

Highway 104 at Antigonish
Community Liaison Committee Meeting
May 18, 2011

Attendees:

Trudy Spooner, Ken Donnelly, Dwayne Cross, Roger Garby, Ian McCallum, Ken Proctor, Bill MacFarlane, Hugh MacDonald, Anne-Marie MacKenzie, Debbie Kampen, Heather Mayhew, Bob Pett

Regrets:

Hugh MacDonald, Alan Bond, Mary McCarron, Len Robertson, Gerry Grant, Rose Julian, Alicia Grant, John Bain

1. Open House

- The open house is taking place tonight with presentations from CBCL consultants at 4:30 and 6:30.
- The presentation can go on the website
- Stations will be set up for Wetlands, Invasive Species, Phase I (the schedule), Roundabouts and the Nature Trail. People can visit each station, speak to the experts and take a fact sheet for more information.

Wetland Remediation

- Once the open house is completed, tender documents will be prepared
- Work on the wetlands will take place over 2 seasons
- Monitoring will continue for the next five or six years
- On the North site three new culverts will be installed
- There is still a potential for a bridge to be installed rather than one of the culverts but that is still undetermined
- A nature trail will be installed on the South site
- It was noted that the Concept Report was very helpful in understanding the wetland remediation.

FOLLOW UP:

- Post the Concept Report on the website
- Find out if it is possible to see the number of hits the Concept Report receives
- Put the CBCL presentation on the website

2. Wetlands at the Antigonish Landing

- 4 or 5 wetlands have been impacted. TIR plans to connect them with a pond and a trail that circles around them
- Visually, there will not be a lot of change
- It should be noted that in purchasing the land, TIR is protecting a lot of wetland that may otherwise have been developed
- TIR would also like to put up interpretive signage near where the community garden is currently located. The Town is okay with this

3. Wetlands at Addington Forks

- The consultants have finished their report and it will now be submitted to Nova Scotia Environment (NSE)
 - The remediation will involve peeling back the layer of peat, excavating some of the earth and replacing the top layer. Fish streams will also be remediated.
 - Low altitude photography will be taken periodically by SMU and CBWetlands to view the effects on the wetland. This will become the primary method of monitoring.
 - The work will begin by lowering the water level, which will start in the next few weeks.
 - Reports on Wetland 2 and 3 can go on the website.
 - It would be ideal to keep the website up to date on progress
 - Liaising with the snowmobile community is encouraged to inform them that they should not drive over the wetland.
 - The work on the wetland will go out to tender
 - TIR is going to monitor Trunk 7 closely to ensure the same event does not take place there, but the wetland there is different and the risk is lower.
- FOLLOW UP:
- Keep updated photos on the website
 - Upload the reports on Wetland 2 and 3 on the website

4. Construction Schedule – Phase I

2011

- West River Bridges - the approach work and the bridges will be constructed
- Land access tunnel and access road (at Corsten's) will be built
- Continued highway construction on the main line
- Interchange ramps
- Trunk 7 overpass bridges
- Church Street extension tunnel (consolidation of two roads)

- Connecting Church Street and Kell Road

2012

- Most of the work will be paving and making changes at Addington Forks
- Timeframe has been reduced. Highway should be open by winter 2012

General Information about the Construction

- A detour will be in place for Trunk 7, though the route is not yet determined
- Crown Tire will be demolished
- TIR is currently on budget
- Information about the detours should be publicized on the website, the radio stations, The Casket and the Town website
- Signage is still being developed
- The tender for Phase II will be released this coming winter but construction will not begin for two or three years
- There is a contribution agreement with the Federal government for \$30 million