

Victoria's Quilts Canada comes to Spryfield

by Lorrie Boylen

Victoria's Quilts Canada ("VQC") now has a local branch, recently spearheaded by Spryfield resident Sandy Adam together with some friends and family. The VQC provides handmade quilts to cancer patients of all ages in an effort to bring physical as well as spiritual and psychological comfort, knowing that they are not alone and someone cares. As of March 2017, the VQC has supplied over 56,000 quilts. The organization is independent from the Canadian Cancer Society and receives no funding from them.

Sandy was inspired to start the branch when her friend Ches, a cancer patient, received a quilt from VQC. When Sandy requested a quilt for her cousin, she explored the organization's website and noticed there is a small branch in Tantramar and one in Moncton, but nothing closer. With the number of cancer patients being treated here, she recognized an unmet need.

In order to open a local branch, a board of directors had to be set up. Sandy Adam is the Chairperson; her husband Joe Adam is the Request Coordinator; her daughter Kirsten Corbett is in charge of Public Relations and Media Contact; her cousin Carolyn Millbury is the Treasurer; and her friend Beulah Shears, the wife of Ches, who inspired this movement, is in charge of keeping the stash of materials as they come in.

The quilts are made by volunteers who work either independently or in groups. Patterns don't need to be fancy, in fact they can be quite simple. You don't need to be an expert or even a quilter or sewer, you just need the desire to learn. There are many other ways to help: donations of fabric, thread, quilt binding, sewing machines or money for the purchase of such supplies. Volunteers can help with fundraising, cut out fabric, put quilt top kits together in zip lock bags, sew quilt tops together and do the quilting. Sandy can deliver quilt kits

and pick them up when they are done.

Folks are already inquiring if the group is ready to start taking requests, so startup funds are badly needed in order to get things up and going in full swing. All donations are tax deductible, including material. Fund raisers are being planned for the future, including quilt raffles and 50/50 draws.

If a group is interested in getting together to participate, Sandy can come out and talk and explain in detail how it works. This might be an ideal project to consider for school groups, Guiding groups, quilting bees, church groups, craft groups, 4H clubs, etc.

Quilt tops are cotton and the backs are flannel to make them cozy when patients are receiving their treatments. No buttons or zippers or clips are used, so that there is no danger of them getting stuck on tubes or equipment that the patient may require.

A request for a quilt can be submitted to www.victoriasquiltsCanada.com. The database will be searched to ensure the cancer patient has not already been provided a quilt, since only one quilt is provided per person. The request is passed along to that branch designated to the recipient's area to prepare a quilt and whenever possible it is hand delivered for a more personal touch and if not, it is sent via Canada Post. Each quilt has a bilingual Victoria's Quilts Canada label.

Quilts come in different sizes for adults, youth and children. Each quilt can cost about \$50 for materials but the organization counts on material and monetary donations from both businesses and individuals and there is never any cost to the recipient or requester.

Eventually a web page and Facebook page will be set up for the local branch but for now, contact Sandy at 902-247-1751 or Email Sandra-june54@hotmail.com

(Lorrie Boylen is a Writer, Administrative Professional and CBC Radio's Community Contact for Sambro)

Contest time!

Anyone recognize this fella? The first person to email the editor with the correct answer as to **who** and **when** will receive a free *Chebucto News* ballcap!

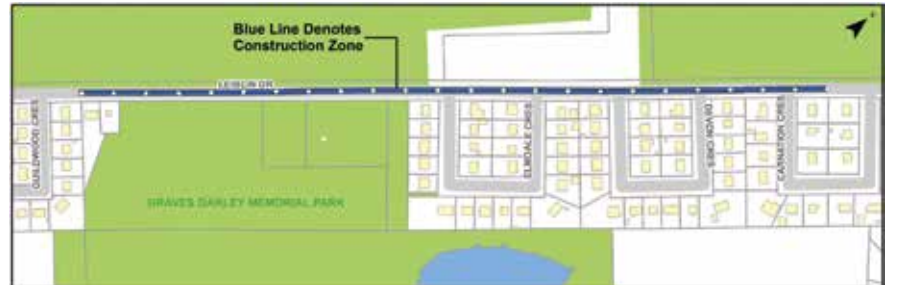
Email the editor at chebuctoeditor@gmail.com



Leiblin Drive System Upgrades

Halifax Water will be making wastewater system upgrades on Leiblin Drive this spring and summer.

Halifax Water operates an existing wastewater/sewer pumping station at 108 Leiblin Drive. The pumping station has reached the end of its useful life and will be removed from service. It will be replaced with a gravity wastewater/sewer pipe along Leiblin Drive. Eliminating the pumping station removes the associated operational, electrical, equipment and maintenance costs.



The new sewer pipe will extend approximately 600 metres from Guildwood Cres. to Carnation Cres. Construction is expected to begin in May or June and take 3-4 months to complete. Due to the depth of the pipe excavation, Leiblin Drive will be closed to traffic for the duration of the sewer project.



Sample of similar required excavation

A detour along Old Sambro Road will be in place. In order to ensure access to homes, at least one entrance to each crescent will be maintained along the construction zone. Recreation facilities will be accessible. Pedestrian traffic will be maintained during construction and no disruption to water or wastewater services is expected. Bus service will be disrupted by the street closure. Further bus service notification will be provided.

The Halifax Regional Municipality will also be replacing the sidewalk along the entire length of Leiblin Drive. This project is also expected to get underway this spring and will take approximately 4-6 months to complete.

If you have any questions about the Leiblin Drive wastewater project, please contact:

Greg Rice, P. Eng.
Project Engineer - Halifax Water
Phone: 902-476-3520
Email: riceg@halifaxwater.ca

Inquiries regarding the Municipality's sidewalk renewal project can be directed to:

Peter Lynds, P.Eng.
Design Engineer, HRM
Phone: 902-490-6898
Email: lyndsp@halifax.ca

