

Recreation Coordinator's Report – March 30 – April 27th, 2015

Spring has arrived! Exciting times as we plan programs and hire summer staff.

Public Awareness

- Received media coverage in The News, the Advocate and on ECFM for the addition of a new youth category for Volunteer of the Year. Advocate had a writer attend the April 16th event. 10 nominations were received over adult and youth categories.
- Skate Pass afterschool skateboarding skills partnership advertised through Facebook, though Active Pictou County and schools, sent home with students in grades 4-6.
- Ongoing increases to Facebook reach. **22** new people this month. New likes are incremental each time something interesting is posted.
 - Total page likes: 354
 - Total increase since February: 118

Social Environment

- Over 40 guests attended the Volunteer Appreciation Reception April 16th. Guest Speaker, Martin Fisher (Nova Scotia Health Authority and Community Health Boards) gave practical advice on attracting and keeping volunteers. 10 individuals were nominated for Volunteer of the Year. Congratulations to Edward Ferguson, Volunteer of the Year 2014/15, to Volunteer of the Year Allan Collie, Northumberland Strait Shooters Archery Club and Youth Volunteer of the Year Nathan Snell, Westville Minor Ball. Thanks to Mayor MacKay, Staff and Council for making this event a success!



- Westville Skate Park committee is planning a Ball Hockey Tournament for ages 12-16 in the Town Hall Gym. Date for the event is May 30th.
- We have received funding through Canada Summer Jobs program for 4 recreation interns. Competition will commence immediately for these positions.
- In partnership with Active Pictou County, we are hosting a Making Tracks Skate Pass course for grades 4-6 during the afterschool period, Tuesdays and Thursdays. The course began Tuesday March 21st and will run for 6 weeks teaching basic skills and safety for beginner skateboarders.



- Relationship building: Met with Pictou Antigonish Regional Library Chief Librarian, Eric Stackhouse to explore potential partnerships between Recreation and the Westville Library. A new Branch Assistant in Charge has been hired and begins her job this month. Also met with Northumberland High School principal to support activities of the Skate Park Committee, and create a relationship with the school for future activities/events.
- Presenting as a guest speaker April 30th at the New Glasgow Library on successful volunteer engagement.
- Bike Week is June 5th to 14th. Planning a 2-part “Let’s Ride” NCCP training session for June 5th and 6th. Part 1 is a “Learn to Train” athletic development and coaching certification in which bikers learn to teach fundamental skills to others. Part 2 is a day-long Women and Girls’ Learn to Mountain Bike session to take place in Acadia Park utilizing the trails and open space. ALL BIKE WEEK ACTIVITIES ARE FREE OF CHARGE.

Physical Environment

- Westville was again in the top 10 applicants for student interns from the Nova Scotia Youth Conservation Corps. We have been awarded 2, 9-week placements. Contest has closed for the 15 week Aboriginal Leadership position awarded last month. Interviews will be conducted in co-operation with Clean NS, April 26th. Applications may be made to www.clean.ns.ca for the Westville positions.



Professional development

- Participated on behalf of Westville and Active Pictou County in the stakeholder consultations for the NS Trails Strategy.

Evaluation & Monitoring

- Submitted monthly coordinator’s report

- Respectfully Submitted, Sally O’Neill, Recreation Coordinator

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