

The Lightkeeper

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Sambro Island Lighthouse

See articles on
Pages 3-5 about the
Sambro Island Lighthouse
and its Gas House



The objectives of the Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society are to promote and to support the preservation and awareness of Nova Scotia lighthouses; to assist community groups

in leasing or taking ownership of the lighthouse sites; to provide access to written research and photographic documentation; to initiate oral history research; and to classify and monitor the status of historic lighthouse sites.

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Welcome New Members

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From The Editor

Like our beloved lighthouses throughout Nova Scotia, the NSLPS newsletter carries on no matter who its keeper may be. My name is Meredith O'Hara and I'll be taking over editorship of the Lightkeeper from our friend and dedicated former board member Peter MacCulloch.

Peter served on the board for many years, working to revitalise the society's website, as well as taking over the Lightkeeper from Chris Mills in the last year.

Through two separate stints on the NSLPS board, Peter has had a lasting impact on our group, and the lighthouses of Nova Scotia. We thank Peter wholeheartedly for all his work with NSLPS and wish him well in his future projects.



I'm excited to continue in Chris and Peter's footsteps, keeping track of news and stories from around the province to help you get a better understanding of the state of our lighthouses and what's being done to save them.

Heritage Trust NS Features Sambro Island Lighthouse In Canada 150 Exhibit



Sambro Island Lighthouse

Photo by Rip Irwin

The Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia will present a photographic exhibit of buildings which witnessed the birth of Confederation and continue to serve and inspire 150 years later. The goal of the exhibit is to increase awareness of Nova Scotia's proud history through the windows of our built heritage.

The photo exhibit will be enhanced by story boards, videos and guest speakers, as well as house tours. The input from individuals and

historical, heritage and cultural societies has contributed to the database from which we made our selection.

One of the buildings to be featured in the exhibit is the Sambro Island Lighthouse. Built in 1758, it was 109 years old on July 1st 1867 and celebrated its 250th birthday in 2008.

Buildings selected will highlight the varied cultural groups who made Nova Scotia their home. Residences, churches, commercial and industrial structures, as well as public buildings will all be represented. Through these buildings we can understand the contributions made to the Province and Canada by their owners, and the impact made upon their communities.

The exhibit will début in Halifax at Government House as part of Doors Open (June 3-4), followed by a tour around the province beginning with the Museum of Industry in Stellarton (June 6-19), Amherst at the former Margolian's/Dayle's (over the July 1 weekend), Shelburne (last two weeks of July), and the Kings County Museum, Kentville (August).

The exhibit will return to City Hall and St. Paul's Anglican Church on the Grand Parade, Halifax, for the month of October. Locations will be readily accessible by the public and admission will be free.

-Information provided by Heritage Trust of NS

NSLPS Annual General Meeting Announcement Wednesday April 26th, 2017

Please join us for the Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society's 23rd annual meeting. The meeting begins at 7pm in the Small Craft Gallery of the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, at 1675 Lower Water Street in Halifax.

Our annual meeting is a chance to check up on the work that's been done by groups around the province over the last year to preserve and enhance the lighthouses around Nova Scotia.

We'll feature reports covering exciting news in lighthouse preservation, our annual reports and the presenting of the Craig Harding Award. Is there a light you're curious about? Do you want to know more about ways to get involved? Come out to our meeting and a member of the board will be happy to answer your questions.

We are pleased to have the Nō Ka 'Oī Drone Guys back this year as our featured presentation with an update on the Nova Scotia Lighthouse Project and the work they still need to do to complete their goal of recording videos at all

of Nova Scotia's lighthouses.

We'll have light refreshments afterwards, and you'll have a chance to meet up with old friends and make some new ones too. You can also renew your NSLPS membership, or join for the first time.

The meeting agenda will include:

- 1 - Call to Order and Adoption of the Agenda
- 2 - Approval of Minutes of Previous AGM (April 27, 2016)
- 3 - Annual Reports
- 4 - Appointment of Auditor for 2017/2018
- 5 - President's Address
- 6 - Election of Directors and Officers
- 7 - Awards and Recognition
- 8 - Update Presentation by "The Drone Guys"
Larry Peyton & Corey Webb

We look forward to seeing you on April 26th.

Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society, est 1993

A Lifeline for the Sambro Island Gas House!

By Joe Flemming



Sambro Island Lighthouse and Gas House

The Historic Gas House on Sambro Island has been on a path towards destruction for some time. This building is a recognized FHBRO structure; however, this does not provide any specific mandate for its preservation. Without some sort of intervention, it would surely founder into the sea.

Despite many a valiant effort by the Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society to save it, time has taken its toll. Over the years, there have been a few passionate people who have worked to breathe life into this building, including in 1995 when its roof was entirely replaced.

A few years ago the Sambro Island Lighthouse Heritage Society picked up the torch and began a quest to save their beloved light station, including the buildings which are as much a part of the island's majestic character as the lighthouse itself.

Through fundraising efforts, a little bit of a fund was built up to give what it could to help. With the support of local MLA Brendan McGuire, a grant of \$10,000 was attained from Nova Scotia Tourism, Culture and Heritage towards this effort.

In the following year, a huge effort was made to raise awareness for our Island and after countless hours of hard work Sambro Island was on the map. Our very own Megan Leslie even tabled a private members bill which nearly resulted in the Light being transferred to Parks Canada.

Shortly thereafter, Peter Mackay announced a restoration project worth approx. \$1.5 million for the lighthouse. Most everyone was ecstatic.

The lighthouse project is winding down now, and she looks like a shiny new penny. A huge Thank you is in order to the great team at Quinan Construction who clearly complete their work with passion and confidence.

Unfortunately, the Gas House was to be overlooked once again. But not so fast. Enter, Canada's brave men and women of Joint Task Force Atlantic, Commanded by Rear Admiral John Newton. Early this fall, Admiral Newton and

Photo provided by DND

distinguished guests from the American 1st Division Coast Guard in Maine, as well as our Canadian Coast Guard Assistant Commissioner and American Consular General paid a visit to the island.

From that visit came two conversations. One was to ensure our American counterparts were firmly educated on how Sambro Light proudly predated any current lighthouse in the US of A. The other was that of disappointment for the current state of the Gas House. A discussion of how it could be saved, and which resources would be required. A project was born from a simple conversation and a passion by all parties to do the right thing.

Before long, Several Unit commanders under Rear Admiral



Joe Flemming with visitors to Sambro Island

Photo provided by Joe Flemming

Newton's command were brought up to speed on a possible project and asked for insight for a possible mission to save the Gas House before winter; a community engagement mission; a chance to work together, not to mention a very unique and rewarding training opportunity for our soldiers and sailors.



Crews arrive on Sambro Island

Photo provided by DND

The Fleet Diving Unit Atlantic was first on scene, and has provided unwavering support through the entire process. They placed divers in the water to come up with ideas on how best to recover the original stone foundation blocks which have collapsed into the cove below. This damage was a result of storms which hit the area hard in Fall 2003 and Winter 2004.

Recovering these stone blocks and getting them back in place, is a huge first step in moving forward from the preservation of the building, to a restoration. With a little bit of luck and good communication, we anticipate FDU(A), in cooperation with the Sambro Island Lighthouse Heritage Society, will begin exploring and executing this phase in Spring 2017.

In order to plan this far ahead, something needed to be done to preserve the building and foundation for it to survive one more winter. Rear Admiral Newton tasked Captain Hanley of J3 Operations, JTFA, to lead a group of Canadian Forces Engineers from 14 Construction Engineer Squadron to devise a plan.

With the guidance of DFO and Coast Guard officials, another visit was made. It wasn't long before Lt Marc Lukaszczuk-Therien from 144 Construction Engineer Flt (Pictou) in company with Mcpl David Young of 143 Construction Engineer Flt (Bridgewater) were on site to fine tune the plan.

A materials list was created, and a team was selected. Avr Clarke of 91 Engineer Flt Gander, Mcpl Young and Cpl Parnell of 143 Construction Engineer Flt Bridgewater, Lt Marc Lukaszczuk-Therien and Cpl York of 144 Engineer Flt Pictou.

Sambro Island Lighthouse Heritage Society was able to find a use for those hard-raised and granted funds to provide all materials and transporting them to the island. A task completed by Mark Henneberry, Jamie Canton, Larry Smith and family.

SILHS was also tasked with providing a floating material workplace/ platform on the face of the Gas House in the cove. This was carried out by Joe Flemming and Shearwater Yacht Club Volunteer Mike Wenzl. JTFA provided the Ridged Hull Inflatable Boat for daily transport of the team to the island.

On Dec 5th, a week of absolutely stunning weather was handed to us. We were able to work on the island safely each day. I had the pleasure of working with this team, and the project was completed 1 day ahead of schedule. They don't mess around.

On the final day of work Rear Admiral Newton accompanied by Lcdr William Barter, Commanding officer of FDU, Capt Hanley of J3 Ops and his team, NSLPS Past President Barry Macdonald, Member of Parks Canada Julie Tompa, DFO members Andrew McKinnon, Amy Boutilier, Imad Muhammed and Tasha Andrews, and members of SILHS attended to see the completed work. The visit was a wonderful expression of what can be accomplished when Community, Federal, Provincial and Municipal parties work together towards a common goal. For now, the Gas House is safe, but it won't last forever.



Crews pose by the Sambro Island Gas House with the Sambro Lighthouse behind.

Photo provided by DND

We hope to continue this relationship with Joint Task Force Atlantic, and see through, a complete restoration of the Gas house on Sambro island. It was truly an honor and an enjoyable experience to work alongside these folks. They're amazing, and a true treasure to every Canadian. They do as much at home as they do abroad.

Joe Flemming is the Vice President of the Sambro Island Lighthouse Heritage Society

A Winter's Tale

A Reading Guide for Lighthouse Lovers

By: Denyse Contrasty

Looking for something to do when you are indoors on those blustery winter days, or as the spring rains visit us soon? The Halifax Regional Library has three titles for readers who are interested in what life was like on an NS island when lighthouses were manned.

Each book chronicles the experiences of a lightkeeper's wife whose daily routines included assisting her husband in keeping a Nova Scotia lighthouse. All three wives started as young women with small children who accompanied their husbands to an island lighthouse in the 1920s when World War I veterans were given preference for the job.

There were no telephones, running water or electricity, and all depended on raising livestock, growing crops and picking wild fruit on their island to supplement their meals. Often the wives were left with the children on the island while their husbands went fishing or to the mainland to catch up on news. At times the men could not get back to the island by dusk and it was up to the women to light the lantern and blow the foghorn in addition to the usual housekeeping chores and caring for children.



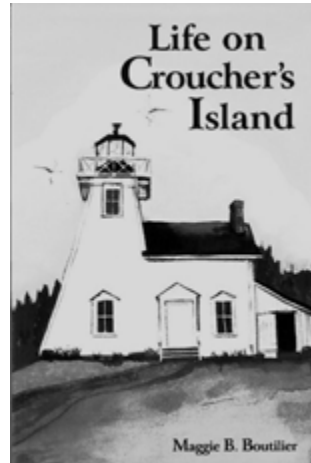
lightkeeping and the means to provide for three growing, active children.

The Depression made life hard at times and the Richardsons would use money in their children's penny banks to buy a stamp to mail a letter and would reimburse them when Morrill's next paycheck arrived.

Evelyn won the 1945 Governor-General prize for English non-fiction for her book. She also wrote *B was for Butter* describing the coastal defence role the Richardsons and other lightkeepers played in World War II.

Evelyn M. Richardson wrote her book, *WE KEEP A LIGHT*, in 1945, probably the first in depth account of what it was like to be a lightkeeping family on a then-isolated island.

Evelyn accompanied her husband, Morrill Richardson, to Bon Portage Island with her fifteen month old daughter, Anne, in 1929. Her book covers the changing seasons on Bon Portage and how these affected the job of



an island and the raising of five children.

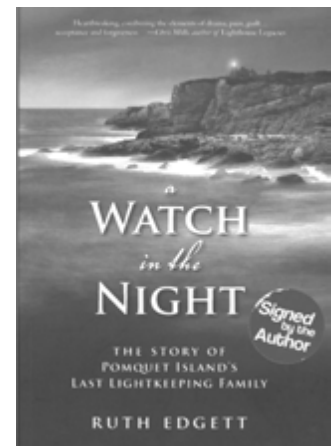
Every time I read a sentence starting with "Land Sakes" in her book, I could imagine sitting across from Maggie with a cup of tea listening to her tales of the latest happenings on Croucher's Island while she knitted or sewed.

Ruth Edgett introduces her book, *A WATCH IN THE NIGHT*, as a "part factual, part fictional story" of her grandparents, George and Ruth Miller and their six children's lives on Pomquet Island which is located off the tip of the Bayfield Beach Provincial Park in St. George's Bay.

Pomquet Island lighthouse was a seasonal light but the Millers lived there all year long. The book follows the family's experiences from their arrival on the island to George's retirement in 1960 when they moved back to the mainland. The following year in 1961 the light was declared surplus.

A darker read than the other two titles, this book paints a realistic picture of a family's commitment to keeping their light burning and moving beyond a father's trauma.

I am sure you will find all of them very entertaining and well worth a trip to the library. You don't live in the Halifax region and your local library doesn't have these books? Ask your librarian to do an inter-library loan. It might take a few weeks but well worth the wait!



NS Lighthouse Project Update

By: Larry Peyton



Enragee Point; Nō Ka 'Oi Drone Guys

In September 2015, after a chance – though now realized to be serendipitous or even fateful – meeting with a representative of the Low Point Lighthouse, and learning about the preservation needs of this beautiful beacon, I was immediately, and quite abruptly, awakened to some of the struggles being faced by this province's guiding lights and the challenges to those who are working to save them.

Just a few hours after this realization, with my passion ignited and my motivation throttled, I began to develop the framework for my venture to visit and film every lighthouse in Nova Scotia. Sharing the plan with my friend, and band mate, Cory Webb, subsequently I had him jump in with both feet.

And hence began the #NSLighthouseProject: to obtain video footage, via drone, of every lighthouse in the province and globally share the video production, without compensation, to bring awareness of their condition and help save those lighthouses which can be saved, while obtaining some meaningful video-graphical record of those beacons emitting their last gasps.

Though we managed to make rapid headway into the project, visiting several lighthouses in a short time, we have also faced many challenges: weather, illness, fatherhood, financing, transportation and time being both the most consistent and most debilitating.

In order to use the drone, the wind needs to be low, the precipitation to be nil and the temperatures to not be much below freezing; needless to say, such in-tune

climate necessities are tough to achieve with high frequency along the coastline of Atlantic Canada.

I was hospitalized for several weeks and a few months later had open heart surgery, which certainly slowed the progress of the project.

Cory also became a father, and there was all the sleep deprivation and responsibilities that go along with being a new dad.

Add in the costs of gas, food and hotels (all of which we pay ourselves), the difficulty in acquiring transportation to off-shore beacons, and the challenges of finding the required free time the project has unfortunately not progressed at the rate we initially anticipated.

Photo by Larry Peyton

That being said, to date we have “captured” 107 lighthouses, meaning we have successfully filmed them with the drone. We have also removed 18 from our list, as they are now skeletal lights, have been destroyed, or the like. As such, there are 55 beacons remaining for us to capture before completing all aerial filming for the #NSLighthouseProject.

Cory and I are quite eager and thrilled that we have once again been invited to attend this year's AGM for the Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society, at the end of which we will be speaking more in detail about the project, providing an update on its progression, and sharing some video and photographic footage from our hobby venture.

We both look forward to seeing many of you there, and as always during the #NSLighthouseProject, to display a unique view of the beautiful beacons loved by you and us.



Mother Island

Photo by Larry Peyton

Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society, est 1993

Artist in Residence at Port Bickerton Set for Another Great Year

By: Wilda Kaiser

The trails and beaches of Port Bickerton are breathtaking, the rocky shore and crashing waves offer a breath of solitude in a hectic world.

This rural community on the eastern shore of Nova Scotia is home to a lighthouse, Interpretive Centre and lightkeeper's cottage, which sit on a jut of land at its most easterly point.

The lighthouse vistas remind visitors of a Winslow Homer painting and the sea never fails to inspire artists who make their way to Port Bickerton.

Since 2014 the board of directors for this not-for-profit lighthouse association, have offered an artist in residence program. It was started by director and artist Wilda Kaiser. She has travelled to several artist retreats through the years and always felt the Port Bickerton Lighthouse would be an amazing place to host an artist in residence.

"There is no place on earth anymore beautiful than this very treasure in our own backyard", she said, and sold the other board members on the idea.



By: Joy Laking - NS

For the past three years one lucky artist has been chosen from those who applied to spend two weeks at the lightkeeper's cottage.

This artistic tradition dates back over one hundred years in North America, and Port Bickerton's program is designed to offer a period of seclusion and reflection to established artists working on their craft. It's meant to be an uninterrupted time for creative exploration and while there is no requirement to produce a body of work it should be considered an excellent time to work unfettered on new projects.

The project is a win/win for the artist and the lighthouse association. While the artists are given the cottage for their artistic use, the spin off for the association is extremely positive. They have plein air painting days at the light, artist talks, exhibitions and open houses and this draws other artists to paint and potentially rent the lightkeeper's cottage during the rest of the season.



Port Bickerton Lighthouse

Photo provided by Wilda Kaiser

The Port Bickerton and Area Planning Association are entering their fourth year hosting this program. Applications are taken from Atlantic Canadian artists from all four Atlantic provinces. The first year was awarded to Nova Scotia artist Susan Paterson of Dartmouth. Year two, photographer Dan MacDonald of Moncton, New Brunswick came to Port Bickerton. Last year, Joy Laking of Nova Scotia was our artist in residence.



By: Dan MacDonald - Moncton NB

In 2017 writer, Janice Landry of Dartmouth Nova Scotia will be coming in July/August. Janice will host a creative writing workshop while she is here. All the artists have had very positive things to say about this opportunity and feel it is a great gift to artists in the area.



By: Susan Paterson - Dartmouth NS

For those interested please see the lighthouse website at portbickertonlighthouse.ca

For the Love of Lighthouses

By: Ireland Peyton

Living in a society that is too focused on what is happening on a little screen is a hard and frustrating one to live in. Everyone around you depends on these technological tools to live their daily lives.

Unlike my peers, I would prefer to throw my phone away and enjoy what is in front of me, rather than what's on my cell phone. I like seeing and doing new things. Exploring and getting to see the beautiful sights around me is a thrill!

Having lived in 4 different provinces in my 17 years of life, I have appreciated and learned about all the things each new place had to offer. Moving to Nova Scotia has truly put me in awe of the Atlantic provinces. There is so much beauty and history in such a "small package".

One of the most beautiful, and historical things, in this province are our lighthouses. I will never forget the first time I was in Nova Scotia on a house hunting trip with my family.

Wanting to get out and explore, we decided to drive down to Peggy's Cove. The only other lighthouse I had seen in my life was Cape Spear in Newfoundland.

Stepping onto the rocks, breathing in the ocean air, and standing by the white and red structure that sits just metres away from the ocean, I knew in my heart that we were moving to an amazing place.

Now in my Grade 12 year, after 4 years of living in this province, I constantly ask my peers what they are doing after they graduate. Most want to move as far away from this province as they can. They don't think that Nova Scotia has a lot to offer.

Whenever I hear someone say that I constantly shake my head and chuckle. I think that there are so many places, places that people don't even know about in Nova Scotia, that would make them rethink leaving here.

I love the lighthouses in this province, there are so many, and each has its own characteristics that make it different from the other.

You can hike to these lighthouses, have a picnic, take some super cool pictures, and spend quality time with the people that you care about most.

Therefore, I would like to urge the youth of Nova Scotia to get off their cell phones and explore what your home province has to offer!!!



Ireland Peyton at Peggy's Cove Lighthouse.

Photo provided by L. Peyton

Caribou Island Group Continues Work

By: Friends of Caribou Island

There has been a light on Caribou Island since 1868. The first structure was a lighthouse. This had to be moved within the first few years due to erosion. In 1917 a new lighthouse was constructed.

This second light was used up until 1971. It was in this year that the current concrete structure was built. Last October it was decided by DFO that the lower part of the structure which used to contain the generator should be torn down. There was asbestos and the structure was in a state of disrepair, but the tower was left standing.

The Caribou Island light is one of the lighthouses left in the province that is easily accessible by land. On any given day and especially on the weekend there are many visitors to the light and the accompanying reef. The light is at the entrance to Caribou Harbour, which is the third largest entry point for visitors into the province after the NB border and Robert Stanfield International Airport. The light is a local landmark and it is still in use as a navigational aid.

The Friends of Caribou Island is a new non-profit group that formed in September with a mission to preserve the Caribou Island light. We would like to assume the guardianship of the lighthouse in conjunction with the municipality of Pictou. We would like to fundraise and start off by repairing the current structure and paint. We would like to add fill to level the ground around the light, plant grass and add picnic tables.

We would also like to reduce the size of the parking lot to add green space, and look at setting park-like hours (from dawn to dusk) and a storyboard with historical info and pictures. There is a lot of history on the island that needs to be told and the storyboard option would enhance the site greatly.

The group has presented plans to the municipality and is waiting for the decision on divestiture. We would like to have a decision in time for Canada's 150th birthday.

Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society, est 1993

Update: Low Point Preservation Efforts

By: Debbie Lee Pearson



Low Point Lighthouse

Provided by the Low Point Lighthouse Society

The Low Point Lighthouse has been in operation since 1832, located at the eastern entrance to Sydney Harbour in New Victoria. The lighthouse is recognized as a heritage building by the Federal Heritage Building Review Office.

This classic red and white lighthouse is a concrete structure that towers over the coastline at 22 m (72 feet) in height. It is one of the oldest lighting stations in NS, among the first dozen to have been built. The lighthouse is an important part of the New Victoria community. New Victoria would not be New Victoria without the Low Point Lighthouse, just as Sydney Harbour wouldn't be Sydney Harbour without its stunning historic lighthouse.

The light is greatly treasured by locals and tourists alike. Tourism has become an economic lifeline for Cape Breton, and with the addition of a second cruise ship berth in Sydney, tourism will only increase. Since tourists want the perfect photo-op and an authentic experience, we feel that Low Point Lighthouse will become a premier destination for tourists to enjoy.

We have major plans for this venue, but first things first. The long-term goal for the society is to have a campground, RV park, and two to three cottages near the lighthouse location, however the committee is taking things one-step at a time.

Other work needed on site will include parking lots, interpretive panels as well as road signage to direct visitors to the location.

In July 2015, Low Point Lighthouse came in first and won the online contest This Lighthouse Matters, a crowd-funding competition, created by the National Trust for

Canada and the Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society.

Our society, along with the National Trust for Canada and the Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society, have been carefully weighing our options. After very careful consideration on how best to honor the lighthouse, the prize money will be used to pay for lighthouse structural repairs and refurbishment.

The lighthouse needs extensive repairs. The structure's exterior is riddled with swaths of missing concrete and superficial cracks. The lighthouse also needs painting as well as three new steel doors. Many of the lantern's glass panes need replacing.

Our overall goal is to bring this historic lighthouse back to its former pristine, majestic beauty and grandeur for future generations. Aside from the structure repairs, work must be done to protect the lighthouse against the rapid erosion of the shoreline. We are in a race against time.

Our society has received the necessary funding for both the lighthouse structural assessment report as well as the seawall and shoreline protection study. The Low Point Lighthouse Society is paying half the cost for the structural assessment with donated funds received through the crowd-funding campaign, and the CBRM is paying the other half.

Repairs to the lighthouse itself will begin in the spring and the society is hoping to have those first improvements completed by summer for tourist season.



Low Point Lighthouse

**Photo Provided by the
Low Point Lighthouse Society**

New "Help a Light Shine" Program Announced

By: Meredith O'Hara

Too many of Nova Scotia's lighthouses are left to the elements. Still shining their lights but in danger of damage from those forces and lack of maintenance. NSLPS works with groups throughout the province as volunteers organizations work to take on their lighthouse and make it a shining structure for their community.

In 2015 The National Trust for Canada with NSLPS ran the This Lighthouse Matters campaign, but we know that more than the nine winners of that contest matter. With that in mind the board of the Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society is launching our first "Help a Light Shine" campaign.

In its first year this program will focus attention and the board's expertise and resources on one lighthouse in particular that could use additional help.

We are excited to begin work on "Help a Light Shine 2017" where we will be working in partnership with the Terence Bay Lighthouse Society to help them to gain ownership of the Terence Bay Lighthouse and hopefully begin the work of repairing this light, which was



Terence Bay Lighthouse

established in 1885 after the shipwreck of the S.S. Atlantic.

The Terence Bay Lighthouse Society participated in "This Lighthouse Matters" but came in fourth in their category missing out on a portion of the prize money. With "Help a Light Shine 2017" we plan to work with this strong, active

community group to reach a wider audience, increase their message's reach and in doing so expand the circle of people and organizations they can draw on for support.

The group in Terence Bay has worked tirelessly through the last few years, even doing emergency repairs to help the light last through another winter. Their main issue now is taking over ownership of the structure so larger repairs can be done.

The NSLPS plans to feature one (or more) deserving lighthouse groups each year. If you're interested in knowing more about the program or suggesting

a group for "Help a Light Shine 2018" please don't hesitate to get in touch (*contact information for the board can be found on Page 2*).

NSLPS Plans for Canada's 150th

By: Meredith O'Hara

As many of you are probably aware 2017 marks the 150th anniversary of Canada's confederation. With events planned in almost every village, town, and city across the country to mark this occasion, the NSLPS wants to get in on the fun.

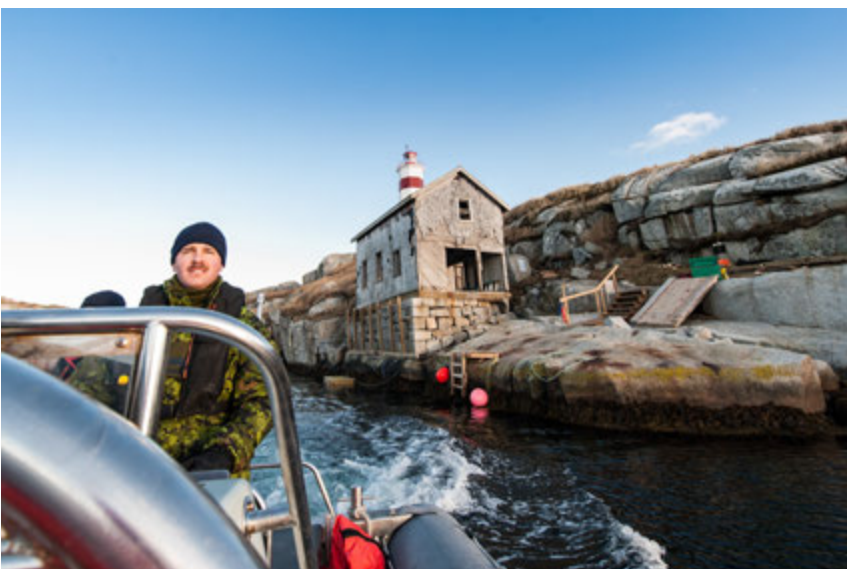
Nova Scotia was one of the first four provinces to join our newly formed country in 1867 and our province has a varied and rich history going back long before then. In fact more than 40 of the lighthouses in Nova Scotia were actually built before confederation, including well known sites like Sambro Island, Boar's Head, Cape Forchu, and Low Point Lighthouse in Cape Breton.

There is only one lighthouse that we are aware of that was built in 1867 and will share its 150th birthday with Canada.

The lighthouse on East Ironbound Island is of service to vessels in Chester, St. Margaret's Bay, and Mahone Bay.

As Rip Irwin explains in his book Lighthouses & Lights of Nova Scotia, on "January 3, 1870, just three years after the lighthouse was built, it was destroyed by fire." A common fate for lights of that era but no time was lost in replacing it with a new light coming into service one year later on January 5, 1871.

As the winter passes and spring and summer arrive the NSLPS will be announcing plans for a number of events centred around our lighthouses to mark Canada's birthday. We hope you will keep an eye on our Facebook page and website as we confirm our plans, dates, and details for celebrating Canada 150!



**See article
" A Lifeline for
the Sambro Island Gas
House! "
on Page 4-5
for
more details on the
recent repairs
on
Sambro Island.**