has been involved with them for the past 10 years. When their president is unavailable, she is the one who ensures the smooth running of the Club’s activities. Mrs. Mullen also volunteers on card game nights, and takes part in raising funds through “Lucky Duck Lotto”. She is also a member of the Comeauville Seniors’ Club and the Church Point Social Club. As well she does door-to-door canvassing for various charitable organizations and is a member of her church choir.

Mrs. Mullen was also honoured during the 35th Annual Provincial Volunteer Award Ceremony in Halifax on April 14th, 2009. The Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia Mayann Francis, Premier Rodney MacDonald and the Minister of Volunteerism Pat Dunn thanked and recognized Mrs. Mullen, as well as the other volunteers of Nova Scotia, for the tremendous contributions made to the community and the Province.

To Jacqueline Mullen and all the volunteers of the Municipality of Clare a heartfelt “thank you”. ♦



Honoured for Community Development

President and Vice-Chancellor André Roberge (left) presents Warden Jean Melanson with an Honorary Diploma from *Université Sainte-Anne* during the Collegial Graduation Ceremony in June for his leadership in community development.

From the Tax Collector's desk

Questions about the assessment value of your property? Contact the Nova Scotia Assessment Office (PVSC) toll free at **1-800-532-8880**.

'Spring Cleaning' & Garbage

The Municipality of Clare offers free pick-up of your large household items such as furniture, mattresses, box springs and such that you want to dispose of. Instead of setting aside a specific clean-up week the Municipality offers this service year-round during regular garbage pick-up weeks. Simply put these unwanted items at curbside with your regular household garbage.

Ovens, stoves, washing machines, dryers, very bulky or heavy items will be picked up, however arrangements must be made **ahead** of time with *Clare Dumpsters Limited* by contacting them in advance at 769-2301.

Items such as old windows, old steps, rotten wood, etc, are considered to be 'construction debris' and are only accepted at the *Clare Transfer Station* (former Landfill) for a fee and are **not** accepted at curbside. Fees are listed on the municipal garbage schedule or phone the *Transfer Station* at 645-2993.

Remember that dumping garbage in the forest, on the beach, or in other natural environments is illegal.

CONTEST: Surf our Web Site www.clarenovascotia.com for a Chance to Win

The Municipality of Clare has a new and improved Website. Our bilingual portal has a wealth of information on municipal services; community, sports and leisure activities; tourism topics and events; and contact information for Councillors & staff.

We decided to promote our 'new and improved' Website with a re-launch contest. The prizes are 2 individual ticket-packages for the 3 outdoor concerts during the *Festival acadien de Clare* which include the popular Opening Concert, the toe-taping 'Fais-do-do en Acadie' and the not-to-miss Closing Concert all held in Little Brook.

For your chance to win 1 of the prizes, visit our web site clarenovascotia.com and browse the site. To enter the **Contest**, find our "Contact Page". Once on this page, under "Email Us" fill in your name, then open the "Department" drop-down window and select "Newsletter". For the "Subject" type in '**Contest**' and in the "Question or Comment" box give us your feedback regarding our website and our municipal newsletter, then click "Submit".

Contest closes **Wednesday July 22, 2009**. The emails will be entered into a random draw and the two winners will be contacted via email. Notification will be sent to the winners via the electronic addresses he/she provided. Upon notification, the winners will be required to provide contact & mailing information.

Only one (1) entry per person will be entered in the draw. Please note that employees of the *Municipality of Clare* and their immediate families are not eligible to enter.



You will see that the new Website conveys, both directly and using links to relevant sources of information provided by other organizations, an overview of the region, its people, and the Municipal Government services provided. As well you'll find posted on the site the minutes of the monthly Council meetings.

Our easy-to-read Municipal & Recreation Calendars give you an overview of some of our events and activities. For your reading pleasure, our municipal newsletters can be downloaded.

Happy Navigating and Good Luck!

www.clarenovascotia.com



Burning Permits Required

If you intend on burning brush within 305 metres (1,000 feet) of the woods you will require a provincial burning permit (until approximately October 15th).

For a permit in Clare, contact:

- © **Freddy Muise** at **649-2739**
- © **Cathy Jubin** at **837- 4535**.



Permits are \$5.⁶⁰ and valid for 2 weeks.

The Province of Nova Scotia stated that since there was less snow than usual this winter, our forests were at additional risk for spring fires. If the summer is a dry one it will elevate the risk even more.

Remember that starting a fire without a burning permit can result in a fine of up to \$500, six months in jail, or both.



Clare Acadian Festival

The annual cultural festival "*Festival acadien de Clare*" will be held from July 30th to August 15th.

The parade will be Sunday, August 2nd.

For more information, contact the *Festival acadien de Clare* staff office at **769-0832** located at *École secondaire de Clare* high school, Meteghan River, or visit their website: www.festivalacadiendeclare.ca

Seniors Safety Program

The "Security for Seniors Association" is an interactive safety and information program for seniors created in partnership with the Municipality of Clare and the RCMP. This program enables seniors to feel safe, secure and healthy in their own homes. Seniors of Clare can benefit from this program by having their concerns addressed and questions answered.

Hélène Comeau has been the bilingual Coordinator for the Seniors Safety Program since October 2005 and provides information on personal safety and well-being, consumer frauds and scams, elder abuse, Vial of Life™, crime prevention methods and more. Home visits, public presentations and educational workshops for seniors are also available. This program is free of charge for seniors. All discussions are completely confidential.

If you or your family member would like more information, phone Hélène at the Meteghan RCMP Detachment **645-2326** or contact her via email at helene.comeau@rcmp-grc.gc.ca. Her office hours are Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF CLARE NEWSLETTER

Prepared by the Municipality of the District of Clare, PO Box 458, Little Brook, NS B0W 1Z0 • (902)769-2031 • www.clarenovascotia.com

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The Municipality of the District of Clare Newsletter is published twice a year and mailed to residents of Clare to provide information on municipal services, activities and programs. If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the newsletter, please call 769-2031 or email cking@municipality.clare.ns.ca