

NLAMA News

The Voice of Municipal Administrators in Newfoundland and Labrador

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April 2009

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LONG SERVICE AWARDS

*Please submit your applications for Long Service Awards by April 10, 2009. All applications are to be forwarded to the NLAMA Office at 460 Torbay Road, St. John's
A1A 5J3
Or by fax to
726-6405*

Convention 2009 Building on Professional Administration

The Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Municipal Administrators will be holding its 37th Annual Convention and Trade Show in Corner Brook from April 23-25, 2009. The agenda is, once again, filled with interesting, informative, and useful sessions to assist administrators in their daily task of providing high quality support and guidance to our municipalities.

This year's theme is "Building on Professional Administration" which encompasses the concept of Municipal Administrators being recognized as professionals in the Municipal Sector.

The Convention Committee has been hard at work planning what we expect, will be the most exciting and beneficial convention ever!

Committee members are:

Yvonne Young – Town Clerk/ Manager, Town of Stephenville Crossing
NLAMA – Western Director

Derrick Bragg – Town Clerk / Manager, Town of Greenspond
NLAMA – Vice President

Vida Greening – Town Clerk / Manager, Town of Port Blandford
NLAMA - Eastern Director

Valerie McEvoy
NLAMA - Administration Officer

Registration packages have been mailed to all municipalities. If you haven't received one, please contact the NLAMA office and one will be mailed to you. Deadline for Registration is April 10, 2009.

As well, exhibitor packages have been forwarded to businesses throughout our province. Please feel free to let us know of any companies that would be of benefit in our trade show.

NLAMA Central Meeting and Training Session

On February 5th- 7th, 2009 the NLAMA Board of Directors meet in Gander and also held a Central Regional Meeting and Training Session. There were over 25 administrators in attendance for the training session that was held on completing the Financial Evaluation Forms for Capital Works Projects.

The Board of Directors also meet and discussed the 2009 Convention, adopted the 2009 Budget, and reviewed proposed names and logos for the re-branding of the association and then decided to move ahead with the chosen logo and name. The new logo and name for the Association will be rolled out at the 2009 Convention and presented to the membership for approval.

Member Profile

NLAMA recently received correspondence that the Town Clerk - Manager of Hearts Content, Alice Cumby has been with the town for more than **40 years**. With that many years dedicated to her profession, we felt it was well worth highlighting!

Alice began her career with the Town March 1st 1968 and has worked with 6 Mayors and numerous Councillors. Alice is the first and only Town Clerk for the Town of Hearts Content and is also a Justice of the Peace.

Over the years, she has had the opportunity to welcome many dignitaries to the Town including Premiers, Lieutenant Governors, and many Provincial and Federal Government Officials and special guests.

Alice feels honored to work for the residents of her Town and is glad to say she has an excellent relationship with the members of her Council and the Community.

Congratulations Alice on your dedication to providing support and guidance to the Town of Hearts Content. You are indeed an inspiration to others in the field.

Convention Agenda

Thursday, April 23, 2009

12:30pm Convention
To 4 pm Registration

12 noon News Conference

1:00 Trio Presentation

1:30 Fire and
Emergency Services

2:00 Risk Management

3:00 Nutrition Break

3:30 Risk Management

6:30 Grand Opening

9:00 Meet New Members

9:30 Entertainment (DJ)

Friday, April 24, 2009

8:00 Registration

8:30 Trade Show

9:00 Regional Meetings

10:00 Nutrition Break - Trade Show

11:00 Reports from Reg. Meetings

11:45 Lunch (Greenwood Inn)

1:30 ICSP - Gas Tax

3:00 Nutrition Break - Trade Show

3:45 ICSP - Gas tax

7:00 Hospitality Suite

9:30 Entertainment
2nd Stage Players

Saturday, April 25, 2009

8:30 Planning

10:00 Break - Trade Show - Prize draws

11:00 Preparing for Elections

11:45 Lunch (Greenwood Inn)

1:15 Annual General Meeting

6:00 Banquet and Awards

9:00 Entertainment

Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador and Tidy Towns

Tidy Towns

In 1997 a small group of community and environmentally minded individuals got together over coffee and discussed bringing a program to Newfoundland and Labrador which encouraged people to improve their local environment and make their municipalities a better place to live, work and visit. That committee took content direction from Communities in Bloom; a national (Canadian) organization dedicated to the promotion of green spaces in urban settings, and with permission adopted our name from Tidy Towns Ireland.

With a population of 500,000 and 281 incorporated municipalities in Newfoundland and Labrador, Tidy Towns NL annually has between 55 and 65 registered communities. As with all Tidy Towns programs, we firmly believe we are more than just a competition.

Commercial sectors have found the Tidy Towns NL initiative to be an investment that has resulted in positive returns on many levels. Communities are addressing local environmental issues, senior and youth groups are working together towards common goals and have fostered new relationships contributing to a renewed community spirit. Participation has truly been a rewarding experience for all involved.

In comparison to the Tidy Towns programs in Australia, Ireland and Wales we are still in our infancy, and proud to be a part of this brilliant group. We work hard in your name to encourage Newfoundland and Labrador communities to participate and feel the benefits of having pulled together and

TRIO

Recently, CCRC published the results of a “municipal sustainability” survey that it conducted last fall. CCRC invited Trio to include some questions, and we were both heartened and surprised by their answers.

Only 42% of those municipalities surveyed confirmed that they provide group health benefits to their employees. Only 32% fund either their employees’ pensions or self-directed RRSPs. The good news is that the majority of towns providing either health care or pension benefits to their employees do so through Trio programs. Trio is by far the dominant player in the municipal employee benefit marketplace.

The survey also revealed that about 50% of municipalities plan to hire new employees within the next five years. These new employees will either be additional staff or replacement workers for employees that will soon retire, or both. That’s good news for people who will be looking for work in the municipal sector.

But because of the relatively low incidence of employer-funded benefit plans, these prospective employees will be able to pick and choose from amongst their prospective employers based partially on what employee benefits are offered. If you are offered a job, and you have the choice to work where there are benefits, or where there aren’t, where would you most likely go to work?

If your town that doesn’t provide employee benefits, how do you expect to compete against those towns that do? Prospective employees look at the entire compensation package available, not just the salary. If you don’t provide employee benefits, you will be the choice of last resort. The job candidates from whom you will choose will likely be the ones who didn’t get chosen by those municipalities who offered a better package. Is that the non-competitive position that you want to be in?

Trio offers employee benefits and pension plans for every municipal budget. Please visit us at www.triobenefits.ca or call the Trio office at 1.888.330.7338 for more information. Or, visit us at our booth at the NLAMA Conference in Corner Brook.

NLAMA Board of Directors

President, Dave Strong
Chief Administration Officer
Town of Paradise
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Vice President, Derrick Bragg
Town Clerk Manager
Town of Greenspond
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Treasurer, Rodney Cumby
Town Manager
Town of Portugal Cove – St. Phillips
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Central, Blanche Bennett
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Eastern, Vida Greening
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Western, Yvonne Young
Town Clerk/Manager
Town of Stephenville Crossing
yyoung@nf.aibn.com

Northern, Terry Rice
Town Manager
Makkovik Inuit Community
Government
townmanager@makkovik.ca

MTDC

The Municipal Training and Development Corporation (MTDC), together with the Department of Municipal Affairs, MNL, NLAMA, and other stakeholders, is currently working on a marketing campaign to encourage participation in this year's municipal elections. Additionally, MTDC is also working on the development of election related materials that will be made available to persons who are interested in running for municipal office.

As with past elections, MTDC will be providing training for election officials. While the schedule for training has not yet been finalized, it is anticipated that it will be provided during the months of May and June and will be offered on a regional basis as in the past.

Website

MTDC would like to mention that we are in the process of updating our website, and plan to launch the newly designed website shortly. Please stay tuned!!!

Board of Directors and Staff

The MTDC office would like to announce the 2009 Board of Directors:

Directors:

President- Jim Farrell
Mayor of Wabush
CCL representative

Vice President- Derrick Bragg
VP, NLAMA
NLAMA Representative

Treasurer- John Moore
Director of Local Governance
MA Representative

Director- Melanie Gash
Manager of Municipal
MA Representative

Director- Valerie McEvoy
Administrative Officer, NLAMA
NLAMA Representative

Director- Janice O'Neill
Executive Director, CCL
CCL Representative

Director- Craig Pollett
Executive Director, MNL
MNL Representative

Director- Lucy Stoyles
Councilor, City of Mt. Pearl
MNL Representative

Staff- Kathryn Budgell
Executive Assistant

Contact Information:

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