

Symposium #8: Ships Stop Here

This June 23, 2012 marks our 8th Summer Symposium to review progress and plans as we continue to move toward a sustainable working waterfront in Lunenburg. The past year has seen an emphasis on infrastructure renewal and repair, despite slow progress in identifying new tenants for the few remaining available properties.

The Bluenose II project is now nearing completion with a launch schedule expected to be announced in July. Visitor numbers were huge last Summer and Fall and the build site is also 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 are working hard at this point to ensure a smooth transition in the Fall at the shipyard site, from the rebuild of Bluenose II to the construction of other vessels.

Dawson Moreland & Associates continues construction of their twin 48-ft schooners in The Dory Shop Boatyard. One vessel is nearing completion, and a launch is imminent. The company continues to chronicle the build on their popular construction blog and also has an informative 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 completing the refit of the former scallop dragger now named Tiare Taporo for service as an auxiliary sail inter-island supply vessel in the Cook Islands, South Pacific.

The Zwicker & Co. Ltd. Building, now leased to the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic, continues to be developed as the most public-friendly property on the working waterfront. The Zwicker Wharf Park has recently been upgraded with new landscaping and a boardwalk connecting Bluenose Drive to the wharf. Street furniture has been provided courtesy of the Rotary Club of Lunenburg. We now have floating docks and gangways on both sides of the wharf to facilitate the convenient 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, will call the Zwicker Wharf home between its regular voyages to Bermuda. The floating docks will be supplied with water and power later this Summer, thereby increasing amenities for visitors.

The second part of our expanding Marina services complex has been developed at Wharf O, closest to the shipyard. Extensive structural repairs are complete at this site and a new fuel dock, together with more floating docks, is in the planning stage.

Our Business Plan, updated in 2011, is now being implemented. A presentation of the highlights of the Plan will be made at the Symposium.

The Waterfront Development Corporation Ltd. and the LWAI annually update and publish a Mariners Guide to Lunenburg and its waterfront. This resource document 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 WiFi access is planned at two locations on the waterfront this Summer. When the more comprehensive WiFi system is implemented, as the result of an initiative by the Lunenburg Board of Trade, our waterfront will be involved as a partner.

The LWAI has made application to the Heritage Lighthouse Program of Parks Canada, to have our lighthouse at Battery Point declared a Heritage Lighthouse.

Finally, many ships, featured in the busiest waterfront festival in recent years will stop here this Summer:

- ❖ Tall Ships to Lunenburg, July 25 and 26
- ❖ Wooden Boat Reunion, July 28 and 29
- ❖ Nova Scotia Schooner Week, July 30 to Aug. 4.