

Trumpet

NEWS LETTER

WINTER 2010

COMPLETION OF MIDSTREAM PROJECT IN BOWRING PARK PRESENTATION OF CHEQUE TO CITY OF ST. JOHN'S

At the February 22nd St. John's Council meeting, Bowring Park Foundation chair, Mike Power, and the past-chair, John Downton, presented the City with a cheque for \$835,531 for the Foundation's share of the Midstream Project in Bowring Park.

In his remarks, Mr. Downton recounted the origins of the Bowring Park Foundation and this particular project. "The Foundation was formed in 1995 by a group of volunteer citizens to assist the City of St. John's with the restoration and development of Bowring Park. The Midstream Project was identified by the Foundation as a priority from the commissioned 2005 Master Plan for the park." Mr. Downton thanked the City for cost-sharing this project, which included the reconstruction of the Fountain Pond and the construction of a barrier free playground and splash pad. "It is our hope that this park will be enjoyed by many future generations." Downton said.

The chair, Mr. Power, acknowledged Husky Energy's contribution of \$300,000 towards the reconstruction of the Fountain Pond. "Husky's support for this effort demonstrates their commitment to our community." said Power. He also thanked two special organizations, United Way of Newfoundland and Labrador and the VOCCM Cares Foundation for their financial donations of \$25,000 and \$50,000 respectively towards the Barrier Free Playground. Power said, "This inclusive playground should benefit all children who visit the park for many years to come."

Mr. Power expressed thanks to the Grand Concourse Authority for their leadership as the project manager and to the Point Contracting Company for their excellent work. "The completed project is one in which we all can

take pride." Power thanked the City for its support to the Foundation. "We look forward to partnering with the City on our next project in Bowring Park, the restoration of the Stone Bridge." Power concluded.



John Downton, BPF Past Chair, Mike Power, BPF Chair, Gayna Rowe, BPF Office Administrator, Mayor Dennis O'Keefe

WINTER 2010

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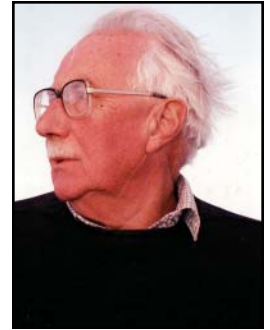
IN MEMORIAM
DERRICK BOWRING

Bowring Park Foundation's Honorary Patron, Mr. Derrick Bowring passed away at the age of 93 on December 10, 2009. Mr. Bowring was the great-great-grandson of Benjamin Bowring, who came to Newfoundland from England in 1811 and started the Bowring business. To celebrate their 100th anniversary in business in 191, the Bowring Brothers Ltd. donated 50 acres of land to the City of St. John's. This land became Bowring Park.

Foundation chairman, Michael Power, said that Bowring's legacy will live on in the park well into the future. "Mr. Bowring arranged to have a large donation made to the park about 10 years ago. We've built upon that donation and have completed a master plan for the park." Power said. Bowring was a great source when looking for information about the park, Power added. "The park has been there

almost 100 years and Mr. Bowring lived through most of it. So when we were looking for guidance, we'd go to him." Power said.

Foundation past chairman, John Downton, remembers Mr. Bowring as a very private man, very modest, very caring. "He had a great social conscience. He gave a lot back. But he did it in a very unassuming way. He absolutely wanted no recognition for what he did." Downton said.



A memorial service was held in St. John's for Mr. Bowring on December 17. A funeral service will be held in Burnside, Bonavista Bay, on Sunday, August 15, 2010.

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY
BARRIER FREE PLAY -
GROUND & SPLASH PAD

On October 15, 2009, the Bowring Park Foundation (BPF) and the City of St. John's officially opened the Barrier Free Playground and the Splash Pad in Bowring Park. This project, one of the initiatives from the 2005 Bowring Park Master Plan, was cost-shared by the BPF and the City. The Master Plan is focused on the preservation, restoration and development of the Park's landscape.



The Bowring Park Barrier Free Playground and Splash Pad



Tammy Davis, Executive Director of United Way of Newfoundland and Labrador, Kelly Reid, Executive Director of VOXM Cares Foundation, Mike Power, Chairman of the Bowring Park Foundation, and Deputy-Mayor, Shannie Duff

**THANK YOU FOR PURCHASING DUCK
FOOD FROM THE BOWRING PARK
FOUNDATION**

THE DUCKS AND SWANS
THANK YOU TOO!

The Foundation recommends not feeding bread to the birds. Bread has little nutritional value. It dehydrates the birds because of high salt content and it promotes bacterial growth in the water in ponds and rivers. By purchasing proper duck food you will be doing the birds a favour by providing good healthy food and the environment a favour by not fouling the water. Duck food from the Bowring Park Foundation is available throughout the year at the various Marie's Mini-Mart locations. Marie's forwards 100% of the proceeds from the sale of the \$1.00 bags to the Foundation. This is an important source of our funding and we thank Marie's as well as you, the duck food buying public, for supporting us.





**BOWRING PARK FOUNDATION'S
NEXT PROJECT**
R E S T O R A T I O N O F
S T O N E B R I D G E

The Bowring Park Foundation is partnering with the City of St. John's to restore the Stone Bridge that crosses over South Brook near the tennis courts. This bridge was constructed in 1931 by Bowring Park personnel under then Superintendent Alfred Canning. The bridge is built in the form of an arch with bent railway tracks inside to give it its shape. The stones forming the bridge's exterior were collected along the railway line adding to its historical significance. Many park visitors have admired the Stone Bridge over the years but it now requires some work to restore it to its original form.



**FEATURES & ATTRACTIONS OF
BOWRING PARK**

The bell was originally placed in Bowring Park as a means to inform park patrons that the park closed at 10:00 p.m. The park superintendent, who lived in the Lodge, would ring the bell at 9:50 p.m. and then again at 10:00 p.m. to alert visitors that it was time to leave. The area in which the bell is located is known as the Rosaria, meaning the Rose Garden. It is across from the Swan Winter Quarters (on the same side as the Conservatory). The exact origin of the bell is unknown but it is believed that it was either a gift from Bowring Brothers from one of their ships or from the Reid Railway Car. Today, staff no longer ring the bell to signify the park's closing. However, visitors enjoy ringing it to make their presence known to other park patrons.



The Bell

One of Bowring Park's most popular trees is the extraordinary Weeping Beech located near the Bungalow. Planted in 1916, it stands out because it is a grafted tree. The root system for the Weeping Beech could not survive the Newfoundland climate so the top part of the tree was grafted onto the trunk and root system of a Green Beech. There is a prominent bump on the trunk where the graft was made. It has undergone some repairs and doctoring which will ensure that this special tree is around for a long time to come.



The Weeping Beech

Thank you to all those who attended the

BLACK SWAN
Gala

a charitable event to support the
Bowring Park Foundation,
on September 10, 2009.

The Bowring Park Foundation was established in 1995 as a not-for-profit organization under the patronage of Mr. Derrick Bowring. Its mandate is to assist the City of St. John's with the restoration, preservation and development of Bowring Park.

Members of the volunteer Board of Directors are:

Executive:

Michael Power – Chairman

John Downton – Past Chairman

Eldon Davis – Treasurer

Glen Roebathan – Honorary Legal Council

Wally Collins – City of St. John's Council Representative

Jim Clarke – City of St. John's Staff Representative

Directors:

Dennis O'Keefe

Eric Salter

Helena Turner

Sheri Wicks

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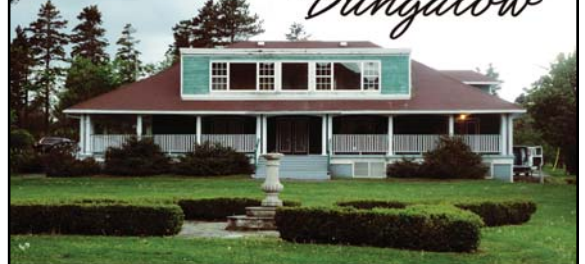
www.bowringpark.com

Email bpf@bowringpark.com



To Book an Event at the

Bowring Park Bungalow



Please Contact **RED OAK CATERING**
(709) 368-6808 www.redoaknf.com

Direct your inquiry regarding holding a function on the grounds of Bowring Park to the City of St. John's.

CALL 3-1-1

OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS
CALL (709) 754-CITY (2489)

LOOK for ST. JOHN'S
Calendar of Events at
www.stjohns.ca



The Power of Community

Our history of community involvement stems from the devotion our employees have to the places they call home. With locations throughout the island, the power of our contributions can be seen from coast to coast.

At the heart of everything we do is a desire to strengthen our connection to our customers and communities.

We are a proud partner of The Bowring Park Foundation.



newfoundlandpower.com

1.800.663.2802