

Eskasoni man remanded on attempted murder charge

SYDNEY — A 22-year-old Eskasoni man has been remanded until Monday for a bail hearing after being charged with attempted murder and a host of other offences.

Julian Conrod Sylliboy is also charged with break and enter into a dwelling; carrying a weapon dangerous to public peace, a knife; assault with a weapon, a knife; assault; uttering threats and five counts of breaching court orders.

Sylliboy made a brief provincial court appearance Friday where the Crown opposed his release and asked that he be jailed for the weekend.

RCMP were called to a home in the First Nations community at approximately 5 a.m. Thursday having been dispatched to aid an adult male requesting help.

Upon arriving, police found a man suffering from a stab wound to his forehead and immediately began a search for a suspect who was seen fleeing into nearby woods.

RCMP requested the assistance of the Cape Breton Regional Police Service K-9 dog unit which tracked the suspect a short time later leading to his capture.

The victim was treated in hospital for non-life threatening injuries and has since been released.

Trial set in armed robbery case

SYDNEY — A 25-year-old New Waterford man is scheduled to return to provincial court June 28 for a trial on a host of charges including armed robbery.

William Joseph Tait is charged with armed robbery; two counts of carrying a concealed handgun; two counts of possession of a weapon dangerous to public peace; two counts of wearing a mask in committing an offence; three counts of breaching court orders and a single count of using a weapon, an imitation handgun, in committing an offence.

The charges stem from an incident Nov. 8, 2011, during which the Sobeys Fast Fuels outlet in Sydney was robbed of cigarettes and lottery tickets. The charges also relate to an attempted robbery at a convenience store.

Daniel MacIvor earns several award nods

SYDNEY — Daniel MacIvor's play "Bingo!" has earned the Sydney native a number of Merritt Award nominations.

Theatre Nova Scotia has announced the nominees for the 2012 Merritt Awards and MacIvor's name appears throughout the list, with nominations for outstanding direction and outstanding new play by a Nova Scotia playwright, while the play itself, "Bingo!," is up for outstanding production.

MacIvor, a renowned writer, director and actor, returned home this past summer, to premiere "Bingo!" at the Savoy Theatre in Glace Bay as a Mulgrave Road Theatre production.

The comedy tells the story of fictional characters Nurk, Dookie, Heff, Boots and Bitsy who gather in Cape Breton to celebrate their 30th high school reunion.

Several of the actors in those roles have also earned Merritt Award nominations. Mabou native Heather Rankin is up for outstanding performance by a lead actress for her portrayal of Bitsy, Emmy Alcorn is nominated for outstanding performance by an actress in a supporting role for her portrayal of Boots, and Martin Burt is nominated in the outstanding performance by an actor in a supporting role category for his portrayal of Dookie.

For a full list of nominees go to www.merrittawards.ca/nominees/index.asp.

The Merritt Awards recognize outstanding achievement in professional theatre in Nova Scotia. Named after educator Robert Merritt, the awards celebrate achievement in areas of acting, directing, playwrighting, design, technical theatre, and overall achievement in Nova Scotian theatre.

"This has been a great year for theatre in Nova Scotia," said Theatre Nova Scotia executive director Christopher Shore. "The nominations reflect some great work going on in the theatre right across the province."

The awards will be presented at a gala event in Halifax, March 26.

Decision...

Cont. from page A1

Armed with a degree in philosophy, Campbell left her native Cape Breton in 1994 like so many other graduates in search of work. She landed in Toronto where a newspaper advertisement caught her eye inviting those interested to come to Japan to teach English. After a training period in Canada, Campbell packed up and moved to Japan.

She would later sign on with Berlitz which operated some 46 schools in and around Tokyo alone.

After working with the company for about three years, Campbell learned of a union representing European and other non-Japanese teachers. She made some inquiries and decided it was best to join.

"As a foreign worker in Japan, everything is tied to your job. Your visa, your apartment, as someone from your job needs to sign as a guarantor, so if something happens at work, you are left somewhat vulnerable," she said.

Negotiations between management and union in Japan have a unique twist as both sides meet annually in the spring for the "shunto" or spring offensive in which unions bring their list of demands and negotiations begin. Japan's law also allows for minority unions, meaning not everyone in the workplace must be a card-carrying union member.

Campbell's first involvement in a strike was in 2005 during her tenure as local president. The main issue was wages since the company had frozen pay scales.

After six weeks, the strike was over and wage increases were granted.

Campbell said there were 40 workers involved at the time and they conducted a series of rolling strikes by targeting certain classes on certain days that they would not teach.

After the strike, the company began to institute measures to ensure lower paying contracts for new hires despite a booming business for language schools in the country.

In October of 2007, the largest language school in the country, Nova, went bankrupt throwing thousands of language teachers out of work, and some hadn't been paid in months.

"The stories that came out of that bankruptcy about how workers were being affected helped to raise awareness for our cause," said Campbell, noting many in the country had the impression such foreign workers were highly paid and received a wide variety of other amenities.



Sydney native Catherine Campbell and her fellow language teachers were a curious sight on the streets of Tokyo during a series of strikes in 2007 and 2008. Submitted by Catherine Campbell

In December 2007, Campbell and her union began yet another series of rolling strikes to back demands since negotiations were not producing anything of substance. The issues raised here continue to remain outstanding.

"We staged a number of public events to garner support," said Campbell, noting members stood on street corners passing out leaflets and using a sound truck to blast out their message in neighbourhoods and business districts.

A nagging issue for the local was to negotiate an increase in the base rate on which performance bonuses were issued, which hadn't been increased in 16 years.

While negotiations continued at a snail's pace, the union continued its campaign of awareness. In December 2008, Campbell was served notice she was being sued by the company to the tune of \$1 million for her union involvement.

"There was serious debate about whether we would continue," she said, adding they did continue and filed a countersuit with the labour commission.

Membership in the union continued to grow during the strike.

By the April 2009, Campbell was well versed in union protest. She was no longer president of the local but still a very active member and voice.

"That was when I was diag-

nosed with breast cancer," she sighs, in recalling how the diagnosis shook her to her core.

She began chemotherapy treatments in Japan but returned to Cape Breton at the insistence of family and friends. She received a one-year leave of absence from work.

After chemo, Campbell underwent radiation treatments and requested an additional four months leave from her job which was denied.

"It was sort of weird how I felt at that time. I gained strength from the solidarity being shown by union members and I certainly wasn't as sick as I thought I would be with all the cancer treatments. I was also able to recover in the peacefulness of Irish Cove where my parents have a summer home so I guess you could say I had a good year."

In 2010, having already been notified by the company her services were no longer required, Campbell returned to Japan and showed up at work where she was turned away.

"I wanted to fight with them. I didn't want them to think they had won," said Campbell, in explaining why she returned.

Campbell never did get a chance to return to her classroom.

She still maintains close contact with her union brothers and sisters in Japan and during this year's union elections, she was again nominated for an executive position, which she declined.

Campbell didn't return home to Cape Breton because she was tired of fighting for the rights of her fellow workers but rather the actions of Mother Nature.

The March 9, 2011, earthquake and subsequent tsunami that ravaged Japan pushed Campbell back to her native shores.

The natural disaster claimed the lives of more than 19,000 people and the cleanup continues today.

The meltdown at the Fukushima nuclear power plant only served to further increase her desire to be home.

"After all the union activity, dealing with cancer and the treatments, the tsunami and the meltdown, I just simply couldn't find the balance anymore so I came home."

As for regrets, Campbell has none.

"There certainly were some bumps along the way but I have no regrets about my involvement. It was a great experience."

As if the circle has been completed, Campbell is now back in Cape Breton looking for work as she was in 1994.

Just what adventure now awaits he seasoned labour leader remains to be written.

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Location : NSCC Marconi Campus, Sydney
Time : 12 noon
Speaker : Eileen Lannon Oldford, CEO of the Cape Breton County Economic Development Authority
Cost : \$15 all inclusive

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Monday, March 5 and can be made by contacting
Sonya Mroz at 563-1271 or sonya_mroz@cbu.ca

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**Hothouse
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**Kraft
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**NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD**
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Efficiency Nova Scotia Corporation ("ENSC") has made an application to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (the "Board") for approval of its Electricity **Demand Side Management Plan** ("DSM") for 2013. (Demand Side Management refers to activities or programs undertaken by a utility or its customers to influence the amount and timing of electricity usage). Specific details of the hearing are set out below.

Hearing Commences:

Tuesday, April 17, 2012
9:00 a.m.

Evening Session:

Tuesday, April 17, 2012
7:00 p.m.

Place:

Office of the Board
Summit Place
1601 Lower Water Street, 3rd Floor
Halifax, NS

ALL PERSONS are entitled to attend the hearing.

ANYONE WISHING TO HAVE FORMAL STANDING to present evidence or cross-examine witnesses should file notice of such intention with the Board not later than **Monday, March, 12, 2012**, with evidence to be filed by **Wednesday, April 11, 2012**.

ANYONE WISHING TO SPEAK at the hearing but not wishing to cross-examine witnesses may appear at the evening session. Presentations will follow the order in which interested persons notify the Board of their intention to appear, such notification to be given to the Board on or before **Tuesday, April 10, 2012**, contact information is below. **SHOULD NO REQUESTS BE RECEIVED BY TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2012, THE EVENING SESSION FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2012, WILL NOT BE HELD.**

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A copy of the application may be viewed at the offices of the Board, Summit Place, 3rd Floor, 1601 Lower Water Street, Halifax, NS, or on the Board's website (www.nsuarb.ca), Matter No. M04819.

5531974



Protesters take part in a robocall protest on Parliament Hills in Ottawa on Monday. The Canadian Press

Conservative backbencher lays blame for robocalls with Elections Canada

OTTAWA (CP) — A Conservative backbencher is suggesting Elections Canada may be partly to blame in the robocalls affair for giving political parties flawed data.

“I suspect that at the end of the day, if Elections Canada has the resources to do a proper investigation, they’ll find they’re themselves significantly responsible,” Saskatchewan MP Maurice Vellacott said in a statement Monday.

“That tech issues with marrying (Elections Canada) lists to available, electronic phone lists is part of the problem, and in a few instances there may have been malfeasance by one party or the other.”

Vellacott said there have been numerous address errors by Elections Canada in each of the six federal elections he has contested.

“This is no reflection on our faithful, local returning officer ... and their office workers. The errors and misinformation are

compiled and compounded by Elections Canada’s head office,” he said.

“We don’t even bother trying to chase down, trace back and correct all these Elections Canada errors anymore. Too much valuable campaign time would be used up on such a project.”

Vellacott said Elections Canada has flawed voting lists and often gives voters incorrect information.

“There is no voter enumeration just before every election any more, but the Elections Canada voter list across the country is updated based on income tax filings or other federal and provincial programs — not a perfect system by any means,” he said.

“Because Elections Canada too frequently provides incorrect information, and secondly because technological problems occur with trying to merge Elections Canada info for phone lists, there is a significant potential for error.

Canada closes embassy in Damascus, widens sanctions against Syria

OTTAWA (CP) — Canada has withdrawn its remaining diplomats from Syria and closed the embassy in Damascus.

Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird said the deteriorating security situation forced the pullout.

“Canada has maintained its diplomatic presence in Syria — despite the risks — to monitor developments on the ground and to deliver tough and frank messages to the Syrian authorities,” Baird said in a statement.

“These messages will continue to be delivered directly through the Syrian embassy here in Ottawa and through our other international forums.”

Canada has been urging Canadians to leave Syria for

months. Any still remaining can still seek consular help through Beirut, Lebanon, or Amman, Jordan.

The closure came as Baird also announced more sanctions against Syria, including a freeze on the assets of the country’s central bank and seven senior ministers in the government of Bashir Assad.

The ministers involved in the latest sanctions are: Health Minister Wael Nader Al Halqi, Minister of Presidential Affairs Mansour Fadlallah Azzam, Communications Minister Emad Abdul-Ghani Sabouni, Petroleum Minister Sufian Allaw, Industry Minister Adnan Slakho, Education Minister Saleh Al-Rashed and Transport Minister Fayssal Abbas.

Warm winter will give way to typical spring: Weather Network

TORONTO (CP) — Arctic winds may have given way to balmy breezes across most of Canada this winter, but the Weather Network is predicting the country will spring back to reality in the coming months.

Temperatures in most provinces are expected to be right in line with seasonal norms over the next three months, with only British Columbia projected to feel some lingering chill.

The network’s spring weather outlook is also calling for more variability in precipitation, both forecasting a soggy few months in Central Canada while raising the spectre of water shortages on the west coast.

Such contradictions are par for the course during a season with a reputation for volatility. After the

sort of winter Canadians have just experienced, however, network meteorologist Chris Scott said a typical spring may seem jarring.

“The biggest story this year has been the warmth,” Scott said in a telephone interview.

“When you look right from east to west, we’ve seen most major cities had a winter that ranks in the top 10 in terms of warmest on record.”

A weather phenomenon known as the Arctic Oscillation saw the usually active jet stream stay relatively stationary over northern Canada, effectively blocking most of the cold air from flowing to the rest of the country over the past three months.

As a result, Scott said Regina enjoyed its third warmest winter

since 1883, while Toronto basked in the sort of temperatures only seen once more since 1840.

B.C. alone was exempt from the nationwide thaw, Scott said, adding it will continue to buck the seasonal trend expected to emerge through March, April and May.

The province is expected to see temperatures linger below seasonal norms, joining the Yukon and Northwest Territories among areas not reaping the full benefits of spring.

Elsewhere in the country, Scott forecasted above average temperatures through March giving way to more typical conditions for the rest of the season. Only northwestern Ontario, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are on track for a warmer than usual spring, he said.

Horror details of alleged murder of Tori Stafford laid bare for jury

By Allison Jones
THE CANADIAN PRESS

LONDON, ONT. — The horrifying alleged story of eight-year-old Victoria Stafford’s last hours, after she was snatched outside her school and before her body was left under a pile of rocks far from home, was laid out in an Ontario court Monday.

Tori was abducted by Michael Rafferty and Terri-Lynne McClintic, sexually assaulted and brutally beaten to death on April 8, 2009, Crown Attorney Kevin Gowdey told the jury on the first day of Rafferty’s trial. McClintic, 21, has already pleaded guilty to first-degree murder and is serving a life sentence.

Rafferty has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder, sexual assault causing bodily harm and kidnapping.

The jury was warned that over the course of the trial, expected to last 2 1/2 months, they will hear graphic and disturbing evidence. A pathologist will testify that Tori died from multiple blows to her head with a hammer. Blunt impacts to her body also lacerated her liver and fractured her ribs, Gowdey said. Her remains, not discovered for 103 days, were found naked from the waist down, clothed only in a Hannah Montana T-shirt.

He told the jury it’s not their job to determine who wielded the hammer, but to decide whether Rafferty and McClintic “acted together.”

“In the end it is not necessary or essential that you determine exactly who did what, for example which of the two delivered the hammer blows to the skull or who inflicted the trauma to Tori’s body

that lacerated her liver, broke her ribs,” Gowdey said.

Rafferty, wearing a grey suit and a blue-striped tie, sat expressionless as he listened to the Crown describe the alleged events of the day Tori went missing.

McClintic herself will be testifying soon, Gowdey said, about what led up to the kidnapping, what happened that day and how the pair tried to cover their tracks.

“When you have heard her evidence you will unquestionably be disturbed by the choices that she made with Michael Rafferty to bring this all about,” Gowdey said.

“I expect that her credibility will be a major issue in this case. It is because she had such a significant role in what happened that she’s able to give us so much detail. Listen to her evidence carefully and cautiously.”



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Terry Paul named to business hall of fame

HALIFAX — The Junior Achievement Nova Scotia Business Hall of Fame announced Wednesday it has selected Membertou chief Terry Paul as one of its inductees.

The hall of fame presented by marketing and advertising firm Colour chose Paul based on his extraordinary passion and vision that has helped shape the Membertou First Nation into a thriving community.

Over the past decade, Membertou has shifted from a significant operating deficit to budget surpluses and from reliance on welfare to a drastically reduced unemployment rate.

Paul's role in facilitating economic development and opportunity for his community stems from his beginnings on the Boston Indian Council, based in Massachusetts.

In the early 1970s, Paul was hired as the council's job placement officer. During that time, he gained valuable knowledge in the area of administrative and finan-



Terry Paul

cial management. He was promoted to director of finance before being named president of the council.

Upon leaving Boston, Paul joined Membertou as an economic development officer and band manager. He was elected chief in 1984 and has continued to serve in that role for the past 27 years. During his time as chief, the com-

munity has seen staggering growth.

In just 10 years, the First Nation's operating budget increasing from \$4 million to \$65 million and its staff grew from 37 to more than 500. This budget has grown based on revenue from commercial fisheries and gaming.

Membertou also opened its corporate headquarters in Halifax in the fall of 2000 to provide a foundation for economic development efforts by creating and enhancing relationships with Canadian and international business communities.

Less than two years after the opening of its corporate division, Membertou received its International Organization of Standards status, establishing Membertou as the first aboriginal government in the world to have many of its departments ISO certified.

Paul is a former member of the board of directors of the National Aboriginal Economic

Development Board, the only national, non-political organization working to promote the growth of aboriginal business in Canada. He has also been an enthusiastic supporter of Cape Breton University and is a member of its Shannon School of Business advisory board. In 2010, the university awarded him an honorary doctor of letters.

In recognition of his achievements, Paul will be inducted during the 2012 Junior Achievement Nova Scotia Business Hall of Fame gala taking place on May 24 at the World Trade and Convention Centre in Halifax.

Funds raised at the event support Junior Achievement educational programs, which focus on financial literacy, entrepreneurship and work readiness for students from Grade 6 to high school.

To order tickets to the event, contact Lynn Coveyduck at 902-454-4564 or lcoveyduck@janovascotia.org.

DAILY MARKET WATCH

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2012

S&P/TSX	12,461.93	+111.77 ▲
S&P/TSX VENTURE	1,634.34	+12.67 ▲
CANADIAN DOLLAR (US¢)	100.90	+0.72 ▲
DOW JONES	12,907.94	+70.61 ▲
NASDAQ	2,970.42	+34.73 ▲
OIL (\$US)	106.58	+0.42 ▲
GOLD (\$US)	1,698.70	+14.80 ▲

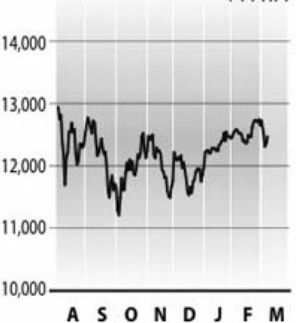
THE CANADIAN PRESS

S&P/TSX

DAILY CLOSE

MARCH 8, 2012

12,461.93
+111.77



THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian Natural to review procedures following latest Horizon outage

By LAUREN KRUGEL

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CALGARY — Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. said Thursday there will be an independent review of its operations following a snafu in early February at its Horizon oilsands plant, which it expects to remain offline for at least another week.

"In order to increase our confidence and cover all the bases, we have brought in an independent third party to do a critical review of our operations, our asset integrity, reliability and our operations discipline," president and chief operating officer Steve Laut told analysts on a conference call.

"This is a relatively new approach, but has been used in refineries, chemical plants and the aviation industry. The goal is essentially to identify any potential issues, hazards or gaps before they occur."

Laut made his remarks as the Calgary-based oil and gas giant (TSX:CNQ) reported improved fourth-quarter results and hiked its dividend by 17 per cent.

Canadian Natural has already done its own investigation, and has an idea of what caused the problems at the upgrader, a complex facility that turns tarry oilsands bitumen into a type of crude that refineries can handle.

The primary upgrading plant had been shut down for repairs in January, and in starting back up, some water that had mixed with the diluted bitumen was brought

into a part of the facility called the fractionator. It's there that the crude is broken up into its various components.

"Our process and procedures are designed to prevent water from entering the fractionator and if water does make it into the fractionator, minimize any damage," said Laut.

Canadian Natural initially thought the damage would be minor, but on closer inspection found it to be much more severe than expected. The cost of repairs is expected to be \$35 million, and the company is on track to get the plant back up by mid-to-late March.

One crucial error was trying to bring the plant up during the night shift, "when operation supervision and leadership as well as technical process engineering expertise is thin and tired," Laut said.

Procedures have been changed

to only allow that type of work to take place during the day, "unless a fresh team of operations supervision and engineering expertise can be mobilized."

"I believe that had we closed this small gap in our guidelines, which is now closed and has become a requirement, this incident would have been prevented," Laut added.

The outage has caused Canadian Natural to lower its 2012 Horizon output targets to between 93,000 and 103,000 barrels per day of synthetic crude oil from 105,000 to 115,000 barrels per day.

Just over a year before the latest incident, an explosion badly damaged the upgrader at the mine north of Fort McMurray, Alta. Five workers were injured.

The company has attributed the fire to a valve opening at the top of a coking drum at the wrong time.

Earlier Thursday, Canadian Natural announced its quarterly dividend will rise 17 per cent, as it reported a rise to profitability in the fourth quarter from a year earlier.

The oil and gas producer said it will boost its dividend to 10.5 cents payable April 1.

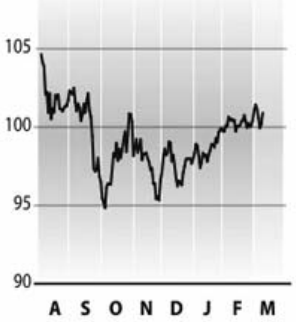
Canadian Natural posted a quarterly profit of \$832 million, compared to a net loss of \$309 million during the same 2010 period.

DOLLAR

US CENTS

MARCH 8, 2012

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THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE SUPREME COURT OF NOVA SCOTIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS
ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, C. C-36,

IN THE MATTER OF NEWPAGE PORT HAWKESBURY CORP.

(the "Applicant"), carrying on business in the Province of Nova Scotia

NOTICE TO CLAIMANTS OF NEWPAGE PORT HAWKESBURY CORP.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to an Order of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia (the "Court") made on March 1, 2012 (the "Claims Process Order"), a Claims Process has been established, and the Monitor has been authorized to call for and receive Claims as set forth below. Pursuant to paragraph 4 (d) of the Claims Process Order, a "Claim" means:

- (i) any right or claim of any Person against NPPH whether or not asserted, in connection with any indebtedness, liability or obligation of any kind whatsoever of NPPH in existence on the Filing Date, and any accrued interest thereon and costs payable in respect thereof to and including the Filing Date, whether or not such right or claim is reduced to judgment, liquidated, unliquidated, fixed, contingent, matured, unmatured, disputed, undisputed, legal, equitable, secured, unsecured, perfected, unperfected, present, future, known, or unknown, by guarantee, surety or otherwise, and whether or not such right is executory or anticipatory in nature, including the right or ability of any Person to advance a claim for contribution or indemnity or otherwise with respect to any matter, action, cause or chose in action, whether existing at present or commenced in the future, which indebtedness, liability or obligation is based in whole or in part on facts which existed prior to the Filing Date, and includes any other claims that would have been claims provable in bankruptcy had NPPH become bankrupt on the Filing Date, including, without limitation, Intercompany Claims, Pension Claims, CEP Claims, Unrecovered Silviculture Claims, Unrecovered Woodmen's Claims, Secured Claims, Trust Claims and NPPHSNUPS Claims (each, a "Prefiling Claim", and collectively, the "Prefiling Claims");
- (ii) any right or claim of any Person against NPPH in connection with any indebtedness, liability or obligation of any kind whatsoever owed by NPPH to such Person arising out of the restructuring, repudiation, disclaimer, resiliation, termination, amendment or breach after the Filing Date of any contract, lease, employment agreement or other agreement or obligation whether written or oral and whether such restructuring, disclaimer, resiliation, termination, amendment or breach took place or takes place before or after the date of this Claims Process Order including, without limitation, Trust Claims, Secured Claims, Pension Claims, CEP Claims and NPPHSNUPS Claims (each, a "Restructuring Period Claim", and collectively, the "Restructuring Period Claims"); and
- (iii) any right or claim of any Person against one or more of the Directors or Officers of NPPH, that relates to a Prefiling Claim or a Restructuring Period Claim howsoever arising for which the Directors or Officers of NPPH are by statute or otherwise by law liable to pay in their capacity as Directors or Officers or in any other capacity including, without limitation, any claim against a Director, Officer or other Person that may be secured by the Directors' Charge (each a "Director/Officer Claim", and collectively, the "Directors/Officers Claims");

other than Excluded Claims;

For greater certainty, although all Claims for interest shall be barred in accordance with the terms of the Initial Order, if entitled thereto under any applicable contract, a creditor of NPPH may make claims for interest which has accrued on its Claim to and including the Filing Date, but no claim shall be made or accepted for interest accrued after the Filing Date;

"Excluded Claims" means: (a) Claims of the Monitor, counsel to the Monitor, counsel to NPPH and the CRO for fees and disbursements payable in this matter in accordance with the Initial Order and the CRO Appointment Order to the extent fully secured by such charges; (b) Claims of any beneficiary of the Directors' charge or KERF Charge pursuant to the Initial Order and the CRO Appointment Order to the extent fully secured by such charges; (c) Claims of the Province of Nova Scotia with respect to any financing granted pursuant to any Order in these proceedings; (d) Claims of the Province of Nova Scotia under the Forestry Infrastructure Agreement; (e) Recovered Silviculture Claims meaning that portion of an admitted claim made pursuant to the Silviculture Reserve Fund Claims Process Order granted on September 23, 2011, as amended, for which a distribution has been recovered by a Silviculture Claimant from the Silviculture Reserve Fund, as therein defined, which for greater certainty does not include any portion of such claim for which payment has not been received (an "Unrecovered Silviculture Claim"); (f) Recovered Woodmen's Claims meaning that portion of an admitted claim made pursuant to the Woodmen's Reserve Fund Claims Process Order granted on September 23, 2011, as amended, for which a distribution has been recovered by a Woodmen's Claimant from the Woodmen's Reserve Fund, as therein defined, which for greater certainty does not include any portion of such claim for which payment has not been received (an "Unrecovered Woodmen's Claim"); (g) Insured Claims; and (h) Claims with respect to any services rendered or supplies provided after the Filing Date, other than a Restructuring Claim.

Any Person asserting a Claim against the Applicant should send a Proof of Claim to Ernst & Young Inc., in its capacity as Court-appointed Monitor of the Applicant at the address below on or before 5:00 p.m. Atlantic Time on **April 16, 2012** (the "Claims Bar Date"). **Proofs of Claim which are not received by the Claims Bar Date specified herein will be barred and extinguished forever.**

If you have any questions regarding the Claims Process or your potential claim, please contact the Monitor at the address provided below:

Persons who require a Proof of Claim form and Instruction Letter may obtain them from the Monitor's website at www.ey.com/ca/npph. If you are unable to access the website or have further inquiries, you may contact the Monitor at:

Ernst & Young Inc., Court-appointed Monitor of NewPage Port Hawkesbury Corp
1959 Upper Water Street - Suite 130, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3N2

Tel: 1 888 775 7252 Fax: 902 420 0503
Email: newpage.porthawkesburymonitor@ca.ey.com

Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia this 2nd day of March 2012.

ERNST & YOUNG

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BRIEFLY

McDonald's cut CEO's pay 10 per cent to \$8.8M in 2011

NEW YORK (AP) — McDonald's Corp. trimmed its CEO's pay package by 10 per cent to \$8.8 million last year as the world's biggest hamburger chain continued to post sales gains amid economic uncertainty and rising costs around the globe.

The compensation for top executive Jim Skinner compared with \$9.7 million the previous year, according to an Associated Press analysis of a regulatory filing.

The drop was the result of Skinner's performance-based cash bonus, which fell to \$3.3 million, down 27 per cent from \$4.5 million.

In addition to annual bonuses, McDonald's also gives its executives a long-term bonus once every three years.



NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Efficiency Nova Scotia Corporation ("ENSC") has made an application to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (the "Board") for approval of its **Electricity Demand Side Management Plan** ("DSM") for 2013. (Demand Side Management refers to activities or programs undertaken by a utility or its customers to influence the amount and timing of electricity usage). Specific details of the hearing are set out below.

Hearing Commences: **Tuesday, April 17, 2012**
9:00 a.m.

Evening Session: **Tuesday, April 17, 2012**
7:00 p.m.

Place: **Office of the Board**
Summit Place
1601 Lower Water Street, 3rd Floor
Halifax, NS

ALL PERSONS are entitled to attend the hearing.

ANYONE WISHING TO HAVE FORMAL STANDING to present evidence or cross-examine witnesses should file notice of such intention with the Board not later than **Monday, March, 12, 2012**, with evidence to be filed by **Wednesday, April 11, 2012**.

ANYONE WISHING TO SPEAK at the hearing but not wishing to cross-examine witnesses may appear at the evening session. Presentations will follow the order in which interested persons notify the Board of their intention to appear, such notification to be given to the Board on or before **Tuesday, April 10, 2012**, contact information is below. **SHOULD NO REQUESTS BE RECEIVED BY TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2012, THE EVENING SESSION FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2012, WILL NOT BE HELD.**

ANYONE WISHING TO MAKE COMMENTS IN WRITING may file Letters of Comment with the Board by **Tuesday, April 10, 2012**. Letters should be addressed to the Clerk of the Board at Box 1692, Unit "M", Halifax, NS, B3J 3S3, or by email to: board@gov.ns.ca or by fax at (902) 424-3919.

A copy of the application may be viewed at the offices of the Board, Summit Place, 3rd Floor, 1601 Lower Water Street, Halifax, NS, or on the Board's website (www.nsuarb.ca), Matter No. M04819.

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WORLD IN BRIEF

Catholic Church alters focus on gay marriage

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — Maine’s Catholic church will not actively campaign against this fall’s expected statewide referendum seeking to legalize same-sex marriage, but rather will focus on teaching parishioners about the sanctity of marriage between a man and a woman, the head of the Catholic diocese said.

Bishop Richard Malone on Friday unveiled a 24-page “pastoral letter” he wrote explaining the church’s position on marriage. The document will be discussed at Catholic churches and schools, through the diocese’s magazine and website, and on radio stations devoted to Catholic issues.

The Catholic diocese’s role is in contrast to 2009, when the legislature legalized same-sex marriage and voters later overturned the law. That year, the church took up special collections during services and asked for contributions from other dioceses to help fund the campaign against gay marriage. A top church official took a leave of absence from the diocese to serve as campaign chairman for a group that led the fight against legalizing gay marriage.

Classes resume at school where three shot dead

CHARDON, Ohio (AP) — Students returned Friday to a U.S. high school where a shooting earlier this week killed three teens and wounded two others.

Police were on hand as students arrived at Chardon High School on Friday as classes resumed after Monday’s shooting.

Charges filed Thursday in juvenile court accuse T.J. Lane of killing three students and wounding two others.

Lane is charged with three counts of aggravated murder, two counts of attempted aggravated murder and one count of felonious assault.

Prosecutor David Joyce says Lane admitted firing 10 shots at students sitting at a cafeteria table. While the motive for the shooting is unclear, Joyce has ruled out bullying.

SUV on Philly runway prompts police review

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Philadelphia police say they’re looking for ways to make the city’s airport more secure a day after a sport utility vehicle crashed through a fence and sped onto the runway.

The U.S. attorney says 24-year-old Chadds Ford resident Kenneth Mazik is being charged with disrupting operations at the airport and endangering safety there. Police say he crashed his Jeep through a fence and sped up and down two runways at the airport Thursday.

The airport says that it’s secure and that its perimeter fencing meets federal standards.

But Chief Insp. Joe Sullivan says authorities will be conducting a thorough security review. He heads the Philadelphia police’s homeland security and counterterrorism division.

Police will look at how they deploy personnel, whether additional technology could be used and whether structural improvements could be made.

Free after 30 years on death row

Mentally disabled man accepted deal on murder rap

By **MEG KINNARD**
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Helped by a single strand of hair, a mentally disabled man who spent nearly 30 years on South Carolina’s death row for a stabbing death walked free Friday after a plea deal.

A lawyer for Edward Lee Elmore said Elmore maintains his innocence in the death of Dorothy Edwards, a widow he worked for as a handyman, but he pleaded guilty to murder so he could be released from prison. Edwards’ body was found in a closet in her home, stabbed 52 times.

Elmore argued that a strand of blond hair found on Edwards after her death shows he was not her killer because he has black hair.

Elmore gave a thumbs-up after the hearing and said it “feels great” to be leaving prison.

He then walked out of the Greenwood County courthouse as his family clapped and cheered. They planned to take the 53-year-old to a buffet for lunch so he could eat whatever



Family members hug Edward Lee Elmore after his hearing on Friday in Greenwood, S.C. (RICHARD SHIRO / AP)

he wanted.

The hair does not exonerate Elmore in the case, but it raised enough doubt to win him a new trial and a bail hearing that led to the plea deal. The chance to leave prison after three decades comes after numerous appeals and his sentence being overturned three times, including a reduction from death to life in prison.

“Freedom is justice, and that’s why he is doing it today,” Elmore’s attorney, Diana Holt, said.

Just before the hearing, depu-



Edward Lee Elmore

ties allowed Elmore to see sisters and brothers who were in the courtroom. Many were in tears. One said, “Oh, what a long time coming.”

Raymond Bonner, a former New York Times reporter, has followed the case for more than a decade and recently wrote a book about it. He said police were anxious to make an arrest to allay a community’s fears that a rapist and murderer was among them, and authorities hastily arrested Elmore. Bonner said prosecutors never

Syrian regime blocks Red Cross supplies

By **ZEINA KARAM**
The Associated Press

BEIRUT — The Syrian government blocked a Red Cross convoy Friday from delivering badly needed food, medical supplies and blankets to a rebellious neighbourhood of Homs cut off by a monthlong siege, and activists accused regime troops who overran the shattered district of execution-style killings and a scorched-earth campaign.

Humanitarian conditions in the former rebel stronghold of Baba Amr have been described as catastrophic, with extended power outages, shortages of food and water, and no medical care for the sick and wounded.

British Prime Minister David Cameron called Homs “a scene of medieval barbarity.”

Syrian state TV showed burned-out and destroyed buildings in Baba Amr, a western

neighbourhood of Homs, which was covered with a blanket of fresh snow.

Syrian government forces took control of Baba Amr on Thursday after rebels fled the district under constant bombardment that activists said killed hundreds of people since early February. The Syrian regime has said it was fighting “armed gangs” in Baba Amr, and had vowed to “cleanse” the neighbourhood.

“It is unacceptable that people who have been in need of emergency assistance for weeks have still not received any help,” said Jakob Kellenberger, president of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The Red Cross said it had received permission from the government of President Bashar Assad on Thursday to enter Baba Amr, on the western side of Homs, and a convoy of seven

trucks with 15 tons of humanitarian aid was poised to do so, but authorities then blocked their access. There was no explanation from the government about the change.

“We are staying in Homs tonight in the hope of entering Baba Amr in the very near future,” Kellenberger said.

UN secretary general Ban Ki-moon called on Syria to give humanitarian workers immediate access to people who desperately need aid.

“The images which we have seen in Syria are atrocious,” said Ban. “It’s totally unacceptable, intolerable. How, as a human being, can you bear this sit-

uation?”

British photographer Paul Conroy, who was wounded by shelling in Baba Amr and trapped there for several days until he escaped, told Britain’s Sky News that thousands of people were still in Homs, “living in bombed-out wrecks with children six to a bed, rooms full of people waiting to die.” He said they had no electricity or water and only meagre supplies of food.

“It’s not a war. It’s a massacre — indiscriminate massacre of men, women and children,” he told the broadcaster. “It’s snowing there now and these people can’t make fires.”



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Document: 200417

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Avoid leaving the ones you love with a great deal of uncertainty during an already difficult time.

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Gran Bahia Principe Jamaica  **PRIVILEGES**
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\$1399
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All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
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TRYP Cayo Coco  **PRIVILEGES**
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No education cuts, Dexter figures

School boards to get less money but budgets aren't being slashed, premier reasons

By **DAVID JACKSON**
Provincial Reporter

Premier Darrell Dexter has a math lesson for people who think less money for education is a budget cut.

"In fact, education budgets aren't being cut," he told a Nova Scotia Chambers of Commerce breakfast Wednesday morning. "This is something that I think is just flat wrong."

Education Minister Ramona Jennex announced last month that the province's eight school boards will see a total reduction of 1.3 per cent in the coming budget, and they'll be responsible for covering inflationary costs.

It comes on the heels of a 1.7 per cent cut in the current year.

But Dexter said the key figure to consider is per student funding, which has actually increased

because enrolment continues to decline.

"I think it's disingenuous to do it the other way," Dexter told reporters after his speech.

"It's disingenuous to try and pretend that demand can decline and decline and decline and that you don't do anything about addressing it. It's simply the fact that the money that we're putting into delivering education to each student is increasing."

The Nova Scotia Teachers Union and school boards officials point out that the funding formula for the boards already accounts for fewer students in the system.

Provincial figures show a decline of 28,000 students from 2001-02 to 2011-12. That includes a decline of 2,500 in the current school year, for a total enrolment of 125,728. Another drop of 2,200, or 1.7 per cent, is projected

for September.

The funding per student this year is \$10,372, up \$246 from 2010-11, said Education Department spokesman Gary Andrea. He said the amount in 2001-02 was \$5,836. Andrea said the funding per student is calculated by taking the entire provincial education budget, adding the mandatory municipal contribution, and dividing that by the number of students.

Dexter said despite the decline in student numbers, there are 100 more teachers in the system today than a decade ago.

His press secretary, Jennifer Stewart, later said in an email that was an estimate from last year. She said the actual number of full-time equivalent teachers is up by 361, with 9,665 in the current year, compared to 9,304 in 2001-02. The numbers include

teachers working for boards as consultants, positions the province has targeted for reductions.

"There is no question that the programming that we offer has also changed over the last 10 years," Dexter said.

"However, there still comes a point where the number of people you have delivering the program has to correspond with the demand that you have."

NSTU president Alexis Allen was at a conference in New York and not available for comment.

Bill Redden, the union's executive director, said in an email that the increase in per student funding in the past decade has "barely kept pace with inflation, while the Education Department has added numerous new programs to meet the needs of individual learners."

Progressive Conservative

Leader Jamie Baillie said Dexter should stop playing games with the numbers. He said less money for boards is a budget cut.

He said reductions for declining enrolments are acceptable, but he sees cuts that go beyond that into programs and smaller schools. Another result is boards looking at closing schools, he said. Just in the past week, the Strait regional board voted to close three schools

"Nova Scotians can see through the charade. They know that those decisions are being forced on school boards because of the way they're being treated by the NDP government," Baillie said.

Dexter had said in his speech that the best thing the province could do for all businesses in the province is to focus on learning, innovation, and competitiveness.

An audience member had asked Dexter about how he squared that objective with education cuts.

(djackson@herald.ca)

B.C. man disputes woman's version of events at hotel

By **STEVE BRUCE**
Court Reporter

One of two mixed martial arts fighters from British Columbia who are accused of sexually assaulting a woman at a Dartmouth hotel 2½ years ago testified Wednesday in his own defence.

James Christopher Hanson offered a Dartmouth provincial court judge a different version of the events of Sept. 27, 2009, than the one given by the complainant, a 34-year-old Halifax woman, at the start of the trial last fall.

Hanson said he was lying on his bed looking at pictures on his digital camera while his roommate, Garry Christopher Peak, and the woman "were kissing and stuff."

Peak was kissing the woman's stomach, Hanson said, when she suddenly swore at him and kicked him away.

"It didn't make sense," Hanson said. "She was all over him two seconds earlier."

Hanson said he asked the woman why she was being a "bitch" and that she then kneeled over him, cocked her arms and slapped him in the face.

The woman yelled at him and looked like she was going to hit him again, Hanson said, so he pushed her backwards off the bed and onto the floor and told her to get out of the room.

He said he started throwing the woman's stuff by the door and she began to cry, apologized for her behaviour and said she had nowhere to go.

Peak then told the woman she could stay in the room "for a bit," Hanson said.

"I wasn't happy at all," the Surrey, B.C., man said.

He said he microwaved some popcorn, crawled under the covers and turned his back to Peak and the woman while he watched TV.

Before long, there was a loud knock on the door. It was Halifax Regional Police, who wanted to talk to the woman about a beating she had inflicted on her best friend in the same hotel room a few minutes earlier.



Garry Christopher Peak

The friend had gone to the front desk for help, her face battered and bloody.

The other woman rushed into the hallway past the police. After she complained about not being able to breathe, she was taken to Dartmouth General Hospital, where she learned she had a collapsed lung.

It was at the hospital that police first heard the woman claim that she had been sexually assaulted.

Peak, 35, and Hanson, 30, were both charged with forcible confinement and aggravated sexual assault. The trial got underway last October and was supposed to resume in December but was delayed after Peak was arrested on unrelated matters in Prince George, B.C., where he lives.

The woman testified last fall that Hanson pinned her arms above her head and kissed her neck while Peak kissed her belly, pulled her jeans and panties down to her knees and fondled her.

The woman said she yelled for the men to stop, but they laughed at her.

She said the attack only stopped after she kicked Peak in the chin and worked a hand free to punch Hanson in the face. Hanson then threw her on the floor like she was a rag doll, she said.

But Hanson insisted Wednesday that he never held the woman's arms, didn't see Peak put his hands down her pants and did not throw her on the floor.

He said he pushed her away



James Christopher Hanson

from him after she struck him because he was concerned about his safety.

Peak exercised his right not to take the stand at trial, but a video of his statement to police was shown in court last fall.

"When she said 'Stop,' I stopped," Peak told a detective who interviewed him about the incident.

"I was never that forceful, never at all."

During closing submissions Wednesday, Crown attorney Michelle James said she was no longer seeking a conviction for forcible confinement but that there was enough evidence to find the men guilty of aggravated sexual assault.

Defence lawyers Mark Knox and Peter Planetta, however, argued that inconsistencies in the woman's testimony made it unreliable.

"In a case such as this, the credibility of the complainant is paramount," said Planetta, who represents Peak. "There are countless reasons to doubt (her) evidence."

Judge Alanna Murphy reserved her decision until May 4. She said Peak and Hanson don't have to be in court that day, provided their lawyers are present.

(sbruce@herald.ca)

Alternative bus plan may never get rolling

By **IAN FAIRCLOUGH**
Staff Reporter

A website was still claiming at mid-afternoon Wednesday that an alternative bus service for Halifax is in the offing, but no one seemed to know anything about it.

The website <http://buss-trike.weebly.com> said the unnamed service plans to start operating Monday between Lower Sackville and Halifax, but outside of an email form on the website, there was no indication of how to contact the company.

Just before 4 p.m., the entire site disappeared.

The website had an update Wednesday morning saying its first bus had been delivered at 1 a.m. and that it had already been vandalized to the tune of about \$10,000, but Halifax Regional Police and the RCMP both said they had no record of any vandalism report involving a bus.

That post was taken down later in the day and replaced by one denying that the proposed transit service is a sham.

"It has been suggested in the media that this is a hoax," the post read. "Not so, is the strike real, yes! Have the people of HRM had their say in this public forum, yes."

"We have asked the residents of HRM if they want this service and again the answer is yes. Our group has witnessed students dropping out of school, people losing their jobs. We here have decided enough is enough. The people of HRM have spoken in this forum and they agree. Now we are taking action. Hoax, I don't think so. Our search for more equipment continues."

Shortly after that, the site was down.

A new addition on the site

Wednesday morning was a tab with a form to fill out for anyone interested in getting an investor package.

RCMP spokeswoman Sgt. Brigdit Leger said people shouldn't share personal information or send money to questionable websites.

"Any time when there is an event going on, and we've seen it through earthquakes, hurricanes and potentially during the bus strike here, you need to be cognizant because there are those who will try to take advantage of people who are having difficult times."

More than 200 people had posted messages on the website before it disappeared. Some suggested the union representing striking Metro Transit workers was behind the site, while others attributed it to anti-union forces.

The province's Utility and Review Board licences all temporary or permanent transit services. Executive director Paul Allen said Wednesday that no applications had been received. To get one, a company would have to show there was a need for the service and that it had proper insurance, and the Transportation Department would need to inspect its vehicles.

"The only thing we have is the website and a whole lot of calls from the media," Allen said. "I checked with the inspectors at (the Transportation Department) and they don't have any awareness of who it might be, what buses we're talking about, nothing."

Allen said the Transportation Department inspection branch knows about the supposed service and is "aware that there could be an unlicensed carrier out there."

(ifairclough@herald.ca)



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Study Coordinator **473-7705**
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Hearing Commences: **Tuesday, April 17, 2012**
9:00 a.m.

Evening Session: **Tuesday, April 17, 2012**
7:00 p.m.

Place: **Office of the Board**
Summit Place
1601 Lower Water Street, 3rd Floor
Halifax, NS

ALL PERSONS are entitled to attend the hearing.

ANYONE WISHING TO HAVE FORMAL STANDING to present evidence or cross-examine witnesses should file notice of such intention with the Board not later than **Monday, March, 12, 2012**, with evidence to be filed by **Wednesday, April 11, 2012**.

ANYONE WISHING TO SPEAK at the hearing but not wishing to cross-examine witnesses may appear at the evening session. Presentations will follow the order in which interested persons notify the Board of their intention to appear, such notification to be given to the Board on or before **Tuesday, April 10, 2012**, contact information is below. **SHOULD NO REQUESTS BE RECEIVED BY TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2012, THE EVENING SESSION FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2012, WILL NOT BE HELD.**

ANYONE WISHING TO MAKE COMMENTS IN WRITING may file Letters of Comment with the Board by **Tuesday, April 10, 2012**. Letters should be addressed to the Clerk of the Board at Box 1692, Unit "M", Halifax, NS, B3J 3S3, or by email to: board@gov.ns.ca or by fax at (902) 424-3919.

A copy of the application may be viewed at the offices of the Board, Summit Place, 3rd Floor, 1601 Lower Water Street, Halifax, NS, or on the Board's website (www.nsuarb.ca), Matter No. M04819.

Document: 200417