

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

National Historic Sites of Cape Breton Island - Lieux Historiques Nationaux du Cap-Breton
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ICM Training

On December 12th and 13th staff of the Fortress of Louisbourg, including members of the union-management committee, attended a two-day workshop on the Informal Conflict Management program at Parks Canada. Paulette Melanson, the ICM advisor for the eastern region, facilitated the course for managers and supervisors and union representatives. The session provided detail about the policy and its application as well as skills in communication and dealing with conflict. This program, a joint union-management initiative, complements existing formal dispute resolution mechanisms in the agency.

Those who attended took part in a variety of interactive training sessions and had a chance to apply all of the skills they learned and to discuss these with their colleagues. Anne Marie Lane Jonah and Anna Marie Cormier, who will be providing one-day workshops on ICM for the Fortress staff, also had a chance to instruct sections of the course and try out the skills they acquired at a facilitators' course in Ottawa last September.

Many who attended commented that the skills and the information were useful, and the opportunity to practice new skills was helpful. FOL staff always welcome the chance to get together with colleagues from different sections, making for a pleasant experience for all.

Anne Marie and Anna Marie will start offering sessions in ICM for FOL staff in the New Year.

We encourage staff to talk to people who attended the two-day session to learn a bit of what it is about.

You can reach Anne Marie at annemarie.jonah@pc.gc.ca or 733-3535 or Anna at cormierannamarie@hotmail.com or 862-2767. For information about Informal Conflict Management you can consult the website at http://intranet/content/adr-marc/index_e.asp or call 1-866-787-6780.

Happy Holidays



At the end of each year it is important that we take time to reflect upon how fortunate we are to live in Cape Breton, to give thanks and to be especially appreciative of our families and friends. This has been a year of many changes, as we have celebrated the careers of John Parker, Bill O'Shea, Linda Bartlett, Tom Bates, Wayne Lahey and Alphonse Roach. We wish them all a happy retirement and thank them for their years of service and dedication.

While this year has had some struggles, especially with fewer tourists, and major health problems for a number of colleagues, it has also had some surprisingly good things happen - like the sudden infusion of resources to repave the Cabot Trail and the special work of those staff that helped launch the salt management plan and the clean up of the Marrach landfill. At the Fortress we launched some creative new programming - thanks to the energy and creativity of Anne Marie Lane Jonah and Ruby Powell.

Thanks to all of you for your efforts and commitment to the special places we are entrusted to manage for Canadians now and in the future.

Enjoy the holiday as you celebrate this special time of the year with your family and friends.

Carol Whitfield

Annual Christmas Eve Luncheon

Once again, we are having a luncheon on the last day of work before the Christmas holidays. If you are planning on attending this luncheon please let Donna MacNeil or Valerie White know so they can plan accordingly. All employees are welcome - the more the merrier!!!!

Christmas Safety Tips

Keep your real Christmas tree away from floor heaters, fire places, or other heat sources.



Use only UL-listed lights, and no more than 3 strands linked together. Use miniature lights which have cool-burning bulbs.

Turn off the Christmas lights when you sleep, or if you leave your home.

Avoid overloading wall outlets and extension cords.

Never use indoor extension cords outside.

Keep outdoor electrical connectors above ground and out of puddles and snow.

Merry Christmas !

Joyeux Noël !