



Chair's Report Annual General Meeting April 24, 2012

When construction of the landfill at Crane Mountain was approved, two conditions were imposed by the Minister of the Environment that impact the operation of Crane Mountain Enhancement Inc. (CMEI)

First, that the Fundy Region Solid Waste Commission establish a community based environmental monitoring committee with a mandate to monitor all aspects of the landfill. CMEI is that committee. To fulfill our mandate we review and/or hire experts to review the operation of the landfill and its potential impact on the environment in the host community. Based on these reviews we make recommendations for improvements at the landfill.

Second, that a portion of the tipping fee be used for enhancments beneficial to residents of the host community. The CMEI Special Projects Committee reviews and recommends the enhancement projects. To date this has resulted in funding for community facilities and organizations amounting to over \$1,000,000.

CMEI also promotes environmental education with yearly grants of \$600 to the five schools in the host community and four \$1000 scholarships for students from the host community, two from UNBSJ and two from NBCCSJ.; A member of our board also serves on the Waste Commission's public education committee.

CMEI represents the residents of the host community to the FRSWC. Each month CMEI is represented at the FRSWC open meeting where we can present issues that have been brought to our attention by residents of the host community.

Highlights from the last year include the following:

- A new and ongoing monitoring project to review all water quality data collected by the Waste Commission
- In June, representatives from CMEI met with the Deputy Minister of the Environment and two staff members responsible for waste commissions.
- Special Projects Funding Surpassed the \$1,000,000 and was commemorated with a marker at the entrance to the Blueberry Hill property in September
- In December, at the FRSWC meeting the General Manager proposed to establish new trigger concentrations and standard statistical data interpretation for monitoring and domestic well data. (\$25,000 was approved in March)
- In January 2012, CMEI made a presentation to FRSWC urging them to support our top priorities for this year
- In March, a discussion meeting with the FRSWC a first for CMEI, more to follow

Planned Changes to Local Governance

In December the Government of New Brunswick announced plans to make major changes to the Department of Local Government. Under this new plan the Waste Commissions would be eliminated and new Regional Service Commissions would be established that will be responsible for the regional landfills along with many other services that presently have their own form of governance. This is scheduled to come into effect on January 1, 2013 and at this time, details on how the landfill will be governed and how we will interact with them are very sketchy.

Discussion Meeting

On March 22, 2012 members of the CMEI executive and monitoring committee met for two hours with the FRSWC discussing our environmental concerns and the way forward as the new form of governance takes effect. We were well received and another meeting is being considered for the autumn to plan how the present Commission will help us transition to dealing with the new Regional Service Commission.

Final Note

To bring concerns to CMEI, residents can contact any member of the Board of Directors or send an email to one of our contact email addresses, see the "Contact Us" page on our website <u>www.cmei.ca</u>. Residents can also contact the landfill directly by calling the hotline 738-1212. At our request, the Commission has installed a menu on its hotline that includes an option to leave a recorded message with your comments, this option can be used for officially registering concerns or complaints.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Thomas Simpson

Tom Simpson

Chair, Crane Mountain Enhancement Inc.