



# THE Mirror

On Business

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SPRYFIELD AND DISTRICT BUSINESS COMMISSION

VOL. I ISSUE 3 JANUARY, 2006

## Chairman's Report

By Kevin Umlah

Trying to predict the outcome of events managed by another agency is difficult at best. But in the case of the Spryfield and District Business Commission, the Board of Directors has been successful in not only predicting the outcomes of activities but in contributing to the final outcomes of some significant issues that will affect the future of business in the community.

The Board's involvement with Chebucto Community Council early this past year helped Councillors to decide in favour of Kimberley Lloyd Development's Governor's Brook housing development along the eastern edge of the McIntosh Run. This new 870 housing unit project will bring much needed new consumers to the area, a move that bodes well for the immediate future of business here.

The Board's involvement with the Herring Cove Road Streetscape and Planning Study undertaken by Ekistics through February and March this year will result in a blueprint of future activity and planning for Herring Cove Road that is expected to be before Chebucto Community Council on December 12, 2005. This blueprint will see some immediate changes in the physical environment and some long term plans to change things as significant as traffic patterns. The Board was instrumental in making sure the business voice was heard during the community consultation process and the Board will be representing the business community at the Community Council when the final draft is debated.

The most important gains through this process include the knowledge that Halifax Regional Municipality will not spend money in a community to affect improvements without a document or planning tool that "authorizes" the expenditures. The Board is already aware that there is something in the order of just under \$400,000 budgeted for "improvements to Herring Cove Road" in the city's 2005/06 budget. The first visible evidence of this money being spent will be street benches, garbage cans and clean-up of certain park areas within the community. It is expected the new street furniture will be erected in the community this spring.

And finally, as a major accomplishment this year, the Board was instrumental in having the Halifax Regional Planning Committee upgrade Spryfield's designation in the 25-year Regional Plan to a District Centre. The outcome of this advancement will be that Spryfield will be on a second tier priority level, falling only behind the Regional Centres of Peninsula Halifax and Downtown Dartmouth, when it comes to financial allocations and expenditures by HRM.

The affect of all of these activities is that throughout 2005 the Board of the Spryfield and District Business Commission has focused the attention of our municipal government on our community and has gained the respect of many municipal councillors and city bureaucrats. Being considered a benefit to and an area worthy of attention by the municipality is a far cry from the usual level of inattention the community has suffered for many years. The Board deserves congratulations and the support of all businesses for being successful in gaining the municipality's respect.

And 2006 is shaping up to be another banner year for the community. Already the Board is working on a number of program aimed at increasing the business profile throughout the Eastern Chebucto Peninsula. At the Annual General Meeting coming up in April, members of the Commission will have an opportunity to voice their opinions and support for programs that will be outlined at that time. All business owners and managers are invited and encouraged to attend.

### In this issue:

Chairman's Report . . . . .	1
CuTans Cougars win for third time. . . . .	2
Spryfield is District Center . . . . .	3
Spryfield Apparel . . . . .	3
Litter . . . . .	3
Streetscape . . . . .	4
Santa Parade . . . . .	4

# CuTans Cougars win for third time

The CuTans Cougars have accomplished something few professional sports teams have ever managed - the "three-peat." The Cougars rolled in a 46 in the Sixth Annual District 18 Cup held at Briarwood to tally the low net score and top prize for the third year in a row.

"We had 14 teams this year and we certainly would have liked to have a few more, especially a team that might knock the Cougars from their position," said Executive Director Reg Horner following the Spryfield and District Business Commission sponsored event. "Team Captain Joe Dibari has put together a strong team and for those who are competitive about the event it's time the Cougars got knocked off their pedestal."



The winners of the Best Dressed prize for the tournament.

Dibari and his teammates of Mark Gillis, Reg Jones and Danny Innocent shot a round of 46, staying three strokes ahead of second place finishers Sunstations made up of Captain Donnie Buchanan, Joey Johnson, Scott Aucoin and Herb Roberson.

But Horner said not all teams or players enter the event for the competition. "There's a lot of fun to be had in the tournament," he said referring to the numerous events players can participate in and the side competitions for "Best Dressed" and "Most Honest" teams.

"Heppy's Pie Boy Bunnies," made up of Corrine McComb, Cathy McCulloch, Sheila Howe and Theresa Henneberry, captured the top prize for Best Dressed, narrowly out pointing the "Bowlarama Pinheads" comprised of Janice Evans, Diane Wright, Darlene Boltz and Lorena LeBlanc who won the Most Honest Team award. "The Bunnies won Best Dressed and the Pinheads Most Honest but it would be a draw to determine which team had the most fun on the course," said Horner.

Other winners on the day included Laura Chapman of the Spryfield Slowpokes who won the Closest To The Line event on hole 12; Lewanda LaPierre of the Canadian Tire Retreads who won the Longest Putt event at hole 7; Shane Young, also of the Retreads, who won the Closest To The Pin event by hitting a ball 10 teen 10 inches from the cup on hole 12 and Carl White who also won the Closest To The Pin event with a shot leaving the ball only 32.5 inches from the cup on hole six.

"All in all it was a great day," said Horner appreciating the volunteer services of the J.L. Ilsley High School Girls Volleyball Team whose members came out to monitor the competitive and fun holes for the players. "The ladies were excellent representatives of their team and did a wonderful job of recording information. We'd be happy to have them return next year," said Horner.

The Chebucto Boys and Girls Club raised several hundred dollars through the annual silent auction held during

the day and the Spryfield Earl Francis Memorial Legion was "not only was very accommodating to our needs but provided a delicious and well managed dinner for all our golfers and volunteers," he said.

## Our Web Site Is

"A Work In Progress"

Go Visit!

[www.spryfield.ca](http://www.spryfield.ca)

## Upcoming Events

### Network Sessions at:

Kevin Umlah, Umlah Insurance  
- January 26th, 2006

Cecil Caines, Cemanco Properties  
- February

### Annual General Meeting

- April 25th, 2006

# Spryfield is District Center

The regional planning committee has now identified Spryfield as a district center. It has issued fact sheets the identify Spryfield as such. The draft has been presented to the regional planning committee and has been presented at public hearings. Kevin Umlah, president of the Spryfield and District Business Commission, thanked the committee publicly for changing the Spryfield's status to district center. This sets priority status for issues such as transportation.

A metro link is proposed for this area. First it will be implemented in Cole Harbour, Clayton Park, and Spryfield. It is likely that a bus transfer center will become a reality. Another priority for the business commission identified by the board members is the development of a bus service for the Loop. This should help increase the population in the area and make travel easier. There is also a proposal to widen of Herring Cove Rd. to 4 lanes between the Old Sambro Road and the Rotary. This will allow easier commutes onto the peninsula.

The Spryfield area stands to benefit from existing initiatives implemented by HRM. Presently, 75% of all new construction is slated for areas already serviced by HRM. The Spryfield area should see an increase in development. Gaining District status should allow Spryfield to access the monies set aside by HRM for development.

---

## Spryfield Apparel

At the AGM people indicated interest in purchasing T-shirts or other wearing apparel with the new logo. The commission has decided to provide the tape for embroidery rather than purchase shirts. It is available at "EmbroidMe" on Quinpool road. The price will depend on what garment and type of embroidery the customer desires. This has been provided by the commission for use of commission members.

## Litter

Most everyone recognizes the negative impact of litter in the community and the Spryfield and District Business Commission is setting itself on a path to begin eradicating the problem.

The Commission is in contact with Halifax Regional Municipality's Public

Works staffer Jim Bauld to initiate an "Anti-Litter" campaign which can be taken into local schools in time to jump start a community-wide litter pick-up day in May when HRM has its Annual Litter Pick-Up campaign.

As a first step in the program the Commission has been working with Councillors Linda Mosher and Stephen Adams to secure new street furniture, including new garbage containers, which are planned to be installed in the community this spring.

While this work is being prepared and undertaken, the Commission is working toward holding a series of in-school assemblies for students to help educate them about the unnecessary and harmful effects litter has on the community.

"We need to bring litter and its harmful effects to the attention of school students if we are to instill an anti-litter attitude among our citizens," Chairman Kevin Umlah says. But he also suggested if the Commission is going to ask local citizens not to litter "then we must provide sufficient and well placed containers to give them ample opportunities to become part of the solution and stop being part of the problem. That's why the litter basket project being undertaken in cooperation with HRM is such an important first step," he said.

The concept of the project is to take the anti-litter message into the schools and follow that up in the spring with an "anti-litter pick-up campaign" in May when HRM undertakes its city-wide project. The program will see a reward process put in place for schools which participate in the one day clean-up event.

The main focus of the program will be to clean up the area's main streets and public places but eventually it could extend to making greater strides toward cleaning walkways and park spaces as well.

This past year the Commission undertook an individual effort to maintain and clean an empty and often litter-filled piece of land located at Central Spryfield School just west of the Tim Horton's Drive Through on Pine Grove Avenue. The Commission is hopeful this piece of land will come into the hands of the Commission so an ongoing clean-up can be initiated.

# Streetscape

The long awaited approval of the Herring Cove Streetscape and Planning Study commissioned by Halifax Regional Municipality went before Chebucto Community Council in December, paving the way for the city to begin undertaking some of the more “doable” suggestions developed in the study through a wide ranging series of community consultations.

The study, undertaken by Ekistics throughout 2005, identifies a number of traffic management and community aesthetic improvements for the central business district of Spryfield stretching from Old Sambro Road to Sylvia Avenue.

Once passed by Chebucto Community Council the report will be sent to Halifax Regional Council for ratification. Acceptance of the report authorizes the city to spend money in the Spryfield area to make improvements in a number of areas.

Councillors Stephen Adams and Linda Mosher have been working with the Commission on a few prelimi-

nary improvements. The Councillors and Commission Directors and staff toured the entire community to identify at least 20 sites for landscape improvements, street benches and litter receptacles. The benches and receptacles, made of an earthy-coloured green wrought iron material designed to prevent damage and graffiti, have already been ordered. It is hoped the street furniture will be installed this coming spring as one of the first steps in visible improvements to the community.

Halifax Regional Municipality has included Spryfield and Herring Cove Road as one of three communities to share in almost \$1 million in streetscape improvements. This means Spryfield will have at least \$333,000 available for street improvements which can be initiated throughout 2006.

Copies of the study will hopefully soon be available through the business commission offices.

# Santa Parade

The Spryfield and District Business Commission added a little extra joy to the 31st Annual Spryfield Santa Clause Parade this year. The Commission, particularly on the work efforts of staffers David Watts and Reg Horner, Mr. and Mrs. Fred O’Hearn and Linda MacLaggan, created a float capable of carrying members of the Herring Cove Junior High School Band who played Christmas Carols for spectators along the parade route.

Lumbermart graciously donated the 16 foot flatbed truck for the event. The float was decorated with new Spryfield and District Business Commission banners on each side and signs offering a “Merry Christmas” wish to spectators. Both the banners and the signs on each side of the float were adorned with the new Commission logo. Power for the music and lighting needs of the float was provided by Canadian Tire.

This is again another example of the Commission representing business in the community and involving the business sector in community events.



The commission enters a float in the Santa Claus Parade.