



Symposium #7: The Summer of the Bluenose

June 25, 2011 marks our 7th summer symposium to review progress as we move forward to create a sustainable working waterfront in Lunenburg. The past year has seen several key developments in a process that continues to move us forward in fulfilling our mission of revitalizing our working waterfront.

Lunenburg was chosen in 2010 as the best site for the rebuild of Bluenose 2. This project is now well advanced, and is being watched all over the World, through the magic of the Internet and the excellent websites that have been set up for this project. The Lunenburg Shipyard Alliance is staging this project from the eastern part of our property, basically the Smith & Rhuland shipyard. We hope that this project is the catalyst for a renewed shipbuilding industry on our site, with the incumbent firms successfully marketing their skills and our waterfront as the ideal place to build and refit large sailing vessels.

Dawson Moreland & Associates continues construction of their twin 48-ft schooners in The Dory Shop Boatyard. These wooden vessels are now fully decked and hull planking has begun. The company continues to chronicle the build on their popular construction blog and also has a brand-new website at www.lunenburgschooners.com Meanwhile, inside The Dory Shop, they continue to build the iconic Banks dories and other small wooden boats that have been this shop's stock and trade since 1917.

At the dock at 174 Bluenose Drive, Dawson Moreland is also engaged in active refit of the former scallop dragger Zebroid for service as an auxiliary sail inter-island supply vessel in the Cook Islands, South Pacific.

We have sold the storefront properties at 182-188 Montague St. and they are currently being extensively upgraded and restored.

The Zwicker & Co. Ltd. building has been leased to the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic, as relief space for the next few years while the Museum undergoes its own restoration process. At this site, we have been able to open public access to the waterfront and to one wharf. The fence has been removed, and a small public park and walkway has been created. Street furniture has been provided courtesy of the Rotary Club of Lunenburg. Last summer, 50 metres of floating docks were installed on the eastern side of the public wharf to enable short-term berthing of visiting yachts, and the landing of tenders from vessels in the mooring field. The racing yacht, "Spirit of Canada" with the title sponsor Active House, was berthed here in late Summer 2010, prior to its participation in the just completed Velux 5 Oceans round the world single-handed race. The floating docks were a great success, and in 2011, the floats will be twinned to provide 75 metres of docking space. This will comprise a designated dinghy dock, complimentary daytime berthing for visiting yachts, and overnight berthing for a fee, space permitting. This site will be central to a new event on the waterfront this summer—the Wooden Boat Reunion, to be held in late July.

We have begun a process of painting traditional names on the waterfront buildings, using historically accurate designs as they are identified. The Zwicker & Co. Ltd. graphics on the former "Forge" building is the first example. A second building will be named this summer.

Our Business Plan, formulated in 2006, is now under a process of review and update. A presentation in the form of a progress report/draft plan will be made at the Symposium.

We have worked over the past year with the Waterfront Development Corporation Ltd. to develop and publish a Mariners' Guide to Lunenburg and its waterfront. This is a resource document that will assist mariner-visitors in finding the services they require as they arrive at our waterfront.

A system of security cameras has been installed throughout the waterfront. Limited WI-FI access is planned at two locations on the waterfront this Summer.

For Your Information:

The Symposium will offer walking tours to some of the most interesting venues on the waterfront, including the Bluenose 2 project, and the barque Picton Castle. More information at the meeting.