

RESIDENTS OF CLARE SEE A BRAND NEW HEALTH CENTRE OPEN ITS DOORS

This past May, the new "Clare Health Centre" opened its doors to the public. From the foundation to the roof, it was a joint effort of many individuals, firms, businesses, contractors, workers, volunteers, councillors, staff and the list goes on.

"The members of the former Health Centre Committee worked extremely hard to make this dream become a reality", states Ronnie LeBlanc, Councillor and Co-Chair of the now dissolved committee. "They were a group of extremely dedicated individuals who each brought valuable skills to the table." The Committee was comprised of Councillors Brian Comeau, Russell Comeau, Ronnie LeBlanc and Simon LeBlanc; Dentist Harold Boudreau, Denise LeBlanc, Lionel Robichaud and Hector Thibault.

"The new Centre offers the benefits and advantages of having a group practice. The doctors and other medical professionals, housed under one roof, are able to work as a team, consult & assist each other in numerous ways", explains Councillor LeBlanc.

For almost 2 years the Committee members met, discussed, planned, held public meetings, met with

several doctors, and visited several medical centres in eastern Canada. With all the input received and the valuable data collected, the Committee made numerous recommendations to Council. With Council's approval to proceed, construction began in September 2007 and on May 12th, 2008 the facility opened.

The firm Horner and Associates Ltd was engaged for engineering and on site inspections, and three contractors were the successful bidders on four Calls for Tender, namely Avondale Construction Ltd, Tri-Lite Electrical Plumbing and Heating Ltd, and Delmar Construction Limited. Many local tradesmen from the area were employed as a result of these contracts and sub-contracts.

Owned and operated by the Municipality of Clare, the Centre offers various bilingual health services in the wheel-chair accessible two-level building. The main floor, with over 7,000 square feet, has space for 6 doctors with 2 examination rooms each, an administration office, a registration and reception area with a large adjoining waiting area, offices for a nurse practitioner & residency program, a procedure room and emergency outgoing area.

The newly hired Manager of the Clare Health Centre is Janice (LeBlanc) Bilodeau, originally from St-Martin (Clare). Janice came to the Centre with extensive experience in healthcare & was previously employed as Head Nurse and Manager of Administration for the Canadian Forces Base in Bagotville, Québec. Janice is excited about managing the Health Centre with her current staff, comprised of an administrative assistant, two secretary-receptionists and two hostesses.



Janice (LeBlanc) Bilodeau is the Manager of the new Clare Health Centre.



Dr. Lionel d'Entremont is the new Medical Director, chief advisor and team leader on clinical issues, at the Clare Health Centre.

Municipality of Clare

1185 Highway 1 PO Box 458
Little Brook, NS B0W 1Z0



www.clarenovascotia.com

CAO & MUNICIPAL CLERK:

Connie Saulnier 769-2031

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS

Building Permits	769-3655
Civic Numbering	769-3655
Finance	769-2031
Public Works	769-7458
Recreation	769-3655
Taxes	769-2031
Tourism	769-3655

OTHER MUNICIPAL SERVICES

By-Law Enforcement	769-3655
EMO – Emergency Measures Operation	
▪ under normal situations	769-2031
▪ once an emergency is declared	769-0884
Farm Zoning	769-3655
Fire Inspector	769-3655
Garbage pick-up inquiries	769-2031
Library – Clare Branch (Meteghan)	645-3350
Subdivision Regulations	1-902-742-1337
Transfer Station (former landfill)	645-2993
Visitors Information Centre	837-7100
Waste Check (recycling)	1-902-742-1312
(toll free number)	1-800-569-0039

✂ Cut and Save ✂



The new Clare Health Centre built next to the recently demolished Medical Centre located on Highway 1 in Meteghan Centre is 14,000 square feet of space for a team of medical professionals housed under one roof.

The lower level, another 7,000 square feet, has space for blood collection services with an adjoining waiting area, offices for Public Health services, Community Health Board, Addictions Services, a class room and board room. To access the blood collection services and other services on the lower level, please park & enter at the rear of the building.

This municipal capital project hit the \$4 million dollar mark, with a portion of the funding coming from a Municipal capital reserve fund and the balance of the project will be financed through a term loan. There is also a fundraising campaign "Buy a Brick Program" & "Corporate Sponsorship Program" under way, in partnership with the Conseil Sigogne Knights of Columbus, which has raised \$112,616 to date.

Please note that the main number for the Health Centre is 645-2777. For the doctor "on-call" information, the phone number is 645-2829.

The doctors that are currently located at the new Centre are: Dr. Lionel d'Entremont, Dr. Tharini Ganeshram, Dr. Giselle Dugas and Dr. Michelle Dow. If one of these doctors is your family doctor, phone the Clare Health Centre at 645-2777 when you need to book an appointment.

The grand opening of the Clare Health Centre is planned for the not too distant future; the date will be announced in local newspapers. It will be an exciting day in the history of the Municipality of Clare.



Clare wins "Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit Award"

On August 15th the Municipality of Clare was awarded the "Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit Award". The Honourable Mayann E. Francis, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, was in Little Brook to present the award during the closing ceremonies of the "Festival acadien de Clare". In the photo, Warden Jean Melanson holds the hand cut crystal award as Her Honour congratulates Paul-Émile LeBlanc, chair of the Clare nomination committee.



(Photo by Michael Gorman)

"Senator Ambroise H. Comeau Memorial Library" in Meteghan Clare Branch of Western Counties Regional Library



Located in Meteghan at civic address #8196, Highway 1 (directly behind "Caisse populaire de Clare") the "Senator Ambroise H. Comeau Memorial Library" is the Clare branch of the "Western Counties Regional Library".

Through the branch and its online services, the library is accessible to its members 24 hours a day. Through the Web site you can request a book, ask a reference question and search the online catalogues. A free library card can be obtained in person at the branch or by registering on-line.

The library offers a changing selection of regular, large print and audio format books, in both French and English, as well as a collection of music, magazines and movies.

It also offers a variety of special needs services, including literacy material, a Readers Friend Program and adaptive technology. All staff and services at the Clare Branch in Meteghan are bilingual.

Public wireless Internet access is also offered through the library's C@P site during regular library hours (see below).

A variety of programs and exhibits that run throughout the year are offered at the library. Check out www.westerncounties.ca and go to "This Month @ Your Library", then select "Clare" for details or contact the Clare Branch for more information.

Phone: 645-3350

Address: P.O. Box 265, 8196 Highway 1, Meteghan, NS, B0W 2J0

E-mail: clare@nsy.library.ns.ca

Web site: www.westerncounties.ca

Library hours at the Meteghan Branch

Day	Hours	Hours
Monday		5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday	10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	
Thursday	10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday	10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	
Saturday	10 a.m. to 12 p.m.	



Important numbers

Assessment Office (Yarm) 1-902-742-7143
(toll free) 1-800-532-8880
Property Tax Rebate 1-877-296-9338
Registry of Deeds 837-5111
Subdivision Regulations 1-902-742-1337

Burning Permits:

▪ Freddy Muise 649-2739
▪ Roy Mullen 841-0709

Clare Acadian Festival 769-0832

Clare Health Centre 645-2777
Doctor on-call Info 645-2829
Emergency 911

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
(Local Office in Saulnierville)

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:

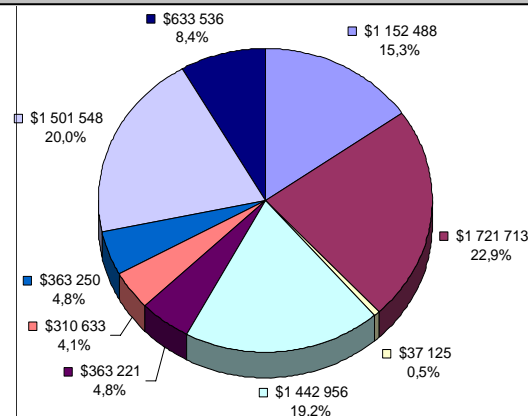
▪ Clare 769-2925
▪ Yarmouth 1-902-742-3210
(toll free) 1-800-915-0113

Visitors' Info Centre 837-7100

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2008-2009 CLARE MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Expenditures	2008-2009
1 General Government Services	\$ 1 152 488
2 Protective Services	\$ 1 721 713
3 Transportation Services	\$ 37 125
4 Environmental Health Services	\$ 1 442 956
5 Public Health and Welfare	\$ 363 221
6 Environmental Development Services	\$ 310 633
7 Recreation & Cultural Services	\$ 363 250
8 Education	\$ 1 501 548
9 General Capital Fund	\$ 633 536
Total Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 7 526 470



Members of Council have recently approved the 2008-2009 Municipal budget for the amount of \$7,526,470.⁰⁰.

The tax rate for residential property was set at 98 cents per \$100 of assessed property value, a marginal increase of 2 cents compared to last year. The commercial tax rate was set at \$1.90 per \$100 of assessed property value, an increase of 5 cents.

See the table and chart to the left for a detailed breakdown of budgeted expenditures. *

A year-round outdoor family fitness park in Meteghan

The Meteghan Park Development Association's (MPDA) main objective is the creation of an outdoor fitness park in Meteghan. How did it begin? What will it look like when finished? When will it open? Read on to find out more.

In 2006, a group of 5 individuals got together to form an association to develop a family park in Meteghan. Led by dentist Harold Boudreau, the group approached Council to discuss the possibility of building this park at the location of the former elementary school École Stella Maris on Highway 1 in Meteghan, land owned by the Municipality. In December 2006, Council gave them a 'green light' to proceed with their plans to build a family park on the vacant lot.

Since then, the MPDA and its members have been hard at work with numerous volunteers giving their time to this project. The group received grants from the Municipality of Clare to assist in getting their activities underway for this outdoor fitness park and to purchase equipment accessories to make this park accessible to the physically challenged.

The park will be open year-round with seasonal activities available to everyone, with a central theme being families. An emphasis on all ages and physical conditions is an integral part of the park's reason for being.

So far funding has been received from the Government of NS in the amount of \$67,291 (from Health Promotion and Protection). As well, donations are being received from numerous local businesses and individuals, so far totaling \$15,000. "Over 125 businesses and individuals of Clare and surroundings have donated either money or supplies to help with the outdoor park", explains Dr Harold Boudreau, president of the MPDA. "Just about everyone we have asked has given money, supplies, products or their time. The support has been tremendous!", adds Dr. Boudreau.



A miniature-village and a colourful wooden train, just the right size for tiny tots to play in, are just some of the components of the new year-round family outdoor fitness park in Meteghan. (photo C. King)

As well, South West Shore Development Authority (SWSDA) has helped the group by assisting with grant applications, finding other sources of funding, etc. Through their Skills Enhancement Project, SWSDA has provided the project with four laborers and a foreman to construct various components of the park.

Volunteers have been hard at work planting an array of plants, flowers and shrubs donated by local businesses and individuals. There is still much work to be done but the park is progressively taking shape every day.

Fitness components of the park will include walking paths, small-scale outdoor sport venues (such as a beach volley-ball court & a skating area), climbing structures, swings and slides among others. Work will continue this winter and will be on-going year after year.

Once completed, the outdoor fitness park will be extremely welcoming with a decorative fountain and intricate lights. Acadian cultural colors will decorate the park during the summer months and holiday-themed lighting will embellish the park in the winter.

The MPDA's plans to open this summer became a reality and the park has no admission fee. The outdoor fitness park offers the opportunity to increase physical recreation for everyone who wishes to use it, such as local families, residents of Clare, visitors and tourists alike. "It will be a great asset to the community and to the Municipality", adds Councillor for District 7, Ronnie LeBlanc. ♦

A REMINDER FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Municipality of Clare requires that building permits be obtained for new decks and for replacing existing decks.

Decks that are not attached to a structure or are less than 24" above ground to the underside of the joist and no greater than 592 square feet in area may be placed on deck blocks. All other decks must be placed on concrete columns with appropriate footings.



Decks shall be constructed to support floor loads of 40lbs per square foot, in accordance with the National Building Code of Canada 2005.

The Building Dept is made up of : Arnold Comeau, building inspector; Gary Sullivan, assistant building inspector; and Johann Robichaud,

secretary. They can be reached at **769-3655**, Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 12:00 noon, and 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm (closed from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm), and they are located **downstairs** at the Municipal Office (parking located at the **rear** of the building). ♦



Clare Tourism Department: Successful Trade Shows in 2008

Nicole Boudreau, Director of the Municipal Tourism Department, in partnership with Yarmouth and Acadian Shores, attended the *Fête de l'été Québec* in Québec City in April 2008. Reports from show organizers confirm that: "The Show welcomed 28,600 visitors during the weekend. The public took the opportunity to select their destination, plan their summer vacations and enjoy the hot atmosphere in the Show."

Ms. Boudreau also participated with the Yarmouth and Acadian Shores team at the Annual Saltscares East Coast Expo in Halifax, also held in April 2008. Approximately 2,500 samples of Rappie Pie were given out to the very appreciative participants. "We received some unsure looks...until they tasted it. Then it was all smiles", says Boudreau. "The *râpure* provided a draw to our booth. Once they were in love with our food, the rest of the region was an easy sell. We anticipate some great return on investment with this show since people got to see that our area is beautiful, unique & right in their backyard."

For up-to-date information on the Tourism Department, phone Nicole at 769-3655 or check out our official tourism website at www.baiesaintemarie.com and see what is going on in Clare and surrounding areas this year. ♦

Uniform Fire Protection Rate

The Municipality of Clare has changed the Fire Protection rate. This tax rate has been applied uniformly to residents of Clare in all 8 districts and replaces existing area rates. Council approved the uniform rate of 5¢ for every \$100 of assessment, explaining that all the communities of Clare benefit from fire protection.

"In the event of a large fire, neighboring departments would be called in for backup to assist in combating the blaze with their equipment", explains Connie Saulnier, CAO.

The revenue collected from this uniform rate will be for the sole purpose of purchasing and/or upgrading capital equipment for the fire departments. "They need safe equipment to use", explains Saulnier, "and in a number of fire departments, the equipment is very old, unsafe and in need of replacement." ♦



Doctor "on call" info

For information regarding who the doctor "on-call" is please phone **645-2829**.



To contact a doctor located at the new "Clare Health Centre" please phone **645-2777**.

For an emergency, dial 911.

From the Tax Collector's desk

- Did you know that you can now pay your municipal taxes on-line? For more info, contact **Anne Downing** at 769-2031, via email: taxation@municipality.clare.ns.ca or come in to get detailed instructions on how to pay your taxes on the Internet.
- Did you know that when you purchase a property you no longer have to come in to the Municipal Office regarding your deed? The Deed Transfer Tax and the Deed Recording are all done at the Registry of Deeds Office in Weymouth (837-5111). ♦



We're on the Web! @ www.clarenovascotia.com

Our bilingual website provides a wealth of information on municipal services, events, activities, tourism topics and contact information for Council and staff members.


Minutes of the monthly Council meetings are posted in both official languages.

Our goal: improve & expand the website, eventually offer much more information & electronic versions of various documents.

Keep watch for improvements later this year!

<p>DISTRICT 1 New Edinburgh, Saint Bernard, Belliveau Cove, Ohio & Weaver Settlement (parts of) Nil Doucet</p>	<p>DISTRICT 2 Concession (north), St. Joseph, Margo, Weaver Settlement, Hassett, Havelock, New Tusket, Corberrie, Southville (up to the Digby municipal line), Hilltown, Easton, Moodys Corner and Richfield. Danny Hill</p>	<p>DISTRICT 3 Grosses Coques, Church Point and Little Brook (north) Simon LeBlanc</p>	<p>DISTRICT 4 Little Brook (south), Comeauville, Saulnierville (north), Concession (south), Lower Concession, Saulnierville Station & St Joseph (parts of) Arnold LeBlanc</p>
<p><u>Bellevue Street sewer extension</u> Residents of Bellevue Street will soon be able to hook-up to the Belliveau Cove Municipal sewer system. This is a project that falls under the Rural Municipal Infrastructure Program. Residents will be pleased to see the completion of this sewer extension.</p> <p><u>Car-pool parking lot</u> Since this past fall, Saint Bernard has a car-pool parking lot, off of Highway 101 at Exit 28. It can accommodate a dozen vehicles and is great for those who commute to work or studies. There now is a sign posted to identify the car-pooling lot.</p> <p><u>Belliveau Cove Board Walk</u> The popular "Piau's Walk", also known as the Belliveau Cove Board Walk, is getting a much needed facelift. Local volunteers have been busy over the past few years. Rotted planks were removed and replaced with easier to maintain gravel. Also, the section of the walk that is next to the pond has been relocated due to flooding that covered the walk. By the end of the summer the walk should be completed.</p> <p><u>Rail to Trail</u> The "Rail to Trail - Sentier de Clare" project is almost complete. The last big part of the walking trail left to be finished is the bridge in Belliveau Cove. Located on Belliveau River, the bridge will be wide enough for four-wheeler access. If all goes well, construction should be completed by the end of this summer.</p>	<p>There are a number of projects completed and underway in my district, too many to list all of them, but here are a few I find important to highlight:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Havelock Community Centre has undergone many renovations with the help of an \$8,000 Municipal grant and the work of many volunteers. • Wentworth Park in Corberrie has had repairs and upgrades. • the new Municipal Capital Funding Program will help the Clare Fire Departments to provide adequate fire protection for the residents of Clare. The Havelock Fire Department will be getting a new rescue van in the near future to help in this cause. • the Weymouth Elementary School purchased new playground equipment with the help of a \$4,000 grant from the Municipality of Clare (approximately 1/3 of the students at this school are from the Clare District). • as a member of the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation, I would like to note that the Yarmouth Hospital received an MRI machine in 2007 and work is now being done to have a Cancer Unit at the Yarmouth Hospital. • the Weymouth Area Softball League is in its 30th season in 2008. All fields used by the players of this league are in the Clare District and 75% of the players are from Clare. <p>As a side note, I am pleased to see stronger communication between Municipal Council and the residents of Clare, and I hope this trend continues. Councillors are approachable & willing to listen to the concerns of the citizens.</p>	<p><u>"Université Sainte-Anne"</u> The Municipality of Clare and Université Sainte-Anne continue to work together on various projects, and this is a valuable partnership for all the people of the Clare. A strong entity and one of the largest employers in the community, Université Ste-Anne not only offers education and training, but recreational, sports, artistic and cultural venues.</p> <p><u>Zoning and future planning</u> Currently there are farming and livestock by-laws, but no zoning for residential or commercial development. The Municipality is currently working on a "Municipal and Zoning Plan", and I feel that this community strategic plan is very important, especially for the younger generation in regards to the future development of Clare.</p> <p><u>"Security for Seniors"</u> Clare is a retirement community, with a large part of the population being elderly. This being a vulnerable group, I feel that "Security for Seniors", a partnership with the Municipality and the RCMP, is a valuable program to help with the safety and security of the elderly that are still in their own homes.</p> <p><u>Public Works & Dept of Highways</u> Being on the Public Works Committee, I am glad to see a fourth highway car-pool parking lot in Clare. St-Bernard is the newest one at Exit 28 and the one in Meteghan at Exit 31 has been upgraded.</p>	<p>It's hard to imagine that this coming October, it will already be 4 years that I've served as Municipal Councillor. I thoroughly enjoy working with my colleagues on Council, for the people of my district and for the community.</p> <p>As special advisor to "La Baie SPCA", I would like to mention that the immediate goal of "La Baie SPCA" is to raise enough money to build a much needed animal shelter in Clare. With help and assistance from our municipal government and the citizens of Clare, we hope to see an animal shelter up and running in Clare in the not too distant future.</p> <p>Another exciting project I'm presently working on with its Board of Directors is the one at the "Villa Acadienne". The need for new long-term care beds within the Municipality of Clare is pressing. In an attempt to reduce waiting lists, eliminate the need to relocate seniors at considerable distances from their homes, family members and friends, and to serve our seniors in their primary language, the "Villa" has recently submitted a 15.2 million dollar expansion and renovation project to the Government of Nova Scotia. The Board remains hopeful that the project proposal will be well received and ultimately accepted.</p> <p>I invite and welcome all ideas, comments and suggestions that might help me to better serve you and to ultimately better serve the community of Clare as a whole.</p>
 <p>Councillor Doucet serves on the following committees: Clam beds, Clare Firefighters Assoc., Doctor Recruiting, Public Works, Rail to Trail Assoc., Recreation, Upper Clements Theme Park.</p>	 <p>Councillor Hill serves on the following committees: By-Laws, Clare Firefighters Association, Personnel, Planning Advisory, Recreation, Yarmouth Hospital Foundation.</p>	 <p>Councillor LeBlanc serves on the following committees: Building, By-Laws, Clare Energy Concept, Public Works, Villa Acadienne, Yarmouth Airport Commission.</p>	 <p>Deputy Warden LeBlanc serves on the following committees: By-Laws, Interpretative Cultural Centre (Advisory); La Baie SPCA, Personnel, SWSDA, Tourism, Villa Acadienne.</p>

Municipal Tax Rate : How do we compare...?

 Fiscal Years	Municipality of the District of Clare		Municipality of the District of Argyle		Municipality of the District of Yarmouth		Municipality of the District of Digby		Town of Yarmouth		Town of Digby	
	2007-2008	2008-2009	2007-2008	2008-2009	2007-2008	2008-2009	2007-2008	2008-2009	2007-2008	2008-2009	2007-2008	2008-2009
Residential Tax Rate	\$0.96	\$0.98	\$1.09	\$1.09	\$1.16	\$1.16	\$1.35	\$1.35	\$1.81	\$1.81	\$1.92	\$1.92
Commercial Tax Rate	\$1.85	\$1.90	\$2.11	\$2.18	\$2.10	\$2.15	\$1.85	\$1.85	\$3.78	\$3.98	\$3.65	\$3.84

The rate is calculated per \$100 of assessment.

DISTRICT 5 Saulnierville (south), Lower Saulnierville, Meteghan River (parts of), Bangor, Meteghan Station (parts of) & Maxwellton (parts of) Brian Comeau	DISTRICT 6 Meteghan River (parts of), Meteghan Centre, Meteghan (north), Saint Benoni, Meteghan Station (parts of), Saint Martin & Maxwellton Russell Comeau	DISTRICT 7 Meteghan (south), Saint Alphonse, Mavillette (east) and Cape Saint-Mary Ronnie LeBlanc	DISTRICT 8 Mavillette (west), Salmon River, Mayflower, Woodvale, Beaver River, Lake Doucette, Hectanooga, Briar Lake, Springdale and up to the Yarmouth County line Jean Melanson
<p><u>Clam Beds</u> As per Council's recommendation, a committee has recently been formed to address the concerns of local clam-diggers. I am presently working with this Committee to address various issues regarding the clam beds in the Clare area. Our goal is to protect the rights of clam diggers and those who want to dig a bucket of clams as they have always done.</p> <p><u>Clare Health Centre</u> An important project that we are all pleased with is the new Clare Health Centre. The total cost for this capital project will be over 4 million dollars, with the following expenses incurred to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction & Engineering: \$ 4,050,528.⁰⁰ • Furniture and Equipment: \$ 148,488.⁰⁰ <p>The Centre is open, with site work and landscaping still to be finished.</p> <p><u>Art & Culture</u> An important part of our community that sometimes is overlooked is the artistic and cultural sector. I feel that it is important to include Art and Culture in the Municipality's development plans.</p> <p><u>Public Assess Roads</u> Another issue that Council has been looking into is public access roads that lead to the shore. People who wish to go to the beach for boating or other recreational purposes need to know if they have the right to use these roads and who is responsible for their maintenance and upkeep.</p>	<p><u>Clare Health Centre</u> As a member of the former Medical Centre Committee, I am pleased to see the new Clare Health Centre open its doors to the public. This was a huge undertaking that was long overdue.</p> <p><u>Municipal Sewer System</u> Residents of Meteghan Centre are now serviced by the extension of the Meteghan Municipal Sewer System. Over 30 homes have hooked-up so far and homes can still be connected by contacting the Municipal Office.</p> <p><u>"Security for Seniors"</u> The program "Security for Seniors" has been and still is a valuable program which is benefiting all of the senior citizens of the Municipality. Seniors are seeing their tax dollars reinvested in a program that helps them feel safe and secure in their homes, offering them up-to-date information on consumer frauds, scams, elder abuse, and various personal safety concerns.</p> <p><u>Staying focused</u> Times seem to be hard these days and more people from Clare are moving out West. But the Municipality has a mandate and must stay focused on it. Council is seeing many requests come in from different organizations asking for funding, but Council cannot say "yes" to all of them.</p> <p><u>Tax rates, past and present</u> An interesting bit of information: in the past 14 years that I've served as Councillor, I have seen the residential tax rate as high as \$1.17 (in 1994) and as low as .90¢ (in 2004).</p>	<p>For the past few years, the Municipal Doctor Recruiting Committee has been working diligently to attract new doctors to the Clare area and we are pleased to have played a part in having four new doctors join the medical team in Clare: Dr. Eugene van Onselen, since July 2005; Dr. Tharini Ganeshram, since January 2006; Dr. Krishna Chabraborty, since June 2006; and Dr. Giselle Dugas, since July 2007.</p> <p>We are still looking at recruiting more doctors to come to Clare, focusing on liaising with medical students from the area who are pursuing their studies abroad and keeping them informed of updates and developments in Clare.</p> <p>The members of the Committee are excited about the new Medical Centre. We feel that this new facility is an asset for the people of Clare and will help in attracting new doctors to the area.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>"Job well done" to the <i>Meteghan Park Development Association</i> who is working on the construction of the recently opened year-round outdoor fitness park situated on Highway 1 in Meteghan, the site of the former Stella-Maris elementary school.</p> <p>Community, family, health and recreation are all important and that is why this park is a great place for families and friends to meet. Also, it is a nice spot for tourists to relax while their children play, take a walk or enjoy the picturesque view of Saint Mary's Bay.</p>	<p>I am pleased to highlight that the Salmon River Fire Department will have a new fire hall.</p> <p>Since the early 1970's, the Salmon River Fire Department has been serving the villages of Salmon River, Lake Doucette, Mavillette, Woodvale, Beaver River, Mayflower, part of Cedar Lake and Springdale, a population of approximately 650 residents. It also provides back-up fire fighting services to neighbouring communities outside the Salmon River fire district.</p> <p>Last year, the Salmon River Fire Hall had to close due to severe mold problems. In addition to this mold, the fire hall has structural issues which have caused a number of other problems and inconveniences.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Recognizing the valuable service that the Salmon River Fire Department provides to this district, Council has been supporting the Fire Department's pursuit of this project. And we are very pleased that the Salmon River Fire Department has received funding from the Province of Nova Scotia in the amount of \$250,000 towards a new fire hall.</p> <p>The fire hall construction tender has been awarded and construction of the new fire hall is underway.</p>
 <p>Councillor Comeau serves on the following committees: Building, Clam beds, Clare Energy Concept, Public Works, Recreation, Villa Acadienne.</p>	 <p>Councillor Comeau serves on the following committees: Building, Clam beds, Dr Recruiting, Planning Advisory, Public Works, Waste Check.</p>	 <p>Councillor LeBlanc serves on the following committees: Building, Dr Recruiting, Personnel, Planning Advisory, Villa Acadienne, Yarmouth Airport Commission.</p>	 <p>Warden Melanson serves on the following committees: Clare Energy Concept, Harbourside and Tidal View, Interpretative Cultural Centre (Advisory), Personnel, Waste Check, Western Counties Regional Library.</p>

A MESSAGE FROM THE C.A.O.

I can hardly believe that it has been 16 months since I assumed my post as CAO with the Municipality of Clare. Needless to say, I am thrilled to be home again after a lengthy absence from my birthplace. A picture which is imbedded in my mind is one of a spring day earlier this year as I glanced out of my office window in the early morning hours on an incredibly calm day. On that day I witnessed no less than twelve fishing boats gliding across the Bay on an ocean that seemed as smooth as a piece of glass, and as I gazed across the water I remembered one of the reasons why I missed this beautiful place.



the review of the eight fire departments in Clare (Saint Bernard, Little Brook, Meteghan, Salmon River, Hectanooga, Richfield, Havelock and Southville). Both projects were extremely interesting and I would like to sincerely thank Council and staff, the volunteer firefighters & the many residents

who assisted me with their suggestions, time, energy and tons of information to ensure that these projects became a reality.

I would also like to thank the residents of Clare for making me feel so welcome and I hope you will feel free to contact me if you have any ideas, concerns or issues you wish to discuss. ♦

Connie Saulnier
Chief Administrative Officer

This past year proved to be a very busy and rewarding work experience, with the bulk of my attention given to the two top priorities of the Municipality; the management of the Clare Health Centre construction project and

- “WATCH YOUR WASTE”**
- **Did you know:** Tim Horton’s take-out cups and covers are now recyclable? Place the empty paper cups in your blue recycling bag with your other paper products. Place the plastic lids in your second blue recycling bag with your plastics and other recyclables. Voila! Any questions: you can reach *Waste Check* by phoning toll free at 1-800-569-0039. Check out *Waste Check’s* website www.wastecheck.com



- **Did you know:** Comeau’s Bottle Exchange, the ENVIRO-DEPOT™ in Meteghan Centre (located at 8659 Highway 1), now accepts electronics for recycling. Bring your unwanted TVs, computers, monitors, printers to this drop-off centre at no cost to you. Since February 1st 2008, the Government passed a law in hopes to protect our environment that Nova Scotians can no longer take electronic waste to landfills or transfer stations. And these items are no longer picked up at curbside. Let’s continue to be a leader in recycling and waste diversion.

- Questions about what is accepted at the **Municipal Transfer Station** (the former landfill)? Phone the crew at **645-2993**. The Municipal Transfer Station is located off Bonnie Road, Meteghan and is open 6 days a week: Monday to Friday 8:30am to 5:00pm & Saturday 10:00am to 3:00pm. ♦

NEWS FROM THE “RECREATION DEPARTMENT”

A NEW DIRECTOR: ANDREA GAUDET-BURGESS

There have been staff changes in the Recreation Department: Andrea Gaudet-Burgess has been hired as the new Recreation Director for the Municipality of Clare.

Andrea comes to the Municipality with a variety of experience in the recreation field: she was previously employed as Lifeguard Project Technical Assistant for the *Canadian Red Cross*; she was also Recreation Director (interim) and Aquatic Coordinator both for the Municipality of East Hants; and was Coordinator of Sports Activities for the Town of Newcastle, NB.

After graduating from *Clare District High School*, Andrea pursued her studies at the *University of New Brunswick* with a Bachelor in Physical Education and Recreation. She is originally from Bangor (Clare) and recently moved from Richmond (Cape Breton) to once again work in her native community. We welcome Andrea and wish her best of success in her new employment.

GOOD LUCK TO SARA EVANS

It was with sad hearts that the Municipal Councillors, employees and Clare Recreation Committee members said “goodbye” to Sara Evans, Director of the Recreation Department. Sara decided to pursue her career out of the province and recently moved to British Columbia. We wish her best of success in her endeavours. She will be sadly missed!

ACTIVITIES

For information on summer and fall activities, phone **769-3655**, drop by our office downtown at the Municipal office (parking at rear of building), email us at leisure@municipality.clare.ns.ca or surf our website www.clarenovascotia.com



where you can view various information on the Recreation Department’s programs, sporting events, activities & useful links. ♦

Photo at left:
Andrea Gaudet-Burgess



Mark your calendar...

Saturday, **October 18th**, 2008 is the date of the upcoming Municipal Election and School Boards Elections.

Ms Nora Saulnier, the bilingual Returning Officer overseeing the elections, can be reached at 769-2031 or at the Municipal Office (9pm to 4pm weekly).

Nomination day is Tuesday, September 9th. Check your local papers for updates & more details. ♦



THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF CLARE NEWSLETTER

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Thank you to all who contributed information, write-ups, photos and logos for this newsletter which includes:

Municipal Councillors and staff members, Dr. Harold Boudreau (Meteghan Park Association), Hélène Comeau (Seniors in Security), Pierre Comeau (Rail to Trail), Amy Hillyard (Waste Check), Pam Thibault (SWSDA), and Ian White (Western Counties Regional Library).

The Municipality of the District of Clare Newsletter is published twice a year and mailed to Clare residents 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 ♦