

#### Waste Water Nova Scotia

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For the latest of happenings at WWNS, read on....

# **Annual Report of the Chairman**Waste Water Nova Scotia

Over the past year, WWNS and its Board of Directors continued to work hard to ensure the professionalism of your industry. Some of the things we have been involved in are as follows:

- 1. <u>Delivery of Regional Meetings:</u> January & February of 2016, WWNS held a total of 14 Regional meetings in a number of locations around the province to inform Industry of proposed changes to the onsite program and proposed revisions to the delivery model used by Nova Scotia Environment. The meetings were well attended by QP's, Installers and Nova Scotia Environment staff.
- 2. <u>Completion of the Additional Educational Video:</u> WWNS successfully completed the two more educational videos which covered the installation of a pressurized C1 system and the installation of a pressurized area bed. Our video library continues to expand which we believe is a great asset to the industry
- 3. Participation in the Home Show: WWNS once again set up an educational booth at the Halifax Home Show in March 2016. This gave WWNS the opportunity to promote the QP, Installer, Septic Pumper, Portable Restroom Operator and Septic Bed Flusher programs as they are delivered across the province. It also provided an opportunity to educate the public at large regarding on-site services. Hundreds of people attended the display.
- 4. <u>Training</u>: During 2015 there continued to be a great demand for training within the industry. 55 applicants attended the Installer training course, and 9 applicants attended the QPII training course. A number of septic pumpers and portable restroom operators received training. WWNS coordinated 2 training courses for the re-inspection of existing onsite septic systems.
- 5. <u>Newsletter</u>: WWNS compiled and distributed three newsletters to members over the past year. The purpose of the newsletters was to keep industry informed on what is going on and to solicit feedback from industry on any concerns.

- 6. <u>Bursary Awards</u>: 2015 was the fourth year for the two WWNS bursaries offered for students entering secondary studies in fields related to our industry. One bursary was award in 2015 and the Board has recommended an expansion to the criteria in an effort to capture more applicants.
- 7. WWNS Board of Directors and Executive Director: Over the past year your Board of Director's and your Executive Director continued to work in your best interest and have provided me with the support to carry out my job as Chair of WWNS. To all of them a hardy Thank-you and I look forward to continuing to work with all of them.

Steven R. Williams, P.Eng Chair, WWNS

#### **SEPTIC PUMPING EXPO**



WWNS held its second annual Septic Pumping Expo inside the Agridome on April 08.

Septic Pumpers & Portable Restroom Operators attended from across Nova Scotia along with guests from New Brunswick, PEI, and Newfoundland.

There were presentations throughout the day, along with time to network with others in the industry and view the displays provided by the suppliers.

With the support of and Industry the membership, WWNS hopes to make this a yearly event. If you have suggestions any would like to be part of a committee, planning please contact the office of WWNS or your area representative.



#### **2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Waste Water Nova Scotia closed out the year with its Annual General Meeting, held in Truro on April 09. A number of the new products and services approved for use in Nova Scotia this year were introduced including advanced treatment units and on-site system warranty.

Thank you to all the **Exhibitors** who participated in the trade show portion of our Expo & AGM this year. We were happy to welcome a number of new Exhibitors as well as those returning Exhibitors who continue to support WWNS and its membership. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

Congratulations as well to the winners of the <u>many</u> door prizes which were donated by the Exhibitors and WWNS.



## FRIEND OF THE INDUSTRY AWARD

Each year, WWNS looks to recognize someone for their contribution towards the betterment of the onsite sewage industry in Nova Scotia.

WWNS was pleased to present the 2016 Friend of the Industry award to NSE On-site Services Coordinator **Leah Boutilier** recognizing her effort and dedication to the on-site sewage program.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Two elections were held for seats on the Board at the AGM resulting in a change of Directors for the Lunenburg/Queens area. The Board of Directors welcomes **Lester Berrigan** back to the table as they continue to work for the betterment of the on-site industry in Nova Scotia.

WWNS would like to thank outgoing Director **Andre Vienotte** for his time spent on the Board.

#### **BURSARY PROGRAM**

The Bursary program will be offered by WWNS again this year to support active members of WWNS and their family members with post-secondary education. Along with the University and College Bursaries, the program was expanded last year to include a third award for students attending a trades related course. Bursaries will have a value of \$1000 each. All applications will be accepted but preference will be given to students studying in a field related to the on-site sewage industry.

Applications are available through the WWNS office or online in the Members section of the WWNS website at <a href="https://www.wwns.ca">www.wwns.ca</a> . Applications must be received by August 15.

#### **CHANGES TO THE ON-SITE PROGRAM**

New OSDS Regulations and Standard came into effect as of May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 and as a result, there a number of changes that will be implemented in the on-site sewage program this construction season. Should issues arise that require clarification, WWNS will be communicating any information or updates as they become available through our website or by email.

### **LICENSING**

As discussed at the 2016 regional meetings and the recent WWNS AGM, NSE is in the process of moving from a "one year" to a "four year" certification program. Due to delays in the implementation, **NSE** has granted an extension for Certificate holders until the end of December 2016. Renewal applications will be sent to Certificate holders prior to this date by NSE. (*Please note* – your membership in Waste Water Nova Scotia is not a license.)

A list of certified (licensed) persons is available on the NSE webpage at: http://www.gov.ns.ca/nse/cms/Search.asp.

#### **NOTIFICATION**

There are a number of new forms required by NSE as of May  $1^{st}$ . The new fillable forms can be found at <a href="http://novascotia.ca/nse/wastewater/regulations.tech.guidelines.asp">http://novascotia.ca/nse/wastewater/regulations.tech.guidelines.asp</a>.

Online application and notification forms for On Site Sewage Disposal <u>will not</u> be available through Service Nova Scotia's web portal until further notice. The forms can be downloaded and included with a paper submission for the time being.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

If you have purchased a **2016** membership in WWNS, your name and contact information will be displayed on the Members page of the Waste Water Nova Scotia website. **Please take a moment to ensure the information is correct**. If you did not yet renew your 2016 membership, the form can be printed from the website or is available from the office.

As a member of WWNS, you are now able to create your own webpage which will be linked to your contact information on the WWNS website to provide more details about your business and the services you offer. The login address is: <a href="http://wwns.ca/members/login.php">http://wwns.ca/members/login.php</a>

To login, you will be asked to provide your <u>member number</u> which is the 5 digit member id # (Mbr Id) on your **2016** membership receipt and a <u>password</u> which is your last name. Login, fill in the information, and click the **UPDATE** button to activate your page.

#### **BIO PRO DEMONSTRATION**

Shaw Group Ltd is having a contractor day at their Sydney location on May 19 to demonstrate the theory and operation of a **Bio Pro Unit** and provide instruction on how to set the blower. For more information or to register contact Jason Groves at 902-565-0060 or jgroves@shawgroupltd.com. Attendees at the session will be credited with 5 professional development points.

#### 2015 STATS RELATED TO APPROVALS

Number of Approvals issued in 2015	2094
Number of Audits related to Approvals	366
Warnings	18
Directives	19
Summary Offence Tickets	3

## **2015 STATS NOT RELATED TO APPROVALS**

Inspections Completed	245
(136 related to malfunctions/release of substance)	ce)
Warnings	13
Directives	72
Summary offense tickets	1

#### RELATED DOCUMENT LINKS

On-site Sewage Disposal Systems Regulations:

https://www.novascotia.ca/just/regulations/regs/envsewage.htm

Activities Designation Regulations:

https://www.novascotia.ca/just/regulations/regs/envactiv.htm

On-site Sewage Disposal Systems Standard and Q&A:

https://www.novascotia.ca/nse/wastewater/on.site.sewage.disposal.asp

#### **ON-SITE SEWAGE PROGRAM TIDBITS**

- 1. **August 15 is World Portable Sanitation Day (WPSD)**. WPSD is a project within the PSAI's Education Initiative (EI), which focuses on highlighting the importance of sanitation in daily living, the lack of adequate sanitation in developing countries, and the valuable role portable sanitation can play in helping to address global issues.
- 2. Recording everyone's PDP's is a big job. While we are confident we have not left anyone out, I would ask that you check your PDP points on the WWNS website. Those who purchased their 2016 WWNS membership should check to make sure their contact information is displayed correctly on the webpage. If you notice any discrepancies, please advise.
- 3. We continue to receive questions about insurance at the Office of WWNS. If you are dealing with septic, be sure your policy includes "**Pollution Inclusion**".
- 4. The latest **newsletter** can always be found on the WWNS website. Look for the next edition, including *upcoming meeting dates*, to be out by December 2016.
- 5. Occasionally, WWNS is made aware of training being offered by suppliers about their products. This information is posted in the news section of our website as it becomes available

## Waste Water Nova Scotia Society Annual General Meeting Minutes (April 09, 2016)

- Steve Williams introduction
- Director nominations submitted: Hubert LeBlanc nominated Larry Deveau for Digby/Yarmouth Co.
- Floor nomination: Arthur Backman nominated Lester Berrigan for Lunenburg/Queens Co.
- Vote and area reps time to speak
- Discussion re: Board members terms and plan to develop a policy on terms and turnover to stagger and ensure some continuity but encourage changing members.
- Approval of 2015 Minutes:
  - o Alan Baird motion to approve, seconded by John Kidson
  - No new business arising from minutes
- Gary presented financials
  - o Paul Sinclair motion to approve, seconded by Emery Peters
- Discussion on Bursary program now open to anyone but favour applicants in the wastewater industry.
- Appointment of Auditors
  - o Arthur Backman motion to approve, seconded by Larry Deveau
- Steve Williams Annual Report:
  - o 14 regional meetings well attended
  - o 2 videos
  - Homeshow
  - o Trained 55 installers and 9 QPs
  - o 2 inspection courses
  - o 3 newsletters
  - o 1 bursary
- Voting results:
  - o 14 Lester Berrigan winning votes for Queens/Lunenburg
  - o 11 Andre Veinotte
  - o 4 Steve Muise winning votes for Digby/Yarmouth
  - o 2 Larry Deveau
- Videos C1 and Areabed
- MANY door prizes
- Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted by Leah Boutilier